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IIITM-K TO SHIFT TO NEW CAMPUS IN TECHNOCITY

The Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management–Kerala (IIITM-K), the pioneer autonomous institution set up by the Government of Kerala for conducting top-grade IT, science and management courses, is all set to shift to its new world-class campus in Technocity at Pallippuram in Thiruvananthapuram soon.

The first phase of the campus is ready, which will considerably enhance the facilities of the institution, which has plans to set up five independent schools – School of Computing; School of Electronics Design and Automation; School of Informatics; School of Biosciences; and School of Humanities and Digital Liberal Arts – on the new campus. This will enable IIITM-K to conduct courses such as MTech, PG Diploma and Certificate programmes. There could also be interdisciplinary programmes, running across the schools.

The State Government had allotted 10.33 acres of land in Technocity to develop a full-fledged residential campus for IIITM-K.

The Master Plan envisions world-class facilities, including an auditorium, administrative and academic blocks, students' hostel, library and laboratory wing, faculty and non-faculty residences, director's residence, and community centre. The new campus will have learner-centric envi-



PLACEMENT OFFERS

Students pursuing MSc in Computer Science streams at IIITM-K have secured internship and placement offers from top IT companies in the campus placement drive.

The companies have offered a monthly stipend of up to Rs. 25,000 for selected students. The average expected Cost to Company (CTC) for the fresh recruits hired during the placement drive is up to Rs. 8 lakh. Lead recruiters associating with IIITM-K include TCS, Infosys, TATA ELXSI, IBS, UST Global, Allianz and ABB.

The specialist competency areas of students include Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security, IOT, Cloud and Blockchain.

ronment, facilitated by state-of-the-art infrastructure in cutting-edge areas in fast-paced technology domains.

Covering a total built-up area of 5,18,210 sq.ft., it is designed as a 'Green Campus'.

IIITM-K, affiliated to Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), currently has four MSc Programmes in Cyber Security, Machine Learning, Ecological Informatics, Data Analytics and Geospatial Analytics. It also has two MPhil programmes in Computer Science and Ecological Informatics, besides doctoral programmes in Computer Science.

It admits students for PhD programmes in IT-related topics in the areas of Distributed Computing and Software Engineering, and advanced computing areas like High Performance Computing, Grid and Cloud Computing, Security and Computer Networks.

IBS SOFTWARE TO ACQUIRE CANADIAN AVIATION SOFTWARE MAJOR

Stepping up its efforts to become a major technology provider in the global aviation industry, IBS Software (IBS) has entered into a multi-million-dollar agreement with Massachusetts-based Kronos Incorporated to acquire AD OPT, a market leader in aviation software that provides crew management solutions to some of the biggest airlines across the world.

AD OPT (www.ad-opt.com), founded in 1987 in Montreal by a group of mathematicians and operations research experts, was acquired in 2004 by Kronos, a multinational workforce management software and services company employing nearly 6,000 professionals worldwide.

The frontline crew planning and optimization platform of AD OPT currently powers some of the top airlines in the world, including Air Canada, EasyJet, Emirates, FedEx, Garuda, Lion Air and Qantas.

The acquisition is an integral part of Thiruvananthapuram-headquartered IBS' growth strategy to become the leading technology provider to the airline industry worldwide. Prior to this, the company has made six strategic acquisitions — three in USA, two in Europe and one in India — in its 21-year history.

IBS is a specialist in aviation software, supporting flight operations of large airlines, including British



Airways, KLM and Emirates. This landmark acquisition will help the company leverage AD OPT's deep domain expertise to provide the most advanced, end-to-end, integrated digital solution for the highly complex task of flight and crew management.

"Acquisition of world-class travel technology companies has been a deliberate strategy of IBS to fulfill its commitment to the aviation industry. AD OPT offers a sophisticated suite of airline crew planning and optimization products, a sizeable customer base and a highly experienced team of professionals. The coming together of IBS and AD OPT is, therefore, extremely relevant for the industry as it enables us to create the most advanced digital platform, delivering a holistic

solution for flight operations and crew management," said V K Mathews, Executive Chairman, IBS Group.

The acquisition of AD OPT will add more than 20 airline customers to IBS, significantly expand its footprint in North America, boost go-to-market capabilities and enhance addressable market.

