

**PM: IIT Community can help translate the emerging wonder of 'India at 60' into the embodied success of 'India at 75'**

Addressing the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Pan IIT Global Conference being held in Chennai via a video link from New Delhi today, the Prime Minister stated that "I believe it is India's destiny to become a knowledge power." He noted that the IITs had contributed handsomely in the country's efforts to realize this destiny. Referring to the **IIT Alumni Impact Study – 2008**, which he later released, the Prime Minister stated that the IIT impact study findings validated this assessment. He further added that the bigger opportunity today was that such a large and rich community was available for generating ideas and initiatives that may help translate the emerging wonder of 'India at 60' into the embodied success of 'India at 75'.

Mr Arjun Malhotra, Co-Chair PanIIT Global and Chairman & CEO, Headstrong, and Dr R Chidambaram, Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT & Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, represented the Pan IIT Global Forum at the inaugural session in New Delhi whilst IBEF was represented by its Chairman and the Commerce Secretary, Mr G K Pillai as well as CEO IBEF, Ms Aparna Dutt Sharma.

Speaking at the inaugural session in New Delhi, Mr G K Pillai pointed out that the success of the IIT alumni stood testimony to the government's decision to build an institution that mirrored the country's desire to excel in the global arena, the reason for IIT and IITians having a brand name with unmatched equity.

He informed that PanIIT with the India Brand Equity Foundation, the public-private partnership between the CII and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, had jointly prepared the ***IIT Alumni Impact Study - 2008***. The study brings out the contributions of over 200,000 IITians to the world, be it in terms of leadership, economics or social responsibility. To provide a nugget from the study – IITians today have a budgetary responsibility of around US\$ 885 billion and have been responsible for the creation of nearly 20 million jobs.

The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by Mr Arjun Malhotra.

.....



