



Media Contact:

Aakriti Bhargava

mediaenquiries@aspiringminds.in

+91-9871220114

Aspiring Minds Collaborates with Dun and Bradstreet to Launch National Employability Conclave

- **Career Guru awards winners declared –**
 - **Performing Minds: Prof. Sandeep Meshram (College of Engineering, Pune)**
 - **Visionary Minds: Shitalkumar Rawandale (Pimpri Chinchwad Education Trusts College)**
 - **Inspiring Minds: Prof. J. N. Pitambare (Sinhgad College of Engineering)**

- **Witnessed participation from over 100 TPOs and leading industry heads**

Delhi/Pune, December 7, 2012: Aspiring Minds, India's leading employability measurement firm, launched the National Employability Conclave (NEC) in collaboration with Business Intelligence firm, Dun and Bradstreet in Pune today. Held at Court Marriot, Pune City Centre, the NEC provided a rich interface between Training and Placement Officers (TPOs) across more than 100 institutions and recruiters from reputed institutions such as HCL Technologies, Accenture India Limited, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Deloitte and more.

The conclave also saw Training and Placement Officers (TPOs) being recognised through the **Career Guru awards** for their untiring efforts towards ensuring greater employability. The winners in various categories were:

- **Performing Minds:** Prof. Sandeep Meshram (College of Engineering, Pune)
- **Visionary Minds:** Shitalkumar Rawandale (Pimpri Chinchwad Education Trusts College)
- **Inspiring Minds:** Prof. J. N. Pitambare (Sinhgad College of Engineering)

The Conclave started off with an opening address from Preeta Misra, Head – Learning Solutions, Dun & Bradstreet India. Shahina Islam, Associate Vice President – HR, Zensar Technologies Limited and Dr. S. V. Bhave, Vice President – HR, Bharat Forge Limited

presented in-depth case study presentations on the IT sector and the engineering sector, two of the key industry sectors with respect to potential recruitments for engineering graduates.

Commenting on the success of the event Varun Aggarwal, COO and CTO, Aspiring Minds said, ***“Over 100 placement officers gathered and discussed issues in improving student employability with industry veterans. Many important solution strategies were proposed including improving functional skills and making students aware of employability improvement in their foundation building years. The event concluded successfully with the career guru awards given to three placement officers for distinguished contribution to indian employment ecosystem.”***

Aspiring Minds shared sharp insights on understanding the employability gap in India. Among metros Mumbai + Pune ranked low in employability across IT Services and Product sectors. A cross analysis pointed towards a high percentage of engineering graduates employable in Hardware networking within the city. The employability levels for Mumbai and Pune, across different industry sectors as revealed, were:

Industry Sectors	Employability
IT Services	16.12
IT Product	1.17
KPO	7.45
Hardware Networking	38.34
BPO	42.62

This was followed by a session on skill building and the ‘Career Guru’ awards which saw TPOs being felicitated and recognised for their efforts towards ensuring greater employability of their students.

NECs to be held in 5 cities, have been conceptualised as a platform for academia and industry HR heads to spur new thoughts and best practices in tailoring training and placement programs. The initiative endeavours to nurture fresh talent and harvest practical solutions towards greater employability. It features **HR leaders of some of the largest IT and engineering companies** sharing an employer’s perspective on shaping young talent to meet industry expectations. **It is supported by experienced corporate trainers**, and Aspiring Minds, India’s leading largest job assessment and talent benchmarking company.

Through industry specific case study presentations and interactive sessions, NEC are aimed at sharpening the training infrastructure.

A joint effort of Aspiring Minds and Dun and Bradstreet, the National Employability Conclave leverages the expertise of both to build a more vibrant employment ecosystem that addresses the concerns of all the stakeholders. By highlighting the requirements of recruiters, NECs will help institutions identify gaps in current training programs thereby modifying and re-designing the same. Launched in Pune, subsequent NECs will be held across Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Kolkata and Delhi.

Career Guru Awards Jury

The jury for Career Guru awards comprised of a distinguished panel of judges inclusive of industry veterans such as:

- Mr. Naveen K, Program Director, Head - Orchard, Campus Talent Acquisition, Mindtree Ltd
- Mr. Niranjana Subramanya Sarja (NS), Head Campus, HCL Technologies,
- Mr. Prasanna Arunachalam, Campus Recruitment Lead (Engineering Schools), Accenture India Private Limited
- Mr. Puneet Pandey, Director - Resourcing and Training, HCL Technologies (Infrastructure Services Division)
- Ms. Savita Subramanian Venugopal, Associate Director - Talent Acquisition, Cognizant Technology Solutions
- Mr. Tarun Nallu, India Lead for Campus Hiring for Audit, Risk Consulting and Tax, Deloitte

About Aspiring Minds:

Aspiring Minds is India's leading employability solutions company, headquartered in Gurgaon. Aspiring Minds offers scientific assessments with an innovative large-scale sourcing model analogous to a GRE-for-job concept. The state-of-the-art assessment tools developed by Aspiring Minds have been used across industry verticals to help recruit the right people, develop profile-wise employability benchmarks and assess workforce health.

Aspiring Minds' intelligent adaptive assessments span across Language, Cognitive skills, Domain knowledge and Personality. A strong in-house research and development team with alumni from IITs and MIT form the development back bone of the patent pending assessment tools.

AMCAT™ - the flagship product is India's Largest Employability Test. Conducted across the country throughout the year, AMCAT has been taken by over 750,000 candidates in 1300+ campuses, spread across 23 states. Tens of thousands of candidates secure their dream jobs every year through AMCAT.

Powered by a highly dedicated management team drawn from the IITs and IIMs, over 180 full-time employees, and a pan-India operational presence, Aspiring Minds has helped leading brands across verticals to improve their recruitment process efficiency and the quality of talent they hire. Aspiring Minds products and solutions have been adopted by leading corporates across sectors.

Please visit us at www.aspiringminds.in

About Dun and Bradstreet : Dun & Bradstreet (NYSE:DNB), the world's leading source of global business information, knowledge and insight, has been enabling companies to Decide with Confidence® for over 170 years. D&B's global commercial database contains more than 205 million business records. The database is enhanced by D&B's proprietary DUNSRight® Quality Process, which transforms the enormous amount of data collected daily into decision-ready insight. Through the D&B Worldwide Network - an unrivaled alliance of D&B and leading business information providers around the world - customers gain access to the

world's largest and highest quality global commercial business information database.

Customers use D&B Risk Management Solutions to mitigate risk, increase cash flow and drive increased profitability, D&B Sales & Marketing Solutions to analyse markets, locate prospects and increase revenue from new and existing customers; D&B Export Marketing Solutions to gain significant insight into overseas markets and increase sales; D&B Learning Solutions to facilitate professional growth and excellence among their executives ; D&B Economic Analysis Group to derive pragmatic and solution-oriented analyses of strategic economic and business developments, thereby aiding informed decision making and D&B's Research and Advisory Services to provide customized research solutions and consulting to its clients in the areas of Risk Management, Economic, Sector and Financial Research.

D&B featured on FORTUNE Magazine's Most Admired Companies Industry List for four consecutive years (2006 -2009), ranking first in the Financial Data Services category. D&B ranked first in the areas of employee talent, financial soundness, long-term investment, quality of management and use of corporate assets.

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