

## **ABOUT NIRMAAN**

Nirmaan is a constructive citizen movement for an empowered India, thereby making the world a better place to live in. Nirmaan has grown into a full-fledged organization with many chapters across the country. Nirmaan was founded on 12th February 2005 by a group of BITS-Pilani University students with a passion for humanity and to fulfill our responsibility towards our less privileged brothers & sisters.



## **NIRMAAN PILANI**

**Nirmaan Pilani** currently has more than 120 dedicated student volunteers working in the villages of Rajasthan to provide better educational and employment opportunities for the poor and the marginalized rural population.

Several projects are being undertaken in the field of education: Disha, Gyan Bodh, School Adoption Program (SAP) , Shiksha Ki Ore (SKO) and Utkarsh.

Unnati-1 and Unnati-2 are the exclusive projects undertaken in the area of women empowerment through self-employment in 2 different areas of Baas village.

Participatory Community Development (PCD) aims to understand the community and identify local leaders who will take up the work of developing their villages.

## **VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROJECTS**

Vocational Training Projects focus on creating a platform for rural women in Baas to earn a livelihood by forming a self-sustainable group, which prepares products and markets them.

### **SEMESTER 1 (2018-19)**

- There was an increase in the number of beneficiaries. More women have shown interest and have learned stitching shirts and petticoats. These efforts have brought a significant increase in the sales of pads compared to last year i.e. around 150 packs of sanitary pads were sold. The increased sales also have led the project to maintain a more documented and organized structure for accounting the earnings of each woman.
- In another center, women were trained for making earrings and mementos. The earrings and Diyas were sold at the Nirmaan Stall at OASIS 2018 . Women were taught basic Counting, English words and sentences , arithmetic calculations and to read inch tapes and clocks.
- In collaboration with B.S.K. Kaushal Kendra, a new center is opened in Ghodela near Bhagat Singh circle where proper training is given to our beneficiaries in the presence of trained tailors and craftsman. New products such as wanderwaans, earphones pouches and envelopes were made and put on oasis stall.

### **SEMESTER 2 (2018-19)**

- A new beautician vocational training center (VTC) has been set up in one of the centers and the syllabus would be completed by 6th of May.16 cloth bags and 18 earphone pouches were made by our beneficiaries for the interface test.Cloth bags were also made for PCD (Participatory Community Development) project and delivered. As soon as this VTC gets over another one will be set up in the next semester.

- Whereas in another center the work was started on selling products on Amazon and the selling of products would take place from next semester. Women were taught basic counting, English words and sentences, arithmetic calculations and to read inch tapes.
- Flags were made by both the Unnati projects on the eve of Republic Day.

### **EDUCATION PROJECTS**

Educational projects focus primarily on the upliftment of various communities in Pilani like Baas, Court Basti, Nat Basti by spreading awareness about the importance of education as well as helping them with their academic curriculum and all-round development.

### **SEMESTER 1 (2018-19)**

- Counseling of parents was done in Court Basti in order to generate awareness about the importance of their child's education. It bore the desired results as parents themselves started sending their kids to the center.
- In Nat Basti the entire community was made aware of SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN under which cleanliness drive and rally was organized. Also, public dustbin and toilets were installed in the base.
- English Learning Program (ELP) and Computer Learning Program (CLP) were conducted throughout the year and art and craft classes were also provided to the students to improve their all-round development. Introduction of Soft Skill Development as a new program in our government school in BAAS.
- Evening classes for students preparing for Navodaya were organized and mock tests were given. And 3 students were registered for the entrance exam. The occupied room of school is cleaned for new classroom and the roof construction work is in progress.
- Scholarships worth 3.4 lakhs were provided to 52 meritorious and needy students between 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students from several schools like Saboo School (1.6 lakhs- 26 students), Bal-Niketan (60K-10 students), Kids Garden (1.2 lacs- 16 students) and these students were provided mentorship to all these students for their scholastic as well as holistic development.
- A major test was conducted throughout the semester and progress report of each child was maintained. A dustbin was installed by the team in basti. Bonding sessions were conducted and mela visit was conducted after the first test. The syllabus had been prepared according to the academic level of the student. Regular visits were made to the schools to ensure the attendance of students as school dropouts is a common issue.
- Festivals like Independence Day, Diwali, Raksha Bandhan were celebrated with the kids, they were taken to visit the Pilani mela and were also brought inside the campus on Teacher's Day as a part of Joy of Teaching event where other people from the campus were given an opportunity to interact with the kids.
- Career Counselling Sessions were conducted in different schools and magazine was published to assist schools and make sure a hard copy of the information is also available.

