



Liberal Youth Forum (LYF)

Talk on How to make Student Bodies more accountable and transparent and RTI Workshop

ISM Dhanbad, Jharkhand
19th November 2010

The main objectives behind this talk were as follows:

- a) To explain the “Right to Information” to the participants
- b) To orient the participants into accepting ownership of the money for public spending
- c) To make students start considering taking account of college spending and method used therein
- d) Make students file a demo RTI application

Rajan Kumar Singh, the LYF Finance coordinator, introduced RTI interactively. He threw light on the present scenario and level of corruption in the country and specifically the education sector. He convinced everyone that the public spending was from their money and they need to take note of spendings. He convinced that funding for the campus is meant for students and from public money, and they have the right to know how they are spent. He convinced that the institute is made for the students so there should be transparency and accountability toward students. This was followed by a video song on RTI "Janne ka Haq Hai". He then presented slides on RTI explaining how to file it in detail, rules regarding getting information, and clearing doubts from the audience.

After this he asked everyone to write an RTI application seeking some information from the college. He then read out a few of them and discussed with the students pointing out flaws, if any, or making them more relevant while the rest he would take with him, do same and return later. He then took more queries regarding scope of RTI and how it can be better used to remove corruption. He noted down some exceptional queries to respond later. He concluded with emphasising the need to be active now.

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