

# DRISHTIKON

## Discussion 1

**T**opic: Expenditure of the Public money by the Government for ulterior motives (Statute of Unity Issue)

The topic attracted numerous arguments in favor and in against of the government. Few of them stated that Statute of Unity is not a bad investment as it will attract huge number of tourists and that will give rise to the employment opportunities to local people there. They advocated it by saying that it will create jobs for people and will help people evolve by the amount of tourism takes place there and benefit out of it. Some of them stated that since huge amount has been spent over a mere statute, instead government could have spent those money by creating more welfare schemes for poor who do not get even a staple food for two times. They said that by doing so, government has created a bad example for other states where the other states also announced projects on similar pattern. On rebutting the point of tourism, they stated that government could have spent these amount on the tourist places that already exist and make them more maintained. Few of them also brought the point where they referred the remarks of Lewis Hamilton regarding BIC and also mentioned how they have made a mockery of this step of government. Some of the participants also took notice and referred the probability of misuse of public money by government and having a scenario where no mechanism will have control over the expenditure of government, by quoting this, they referred to the recent feud between government and RBI.

In conclusion, they stated that there is a need for a proper set of rules, regulations or specific legislation to control these steps and expenditure.

## Moderators

**BHARGAV SARMA**

**SHUBHAM SINGH JHA**

**SANYAM JAIN**

**NISHU SHARMA**

**"The First time you say something, it's heard; second time, it's recognized; the third time, it is learned."**

**- John Maxwell**

**"The worst speech you'll ever give, will be far better than the one you never give."**

**- Fred Miller**

**"If you don't want to preach, put stories in your speech."**

**- Andy Harrington**

## DISCUSSION 2

### TOPIC: INDIAN CULTURE AND DISTORTION OF HISTORY

The topic began with the meaning of Indian culture; different definitions by all the students came. Participants attributed many a characteristics and their perseverance in context with the Indian Culture. They defined in many a ways, for some of them, Culture was nothing but the clothing habits, food habits and the lifestyle one lives was culture. For some, it was the comfortability of the way of life they have lived and wanted to live. It was basically the sorting of those rules which people opted to live a life; the way. Some of them stated that the culture was nothing but the learning's they got from their parents. They gave example of "Vasudeo Kutumbakam" where they supported their argument by saying that, since we learnt from our parents that to respect the guest and treat them with high regards, it became our part of culture. For some, Culture was nothing but those norms which they can identify and witness in their personal lives. Some participants defined it as a restrictive rules which violated the liberal principals of life. For them, culture is something which is mortal and dies after a point. They also believe it to be very dynamic in nature. Few of them defined it as a communicated set of beliefs which passed from one generation to other generations and so one. The discussion also saw the drift in between when it was put to the board for discussion that, number of people now or ever, in power, have written history in the way they wanted. Some of them gave example of the different opinions cited in many a authoritative books on one specific point. They said that it becomes quite difficult to actually ascertain what happened in past and blamed the then historians and nowadays, political parties who are solely rewriting things in order to agitate the concerned people by distorting history. One of the students also mentioned the issue of glorification of Telangana Movement in 1950s.

In conclusion, a healthy discussion took place on the relevance and bearings of past on future, where on section stated that we are better off without culture whereas other section advocated the presence of culture and history and termed them as an integral part of our identity.

## DISCUSSION 3

### TOPIC: WHETHER THE DECISIONS OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA ARE TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY THE CITIZENS.

The Discussion was initiated by the moderator with the portrayal of a video of Meenakshi Lekhi's speech in Parliament regarding the Supreme Court intervention in the Sabarimala Issue and the Kerala Government's act of escorting two women into the Temple. At the same, another topic was introduced by the moderator i.e. Bipin Rawat's remarks that Army men who are indulged in Adultery or Homosexuality will not be entertained in the army. The discussion started with various participants agreeing with Meenakshi Lekhi's remarks and stated that Article 25 needs to be upheld and the Supreme Court cannot interfere with the tradition of the Ayyappa Devotees and pass such judgements since the matter was pertaining to a religious belief, some opined that the Nation was not yet ready for such liberal judgements since there is Conservatism regarding religion. Surprisingly some women in the discussion stated that women trying to enter the temple was purely a competition and nothing else, there are clearly many temples in India whereby even men are not allowed, and Sabarimala is only few of the temples whereby women are not allowed, so they opined that the tradition of the temple be followed. Whereas, some of the participants reasoned that the Supreme Court was right in passing such judgements and women were entitled to enter the temple since it is their inherent right and such discrimination was unconstitutional. They also stated that the Supreme Court judgement was the law of the land and such deviation from the judgement would be nothing but contempt of court.

#### *2nd ISSUE: BIPIN RAWAT'S REMARKS:*

There was a unison in agreeing that such remarks were not expected from an army chief, it was also clearly agreed that the Army laws are not above the country's law and such conservative thinking among the army regarding homosexuality shall be reviewed after the judgement of the Supreme Court. In conclusion, there were mixed responses whether or not the Supreme Court judgements were being respected in the country. Generally, Personal opinions cloud a person's mind and such opinions shall be kept aside in order to uphold the supreme law of the country.

