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Times NIE holds annual Principals' Seminar 2010



The world is at change constantly. Being the most adaptable species, humans have always adapted to every change with time. In today's chaos and pandemonium, the confounded herd of youth needs leaders providing a concrete base to their conjuring thoughts. Times NIE in an endeavour to ponder over the changing trends of leadership in education held its annual Principals' Seminar 2010 at ITC Maurya, Sardar Patel Marg on September 8, 2010. The event perfectly depicted the theme for the day, 'Leadership in Education' as Principals from various prestigious schools from all over Delhi and NCR lent their presence to make the seminar more meaningful. The seminar was sponsored by NIIT, idiscoveri and Heal Foundation.

The lamp of knowledge was lit by chief guest Jitin Prasada (State Minister of Petroleum), Nicholas Brett (Deputy Managing Director BBC), Abraham M Tharakan (Vice President-Design-School Learning Solutions NIIT), Ranjan Roy (Editor, TNN, Times of India) and Sanjeev Vohra (Director-RMD The Times of India), Ronny Gulati (Director idiscoveri) and Mr Oike (Managing Director, Yakult), were the distinguished guests present. Events unfolded as Jitin Prasada spoke about the strong influence that teachers have on students as role models. Mr Prasada appreciated the successful endeavours of Times NIE and the Lead India initiative in being a vital tool in changing educational trends and inculcating reading habits in students. Wishing a promising future for the young leaders, he said, "If right leadership, right education and right content is made available, children will brighten the future of our country."

'BBC Knowledge' magazine launch was announced by Tarun Rai (CEO, World Wide Media) and Nicholas Brett amidst a huge round of applause. It was followed by a panel discussion on the

theme of the day.

Abraham M Tharakan addressed the gathering on changing trends and elucidated, "Earlier space was referred to be the length of fields or building while today there is a virtual space too. Similarly, learning, which earlier was limited to Gurukul has now transformed into a networking zone. Everything is global and we must too wake up to the global era." Talking about the change in the education turf, he explicated, "Role of a teacher is going to change from being a saint on stage to a guide by the side."

Endorsing openness to the change, Chitra Nakra, Principal, Veda Vyasa DAV, Vikaspuri said, "We need to shed off the age old ideology and be adaptable to the changing world."

Seema Sahay, Principal, Ryan International School, Rohini speculated, "We,



as leaders, need to introspect ourselves and see if we are going towards the right direction or not."

While elaborating on the role of a leader, Ronny Gulati insisted, "Unless you change the way you are doing something, you have not learnt." He received a unanimous nod from the preachers when he said, "Relationship between a leader and the led is of emotion."

Agreeing with the thought of having more intriguing teacher-student connect, Harsh Rana from Children's Academy, Ghaziabad said, "To create future leaders, we must show them the realworld by giving positive examples, inspiring them to be honest in a pragmatic way."

A leader needs no mentor, Jyoti Sharma, Principal, Greenwood Public School, Gurgaon observed, "A leader can never be taught, instead he/she



introspects and assesses the situation and applies methods according to the situation."

Munshi Nazmul Hassan (Head Development-School Learning Solutions NIIT) left the preachers introspecting their role as leaders.

Talking about effective leadership, Inderjit Singh Monty, Chairman, GHPS, Tilak Nagar and Executive Member Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee said, "Catering to 500 principals here, NIE actually has reached out to 50,000 students and teachers. Education needs to spread out to everyone and everywhere and promising leaders of today will take the cause ahead."

Anustup Nayak (Co-Founder idiscoveri) involved everyone in an invigorating session.

Insisting on effective leadership in education, SS Chaudhary, Principal, DAV Public School, Sec 14, Faridabad said, "Teachers must appreciate students in order to motivate them in doing commendable work."

Wishing a great future for the country, Neera Singh, Principal, Delhi Area Primary School-I, Delhi Cantt concluded aptly, "An amalgamation of technology and effective leadership will facilitate future leaders in the right direction."

Praising the efforts of NIE, Dr D R Saini, Principal, DPS R K Puram said, "It was an enriching, effective and interactive experience."

Ishi Khosla (Health Counselor and Nutritionist, Yakult) and Shifali Sopra (Senior General Manager, Yakult) were also present.

Gift vouchers for principals were sponsored by Kairali. Refreshing drinks were served by Yakult.