

Alumnus Family Sets up Centre of Excellence at BITS Pilani

BITS Pilani today announced that the family of B. V. Jagannathan (1950 Batch of Mechanical Engineering, Birla Engineering College, Pilani) has made a generous donation to establish the “**B. V. Jagannathan Centre for Fostering Manufacturing Excellence.**” The Centre, to be setup at the Pilani campus, will help improve capacity and capability of faculty, students and researchers in the area of manufacturing and Industry 4.0. The funding would be instrumental in creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and projects.

Mr. B. V. Jagannathan was proud of his education at Pilani and had a long and distinguished career in the Indian Railways. His next generation of family also has several BITS alumni (J. Ravi, EEE 1972, Shankar Jagannathan, ME 1982, and Vandana Jagannathan, CS 1984). His family dedicates this Centre in his memory and believes that with this donation, BITS will be able to build expertise and develop solutions for critical business needs. They further hope that their donation would inspire other BITS alumni, who owe their success to their alma mater, would come forward and contribute to institutional growth, as well as industrial companies to sponsor specific nextgen areas of research.

“We are thankful to the Jagannathan family for their generous donation. Their initiative will further bolster the ongoing research and innovation, especially in adaptive manufacturing and Industry 4.0. I am sure that the Centre will result in deep impacts in the field of manufacturing excellence”, said Souvik Bhattacharyya, Vice-Chancellor.

BITS Pilani has one of the strongest Mechanical Engineering departments in the country, which is ranked between #351-400 in QS World Rankings by Subject Area, and #11 in India.

Arya Kumar, Dean-Alumni Relations, added, “our alumni are keen to give a push to institutional priorities and understand that to compete on a global stage, BITS would need financial resources commensurate to some of the government institutions. Time and again, BITS alumni have donated significantly, and we hope that such mega donations will catapult their alma mater, ever higher.”

About BITS Pilani

BITS Pilani is an *Institution of Eminence*, with campuses in Pilani, Dubai, Goa, Hyderabad and Mumbai. It offers degree programs to 17,000+ students in Science, Engineering, and Management across all levels – undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral. BITS Pilani also offers Work Integrated Learning Programs (WILP) in technology and management for working professionals. It has more than 66,000 alumni from its on-campus programs, and more than 98,000 professionals from the WILP.