



MYINDIA

Towards a developed nation...

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- We will be on the web in a short time !!!
- Join MyINDIA at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/efforts4nation>
- To contribute to the organization, please write to f2002405@bits-pilani.ac.in

INTRODUCTION

Fifty eight years of independence has witnessed India excel in arts, sciences, trade, governance and technology. But the fact still remains that we are not a developed nation. Illiteracy, unemployment, poverty, and corruption still keep tormenting us and pose a great barrier to this "Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic" country in emerging into a developed one.

Myriads of people are unaware of the misery that prevails in our country. If you are a patriot, a true nationalist, a core humanist, doesn't your mind ponder over the questions like, Should this nation suffer forever from all the severe poverty, unemployment, and starvation?

Isn't there an end to this sorrow?? Don't we owe a duty towards this unending grief? Yes, if you are a true nationalist, a core human-

ist...your mind definitely ponders over such questions. Then why do we need to wait for one more Gandhiji to come and change this nation? Why do we ask questions like "Isn't there anyone who can wipe out the tears of the common man of this nation?" Can't we ourselves sacrifice our luxuries and selfishness and generate a hope to the common man of this great Nation?

It is solely for those people whose thinking resonates with that of the above that MyINDIA was formed and we as the responsible youth play pivotal roles in the advancement of India. We appeal to every citizen of this country to strive towards a common goal - the upliftment of our country, making a sincere effort in eradicating problems that pose a threat for the upcom-

ing of our nation.

MyINDIA was started on the 12th of February, 2005 and since then has been growing rapidly with lots of zeal and a true nationalist spirit.

This issue brings to you a review of the various departments of the organization, the projects undertaken by them, in this semester.



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" INDIA MUST CONQUER THE WORLD AND NOTHING LESS THAN THAT IS MY IDEAL. IT MAY BE VERY BIG, IT MAY ASTONISH MANY OF YOU, BUT IT IS SO. WE MUST CONQUER THE WORLD OR DIE....THEREFORE DO NOT SIT IDLE "

" ARISE, AWAKE AND STOP NOT TILL THE GOAL IS REACHED."
— SWAMI VIVEKANANDA.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT UNIT

India's heart lies in its approximately six lakh villages.

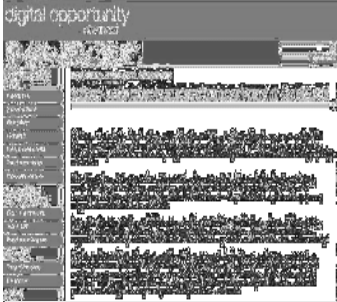
"The village knowledge center is one of the essential components for realizing our goal of graduating into a knowledge society and thereby transforming the country into a developed nation before the year 2020," the President, Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam said. It will achieve the delivery of the right knowledge, at the right place and at the right

time to our rural population."

A Village Knowledge Centre by name, Vivekanand Gramin Gyan Kendra was opened at the Dhandhar village near Piloni on Sunday, 25th September 2005.

The library was inaugurated by the Director of the Birla Educational Trust Retd. Col. V. Ratnakar and Prof. Rajiv Gupta, Dean, EHD, BITS,Pilani. The inauguration witnessed the presence of many other professors from BITS.

The total expenditure for the center was Rs.18, 460, to be precise.



News of VKC in the website of One World South Asia

Hindustan Time

Village knowledge center by BITS
A VILLAGE Knowledge center, named Vivekanand Gramin Gyan Kendra was started at Dhandhar village near Piloni on Sunday, 25th September, 2005. The opening of the Kendra is initiative of BITS India, a voluntary organization formed by BITS students. The village knowledge center will equip functioning as a hub of disseminating knowledge, with a library, a computer with Internet, magazines and BITS students will assist the villagers in accessing knowledge from the Internet. IITC.

The faculty showed their constant support by accompanying the volunteers on village trips. During these visits, members of the RDU conducted surveys to get an idea of the kind of programmes that need to be implemented in the villages for

improving the lives of the villagers.

The library's collection of 350 books includes inspiration, moral values, career oriented books for students; books related to self help groups for women and other short story books, etc for

children. There are also 7 magazines and 2 daily newspapers to keep the local villagers updated with the happenings in the world. Besides books, the Kendra has a radio too.



MyINDIA in News



The Village Knowledge Centre at Dhandhar

On an average, the center records an attendance of 50 on a day.

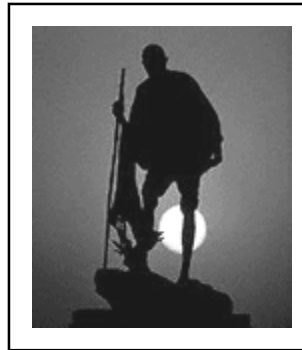
Plans of conducting awareness camps in the village on Health, Family Planning, and career related matters are in progress. The Kendra will take up projects to work closely with the agriculture departments in order to provide knowledge

A major part of the funds for the village knowledge centre has come from the BITSian junta and the professors of BITS. My-INDIA owes a lot to the student community and the faculty for their contributions without which the VKC would have just remained a dream.

