

THE GAZETTE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



Inspire • Engage • Achieve

BSVMUN 2024

23rd - 25th August 2024

FROM THE **SECRETARIAT'S** DESK

We are delighted to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who made this event a grand success.

Firstly, we express our sincere gratitude to the Respected Principal of Birla Shishu Vihar, the MUN Coordinator, and the Management for their unwavering support and for providing us with the platform to conduct this event. Your encouragement and resources have been instrumental in making this event possible.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to all the delegates for their enthusiastic participation. Your dedication and insightful contributions have been the key to this event's success.

A special thank you goes out to the journalists, caricaturists, and photographers of the International Press. Your efforts have added a thrilling and dynamic dimension to the event, bringing it to life.

Lastly, we are immensely grateful to the Executive Board Members, the organizing committee members, and the volunteers. Your hard work, commitment, and support have been invaluable in ensuring the smooth execution of this event.

Thank you all for your contributions and for making this event memorable. We look forward to your continued support and participation in future endeavors.

Warm regards,
The Secretariat
BSVMUN 2024

FROM THE DESK OF **INTERNATIONAL PRESS'S EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Dear Esteemed Members of the BSVMUN Community,

As we draw the curtains on BSVMUN 2024, it is with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment that we look back on the outstanding contributions of everyone involved. We wholeheartedly feel that the delegates of UNGA, UNSC, UNHRC, and AIPPM demonstrated remarkable insight, diplomacy, and dedication throughout the conference, contributing to meaningful and impactful discussions.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to the Secretariat, Executive Board, and the Organising Committee, whose tireless efforts and meticulous planning ensured the smooth execution of this conference. Their commitment and hard work have been the backbone of BSVMUN 2024's success.

Special recognition goes to the dedicated members of the International Press. The results of your efforts have not only captured the essence of this conference but have also elevated it to new heights of journalistic excellence. Your creative, diligent, and dedicated work is evident in every piece—the articles that offered insightful commentary on the proceedings, the photographs that portrayed the atmosphere of the debate, and the caricatures that offered a fresh take on the topics.

The success of BSVMUN 2024 is a shared achievement, and much of this success is owed to the professionalism and passion that everyone has demonstrated.

As we look back on this memorable experience through this newsletter, we are confident that the skills and knowledge we have honed here will continue to serve us well in all our future endeavours. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for making this year's conference an exceptional one.

Out of, observing every moment this event held, to reminiscing all the sessions, proceedings, stories, debates, articles, and experiences, and being all smiles. Every minutia of this letter is a trip down memory lane and a true sulit read.

Happy reading!

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UNGA

(UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

The Human Cost

Reuters

The conflicts in Syria and Iraq continue to shape the global geopolitical landscape, especially in terms of humanitarian crises and international diplomacy. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), seemed to focus on the significant discussions surrounding the ongoing war in the Middle East, the power plays of major countries like Russia, the U.S., and France, and the harrowing humanitarian situation that has displaced millions. Day 1 of the UNGA reflected on Syria and Iraq, highlighting the complex interplay of national interests, the rise and fall of ISIS, and the desperate plight of refugees, providing an impartial and thorough account of the debates.

Russia's Staunch Support for Syria

The session opened with Russia strongly defending its alliance with Syria. The Russian delegation emphasized that their intervention in the Syrian Civil War is focused on combating terrorism, specifically ISIS. "We wholeheartedly support Syria and oppose the terrorism wreaking havoc in the country," stated the Russian representative. They further cited 5.6 million registered Syrian refugees, 2.4 million children out of school, and 13.4 million people in urgent need of humanitarian aid, portraying Syria as a nation in dire need of international assistance and support.

Russia's defence of its actions was swiftly challenged by the United States. The U.S. delegate sharply criticized Russia's backing of President Bashar al-Assad's regime, accusing the Syrian government of using chemical weapons against its own people. "Russia's involvement is more about protecting geopolitical interests than genuinely helping the Syrian people," asserted the U.S. representative. They further highlighted the Syrian regime's human rights violations, including the imprisonment of children for minor offenses such as graffiti, to demonstrate the country's disregard for its own citizens' well-being.

