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When the Covid-19 pandemic hit our country, NIIT Foundation had to shut down centers overnight, as did many educational institutes. We had very little idea about the road ahead. We had to adapt quickly and innovate to be able to continue in our mission of skill development and employability across under-served communities. Fortunately, as a technology-driven organisation, we were able to transition to a structured hybrid training system where students could study using an online Learning Management System (LMS) while continuing to learn in live classes with expert faculty.

Moving to a Hybrid Model of training has been a journey, a journey of triumphs and several challenges. Despite the challenges, we are managing to reach out to many different types of audience – Cab Drivers, PwDs (Divyang), Youth who lost their jobs because of COVID, Youth at risk of losing their jobs to automation – offering them specialized training programs supported by Corporate CSR. We have launched new programs in the Healthcare domain to prepare the youth for jobs in this industry. Additionally, our LMS has enabled us to offer training to audiences in a wider geographical outreach. Through partnerships with institutes, colleges, and government schools, the pandemic has helped us take skill development and employability to youth across the country.

As things begin to open up, we want to leverage the best practices and learnings from this phase of our growth and use these to evolve our solutions for children and youth. NIIT Foundation looks forward to the continued support of our partners for us to keep expanding across communities and reaching out to youth, both near and far.
The Covid-19 pandemic has had an adverse effect on the lives of many young people. The closing of schools, educational institutes, universities and training institutes has had a direct impact on the education, jobs and mental well-being of our youth. With the lack of internet facilities and small living spaces, the situation has been even grimmer for youth living in low-income communities. However, the resilience and innovation shown by these youth in these times of crisis is highly commendable.

At NIIT Foundation, we have observed our youth taking the lead. They have spearheaded awareness about covid safety precautions across communities. Youth have identified and supported families in need and showcased change maker qualities in these times of uncertainty.

With the support of many government institutes, corporate partners, colleges, institutions, higher education departments, NIIT Foundation has been able to create and design campaigns, programs and events for our youth to ensure their skilling and learning can continue. With the benefits of technology, we have been able to cut across geographies and reach out to youth from different parts of the country including the North East. Despite challenges, our youth have adapted to virtual learning platforms including NIIT Foundation’s Learning Management System, LMS, where students have the flexibility to learn from any time and anywhere, both online and offline. Special projects have been launched during this time to ensure inclusivity, skilling and employability for all.

NIIT Foundation celebrates the spirit of our youth and with the support of our funders, volunteers and partners, we continue to strive towards scaling our reach to ensure participation, engagement and empowerment of youth from across the country.
Microsoft India in partnership with NIIT Foundation has come together for a new initiative titled Project Future Ready Skills for the youth of Odisha. Microsoft India, as a part of its CSR initiative, has initiated this project for the skill development of the youth of Odisha in emerging technologies, which will result in the improvement of youth employability.

The project aims to provide training in AI and Web Development, equipping students with digital skills for the demands of an evolving economy. The vision is to reach students who are studying in government colleges, underserved institutions and who do not have the finances to support the development of their future-ready skills and placements.

NIIT Foundation is the CSR implementing partner for Microsoft India on this project. This project will enroll 2000 students, out of which 50% will be girls from government or government-affiliated colleges. The training will be at no cost and students will be provided with placement opportunities.

Project Future Ready Skills highlights the need for many more such skill development projects with the focus on digital inclusivity for our youth.

"Microsoft and NIIT Foundation have a shared vision to bridge the skills and digital divide in our country. Together we aim to empower youth to get the skills they need to succeed in a changing economy. Project Future Ready Skills will benefit the youth of Odisha with the technology, skills, knowledge, and opportunity they will need to participate and succeed in an evolving digital economy. As the pace of progress towards an AI-driven economy accelerates, this program will train youth on Cloud and AI technologies to skill them to be the workforce of the future. We at Microsoft, want to ensure that the youth of Odisha receive continued learning and receive access to Microsoft's certifications and other digital skills curricula, even after successful completion of Future Ready Skills training to ensure youth discover careers in technology, provide knowledge and application of these skills, and attain technical credentials for in-demand jobs."

