IIM Shillong – Rendezvous for major IT Conference with NER focus

Workshop for Educators on Open Source Technology for Education

Prof **Basav Roychoudhury, Program Director speaking during the Workshop**

Visitor to IIMS

Dr. A.C. Augustine , Director of St. Francis Institute Of Management Mumbai visited IIM Shillong on the 18th May, 2012 in the company of his wife and colleagues.

He was received by Prof DK Agrawal, Shri RC Saxena and Shri MJ Mukhim, and presented with literature and other materials related to IIM Shillong.

IIM Shillong – Rendezvous for major IT Conference with NER focus

IIM Shillong, Academic Partner and host of the E18 – CNN IBN program titled **NORTH EAST E-GOVERNANCE SUMMIT 2012** witnessed key Government and Corporate leaders apart from Network 18 leadership attending the event being held at its picturesque campus setting. Union Minister of DONER – Government of India, Shri Paban Singh Ghatowar, Dr. Mukul Sangma, Chief Minister Government of Meghalaya, Shri A L Hek, Minister for IT Government of Meghalaya, Bhudeb Chakravarti – Senior General Manager & Region Head – National Institute for Smart Government, Mr. Ravindra Maurya, Chief Technology Strategist, Redhat, and Mr. Karma Paljor, Editor – Business and Specials, CNN IBN, Shri UK Sangma, Secretary North Eastern Council, and Shri DP Wahlang, Commissioner & secretary IT, Government of Meghalaya were the few amongst the diverse and prominent attendees and Speakers during the course of the summit.

Network 18 Media and Investments Limited, in association with the **Ministry of Communications and IT, Govt of India** through its news channel **CNN IBN** brought into action the strategic meet to not only highlight the achievements of the Government, but also to deliberate on key issues and challenges that the Federal and State Governments face in the day to day execution of the e-Governance initiative in the North East Region (NER).

The event provides a platform for an interface between the senior leadership of the North East Region and to create awareness on some of the e-Governance projects that have been implemented successfully in other Indian states. This Mega Colloquium is seeing participation of key stakeholders from the Industry, ensuring knowledge sharing in terms of newer technologies and processes which can be deployed to overcome the hurdles that are faced by the State Governments in the NER.

Academic expertise and inputs from IIM Shillong were provided by **Dr. Basav Roychoudhury on ICT for Quality Education and Human Resource Development and Prof. Natalie Kharkongor on Livelihood Promotion: Leveraging ICT and Internet Technology** respectively.

Prof Ashoke K. Dutta, Director IIM Shillong delivered the opening remarks and Valedictory address while bringing the Summit to its conclusion.This is perhaps a landmark event not only for IIM Shillong, but NER as a whole and the state of Meghalaya in particular.

Director's Activities

10th May 2012 to 28th May 2012
10th May 2012
- Attended Khadims Board Meeting.

25th May 2012
- Attended NHPC Board Meeting, Delhi.

26th May 2012
- Attended RGIIM Finance Committee Meeting in Guwahati.

28th May 2012
- Attended Board of Governor's Meeting at MHRD, Delhi.

Workshop for Educators on Open Source Technology for Education

Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Shillong conducted a one day workshop on May 29, 2012 titled **"Workshop for Educators on Open Source Technology in Education".** With the educational institutions slowly ensuring Internet connectivity to their students, and with the plan of MHRD to ensure that every student has an access device like the "Aakash" tablet, the question that arises is how to use these available technologies. The workshop focused on getting the best out of technology by integrating aspects of its utility into the pedagogy of various courses. Also, in view of reducing cost of owning such technologies, the focus of the workshop was on Open Source systems which can be freely downloaded from the Internet without any licensing cost.

IIM Shillong, known in the country as one of the most tech savvy campuses has been experimenting on use of various technologies to enhance pedagogy, and the same has been appreciated by the students. This workshop was an initiative to share these experiences with faculty/administrators of other educational institutions of the region, under the Institute's efforts to make a difference to the location in which it is located so that the benefit can reach a larger number of stakeholders. The workshop was attended by faculty of colleges, universities and other teaching institutions of repute from the region. The workshop allowed the participants to work hands-on on the open source technologies discussed during the day. These included the use of learning management systems, web conferencing, social bookmarking, and other related technologies.

Speaking about the workshop, the **Dr Basav Roychoudhury, Program Director** commented, "The pedagogy currently used by most of the educational institutions has not changed much over decades. The only perceptible change in many cases is the introduction of Powerpoint Presentation to augment blackboard. However, the students have moved ahead from memorizing texts to living on Facebook. The age old pedagogy fails to appeal to this group of students. Moreover, technology can aptly be used to make the pedagogy interactive and two-way, where the teacher becomes a facilitator and the student takes up the responsibility of learning. Thus, pedagogy tailored for the 'Facebook generation' need to be put in place at the earliest. This needs a change in the attitude and expectation of the teachers and also a re-evaluation of what type of education will prepare the current generation of students for their future."