The Role of ISIS in Regional Instability

The rise and fall of ISIS was another major topic of discussion. The U.S. took center stage in outlining its military campaign to dismantle the terrorist group, which once controlled vast territories across Syria and Iraq. The U.S.-led coalition provided military support to local forces, helping to recapture ISIS-held territories, effectively reducing the group's operational capacity.

However, the United Kingdom and France stressed that while ISIS may have lost territory, its ideology remains a threat, with sleeper cells still operating in both Syria and Iraq. They called for sustained international efforts to combat the remnants of ISIS, which continue to pose a risk through insurgent activities. The humanitarian impact of ISIS's reign was also discussed, particularly the mass displacement and trauma inflicted on local populations.

Musings on International Cooperation

Despite the disagreements and heated exchanges, there were moments of consensus in the UNGA session. Countries like France, the UK, and Germany all agreed on the necessity of a political solution to the Syrian conflict and emphasized the importance of humanitarian aid to support the millions affected by the wars in both Syria and Iraq. Even as global powers clashed over their respective roles in the conflicts, there was a shared recognition that international cooperation is essential. The need for coordinated efforts to combat terrorism, provide humanitarian relief, and foster long-term peace was emphasized by all parties involved.



France and Russia's Clash Over Chemical Weapons

The debate intensified when France openly criticized Russia for supporting the Assad regime, which they accused of using chemical weapons on its own people. France argued that Russia's continued backing of Assad directly contradicted its claims of fighting terrorism. "You cannot claim to oppose terror while supporting a regime that uses weapons of terror against civilians," France declared.

Russia pushed back, arguing that its focus was solely on fighting ISIS and maintaining regional stability. However, France persisted, pointing out that Russia's arms sales to Syria were driven by financial gain, rather than any genuine desire to foster peace. France's sharp critique underscored the growing rift between Russia and the Western powers, particularly on their approach to the Syrian conflict.

Iraq's Struggles and the Path to Reconstruction

The conversation then shifted to Iraq, where the post-ISIS rebuilding efforts are ongoing. The U.S. emphasized that military success against ISIS was only the first step. The true challenge lies in stabilizing Iraq through long-term reconstruction projects, including rebuilding infrastructure and addressing sectarian divides.

Germany and the UK called for a greater focus on institutional reforms in Iraq. They stressed the importance of anti-corruption measures to create a stable foundation for governance. The consensus was clear: rebuilding Iraq is critical, not just for its own future, but for the stability of the entire Middle East.



Sensitive Light

Reuters

The second day of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) debates once again brought the spotlight on the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and the ever-escalating geopolitical tensions. Sharp criticisms, audacious accusations, and amusing moments punctuated the discussions, which lightened an otherwise serious discussion. Day 2 of the UNGA shed light on the complicated narratives between nations like Russia, the U.S., France, and Somalia as they navigated the sensitive issues of nuclear disarmament, international conflict, and humanitarian crises.

Russia's representative opened the day's session by defending its military interventions in both Syria and Ukraine. They emphasized that Russia had no choice but to go to war after their peaceful solutions were allegedly ignored. The Russian delegation painted a picture of forced action, claiming that they had pursued peace in Ukraine, but their efforts were disregarded. As expected, this reasoning didn't sit well with many in the room.

One of the most striking moments came when Somalia, in a bold move, questioned Russia's motives. "If you criticize the Iraq-Syria war, why did you start the Russia-Ukraine war?" Somalia asked. Russia's response was slippery, dodging the core of the question by reiterating that they were compelled to act. It was a rhetorical dance, but Somalia's question hung in the air as a defining moment of the session.



U.S. and Russia's Nuclear Showdown

The U.S. wasn't going to sit back and let Russia control the narrative. Their delegation came in strong, advocating for nuclear disarmament and painting Russia as the nuclear villain. But Russia fired back with sharp words: "Us? Nuclear threats? Have you met yourself, U.S.? The only country to have dropped nukes?" The tension was palpable, with both countries accusing each other of hypocrisy on the global stage. France, always keen to mediate, urged the U.S. and Russia to step back from their nuclear posturing. They criticised Pakistan for lacking the political stability to wage war. While the French representative's statements were delicate, they implied Pakistan's capabilities was in doubt, raising eyebrows.



The Takeaway

Day 2 of the UNGA session featured intense debates and significant exchanges on critical issues. Despite the dramatic and contentious nature of the discussions, no concrete solutions were reached. The debates on nuclear threats, international conflicts, and humanitarian crises underscored the ongoing challenges faced by global leaders as they continue to navigate these complex issues.

