



Sadhana Educational & Empowerment Foundation's (SEEF)
Sadhana Centre for Management & Leadership Development
(SCMLD)

Seminar: **“Learning from the Learned”** - Series VII

Theme: **“Initiators, Innovators, Doers and Makers, not TALKERS – Learning from people who did things and made a difference in others’ lives and still doing.....”**

Venue: **Le Méridien, Pune** | Date: **21st & 22nd April, 2012**

CONCEPT NOTE

Today our country is emerging as best in scams, scandals, noise, conflicts, violence, arguments, accusing, excusing, chatting, chattering, filth, stink, disease, masking, faking, passing the buck and so on and also poor quality of education. Everyone is talking, and talking endlessly. This is the visible and auditory India for Indians and also for outsiders. But this India is not of the real Indians. This despite the existence of a wonderful constitution prescribing what, who and how to do things for building a nation of healthy, wealthy, harmonious, happy and peaceful people. But implementation-doing and getting done what needs to be done is nobody’s business. Naturally we talk and talk or write and write.

However, there is another India of people who practice the universally applicable Indian family value system of working, doing, making, giving, forgiving, saving, conserving, living frugal and leaving everything best for the loved ones, in their work, and thus living for others’ well-being. This value system if practiced, make the family an abode of peace, harmony, happiness, security, safety, duty, responsibility, discipline, acceptance, tolerance, camaraderie, collaborative efforts and so on. If this approach is put in practice in all one thinks, says and does, for others as well and not only for one’s family, the nation will be built automatically by its working and enabling citizens. Business can be done and great profits reaped if this approach of doing, making, giving, living and leaving everything for the well-being of customers/ consumers. A teacher, administrator, professional, student, government official, entrepreneur, doctor – anyone can embrace this very simple and easily possible value system focusing on serving people as against being crass commercial and selfish. Just imagine if we all do work and live this way, what and where will be the real India. India will emerge as the peacemaker and leader of the world. It will be a power superior to any other rather than a superpower. It will be respected and admired. But look where are we today. State enabling citizens is a far cry. Time has come for citizens enabling nation building. Parents, teachers and educationists can do wonders in this.

As against the majority being in the category described in the first para of this note, there are individuals and organizations (described in the second para) in this country who work

relentlessly, and do things, make things and make things happen by devoting their full time, resources, efforts and energy for the well-being of others particularly the deprived, differently abled and the disadvantaged. That is the India which works. These are the people who make the country real India. Unfortunately, that is the India not visible, heard or told about and is lost in the chaos and cacophony of the powerful, the glitterati and the chattering lots.

This pre-convocation seminar brings together a galaxy of such stars from varied fields who inspire confidence that things can be done and done right against all the obstructions on the way. It is to inspire our students that they too can do things and make a difference wherever they are and whatever they are doing. This is also to enlighten them that, arguing, grumbling, accusing, excusing, twittering, cutting & pasting, Facebook chatting, candlelight vigil, SMS-ing, being in the pubs and multiplexes, carrying information copied from somewhere else in the laptops, watching cricket and counting runs and clapping or celebrating birthdays by cutting the cakes and chasing the latest in fashion, etc. are no substitutes for learning, doing, making, initiating, innovating, giving and living life working, to make the life worth living. Expecting others to do things to make one's life comfortable is nothing but living in illusion and self-delusion. One has to take responsibility for building one's life right and proper. Education must make students responsible.

Since the purpose of the seminar is to inspire and not to teach or advise anyone, it would be great if you tell your story - the story of why are you doing what you are doing, what was the trigger, how was the journey so far and what are the challenges you had to face enroute and what you feel today and where are you going etc. We look forward to the privilege and honour of learning from your initiative and experiences.

Let good citizens be raised by families, parents and the education system. Let everyone work more and talk less. Let everyone accept and respect every other. Let businessmen do business for others in a spirit of service, keeping their needs in mind. Need based businesses are recession free. Want based businesses are prone to recession and it has a huge marketing cost. Let the policymakers make policies for the well-being of the people. Let people let the policymakers do their job. Let our country rise by each one of us being initiators, innovators, doers and makers. Let us stop cribbing. Hope this seminar triggers such a thought at least in a few. This note may sound rhetoric and utopian. But living and working to realize that utopia is exciting, enjoyable and invigorating. That is what we are striving day in and day out at SCMLD. The works the seminar speakers are doing further inspire us.

Looking forward to your support and with warm regards.

Yours Sincerely,

M.S. Pillai - Founder Director, SCMLD