### **SEMESTER 2 (2018-19)**

- In Court Basti the room renovation work was completed . Makar Sankranti was celebrated with the people of the Basti. Books were distributed to the kids. Owing to less no. of kids in the Basti we have tried to expand our project to other Basti which would be functional from next semester.
- From Nat Basti 3 kids were admitted to private schools under the RTE scheme. Regarding child marriage issue in the Basti an Anganwadi and an NGO was contacted and the Chief Security Officer (CSO) also visited the Basti for the same. A cleanliness drive was also organized in the Basti along with making Wall paintings and posters. Events such as Makar Sankranti , Republic day and Annual Day were celebrated with the kids of the Basti. Uniforms and books have been distributed among the kids in collaboration with Unnati 2

and teachings for Navodaya has also been started along with the English Learning Programme (ELP)

- We successfully conducted a Health Camp for over 100 students in our Hanumantpura Government school. A proper drainage system was also constructed in the school. Proper study materials were followed for English Learning Programme (ELP), Computer Learning Programme (CLP) & Navodaya.
- Makar Sankranti & Republic Day and Annual Day were celebrated with the kids of Baas village. A visit to MEELA was organized for the kids. Workshops on advancement in science & technology , flu and its prevention & menstrual health and awareness were conducted during the semester.
- Apart from giving scholarships of nearly 3.4 lakhs, we also finished the work of adopting a new school KR Memorial under our program. We also conducted our first group mentorship session on general topics like time management , addiction and career options in collaboration with Project Disha.
- Information and motivation sessions were conducted in Hemant Academy , Sabu and Kids garden. Specific mentorship was provided to over 15 students of class 9th and 10th of Hemant Academy. Career counseling session on one to one basis was also organized in Hemant academy along with a poster making competition among the students.

## **PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **SEMESTER 1 (2018-19)**

- Major work in this field was the mapping of the entire Baas village so that locating each house would be much easier and conducting a survey to collect data about the villagers and understand their basic problems. The survey is also done in Nat basti and court basti.
- A plantation drive was organized in Khel Maidan for awareness towards environment and cleanliness. Around 30 trees saplings were planted along the Maidan boundary. A newspaper article was published regarding this event.
- A sports extravaganza was organised on 2<sup>nd</sup> September in Pooja Ground, BITS Pilani. It was a COSTAACAn approved pre BOSM event. More than 60 students from project SAP, SKO, GB BAAS participated. The main objective was to promote sport among the beneficiaries of Nirmaan for the overall growth. Around 10 gold, 10 silver and 20 bronze medals were awarded participation certificate to everyone, provided by health council. Prof in charge Ashish Tiwari and chief warden Prof Navin Singh were present and they awarded the medals.

### **SEMESTER 2 (2018-19)**

- Successful seminars on women empowerment have been conducted.
- Solar lights have been purchased and will be installed.
- Planning about rainwater harvesting is done and would be put into action with the construction to follow.
- For toilet construction houses have been selected with BPL cards.
- Cloth bags have been made and would be distributed among the people in collaboration with Unnati.

## EVENTS

### SEMESTER 1 (2018-19)

#### 1. JOY OF GIVING WEEK

The Joy of Giving Week is a "festival of giving" that aims to bring together BITSian through different acts of giving- money, time, skills or resources. JOY OF GIVING WEEK was organized from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of September, 2018. Following is the list of the events during the Joy of Giving Week.

**"Inauguration"**, It held at 6:30 on 6<sup>th</sup> of September in BITS NAB Audi. The stage was adorned by our chief guest Mr. Anoop Khanna (social worker & owner of Dadi ki rasoi). He addressed the crowd with his very enchanting and motivating words. In the presence of vice-chancellor Prof. Souvik Bhattacharyya and director Prof. Ashoke Sarkar, the spirit of JOGW was lit in the campus.

**"Day of Joy"**, a day of joy when we get kids from Baas and Natbasti to our campus and give a day of BITSian life. This involved various performances by Mime club, musician Sagar Verma and other sports activities. Apart from this we also had various fun sessions for the kids and lunch for them. Day ended with a movie screening in the NAB room.

**"Joy of Serving"**, an event wherein the mess workers and the students interchanged their roles and various activities were conducted for the mess workers such as singing, speeches and GB discussion. Our Director Ashoke Sarkar, faculty members and Nirmaan volunteers served the food to mess workers.