Iraq's Accusations and France's Defense

Iraq entered the debate, accusing Russia of secretly training militants and sending them across borders to sow chaos. These allegations sparked another round of finger-pointing, with Russia denying any such actions. The Chair, in a moment of comic relief, compared the situation to "murder in return for a slap," a metaphor that captured the absurdity of the ongoing conflict.



North Korea's Criticism of the U.S.

Adding another layer of intensity to the session, North Korea's delegate launched into a tirade against the U.S., likening the nation to a bystander roasting marshmallows while watching the world burn. North Korea pointed to Operation Northwoods and Hiroshima to remind the assembly of the U.S.'s controversial history in global affairs. Their words were harsh and uncompromising, but they served to underline the deep-rooted distrust many nations have toward U.S. foreign policy.

France's Call for Peace and Cooperation

France, in an attempt to bring some semblance of order, advocated for international cooperation. They highlighted their funding of the OPCW (Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) and called for Russia and the U.S. to step down from their nuclear posturing. In response to Sudan's inquiry about peace negotiations, France reiterated its neutral stance, by saying they don't want to become involved but can promote diplomacy between key nations like the U.S. and China.

Dynamics & Debates

Reuters

There were heated arguments, clever alliances, and unexpected moments of cooperation throughout the day's discussions. Day 3 of the UNGA offered insights into the evolving dynamics between major players such as Russia, France, Iraq, and other key nations.

Russia's Pledge to Support Syria's Reconstruction

In a notable turn of events, the delegate of Russia made a significant commitment to aid in Syria's recovery, vowing to help rebuild critical infrastructure. In a statement that drew attention from across the room, the Russian delegate announced plans for long-term financial and technological support, which would focus on healthcare, education, and transportation.

"Russia stands with Syria," the delegate declared, marking this as a crucial moment in Russia's Middle Eastern diplomacy. Offering loan, Russia seeks not just to rebuild infrastructure but to lay the foundation for a stable and prosperous Syria.

France's Call for Unity and Humanitarian Aid

France took the stage with a heartfelt call for unity and inclusion. The French delegate urged the assembly to address the deep sectarian and ethnic divisions in Syria and Iraq, arguing that peace could only be achieved through inclusive governance that respects all voices in the region.

"We must bridge these divides to combat extremism," the French delegate emphasized, rallying for international cooperation in humanitarian efforts. France highlighted the importance of ensuring aid reaches all populations, regardless of their sectarian identity, and proposed asylum for Syrian refugees, continuing France's legacy of human rights leadership.

Iraq's Push for Justice and Reform

Iraq took the floor to address its internal struggles with human rights abuses, corruption, and climate change. The Iraqi delegate made an emotional plea for reforms in Iraq's justice system, focusing on preventing torture and mistreatment in detention facilities.

"The ongoing issues of torture and ill-treatment in Iraq's justice system highlight the urgent need for reforms to uphold human rights," the delegate stressed. Additionally, the delegate urged for climate action and economic reform, emphasizing that only through cooperation and reform could Iraq emerge stronger from its challenges.

Russia and France Unite

One of the day's most unexpected developments was the peaceful negotiations between Russia and France. What began as a tense exchange evolved into a collaborative effort to address the Syrian crisis. Both countries found common ground, with Russia's promise to aid Syria's reconstruction and France's call for inclusive governance, signaling that even the most divided positions can lead to diplomacy.

Pakistan and India's Moment of Unity

In one of the lighter and more surprising moments, the delegates of Pakistan and India—historically known for their rivalry—joined forces to sing Vande Mataram. It was a brief yet powerful display of unity, highlighting that even amidst political differences, shared cultural moments can spark solidarity.



Italy's Nap and Moments of Humor

Amidst the heated discussions, the Italian delegate was spotted catching a nap, much to the amusement of the room. The light-hearted moment broke the intensity of the session, reminding everyone that even in the most serious of settings, a little humour can go a long way.



Middle East Complexity Continues...

The third day of the UNGA session was characterized by a blend of intense debate and unexpected cooperation. While significant discussions were held on the future of Syria and Iraq, and international support for these nations, the day ended with no concrete resolutions. As the conference approaches its final day, the need for decisive action and continued diplomatic engagement remains paramount in addressing the complex challenges facing the Middle East.



