

ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL BATHINDA

SOLARIS'22

ADDRESS | ARISE | ARISE

28th and 29th October 2022



"God Is Our Fortress". The motto of St Joseph's Covent School, Bathinda speaks volumes about the magnitude of faith the Josephite fraternity places in Him. With God's grace walking as a shadow, the school had the prerogative to organise a mega event, 'Solaris', Youth Parliament for the age group 13-17 years. The school accomplished a milestone by being one of the first institutions in the Malwa region to conduct inter-school Youth Parliament Festival. The two day event witnessed participation of 226 minds coming from nine schools.

The delegates masqueraded as politicians of the country. They proved themselves of being a catalyst in ushering a brighter and healthier future. The event helped to strengthen roots of democracy, inculcate healthy habits of discipline, be tolerant of others' views, and to enable the student community to know about the practices and procedures of the Parliament. Solaris concurrently unwrapped the buoyant side of politics through youth of its country.

After a traditional welcome with *tilak* and flowers, the guests and YP Delegates were ushered to the Raymond's Hall for the Opening Ceremony. The traditional Lamp Lighting by the Chief Guest Mrs Avneet Kaur Sidhu, IPS, SSP Malerkotla and an array of cultural programmes marked the beginning of SOLARIS'22. The ceremony was duly graced by the Principal Sr Ophilia Lobo and other Sisters of the Convent.

Mrs Avneet, an Ex-Josphite, delivered a heartwarming address reminiscing her school days and inspired the YP Delegates to understand the working of the Parliament system in India.





LOK SABHA

द्वन्द से विकास तक!

Young delegates from different walks of life gathered under a single roof to deliberate and discuss one of the most sensational topic - Uniform Civil Code. The Indian Constitution under Article 44 of Directive Principle proposes to implement personal laws of citizens which apply to all citizens equally regardless of their religion.

The Lok Sabha committee was embraced by Mr Kumar Gautam and Mr Ishpreet Singh as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson respectively.

The Executive Board members briefed the procedure of discussion to the delegates. The session commenced with full throttle. The opening statement was given by Mr Amit Shah(alloted portfolio) who stated that India is a land of diverse cultures. He favoured implementation of 'one law for one nation'. The adoption of UCC would replace personal laws based on scriptures and customs of various religious communities with a set of rules governing every citizen.



Mr Rahul Gandhi(alloted portfolio), from the opposition party emphasised enforcement of UCC to be impossible. He predicted communal disharmony and riots on implementation of this anti- minority Act.

The 'Zero Hour' session comprised myriads of views and counter questioning. *Hijab* Ban and Need of Reformation in Personal Law were discussed at length.

The delegates are undoubtedly the trend setters of tomorrow and are prepared to welcome a congenial future. A *haiku*, Japanese form of poetry elucidates their spirit.

**"Vanguards voice echoes
open fire views artfully
flag finer future. "**





PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA

ਸੁਚੇਤ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ



Agriculture is our wisest pursuit because it will in the end contribute to real wealth, good morals and happiness' For Punjabis, Agriculture is not only their job but a way of their life

The agenda of Punjab Vidhan Sabha was innovating and reforming Punjab's Agriculture Sector, formulating policies towards diversification of crops, agrarian crisis and enhancing Punjab's agriculture growth rate.

After introducing the format of the event the Executive board members Mr Ayush Arora and Abhayankar Shukla apprised the participants of the rules of conduction of the house. The strength of the house being 66, the brainstorming session broached almost all the issues related to Punjab agriculture system and the policies. Amandeep Arora spoke about the suicide of farmers in Punjab.

Raja Warring (allotted portfolio) raised the issue of problems to be faced by the farmers in the upcoming kharif season.

Monopolizing the farm lands and Bathinda being called the Punjab's capital of cancer, sensitised the speakers of the opposition even.

To mention a few more issues- rainwater harvesting, compensation and incentives to be given to the farmers, DSR technique of plantation, brain drain in Punjab, stubble burning problems faced by the citizens of India, water crisis, sharing of Satluj Yamuna Link canal (SYL)- made the session very stimulating and even fiery at times.

The major argument among the speakers was to bring back Punjab to its pristine form, by conserving water, by diversifying crop patterns, by spreading the awareness of sustainable agricultural systems and by practicing organic farming. Bhagwat Mann (allotted portfolio) promised to bring back the glory of the state by making reforms in productivity and yield of crops.

How far it is right to invite the foreign investors to agriculture sector, was another blazing question which was put forward to the ruling party.

This mini parliament Vidhan Sabha session undeniably left the participants and the conveners awestruck.





CITIZENS' DIALOGUE FORUM

FROM DEBATE TO DEVELOPMENT



It is a forum where various stakeholders of the society can interact and debate upon political and social issues, and strive to find solution for the same.

The Executive Board of Citizens' Dialogue Forum of SOLARIS'22 consisted of Mr Rahul Menon, the Chairperson and Ms Lovisha Jindal, the Vice Chairperson. There was a variety of portfolios representing citizens from different professional fields- like lawyers, doctors, educationists and common citizens. The agenda for the Committee was "Assessing Communal and Political Violence with Respect to Women".

The Session started with some ice-breaking exercises by Mr Rahul and Ms Lovisha. It then proceeded to discussion of the core topic- ie, Agenda of the Forum.

The highlights of the discussion are:

- The root cause of communal violence dates to the British Rule, which has taken much deeper existence in our present society.
- The worse affected victims of communal violence are the economically backward classes of society. They also fall in the category of people who can be easily mobilized towards violence.
- Role of Media – Media plays a critical role in circulating and checking fake news, it can exercise stern check on the circulation of the inciting news, can help in propagating Memes, blogs, articles emphasizing ideas like plurality, unity which will help in building a stronger nation.
- The sub agenda of the discussion was mainly focused on women. Women also become a vulnerable target of communal and political violence. A simpler evidence of this could be seen in the everyday life, where a better decorated police or army female officer is given simpler duties as compared to her male counter parts.



SOLARIS'22 came to a grand close on 29th October and we wait with baited breath for the next session of Youth Parliament in 2023.