# NEWSLETTER

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#### PILANI ATMANIRBHAR RESOURCE CENTER



# Mr. Dilip Gaur visits PARC

It was a special day in PARC as Mr. Dilip Gaur, Director Aditya Birla Management Corporation Private Limited paid a visit on 23rd March, 2022 alongwith his team members from the Birla group. Mr. Arun Khetan, Chief Financial Officer of BITS Pilani and a trustee of BITSAA Alumni Trust was also present on the occasion. Mr. Gaur first visited the Playscape project and then moved to the PARC campus, where he saw our activities and interacted enthusiastically with the children at Prayogshala, women trainees at Swayamshakti Sewing

Centre and members of the PARC team and student division. The visit filled us with joy and energised the team to work harder towards transforming the community around BITS Pilani.

#### PARC gets recognition from BITS Pilani



Awards and recognitions are important as these provide the motivation and encouragement to do even better. During the inaugural event of the Center for Social and Sustainable Entrepreneurship (CSSE) in BITS Pilani, PARC was honoured with a memento for its community development initiatives. Ms. Prajakta Dhandgawal, President of our student division received the memento on behalf of PARC. We thank each and every one at BITS Pilani for this honour. We express our deep gratitude to our donors and our patrons and our student volunteers, who have always stood with us through thick and thin.



# Graduation ceremony at Swayamshakti Sewing Center

Women enrolled in the Swayamshakti Sewing Center had a gala day on March 20, 2022. One, they had a chance to meet and interact with a few people, who laid the foundation of BITSAA Alumni Trust. Two, it was a day to celebrate their achievements. Ever since the sewing center was inaugurated, the trainees had gone through several challenges of frequent lockdowns and hardships in attending training classes. Yet their determination to learn and earn kept them going. After nearly a year of their engagement in the sewing center, Singer, the renowned sewing machine manufacturer, conducted an assessment in the month of February. It was a moment of pride for all of us as all trainees passed with flying colours. Having already passed the assessment tests, the candidates were waiting for the graduation ceremony, which was conducted on 20th March. The hall was packed with the proud candidates and their near and dear. Volunteers from NIRMAAN and PARC student team conducted the event. Mrs. Madhu Lodha wife of Mr. Sanjeev Lodha, a trustee of the BITSAA Alumni Trust was the Chief Guest.



## Womens' day celebrations at PARC

In line with the United Nations theme of "Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow" with focus on "break the bias", International Women's Day was celebrated at PARC campus on March 8, 2022. Prof. Pushpalata, Department of Humanities, BITS Pilani was the Chief Guest. Dr. V S Nirban, Associate Professor and Faculty In-charge, Public Relations Office of BITS Pilani, Mrs. R S Rathore, young leader and a social transformer, and Mr. Rohitash Rathore, Vice Chairman, Vidyavihar Municipality were also present on the occasion. The speakers laid emphasis on breaking the bias prevalent amongst Indian households. While girls are being pressurised to do household chores, boys are not encouraged to share the work. The speakers also motivated the women to work hard, be punctual and manage their time in such a manner that their family members start respecting and valuing their

contribution. It was also emphasised that women have to claim their rights without which an equal world cannot be thought of.





### PARC Pilani Playscape project – A Children's Park

The Pilani Playscape project was formally inaugurated on 21st March 2022 to celebrate a sense of collaboration that took place amongst various stakeholders for achieving a common good. At a time when children had lost access to schools, a space which provided them companionship, Pilani Playscape project came as a big joy booster. Gyan Vihar in Hari Nagar had no park facility where children could play. Our student division came up with an idea of Playscape and decided to raise funds through а

crowdfunding platform. The project received a lot of support from Prof. Souvik Bhattacharya, Vice Chancellor, BITS Pilani and Prof. Sudhir Kumar Barai, Director BITS Pilani. The funds raised through the project were spent for levelling the land, relevant installing plav elements brought from an Anthill NGO. Creations. However, the plan could not have blossomed without the amazing support we received from the municipality, all thanks Mrs. Kamlesh to

Ranvan and Mr. Rohitash Rathore, Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively of the Vidyavihar Municipality. The Playscape soon had an open gym, a jogger's path for the senior citizens, benches to sit, lighting and drainage system. Over 100 children enjoy and play in this park every day. It certainly turned out to be a great initiative to energize the children. We thank all our donors and contributors, who generously contributed to this campaign and attended the inaugural event with a lot of enthusiasm.







# From Bhawani Mandi to Doha Lal Singh's story of transformation

It is a known fact that a large majority of our youth are unaware of the career options they have. Lal Singh was one of them. After completing his senior secondary, he started working as a casual labourer on a construction site. He was more worried about his family than his career or education. The financial constraints and familial responsibilities made him much more mature than his age. After working for two years, he thought of starting a small business. He was able to make a little fortune but the money went away as it came. He had to bear a huge loss. When his life was full of despair, he met a community worker of Pratham, PARC's partner for implementing a livelihood project at Pilani. He never thought that he could get a decent job after completing senior secondary education. After completing the training at PARC, given by Pratham, in the hospitality

"I wish to explore a few more countries," says Lal Singh and mentions Europe as his next destination.



sector, Lal Singh got a job at a hotel in Gujarat. The starting salary was not that great. Yet it was satisfying. After a few years, he found a better opportunity in Rajasthan. Life took a pleasant turn when he thought of trying for a job overseas. Lal Singh is now working at a premier hotel at Doha in the Middle East, earning more than half a lakh of rupees per month, thanks to PARC and Pratham.