**"Night of Joy"**, An event wherein snacks, sweets and tea s distributed among the security guards inside the campus.

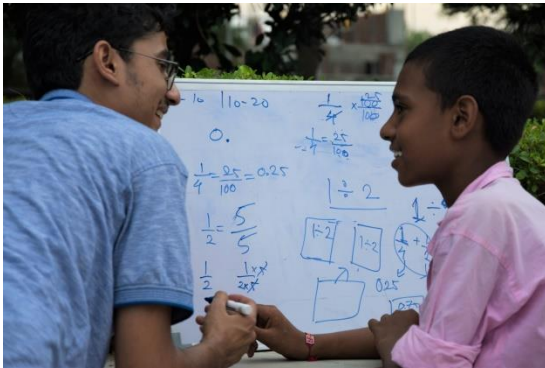
**"Hour of Joy"**, an opportunity for every BITS student and faculty to come, visit and volunteer for projects that we run throughout the semester. They can do anything special that they think should be done in the project in that hour. The response from the BITSians was very good with many of them donated various resources to the beneficiaries and took an active part in the discussions with them.

**"Wish Tree"**, a tree (made of cardboard and paper) having wishes which are waiting to be fulfilled. It could be something material like a set of colors, books or something immaterial like taking kids for an outing, teaching women a new art and so on. These wishes were put on the wish tree which people could see and fulfill if they wish to. ANC was decorated with the theme of JOGW which attracted the attention of many BITSians.

**"Faculty Match"**, separate cricket matches for male faculties and female faculties were organized. Many faculty members actively took part in this event.

**“Joy of teaching”**, In this event kids from Court Basti and Baas villages were taken to the BITS library, Sky Lawn and Gandhi Statue. BITSians, PHD scholars and Professors were invited to give small lessons to the kids. Director of BITS also took part in this event.

**“Day for Women”**, This event was exclusively for UNNATI beneficiaries. The faculty members and volunteers took part in this event where fun activities were organized and goodies were distributed to everyone.



## 2. Eye Checkup camp

Nirmaan Organization, BITS Pilani, in collaboration with SSMS, Aditya caterers and Blue Chip hospitality, conducted a free eye check-up camp for SSMS workers and the members of their family. It was held in the Student Activity Centre on 30th September, Sunday. This initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Pramod Kumar Sehgal with the able support of our respected trustee- Mr. Arun Ji Singhi. The event was inaugurated by our Honorable Director, Professor Ashoke Kumar Sarkar. The camp was also graced by the presence of professors Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Dr. Ashish Tiwari, SK Verma, Dr. Jola Dubey (please check the names of the faculty present).

Basic optical tests were performed under the supervision of the doctors. The event was a success, with 214 registrations- 92 of whom were prescribed spectacles and 42 were referred to the hospital for proper checkup.



### 3. Tree Plantation Drive in Baas Village

Volunteers of PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT organized a plantation drive in Khel Maidan for awareness towards environment and cleanliness. Around 30 trees saplings were planted along the Maidan boundary. A newspaper article was published regarding this event.



### 4. Festival celebration

Volunteers have celebrated festivals with the people of Nat-basti, Court-basti, and Baas village; Janmashtami, Diwali, Raksha Bandhan etc. were celebrated with full joy and enthusiasm.



### 5. Kadam

Volunteers of PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT organized sports extravaganza on 2<sup>nd</sup> September in Pooja Ground, BITS Pilani. It was a COSTAACAn approved pre BOSM event. More than 60 students from project SAP, SKO, GB BAAS participated. The main objective was to promote sport among the beneficiaries of Nirmaan for the overall growth. Around 10 gold, 10 silver and 20 bronze medals were awarded participation certificate to everyone, provided by health council. Prof in charge Ashish Tiwari and chief warden Prof Navin Singh were present and they awarded the medals.



## **6.Oasis 2018**

Oasis is the cultural festival of BITS Pilani, Pilani Campus. Nirmaan uses the opportunity to express the works of Nirmaan to the huge crowd gathered during that 72-hour continuous extravaganza. Following are the events we conducted this year -

### **Food challenge and UNNATI stall :**

During Oasis 2k18, Nirmaan had set up a food stall conducting a food challenge along with Unnanti products like Diya, Vandarvar earphone pouches were there for sale. Food challenge received around 1100 footfall.

### **Peace Wall :**

The idea of Peace Wall was introduced this Oasis where an entire flex wall was dedicated to writing messages for the BSF personnel and was delivered at the Wagha Border by the volunteers.



## **SEMESTER 2 (2018-19)**

### **7. Women empowerment seminar**

On 10<sup>th</sup> Feb, on occasion Basant Panchami, PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (PCD) organized a women empowerment seminar by Prof. Sangeeta Sharma ma'am for the women of Baas village. The event started with a puja at Saraswati temple followed by a general tour of BITS campus. Issues like health and food habits, Employment opportunities, Savings and utilization of earning, Importance of education for their kids etc. are discussed in the seminar.



### **8. Makar Sankranti Celebration:**

Celebrating festivals with the community is always strengthening the bond that we share with them. This Makar Sankranti Projects like GB Baas, SKO and GBCB have celebrated the festival of kites with their student beneficiaries in the respective basties. Sweets were distributed by Nirmaan at the end.



