



AWARENESS IN ACTION



A Symposium on
Rethinking
Globalisation:
Issues of Governance

- August 11, 2018
- Gandhi Bhavana, Bengaluru

Globalization has brought significant changes in each and every sphere of our life. It has affected our country's governance pattern as well. It is backed by the neoliberal ideology that emphasizes reduction in the role of the state and advocates for small state by downsizing the state. It says, the state need not do everything on its own but should act as a facilitator to meet the needs of its citizens. But the contradiction in neoliberalism itself is such that the facilitator, the state, has to do much more than what it was doing earlier as a doer. The state has to create scope for participation and give the opportunity to all the stakeholders in order to improve the quality and accessibility of services and bring transparency and accountability in its own operation.

Today many state functions are being transferred to the non-state and quasi-state bodies so we could find public-private partnership and involvement of multiple stakeholders in the legislation and execution of laws and developmental activities. This creates a scope for participation of the civil society in the governance. Another change experienced in governance pattern is that policy is being reoriented away from redistribution towards competition because local governments have become more concerned with ensuring that the local area competes effectively in the global economy. Here comes the role of the market. In the free market

economy, the quality of services is not to be compromised and if competition is high then producers try to provide best services at less cost. In such a situation the local producers and service providers compete with the global actors. Thus, the government tries to focus more on making the local competitive even at the cost of redistribution getting side-lined. *So rather than arguing whether globalization has harmed us or we are benefitted by the move, we need to make sure that the redistributive part of governance is not compromised and our industries also prosper.* Today we need not only produce for our own people but also for the global market so the scale of operation has expanded thus we also need to maintain global standards and follow the global rules and regulation. The new environmental laws, WTO's rules, international service standards, banking and financial regulations etc. need to be incorporated in our governance system in such a way that our country minimises the losses and maximises the benefit for its own people.

Apart from globalizing the country, today Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has become an integral part of our governance system. ICT has changed the governance



system to a large extent by pushing transparency and accountability concerns to the top of the priority list along with quality and accessibility of the services. The political society today is trying to question the State directly than going through the political leaders or bureaucratic system. The State and citizenship relation is redefined today. This changing relation also needs to be understood very carefully. There is a need to look into the interface of the civil society, market and the state in the governance process. The digital divide, political gap in the red corridor area (Naxal affected areas), increasing gap between the rich and poor, the environmental challenges, corruption, security and human rights, right to life and many others we thought can be managed by bringing development with the adoption of globalization are still at stake today even after the adoption of globalization policy for more than two decades now. The fruit of development has not percolated down to the needy and poorest section as was claimed initially but it has increased the problems and made the life of the poor section even worse.

B.G. Rajeswar
President

Buchibabu Tungam
Working President

M. Madhavi
Secretary

Shakuntala Iyer
Convenor

Under this backdrop, Awareness in Action (AiA) is organising this symposium in order to provide a platform to various stakeholders, bring people from different domains of life like political leaders, state representatives, industrialists, NGOs, academicians together to share their experience of their interaction with the state and to ponder over the changing governance experience at large. This symposium will have three sessions with a few broad objectives

- **Governance and Bureaucracy**
 - **Participatory Governance**
 - **Governance and Industry**
- aims to bring the debatable aspects which are ignored so far in the discourse of globalization and issues of governance. The need of the hour is to stop the blame game and find a way out to achieve not just 'growth' but 'development'. The confrontation of representatives of different stakeholders can bring a churn needed for dealing with the counterfeit development gifted to us by globalization and find a path for real development.

Awareness in action (AiA) is a non-profit think tank, which is keen on achieving social transformation by bringing awareness and knowledge about our social world into action. From past 15 years, awareness in action has been actively involved in bringing common people, experts, policymakers together to ensure that brilliant ideas are put to use for the betterment of the world. As a part of our ongoing initiative of bringing various stakeholders in different domains of the society to see tangible outcomes for social change, we are organising this symposia series across India, throughout the year and this symposium is the second one on rethinking globalisation where our focus is on issues of governance.

The **AiA** Symposium is planned on “**Rethinking Globalisation: Issues of Governance**” on **August 11, 2018**, Saturday at Bangalore. The outputs of the AiA symposium would certainly focus on bridging a gap between civil society, state, industry and policy. Our further focus is to support/encourage, research and development along with connecting various stakeholder groups, as we believe that their combination would boost the research sector and in turn would facilitate Nation's Development.

Who Can Participate
Academicians, Scholars,
Professionals and Students,

Fees
Rs.500 (Rs.250 for Students)

Venue
Gandhi Bhavana,
Kumara Park East,
Bengaluru.

For Registrations
www.awarenessinaction.in

For Further Details
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