

Awareness Programme for Sensitization of students and employees of the Institution to the constitutional obligations: values, rights, duties and responsibilities of citizens

An awareness programme on Fundamental Rights and Duties as enshrined in the constitution of India was organized by the Department of Political Science on 16.07.2022. At the outset, the Hon'ble Principal of our college, Dr. Swapan Kumar Roy, addressed the audience with his brief and elucidating speech on constitutional values underlying our fundamental rights and duties. Dr. Akhil Sarkar, Assistant Professor in History and member of our college Governing Body, explained that how the fundamental rights as contained in our constitution from Article 12 to 35 are secular and egalitarian in nature. Debashis Das, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science, shed some light upon the 'Basic Structure Doctrine' of Indian constitution which was brought into the limelight by Kesavananda Bharati case in 1973. He pointed out that "basic structure of the Indian constitution" cannot be abrogated even by a "constitutional amendment".

Students of Political Science Department actively participated in the programme. Some of them, also delivered speech on different aspects of fundamental rights and duties and how they are enforceable in a court of law.

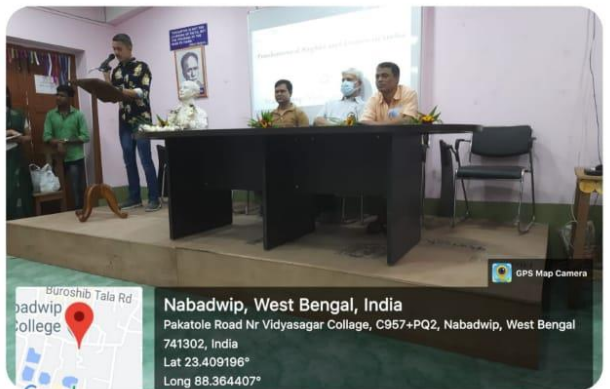
Sagarika Debnath (Sem-2nd Student) discuss on Preamble of India. She explained that the constitution of India comprises the preamble and it is divided into twenty-two parts containing 395 Articles, 12 Schedules of Indian constitution, 104 Amendments and 05 appendices. The constitution of India is a lengthy document, which is partly rigid and partly flexible and quasi-federal in nature. Lastly She pointed out that the preamble of Indian Constitution, reflects the basic structure and the spirit of the constitution.

Abdul Razzak (Sem-2nd Student) delivered on Fundamental Rights in India. He briefly explain that Fundamental Rights are integral part of any democratic political set-up. They are necessary for the overall development of an individual's.

Purna Chandra Debnath (Sem-6th student) elaborately discuss on Right to Constitutional Remedies. He explained that Our Constitution not only guarantees the right to move the highest court in the land directly by appropriate proceedings for the enforcement of the fundamental rights and the supreme court may issue writs in the nature of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari. The fundamental Duties in the Indian

constitution are inspired by the Constitution of USSR. In 1976, the Congress party set up the Sardar Swaran Singh Committee to make recommendations about fundamental duties, the need and necessity of which was felt during the operation of the internal emergency (1975-77). The Committee recommended the inclusion of a separate chapter on fundamental duties in the constitution. It stressed that the citizens should become conscious that in addition to the enjoyment of rights, they also have certain duties to perform as well.

The awareness programme came to an end with the speech of Rintu Mohanta, Assistant Professor in Political Science, while analyzing the relationship between Fundamental Rights and Fundamental Duties, he concluded his speech quoting Gandhi –“Rights that do not flow from duty well performed are not worth having.” L.T. Hobhouse say that “ If I have the right to walk along the street without being pushed off the pavement, it is your duty to give me reasonable room.”



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