

We still need to learn a lot, says twitter Tharoor



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THE habitually 'twittering' Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor has a different take when it comes to the recent educational reforms even, as he says that we still need to learn a lot when it comes to comprehending International relations.

Though a string of educational restructuring is being done from this academic year in the country but Tharoor said, "A handful of institutions including Jawaharlal Nehru University that provides specialized courses in the subject of International Relations are not sufficient. We still need to learn a lot in order to have a better understanding of the international scenario as it still is very nominal in the country at present."

While delivering a special lecture recently on 'Challenges of global governance: An Indian perspective' after being bestowed with the distinguished global thinker's award 2010 by the IILM Institute of Higher Education, he said, "Though India is ready to contribute and play a responsible role when it comes to the international organization like United Nations but an improved approach is a necessity as India has a growing stake in global development."

Furthermore, Tharoor said that we cannot afford to be indifferent or unconscious of the international scenario, "These days the problems are without passports which means that the tribulations be it climate change, terrorism or trade protectionism know no boundaries and all nations are effected by these setbacks irrespective of the part of the world."

Welcoming his views on the topic of need for global governance, KV Rajan Convenor IILM India Forum remarked, "This is the fifth in the series of distinguished global thinker's awards instituted by IILM. We attach great importance to his acceptance of the award."

Since 2006, IILM has honoured eminent leaders such as MS Swaminathan, CK Prahalad, Bhiku Parekh and Meghnad Desai among others who addressed the gathering on issues of international concern previously as well.

Interestingly enough, the Minister appeared unfazed by the 'twitter' controversies that have been following him for quite sometime now as he said in a lighter vein that, "I needed this shawl (presented with the award) as I am rather used to of a chilling reception from people these days."