

## Lecture on Human Values at IIT Roorkee

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At IIT Roorkee on 13<sup>th</sup> March, with Legacy of UOR 1981 Alumni, Faculty and Final year participants & Winner Himanshu for 'Manoj Jain Award for excellence in Human Values' after



addressing and interacting with them. Visited (and addressed) this truly pioneering Institution for second time. Less known fact that this magnificent Gothic architecture building in 350 acre campus housing South Asia's oldest Engg. College began with the construction of India's best known, over 500-km-long, Irrigation Canal way back in 1850's. So proud were the

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## Commencement of the Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council (DWSSC) and the International Migration Centre for Domestic Workers

March 28, 2016: Domestic labor is not considered work by many people. This perhaps stems from the fact that traditionally domestic work was done by women and the work done by women is seldom valued. This segment in India constitutes one of the largest segments, nearly 20 million of the workforce, majority being women whose services mostly go unrecognized. These millions of domestic help can be found in the Indian families from lower middle class households in the villages to the most affluent ones in the metropolitan cities. Most of these domestic worker's function as 'lifelines' to the households, render multiple types of services, as full time and part time, live-in and live-out, and they are described as 'domestic servants'. The practices associated with this occupation are undignified and



completely unacceptable, partly for the reason that domestic workers have not yet acquired the status of a profession or a trade. The 'Commencement' of 'Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council (DWSSC)' and 'International Migration Centre set up in Delhi and Jharkhand by Mr. R P Rudy, the Hon'ble Union Minister for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) & Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of India within India's most ambitious program 'Skilling India' launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. This beginning opens up a small gateway for the skilling and empowerment of 'Domestic Workers' which is, perhaps, India's largest Sector in its unorganized economy. It is well known that over 90% of India's workforce happen to be unorganized and nearly all of them are awaiting skilling for dignity and professional efficiency, higher wages coupled with better life and service conditions and, ultimately, freedom

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management of this great Civil and Water technology institution that they initially refused to be an IIT. It was a privilege and opportunity to ruminate and share my thoughts on 'Human Values', the universal idea and an issue that concerns each and every human-being, every moment of existence in some form. Trust, honesty, integrity, justice, fair play, peace, love, compassion, empathy, brotherhood and service to humanity & to our fellow beings- are they hollow expressions craving to be translated into reality? As against Ethical & Moral Values which acquire hugely debated sermonizing overtones while they classify right and wrong,



good and bad, the accepted human values have still a universal appeal. They could be some principles, standards, convictions and beliefs, certain 'virtues' or positive dispositions having emotional components which create natural bonds among human beings transcending the barriers of gender, age, caste, culture, religion, even national boundaries. It appears, our attempt to divide and compartmentalize our essentially indivisible personalities, positive or negative, run counter to the basic human values that define our personal and professional behavior in our daily lives. It's impossible to judge ourselves on any fixed set of guidelines or values since we always present ourselves as a bundle of contradictions. We don't live in boxes; crises, situations, challenges and problems coupled with ethical experience that afford us opportunities to test our resolve to evolve positively, within ourselves and interacting with the world around us. Human beings in terms of human values are categorized as the ones, who are always willing to give away all they have, time and resources, for others. The middle path followers will wisely decide what and how much to keep and give while third category in our prevalent market economy, the corporate achievers aspire to acquire and control all that our planet offers. Narrated some interesting and relevant ideas of Victor Chan and Dalai Lama with whom, couple of years back, I had a chance to spend a few days when the spiritual leader narrated his 'give & take meditation' of inhaling 'poison' of 'hatred, fear and cruelty' and exhaling positive emotions of 'compassion, kindness and happiness'.



from the vicious circle of uncertainty, poverty and exploitation.

Mr. Amod Kanth, Chairperson Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council said This occasion is to also mark the beginning of a highly inspirational sector, starting with the Job Roles related with 'Housekeeping and Cooking', which, undoubtedly, is the most prevalent and absolutely essential activities in the families world over. For the present, taking a lead from the Prime Minister's dream to create millions of Jobs abroad garnering best advantage of India's 'demographic dividend', we have created a program for training and Placements of Housekeeper and Cooks as dignified and remunerative profession in different countries, including UK from where two of the best known training and Job related Organizations have come to assist Prayas and DWSSC. Trainers drawn from some leading organizations and some trainees willing to upgrade their skills and clinch opportunity for change in their lives have been brought together with the Hon'ble Minister, representatives of the British and Indian Governments besides other stakeholders to make this humble start.

To take this initiation forward, Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council partnered with the Ministry of Skill Development Corporation, (MSDC), National Skill Development Corporation, (NSDC), Skill India, Prayas JAC Society and with two United Kingdom based organization called 'London Cleaning Academy' and 'Housekeep' represented by Ms. Anne Bradley, TD and Ms. Lisa Pirett, Head Operation 'Housekeep' and Indian based Cardiologist in U.K Dr. Rajay Narain who has facilitated the entire program in India.

Hon'ble Union Minister of Skill Dev. & Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) and parliamentary Affairs Mr. Rajeev Pratap Rudy stressed that Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council is entirely different in comparison to other sector skill council like manufacturing or services which are industry connect. He personally feel that the creation of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship for the first time in Independent India which is the youngest Ministry in India and also has to acknowledge the fact that the skill was



existing in our society since centuries. It is there for years or even from the start of the civilization. He emphasized that the tragedy of the country from last 67 years that the Skill was interconnected with the Education Systems. He also quoted that the people who run the education systems carries distinct bias for the education and the value of the skills was totally ignored. He also said that till date we were only recognizing the trainings which we do impart in 'Industrial Training Institutes having NCVT Certifications.