Ms. Manju D.
Lead - Community Affairs/Corporate Social Responsibility
at Microsoft India
A FEW NEW INITIATIVES

NIIT Foundation in its endeavor to skill and empower youth across India, has launched several new initiatives with our NGO and corporate partners. A few of the projects have been mentioned below:

The Transformation Project with Connecting Dreams Foundation
A very special project for the empowerment of the LGBTQIA+ community. The project titled ‘Transformation’ aims at providing employment skills to the transgender community, thereby enabling them to be a part of mainstream society.

Project Kaushal with Navjyoti India Foundation
NIIT Foundation is associated with Navjyoti Foundation as a content partner for its new initiative titled ‘Project Kaushal’. Project Kaushal is a multi-partner project focused on leveraging technology to support beneficiaries from underserved communities and for them to develop skills for a career in the IT sector.

Partnership with Zupee
Zupee, a skill-based gaming platform, as a part of its CSR commitment has launched Zupee Skilling Academy. NIIT Foundation is proud to be their first partner for the initiative. Through this partnership, Zupee and NIIT Foundation are committed to skilling and upskilling the youth of Mumbai, Maharashtra and thereby improving their employability opportunities.

Skill Development Program with LinkedIn
LinkedIn Social Impact as a part of its CSR initiative has partnered with NIIT Foundation on a skill development program for underserved youth. The initiative aims at promoting new-age skills amongst youth for them to be able to explore new avenues of livelihood.

The Dhan Samvaad Program with Mahindra Finance
NIIT Foundation and Mahindra Finance have partnered for a financial literacy program titled Dhan Samvaad. The program is reaching out to the driver community spread across Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Dhan Samvaad aims to spread awareness of good financial practices and encourages drivers to understand the importance of financial literacy.

Financial Literacy with Fincare Small Finance Bank
NIIT Foundation has partnered with Fincare Small Finance Bank to spread Financial Literacy amongst all. The program will be implemented in seven different states including Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra.
Diksha lives with her family in Delhi. She is the eldest among her three siblings. Her father works as an entry-level government officer, and her mother is a homemaker. To help her father financially, Diksha decided to take up an air hostess training course. However, due to the financial constraints at home, she had to drop out in the middle. Then the pandemic hit. Unsure what to do next, she wasted two years waiting at home. There was no one to guide her.

When a friend told her about NIIT Foundation and how she can enrol in a career course sitting at home and study on the LMS app on her phone, Diksha contacted NIIT Foundation’s Career Development Center in Civil Lines, Delhi. She enrolled for the Data Entry course supported by CISCO, so there was no burden of the course fee. Attending the course online really built her confidence. The changemaker sessions during the course helped to build her personality. She became comfortable interacting with the faculty and would reach out to them with doubts and queries. Diksha completed the course in three months, after which she was placed at Pace Setters Pvt Ltd as a Customer Relationship Manager.

Diksha shared, “The faculty and video sessions in the course are excellent. It was fun to do assignments and activities while following COVID safety protocols from home. The faculty encouraged everyone and appreciated the skills in each one of us. I am glad I can now contribute to the finances at home.”

**Volunteer Speak**

“Games and taking part in physical sports activities not only helps to keep us fit but it also creates a sense of discipline, encourages team bonding and makes us both physically and mentally strong. Keeping this in mind, we planned a virtual sports day event for the students of NIIT Foundation. The games were designed around the theme ‘stay connected, stay strong.’ Earlier we were skeptical about how to conduct the activities virtually but we planned games in a way that allowed for both individual and group participation. The response we received from the students was overwhelming. It was very encouraging to see 126 students participate. The girls were the true stars at the event as they received high scores and led their teams to the winning mark. It was truly a fun-filled virtual sports event with NIIT Foundation.”

