



SYMUNC 2019

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SYMERAKI

SYMBIOSIS MODEL UNITED NATIONS '19

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**DISCUSS
DEBATE
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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Students,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the sixth edition of Symbiosis Model United Nations Conference. Vasudhaiva Kutumbakkam, meaning- The World Is One Family is our motto that guides us as we carry forward our vision of making a difference through education. It is also the essence of a Model UN Conference. The re-emergence of democratic pluralism is putting justice and sustainability at the core of a new movement for freedom. So as we yearn to make this world a better place, we must put forward a united front. When I look at all the young and talented individuals discuss, debate and deliberate so avidly upon some of the most pressing agendas that concern the world, it fills me with a sense of pride. I'm honoured to provide this platform to the future leaders of the world and I hope that you all will use it well.

Warm Regards

Dr. Anubha Vashisht



FACULTY IN-CHARGE

I take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of every student who has turned the idea of SYMUNC 2019 into a reality. We proudly bring this enlightening platform to the young learners, where their varied skills ranging from debating to photography would be displayed and honed further. It is our endeavor to create leaders who not only understand the issues and challenges that our world faces but also knows how to negotiate and resolve the conflicts and differences with critical thinking and deliberating. May you all have a good time and create beautiful memories, working and gaining valuable experience simultaneously

Mr. Abhinav Pal

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR - IN - CHIEF

UTKARSHA BANSAL

Observe. Voice. Impact. These three words can change the world but nothing has the capacity to harbor them together, the way the press does. It is, however, no more as authentic as we would want it to be, akin to today's democracies. The tool that must break news to the world, the press, has become a hub for creating new mysteries instead of unraveling the existing ones. In this backdrop, Model United Nations become extremely crucial in preserving the true essence of mass media and communication that allow young minds to exploit their set boundary and look beyond it. I am truly delighted to be a part of the International Press at SYMUNC 2019 which has not only helped me put my skills to good use but also to hone them. SYMUNC has exposed me to a team of brilliant minds, with novel ideas, which would not shy away from voicing what must be said. I Hope our team has been successful in delivering to you this newsletter, with all its purpose served, highlighting the happenings of the conference to the best of our capabilities. Wishing you all the best for the conference!

Regards,
Utkarsha Bansal
Editor-in-Chief



OPENING CEREMONY



DISCUSS. DEBATE. DELIBERATE.

Symbiosis Centre for Management Studies, Noida is hosting the sixth edition of Symbiosis Model United Nations Conference. The conference commenced on an auspicious note with lamp lighting followed by a short opening ceremony. Mr. PK Mangal and Ms. Neelu Vyas Thomas graced the ceremony as Chief Guests.

Ms. Neelu Vyas Thomas, alumna of Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication, is famous for working with leading digital platforms like Go Drishti and Satya Hindi. She addressed the students of her alma mater with a great sense of pride and a hint of nostalgia. She also commended the level of energy and enthusiasm in the students. Major PK Mangal impressed young minds with his plethora of knowledge about the UN and international politics. He was also keen to answer the questions and queries of the inquisitive audience.

SYMUNC, in the words of Director General, Ms. Esha Tripathi is “A voyage that one takes forth with multiple hindrances to achieve new learning.” She also emphasized on how the Organizing Committee has been transfiguring those hindrances of voyage into milestones since the last six years.

Shortly afterwards the Secretary General, Mr. Akshit Seth, declared SYMUNC 2019 open and the conference moved into its first session.

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



WHEN ALL TRY TO BEFRIEND PEACE

BY PARIKSHA GUPTA



The United Nations General Assembly was addressing the implications of the usage of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles), in areas of conflict.

The Delegate of the United States of America clearly stated that their country was leading the country in the field of drone usage. The Delegate justified the same by stating, "(...) our UAVs have done more good than harm (...)". The light was thrown on the profound fact that major targets like Osama Bin Laden and groups like Al Shabaab who lead back directly to Al-Qaeda have been eliminated solely because of the use of armed intelligence and drones in foreign soil. "While we address the fact about drones leading to civilian death throes, we should also consider the fact that deploying armed forces can lead to the same as well(...)", this was the statement given by the Delegate of USA as they tackled the anticipated concern of the damage that can be caused by drones.

