

## Press Release

### **Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi felicitates Shikhil Sharma and Ananda Krishna from NIIT University (NU) at the Global Conference on Cyberspace (GCCS) 2017**

- *Shikhil and Ananda bring laurels to NU by winning the “Startup Pitch” at GCCS 2017*
- *Astra, a web security solution, recognized as the “Most Innovative Startup”*

**New Delhi, 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2017: Shikhil Sharma and Ananda Krishna** students of **NIIT University (NU)** class of 2016, won the Startup Pitch at the prestigious Global Conference on Cyberspace 2017. Astra, a web security solution, developed by these students was recognized as the “Most Innovative Startup” at the conference. The students were awarded by **Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Honourable Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe and Honourable Minister of Law & Justice and Electronics and Information Technology, Govt. of India Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad** were also present on the occasion.

The Global Cyber Challenge is one of the major GCCS 2017 events conducted with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Center (NCIIPC), MyGov, Cyber Peace Foundation (CPF) and Policy Perspectives Foundation (PPF) as collaborators. The Grand Finale of the Global Cyber Challenge was a two-day contest organised on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November 2017 amongst the winning teams of the preliminary rounds. Hundreds of teams from throughout India and from countries like USA, Canada, France, Argentina, Australia and Algeria showcased their talent and competed in the challenge.

The challenge comprised two contests namely Capture the Flag and Peace-a-Thon event. Shikhil and Ananda won the Startup Pitch for exceling in the Peace-a-Thon category.

Congratulating Shikhil and Ananda **Prof V S Rao, President, NIIT University** said, *“I am proud to see our students make a mark at the prestigious Global Conference on Cyberspace. With this win Shikhil and Ananda have set new standards in innovation and creativity. At NIIT University we have successfully established a new model of higher education that fosters critical thinking, innovation and research centric approach and inculcates lifelong learning. In fact, innovation is a way of life at NU and this has encouraged our students to come up with winning entrepreneurship ideas.”*

Beaming Shikhil Sharma and Ananda Krishna thanked the organizers of Global Conference on Cyberspace for the award. They also thanked the faculty of NIIT University for their constant support, encouragement and guidance.

Conceptualized as an institution of excellence, NU provides exceptional education based on the Four Core Principles that make learning Industry-linked, Technology-based, Research-driven and Seamless. NU, is well poised for meeting the emerging needs of the knowledge economy through its focus on building strong industry linkages and a research oriented approach.

**About NU:**

Established in 2009, NIIT University (NU) is a not-for-profit University covered under section 2(f) of UGC Act and notified by the Government of Rajasthan. A premier institution of higher learning and research, NU seeks to create original thinkers who will lead the knowledge society of the future. The University inherits three decades of rich expertise and global know-how of its principal sponsor, the NIIT Group.

Nurtured by some of the foremost thought leaders and corporate-practitioners of the country, the multi-disciplinary University focuses on emerging areas of technology and management. NIIT University is a part of a 100-acre campus at Neemrana, Rajasthan, 90 kms from Gurugram on NH8.

Nestled in the Aravali hills, the fully residential green campus offers an idyllic and intellectually vibrant environment for pursuing higher education and research. Set up with the vision to be the role model of learning, research, innovation and sustainability, for the knowledge society, NU is dedicated to building great careers and ensuring excellent job opportunities to all its students. It has been developed as an institute of excellence to provide exceptional education based on its Four Core Principles that make learning Industry-linked, Technology-based, Research-driven and Seamless.

NU offers the entire spectrum of academic programs. At the undergraduate level, it offers B.Tech (Computer Science & Engineering, Electronics & Communication, Biotechnology), BBA (Marketing & Marketing Analytics, Family Business & Entrepreneurship, Finance, Banking & Fintech, Business Analytics, Communication & Media Studies and Digital & Social Media Marketing), 4-year Integrated M.Sc (Computer Science), 4-year Integrated BBA - MBA, 5-year Integrated B.Tech - M.Tech and M. Tech (Educational Technology and Geographic Information Systems). NIIT University also offers a 5-year dual degree B.Tech & M.S program (In collaboration with University of Missouri, Kansas City) wherein students undertake academic work at NU for 3.5 years and then continue at UMKC for 1.5 years. In addition, NIIT University also offers MBA, Ph.D programs and several Industry Sponsored Programs.

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