



The Sentinel

Layout Design by : Devashish Vij & Vani Jain

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Closing Ceremony
Goodbye, until next year
- UNHRC
- ECOSOC
- UNICEF
- CDUSA
- ILO
- CCS
- Press Conference

BEST SCHOOL DELEGATION

The Shri Ram School, Moulsari

Closing Ceremony Goodbye, until next year!

After two days of rigorous debating in the committees ranging from the Hong Kong security law, International labour force, police brutality, systemic racism and human rights violations amongst many other such issues, and coming down to viable solution-based conclusions, the Strawberry Fields High School MUN 2020 has now come to an end.

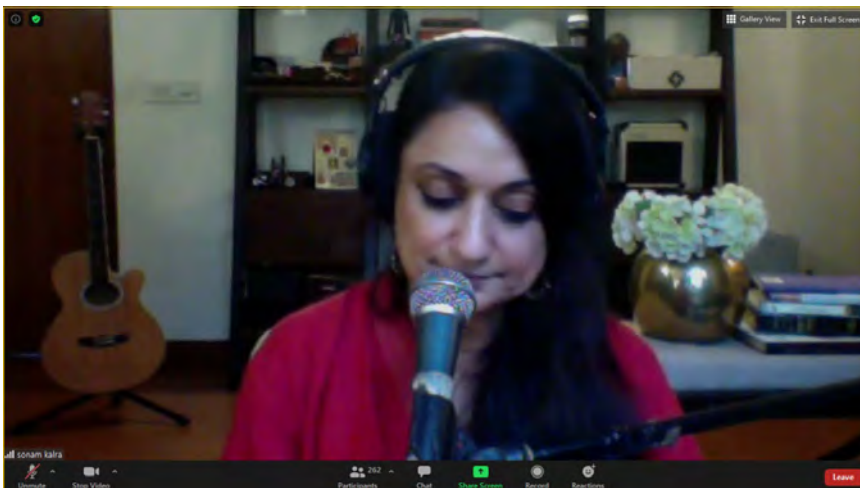
The closing ceremony started with our guest for the evening, Ms. Sonam Kalra, well known for her singing style - blending the East with the West, live in concert. Ms Kalra heads the 'Sonam Kalra & the Sufi Gospel' which blends the many voices of faith, through poetry, prayer and music to create one universal voice of traditional western gospels moulded with Indian classical music, and eastern spiritual texts that are complemented by elements of poetry, creating a sound that appeals to every soul. The concert was followed by an engaging question and answer session where Sonam Kalra shared her views and varied, life experiences.



Manan Kansil, President of SFHS MUN 2020 introduced the hardworking and diligent Organising Committee, consisting of twelve members, without whom this year's conference could not have been a success. This was followed by the introduction of the assiduously adept, Secretariat.

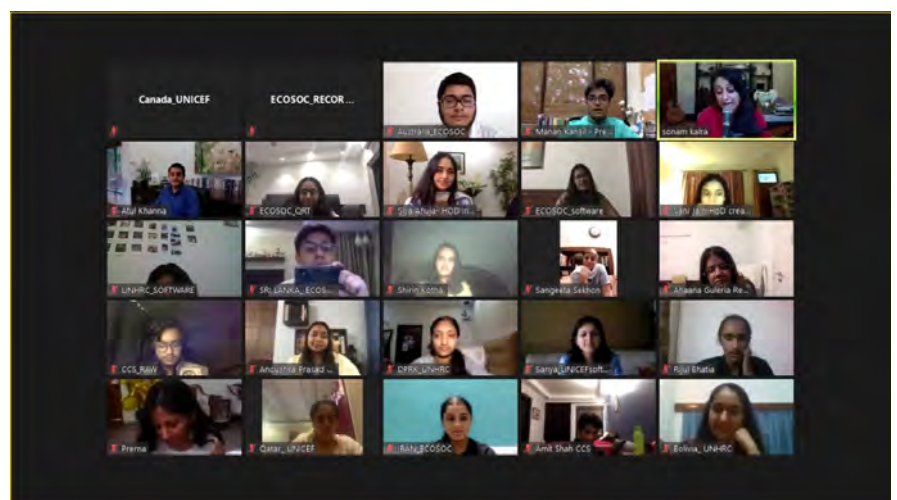
The Chief of Staff, Ria Juneja proceeded to announce the awardees of this year's conference.

