

Attain Oneness To Respond – Presidential Address In The Valadictory Session Of The Workshop

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Inaugural session has set up the tone of deliberations with appropriate dimensions to be carried in the business session of the workshop. It has certainly guided the participants to channelise the discussions on the subjects, viz.,

- a. Concept and significance of precursor control in containing illicit drug supply.
- b. An overview of the Indian precursor control laws.
- c. Problem of diversion of precursors and their use in illicit drug production.
- d. Inadequacies and procedural lapses.
- e. Practical difficulties in investigations.

These topics for discussion have virtually covered almost all the aspects of Challenges and Response. The interactions of the participants have meaningful attributes.

Group discussion has always a purpose. Interaction has numerous benefits. Your logical notions are strengthened. And you are also relieved from illogical notions. Group I was comprised of judicial officers and prosecutors whereas Group II has been of law enforcement officers and prosecutors.

What was significant is that the prosecutors were common in both groups. This is not only in groups as arranged but also in day-to-day functioning. The prosecutor has nearness while discharging obligations with the judicial officers as well with the enforcement officer. Whereas there is a wide gap between the enforcement officer and judicial officer, sometime the enforcement officer bears erroneous notions about the judicial discharge.

Presentation of reports of group discussion has furnished a cardiograph to know where is the heart burning.

Open house discussions have actually opened the hearts of the participants and have cured whatever bickering or bubbling was against each other. The organizers took note of discussions, which have been purposeful. Occasionally there could be clash of notions or ideas, but certainty not of personalities. Such a clash is a healthy symptom.

Participants, viz, judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers have different functions. Their functions are not in conflict with one another. Sometimes, however, they may view things differently. This is because of the difference in

perception. Such perception is developed according to personal experiences gathered in day-to-day functioning.

Enforcement officers have to face frequently rough and tough situations and they have to deal with hardened criminals. They are closer with the facts of crime. They bear the grievance that the prosecutor does not appreciate their plight. He does not accept the material on their face value. He applies his own test for selecting the material. Such perception even though natural, does not comprehend that the requirement of the prosecutor is to satisfy the judicial parameters in a trial.

In his turn, the prosecutor feels that the judge becomes excessively meticulous in accepting the material as presented after due scrutiny. The prosecutor though law officer occasionally overlooks that the judge has to satisfy the requirement of law and has to inspire public confidence by his verdict. The entire judicial process has to go through certain hard tests, which may not be conceivable to those who are not similarly placed. Such a test is essence of the process since the judiciary has no modern apparatus like microscope to find out germs of truth or falsehood or thermometers to know the temperament of human beings.

The objectives of the workshop are not merely to sensitise the various functionaries regarding the challenges being faced by humanity but more to unite them for a purpose. Also it is not only to bring nearness between them in approach and concept but to develop oneness to respond to the need of time. Time well spent as you have done is ultimately going to benefit the cause of justice.

I believe the workshop has accomplished the objectives. Even otherwise, a conference, seminar or workshop of this nature, does not necessarily find immediate solutions to the problems. Success also lies if it has been able to illuminate the minds of the participants. Solutions are bound to emerge at the appropriate time. In my estimate, the conference has achieved its goal.