## **National Institute of Technology: Trichy**

## **UKIERI Sponsored Conference on**

**SME Development: Managing Challenges** 20th September 2014 (9.30 AM-1.30 PM)

Venue: Hotel Sangam

## **Background**

The **UKIERI (UK-India Education Research Initiative)** project on Management Capacity Development of SMEs has been carried out from 2012. The lead institutions of the project are NIT-Trichy & Brunel University, UK. Other Indian partners of the project include BHEL-Trichy, BHELSIA and IIM, Trichy. Uxbridge College, UK, a further education institution is the other UK partner.

A team of Indian and UK Faculty were involved in designing and delivering the curriculum, including preparation of training material. The project outcomes, in the form of training capability and training material, will continue to be useful to Indian SMEs, especially those in manufacturing sectors, long after the project is completed.

The comprehensive training material is developed collaboratively by Indian and UK faculty teams. More than 100 SMEs in Trichy, Chennai and Coimbatore have been trained based on the material. Four SMEs were chosen as SME Faculty for further training programmes and they were taken to UK for a first-hand experience of SME in the UK.

## **Step Forward**

A one-day conference is being organized on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Hotel Sangam, as part of the UKIERI project. A team of Brunel University faculty led by Prof. Ashley Braganza will be speaking the conference. The officials of UKIEI will grace the occasion. The conference would focus on the disseminating sustainable value to SMEs out of the 30-month long UKIERI project.

As a follow on opportunity of the UKIERI project, NIT- Trichy is planning to set up a SME Center for supporting the SMEs in the region. The conference will be used as an opportunity to explore the opportunities for NIT Trichy's role in development of SMEs in the state of Tamilnadu.

SMEs are invited to participate in the conference and express their expectations so that NIT Trichy will play its role effectively. The speakers of the conference include office bearers of SME associations such as TANSTIA, TIDITSSIA, BHELSIA, CODISSIA, CII, AIEMA, and others. In addition, officials of UKIERI will grace the occasion.

For further details, please contact:

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