## DISCUSSION 4

### TOPIC: HOW AND WHY DRUG USAGE SOON GETS CHANGED TO DRUG ABUSE?

The discussion of Drishtikon was based upon one of the current issues which has seen a growth in last decade or so, saw number of participants driving their views and round their opinions on that. The topic for the day was given by the moderator by stating some statements along with some statistics followed by a question to ponder upon. It was based upon the rampant growth in youth and children taking drugs and how and why drug usage soon gets changed to drug abuse. The Moderator also referred to some stats, one of them stated that as per the NCRB data, 34 out of 53 deaths of children below 18 years were recorded due to drug overdose during 2015 & 2016 respectively. Some of the participants began with the reasons and cited poverty, illiteracy and unemployment among them that why there has been a growth which none of us would have ever wished. Some of the other participants were of the view that there has been an easy accessibility to them and that's why they easily get their day done. Participants also stated that cinema and other visual entertainment sources are also acting as an antagonist, since these things tend to show and glorify the drugs and intoxication in some or the other way, they are potentially quiet easy to influence an immature mind. Some participants differed from this view, they stated that it is just a cinema and it serves the purpose of entertainment, it doesn't glorify in any manner. They also stated that the peer pressure is an important part that plays quiet vital role in shaping and turning someone who has an aversion towards drugs. One of the participants stated that it is important for the child that they understand the consequences and should be shown real life people who are facing the consequences and equally important for their parents so that they could check and balance their kids. A part of participants stated that some of the people take drugs to deal with various issues, emotional breakdowns and similar emotional things. On the other hand, some stated that they have seen people who took drugs so that they could feel and express their mind through various activities, one of them being "Writing". The discussion also gave a wave towards the different but relevant topic i.e. whether banning marijuana would work in country like India or not?

Some of the participants were in support of having a strong legislation and having it equally regulated and the reason given was that since, these things are impossible to curb and stop, so why not let government regulate it, earn from it and have better scenario in this regard. They also stated that it will also limit the black market which now commutes these drugs to the youth of India. Whereas some of the other participants were quiet openly against it and stated that we should fight this because it is ruining the little lives of the children and youth of India.

In 10th discussion of Drishtikon, we saw participants throwing their views and opinion and there were some terrific arguments from each sides. In conclusion, they gave some solutions to the growing issue which includes- Parenting, Regulating the market and accessibility of drugs to poor kids, NGOs, Education and a lot more.



## DISCUSSION 5

### TOPIC: WHETHER THE CONTROVERSY OF HARDIK PANDYA AND KL RAHUL GIVEN MUCH MORE WEIGHTAGE AND JUSTIFIED AS A NATIONAL ISSUE?

The discussion begun with the very question, whether it is in fact a national issue, and a various opinions were presented. It was observed that to some it was indeed a national issue as it involved a huge chunk of people speaking against what happened on that show and how he being a public figure representing India worldwide should not have made those comments. Whereas the other group of speakers were of the belief that whatever happened on the show was Hardik Pandya's personal life and it should not have been made an issue which lead to disciplinary action of debarring him for 3 matches. Where few were of the opinion that it was justified to debar him from 3 matches, they also held to the opinion that they took it too far to the Supreme Court. The speakers deliberated on various examples like that of cricketer Kohli, who had few years back made such derogatory remarks against a woman and still did not face any action. Few were of the opinion that this issue has become so viral because of the prevailing #Metoo movement. The speakers advocated on behalf of the cricketer saying that he did not say anything which would have offended anyone's sentiment. It was just few personal instances of his life that he shared on a talk show. Others were to say that this was inevitable because it had to be started somewhere and people should know now that they cannot just take privilege in objectifying women.



## DISCUSSION 6

### TOPIC: ONE NATION, ONE POLL

This was an idea which was proposed by our PM Narendra Modi back in 2016 in one of his interviews. What it means is that in the whole country state assembly elections for all states and Lok Sabha elections shall take place simultaneously. So that voters have to vote only one time and we as a nation get breathing space from elections for a period of 5 years. The participants were presented with this question and a majority of them were skeptical about such a change. Primarily they questioned the feasibility of this change on account of logistics considering size of our country and the fact that we have running governments in states which cannot be dissolved just like that. Second main argument was regarding the fact that such constant elections keep a check on govt. activities and also helps the govt. in gazing mood of the country. To these, moderator presented the arguments given by NITI Aayog and PM on this issue. There arguments included - it will curb generation of black money, save a lot of money for the exchequer, time lost because of model code of conduct, deployment of armed forces again and again in election duties and so on but participants never got convinced as a whole about the concept of one nation one poll though they saw merits in the arguments made. The discussion concluded with distribution of a brief on the said NITI Aayog report which extensively supported this policy.



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