

In school, at the office

■ At Intelenet, Malad, doing an MBA while at work is serious business, with classrooms, lectures and faculty

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It's not an unusual offer these days—you work at a BPO and simultaneously do an MBA, with a little help from your employers in the form of tie-ups with institutes or fee discounts.

But at Intelenet Global Services, Malad, this offer has taken on a totally new form—with the company offering even its freshest faces a range of courses, complete with classrooms, lectures and expert visiting faculty, all within the office building.

“We first decided to tie up with Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) last year, we were losing good employees because they wanted to study further,” says Vice-President (HR) Manuel D'Souza. “And though most firms only offer such options to employees after a year of employment, we have no such restrictions. If they leave, they will have a wider scope of careers to choose from. If they choose to stay on, they could become team leaders or managers.”

And, a real wonder in the BPO field, Intelenet employees are even given leave and comfortable hours so they can focus on the course. Already, 40 people have signed up.

Faculty members from NMIMS hold regular lectures in designated classrooms. The courses on offer include a one-year diploma in Human Resources Management, a course in Business Process Management and, of course, a complete three-year MBA course. Internal exams are held too, with papers graded by the visiting faculty.

“The course is tailor-made to suit the requirements of a BPO. And we never compromise on quality, so the students get the real thing,” says Praful Agnihotri, who teaches Services Marketing.

Adds 26-year-old Ruchi Coelho, who has opted for the MBA course, “The courses really help us develop our skills and differentiate ourselves in a highly competitive environment where management knowledge is needed and appreciated. Many who want to pursue a regular management course cannot, due to the work hours. But this onsite course helps us grow as we work. It's great.”