



IS THIS REALLY YOUNGISTAN??

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The TEAM:

- TEJASVI
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"One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."

Plato

All across the country, the election fervour is on a high note. For years, election process has been a journey of audacious mass movements, strategic retreats, controversies, diplomatic answers and troubles because of inflammatory talk and this time it was no way different. But one thing which gave me a relief was the fact that the interest levels of youth in politics has raised remarkably well.

The word politician envisages an old, tired and worn out individual. We hardly think of youngsters as politicians. Politics in our country is regarded as quicksand where if we get into it once, will never be able to come out of it again. Due to this wrong notion politics is definitely not one among the diverse career options chosen by

the youngsters. Does the youth think about the country? Are they interested in governing the nation? These questions may seem to be incongruous to many but these are to be raised.

As such, a prudent reason for the youth not entering politics is due to the misinterpretation of youth as 'cool, young and happening' and entering politics is not their cup of tea. A very less number of students actually possess a voter id or go to vote and then with a frown say 'Our country can never change'. Ironically the press also feels so and present what the youth are interested in. But a very few really think out of the box and take the first step to represent their society. One example of

DID YOU KNOW:-

◇ The value of "pi" was first calculated by the Indian Mathematician Budhayana, and he explained the concept of what is known as the Pythagorean Theorem long before the European mathematicians.

such people is a group of five IITians who started a political party called PATRIANA in the national interest and are receiving accolades from all parts of the country. And all they say is "Giving up handsome packages and comfort life is not at all easy. People think we are crazy not understanding our motto but we won't give up". So when youth of this country can change its economy in two decades then why can't they change the politics.....??

OUR PROJECT UPDATES

SELF HELP GROUPS-HARINAGAR

NIRMAAN started the training in kurthas, blouses, salwar and suit for a group of ten women on 14th February and it will be completed by 20th April . Soon enough, it plans to start a production unit with these trained women who will start production from May 15th and continue till august. Efforts are being made to get more and more villagers to join this training.



SELF HELP GROUPS-KHEDLA

The production unit started by NIRMAAN in the Khedla village has reached a capacity of producing 125 laptop covers per month. Due to agriculture work the training in basic stitching came to a halt for some time. Production in laptop covers starts from April end. The women in the centre will be working through out the summer. A manager was hired for taking care of the centre during the summer. A market in Hyderabad is also being analyzed .

GYAN BODH

The Gyan Bodh team, having a total student strength of about 45, had its first annual function which was organized completely by the kids themselves few days back. It consisted of various cultural events by children of all classes. Apart from that, due to the board exams of class X and XII, special emphasis was laid on doubt clarification and teaching of kids from higher classes. More attention had to be provided to the teaching as the exams of various classes started in April and some children also had their results, with students from GB bringing forth quite good results.



INTER CONNECTIVITY OF SCHOOLS

This semester ICS team worked to improve the condition of the schools in Pilani. In order to garner the teaching skills of teachers in these schools a workshop with the theme “A Practical Approach to Teaching” was conducted, under the guidance of Dr. G.S Chauhan and Dr. Usha Manjunath. About 30 teachers from different schools in Pilani actively participated in the workshop.

Until 1896, India was the only source for diamonds to the world.

RURAL EMPLOYMENT INCUBATOR

An old non-functional bio-gas plant in the village of Khedla was successfully repaired by the NIRMAAN REI team. Around 4-5 new families are now willing to repair their existing plants at 50% or even less subsidy, thereby taking care of the sustainability aspect. Some are also willing to build a new bio-gas plant of the Din-Bandhu model at around 50% subsidy. Volunteers are constantly trying to convince more and more families to adapt to bio-gas plants.



SCHOOL ADOPTION PROGRAM

The SAP team worked this semester in the villages of Bhaas and Khedla. They had planned to create an impression and to win the goodwill of the villagers. A number of sessions were conducted in the government schools to bring out the creativity of the students. Plans ahead include organizing a cultural event in these schools. The team has already done the ground work for the event in this semester.

REFULGENCE

This event was organized by NIRMAAN on the 4th and 5th April, 2009. The aim of the event was to provide a platform for the young budding entrepreneurs to present their ideas in front of the jury members and get an idea about what could be changed in their plans so as to achieve sustainability and feasibility. The event was divided into 3 rounds. In the first round, around 60 entries were received which were grouped into categories such as education, energy, health care and employment and then screened by the management faculty to choose the best 10 entries. These 10 teams were asked to submit a soft copy of their entire business plan and were invited to the campus for the second and the third round. The presentation was for 10 minutes followed by a discussion round of about 10 minutes. The panel of jury selected 4 entries based on the judging criteria given to them. For the next round these four entries presented their ideas in front of a different panel of jury. This presentation comprised 20 minutes presentation and 15 minutes discussion. The panel on the basis of the judging criteria declared the team "Thermo Coat" as the winner with "Prayas" on the 2nd position and special award to "Gardener's choice". The winners were awarded Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 5000 respectively.

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OUR APOGEE EVENTS

INDIA QUIZ (IQ) , being NIRMAAN's most sought-after event in APOGEE . This time IQ had quiz masters from Mumbai. The event started at 7:45 pm and went on till 1:30 am. The participation increased to 147 teams compared to that of 120 odd teams last year. The questions were very interesting and the event comprised of seven rounds apart from eliminations round. Enthusiasm level of the audience was visible from the fact that their number remained the same all through the event. The winners of the quiz were Sailesh Jha, Pallavi Roy and Saurav.



TECHNOVISION was the first event by NIRMAAN immediately after the inauguration. This time we included three new topics and we received sixty abstracts in total covering almost all the topics that we had posed. Top eight abstracts were selected, four of which were from outside BITS. Manikanta, Sharath and Javed Khan received the first prize for their paper on “software for hospitals”.

E-SolV this time had four potential questions. Around fifteen abstracts were received and top eight were selected. The participating teams presented very innovative solutions to the problems. Kushal Agarwal bagged the first prize with his solution for “Hybrid tractors”.

GREETINGS TO DONORS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE "SAVE ONE RUPEE PER DAY" SCHEME:

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Thank you for your support.

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***We have but one passion,
the rise of a great nation***