



Independence Day Special

EDITORIAL



India

Celebrating

*61 years of
Independence*

15 August - The day when we look back 6 decades from now with so much awe and respect for the great patriots who laid down their lives for freeing our nation from the British Raj. The question that people ask today- where do we stand together as a nation on the global arena ?

But before we periodically compare our last few standings on the international front, have we addressed the issues of the common man? The burning issues known to every person in the country today range from female foeticide to the latest fuel price rise. A recent survey by the UNICEF has revealed the ugly side of the nation- one half the nation is grappling with child labour, starvation, manual scavenging...Every thirty minutes a woman is raped in India and in 75% of the cases the offenders are the victims acquaintances. The list goes on

Ironically, not everything is on the darker side either. Our economy is booming, as never before. Not to exaggerate, the pace at which we are moving forward, we can leave the rest of the world behind if the current issues do not aggravate further. The living standards of the people are improving and so are the energy demands, thanks to the opportunities made available to the youth in the IT-ITeS sectors. Any sector today, be it telecommunication, pharmacy, or real estate, is on the fore front of the development chart, due to the much needed support and appreciation provided by the contemporary governments. With the present energy supplies the vision 2020 seems no more than just an illusion. The much hyped Indo-US nuclear deal could be a feasible alternative and environment friendly solution to the depleting non-renewable sources of energy, our nation is dependent on.

With so many positive aspects we are still in those initial days of independence figuring out strategies for up-lifting the under privileged. Even though, many policies have been formulated only time can tell, when these would reach the beneficiaries at the grass root level.

Jai Hind!!!

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Our Projects

Self Help Groups (SHG)

One of our initiatives under employment operations , it envisions at making women economically empowered. Engendering and enhancing the skills of the rural women by encouraging them to form groups for self and mutual help is the aim of the project. The women are trained at making useful products which are then marketed. After the training phase, the women are now producing kurthas, files, laptop covers and bags.



Rural Employment Incubator (REI)

Rural Employment Incubator (REI) was established to create self-sustainable business plans that can be tested and implemented in rural areas to provide employment. The project undertaken by REI is setting up of a Biogas Plant in a village, near Pilani, called Khedla. The Project Proposal for this project has been made and once the funds are raised its implementation will begin. It would be able to generate employment for villagers and also be a source of income generated through the various by-products of the Bio-gas plant.

Solar Lamps

To overcome the power crisis in the villages surrounding Pilani, the REI team has come up with the Solar Lamps Project with an aim to provide solar lamps to the villagers at an affordable price. Keeping this in mind the team has come up with a low cost design. After a detailed survey in the villages of Bhaans and Khedla, estimates were made to know the required number of solar lamp sets to start with.

Village Knowledge Centre (VKC)



The project aims to augment the knowledge, skill and economy of the village families through the power of information and communication technology. The establishment of a village library at Dhandar and career guidance programmes at Dhandar and Bhaas, held last semester, have met with a positive response from the beneficiaries. The villagers are now managing the library, which is seen as a success for the project.

Gyan Bodh– Gyan Vihar



GYANBODH, a project of Nirmaan initiated three years back with the vision of imparting value-based education to as many children as possible. An evening school is run for the local under privileged kids in Gyan Vihar. Various other activities like painting and sports competitions are held for the overall development of these kids.

School Adoption Program

Many schools in India lack infrastructure and quality education which in turn has become a roadblock to the development of the nation. School Adoption Program (SAP) aims at providing easy access to high quality education for underprivileged school children by bridging the knowledge, economy and opportunity gap . SAP has selected and approached the “Rashtriya Prathamik Paathshala” in the village Hanumathpura. With whole-hearted co-operation from the school administration, a requisition has been submitted to the Govt. for semi-adopting the school. It’s approval is awaited to start the renovation process in the school.

Inter Connection of Schools

The project aims at interconnecting schools to organize cultural events, sports meet and science fairs. By facilitating mutual cooperation amongst the schools, the project gives a platform for these schools to raise their standards collectively. The role of Nirmaan is to act as a mediator between the managements of different schools to facilitate effective knowledge transfer and to create a Win-Win situation for these schools. The surveys and the groundwork being done in the previous semester, the project awaits implementation.

Check your Indian Quotient..

1. Abhinav Bindra won Gold in 2008 at Beijing Olympics. When was the last time we won it?
2. "Truly Speaking," a famous leader of India's freedom struggle concluded in a speech, "the law should be non-violence wherever possible; violence wherever necessary." Who was the speaker?
3. Name the annual fair of Rajasthan that is famous for its camel trading event...?
4. Name this Indian Tennis player who has turned Hollywood filmmaker?
5. Who was the first Indian to contest election to the British House of Commons?
6. Located in India it is Asia's largest residential university.
7. The 'Indigo Agitation' of 1859-69 against the British rule took place in..?
8. Who led the Bardoli Satyagraha in 1928 against the British?



We have only one passion...
The rise of a great nation

Check your IQ
ANSWERS

- 1.1980.
- 2.B.R.Ambedkar.
- 3.Pushkar Mela.
- 4.Vijay Amritraj.
- 5.W.C.Banerjee.
- 6.Banaras Hindu University.
- 7.Bengal.
- 8.Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

*Mail in your suggestions
and feedback to*

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Nirmaan is a Non-Profit Organization committed to work for poverty free, knowledge driven and economically empowered Nation by providing education and livelihood opportunities for under-privileged people.

Nirmaan, erstwhile My INDIA was started by a group of BITSians on 12th Feb, 2005, got registered as an NPO on 12th July, 2007 at Hyderabad. At present, it is operating with around 500 members through 6 chapters in four different states.

*How can I contribute to
Nirmaan???*

Apart from being directly involved through our various projects you can contribute by saving one rupee a day.

Faculty and students regularly contribute Rs.30/- a month under the save one rupee a day scheme. This is a major source of funding for our projects.

Think not what the country can do for you but what you can do for your country.

J.F.Kennedy