UNSC

(UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL)

Militarization and Territorial Claims: A Dangerous Precedent in the South China Sea

Al Jazeera

Day 1 of UNSC started with Germany's recent motion in ModCoccus, which mandated compulsory Points of Information (POIs) on militarised territorial claims, sparked concerns, particularly regarding the South China Sea. Observers feared it could escalate tensions and affect regional stability. This region has long been a flashpoint, with China's militarization of artificial islands raising tensions. Germany's decision to focus on militarization, especially concerning island territories, sets a worrying precedent.

During a heated discussion, the Delegate of the UK expressed reservations, arguing that legitimising force as a means of territorial consolidation could exacerbate tensions in volatile regions like the South China Sea. The Delegate of Indonesia echoed these concerns, stressing that militarization destabilises the region and advocating for peaceful resolution and adherence to international law.

Adding an economic dimension, the Delegate of Brunei suggested that Brunei might leave an island for financial compensation. This comment, made in reference to the implications of the conflict on the regional and global economy, underscores the complex interplay between economic interests and territorial sovereignty. It raises questions about whether financial incentives could resolve disputes or encourage further instability.

Germany's motion, though perhaps well-intentioned, risks legitimizing military force in settling territorial disputes—a dangerous path that could increase conflict. Rather than emphasizing militarization, international efforts should focus on diplomacy, conflict resolution, and adherence to international law.



Achieving a peace treaty

In conclusion, the committee ended the day risking the ongoing proceedings to be continued while considering that compulsory POIs on militarization seemed to enhance debate, they might risk encouraging the behaviours that lead to conflict. Session ceased with the idea that peace and diplomacy must be prioritized in regions like the South China Sea.

Session Erupts in Controversy: China, Taiwan, and Philippines Clash

Al Jazeera

Unexpected interruptions and heated debates marred the second day session of UNSC in which Germany initiated a 25-minute moderated caucus with 60 seconds allotted to each speaker. The session took a dramatic turn when the Director General of the MUN, assuming the role of North Korea's delegate, began interrupting speeches with procedural points.

The focus shifted dramatically during Taiwan's speech when tensions between China and Taiwan flared. China's delegate asserted, "Don't forget you're a part of China," provoking a sharp counter from Taiwan, "In the past, you were under us." This exchange quickly escalated into a heated argument, drawing significant attention and debate.

Adding to the turmoil, the Philippines intervened, shifting the focus to a critique of the United States. This new angle of debate further complicated the discussion, highlighting regional grievances and intensifying the session's overall discord. The session underscored the challenges of managing diplomatic debates and maintaining order in a complex, simulated international environment.



On the 2nd day of the United Nations Security Council debate on the South China Sea conflicts, a series of pointed questions were directed at key delegates, revealing diverse perspectives and strategies for addressing regional tensions.

Taiwan was asked, "How does Taiwan justify its South China Sea claims without UN recognition? What steps will it take to support regional stability and reduce tensions?" The delegate emphasized Taiwan's commitment to upholding its claims through peaceful means and expressed a willingness to engage in diplomatic dialogue to mitigate conflicts, despite its lack of UN recognition.

China faced the question, "Given China's extensive claims and militarization in the South China Sea, how does China justify its actions under international law, particularly to ensure regional stability and prevent conflicts?" The delegate's responses were limited, failing to offer a clear explanation of how China's actions align with international norms, which was under researched.

The United Kingdom was questioned on its interests with, "What are UK's economic interests in the South China Sea, and how are they being protected?" The delegate highlighted the strategic importance of the region for global trade routes and reassured that the UK is committed to maintaining these interests. In a provocative statement, the delegate also mentioned the possibility of military intervention if necessary. Indonesia was asked, "What specific outcomes does Indonesia hope to achieve in future negotiations on the South China Sea? Does Indonesia prioritise establishing clear boundaries, resource sharing agreements, or de-escalation measures?" The delegate noted that Indonesia aims for a balanced approach, focusing on resource sharing and de-escalation to ensure long-term regional stability.

This debate underscored the complex and multifaceted nature of the South China Sea conflicts, with varying national interests and strategies shaping the ongoing discourse.

