



ACHARYA INSTITUTE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

(NAAC Re-accredited 'A+' and Affiliated to Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University)

Soladevanahalli, Bengaluru-560107

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK

Report Submission: 27/02/2026

Semester: EVEN	Academic Year: 2025-26	Venue: AIGS Seminar Hall
Event Date: 20/02/2026	Time: 10:30AM TO 01:30 PM	Duration: 3 Hours

TYPE OF EVENT: Celebration

EVENT NAME: "Observation of World Social Justice Day 2026"

Target Audience: All the BSW students

Number of Participants: 28

Objectives:

1. To create awareness among students about the importance of social justice and equality in society as promoted by the United Nations.
2. To encourage critical thinking and constructive dialogue on contemporary social justice issues through debate.
3. To promote creativity and expression of social concerns and solutions through poster presentation.
4. To sensitize students towards issues such as inequality, human rights, inclusion, and social responsibility.
5. To motivate students to actively participate in building a fair, inclusive, and equitable society.

Program Introduction:

The Department of Social Work, Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies (AIGS) observed the World Day of Social Justice on 20/02/2026 through a Debate Competition and Poster Exhibition in AIGS Seminar Hall from 10.30 am to 01.30 pm. World Day of Social Justice is observed annually on February 20 to promote global efforts aimed at addressing poverty, social exclusion, gender inequality, unemployment, and human rights violations. Declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007, the day emphasizes that social justice is fundamental to achieving peace, security, and sustainable development, with a strong focus on decent work and fair globalization.



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The event was designed to provide students with a platform to critically engage with contemporary social justice issues while encouraging dialogue, creativity, and social responsibility among future social work professionals.

Theme of the Event: “Renewed Commitment to Social Development and Social Justice”

The theme highlights the urgent need to reaffirm collective responsibility toward social development and justice in a rapidly changing global and national context. It emphasizes inclusive growth, human dignity, equality, and the protection of marginalized and vulnerable populations, aligning closely with the core values of the social work profession.

Resource Person/Judges:

1. **Dr. Sai Usha Kiran**, Assistant Professor, PG Department of English, AIGS
2. **Mr. Aditya U Diwan**, Assistant Professor, Department of BCA, AIGS

Detailed Report:

The Department of Social Work observed the World Day of Social Justice on 20 February 2026 through a well-structured Debate Competition and Poster Exhibition, aimed at creating awareness and encouraging critical engagement among students on contemporary social justice issues. The programme was organized in alignment with the vision of the United Nations, which recognizes social justice as a cornerstone for peace, equality, and sustainable development.

The programme formally commenced with the Master of Ceremony conducted by Ms. Oliviya, II Semester BSW student, who efficiently coordinated the proceedings and maintained the continuity of the event. This was followed by a warm and purposeful welcome address delivered by Ms. Aathira, VI Semester BSW student, who highlighted the significance of World Day of Social Justice and emphasized the responsibility of social work students in promoting equality, inclusion, and human dignity. Subsequently Ms. Jashica, VI Semester BSW student, clearly explained the guidelines and structure of the debate, ensuring that participants and audience members understood the format, evaluation criteria, and expectations. The formal inauguration of the event was further strengthened by an additional welcome address by Mr. Alan Saji, IV Semester BSW student, who contextualized the programme within the core values and ethics of the social work profession.

The central activity of the programme was the debate competition held at the AIGS Seminar Hall on the topic “Has Social Media Made Youth More Responsible Towards Social Justice Issues?” The topic generated significant interest and critical engagement, as it addressed the growing influence of digital platforms in shaping public opinion and social movements. Two teams actively participated in the debate. Team Varna, consisting of Denin, Alan, Akshwetha, Jenis, Thomas, and Albin, presented arguments highlighting the positive role of social media in awareness-building,



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mobilization, and advocacy for marginalized communities. In contrast, Team Rio Justice, comprising Derin, Devika, Jousha, Uthara, and Jude, critically examined the limitations of social media, including misinformation, performative activism, and ethical concerns.