### **9. Certificate distribution ceremony:**

On 20<sup>th</sup> Jan, we celebrated the concluding ceremony of our 4 months “Vocational Training Centre” program by distributing certificates of participation to all the participants who have successfully completed the training and passed the stitching exam taken by the trainer. We celebrated the enthusiasm of those 25 women in the event organized in Kids Garden School.



### **10. Republic day celebration:**

Project SKO celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> Republic Day in Natbasti with their beneficiaries. Various short films and videos were shown to the kids to make them aware of the significance it holds to the nation.

SAP celebrated the day by organizing activities like quizzes, Tug of war, lemon and spoon race among their beneficiaries and winners were awarded copies and pens.

GB Baas used this opportunity to educate the kids about the constitution and the kind of rights it offers.





### **11. Annual Function Celebration:**

Project SKO celebrated the Annual function on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb this semester on the theme of “Stop Child Marriage”. Dances, speeches, poem recitation etc. were organized and prizes were distributed by honorable chief guest Dr. Ashish Tiwari and Dr. Meghna Tare. Hindi drama club, Bits Pilani performed a skit on child marriage.



### **12. Flu awareness workshop:**

Topsy-turvy weather is often accompanied by a malaise commonly known as Flu. As the nasty disease was spreading across the state, Nirmaan Organization takes up the responsibility of creating awareness among the locals of Khedla ka Baas village. Dr. R.P. Pareek, Physician at BITS Medical Center was invited to give a lecture on 'Flu and ways to prevent it'. Around 40 kids and a few women attended the talk. The talk ended with the distribution of napkins among the kids and women.



### **13. Homeopathic Health Camp:**

A Homeopathic Health Camp was conducted at the government school, Hanumatpura on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. More than 100 students went through entire check-up which includes BMI, Chest circumference, eye-sight check and hygiene score. Menstruation awareness was also done for girls of classes 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Homeopathic medicines were provided as per requirement.



## 14. Old cloth donation drive

In association with Students Union, Bits Pilani, Nirmaan distributed sweatshirts in Nat basti to the families whose kids were regular to studies.



## 15. APOGEE 2019:

**APOGEE** is the technical festival of BITS Pilani, Pilani Campus. This APOGEE, Nirmaan came up with three new events –

**Hogathon** was a pasta food challenge event organized with the idea to attract the crowd to the stall and educate them about the work done by Nirmaan.

**Design thinking workshop** was a workshop conducted by Mr Anil Pradhan, founder of International Public School for Rural Innovation. In this workshop he talked about his own journey and the impact he is creating through the innovation school in Odisha. He displayed many innovative ideas he came up with to tackle various issues faced by villagers and how he utilized the kids of his village to complete these projects.

**Senior Retreat** aimed to reach the senior citizens who are compelled to stay in old age home and their children. The messages from BITSians, participants and professors were telecasted in television, radio, YouTube along with print media.



### **16.SORAD 2019:**

Save One Rupee A Day (SORAD) is the charity fundraising campaign by Nirmaan Pilani. The fund collected in SORAD is used to meet the expenses of all the projects. This time Mess signings were conducted in all the messes of Pilani campus. It was successfully completed with more Than 1300 signings.



### **17. Poster making competition:**

Project Disha organized a poster making competition in Hemant Academy on the topic of “Pollution and awareness”. Winners were awarded certificates and gifts.

### **18. Certificate distribution ceremony:**

On 11<sup>th</sup> May, we celebrated the concluding ceremony of the Beautician training program conducted by project UNNATI. In this program, certificates were awarded to around 30 women who have been regular to the center.



## **19. Menstrual Health Awareness Program:**

Nirmaan Organisation organized a workshop on 'Menstrual Health Awareness' on 4th April in collaboration with Nine Foundation. The workshop was conducted by Dr. Sujata Naidu, Operations Head, Niine foundation. Women were educated about the importance of proper diet, doing yoga and exercises, hygiene, use of sanitary napkins during menstruation, with the use of proper charts.

The first session was conducted at SAC (Students' Activities Centre) in BITS Pilani campus for all the female workers on the campus. Mrs. Tamali Bhattacharya (Wife of Honourable Vice Chancellor BITS Pilani), Dr. Surekha Bhanot, Dr. Kaushar Vaidya and Dr. Sailaja Nandigama attended the session

The second session was conducted at Shahi School of Baas Village for women and girls of the village. Around 100 women and girls attended the workshop. The guest of honor in this workshop was Mrs Rakhi Sarkar, wife of Honourable Director of Pilani Campus. Both the workshops were followed by free distribution of sanitary pads to the women.