The Delegate of Spain finds drones to be very useful in situations of war. Emphasis was also given on the fact that if drones are misused, unpleasant consequences would follow. One of the biggest disadvantages, according to the Delegate, is that civilian casualties are bound to happen because of drone attacks.

All delegates were inclined to make and maintain peace, knowing well about the suffering, the people who get caught in crossfires and drone strikes, go through.

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

DELIBERATION ON CHAPTER 6 AND 7

BY SANYA SAXENA



UNSC, being affirmed at deliberating upon the relevance of Chapter 6 and 7, as far as the work and responsibilities of the United Nations Security Council is considered, emphasizing the situation in the Middle East as the priority of the deliberation of the motion.

United Nations Security Council usually regards the aspects of Peacekeeping, Peace Building and Peace enforcement as the major concerns of their functioning. It was observed that there was a special emphasis on the status of the political influence of the United States over the UN Charter as stated by some of the delegates. Furthermore, the delegate of Canada questioned the delegate of Iran regarding the attack at Oil tanks of India, wherein the political peace treaty stated under the UN Charter was violated. Yet the delegate of Canada restated the relevance of Article 7 itself. The delegate further emphasized as contrary to the point made by the delegate about the UN attacking another UN member, under the conflict resolving policies under the UN Charter. Another observation was made where the delegate of Spain cross-questioned Iran. Delegate stated that the weak nations themselves insist on the policies directly threatening their interests and regional peace.

The deliberation itself made counterparts where all the delegates would bash the fellow nations, cracking on the political influences and contrary judgments made in order to possibly keep the out front of being strongly supporting the peacekeeping aspects of the UN Charter itself.

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL



Article 51- Vague?

BY IHA SHARMA

Article 51 of the UN Charter is one of the most debatable articles of the charter. The article clearly supports the right to self-defense but it is only limited to the members of the United Nations. It states, "Nothing in the present charter shall impair the inherent the right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a member of the United Nations" The members use this as a dominion to dominate over other states and claim it as 'self-defense'. In October 2003, Israel attacked Palestinian terrorists in Syria on the basis of 'self-defense'. This is just a mere example of such situations. It is duly reported that the United States also has misused the article for political benefits, but this has been denied by the United States. The Delegate of Greece stated that the Article is vague and needs to be re-evaluated. The delegate also stated that the Article does not express self-defense. Some delegates believe that the article has duly supported their respective countries in times of need and helped them be safe. The Representative of India believes that India has always faced dangers to be attacked by armed groups, referring to the Pulwama Attack in Kashmir. The delegates actively participated; raising their voices in a hope that this might change the crisis.

MAFIA LORDS



BOMBING AT CHURCHGATE

BY SANJNA TANDON

Recently a bomb went off in the cloakroom of the Churchgate station, triggered by an alcohol spill which was followed by a meet of the Mafia Lords discussing the matter. The alcohol, which was a key element of the explosion, can be traced to the regions of Vardhabhai's jurisdiction pertaining to his liquor business. However, Vardabhai has dismissed all claims and pointed a finger at Dawood Ibrahim, supported by Karim Lala. Both of them claimed that Dawood maliciously planted the bomb and used Vardhabhai as his liquor source so as to frame him. Karim Lala proclaimed that Dawood cursed him and according to him this speaks volumes about his vindictive character and thus it was he who carefully planned this attack.

A local newspaper covered the investigation and presented evidence relating to the raiding of liquor dens. The three hotspots that were exposed were in the vicinity of the Churchgate and could be connected to the Pathan gang. They have declared these allegations false and continue to target Dawood as the mastermind behind this. Karim Lala viewed the news report as pure fabrication, a result of Dawood's high reach and influence in the media and supports further exclaimed that this is all part of Dawood's scheme to control Mumbai. While Dawood supporters like Hanif Mohataram, countered them saying that if Dawood indeed influenced the media, he would've left out his name from the very beginning. Jenabai mentioned that the discussion revolves around personal conflicts rather than facts and maintained her stance to be with Mumbai, her beloved city.

