SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS
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Managing Director, Envirofit India

TERRA YOUTH
Earth Day
Aditya Gupta
Founder, People for Parity Foundation

The December 16, 2012 Delhi gang rape that shook thousands, also left an indelible mark on a young ex-IIT-ian working outside the country at the time. It brought him back to his roots, and led him to create the People for Parity Foundation (PFP)—an NGO that seeks to curb gender-based violence and discrimination, and Aditya Gupta has never looked back.

One of the major aims of PFP is to empower young people of all sexes to become changemakers in their own and other’s lives. It works with young people in schools, colleges, and low-income communities across the country and seeks to introduce them to concepts such as gender stereotypes, crimes, and harassment through interactive learning programmes comprising workshops and action projects. So far, PFP has conducted workshops with close to 6,000 youngsters across cities, such as Delhi, Alwar, Roorkee, Meerut, Patna, Ranchi, and Bhopal and has reached out to more than 85,000 people through its projects.

In addition to this, it is also working on a mobile application called Pukar that helps users to send out a distress signal to the police if they are in danger. Pukar is currently live in three districts of Rajasthan and they hope to expand its reach by working with police in other states.

Within a few years, PFP has grown from being a small group of determined youngsters to an ambitious organization seeking to disrupt systemic gender-based discrimination and violence. It currently has tie-ups with various other social enterprises, such as Pravah, ComMutiny, and Unniti Foundation for its projects and also receives funding from its network on social media.

In 2014, PFP was selected as one of the 22 global recipients of the Youth Fund run by UN Habitat that is supported by the Narottam Sekhsaria Foundation in India. The grant money has helped the foundation to find wings and scale up its reach. In the near future, it plans on expanding its reach to other parts of Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, and Rajasthan, and developing healing spaces for survivors of gender-based violence, to help them resolve the trauma.

For more details, please log on to http://peopleforparity.org/

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