

Google plans to train two million mobile app developers in India

Jul 12, 2016, 06.45 AM IST

NEW DELHI: Google has unveiled a slew of initiatives to educate and certify students and developers as part of its Android skilling programme in India, which aims to train 2 million mobile app developers.

The specially designed instructor-led training programme on Android Fundamentals will be made available across public and private universities and training institutes of the National Skill Development Corporation.

Android dominates the global market for mobile operating systems and competes with Apple, which also invests in enabling developers to make apps for iOS.

"India is expected to have the largest developer population globally, overtaking the US, by 2018, with 4 million developers, but only 25% are building for mobile today. We believe India is uniquely placed to innovate and shape the Internet experience of billions of users who are and will come online on the mobile platform," said Caesar Sengupta, vice-president of product management at Google.

The in-person training module integrated into the course curriculum will be introduced this year at no additional fee.

It will be available free of charge on National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning platform, an initiative of the Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science, as part of its online mobile computing course starting July 18.

Google's move comes as Apple plans to open a development accelerator in Bengaluru, which will provide specialised support to iOS app developers. Google has tied up with Edureka, Koenig, Manipal

Global, Simplilearn, Udacity and UpGrad, among others, which will operate as authorised Android training partners in India

It hopes to offer the programme in about 2,000 universities, training about 4,000 faculty to reach more than 250,000 students every year. Google will train their trainers and update the Android courseware to prepare students for Android certification and a career in Android development.

The search giant will also open-source all Android developer fundamentals practicals and courseware and make them available to everyone for free. "We want to contribute to the Skill India initiative and help make India the global leader in mobile app development," Sengupta said.