

A Small Step Towards Change -Youth Leader Contest

“The soul has no gender.” That was the quote that motivated two students of class 11, Malavika Kannan and Dharaneeshwar Prakash from P.S.B.B, K.K.Nagar to work towards implanting the idea of ‘Gender Equality in the minds of school students’ as a part of the ‘Youth Leader Initiative’ by ‘the Global Education & Leadership Foundation’ (tGELF). Their initiative was appreciated at the national level and they were adjudged ‘the second runner up’ at the final event which happened on the 28th of November at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.

The students started working on this project in June 2018 when they identified the problem they wished to tackle and substantiated the rationale behind choosing this sustainable development goal. The target group for the project was the students of class 8 as that would mean they were shaping opinions towards a better society at the grass root level. They worked under the mentorship and guidance of Mrs. Malathy Ashokan, Mrs. Anitha Raman and Mrs. Durga.R.

The students then qualified to stage 2 where they had to present a timeline displaying their course of action for the next 6 months. Once this plan of action was approved by the organisers, with the help of the school management and the members of the tGELF Leader’s Club, various activities like classroom discussions, short film screening, street play and awareness campaigns were conducted over the course of few months to help students think about how equality has to be achieved in all aspects of social life. The main focus of these activities was to help students understand that biological differences need not be cause for social difference.

The students submitted the report showing the implementation and the changes they brought about and based on this report 10 out of the 40 participating teams were chosen to present their work at the National Finals. The students were acknowledged for their communication skills and their research at the final event.

This was a great learning experience for both of them. They attended a workshop on ‘Design Thinking’ and also interacted with other young leaders which made them understand that as they have to be harbingers of change and create an impact in the society.



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