After such an engaging programme and an enriching experience which we will cherish forever, the stage was taken over by the Secretary General, Nehmat Sandhu, who declared the Strawberry Fields High School Model United Nations 2020 closed.



By Anoushka Prasad and Kaveri Sharma,
Heads of Department-International Press

Ms.Sonam Kalra
Music extraordinaire



UNHRC

The Hope in Hypocrisy

As the UNHRC sessions progressed , it became more evident that hypocrisy lies at the very core of these committee sessions.

The discussion highlighted the conditions of human rights violations in China. Many accusations were made by delegates. A lot was said. controversy and self-contradiction seemed to be the norm.

The delegate of Kuwait criticised the systematic subjection of China's human rights defenders, to harassment and imprisonment. The suicide of a stateless Bidun man in Kuwait triggering peaceful protests leading to the arrest of fifteen HRDs was shoved under the carpet, unabashedly.

The absence of rights for the LGBTQIA+ community in China was mentioned by the delegate of Russia, whose country repeatedly uses the homophobic 'gay propaganda law' to suppress free expression.

China's zero tolerance for collective public action, and the inability of the #MeToo movement to gain momentum in mass street protests, was brought up by the delegate of the USA. The US might be the centre for 'Black Lives Matter' protests right now, but violent measures to suppress them are just as prevalent.

China has a fair share of serious human rights issues that were taken up in the committee today, such as the judicial system under the control of the Chinese Communist Party, the Great Firewall, rigorously censored media, and the ever-tightening grip on Christians and Muslims with the goal of sinicization.



Image Source: express.co.uk

The China-centric agenda of the UNHRC highlighted the many faults in the concealed system of the country with great success. The plainly written final report created by the committee was as surprising as it was gladdening; perhaps, hypocrisy is nothing more than a factor in the process of change, awareness and acceptance.

By Pankti Shah
Reporter - Amnesty International

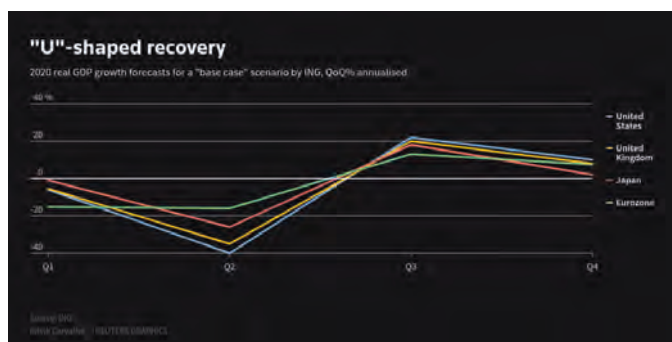
ECOSOC

Pride and Providence? Changing the Inevitable

Budded with a moderated caucus addressing the 'reactivation' of global supply chains, the committee bloomed into plowing the draft resolution. The recent pandemic has created a thorny path for the closures of businesses, cessation of factory outputs, and turmoil to global manufacturing industries and their supply networks. All the while, coercing countries to draw breath to self-sufficiency by internalizing the global supply chains.

The delegate of Germany suggested, "a resilient supply chain recovery may require organizations to continuously plan for potential risks by developing mitigating plans and making well informed risks-rewards tradeoffs during the recovering period."

These stagnant waters have been struck by more economic activity, but the hindrances in continuous back and forth containment measures have handicapped the economy. The first frail draft resolution crippled in the eyes of the executive board. However, we were taken aback in the latter half of the committee when the second draft resolution sponsored by the American, Canadian and British Delegation prospered and was put in order.



Source-The World Economic Forum

In reference to the formation of a 'Global Trade Belt' (GTB) exclusively dedicated for trade of medical supplies, the delegates inferred that the countries must engage in only Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) under the GTB. The Draft largely advises that Expansionary Monetary Policies (EMP) and Expansionary Fiscal Policies (EFP) be taken for good measure.

Battling the world conundrums in collision due to the contrasting views of the

delegates, they corrected the faulty and prolonged implementation of policies. The Economic and Social Council strived to respond to many longstanding assumptions and reconsider the approaches that have led them astray.