Militarisation of Islands

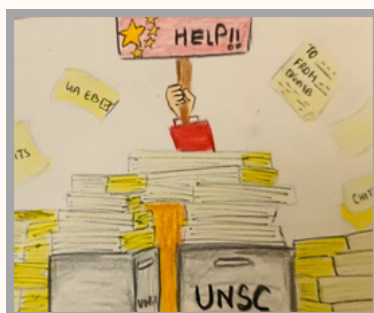
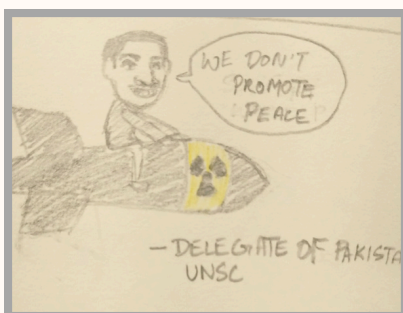
Al Jazeera

As suggested by the Chairperson of the Executive Board (EB), the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) convened a moderated caucus for thirty minutes on the third day of MUN. Each delegate got ninety seconds to talk. The ban on personal pronouns during this session was a major regulation meant to promote a more neutral and formal discussion.

The goal of prohibiting personal pronouns in conversations was to maintain the focus on problems rather than individual opinions. Many delegates thought this restriction difficult to follow, though, and some still used personal pronouns. The EB responded by temporarily dismissing those representatives from the committee and enforcing disciplinary actions.

The EB's dedication to upholding debate integrity and procedural discipline was demonstrated by these acts. The caucus emphasized the necessity for delegates to adjust to procedural expectations and illustrated the difficulties of implementing new rules in formal settings. The experience of the session will probably have an impact on future moderated caucuses, with an emphasis on creating a balance between disciplined discussion and obeying the rules.

In between of the caucus the delegate of us stated that the delegate does recognize Taiwan as a country which USA actually doesn't.



The Open Debate

The United Kingdom initiated a debate in the UNSC on Taiwan's need for its own identification, aiming to promote Taiwan's international recognition. However, the debate unexpectedly led to tensions between Taiwan and the UK. While the UK advocated for a limited form of recognition, Taiwan found this approach insufficient, demanding full sovereignty and UN membership.

Taiwan's representatives accused the UK of undermining their aspirations by not fully supporting their independence. In response, the UK defended its cautious stance, arguing that outright recognition could provoke severe diplomatic consequences, especially with China.

The disagreement escalated into a public dispute, with Taiwan expressing frustration over what it saw as the UK's political maneuvering. China seized the opportunity to reinforce its One-China policy, condemning both parties. The United States and other Western allies expressed concern over the rift, urging reconciliation.

The debate ended without consensus, highlighting the complexities of Taiwan's international status and the challenges of navigating geopolitical sensitivities. The fallout between the UK and Taiwan has further complicated Taiwan's pursuit of recognition on the global stage.



UNHRC

**(UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS
COUNCIL)**

Humans, Rights, & Lives

The New York Times



On 23rd August 2024, the United Nations Human Rights Council of BSVMUN, Pilani, convened its first day with a very crucial agenda—the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza and further ways to give aid and support for the reconstruction of war-affected communities. The debate dramatised, with passionate speeches and sharp divisions, the gravity of the moment in Gaza, where millions of civilians continue to struggle with the devastating consequences of a prolonged conflict.

The session was opened by the Chair, who pointed out how urgent the crisis was and how much the crisis called for world unity to find a solution. It reminded the delegates that the people of Gaza are living under very critical conditions, with wide infrastructure destruction, severe shortages of basic supplies, and an urge for medical assistance.

As the debate unfolded, one thing was crystal clear: the committee stood deeply divided along geopolitical lines. Delegates of Israel claimed that any aid provided to Gaza needed careful control so it did not turn into support for Hamas, the militant group governing the territory, and was backed by allies such as the United States, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. "Although humanitarian needs must be taken into consideration, it is important to take all possible measures to prevent such assistance from falling into the hands of violators and those who would abuse it for violent purposes," he said.

Despite all these divisions, there were a few areas of agreement. Many delegates pressed for the establishment of a UN-administered humanitarian corridor to make sure that relief does reach Gaza without having the supply process influenced by the parties in conflict. This proposal received overwhelming support, though some delegates expressed apprehension about the security challenges involved in opening such a corridor.

