

## PRESS RELEASE

### **SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY TO BE ESTABLISHED IN GREATER NOIDA**

- An enduring world-class multidisciplinary research oriented University
- Admissions to start by Academic session 2011-12

**Delhi, April 25, 2011:** The Shiv Nadar Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Shiv Nadar University and the commencement of its operations this academic year. Envisioned as one of India's foremost research led, multidisciplinary universities, Shiv Nadar University will offer a full range of academic degree programs including undergraduate, postgraduate and professional degrees across a number of disciplines. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has enacted the necessary legislation for the establishment of the Shiv Nadar University in the State.

**TSR Subramanian**, Trustee Shiv Nadar Foundation, said "Uttar Pradesh has an extremely progressive approach towards education and we are thankful for the support of the state government which has approved our proposal to establish the Shiv Nadar University. The Foundation is committed to setting up an institution bench-marked to truly global standards, which will offer Indian as well as foreign students a first-class research driven and interdisciplinary educational experience. Apart from the students it will benefit directly, it will also contribute to the development of Uttar Pradesh by enhancing its position as an education hub."

The Shiv Nadar Foundation also announces the appointment of Dr. Nikhil Sinha, as the founding Vice-Chancellor of the Shiv Nadar University. The University will begin its academic programs with the launch of the School of Engineering this academic year and plans to roll out other schools in the coming years, including schools of business, humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Its most significant differentiator will be the strong emphasis on interdisciplinary research that will cut across all schools allowing the University to break disciplinary silos and institute a broad-based academic structure consistent with the best global pedagogical practices. The architecture of the University's curricula will consist of a common core of undergraduate courses as well as the flexibility to allow students to choose multiple electives for enhanced breadth of learning and engagement. A major component of the mission of the University is to create research and teaching opportunities that actively engage faculty and students in the process of creating knowledge, not just disseminating it. The Foundation is also in discussion with several global universities to accelerate the path to excellence by partnering with the best institutions around the world in select areas.

Welcoming these developments, **Shiv Nadar**, Founder, HCL; Chairman, HCL Technologies and the Shiv Nadar Foundation, said, "While India can be justifiably proud of having a robust education infrastructure, it has not uniformly kept in tune with the current Indian and global needs in higher education. The progressive outlook of Uttar Pradesh has enabled us to set up a University with a multidisciplinary and research led character to address many of these issues. We are delighted with the long association and deep roots we have within the State, which also happens to be HCL's birthplace".

The Shiv Nadar Foundation has made significant investments in building lasting institutions of excellence and will continue to do so over the coming years. The Shiv Nadar University is located on a sprawling 286 acre campus located in the Greater Noida area. Over 1.8 million sq. ft. will be constructed in the current Phase I of the campus development plan accommodating 4,000 students. When fully completed, the campus will accommodate 8,000 students, and have over 5 million sq. ft. of built-up space. With over 80% of the campus consisting of landscaped area, the campus is being designed as a Green campus with energy efficient architecture. This will establish an environmental benchmark in the education sector in India.

According to **Dr. Nikhil Sinha**, the founding Vice-Chancellor of the University, "We have already begun the process of recruiting top class talent in both faculty and administrators for the University. Our goal is to recruit exceptional faculty from India and around the world by offering them competitive benefits, opportunities and resources for research, the best and brightest students to teach and a commitment to academic freedom. Students will have the opportunity to be taught by outstanding faculty, to participate in research and experiential learning programs, to enhance their degree programs with international educational experiences and live and learn in a campus with world class infrastructure and facilities".

Admissions for the 2011-12 academic session are expected to commence in May of this year.

#### **About the Shiv Nadar Foundation**

The Shiv Nadar Foundation ([www.ShivNadarFoundation.org](http://www.ShivNadarFoundation.org)) has been established by Shiv Nadar, Founder, HCL - a \$5.7 billion leading global technology and IT enterprise, which employs over 79,000 employees across 31 countries. The 34 year old enterprise, founded in 1976, is one of India's original IT garage start-ups and offers diverse business aligned technology solutions spanning the entire hardware and software spectrum, to a focused range of industry verticals.

The Foundation is committed to the creation of a more equitable, meritocracy based society by empowering individuals to bridge the socio-economic divide. To that purpose the Foundation is focused on the rather underdeveloped disciplinary areas in India related to **philanthropic transformational education, creativity and art**.

The Foundation has set up the **SSN Institutions** ([www.SSN.edu.in](http://www.SSN.edu.in)) in 1996, comprising the SSN College of Engineering (already an India top 10 private engineering college), the SSN School of Management and Computer Applications and the SSN School of Advanced Software Engineering, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. In addition the Foundation runs the **VidyaGyan schools**, (in Bulandshahr, Sitapur and upcoming school near Varanasi) a radical social experiment in nurturing leadership from amongst highly gifted rural poor children in Uttar Pradesh. The Foundation is also setting up **Shiv Nadar Schools** across India to build world-class sustainable schools that provide children with the right platform to shine in a fast-changing environment.

Building on the experience from successfully running the SSN Institutions, the Shiv Nadar Foundation now proposes to set up the **Shiv Nadar University** in a 286 acre campus in Greater Noida.

#### **For further details please contact:**

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