

Manila-based biz school starts management diploma

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: One of Asia's top business schools, the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) has announced its presence in the city by getting into a tie-up with academic group Edvance Learning to introduce a one-year international executive diploma in business management (EDBM) course, starting February 2010.



Grace S Ugut

The Manila-based AIM, which was established in 1968 with the help of the Harvard Business School and the Ford Foundation, ranks among the world's top 100 B-schools and is known for its graduate as well as executive education in management.

Grace S Ugut, associate dean of AIM's executive education and lifelong learning centre, announced the launch of the EDBM course, which is targeted at transforming corporate-sponsored young professionals and executives into business leaders and managers for different levels of activities in an organisation. Edvance Learning's group chairman Arun Arora and chief executive officer (CEO) Ajay Mehra were present.

Ugut said, "The EDBM is part of our flagship one-year courses and will be delivered entirely by our own faculty, which will be flown in from Manila. The programme, featuring four training modules of varied durations, is to be completed in 16 weeks of classroom work."

Edvance will provide all the logistical support in terms of infrastructure and learning facilities.

It has developed a three-storeyed campus at the Shivaji housing society off the Senapati Bapat road. This will also be the main hub for the AIM-Edvance joint initiative in management studies from February 2010.

Corporate professionals and executives with six years of working experience, including three years at managerial level, will qualify for the EDBM programme on the basis of recommendation by their respective organisation and clearance of an AIM entrance test as well as interview.

Ugut said, "The executive diploma would enable companies nurture and retain young talent as agents of change to further the cause of company expansion."

She added, "The business landscape in India has been changing at a rapid pace over the last one decade and the Indian economy is poised to grow further. What is important for us is to go beyond the development of physical infrastructure and focus on investing in the next generation talent. That can be achieved only through education and this is the reason we are here."

According to Mehra, "The differentiating factor between the EDBM offered by AIM-Edvance and others in the field of executive education is the fact that the entire faculty would be from AIM."

Arora said, the Edvance Group was driven by the sole objective of bringing state-of-the-art, cutting-edge, advance international education to India. "Starting from Pune, we plan to take this initiative all over India."