"IBS represents a well-established and logical acquirer of AD OPT – a game-changing combination which will bring meaningful expertise and complementary benefits to employees and customers of both organisations. Customers will also benefit from IBS' and AD OPT's shared commitment and passion for innovation," said Bob Hughes, Chief Customer and Strategy Officer, Kronos.

INNTOT TECHNOLOGIES WINS KFC AWARDS

Inntot Technologies won three awards at Annual Conclave 2019 organised by Kerala Financial Corporation (KFC).

The company, which works in the field of digital media receivers for electronics, was presented three awards in the MSME category. Rajith Nair, CEO, Inntot Technologies, received the awards from Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala.



The electronics startup was selected as the first runner up to receive 'Best

Enterprise in Export/Import Substitution Sector.

The company also received the first and second runner up awards for Best Enterprise in Service Sector.

The awards were distributed in the presence of Dr. Thomas Isaac, State Finance Minister and Manoj Joshi IAS, Additional Chief Secretary (Finance).



SMARTCITY KOCHI PLANS TO RAISE RS. 4000 CR

SmartCity Kochi, a joint venture company of the Government of Kerala and Dubai Holding, has drawn up ambitious plans to raise an additional Rs. 4000 crore from potential investors for its Phase III, IV and V by activating infrastructure-ready residential plots and completing the pending infrastructure development on its township side.

“The Phase III will witness residential, sports and recreation facilities and mixed-use developments in a land area covering 30 acres. Phase IV and V planning is underway where we would invest an estimated Rs. 200 crore to complete the remaining infrastructure to activate 45 acres of additional plots that could be offered to the investors for residential and social infrastructure projects,” said Manoj Nair, CEO, SmartCity Kochi.

On the township side, GEMS Modern Academy, with an investment of Rs. 102 crore, has commenced its operations.

“With these three phases opening up, and subject to timely clearances and approval from the Government of Kerala, we would create further

investment opportunities of Rs. 4000 crore to promote developments on the township side of SmartCity Kochi. Of this, a confirmed expression of interest (EoI) from a leading residential projects developer in South India is under process. The development entails residential project in an area covering 15.5 acres of land on a freehold basis with an investment of approximately Rs. 1200 crore,” he informed.



Construction work on the residential project is likely to commence during the last quarter of 2019 itself, subject to necessary clearances from the State Government. Work on remaining infrastructure development will be taken up in the last quarter of 2020.

Manoj Nair said the master plan of SmartCity Kochi has been updated and environmental study for the

expansion is underway.

As per the framework agreement with the Government of Kerala, the base investment in SmartCity Kochi was estimated to be Rs. 1700 crore. Overall, developments in SmartCity Kochi have so far resulted in an investment of over Rs. 2600 crore.

“In terms of development of IT business infrastructure, further investments to the tune of Rs. 2200 crore could be attracted. The full build out investment potential of SmartCity Kochi is estimated to be Rs. 9,000 crore,” he said.

“To facilitate co-developments by investors, we have invested in the development of 7-km-long 4-lane road with utility and services trenches, 33KV sub-station with power infrastructure, water storage and distribution infrastructure, and landscaping. Work on water treatment plant is progressing as per schedule,” he said.

Major businesses like LuLu Group International, Prestige Group, Maratt Group, Holiday Group and Schulte Group are the co-developers which have signed up to create IT business infrastructure projects.

ENFIN'S DECADE OF EXCELLENCE



Enfin Technologies, based in Technopark, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary. An award-winning EdTech and RTC application development company, with office also in Bengaluru, Enfin has been building, maintaining and supporting enterprise and startups exclusively for educational technology and real-time communication since 2009. The firm's flagship products include

Ofabee – an interactive and engaging cloud-based all-in-one Online Course Delivery/Selling Platform (LMS Platform) & Virtual Classroom and FutureRoom – a new age immersive virtual classroom solution, fully customized for Educational Institutions, Corporate Sectors and Skill Development Institutions to provide quality education with advanced technology worldwide.

NEW OFFICE FOR WEBANDCRAFTS



Webandcrafts, a global IT solutions company based in Infopark Koratty, Thrissur has opened its new office at Asokam Villa in the campus. Jilu Joseph, Vice President and Abin Jose Tom, CEO were among those present on the occasion. A complete web solutions company, it provides a host of services including web hosting, web designing, 2D & 3D animations and the like.