



Maharaja Surajmal Institute of Technology eCell/Incubation cell



Optum Scholarship Program – Industry Visit Report

1. Overview

As part of the collaboration of eCell MSIT with Nasscom Foundation for Optum Scholarship Program, students had the opportunity to visit the Nasscom Foundation office in Noida for an immersive industry exposure experience designed to take learning beyond the classroom and introduce students to the professional world on 25th August, 2026.

The visit brought together workplace exposure, mentoring, industry interaction, cybersecurity awareness, and informal engagement, enabling students to observe a professional environment, interact with experienced professionals, ask questions, and gain a better understanding of the skills and mindsets required for their future careers.

The experience complemented the broader objectives of the Optum Scholarship Program by strengthening students' exposure to career pathways, professional environments, and continuous learning.



2. Objectives of the Visit

The industry visit was organised with the following objectives:

- To provide students with first-hand exposure to a professional workplace.
- To help students connect their academic learning with real-world career opportunities.
- To facilitate interactions with industry and sector professionals.
- To create opportunities for mentoring, curiosity, questioning, and knowledge sharing.
- To increase awareness of emerging areas such as cybersecurity, technology, and data protection.
- To help students develop greater confidence in navigating professional environments.

3. Key Engagements

Cybersecurity Session: Students attended an engaging cybersecurity session that introduced them to the evolving technology landscape and the importance of cybersecurity and data protection in today's professional world.

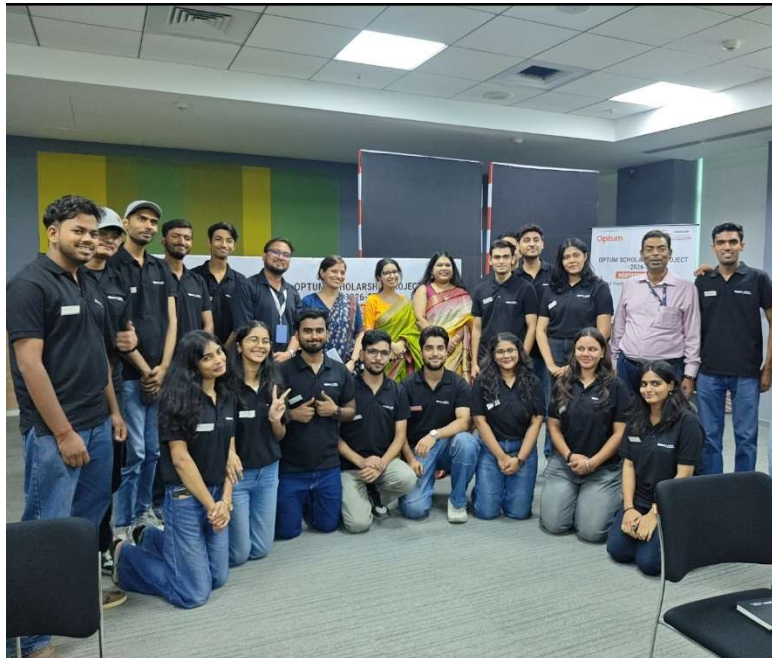


The session was conducted by Aditya Bhatia, Principal Consultant at the Data Security Council of India (DSCI), whose experience in cybersecurity, data protection, and public policy outreach helped students gain practical perspectives on the sector. The interaction provided students with an opportunity to understand emerging challenges in technology while encouraging them to ask questions and engage with the subject beyond their academic curriculum.

#Interaction with Senior Leadership: Students also interacted with Siddhartha Pande, Senior Director – Programs, Nasscom Foundation, who spoke about the importance of continuous learning in a rapidly changing world.

The interaction highlighted that obtaining a degree is only one part of a professional journey. Students were encouraged to continuously build new skills, remain adaptable, and develop a mindset of curiosity and lifelong learning.

A key message shared with the students was: Always keep asking questions. Be curious. The conversation emphasised how curiosity can become a foundation for learning, helping young people explore new ideas, perspectives, and opportunities.



Siddhartha also highlighted the importance of mentorship and interaction with experienced professionals, noting that such exposure can help students gain practical insights into their chosen career paths that may not always be available within the classroom. Office Tour and Workplace Exposure: Students were taken on a tour of the Nasscom Foundation office, allowing them to observe the workplace environment and understand how a professional organisation functions.

The experience helped students become more familiar with a corporate workspace and encouraged them to engage naturally with professionals and their surroundings. For many students, being physically present in a professional environment provided a valuable opportunity to begin visualising themselves as future professionals.

Interaction with Ms. Jyoti Sharma

A key highlight of the visit was the interaction with Jyoti Sharma, CEO, Nasscom Foundation. The interaction provided students with an opportunity to engage with a senior leader and experience a direct conversation with someone working at the leadership level of the organisation. Such

interactions can help students understand professional journeys, leadership perspectives, and the possibilities that lie ahead as they build their careers.

4. Student Engagement

The visit was not limited to formal sessions. Students actively participated through questions, conversations, and informal interactions throughout the day.

The environment encouraged them to:

- Ask questions and express their curiosity.

- Interact with professionals in an approachable setting.

- Observe workplace practices and professional interactions.

- Connect classroom learning with real-world applications.

- Become more comfortable participating in unfamiliar professional environments.

The informal elements of the visit also played an important role in creating a welcoming and memorable experience for students. Food, goodies, photographs, and conversations among students and team members added to the overall engagement and helped create a sense of community during the visit.

5. Key Learning and Takeaways

The industry visit reinforced several important messages for students:

Continuous Learning

In a rapidly evolving technological and professional landscape, learning does not end with the completion of a degree. Students need to continuously update their knowledge and skills to remain adaptable.

Curiosity and Questioning

Students were encouraged to remain curious and ask questions. Curiosity can help young people seek knowledge, understand new perspectives, and discover opportunities.

Importance of Mentorship

Interactions with experienced professionals provide students with practical insights into career pathways and workplace expectations and can help bridge the gap between academic learning and professional life.

Industry Exposure

First-hand experience of a workplace can help students better understand professional environments and build confidence as they prepare for their careers.

Career Readiness

Career preparedness extends beyond technical qualifications. Confidence, adaptability, communication, curiosity, and the ability to continue learning are equally important.

6. Impact of the Visit

The visit created a valuable bridge between education and professional exposure.

By bringing students into a real workplace and facilitating conversations with professionals and senior leaders, the engagement enabled them to experience aspects of the professional world that cannot be fully replicated within a classroom.

The visit also gave students an opportunity to begin seeing themselves in professional spaces, ask questions without hesitation, and understand that career development is an ongoing journey rather than a single milestone.

7. Conclusion

The Optum Scholarship Industry Visit to Nasscom Foundation, Noida provided students with a meaningful opportunity to experience the workplace, interact with professionals, explore emerging areas such as cybersecurity, and gain perspectives on career development and continuous learning.

The combination of industry exposure, mentoring, leadership interaction, and informal engagement made the visit a holistic learning experience.

A scholarship can create access to education, but experiences such as these help young people understand what comes next. By creating opportunities to learn, interact, question, observe, and explore, the Optum Scholarship Program continues to contribute towards helping students become more confident and career-ready.

Ultimately, being future-ready may not mean knowing everything. It may simply begin with having the curiosity and confidence to keep learning.