By Shaina Singh,
Reporter - Financial Times

The Age of Righteous Repatriation

The second day of the committee sessions started off with a set agenda in mind, which was the draft resolution, containing solutions for the civil and political crisis in Yemen. This epoch of cataclysms does not let the Yemeni children access basic necessities for their own welfare without let or hindrance.

The first committee session started today with the establishment of a general speakers' list wherein a few accusations were made which were not taken well by the delegates, an instance of this being the delegate of Russia, who tried pegging the blame for the overall devastation of children in Yemen on Saudi Arabian air strikes. The delegate of Saudi Arabia rebutted that the aforementioned devastation was in areas packed with the Houthi rebels who have committed a series of repulsive crimes against children in Yemen. This seemingly mundane exchange of words was large enough to divide the committee into two blocs.



Image Source: : <https://www.ft.com/>

A new motion was then passed in the committee, discussing solutions to the current crisis in Yemen due to the conflict between the Houthi Rebels and the Hadi government. The delegates expressed their views on the terrible regime of the militia in Yemen, throwing light upon the fact that the Houthi insurgency in Yemen does not show signs of putting an end to their odious schemes of establishing thorough control of the state of Yemen. The two coalitions of the committee then formulated two comprehensive draft reports for the successful curtailment of the longstanding Houthi rebellion, thus ensuring basic necessities and welfare of children in Yemen.

The quality of debate went up by quite a margin in the latter half of the session when Points of Inquiry bombarded delegates from all possible corners. The delegates harped upon what their government had done as a part of resolving the conflict pertaining to the agenda. The session culminated with the proposition of another moderated. caucus directed towards the improvement of the education sector in Yemen.

By Ahaana Guleria,
Reporter - Saudi Gazette

CDUSA

Black Lives Matter? A Unanimous Decision

A surprise raid at an underground Kanye West concert and Trevor Noah being arrested was the first crisis update received yesterday. After approximately 3 committee sessions, too many directives, and long fights about defamation lawsuits, the delegates finally came to a conclusion.

The first directive written by Joe Biden, Michelle Obama and Chief Arradondo explained details of the encounters, but was criticized by Donald Trump for including biased, ordinary citizens in a police investigation.



Image Source: CNN

This morning, controversy hit again, as the joint directive authored by Trump and Elon Musk, included transcripts of a private conversation. The constitutional legality of allowing an individual agency to hack and release personal information was thoroughly questioned.

Finally, Directive 1.01 with 15 authors was passed by the Committee which included private donations, public displays of support and recommendations for further investigation.

Once the matter of the crisis was resolved, the Committee moved forward to their final Moderated Discussion to debate solutions. After over 40 minutes of heated debate, the delegates finally came to a consensus on creating only one final piece of documentation- a unanimous Citizens' Discussion Document.

This summarized the majority of the proposed solutions such as frequent psychological assessments for the police, reallocation of funds, promotion of small businesses and an enhanced educational curriculum. Several police reforms such as banning chokeholds, compulsory body cameras and increased training hours, were also included.

Despite the obvious polarity of a committee as political as CDUSA, they did the unthinkable and forgot all past disputes and differences and united to fight for something much bigger than themselves- justice and equality.

By Raeka Sharma,
Reporter - CNN

Drafting a New Life

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking that created them.”
-Albert Einstein

As the final committee sessions began, the ILO member countries kept their focus and each delegate presented their views on the possible solutions on the Agenda: Ensuring the basic standard of living and human rights for the domestic and international labour. Even first timers were not averse to present their views in the moderated caucus, making the committee lively and active. The delegate of Pakistan added to the debate by saying, “the delegate urges all member nations to formulate their own decent work country programmes to move forward with the decent work agenda.”

The delegate of Syria stated, “In light of the current situation because of Covid-19, online surveys should be conducted for the labourers so as to get better insights about their life and problems they are facing”. However, considering that the majority of forced labour are present in countries that are poverty stricken, the delegates of the committee shot back at her with questions regarding how they would get access to internet or technology when they cannot even afford basic necessities. This added humour to the committee and the delegates were surprised to see that the delegate of Syria, whose country is poverty stricken would suggest such a solution in the committee.

The committee maintained a fruitful debate, however, at times delegates brought up issues not relating to the agenda and hence, the Executive Board had to order the delegates to stick to and focus on the Agenda. Nevertheless, the lingering end with which the committee concluded yesterday ended its streak once the delegates decided that they should start drafting their working paper.



