



WEBINAR REPORT ON

THE NEW NORMAL AND OUR YOUTH

with

Mr Dilip Pandey
Writer, Anti-Corruption Activist and
Politician

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Mr Khalid Ansari, Executive Director IMPAR

Mr Khalid Ansari welcomed the speaker. He informed the attendees about Mr Dilip Pandey's early life contribution and also informed Mr Dilip about the activities IMPAR is engaged in.

Khwaja Shahid, Former Registrar Jamia Millia Islamia, Vice Chancellor MANU

The speaker raised focus about the communalisation of politics, the divisions that we are seeing now, and asked if they are new normal. Should everything be accepted as new normal? He asked Mr Pandey if we should be hopeful that new India would be free from casteism and would have a developmental agenda.

Yusuf Ansari, Writer and Political Activist

Mr Yusuf Ansari asked the speaker if the cry for justice should be buried under the new normal. Currently we see executive completely hijacked, should this be a part of new normal?

Imteyaz Siddiqui, General Manager Alt Nova Group

Mr Imteyaz said that undoubtedly the situation is bad but we need to be hopeful. The discussant brought in that the stake holders in the public policy should look at the current situation as period of hope and possibilities. This should be taken with urgency at the policy level.

Advocate Feroze Ghazi, Secretary General SAMLA

Mr Ghazi spoke about the challenges of the new normal in the legal fraternity. He also discussed how the new normal challenges the legal framework and how vested interests can polarise the new normal.

Amina Mirza, Educationist

Ms Amina spoke from the perspective of an educationist, that how love for the nation, patriotism has become a yardstick for the new normal in media. She further asked why love for the nation quantifies as part of every other thing and how we need to think together about this. She also mentioned that the strength displayed by people in these challenging times should become the new normal

Shamsher Siddiqui, Industrialist

Mr Shamsher shared his own experiences of how good enterprises can lead to goodwill of the community. And how the new normal should understand these realities.

Syed Rizwan, Advisor Media and Communications IMPAR

Mr Rizwan asked the speaker whether the anti-corruption campaign launched by Anna Hazare can also be considered as new normal of politics. This movement had mass support of the public irrespective of caste and creed, so this kind of casteless politics can be new normal.

Musharraf Ahmed, Writer and Journalist

Mr Musharraf asked how AAP envisions new normal for the youth and if AAP has charted any specific ways for dealing with the new normal.

Sheeba Aslam Fehmi, Journalist and India head at Indiatv.live

Ms Sheeba lauded the efforts and socially encompassing vision of Mr Dilip Pandey. She urged the speaker to consider IMPAR as an ally in the progressive agenda.

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Dilip Pandey, Guest Speaker

Mr Pandey congratulated IMPAR for the work it is doing and for filling the vacuum. He extensively spoke about the need to engage politically and how he always wanted to stand up for the common man, insulated from the religious terms. He emphasised that the moving force behind the politics should be education and healthcare.

The second issue that Mr Pandey raised was the need to separate religion and education. He spoke how the curriculum glosses over major errors, consciously and unconsciously hence leading to a defective conditioning on gender, on politics and on the idea of the nation. He blamed the valueless education system for normalising and communalising difference. The speaker also brought in how the struggle and the resilience for the right causes is paramount for saving the society and the other areas that need to be fixed are education and healthcare.

Speaking on the COVID experience, Mr Pandey said that initially it was a difficult situation but gradually he and the team AAP learnt through the crisis. Responding to the questions if new normal should be accepted, he strongly refuted that no definition should be accepted without proper thought, and hence new normal cannot be accepted.

Mr Pandey addressed the webinar in the poetic way, reading some of his poems which dealt with the socio-political issues. The speaker urged that the definition of nationalism should be made simple, acceptable and lucid to defeat the forces that try to make nationalism their patent. He also clarified that the anti-corruption nature of AAP has not changed, just the priority areas have been refocussed due to the external challenges.

Dr M J Khan, President IMPAR presented the vote of thanks and promised Mr Dilip that IMPAR is ready to cooperate with the state government on areas of concern. He thanked Mr Pandey for taking out time for this engagement and also informed the gathering that this meeting should become a part of the larger engagement of Muslim community with the political leadership.

Indian Muslims for Progress and Reforms

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