



Social Entrepreneurship Research by Siddharth Shrivastav

Description

The Social Entrepreneurship Research project was one of the best POD in this among all the PODS wherein I learn the actual meaning of what are Entrepreneurs. After doing this POD, I realised that there are many points which are lacking in me. This POD was an opportunity given to us by Prof. Gerry Conyngham in the form of research, and initially, he told that the details will be given by Prof. Fredric Kropp. In the introduction session, Prof. Fredric said that we have to research about 40 Social Entrepreneurs and do the analysis of the interview. I took the opportunity of doing this POD because I thought that I will be learning a lot about research & analysis. But there is no doubt I learned a lot more than I expected in this POD. This talk seemed to me more from the perspective of a Business & Society theme rather than the research. Even though we were a lot of research involved in the Social Entrepreneurship Research Project, but I also learned more about Social Entrepreneurs. In this POD, initially, we were told by Prof. Fredric Kropp to first research about the social organisation which are operating in Ireland specifically in Dublin. Also, we were told to find the person who started that social group and contact them in person and approach them for the interview. We contacted the Social Enterprise for the interview and took the interview by ourselves. For the meeting and further things of analysis in the research, we were made a subgroup of two people. My friend John and I took the interview of two Social Entrepreneurs which are running two organisations called Camara and My mind, and I was really fascinated by talking to both the Entrepreneurs. I actually learned a lot about their journey of how they started, and they ran their organisation. It was fascinating to see the love for their team and the society, and most importantly the energy they put to build their organisation. It is interesting to know from them that it's the happy people who are thankful, it's the thankful people who are happy. The learnings which I took by talking to these entrepreneurs will never let me down regarding persistence to do something for the community, I learned that it's not necessary to be rich if you want to do something for the society. If you want to do something for the community you just need the dedication and compassion towards doing something as it all depends on the thinking.

Analysis

Entrepreneurship has always been a subject which is very close to my heart as I have also been an Entrepreneur in India. While working as an Entrepreneur in the educational institute for

nearly 7 years, I always felt that I should do something for the society. I should give something back to the society as I learned many things from them and I used to do some sort social activities thinking that I am giving back to the community but I thought that I am doing some kind of philanthropic activity. But I was totally wrong as giving back to the society was a part of my liability towards the community but I didn't know that I can do much more things for the community. The life was going on as it was but when I moved to Ireland for my studies in DCU, I heard a whole new term which I didn't know earlier i.e. "Social Entrepreneurs." This term was presented to me by my Business & Society Theme lecturer Prof. Maura McAdam, and I will always be grateful to her as now I am clear about what I want to give back to the society. According to my understanding, Social Entrepreneurs are the person who is the blend of businessmen who want to work for the wellbeing of the community. Social Entrepreneurs are the visionaries for the society or are people with imaginative answers for most of the nation's social issues (Asoka Ireland, 2017). Social Entrepreneurs are much goal-oriented, persistent and ambitious, handling significant social problems and offering really new thoughts, ideas and strategies for wide-scale change. They work for the well-being of the community rather than ignoring the problems and leaving societal issues to the legislature or business divisions. Social Entrepreneurs just understand the needs and requirements of the societal issues find out the things what are the things which are not taken care by governmental bodies by influencing whole social orders to take new leaps (Social Entrepreneurs Ireland, 2016). Social visionaries regularly appear to be controlled by their ideas, submitting their lives to altering the problems of the society. These were the learnings which I took from the POD where each and every aspect of Social Entrepreneurs are important to me because even if now currently I think that I will work for some organisation, but I will continue trying to look out for opportunities to work as an entrepreneur. It is not just the way to earn money for me, but it is the passion which has brought me till here. Earlier before doing this POD, I thought that if I have to do something for the society, I should have a lot of money but talking to the entrepreneurs I learned that it's not the money which makes you responsible towards the society, it's the thinking of benevolence to work towards the wellbeing of the community.

Evaluation

If I talk from the perspective of the community, then I should know that why there is a need for the social entrepreneurs in the current scenario of the social problems, as the world battles with the issues like poverty, environmental change, violence, educational differences, AIDS, and much more, social organisations is working to eradicate all these evils in the society, and hence social entrepreneurs are growing to fame. A couple of social organisation's endeavours which are worth talking about like paying African ladies to go to free HIV centres, conveying electricity, giving foods through trucks in Africa, Teaching poor girls in Africa, assisting Central American coffee agriculturists with getting reasonable rates in market, providing clean drinking water to one million individuals in 17 nations and many more. Social Enterprise is imperative in the society since it offers a framework to organisations to locate their own achievement in the quest for helping other people. It's a source of inspiration for

representatives of Generation Y, which is progressively doubtful about the typical corporate environment (Cline, 2014). Social Entrepreneurs are changing the face of the society by acting as the change agents for the society, similarly, as businessmen modify the substance of business by seizing the opportunities which others have missed in enhancing the systems, imagining new methodologies, and making solutions for improving society (Baber, et al., 2012). While an entrepreneur may make entirely new ventures, a social entrepreneur comes with new answers for social issues and afterwards implements them on a vast scale. But the point of discussion arises that are the entrepreneur's imperative to the country, and the answer to this is my point is yes they are vital to the nation's growth as well. The first is they are progressively being utilised as an optional method for providing open administrations to the society. Research recommends that social organisations in 2013, were three times more probable than more established social undertakings to work in healthcare services, twice as prone to work in social care and fundamentally more inclined to work in the field of educational services (Seager, 2014). Social businesses provide a lot of employment opportunities which is of major economic value to the person in need, and also they provide training and development preparing the portions of society for taking the work burden. Social businesses promote and encourage a fair and equal societal norm by addressing to social issues and attempting to accomplish continuously sustainable impact through their social mission as opposed to directly benefit maximising the profits and revenue (Nagler, 2007). Social Entrepreneurial ventures are producing new wealth by increasing the extent of the existing markets that may hit the unreasonable glass ceiling as far as the business income is concerned (Seth, 2015). Better offerings, products, services and technologies from business people empower new markets to be produced as the impact of expanded business, and higher profit adds to national income in the form of higher tax revenues and higher administrative spending which can be utilised by the legislature to put resources in struggling segments and human capital. All these aspects add to the understanding of mine that supporting the growth of the social entrepreneurs are of national interest and many countries are now understanding the importance of social entrepreneurship and providing them funding support (Pathak, 2013). I think if a country wants to develop as a powerful nation eradicating all the social evils then they should support social entrepreneurship.

Action

As per my experience, I can rightly say that setting up is not an easy job where you have to dedicate your entire time thinking for the benefit of the people and also make so many earnings that the organisation runs well. Social Entrepreneurship is a feeling from inside the heart that you have to do something for the community and bring social change. Being a social entrepreneur, you have to take in a lot of efforts to get the things done in an organised way as a little mistake can cost a lot of money which is not affordable for the organisation as profit making is not the only motive but serving the community is important. But when you are done you are inclined towards helping the society it becomes crucial for you to be sustainable in the market. There are many situations where the social entrepreneurs have to see the setbacks, but

it is the time where the entrepreneur have to be self-motivated to get out of the situation and move ahead. It is essential for the social entrepreneurs to have trust and faith in themselves. In the future, if I get an opportunity to work as an Entrepreneur, I will try converting that opportunity into becoming a Social Entrepreneur where I can serve the community and also take part in the nation's growth.

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