

Best Practices

Best Practice One:

1. Title of the Practice

Appreciation Programme in Constitutional Values for Youth.

2. The context that required the initiation of the practice

Of the hundred percent of the population of India, seventy percent of the massive population include today's youth. And the importance of youth participation in Good Governance cannot be, in any way, underestimated. In fact, they play a very major role in uplifting a country's stature.

The term governance is derived from the Greek term, *kubemao* meaning 'to steer or direct'. Governance is therefore the practices and activities such as administrative, political and legal affairs to be performed by the government for the development of the country. The predominant features of governance include participation, following the rule of law, transparency, responsiveness, consensus oriented, equity and inclusiveness, effectiveness and efficiency, accountability.

Historically, good governance has its trace right from Ancient India. Kautilya is of view that a king must be subjected to a disciplined life and should follow an upright code of conduct. The *Raja* has to be a servant to the *praja* with no selfish motives and individual likes. His sole concern ought to be *Praja's* welfare and happiness rather than his interests. Kautilya also advises *Praja* to satisfy and live within the limited resources without exploiting it. It is therefore, *raja* and *praja* have to move on together for the common goal of the affairs of State and to build a civil society together.

Good governance is also the prosperity, well-being and welfare of all citizens of the nation through decentralized government, standardized rule of law, properly guided bureaucracy, disciplined administrators, fixed salaries, maintenance of law and order, controlling corruption, consistency in administration and integrity in accountability. Precisely, good governance plays a constructive role in the social, cultural, economical and political developmental processes of the society and ensures social security and positive change.

3. Objectives

- To make youth sensitive towards social issues.
- To in built the constitutional values among youth.
- To enable youth to think critically, analyze and respond to prevailing social situations.
- To transform youth into responsible citizens with developed civic sense.

4. The Practice

Anubhav Mumbai, a Project of College of Social Work (Autonomous), Nirmala Niketan conducting “**Appreciation Programme in Constitutional Values**” for student and non student youth. It aims at enabling youth to discover them and contribute positively to the development of society as concerned and responsible citizens. It mainly works with colleges in the suburbs of Mumbai i.e. from Matunga to Dahisar and also in the communities.

5. Details of the Training Session

Duration of Training: 12 Hours

Training Modules: A Total 6 Sessions (1 Session of 2 hours each)

Pre & Post Test questionnaire will be given to students

Modules Covered During the Training Sessions

The different modules covered during the Training session are as follows

Module 1- Democracy and Secularism

Module 2- Gender Justice

Module 3- Social Justice

Module 4- Environmental Justice

Module 5- Scientific Temper

Module 6- Dignity of Labor and Honesty and Integrity

Details of Training:

Anubhav Mumbai conducted 55 sessions throughout the year on above mentioned six modules at Mitra Level (First Stage of Anubhav Mumbai Process) in all the networking colleges namely;

- Shailendra Degree College, Dahisar
- Shailendra Junior College, Dahisar
- St. Rocks College, Borivali
- Valia College, Borivali
- KES College, Kandivali
- DTSS College, Malad
- Nirmala College, Malad
- Nagindas Khandwala College, Malad
- Rizvi College, Bandra
- College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan, Churchgate

Total 755 youth got benefited at Mitra Level.

Observations: Anubhav Mumbai observed that these sessions helped the youth to understand the importance of core values in their personal, social and political development. It also helped them to realise the powers which lies within every citizen, the rights which these values has given to them and how they as youth can exercise these values in bringing about the difference instead of being passive lookers. Youth can be the “Change Agent” in their family and society.

Best Practice Two:

1. Title of the Practice

Signature Campaign on Power of Vote

2. The context that required the initiation of the practice

India is an independent and democratic nation. India is a republic nation as it has its own constitution. The Constitution of India came into effect from the 26th of January, 1950. The Constitution is the supreme law code of the nation and it contains fundamental political codes, structures, procedures, powers and duties of the government institutions. It also puts forth the fundamental rights, directive principles and duties of the citizens.

The Right to Vote in India is provided by the Constitution and the Representation of people’s Act, 1951. Article 326 of the Constitution provides the right to vote to every citizen above the age of 18. According to the Section 62 of the Representation of People’s Act, 1951 states that ‘every person in the electoral roll of that constituency will be entitled to vote’.

The Indian system of voting is a non discriminatory and voluntary. Our country despite having a huge voter count is unable to bring about any effect in the nation due to various reasons. One of the major reasons for this is the low voter turnout. During the discussion on the People’s Representation Bill in Parliament during the year 1951, the idea of including compulsory voting was mooted by a Member but was rejected by Dr. B.R.Ambedkar due to practical difficulties. This was again examined by Dinesh Goswami Committee in 1990 as one of the members had suggested that the only effective remedy for low voter turn outs was to introduce the compulsory voting system.

The Constitution of India and the Representation of People’s Act have brought it out clearly that is not a fundamental right in India but it is a legal right that is granted to all citizens with a sound mind. India being the largest democratic nation is now losing majority of its voters as they aren’t serious and committed towards the future of the nation. Some of the citizens cast their vote as they think it to be a duty but fail to cast it to the right candidate.

There are also many instances of people casting their vote to a particular party or candidate just because the party or the candidate belongs to a particular caste, religion, or they have a

great ownership of wealth and so on. Hence, it is high time as concerned citizens of India; we need to cast our votes based on the ideology, principles and values of the candidates rather than the money that they give or the caste they belong to.

This campaign is being taken up as we realize that it is high time for us to go and cast our votes rather than taking a day off. We as concerned citizens of the nation must take a step towards ensuring that everyone gets to cast their vote and it is also important that they cast their votes to the right candidate whose values and ideologies help in developing the country for the well-being of the citizens. It is also important for the citizens of the nation to realize that voting isn't just a right given to be exercised but is also a duty to be fulfilled to bring about effective change in the society.

3. Objectives

- To sensitize the people on the power of Democracy
- To Create awareness on Right to Vote and Voting the Right Candidate
- To sensitize the youth & people on the importance of voting the right candidate
- To get the youth participation in good governance.

4. The Practice

Anubhav Mumbai organised a “**Signature campaign on the topic Power of Vote**” for student and non student youth. The aim of this campaign was to create awareness among college youth and general public on the importance of casting their votes and also reading the election manifesto in order to cast their votes to the right candidate. The students of various colleges had participated in the campaign. The campaign was done through two major strategies namely; door to door signature campaign and street play in western suburb from Bandra to Dahisar.

5. Details of the Campaign

Duration of Campaign: 17th December 2018 to 5th January 2019

Campaign Flow

- Kick Start Meeting.
- Meetings with the students in their Colleges.
- Training the youth for campaign by training youth for Street play and door to door signature.
- Performing the Plays in their respective communities.
- Door to door visits by youth in their respective communities.
- Analysing
- Reporting

Colleges Participated:

- DTSS College, Malad;
- Rizvi College, Bandra;
- Shailendra Degree College, Dahisar;
- Nagindas Khandwala College, Malad;
- Valia College, Borivali.

Campaign Performance:

The campaign began after the kick start meeting. The campaign was done through two major strategies namely; door to door signature campaign and street play. A total of 34 street plays were performed by Rizvi College, DTSS College and Shailendra Degree College as part of the campaign. Around 3,283 signatures were collected as a part of the door to door awareness signature campaign.

Learning:

- Youths got the opportunity to interact with people.
- Youth understood the opinion of the people on the subject.
- It helped the youth to build their confidence.
- It helped the youth to learn how to build a good rapport with the community people.