

“A Story of Rags to Riches : Indian Industry”

by Dr. Saurabh Mehta, Professor and CAO, Vidyalandkar Institute of Technology
online lecture organised by CSI-VIT on 11th September 2020, 5.00 PM

During the Live Webinar Dr. Saurabh Mehta CAO, VIT shared his thoughts and his Experiences regarding “A Story of Rags to Riches: INDIAN INDUSTRY”. Since 2006 , he has been working as an independent Technical Consultant for various organizations and from 2011 he has been associated with Vidyalandkar Institute of Technology and Currently Shouldering the Responsibilities of Chief Academic Officer (CAO). He is responsible for designing curricula, implementing academic planning and policies, integrating academia and industry collaboration.

Introduction to IT Industry

Information Technology in India is an industry consisting of two major components: IT Services and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO). India’s IT Services industry was established in year 1967 in Mumbai with Tata Consultancy Services. The first Software Zone and the IT hub was set up at Nariman Point and later at SEEPZ, Andheri. The Sector has increased its valuable contribution to India’s GDP from 1.2% in year 1998 to 7.7% in 2017.

Insights from the Event

25 Years of Internet

It was 25 years ago on August 15, 1995, that internet **sun** started to rise in India and was launched by **VSNL**. India was going through the most significant phase of its Digital revolution and in those days connection to the Internet use to be through the traditional Telephone lines. The growth of Internet is Phenomenal and almost 4.4 billion people today use the Internet, sending out billions of gigabytes of data over the World Wide Web. It has connected the world, making national, social and economic boundaries less consequential.

The most successful sector in India

Most sectors like Aerospace, Nuclear, IT/Telecom, Railways etc. has progressed immensely throughout these years. India has launched various satellites in the Aerospace sector. India has also seen advancements in the nuclear sector as well as in the Indian Railway which ranks fourth largest in the world. IT/ Telecom industry has now become the leading sector in our country which is used in each and every application.

Political Encouragement

Shri. Rajeev Gandhi, is widely known as the Father of Information Technology and Telecom Revolution. He promoted Science, technologies and other associated industries. The Indian Railways were also encouraged

to move to automation by initiating computerized reservation systems. Shri. Atal Bihari Vajpayee also helped the IT industry to overcome the toughest early challenges so as to make India grow.

The story of PARAM

In 1980s, US stopped exporting Supercomputers, which led India to face many economical losses. Later, initiative taken by Dr. Bhatkar the Indian Computer Scientist, made the Supercomputer ready in just 3 years i.e., in the year 1991 and the world was amazed by the way India was progressing. PARAM is the series of Supercomputer designed and assembled by C-DAC and was the first machine in the series of Supercomputers.

The NASSCOM

NASSCOM is the non-governmental trade association of Indian Information Technology and BPO companies which was established in year 1998. It promotes and helps startups in Indian Ecosystem so as to nurture them and help them develop into bigger organizations.

Key Takeaways

1. The speaker discussed about the journey of Shri Narayan Murthy which was not only challenging but full of dreams having patience and faith in work, that gave rise to the First Indian IT firm, Infosys.
2. Dr. Mehta also focused on the root causes of IT industry, roles and positions of many technocrats, political leaders, founder of different IT Companies and making network with foreign IT firms.
3. Speaker also gave insight about the success stories of other sectors of India. It was interesting to know about the role of Indian IT industry in country's GDP, different emerging sectors and developing services
4. By the end of the session the students had a good idea about the new trend in the IT industry.

Report compiled and edited by Prof. Amit K. Nerurkar, Prof. Mohini Chaudhari and CSI-VIT Team.