Mr. Ashok Lathwal
RF Engineering Manager
Amdocs
NIIT Foundation receives recognition at the Rotary CSR Awards 2021

The Aajevika Project implemented by NIIT Foundation, for skilling and economic empowerment of youth at Rotary Skill Development Center in Daryaganj, received the annual Rotary CSR Awards under the 'Community Economic Development' category. The Aajevika Project has successfully trained 1650 youth and aims to place 1000 youth by the end of this year. Receiving this award has been a proud moment and motivates the team to successfully achieve all deliverables.

Indus Towers DTV Project celebrates the success of their students through a Virtual Facilitation Ceremony

Indus Towers Limited and NIIT Foundation have been successfully running a Digital Transformation Van (DTV) project since February 2021. 52 students were recently felicitated and the ceremony was addressed by Mr. Pritpal Singh Kularr, CHRO, Indus Towers Ltd, Ms. Charu Kapoor, COO, NIIT Foundation and attended by other key team members. Under this project, 341 students from 19 batches have been trained in Digital Literacy and 3456 beneficiaries are being positively impacted.

'Industry-Academia Connect' with the Govt of Madhya Pradesh on International Youth Day

On the occasion of International Youth Day held on 12th August 2021, the ‘Industry-Academia Connect’ event was conducted with the Department of Technical Education, Skill Development and Employment, Government of Madhya Pradesh. Hon'ble Minister for Technical Education, Skill Development and Employment Smt. Yashodhara Raje Scindia along with Shri M. C. Gupta, IAS, Secretary of the department graced the event by their presence.
An Employee Engagement Session by TCS

An Employee Engagement session was conducted by Ms V. Vasumathy, Head of operations, Asia Pacific - Tata Consultancy Services, for the TCS sponsored students in CDC, Chhindwara, MP. The students got an opportunity to be guided and advised by Ms Vasumathy, as she spoke about self-motivation. She also emphasized the importance of technical skills as a vital part of learning. The session was interactive and encouraging for the students and will help them in their careers ahead.

A Webinar of Vodafone Idea Foundation Financial Literacy Program - Jaadu Ginni Ka

3.1 million people, across 12 states in India, have been positively impacted so far by our Vodafone Idea Foundation Financial Literacy Program - Jaadu Ginni Ka. To celebrate this success, NIIT Foundation organized a webinar to share the impact stories of our beneficiaries, the role of technology in these current times and the significance of a financial literacy program, especially during the pandemic. It was an honor to have Dr. M. Gurumoorthy YSRCP, member of parliament, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, as the chief guest at the event along with key eminent subject matter experts as speakers.

Job Placements at TCS

Students of the Cisco NetAcad batch in Chhindwara, MP are being recruited in IT/ITES job profiles offered by Tata Consultancy Services. A total of 20 students from the batch have received an offer letter. This job gives them a platform to grow personally and professionally. It has truly been a dream come true for many.
Virtual Graduation Ceremony for Differently abled students

NIIT Foundation organised a virtual graduation ceremony for students of Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust. The students are differently-able and have successfully completed their IT course from NIIT Foundation's Pirangut center in Maharashtra. A total of 50 students graduated. The day was celebrated with key team members from both organisations present at the event. It was a proud moment for everyone!

Online PTM Workshop at DAFFPL Palam Center in Delhi

An online Parents Teacher Meeting Workshop was conducted by NIIT Foundation for one of the batches of DAFFPL (Delhi Aviation Fuel Facility Pvt Ltd) Palam Career Development Center in Delhi. Working and interacting with the parents of our beneficiaries is a key feature of all our programs. The PTM workshop gave parents an insight into the teaching methodologies and placement process at the center.

