PRESS RELEASE

Shiv Nadar University Launched at Greater Noida

- Commenced classes with the School of Engineering and the School of Natural Sciences for the academic year 2011-12
- Announces the launch of School of Social Sciences & Humanities and the first Research Centre in Mathematics & Information Technology
- Announces appointment of Directors to the School of Engineering and the School of Social Sciences & Humanities

Dadri, October 19, 2011: The Shiv Nadar Foundation announced the launch of the Shiv Nadar University (SNU) today at Dadri, Greater Noida in the National Capital Region. The Shiv Nadar University announced the launch of the School of Social Sciences & Humanities for the academic session 2012-13 and also the launch of its first Research Centre in Mathematics & Information Technology. The Research Centre will function as a centre for research collaboration with leading global institutions through the application of Mathematics and Information Technology. The University plans to launch the School of Business, the School of Communication and the School of Education in the near future.

The University also announced the appointment of **Dr. M Gopal** as Director of the School of Engineering and Dr Shubhashis Gangopadhyay as Director of the School of Social Sciences & Humanities. Dr M Gopal, an internationally acclaimed academician with three decades of experience, joins SNU from IIT Delhi. **Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay** is an eminent economist and joins the School of Social Sciences & Humanities from the India Development Foundation (IDF), an independent research organization.

The special occasion was graced by Dr A P J Abdul Kalam, Former President of India, who addressed and interacted with the founding batch of students and faculty and inspired the young minds at SNU.

Speaking on the occasion, **Shiv Nadar, Founder & Chairman - HCL, Shiv Nadar Foundation** said, "World class educational institutions play a strategic role in contributing to the knowledge and human capital needs of a country. Excellence in global education is driven by research; cross disciplinary learning and the ability to attract the best faculty and students. Indian higher education also needs to inculcate innovation-led interdisciplinary curricula to become globally relevant and find solutions to matters of national importance. The Shiv Nadar University has been envisioned to bring world-class pedagogy to India with a sharp focus on research and inter-disciplinary education."

Nikhil Sinha, Founding Vice Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University said, "A world class university is characterized by great faculty and students. We have attracted a stellar faculty, including some of the best academic minds from leading colleges and global universities like IIT Delhi, Oxford University, University of California at Berkeley and St. Stephen's College. We will offer our students global exposure and the creative latitude needed to have successful careers in industry, academia and the government."

The University has commenced with the School of Engineering and the School of Natural Sciences - Department of Mathematics for the academic session 2011-12. The founding class of the Shiv Nadar University currently has 274 students. The University's curriculum has been modeled on global best practices in higher education with 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.

About Shiv Nadar University

The Shiv Nadar University (www.snu.edu.in) is a research-led, interdisciplinary university designed to create a global centre of learning and education in India. A key initiative of the Shiv Nadar Foundation in higher education, SNU is benchmarked to international education standards with a sharp focus on innovation and a stimulating learning environment. Set up on a 286-acre campus in the National Capital Region, in close proximity to Delhi, Shiv Nadar University offers a full range of academic degree programs including undergraduate, postgraduate and professional degrees across multiple disciplines.

About Shiv Nadar Foundation

The Shiv Nadar Foundation (www.ShivNadarFoundation.org) has been established by Shiv Nadar, Founder, HCL - a $6 billion leading global technology and IT enterprise, with over 85,000 employees across 31 countries. The 35-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 underdeveloped disciplinary areas in India related to transformational education, creativity and art.

The Foundation has set up the SSN Institutions (www.SSN.edu.in) in 1996, comprising the SSN College of Engineering (already a highly ranked private engineering college in India), in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. In addition the Foundation runs the VidyaGyan schools (www.vidyagyan.in), (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 (www.shivnadarschool.edu.in) across India to build world-class schools aiming to provide children with education that creates life long learners. **For further details please contact:**

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