

[October 1-10, Barefoot College Campus, Tiloniya Rajasthan] The SBI Youth for India Fellowship marked its Orientation Program for the upcoming batch 2019-20 for 10 days at Barefoot College Campus of Tiloniya Rajasthan, bringing to an end the eagerly anticipated event. The upcoming batch of fellows are from various parts of India. The orientation program was held at the Barefoot College Campus of Tiloniya, Rajasthan from 1st October to 10th October 2019.

Launched in 2011, SBI Youth for India Fellowship is the flagship initiative of SBI Foundation, the CSR arm of State Bank of India. It's a 13-months rural development program that connects the educated urban youth with a desire and passion to work at the grassroots level with prominent organisations working in the development sector.

The Orientation Ceremony witnessed inauguration by Mr. Nixon Joseph, President & COO of SBI Foundation. He also spoke about the purpose and spirit of SBI YFI Fellowship. Ms. Geeta Varghese discussed about the essence and values of fellowship. The LEAD India Team helped YFI in facilitating the orientation. Mr. Vijay Jawandiyia spoke on "Building perspectives on Agriculture". Mohan Bhai Hira Bhai spoke about "Building perspectives on understanding Rural Development".

Mr. Joe Madiath who is the Founder and Chairman of Gram Vikas shared his development journey. Mr. Shuvajit Payne who is the head of Education Department at Barefoot College facilitated "Naranpur Express" game designed by IRMA. Mr. Maulik Sisodiya who is the Executive Director of Raun Bharat Sangh delivered a lecture on "Integrating Conservation in Rural Development". Mr. Sankar Dutta who has worked in field of development since 1980 delivered a lecture on "Building Perspectives in Rural Development". Mr. Vikas Maniar talked about "Quality Education and building life skills in rural India".

The SBI YFI Team spoke about "Crowdfunding and Partnership" aspect in Rural Development. This 10 day Orientation has been very enlightening for our fellows.

The highlight of the ceremony was the address by Mr. Mahendra Kumar Rekhi, MD & CEO answering fellow's queries about challenges faced in the social sector. Inspiring the changemakers with his experience, he emphasized on the importance on persistent efforts, regardless of the results.

Addressing the new batch of fellows and the esteemed guests, Mr. Nixon Joseph, President & COO, SBI Foundation, said, "We conduct the Orientation to enable these young people to build perspectives, to bring think tanks and to find better ways to engage youth in rural development."

About SBI Youth for India

SBI Youth for India is the flagship program of SBI Foundation and is a 13-month long fellowship that enables urban, educated Indian youth to work on rural development projects across India in partnership with globally recognized experienced NGOs. The projects focus across twelve thematic areas which are in turn key to identifying and solving various needs communities face. So far, the fellowship counts over 304+ fellows who've worked on various projects, while over 50 still continue their work in the field. The fellowship also empowers the individual transformation of the youth into socially aware leaders who can go about making a positive impact on society even after the completion of their fellowship. The SBI Foundation is the CSR initiative of the State Bank of India, the largest state-owned banking and financial services company in India.



*Mr. Maulik Sisodiya
delivering lecture on
“Water Conservation”*



*Mr. Vikas Maniar
delivering lecture on
“Quality Education and
building life skills”*



Fellows on their Field visits in Tiloniya, Rajasthan.