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IUST Joins ICT Academy to Strengthen Student Skills and Industry Readiness

Awantipora, May 13: To further strengthen industry-oriented education, skill development, and employability at the campus, the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Islamic University of Science and Technology has secured institutional membership with ICT Academy, a premier organization dedicated to fostering industry-academia collaboration, technology education, and professional skill development across the country.

The initiative reflects the university's continued commitment to equipping students and faculty with industry-relevant competencies and exposure to emerging technologies. The institutional membership was formally taken by Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir, Dean Academic Affairs, IUST. The initiative was coordinated by Dr. Asif Ali Banka Head Department of Computer Sciences, Dr. Sajaad Ahmed Lone Coordinator, ICT Academy, and Mr. Imran Amin Mir, Relationship Manager ICT Academy.

Through this institutional membership, students, research scholars, and faculty members—particularly from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and allied departments—will gain access to a wide range of opportunities, including skill development programmes, internships, industry certifications, placement-oriented training, innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives, technical workshops, hackathons, and Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs).

The collaboration will particularly focus on emerging and advanced technology domains such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Science, Cloud Computing, Cyber Security, and the Internet of Things (IoT), among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Sheikh Ajaz Bashir emphasized the importance of strategic academic partnerships in preparing students for evolving global technological challenges. He stated that IUST remains committed to creating an academic ecosystem that integrates quality education with practical skills, innovation, and industry engagement. He further expressed confidence that the association with ICT Academy would significantly enhance the employability and professional competencies of students.

Dr. Banka remarked that the membership would provide students and faculty with valuable opportunities to engage with industry experts, gain practical exposure, and participate in nationally recognized technical initiatives. He noted that such collaborations are essential for bridging the gap between academic learning and industry requirements.

Dr. Lone highlighted that the institutional membership would facilitate continuous engagement with industry leaders and technology experts through structured training programmes, internships, certifications, and faculty upskilling initiatives.

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