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Technopark firms bag innovation awards

Special Correspondent

Instituted by Nasscom, ISBA

Achievement is a recognition for Technopark's TBI initiative, says Technopark chief executive

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Two start-up companies at the Technology Business Incubation (centre on the Technopark campus here have been selected for national awards for innovation.

MobeMe, a company set up by a group of engineering students, won the National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) innovation award 2008 for the most innovative start-up and the ISBA (Indian Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Parks and Business Incubators Association) 2009 award for the best start-up Information and communication technology (ICT) company.

It was selected for the award for its flagship product a Mobshare.in, a mobile content-sharing platform and distribution network.

Light Logics Holography and Optics Pvt. Ltd. won the ISBA award for the best start-up engineering company for 2008. The firm manufactures core machines for holographic imaging and security holograms. Its holographic gun sights have been approved by the Ministry of Defence. It has also developed holographic smart ID for personnel authentication and a device for remote surveillance of fishing boats.

The ISBA awards were given away at the International Conference on Business Incubation held in Chennai from January 29 to 31. The Nasscom award will be presented to MobMe at the Nasscom India Leadership Forum from February 11 to 13 in Mumbai.

The two companies were honoured by Technopark Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Siddharatha Bhattacharya at a function held here on Saturday.

MobMe CEO Sanjay Vijay Kumar and Light Logics CEO P.T. Ajith Kumar received mementos from Mr. Bhattacharya.

MobMe is a two-year-old company co-founded by Sanjay Vijay Kumar and Sony Joy (chief operations officer), Vivek Steve Francis (chief financial officer) and Vishnu Gopal (chief technology officer) while they were engineering students.

The company now has operations in Kochi, Mumbai and Gurgaon. The award-winning Mobshare.in is designed to help mobile users with GPRS-enabled handsets to share photos and videos directly.

Light Logics is a business initiative of a team of scientists and engineers with years of professional expertise.

Lauding the two companies, Mr. Bhattacharya said their achievement was a recognition for Technopark's TBI initiative. "Out of the 63 companies that were short-listed for the ISBA awards, 10 were from Technopark. The awards reiterate the fact that our incubation facilities are world class and one of the best in the industry," he said.

Technopark TBI Head K.C. Chandrasekharan Nair said the achievement of the two companies would help in promoting the spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation. He hoped it would help to groom more home-grown companies.

Mr. Bhattacharya added that a major effort was on to promote business incubation initiatives as engines of growth. The 14 new district-level IT parks to be set up under the hub-and-spokes model would have TBI units.

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"Our effort will be to promote local student entrepreneurs," he added.

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