

DIT flags off the training program for first batch of Tax Return Preparers at NIIT

CBDT Chairperson highlights the plan to create a pool of skilled TRPs in India

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The training programme for 5000 students, under the Tax Return Preparers' Scheme was flagged off by the Chairperson of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), Ministry of Finance, Ms Indira Bhargava here today. The Tax Return Preparers Scheme is designed to train a pool of TRPs to assist new income tax assesseees to file their tax returns.

As part of the **Tax Return Preparer Scheme (TRPS)**, the Government aims at raising the level of awareness and compliance amongst marginal taxpayers. The Department of Income Tax (DIT) expects to add nearly 50 lakh new assesseees during the current year.

NIIT has been mandated by Department of Income Tax (DIT) to help foster resources for widening the base of income tax payers, by creating trained and certified Tax Return Preparers across the country. As part of the agreement, NIIT tested over 47,500 graduates across 100 locations to select 5,000 candidates for training on Income Tax filing procedures.

Speaking at a simple ceremony to kick-start the programme, Ms Indira Bhargava, Chairperson, CBDT said, **'NIIT's reach and expertise in training delivery will help us create a pool of skilled tax preparers to help facilitate the ever growing base of tax payers in the country.'**

The students would undergo a rigorous training programme on Income Tax filing procedures and popular office applications on computers starting today. On successful completion of the training programme, the candidates will be certified and referred to as 'Certified Tax Return Preparers' and obtain a unique Identification Number from the Department of Income Tax.

Elaborating on the new initiative, Mr. P. Rajendran, Chief Operating Officer, NIIT said, **'By partnering with Department of Income Tax for this unique initiative, NIIT will not only assist the Government in achieving its goals but also provide a career opportunity for large number of country's unemployed youth.'**

'Graduates in remote corners of the country now have a good opportunity to gain self-employment and work towards a better future', he added.

In this unique STE (Source-Train-Enable) programme, NIIT is providing special training material on the subject, developed by Taxman a leading publishing house dealing exclusively in Tax related matters. To ensure quality outcome of the training, all Tax Return Preparers would have access to a Web Based Knowledge Portal, for any special support while filing the returns, throughout the year. A unique feature of this exercise is the extensive use of e-learning for Tax Return Preparers, through the portal for one year, post their certification. This will help in continuous updation of skills in tax matters.

As part of its effort to 'Train the Trainers', NIIT has enrolled experts to train faculty for TRPs. These trainers in turn would train students across 100 locations. The training programme includes modules

on how to calculate Tax, usage of computer in calculating and filing return and other areas of soft skills.

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About NIIT Limited

NIIT, Asia's largest IT trainer, offers learning and knowledge solutions in 30 countries. At nearly US\$ 250 million size, NIIT together with the recently acquired Element K, is now the first and the best choice for comprehensive learning solutions, worldwide.

Leading IT magazine Dataquest has conferred upon NIIT, the **Top IT Training Company Award 2006**. Rated among India's Superbrands (2003-05), NIIT's education offerings include: **GNIT**, an industry-endorsed program for students seeking careers in the IT segments; **Integrated ANIT for Engineers (IAE)**—a dual qualification program for engineering students under the **NIIT Edgeineers** series of training programs on advanced technologies for IT professionals and skill up gradation programs for engineering graduates. NIIT also offers a turnkey IT integration program that provides computer-based learning in 3,906 government and private schools.

In the Corporate Solutions Business, NIIT's offerings are bolstered by its SEI CMM Level 5 assessed learning services capability. The Corporate Solutions Business offers integrated learning solutions that include strategic consulting, learning design, content development, learning delivery, learning technology services and learning administration.

NIIT's customers include many Fortune 500 companies, universities, technology companies, training corporations and publishing houses.

For more information, Please contact:

Contact --

PR - Brodeur India
+91-11-26142292

You can also visit www.brodeurindia.com for more information.