SSN Sets-up Incubation and Innovation Centres

SSN Incubation Centre to be supported by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

SSN Innovation Centre to support the SSN student innovations from concept-to-market

Prof Dr. V.G. Idichandy (ex IIT Madras) appointed as Chief Mentor for both centres

September 03, 2016, Chennai: SSN College of Engineering today announced the setting up of a **SSN Incubation Centre and the SSN Innovation Centre** at its campus in Chennai. **Prof Dr. V.G. Idichandy,** formerly Deputy Director, IIT Madras has been appointed as the **Chief Mentor** for the two centres. **Mr. Shiv Nadar, Founder and Chairman of Shiv Nadar Foundation** was present on the occasion to inaugurate the centres.

The **SSN Incubation Centre** is part of the 100 such centres and one of the first few centres in a private institution being supported by the **Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (M/o MSME)** to promote emerging technological and knowledge-based innovative ventures.

The M/o MSME will support the SSN Incubation centre through a grant of Rs. 66 lakhs (for a maximum of 10 incubatees) for a period of 36 months by which time it expects investors, venture capitalists or bankers to step forward with additional funding. The SSN Incubation Centre will focus on innovations by technology and engineering start-ups in the primary areas of **'energy' and 'materials'.** In the energy domain the focus is primarily on solar photovoltaics. However, the Centre may also look at incubating ventures in other areas of research and innovation. SSN Incubation centre will support and develop budding entrepreneurs in the state of Tamil Nadu and the research community from SSN College of Engineering or other engineering institutes.

SSN has also set up an **Innovation Centre**, focused primarily on encouraging research and ideation from the SSN students. The SSN Innovation centre will support with concept validation and prototype creation for ideas being worked upon by the SSN students. Once a working prototype is created, it will be supported by the SSN Incubation centre to facilitate industry collaboration and government support to seek partnerships and funding for commercialization of the prototype and take it to market.

SSN Incubation Centre and the SSN Innovation Centre are spread over a combined area of 4000sq ft. and will reach out to and embrace a wider ecosystem of innovators to foster a vibrant spirit of entrepreneurship and risk taking among students and the larger entrepreneurial community.

Announcing the initiative **Mrs. Kala Vijayakumar, President, SSN Institutions** said, *"Both, the SSN Incubation Centre and the SSN Innovation Centre are aimed at creating an enabling ecosystem that taps into the incredible potential of the start-up and student community, respectively and nurture them to the point where they become job-givers instead of job-seekers. Our students and faculty have collectively written over 566 peer reviewed papers in international reference journals in the year 2015 and we want to capitalize on this incredible wealth of knowledge by creating a platform through the SSN Innovation Centre that can help take their ideas to market."*

Adding to this, **Prof. Dr. V.G. Idichandy, Chief Mentor** for the project said, *"I am very excited to be associated with the SSN Business Incubation Centre and the SSN Innovation Centre. The two centres are designed to foster entrepreneurship and innovation not just at SSN but also within the wider entrepreneurial ecosystem in the state. There has never been a better time to be an innovator or researcher in India as it is now. The SSN Innovation Centre offers an unprecedented opportunity to shape cross-disciplinary collaboration to the SSN students, while the SSN Incubation Centre will serve as a catalyst to solve society's most pressing needs through innovation and entrepreneurship."*

About SSN Institutions

The SSN Institutions is the first initiative of the Shiv Nadar Foundation in the field of education. Founded by Shiv Nadar, Founder Chairman - HCL, Shiv Nadar Foundation in 1996, the SSN Institutions endeavor to provide world class research based education to meritorious students from all walks of life.

A not-for- profit institute managed by the SSN Trust (Sri Sivasubramaniya Nadar Educational and Charitable Trust), the SSN Institutions include the SSN College of Engineering (SSNCE), the SSN School of Management (SoM), the SSN School of Advanced Software Engineering (SSN SASE), SSN School of Advanced Career Education (SSN SACE) and SSN Research Centre (SSNRC).

Located on the Old Mahabalipuram Road known as the Cyber Corridor of Chennai, the institution is spread over a 250-acre Wifi-enabled campus with a built-up area of over 1 million sq ft; equipped with the state-of-the-art infrastructure for learning including computers and internet facilities networked by fiber optical links, modern workshops; labs, seminar halls, auditorium, libraries, gymnasium, a sports complex and residential accommodation for students and faculty. In a short span of ten years since inception, the SSN College of Engineering had already come to be ranked as one of the top ten private engineering colleges in India (EDURAND, June 2015; CSR, June 2015).

 For more information, please get in touch with:

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