

News and Views -19
from a g rao

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A good idea is futile without 'Action' on it.

My thoughts

Dear friend,

Diwali Greetings!



Children with bamboo lamps made in Doors of Learning project.

In this Newsletter I continue with the theme of Innovation with a focus on tapping the virtues of Jugaad Innovation at school level.

Two questions come to our mind.

1.0 What is the nature of JI?

- *Ji seems to happen when practical problems are faced by an individual or group*
- *We tend to see problems in terms of possible solutions (see my article: <http://www.agrao.in/articles-papers-and-talks/8-aesthetics-of-problem-perception-pedagogy-of-a-creative-act>)*

Only some people (whom we may call creative) respond to problems in a new feasible way of solving it and come up with an actual solution as JI.

- *There is not much of a visible process like representing ideas in a sketch, dummy/mockup model or discussing with others (seniors/persons with experience) for its feasibility, often due to fear of rejection.*
- *Jl's core is its execution. Whenever it fails, it may not be shown to others or reported. This has resulted in lack of documentation of pre-jugaad and failed jugaad solutions.
A knowledge base of Jl is thus missing. Design research is required. Interviews of Jugaad innovators can be easily done, if not photo documentation.*
- *It is a trial and error process. Absence of its 'Ontological classification' is another reason for missing knowledge base.*
- *Reflections on Jl by the Innovators gets missed out. Admiration of Jl becomes the focus most of the time (as we can see them frequently in WhatsApp circulations).*
- *Jl survives on its workability and acceptance by the 'social group around'. It is also part of cultural acceptance. It may not withstand the rigor of established standards in every Culture. For example, 'Dosa supply on Bicycle' mentioned in my earlier Newsletter, may not get an approval in Western Society due to its hygiene concerns!*

2.0 *If Jl is a natural trait in a given Culture, why is it not seen in all unschooled people?*

Some traits like Imagination, Leadership or Courage to act without fear, Perseverance and Tinker toil ability, seem necessary for a Jugaad Innovator. Further elaborations and reflections led to articulating the concept of JIST (Jugaad Innovation Studio).

For Innovation to flower to its excellence developing expertise and ability to use knowledge at various levels will be necessary. JIST experience can become a stepping stone for significant 'Innovations' later. If progressive schools offer as an additional weekend option, it could benefit those who opt for it.

But JIST, outside school system can play a revolutionary role. It could create new breed of micro entrepreneurs with the strength of self-employability. This becomes an equalizer in offering opportunity to socially and economically weaker sections in the Society.

Realizing the need for a scaffolding for 'JISTs to sprout', I have articulated the concept of JISS: Jugaad Innovation Support System.

Do look at

<http://www.agrao.in/articles-papers-and-talks/139-jist-jugaad-innovation-studio>

and

<http://www.agrao.in/articles-papers-and-talks/141-jiss-jugaad-innovation-support-system>
