

"Poverty and inequality are enemies of long lasting peace and stability" – Nelson Mandela

A. CONTEXT

The growth story of India since the turn of the millennium has been quite impressive. Being the 6th largest economy in the world it is seen in many ways as an emerging superpower in the world. The youth demography (over 33% of the population between 15-29 years by 2020) only adds greater hope for the dividends we may reap as a nation. Just as there are two sides to every coin, this 'growth' story too has another side. India ranks 130 out of 189 on the Human Development Index. In 2013-16 India's richest held 370 times the wealth held by the poorest. The top 1 % of India's population holds close to half of the country's total wealth. Different communities have taken to the streets demanding job reservations, while long decades of deprivation especially of the marginalized communities fuels the existing social conflicts. Added to this brewing cauldron, issues of identity-based discrimination, creates deep fissures, most importantly among young people. In a diverse country like India, inequality is the one issue that can hollow the country, eating up from within.

To bind us all into one common story, we need a common narrative that connects us, irrespective of our differences.

Luckily for all Indians, there is a common story out there – The Constitution of India. It is the one thread that binds us all with the values of liberty, justice, equality and fraternity. It leads us towards a society of optimum good for all, by awarding all citizens fundamental rights, and expecting them all to do their fundamental duties. However, in today's reality fundamental duties are always left out of national discourses. To bring back the focus equally on rights and duties, we need to pin our aspirations on a missing piece of value - the value of fraternity. Unfortunately, fraternity, or loving each other cannot be legislated. We believe that to tilt the balance back, and give duties their rightful place, every citizen has a key role to play. A citizen who is aware and active through constitutional literacy.

There is yet another common story to look out for – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which we can call it the Constitution of the world. The 2016 Youth Forum of the Economic and Social Council, convened in February that year, to turn the bold dreams and ground-breaking ambition of the 2030 Agenda into tangible results. Achieving the SDGs isn't about meeting targets, it is about the dream we have for our world just like the constitution. A dream that is very much about liberty, justice, equality and a dream that cannot see fruition without fraternity.

Constitutional literacy and acting for our rights and performing our duties, cannot be left to social studies text books. To bridge the inequalities we perpetuate or are victims of, the Indian constitution – our Samvidhan (*hindi*) needs to come alive in the streets. For our youth, to understand the Constitution and the SDGs, it needs to be lived - the world should be their classroom. They need to learn their rights *and* duties from experience.

Call to Action

ComMutiny - The Youth Collective launches the public initiative, 'Be a Jagrik – Samvidhan LIVE!...Live the SDGs'. This initiative brings together two 'constitutions' - The Constitution of India and the Constitution of the World. Through a board game and a refl-active journey the initiative bridges the gap between text books and reality. It aims to enable young aware and active citizens or Jagriks, live and experience the SDGs and the rights and duties enshrined in the Indian Constitution. As the Jagriks undertake exciting self and community action projects on-ground, they also take their powerful voice for change into the world.

Through spinning of a bottle and rolling of a dice, the Jagriks will get experiential tasks to understand the Indian Constitution and SDGs. The initiative through this game will also collect promises of young people and connect to relevant duty bearers to hold them accountable for the roles they have to play towards nation building.

The Change Trajectory (impact)

The public initiative will take adolescents and youth across the country through a leadership journey while evolving their capacities on constitutional literacy, sustainable development, access to services and participation in decision making process. Spread across 14 states and 33 partners, 65000 young people (Jagriks) will directly engage with civic action through a constitutional setup, supported by the Constitution of the world. This cohort of vibrant citizens, one that is engaged, responsible, constitutionally aware will be able to better navigate through real life challenges within the constitutional framework.

It will create an online footprint of 5 million impressions and will enable online learning and sharing space for young people to engage and converge with the four pillars of democracy

Who are we?

ComMutiny – the Youth Collective (CYC) ComMutiny is a collective of like-minded professionals from diverse organizations who have been passionately working with young people. Our mission is to facilitate the engagement of youth in social change action through building understanding, acceptability and demand for empowering spaces across stakeholder groups. These are safe spaces beyond the four legitimate social ‘spaces’ of family, livelihood/education, friends & leisure/entertainment that equip diverse youth to understand themselves, address conflicts, build cross-border relationships, clarify values/stances and develop leadership skills. We call this space as ‘5th Space, making the other four count’.

CYC Forum is the collective of over 35 civil society organizations, most of these organizations are youth-led and youth engaging organisations, who have partnered with CYC on a number of public initiatives on various issues including gender justice, governance and social inclusion.

Campaign ask (What)

- Engage 156000 adolescents and 6000 young people directly through playing the game Be A Jagrik – Samvidhan Live!...live the SDG and by performing tasks, rake up an experiential learning journeys across 5 weeks
- Engage youth facilitators, adolescents and youths through online and on ground activities to highlight the transformational journey
- Engage 70 youth led/youth work organizations across 16 states to create a cohort of 1560 youth worker
- Get 1.5 lac promises from young people which will be handed over to duty bearers as 10+1 tipping point of governance

The campaign design (how)

The campaign is designed to create a vibrant citizenry, one that is engaged, responsible and constitutionally aware. Through the game **Be A Jagrik – Samvidhan LIVE!...live the SDG** the crucial gap in our collective consciousness will be bridged. It aims to help citizens live and experience the SDGs (Constitution of the world) and rights and duties enshrined

in the Indian Constitution thereby enshrining them in their minds forever. It draws from some of the best initiatives we have undertaken together. The campaign through this game will also collect promises of young people and connect to relevant duty bearers keeping in mind the general election 2019.

This campaign and the journey through the game is designed to enhance leadership for youth & adolescents.

Timelines of the campaign

1. Online launch (soft launch) - 2nd Oct

2. Onground launch and mobilisation (regionally) – 8th to 15th Oct

Online highlighting of the same, tweetchat, outreach sessions by partners and reaching out a large audience of young people leading to sign ups

3. Facilitating co-created journeys through the game – 16th Oct – 31st Dec

This will include (a) orientation to 'Constitution of India' and 'SDGs'. There may be discussions around Paradoxes of Sustainability (from unearth) and challenges that a young person faces in coming up with his/her dream; (b) tasks and Jagrik Jamghats, where Jagriks perform the refl-action tasks This will be combined with collection of promises; (c) presentation of promises to duty bearers.. where Jagriks reach out to different duty bearers

4. Regional closure events – 1st Jan to 15th Jan

Presenting the final promises to duty bearers and celebration of the cohort through music. Exploring if the expressions can be in form of music, poetry and other art forms

5. National Culmination Event – 26th January

The entire timeline will be supported by an active media and dissemination strategy, online and onground partnerships and collaborations and a dedicated website and social media channel.

The change trajectory (impact)

The campaign will promote adolescents and youths across the country in a leadership journey while evolving their capacities on constitutional literacy, sustainable development, access to services and participation in decision making process.

It will equip 156000 young people to directly engage with civic action through a constitutional setup, supported by the Constitution of the world. This cohort of vibrant citizens, one that is engaged, responsible, constitutionally aware will be able to better navigate through real life challenges within the constitutional framework.

The campaign will bring the Indian Constitution out of the class room and into the streets and getting young people to make the world their classroom.

It will create an online footprint of 1.5 lac impressions and will enable online learning and sharing space for young people to engage and converge with the four pillars of democracy