



THE SENTINEL

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STARTING ON THE RIGHT NOTE



- Abhiraj Singh Doad

The eagerly awaited four-day debating combat — the Strawberry Fields High School Model United Nations Conference 2019, where around 400 students from all over the country are poised to discuss and deliberate on world issues, was set in motion last evening.

The sixth edition of the SFHS MUN saw many eminent personalities further adding to the prestige and significance of the forum. The introduction of the event was through the medium of an opening video, driving in the insurmountable chaos the world continues to face, using actual news clips to further

elaborate on the agendas of the various committees.

The chief guest Hon'ble Justice Krishna Murari, the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, addressed the young audience saying that he was delighted to be among bright minds who carry the burden of healing the world and face real time issues. He opined that Model United Nations Conferences were a perfect platform for students to polish their skills regarding leadership and diplomacy.

He expressed that the, 'raw and unadulterated debating focusing on issues that are challenging and enlightening' will help them (students) to capture the art of argumentation and practical reasoning. Justice Murari was optimistic that the Conference would help in creating young citizens of the world, those who would be sensitive and compassionate.

The evening also bore witness to the noted Indian classical sitar player, Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan Sahib, from the Imdadkhani Gharana and a recipient of the Padma Shri and the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, introducing his music and the Indian ragas to the waiting audience. The magic of his sitar strings met with a resounding applause from the student body and the guests in attendance.

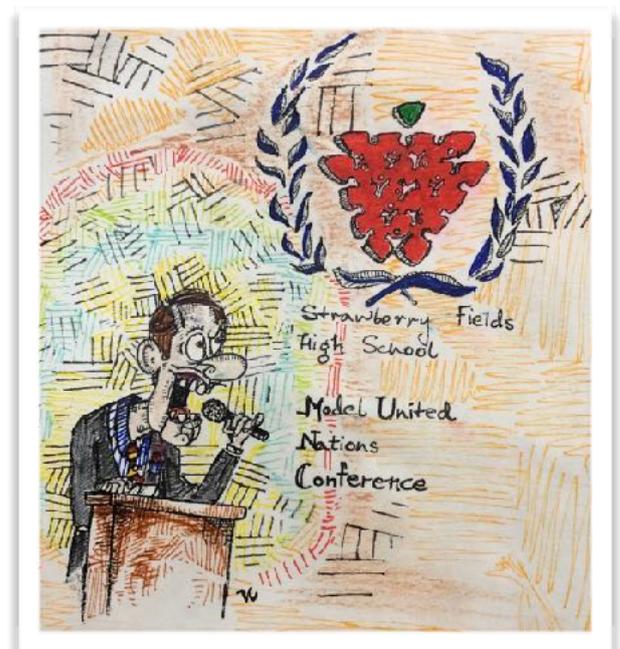
Despite remaining a simulation of the real world, Model UN Conferences expand perspectives on issues beyond our borders and push us to be active citizens of the world.

The opening ceremony proved to be the perfect precursor to three days of what promises to be ardent and passionate debate.

- Beeya Jagat & Siya Ahuja



- Ryaan Mittal



- Vijayant Chaudhary

DREAMS AND DUST



- Joy Singh Gill

The first session of the UNGA-DISEC started off on a productive note with the delegates engaging in active planning. The delegate of Canada firmly established herself as the forerunner of the debate, leading the attack on countries such as India and Israel, minutes into the session.

“With increase in the production of nuclear weaponry and regular testing of arms, mankind on Earth is likely to be wiped out” - Delegate of Canada

The delegate of Canada was prompt in upholding the nuclear policy of her country and suggested a step-wise approach towards banning nuclear weapon tests and attaining complete disarmament. The Delegate of USA stated that his country has always used nuclear weaponry for peaceful purposes; a hypocritical statement given the attacks in 1945. Given the lack of concord in the committee, it may be long before the dream of Total Disarmament is realised, in light of the vicious attacks and counter allegations, the stage looks set for a more heated debate. - Jaskirat Kaur

CHINA’S SANCTIMONY

The Security Council, abundant with eager minds creating an electric atmosphere, began by establishing the agenda of ‘Militarisation of the Arctic’.

The delegates of China, USA and Russia dominated the arguments on the issue under discussion.

The Delegate of China contradicted his own stance by saying that he wishes to ally with other Arctic nations in the hope of sharing

resources; forgetting his nation’s policy regarding the ‘South China Sea’ dispute, where they themselves are unwilling to share resources. The representatives of Russia and USA in a shocking move put forward a directive as one, which was approved by the Arctic Council. - Jannat Guron



- Shrey Wadhawan

IRON CURTAIN GETS RUSTY



- Saanvi Verma

Beyond the iron curtain, the USSR has come to a standstill. The Chernobyl disaster has raised eyebrows of the international community and the Soviet cabinet is under tremendous pressure to solve the issue. After intense negotiations, the committee decided to cause a media blackout and limit communication through censorship.