Both teams demonstrated strong analytical skills, clarity of thought, and effective communication while presenting their arguments and rebuttals. The debate fostered an atmosphere of healthy intellectual exchange, encouraging students to think beyond surface-level narratives and examine the real impact of digital media on social justice engagement. After a comprehensive evaluation, Team Varna was awarded higher points and declared the winner of the debate.

The results of the debate were announced by the judges, Dr. Sai Usha Kiran, Assistant Professor, PG Department of English, and Mr. Aditya U Diwan, Assistant Professor, Department of BCA. Following the announcement, Dr. Mirshad Rahman T M, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Social Work, delivered the concluding remarks for the debate session. He emphasized the ethical responsibility of social work students in the conscious and responsible use of social media as a tool for advocacy. He highlighted that while social media has immense potential to amplify social justice issues, it must be used with sensitivity, accountability, and a strong value base to effectively represent marginalized and vulnerable populations.

Subsequently, a Poster Exhibition was organized at the AIGS First Floor Lobby, offering students a vibrant and engaging platform to creatively articulate their perspectives on social justice issues. The exhibition showcased a wide range of themes, including social inequality, human rights, inclusion, gender justice, and social responsibility, reflecting the students' awareness of contemporary societal challenges. Through visual representation, slogans, and conceptual illustrations, participants effectively communicated social concerns and proposed solutions, thereby reinforcing the role of creativity as a powerful medium for social change and advocacy.

The posters were evaluated by the same panel of judges, who assessed each entry based on clearly defined criteria such as relevance to the theme, originality, creativity, clarity of message, and conceptual strength. The evaluation process was transparent and encouraging, motivating students to critically engage with social justice concepts while presenting them in an impactful manner. At the conclusion of the exhibition, awards were presented to recognize outstanding contributions. Ms. Prarthana, IV Semester BSW, was awarded the Overall Best Poster for her comprehensive and compelling representation of social justice. Ms. Uthra, II Semester BSW, received the Best Design Poster award for her visually appealing and well-structured presentation, while Mr. Alan Saji, IV Semester BSW, was honored with the Best Concept Poster award for his strong thematic clarity and



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innovative approach. The poster exhibition successfully complemented the debate competition by fostering creativity, critical thinking, and social awareness among the students.

Overall, the observation of World Day of Social Justice was both intellectually stimulating and socially relevant, successfully integrating academic learning with experiential and participatory activities. The programme reinforced the role of social work education in nurturing socially conscious, critically aware, and ethically responsible professionals.

PHOTOS



Opening Remarks by Oliviya, 2nd BSW Student



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Participants at the Debate Competition



Team Varna in Action at the Debate Competition



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Thomas from Team Varna in Action at the Debate Competition



Devika from Team Rio Justice in Action at the Debate Competition



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Akshwetha from Team Varna in Action at the Debate Competition



Judges Evaluating the Debate



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Feedback and Evaluation by Judges



Announcing the winners of the Debate Competition



Evaluation of Posters by the Judge, Mr. Aditya U Diwan



Judges evaluating the Poster Exhibition, Mr. Aditya U Diwan



Evaluation of Posters Exhibition by Dr. Usha Sai Kiran



Evaluation of Posters Exhibition by Dr. Usha Sai Kiran

Outcome:

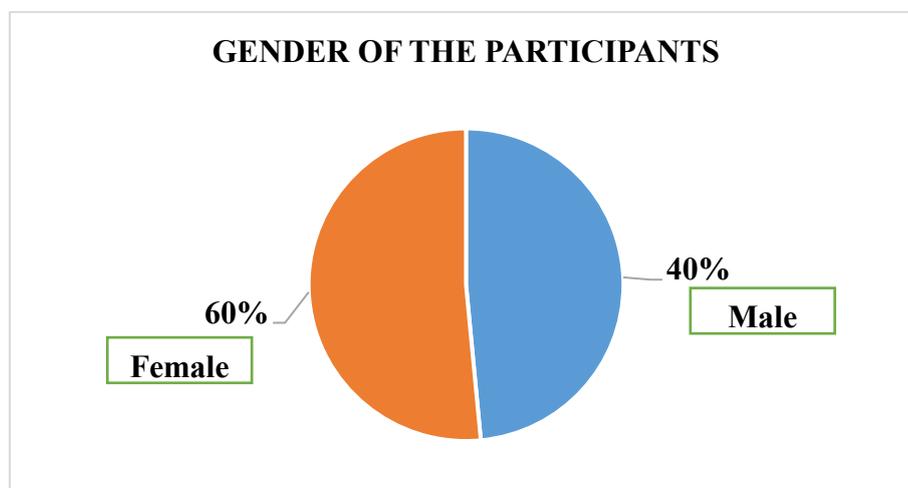
- Students developed a deeper understanding of social justice principles and their relevance in contemporary society.
- The debate enhanced students' critical thinking, articulation skills, and ability to engage in constructive dialogue on social issues.
- The poster exhibition encouraged creative expression and innovative thinking around social justice concerns and solutions.
- Students were motivated to use platforms such as social media responsibly for advocacy, awareness, and social change.

Conclusion:

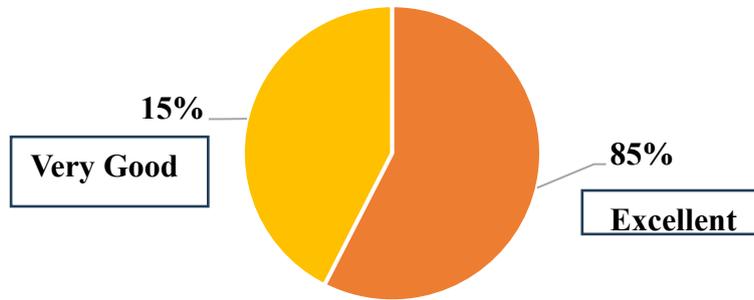
The observation of World Day of Social Justice through debate and poster exhibition provided a meaningful and engaging learning experience for social work students. The programme successfully created awareness about global and national social justice concerns while fostering critical reflection, creativity, and civic responsibility among participants.

Through thoughtful discussions and artistic expression, students gained valuable insights into the role of youth and social workers in advocating for equality, inclusion, and human rights. The event reinforced the importance of ethical engagement, informed dialogue, and collective action in building a just and equitable society. The Department of Social Work remains committed to organizing such platforms that nurture socially conscious, responsible, and empowered future professionals.