<https://livemint.com>

After presenting two separate working papers, the delegates were exposed to a volley of questions which were answered confidently by them whilst supporting their respective resolutions. Only one of the two working papers was passed leaving some of the delegates with bittersweet memories of the committee. Nevertheless, the committee had come to an end along with the SFHS MUN 2020 leaving the Executive Board and the member states exhausted yet content with what they had achieved.

By Kaira Mahajan,
Reporter - Radio free Europe



Fruitless Failures

As today's session commenced, the delegates of the Cabinet Committee on Security were determined to resolve the crisis regarding stolen data from the Defence Research and Development Organisation servers in Bangaluru. However, little did they know, this was not the last crisis as information was revealed that Arun Srinivasan had established a connection with a Chinese informant named Piang Fushin, the owner of a restaurant in Beijing. The informant apprised Arun's team that Xi Calinao, a senior secretary in the Ministry of State Security of China, frequents his establishment and is a loyal patron.

Now the question arose as to how the Cabinet Committee was to proceed with this information. Some suggested the establishment of a diplomatic channel between the informant and Xi Calinao while some went to the extent of suggesting that Sodium Thiopental, better known as "Truth Serum", be used to extract information from him. Finally, the committee moved to establish a "personal relationship" between Mr. Fushin and Xi Calinao, which was passed on 30 August, but failed to yield any fruit till 4 September. Relations between the government and Piang are turning sour as he fears for his family and has threatened to stop working with them. In addition, the missing navigation chip for the AGNI III ICBM was being auctioned off to the highest bidder in the black market, but sources revealed that it had already been sold to an organisation called G24L by the time the Cabinet could take action.

With no definite plans yet on how to recover the stolen data and the navigation chip, along with the uncertainty of an erratic and strained informant on their hands, things are not looking favourable for the Indian Government.

By Uday Jagat,
Reporter - NDTV



Source- Express Computers



Press Conference

Uday Jagat (NDTV) : I would like to pose this question to the Chief of RAW. If worst comes to worst and Arun Srinivasan turns out to be anything other than what he says, do you have any contingencies in place, in case this happens and if yes then what?

Chief of Raw: Raw operatives are currently working in close collaboration with his team. Also, we have our agencies everywhere. If Arun Srivasan turns out to be disloyal or not dedicated to the agency, we have the measures to deal with it, with the approval of our prime minister.

Uday: Now to the representative of Amit Shah. Delegate you have talked about plausible deniability and that in the event that the Chinese found out about the association of India with Piang Fushin, you would simply deny your involvement with Mr. Fushin, am I correct? So just in case, the Chinese do find out about the involvement of India in this matter, do you expect and are you prepared for a military reaction from them, given their current position in Ladakh in the Galwan Valley?

Amit Shah: What we need to understand is that this is a covert operation and I have full faith in our intelligence agencies. What is going to happen here is that the Indian agency's involvement has only one possible way in which it could come about; is that the RAW agents involved in this are discovered.

Siya: I would like to pose this next question to Amit shah. Sir, in the previous sessions you talked about how the Indian union is willing to grant Mr.Fushin political asylum once and if he has completed his task of gathering information from Xi Calinao. I would like to ask you that in the case of gathering any information, which it has been so far, he is caught by the Chinese authorities, would the Indian Government attempt to rescue him and his family or, leave them at the mercy of the Chinese and be tried for treason or worse?

Amit Shah: The India Union is willing to grant asylum to those who help us, however we are in a diplomatically tense situation, if he is caught by the Chinese government, there is nothing we can do since you can't offer asylum to someone who is not in your country. That being said we don't currently have any contact with this informant; henceforth this question is not of relevance since we're not working with the informant.

Siya: Sir, are you saying that because you're not working with this man now so you will not offer him protection from the Chinese government?

Amit Shah: Right, The Sole purpose is that raw agents cannot contact us directly, we as a democratic nation cannot interfere.He is not of much use to us and will not be caught

Siya: Are you assuming he will not be caught, is that your plan?

Amit Shah: There is nothing to catch him for he is a respected owner of an establishment. There is no connection between him and the Indian Government.What you're alluding is the connection between him and the RAW.

The Editors

Heads of Department - International Press



Beeya Jagat



Anoushka Prasad



Chaharika Uppal



Siya Ahuja



Paavna Pannu



Kaveri Sharma