Graduation Ceremony for HP sponsored students

A graduation ceremony took place virtually at CDC Khanpur, New Delhi, for the students sponsored by HP India, where students enthusiastically participated and shared their experiences. Students received their e-certificates over email.

Special training for a very special group of Participants!

Indus Towers Limited and NIIT Foundation organised a virtual session on Financial Literacy with the students and their parents of Bajaj Institute of Learning & Vocational Training for Deaf Children. There were a total of 145 participants who attended from Dehradun city. The training was delivered using audiovisuals making it user-friendly and interactive for all.
Train the Trainer Workshop by LinkedIn for NF Female Employees

LinkedIn hosted a train the trainer workshop for female employees of NIIT Foundation. This training guided trainers on how they can mentor their students and support them in their career journeys. With this training, NF trainers are further inspired to make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

NIIT Foundation & Cisco reach Northeast India with Virtual Learning

NIIT Foundation conducted an online introductory Cisco Cybersecurity & Internet of Things workshops with students from North Eastern Hill University & Lady Kean College in Shillong, Meghalaya. The sessions were held virtually and allowed for maximum participation.

Sunshine Circle for NF Employees

The Sunshine circle brought employees together on a common virtual platform to reflect on the year gone by, identify their inner hopes for the present and plan and prioritize for the future. The training was conducted using Genuine Contact Tools which gave employees an opportunity to actively participate and share.

Empowering the LGBTQIA+ community

NIIT Foundation stands for the Inclusivity and Empowerment of the LGBTQIA+ community. A three-day workshop was offered on Introduction to Cyber Security at no cost for students from the LGBTQIA+ community. Students from Connecting Dreams Foundation attended the workshop.
Tata Steel’s Jharia division to prepare youth for skill development

In order to provide quality education and enhance employability opportunities for the youth of Jamshedpur and Sipahij, Tata Steel’s Jharia division has launched a Skill Development Program. The program aims to equip the youth with the necessary skills to face the challenges of the modern job market. The division is committed to providing basic technical training to the youth. To this end, it has established Tata Steel’s Jharia division, a multi-disciplinary technical institute, which offers various courses in engineering, technology, and management. The institute provides a platform for students to acquire practical skills and knowledge through hands-on training. This initiative is expected to enhance the employability of the youth, making them more competitive in the job market.

TRENDING IN INDIA WORLD ENTERTAINMENT COVID-19 BYCNO WC BUSINESS SPORT

NIIT Foundation program is changing lives of rural children and youth

NIIT Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation, is working with children and youth from under-served communities to provide them literacy program and new-age skill development program.
PERFORMANCE AREA FY22

Over 51,642 students enrolled in Skill Programs
Over 3,005 students Successfully Placed
Over 290,186 beneficiaries became Financially Literate
21 New Centers Set up (CDC & DLC)
Over 40 hours of volunteer effort to help students

WE WELCOME OUR NEW PARTNERS

Fincare Small Finance bank
Zupee
JM Financial Foundation
MAFFFL

We thank our existing partners for their continued support; HPCL, Bata India, Lighthouse Foundation, Tata Steel Foundation, Larsen and Toubro, Sony India, Quest Alliance, Atos Syntel Prayas Foundation, Motherson Sumi, Wipro, DXC Technologies

JOIN US

BE A PARTNER
If you are a corporate and are looking for an organisation to implement your CSR vision in the area of skill development, education and employability, press on the button below for partnership details.

BE A DONOR
If you want to help us make a deep impact in the communities we work in, you can support our programs and beneficiaries. To make a donation press on the Click Here icon below

BE A VOLUNTEER
If you have time, a passion to work for the underprivileged and a skill to share, you can be a NF Volunteer. Press on the Click Here icon below to volunteer at NF.

NIITians can also donate through Payroll:
Visit www.iNIIITian.com -> My Data -> NIIT Giving in order to donate through payroll or to register yourself for volunteering.
We Welcome Your Feedback On This Volume of Our Newsletter