

Liberal Youth Forum (LYF)

Strategic Planning Workshop

Karim City College, Jamshedpur

24- 25th September 2010



Objectives of the workshop:

- 1) To orient the participants about basic philosophy of liberalism
- 2) To orient the students about Right to Information as a tool to campaign for transparency in campus
- 3) Identification of the issue to be worked upon and Planning for this year
- 4) To make students learn about “Conceptual Planning - Different phases of it and steps to it.
- 5) To facilitate them prepare of Plan of action

The 1st day of the workshop began with the formal introduction round where participants were asked to introduce themselves on the following points

- a) Name
- b) Past experience of fighting election (from school level till date)
- c) Expectation from this workshop
- d) What he/she has brought to the seminar
- e) Where do they see themselves five years from now?
- f) One change they would like to bring after becoming the Vice Chancellor of their University /Principal of the College

This session helped the moderator understand the expectation of the participants in a better way. Out of 20 participants two participants were those who see themselves in active politics. Many of them present want to be in the field media and journalism. However these groups of students are facing many problems in their colleges and Universities. It would not be wrong to term them as “sufferers without any fault.” There is no transparent method of evaluation, randomly students are failed. There is no system of supplementary exams. “Re -evaluation system does not work at

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all.” Anyone can be failed and any one can pass in this system. Vice Chancellor is indulged in Corruption and has been removed. Enquiry is happening on Pro Vice Chancellor and others. Sessions are being delayed. There is a whole chaotic situation. Student’s life is always at stake and the system is absolutely unfriendly. The introductory session was quite eye opener for moderator as well.

The next session was based on ‘Application of Sound Governance to Campus’. In this session there happened a discussion on what kind of society we want to have and it should be based on which principles. To orient the participants more regarding the core values that LYF wants to propagate for the creation of a better society and to encourage them to strive for creating a liberal campus a power point presentation on “What makes a good society?” along with in depth discussion was conducted .

This session abled the Participant to clear off their so many pre conceived notions and baisses regarding equality, force, borders and even monopoly. This session was also proved to be more helpful and effective as participants could now make out that how policies emanate from certain values and how they are linked to our daily lives. This session made then understand how much is it important to uphold certain values in the society else, it affects adversely and not only it infringes and restricts vehemently the personal life and development of individuals but it stagnates the growth of the society as a whole. Many questions were raised, mainly on the issue of “Freedom to ear, no borders, self interest, inequality, and individual planning.”

They also tried to analyse the condition of their campus on the basis of those ideas and there was a discussion on what makes a good campus, what are the core value systems that should create a system in the campus. They could realise that Democracy, transparency, diversity and rule of law are certain ideas which actually makes the core of an university but al these are completely absent from their campuses.

Following the lunch break, there was a session on ‘Principle of Liberalism and its implementation on campus. This session was conducted to orient them about the basic philosophies of liberalism. Members of LYF were exposed to the principles of free exchange, subsidiary, democracy, personal liberty and rule of law. A discussion in depth happened among the

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participants regarding how these values are attached to our personal, social, economic and political life. They were also shown an animation - Philosophy of liberty followed by a discussion. This animation proved to be very thought provoking and it helped a lot in making the fundamental understanding clear regarding the core belief of liberalism of the participants.

The day ended with a documentary screening and discussion about the same.

The second day of the workshop was mix bag of various sessions such as Discussion on issues in campus and University faced by the students, Conceptual Planning and Identification of issues , Strategy Development and Finalization of Campus Strategy and a Documentary Screening on Right to Information and discussion .

The last day of the workshop ended with a feedback session where participants were asked to give their feedback or comment and conclude by sharing their learning of the two days. “What makes a good society” and “Conceptual planning” were the most liked session.

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