People inside the hundred kilometre radius were evacuated and boron and sand were dropped to hamper radiation spread. However, recent update suggested that the US, through espionage, exaggerated the reports of the incident through its media. So, the delegates decided on a press release of the incident, conveying that a minor gas leak occurred and the government are conducting operations to resolve the issue. Even the General Assembly saw a clash between the western and eastern blocs, with the US calling for the USSR to disarm. The committee discussed and came up with garnering support from the Warsaw Pact and the NAM. The committee is now one step closer to resolving the Chernobyl issue in Ukraine. - Damanpreet Lobana

GOLDEN DEBATE

The committee had a sense of intrigue and suspense, which was satisfied as soon as the Executive Board arrived.

The committee spoke on the cultivation of opium in the Golden Triangle, during which every delegate rephrased the fact that opium is the greatest source of income and livelihood for many people despite the harm caused to people around the world. During the unmoderated caucus there were heated arguments, which showcased fervour and deep set opinions among the delegates. The

Executive Board also kept the representatives of the nations on their toes by triggering questions throughout the session.

- Ibaadat Bains



- Ryaan Grewal

THE BR-ENTER INTO BREXIT



- Joy Singh Gill

The aura of confidence clashed with the trepidation that filled the room. In the Citizen's Dialogue of United Kingdom, the debate started off slow. Silence was the only competition every delegate was facing, and friendly smiles assessed each other's capabilities. Donald Tusk immediately took charge of the Brexit crisis, but the session did not disperse into any heated debates. Theresa May acted as a nominal head while Niger Farage took the stage.

Confusion broke out in no time, as a no-deal was discussed in detail. The shock value increased when many favoured the no deal Brexit. The debates remained steady, with lots of alliances being formed. The nervousness in the room did not subside as much as was expected, however, the anticipation for the 'debate of fire' still remains. - Nandini Bhan

AWARE IN THE AIR

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) commenced with the Executive Board giving a general briefing on the proceedings of the committee. The Representative of Lufthansa established the General Speaker's list and was followed by the delegates discussing the issue at hand, that is safety of the civil aviation. The committee passed onto a moderated caucus on the 'root causes of the Boeing air crashes'. Some delegates deliberated on the negligence and the lack of training of the flight crew, while others simply blamed the Manoeuvring Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The next moderated caucus was on the topic, 'importance and issues of the pilot' as well as 'loop holes in airport security'. A debate on facial recognition of passengers at IGI Delhi airport and failed security due to black and white scanners ensued. - Saanya Singal



- Shrey Wadhawan

CHELSEA'S CONUNDRUM



- Siddhant Vasudeva

“Transfers are the roots of football, and the youth is the base of these transfers.” - Executive Board

In the very first moderated caucus of the English Premier League regarding the increase in the practice of loaning players out to other clubs, the delegates of Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal didn't even hesitate before bombarding Chelsea with a spree of allegations regarding their recent loans along with their illegal youth purchases. They voraciously advocated their points by stating the difficulties faced by youth players, who are shipped to other clubs like common commodities and hardly get the opportunity to actually learn football and simply end up playing for another club “every time the moon changes its shape”. To this the delegate of Chelsea had no clear reply and thus decided to move on and change the motion to a less controversial topic, before matters could get any worse.

The second session of the day mainly focused on the same points brought up by the top six and yielded little fruit regarding the agenda at hand and turned into a tedious and monotonous contest.

- Uday Singh Jagat

TRADE DEFICIT: AN EFFERVESCE RESPONSE

The committee commenced on an ebullient note. Friendly banter was followed by a cordial bond established between the Executive Board and the delegates present. The day's agenda focused on the issue of trade deficit; and debt sustainability was wildly pondered upon. Russia gyrated the entire committee with its points of support towards the former regressive policies. The delegate supported his stand by

saying that the consumers will prefer domestic goods over imported goods because of the cost difference, thereby limiting imports and reducing trade deficits. Russia countered China on its question of ‘how protectionism creates fair competition’ by saying that the local businessmen and the informal sector do not get a fair chance at accessing the market which results them running into poverty. Thus,

protectionism safeguards the domestic industries from the international pariahs. The US-CHINA trade war was slightly glanced upon, the rifts in opinions surfaced to be delved into in the coming sessions. The committee is effervescently inclined towards putting their point of views forward.

- *Caiityya Pillai*



- *Djahan Pratap Singh Nagrath*

WILL INDIA'S ANSWER TO TERRORISM ONLY BE A "MIRAGE" ?

The Prime Minister's Cabinet kicked off its session with the IAF Chief, Birender Singh Dhanoa pitching a plan of action to avenge the forty CRPF personnel who were martyred in the Pulwama attack on 14th February, 2019. The plan presented air-strikes on terrorist camps in Pakistan (conducted by the 'Mirage 2000 aircrafts') as the only fitting response to the terror attack which was claimed by the Pakistan based terrorist group, Jaish-e-Mohammed.

The cabinet was united in the fight against terrorism but divided in how it wanted to approach the issue. The External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj voiced her willingness to strike terrorists in J&K instead of taking the fight to Pakistan.

Much to the committee's surprise, the Minister of Defence, Nirmala Sitharaman expressed her views against the proposed plan and stated that she saw this as an opportunity

to internationally pressurise Pakistan if India could find proof of Pakistan's involvement in the attacks. The PMC remains clouded with uncertainty as India's resolve is put to the test.

- *Tanay Singh*



- *Rayaan Grewal*