



# **Confederation of Indian Industry**

# Innovator 2009

# A unique initiative to ignite and nurture innovation among college students





### Report on Innovator 2009 Final Event, Hotel Le Royal Meridien, Chennai

The Education Sub Committee organized the first edition of Innovator 2009 on **February 12<sup>th</sup> 2010** at Hotel Le Royal Meridien, Chennai. The final event of Innovator 2009 saw the participation of 33 teams with 91 students from across the Southern Region. The day began with an exposition by all teams wherein teams were given table space to display their technical, business or social ideas. This exposition was visited by close to 120 delegates from various colleges, entrepreneurs, jury and industry members. There were 22 teams in the Technical Stream, 7 teams in the Social Stream and 4 teams in the Business stream at the exposition. An initial assessment was conducted for the Technical stream to shortlist teams for the final round of presentations. Following this teams presented their project



Exposition at Innovator Final Event; Dr. R Mahadevan, Chairman CII Education Sub Committee visiting the stalls

proposals at the Elevator Pitches and workshop was conducted by Cognizant on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

#### Elevator Pitch 1 & 2

The elevator pitch constituted the final presentations made by teams in parallel sessions. 25 teams made presentations on which they were evaluated by a panel of eminent jury members. Jury members consisted of senior persons from Cognizant, TCS, Ashok Leyland, TAFE, Take Solutions, Manipal University and GRG Institutions.





"Innovation can be taught to people, taught as a system..."

Sukumar Rajagopal, Cognizant



L to R: Technical Elevator Pitch with a) S Bharanidharan & team b) R Chandhanu & team and Social Elevator Pitch a) Amruth Varshini B L



#### Workshop on Innovation

Cognizant along with Surgeforth Technologies conducted an interactive activity based Workshop on Innovation and Innovative Thinking. The team from Cognizant engaged the audience in various activities and illustrated the various methodology to invoke innovative thinking through their workshop.

"Doing leads to insight, insight leads to ideas and great ideas lead to breakthrough innovation"

> -Kumar Sachidanandam, Cognizant



Mr Kumar Sachidanandam at the Workshop on Innovation, conducted at the Innovator Final Event

"We learnt to dream....learnt to do things in short periods of time..."

Student Reaction to Innovator 2009

#### Valedictory Session and Prize Distribution

The valedictory function was presided over by Mr C R Muthukrishnan, Former Director IIT Madras & Consulting Advisor TCS. His speech highlighted the need for nurturing innovation and using platforms such as Innovator 2009 to instill innovative thinking in the community. He urged CII, Cognizant and Surgeforth technologies to establish a "community of innovation" by spreading the message of Innovator through a website. Mr Sukumar Rajagopal, Senior Vice President & Head of Innovation, Cognizant spoke about how various techniques can be used to bring about innovation and creativity. This was followed by the prize distribution ceremony wherein students were presented with awards, prize money and certificates.

"This event would be a trendsetter & CII would continue this exercise into the future. We at the Education Sub Committee and CII believe that if we want to sustain economic progress by way of GDP growth, we can only do it through innovation"

Dr R Mahadevan



# **CII- Manipal Technical Innovator 2009**

**First Prize**: K S Vishwanath and Team from **PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore** with their project "Providing free lane for ambulances on Highways well in advance"

**Second Prize**: S Bharanidharan & team from **Sri Venkateswara College of Engineering, Chennai** with their project "Adaptive e-learning for 3G Mobile Multimedia Systems"

**Third Prize**: Syamkumar PG & team from **Rajagiri College of Technology, Cochin** with their project "Innovative Shopping Assistance Cart"

# CII-Pon Pure Business Innovator 2009

**First Prize**: Sathyan R Mani & Team from **Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship**, **Bangalore** with their project "The Merchandise Expert"

Second Prize: Arjit Bansal and team from Kirloskar Institute of Advanced Management Studies, Harihar (Karnataka) with their project "100 Omelettes"

Third Prize: Sibi A Saseendran & team from Rajagiri College of Technology , Cochin with their project "www.namastecity.com"

#### **CII-GRG Social Innovator 2009**

**First Prize**: Badhmasini G & team from **Thiagarajar College of Engineering** with their project "Integrating RFID Technology With Existing Teaching Mechanisms For Expedition Of The Learning Process Of Mentally Challenged People."

Second Prize: Nisha Karunakaran & team from Xavier Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship, Bangalore with their project ""Vishvaas"-A Bond of Trust "

**Third Prize**: V Koushik from **Pratyusha Institute of Technology and Management** with his project "Electronic Lavatories"

# Future Steps

- $\rightarrow$  Showcase winning entries at an exposition attended by Industry members
- → Provide visibility to all winning entries on the CII website, wherein members can access and download the ideas/final papers for their perusal and interest
- $\rightarrow$  Facilitate linkages with venture capitalists and angel investors for the winning teams









The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the growth of industry in India, partnering industry and government alike through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry led and industry managed organisation, playing a proactive role in India's development process. Founded over 113 years ago, it is India's premier business association, with a direct membership of over 7500 organisations from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 83,000 companies from around 380 national and regional sectoral associations.

CII catalyses change by working closely with government on policy issues, enhancing efficiency, competitiveness and expanding business opportunities for industry through a range of specialised services and global linkages. It also provides a platform for sectoral consensus building and networking. Major emphasis is laid on projecting a positive image of business, assisting industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programmes. Partnerships with over 120 NGOs across the country carry forward our initiatives in integrated and inclusive development, which include health, education, livelihood, diversity management, skill development and water, to name a few.

Complementing this vision, CII's theme "India@75: The Emerging Agenda", reflects its aspirational role to facilitate the acceleration in India's transformation into an economically vital, technologically innovative, socially and ethically vibrant global leader by year 2022. With 64 offices in India, 9 overseas in Australia, Austria, China, France, Germany, Japan, Singapore, UK, USA and institutional partnerships with 211 counterpart organisations in 87 countries, CII serves as a reference point for Indian industry and the international business community.

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