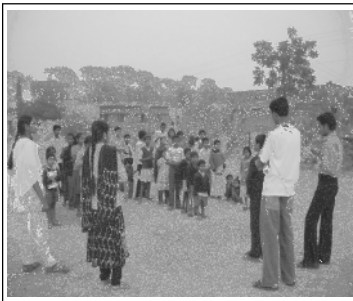
relating to improved agriculture methods.

The village knowledge centre will soon function as a hub of knowledge having a library, computer with Internet connectivity and students from BITS will assist the villagers in accessing the knowledge from the Internet. Striding on the success of the VKC at

Dhandhar, we plan to establish village knowledge centers in more villages around Pilani and then move further on to other regions.



Let's march ahead!



A Saturday's session at GYANBODH

GYANBODH

Our literacy program, GYANBODH had started this semester on the 23rd of August. This semester, we saw a huge number of first yearites involving themselves as volunteers. On the whole, both the MWF and TThS series together counted 30 dedicated volunteers. This semester the number of beneficiaries reached 50, most of them coming from the families of the mess workers, rickshaw

pullers, watchmen, etc.

The MWF series was devoted to teaching science, while English and mathematics were taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Saturdays saw the demonstration of scientific experiments, art competitions and other such extra-curricular activities which would develop a scientific insight in them making them better citizens.

Each day's session started with a prayer, followed by the teaching of the respective subjects of the series.

Special attention was given to create general awareness among them at the end of each session. The students were divided into four groups to instill in them the spirit of teamwork. A general.

GYANBODH will be starting on the 9th of January next semester.

To know more about GYANBODH and get yourself enrolled as a volunteer, contact f2003634@bits-pilani.ac.in



Knowledge question was posed to each group everyday and answering these questions fetched them points. On every Saturday, the team with the highest number of points was given prizes based on their performance throughout the week. Points were also awarded based on their habits, cleanliness, discipline, etc. All in all, this semester's GYANBODH provided a platform for imbibing social

awareness in the underprivileged and helped them improve their academic abilities.

We will be back next semester with more organized plans to improve this programme and make a concerted effort towards a better India.

PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT

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The Public Relations (PR) Unit keeps track of the progress of each and every programme taken up at different places and thus keeps the mission undivided. It aims at spreading the organization and its ideals to every nook and corner of the country.

We don't want to be another NGO but want to make this a movement of the youth and spread it throughout the country.

To help the members develop their social skills, PR unit came with up 'Skill Building Sessions' every weekend. These sessions include group discussions wherein topics related to the present Indian scenario are talked upon. Members are involved in innovative games that highlight teamwork.

The earliest of the projects that will be undertaken

by the PR unit next semester is to open a chapter at Birla Technical Training Institute. In near future, the PR unit aims at opening more chapters of My INDIA in various educational institutions across the country and thus allow more citizens to join in this movement started by us.

Help us grow!!

Till date, MyINDIA chapters have been opened at Hyderabad, Goa and Vizianagaram. Please let us know if you have your friends in educational institutions, who might be interested in our activities. We would be happy in spreading this movement far and wide by opening more chapters in different parts of the country.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 58th Independence day was celebrated in the campus with students and staff turning up in large numbers. 'My India' distributed the tricolor to all those present and this made a remarkable difference in the way the event is celebrated every year.

Early in the morning, a team of 14 students visited a nearby village by name Choti Thimau. The trip

aimed at making the villagers understand their responsibilities, thus driving home the importance of education in making a difference to their lives. The villagers were made aware of the various problems threatening the development of the country. The interactive session with the residents of the village turned out to be a fruitful one, thus enabling them to express the prob-

lems that are being faced by them. Children and educated youth were made aware of the numerous scholarships available to hard-working and diligent students.



MyINDIA members in Thimau

AN APPEAL TO PSENTISEMITES

We would like to appeal to all the psentisemites to come forward and contribute for the poor, needy people who surely need our support. Donors are regularly informed about our work through our newsletters, website and brochures.

We hope that you will support us in order to carry forward with our projects which aim at a developed nation. Our work is made possible by the generous donations of many individuals like you. Your help can make a difference in bringing hope to millions of underprivileged people in India.

To contribute in any form to the organization, mail to f2002405@bits-pilani.ac.in

Those who do not read have no advantage over those who cannot read.

—Mark Twain

Save Paper Save Trees Save Nation : Pass on the issue to others after you read.

What you do may seem insignificant, but it is important you do it.

—Mahatma Gandhi

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