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Asiatotal.net CEO Judy S. Chen on Friday shows the just launched free computer that helps developing communities access the Net — Express photo

World's first free computer launched

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Bangalore, Nov 11: Asiatotal.net launched the first free computer iT on Friday. iT is designed with an aim to provide internet access for developing communities by giving the computers free of cost to the economically backward.

Asiatotal.net will distribute the computers through sponsors. The sponsors will obtain the computers from Asiatotal.net and give it to the applicants. The sponsor companies will return benefit from it since the hotline keys will have direct link to the companies website.

The applicants should have had never owned a computer before and the family income must be within the prescribed limit.

The first 200,000 units are set to be dispatched to Brazil over the next few months. Subsequently iT will be distributed to Latin America, China, India, Russia, Continental and Eastern Europe, South Africa, Mexico, Philippines and the Middle East.

Asiatotal.net has not yet identified any sponsors in India and has not done any study with regard to bringing iT to the country. "We are targeting quality partners in the Consumer Business, Retail, Financial Services, Entertainment, Healthcare, Technology, Media and Telecommunications sectors. The faster we are able to bring corporate partners onboard, the more computers we will be able to provide," Asiatotal CEO, Judy Chen said.

The iT package com-

prises a portable, language adapted package, which includes keyboard, mouse, a 7-inch LCD monitor with speakers and all necessary accessories. Other features include a smart card reader for financial transactions, easy voice and text messaging via Windows Messenger, virus immunity and increased system stability from using the embedded Windows CE operating system, and ready to connect to a wide range of USB peripherals including USB card reader to facilitate photographic image reproduction.

The hardware is designed, developed and technically managed by Taiwan based Biostar. The units incorporate key components supplied by Taiwanese companies including VIA and GBM.