

IIT-I to celebrate with a difference

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INDORE: In a society where Independence Day among the youth has got little to do with patriotism and more to do with the holiday associated with it, a social group called Avana comprising students from Indian Institute of Technology, Indore, comes with a difference. Organising programmes to commemorate this day, the group will be setting up libraries in two government schools of the city. The group is finding funds for their initiatives through a programme called 'ORM' - One Rupee Miracle, wherein everyone has to put in a rupee every day of the month. These students find ways and means to carry forward a series of programmes carving out the spirit of Avana - to help poor people.

Being run on the principle of generating smiles in the society, the organisation was started three years back by a third year student of the institute named Siddharth Duggriwala. Today, boasting a membership of 350 students, the organisation has continued to carry forward a series of programmes registering a social difference. "When I joined this group, I was adamant on making a difference to the society. Past two years, I feel contented with the work being done by our group," said Yogesh Dorballaya, a third

₹16,200 collected through ORM

The students have collected a sum of Rs 16,200 through their ORM scheme and plan to spend it on procuring chairs, tables, mats and books on the government schools of the city. This entire programme of theirs will start on Independence Day this year.

year computer science student.

Talking about the programmes being done by this group in the last two years, he adds, "We distribute blankets, organise cloth and blood donation camps and also visit government schools, where we teach students maths and science." Ensuring that every year a special programme is done to mark the Independence Day celebrations, the group has previously distributed food, prepared by the students themselves, to poor people. "This year, our emphasis was more on contributing something which we can tend to in an elongated process. Beginning the endeavour with a small library of 50-100 books, we plan to take it forward so that students get enriched in a greater way," said Alok Kumar, another student attached with the group.