The police finally unveiled the truth of the matter. In lieu of the ongoing Mumbai elections, Shiv Sena made a controversial statement triggering Hindu-Muslim violence. The bombing was ruled out as an act of communal violence and not a mafia job.



PSEUDO FREEDOM FOR A STUTTERING SPEECH

BY MISHKA GHEI

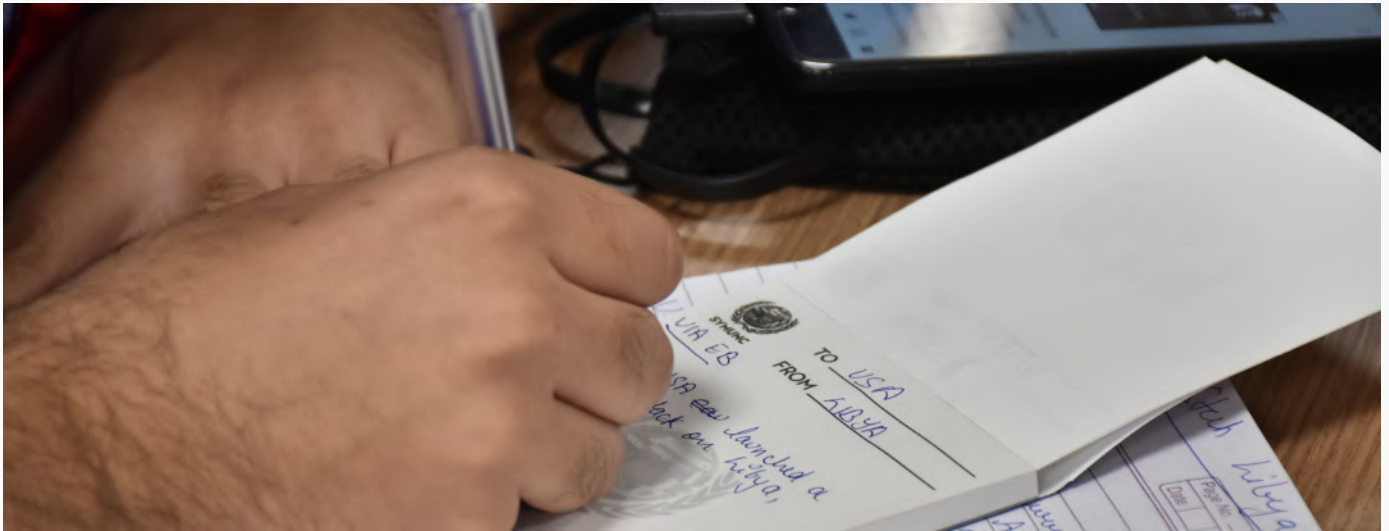
The Indian democracy rests upon four pillars, the cornerstone of which stands to be the media. The media, a tenuous window for citizens to glance into the world outside, has been granted safety measures and Freedom of Speech in the Constitutional laws. This permits the members of the fourth estate to fulfil their duties effectively- to discover, disseminate, distribute and document. Although the Constitution grants the media freedom of speech and a creative license that warrants their safety, the reality digresses from the expectations. The Committee, thus, seeks to address the adverse infringement of this Freedom of Speech. To make sense of the tangled, tenuous strings of freedom of speech, a string that ties people, from all walks of life, together.

The Committee delved into the discussion with a few recurring topics. The curfew imposed by the Bharatiya Janata Party following the abrogation of Section 370, claimed to be a profound infringement of the Freedom of Speech of the citizens of Kashmir. The citizens were placed under virtual lockdown with all communication lines cut, and no way to address the masses.

The safety of the investigative journalists and other agents of the media was regarded as precarious. This notion was substantiated with reports by various delegates. India dropped down two ranks in the World Press Freedom Index, from 136 to 138. The lack of press safety was discussed, with special emphasis on the Gori Lankesh assassination and Navjot Singh Siddhu's wrongful termination. The Committee continues to deliberate, discuss and debate. Their primary objective is to unfurl and unravel the enshrouded truth about the media's freedom. The democracy cannot be regarded as a strong institution until its brick and mortar is in safe hands. The reality remains far from fair and free, as the fourth pillar remains ravaged by corruption, misuse of power and a grave lapse in democracy.