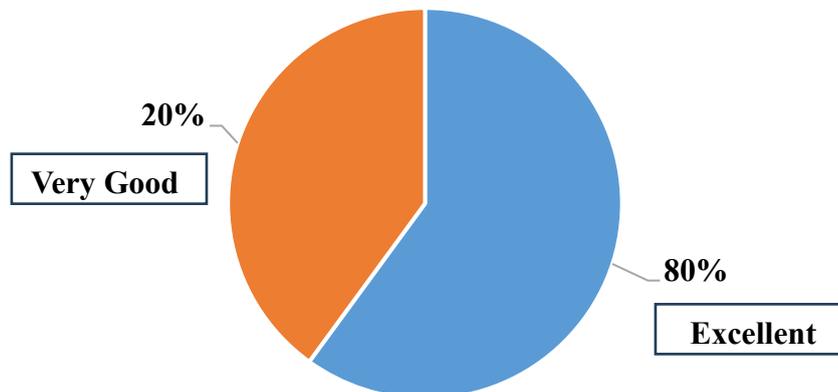
Student feedback summary



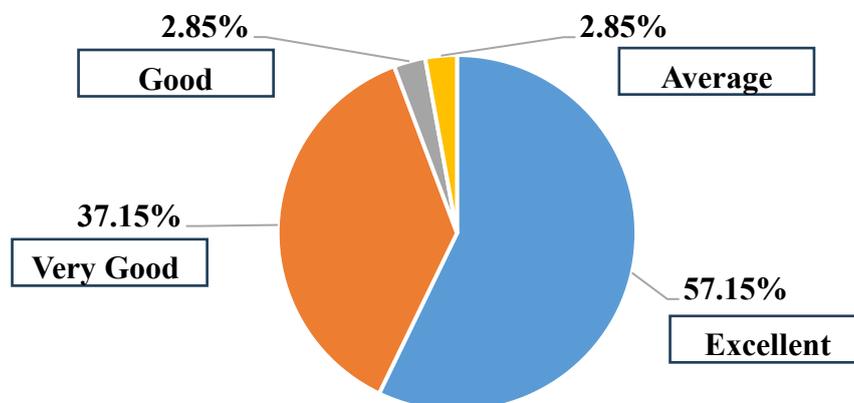
CONTENT AND RELEVANCE OF THE PROGRAMME

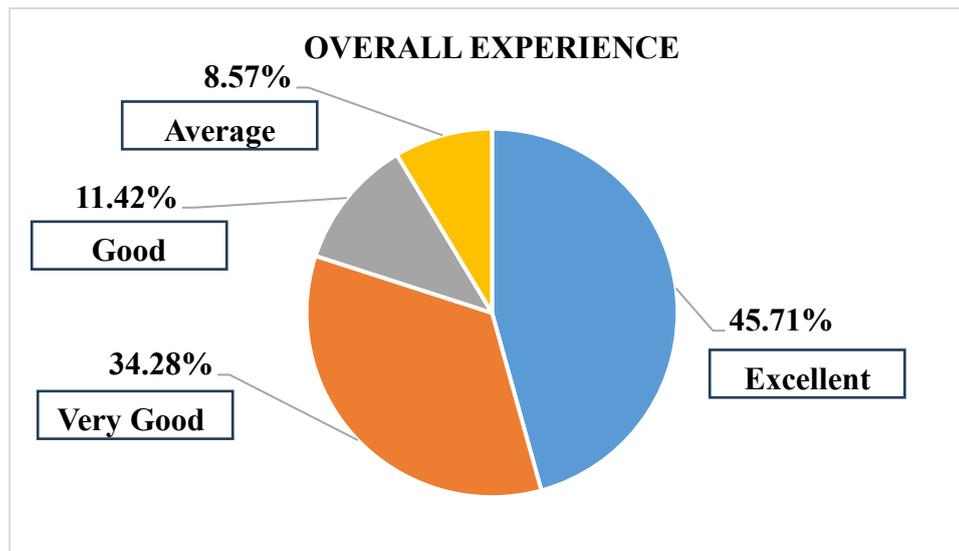


ENGAGEMENT AND INTERACTION



PRACTICAL INSIGHTS AND APPLICATIONS





Feedback Analysis and Interpretation

The feedback analysis indicates a higher participation of female participants (60%) compared to male participants (40%), reflecting balanced yet female-dominated engagement in the programme. The content and relevance of the programme received highly positive responses, with 85% rating it as Excellent and 15% as Very Good, highlighting the strong alignment of the programme with participants' academic and professional needs.

In terms of engagement and interaction, the programme was well received, with 80% of participants rating it as Excellent and the remaining 20% as Very Good, suggesting effective delivery methods and active participant involvement. Regarding practical insights and applications, the majority expressed high satisfaction, with 57.15% rating it as Excellent and 37.15% as Very Good, while a very small proportion rated it as Good or Average, indicating scope for minor enhancement in hands-on or applied components.

The overall experience reflects a generally positive perception of the programme, with 45.71% rating it as Excellent and 34.28% as Very Good. However, the presence of Good (11.42%) and Average (8.57%) ratings suggests opportunities to further strengthen programme delivery, pacing, or inclusivity. Overall, the feedback demonstrates that the programme was effective, engaging, and relevant, with limited areas identified for further improvement.