## REPORT ON VISIT TO UK FROM 06 TO 12 MARCH 2016: PRAYAS - UKIERI PROJECT

### INTRODUCTION

Maj Gen Manik Sabharwal and Mr. Sumit Garg visited London, UK in connection with the UKIERI Project from 06 March to 12 March 2016. A series of meetings were held, the details of which will be enumerated in the subsequent Paras.

The visit was a follow up to the visit wherein the foundations were laid by Mr. Amod Kanth during his visit to UK from 12 Dec to 26 Dec 2015.

### AIM

The aim of the visit was to establish institutional network between the two countries at different Levels and also gather more information regarding Care-givers, Work for Children, Elderly, Hospitality and Service in UK.

## GALLERY



He said that the all requirements of the industry is not filling up with our Engineering Graduates only and today 8 lac out of 16 lac engineering seats remain vacant. He also said that our boys and girls can match with anyone in the world and our manpower should top the hub of 'Demographic Dividend'. He said that time is changing fast and he stressed that 'Ten Years of Education even less than ten years of Education with Skill' will make our young force employable and this is the key point which is the thrust job of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. He praised Hon'ble Prime Minister for creating the job opportunities for 500 million people in the country in last one and half years and for which eco-system has to develop in structured way

Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council in association with National Skill Development Corporation, Skill India, Prayas and London Cleaning Academy & Housekeep also organized two day training, certification and assessment session in which 35 trainees from Ranchi, Gumla and Delhi participated along with 20 Trainer's. The program was graced by Mr. Ashok Agarwal, IAS Additional Secretary & CEO, Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI), Mr. Santosh Matthews Director Ministry of Rural Development, Ms. Gayatri Kalia Chief of Operations Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushal Yojana, Ms. Shashi kiran Consultant SQA National Skill Development Corporation, Ms. Sunita Reddy Assistant Professor Centre of Medicine and Community Health Jawahar Lal Nehru University and representatives from Skill Development Organizations like 'Empower Pragati', Get Domestic Help, Be-Able etc. The Hon'ble Minister also unveiled the 'Practice Handbook; A Trainees Guide on House Keeper-cum Cook' which was developed by Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council, National Skill Development Corporation and Skill India. The NSDC has since approved the QP-NOSs pertaining to 'General Housekeeper', 'Housekeeper cum Cook', 'Child Caretaker' and 'Elderly Caretaker (Non-medical)', DWSSC has started leading the skilling programs in the related Job Roles aligning with National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF).



Now the MOUs are being signed with State Governments and various Agencies, Training Providers and Assessing Agencies are being identified for affiliations, and the programs being developed in a mission mode to convert this entire sector in its content, approach and character.

The domestic workers sector is perhaps the largest among the unorganized sectors in the country and will cater to the most marginalized and needy. Domestic Worker Sector Skill Council aims to train 25 lac Domestic Workers in 10 years of time through 500 Training partners across India. On this occasion, the Hon'ble Minister also presented 'Certificate of Participation' to all successful trainees.

## FOOD SAFETY & STANDARDS AUTHORITY OF INDIA (FSSAI)

For nearly 3 weeks now on the invitation of Pawan Agrawal CEO FSSAI (Food Safety & Standards Authority of India) We (Prayas family) joined a major drive in Delhi to improve hygiene and standards to the Food Vendors of Delhi. Out of 21000+ vendors covered under the intense program the largest numbers, over 4600, have already been covered by the most dedicated Prayas team. These trained vendors are now being tested by 3rd party CII



Assessors for certifications which would also give these totally unorganized and unprotected thousands of food providers some recognition under the new law, which now protects and regulates them. Last week again went to Hazaribagh to oversee the newly set up 'Johar Health Management Organization' meant to organise grassroots to referral health services, patronized by Jayant Sinha, the local MP & MOS Finance. Also visited the new Prayas Skilling Centre in the City and community based village Centre for children and women. Interesting interactions with the youth, women and kids- all extremely deprived and looking for support to meet their basic needs of life. Another very important program/Workshop in my position as the Chairman of DWSSC (Domestic Workers Sector Skill Council) at Ranchi along with the committee and the dynamic MS Bhatia I AS Pr Secretary Labour, was to draft the pioneering Law on Placement Agencies & Domestic Workers. Besides giving protection to hapless women migrants of Jharkhand this law-in- making will lay the benchmarks for wages, efficiency, service and living conditions of the Domestic helps. Let's hope all these initiatives bring about some changes into the lives of the underprivileged and the most vulnerable amongst the poor.

## Described about skilling India & Livelihood Program

Amod K Kanth

March 2, 2016 ·

In August 2014, during my visit to China had a chance to meet the officials of 'Central Inst for Voc and Tech Education', an apex govt. body combining the learning with livelihood and also 'China



education Association for International Exchange', an NGO representing the people's Organizations. It was a model that we have been trying to understand in 'skilling India' program. Our dream target of galvanizing 500 million youth by 2022 hasn't met with much success since we have neither combined our education or community with skills nor developed factories to engage the human resources into production of goods and services. Very few NGOs like Prayas have been able to develop skilling projects that have entirely become the domain of the business houses, which, in turn, have also not been able to reap the 'demographic dividend' even marginally. 53 Prayas VT Centres across the country train at any time about 15000 youth and give them livelihoods through jobs and creating economic activity, small effort albeit a rare community- based program. It was great experience at the 'Annual Fest' mentoring some the highly motivated youth at DU 'Faculty of Management Studies' who are patenting their innovations that combine skills. The week gone-by created feeling of international camaraderie with visitors taking keen interest in our counter- trafficking efforts and numerous children in captivity and hard labour being rescued from Delhi and Rajasthan, now on their way to reunite with their families in Bihar under Prayas' watchful supervision from 'rescue to rehabilitation'.

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