

SPOTLIGHT

INSIGHTS

STORYBOARD

EVENTS

Events and Interactions

Discussion on local governance and careers in public policy organised by YLAC



Dr Jayaprakash Narayan had an interactive session with fellows of the Young Leaders for Active Citizenship (YLAC) Policy in Action Program where he addressed concerns voiced by the young professionals regarding policy making and governance. Dr JP advised youngsters seeking to enter the public reform and policy

space to arm themselves with suitable reforms which could then be wielded when the opportunity arises. He also spoke about the importance of local governments in addressing citizens' issues.

Discourse on Constitutional Democracy and Social Justice



On the occasion of Bharat Ratna Dr B. R. Ambedkar and Dr Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial Lecture at Osmania University, Dr Jayaprakash Narayan highlighted five key areas - Delivery of basic services by the state, Rule of Law,

quality education and healthcare for all, decentralisation of power and empowering local governments, nature of politics and electoral system that need to be addressed in today's India. Abysmal performance in these areas has led to the perpetuation of inequalities by birth, he pointed. He also talked about the institutionalised caste system in India that has nurtured the society from being morally neutral towards inhuman and cruel oppression. He emphasised on the need for participative democracy in fulfilling the dreams and aspirations, this nation was founded on.

Interaction on Governance, Federalism and Role of State

Dr Jayaprakash Narayan had an interactive webinar organised by the Vision India Foundation on the topics of Governance, Federalism and Role of State. The students asked him questions about the sustainability of the policy approach taken by the current government of issuing

“mission-mode” statements accompanied by little action. Dr JP stated how the greatest tragedy of Indian governance is its excessive centralization and how barriers, that must be reduced between the government and the citizens. Major failings in the education and healthcare sector were discussed and the importance of rule of law was highlighted. Dr JP also lamented about how India missed the bus when it comes to tapping the potential of the manufacturing sector which China managed to do exceedingly well. He spoke about the importance of factors of production in this regard - land and labour, and how removing regulatory shackles and focussing on comparative advantage without disincentivizing low-end workers with freebies, could lead to better outcomes.

Interaction with students of 21st Century IAS Academy @ Rajahmundry



On 17th April Dr Jayaprakash Narayan interacted with students of 21st Century IAS Academy at Rajahmundry. As part of the interaction, he helped students understand the electoral system in India and the freebie culture which governments are resorting to, to garner votes in the existing political scenario.

Round Table on Transparency in Election Funding and Election Spending



Dr Jayaprakash Narayan whilst addressing the conference

organised by the Telangana Journalists Association, primarily advocated for reforms in the existing electoral systems and pointed out the rampant and illegal spending of money and resources over elections in the country. He came down heavily on the lack of a mechanism to make the electoral bonds transparent.

“Not just a Civil Servant” book discussion with the author Anil Swarup (IAS, Retd.)



The research team at FDR attended the book discussion with Mr Anil Swarup about his book “Not just a Civil Servant”, wherein he briefly touched upon the various topics in his book. He spoke about how he led the team for the formulation of the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (the erstwhile Healthcare scheme of Union government), he

also mentioned that countries like the U.S were impressed with this healthcare model. When asked if the Union Government should formulate rigid policies that are implemented by the States, he was of the opinion that Central Government schemes should have the flexibility to be implemented according to the local requirements of the states.

Field Visit to Cherlapally Industrial Development Area



On the 27th of April, the research team at FDR got a chance to interact with MSME entrepreneurs and the Secretary of IALA (Industrial Area Local Authority), Cherlapally. The visit highlighted problems ranging from a deficit in skilled labour to rampant corruption in audits and over-regulation. The delayed

payments from the buyers (the Government being one of the biggest clients) and not having a legal recourse for speedy disposal of delayed payments. Also, erratic checks from Pollution Control Board has hampered their functioning. IALA as a concept has proved to be a successful one with commendable efficiency that generates a surplus from tax collections.