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This group of students from Jain University, Centre for Management Studies, is working to help the physically-challenged gain employment —Mohan Kumar BN

Yuva ignites minds for the differently-abled

Vidya Iyengar

In the rush to succeed in an expanding metro where even charity is a means to make money, it is quite a refreshing change to come across students enthusiastic about initiatives that benefit the differently-abled. A group of 150 students from Jain University Centre for Management Studies, as part of their college NGO, Yuva Ignited Minds, comprising a core team of Vedanshu Goel, Snigdha Sahu, Yashaswini Vinod, Sagar Sheth, Sathrik Gadvi, Harika Vasivaddy and Ayush Agarwal, are working to help the physically-disabled gain employment.

"The differently-abled people have a lot of potential, which must be put to use. In Bangalore, the number of them employed gainfully is low, and we are working towards giving them a brighter future," says Goel, a final-year BBM student.

The youngsters are collecting and putting together a database of the differently-abled in the city, which they will then categorise, to approach corporates and educational institutions, on the possible avenues and openings. "We are also looking at the possibility of getting them trained, which will help them be employed gainfully," says Yashaswini Vinod, adding that the students have already been in talks with corporates, about the issue.

However, the group of students feel it would be a challenge to convince corporates about such issues, especially when it comes from the young. "Many times, they don't take us seri-

Join them at the walkathon

► Yuva Ignited Minds is organising a walkathon, 'Ek Asha-Lets walk for those who can't', for the physically disabled. It aims at bringing about a change in people's attitude towards the differently-abled by spreading awareness about their plight.

► The walkathon begins at MG Circle and continues till the CMS college campus on Palace Road, on January 30 at 6am.

► The walkathon is a prelude to the CMS festival, which will begin soon after. The fest aims to combine 'education and fun and explores the different facets of a human being that complement one another; the professional, the aesthetic and the personal excellence'. It will involve events such as Threshold and Precipice, management fests; Lasya, an art based event and Abhinaya, a theatre event.

ously, but we're working on it," said Vinod. "Our aim is to spread awareness, and prove that nothing is impossible, and we want to help boost their self confidence," says Snigdha Sahu.

The group hopes, that they have sown the seeds, which others students will help nourish and grow.

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