ALL INDIA POLITICAL
PARTIES MEET

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM



KNOW ABOUT CRYPTOCURRENCY

BY RAGHAV

What does Cryptocurrency mean?

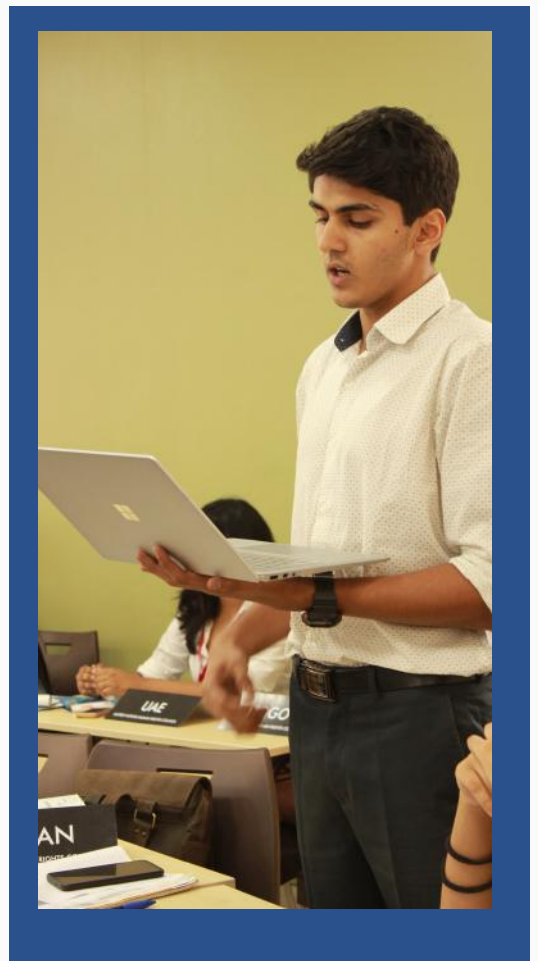
Cryptocurrency is an internet-based medium of exchange which uses cryptographical functions to conduct financial transactions.

What does it do?

Cryptocurrencies leverage blockchain technology to gain decentralization, transparency. The most important feature of a cryptocurrency is that it is not controlled by any central authority; the decentralized nature of the blockchain makes cryptocurrencies theoretically immune to the old ways of government control and interference.

What are the risks involved?

The intangible and illiquid nature of cryptocurrencies hampers their convertibility and insurability. Another major risk involved in cryptocurrency is transaction errors. It's unfortunate that, as humans, we make errors in dealing with numbers. In case of dealing with cryptocurrencies, if the wallet ID is wrong or there is an error in the number of transactions, the amount transferred is unrecoverable and there is a complete loss of thousands and more.



UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN



ESTONIAN ASTONISHMENT RAISES EYEBROWS COMMITTEE- WIDE

BY INDIRA VATS

From the genesis of the committee, it was clear that the development of women in areas of conflict was the ubiquitous agenda that was discussed. At the very start of the session, the delegate of Estonia, while emphasizing the need for a conclusive definition of conflict, suggested collaboration with UNODC to combat human trafficking and the requirement of deployment of troops to patrol borders, also mentioned the need to counter-insurgency—all universal methods to combat the issue at hand.

The delegate of USA was quick to address the lack of country-specific issues and solutions by the delegate of Estonia, who was quick to counterattack, “It’s ironic that the delegate of USA [with one of the highest rates of crime against women] is bringing this up.”

As the committee moved along, the delegate of India mentioned the involvement of women in the movement against separatists in its state of Kashmir—which has been in international news because of the abrogation of article 370—adding that the government was taking measures to empower women. The delegate of Estonia questioned the delegate of India on the sexual violence against women, which has only increased since the developments in Kashmir. The delegate of India denied any such claims, once again repeating that the central government was taking measures to uplift women.

CONFERENCE

HIGHLIGHTS

