

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **TEDxBITSGoa Unveils an Extraordinary Lineup of Speakers; Innovators Who Will Leave the World Amazed by Their Ideas, And Their Breathtaking Talks...**

- **One Day – Four Sessions – Inspiring Talks – Ideas Changing the World – Ideas Worth Spreading | February 5<sup>th</sup> 2010, BITS – Pilani, Goa Campus**
- **Talks will include speakers like Visionary Prof. Vijay Chandru from Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Toymaker & Tinkerer turned Scientist Arvind Gupta; the brain behind Indore Habitat Project Himanshu Parikh and performers like Handshadowgraphy artist Amar Kumar Sen and child prodigy & Rubik's Cube Champion Bennett Orlando.**

**Goa, January 10, 2010:** The TEDxBITSGoa Conference, will be held in Birla Institute of Technology & Science – Pilani, Goa Campus, on February 5, 2010. Under the theme of Innovation, it will present to the world ideas that have changed lives and those set to change the future. Speakers will include visionaries whose ideas have revolutionized the society; Performers will leave all dazzled through the rhythm of Innovation flowing through their every move...

BITS – Pilani, Goa Campus will host the event in its state of the art auditorium hall for a 2200 enthusiastic audience which will consist of scientists, technologists, philanthropists, students, artists, educationalists and people with a desire to change the world.

Renowned for its beaches, places of worship and world heritage architecture, Goa is visited by large numbers of international and domestic tourists each year. In the midst of idyllic, sylvan beauty, the BITS Campus is unique in the respect of scenic beauty and panoramic view of picturesque surroundings encompassing the Zuari River, hillocks, roads, waterways, forests, and landscape. These provide the perfect location for dynamic exchange of ideas.

The talks will be co-curated by TEDx Licensee Swetansu Mohapatra and Siva Cotipalli under official license from TED. In the spirit of the main TED conference, and under the theme of Innovation, it will present some of the most prolific thinkers and doers to give the talk of their lives in 18 minutes or less.

Under the theme of 'Innovation', TEDxBITSGoa shall address questions like:

- What innovations are set to revolutionize the world of medicine?
- How junk can teach you more of sciences than all your text books do?
- Can we find an alternative solution to sustainability?
- How do we blend in technology, yet retain cultural identity?
- How the lives of over a million people could be rebuilt from the city slums?

A partial list of speakers and performers has been released. (The complete list of all the new speakers added will be released on January 20, 2010):

### Host:

**Siva Cotipalli**; Co-founder & CEO, DhanaX; Karamveer Purashkar Winner

### Speakers:

**Arvind Gupta**; Toymaker & Tinkerer; First Science Popularization Award Winner

**Achyut Godbole**; Technocrat; Indradhanu and Kumar Gandharva Award Winner

**Himanshu Parikh**; Architect; Aga Khan Award Winner

**Khurshed Batliwala**; Life Mentor; President, World Alliance for Youth Empowerment

**Vijay Chandru**; Technologist, Entrepreneur; Dewang Mehta Award Winner

### Performers:

**Amar Kumar Sen**, HandShadowgraphy Artist; Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Award Winner

**Bernett Orlando**, Rubik's Cube Champion; World Record Holder

Visit [www.TEDxBITSGoa.com/SPEAKERS](http://www.TEDxBITSGoa.com/SPEAKERS) for complete profiles of speakers.

Additionally, a list of 20 speakers will be released in a fortnight's time that will contain a league of change-makers who will share their passion and present their indigenous ideas to make a difference to the world we live in.

Apart from the speakers, a list of special attendees for the conference and their visions to carry forward the 'ideas worth spreading' will be released on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**To register for the conference visit: [www.TEDxBITSGoa.com/REGISTER](http://www.TEDxBITSGoa.com/REGISTER)**

**Or mail: [register@tedxbitsgoa.com](mailto:register@tedxbitsgoa.com)**

**For corporate passes & queries, contact: Aditya Sood | +91 94 23 50 40 39**

### About TED

**TED** is an annual event where some of the world's leading thinkers and doers are invited to share what they are most passionate about. "TED" stands for Technology, Entertainment, Design — three broad subject areas that are, collectively, shaping our future. And in fact, the event is broader still, showcasing ideas that matter in any discipline. Attendees have called it "the ultimate brain spa" and "a four-day journey into the future." The diverse audience — CEOs, scientists, creatives, philanthropists — is almost as extraordinary as the speakers, who have included Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, Jane Goodall, Frank Gehry, Paul Simon, Sir Richard Branson, Philippe Starck and Bono.

<http://www.TED.com>

### About TEDx

**TEDx** is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share ideas worth spreading. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks videos and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x=independently organized event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized.

<http://www.TED.com/TEDx>

### About TEDxBITSGoa

**TEDxBITSGoa** is an independently organized TED like conference operated under a license from TED. Scheduled on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in the venue of BITS – Pilani, Goa Campus, under the theme of Innovation, it will present to the world, Innovations that have pioneered change in the past and those that are going to change the future... Speakers will include innovators; visionaries and performers who will leave all bedazzled through their talks...

<http://www.TEDxBITSGoa.com>