The discussion then turned to the long-term rebuilding of Gaza. Many esteemed delegates spoke about how reconstruction was not only needed in physical infrastructure but also in societal and economic sectors. The representative of the European Union supported the security of Israel but provided a comprehensive reconstruction plan to lay the foundations for perpetual peace in this region.

With this, the first day of deliberations came to an end, having left much to ponder. The debate served to underline the complexity of the situation in Gaza and how exactly demanding it is going to be in the near future to reach a solution that will potentially link humanitarian needs with the political reality. The scene has already been set for further deliberations, and tomorrow, the delegation is scheduled to reconvene to continue their efforts in dealing with one of the direst humanitarian crises of our time.

The Gaza Catastrophe

The New York Times

The second day commenced with a fiery open debate at the UNHRC on the agenda item "The Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza: Aid and Reconstruction Support for War-Affected Communities," the Bahrain and Israel blocks blasted one another.

Spearheading the Bahrain block, which includes Palestine, Japan, and Bahrain, speakers were united in pointing out the pressing need for immediate humanitarian aid and international support for Gaza. Palestine, through its delegate, pressed hard on the issue of global solidarity with the pursuing dire situation of civilians and reconstruction missions to restore dignity, while Japan reinforced it with the proposal of a comprehensive international aid plan, saying that the world as one should act fast before things go out of hand.

In contrast, this block of Israel was supported by Germany, the USA, and Syria, who supported a more passive approach. The delegate of Israel echoed his country's security concern by saying that, "The reason for the conflict has to be taken into consideration, and there is a call for a balanced approach in a way that addresses both humanitarian needs and regional security." The USA followed in asserting that any channelled aid had to be monitored so as not to fall into the hands of extremist groups.

As debate pressed on, tempers frayed, with accusations and counterpoints shooting back and forth across the room. There was no clear agreement at the end of the session, underlining deep divisions within the council over how best to tackle the Gaza crisis.

Voices of Advocacy: Insights from the UNHRC Press Conference

This is my perspective from the recent press conference held by the UNHRC, where only five questions were posed to representatives from four nations: Palestine, Israel, the USA, and Germany.

Palestine was questioned about President Abbas's 2018 speech, where he linked Jewish behaviour to the Holocaust. His response was accurate but had some loopholes that could inflame tensions in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Israel was asked why it responded strongly to a relatively minor attack from Palestine. Initially, Israel provided a strong and bold answer, but it lacked clarity at the end, resulting in a call for an investigation into their actions.

Overall, the press conference illuminated the complexities of international relations concerning the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, showcasing varying degrees of effectiveness in communication among the nations involved.

The USA faced two questions. The first inquired about its significant role in the Middle East peace process despite not recognising Palestine as a sovereign state. The diplomat answered this easily. However, the second question, about how Israel manages criticism regarding its policies while ensuring security, was not addressed effectively, leading to another investigation.

Lastly, Germany was asked how it addresses criticism regarding its military and economic support for Israel, which might worsen tensions. Germany responded in a diplomatic manner, satisfactorily addressing the concerns raised.



North Korea or Director General or *both*?

The New York Times

On the third day of the conference, the Director General made a presence with his utmost confidence in the committee as a delegate. The Director General delivered an impassioned speech that underscored the complexities of international relations concerning nuclear weapons, drawing attention to historical precedents and current geopolitical tensions.

During his address, the North Korean representative highlighted the hypocrisy of the United States in its approach to nuclear weapons. He stated that the U.S., having initiated the use of nuclear arms during World War II with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, now positions itself as a moral authority on nuclear non-proliferation. The Director General questioned how the U.S. could justify its historical actions while simultaneously pressuring other nations to refrain from developing or utilising nuclear capabilities. He argued that this double standard undermines the credibility of U.S. foreign policy and raises critical ethical questions regarding its stance on global security. Delegate of North Korea questioned U.S. 'that has U.S. officially apologised to Japan for bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki?' In answer, the delegate of the U.S. stated, "No apology for bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki." They have not apologised officially.

The representative of North Korea underlined the irony of the U.S. nuclear policies: a country that has implemented the "nuclear option" now wants to ban its use for other, independent states. There, the Director General remarked with dismay an approach that risks further fueling tensions rather than maintaining peace and stability.

The comments of the North Korean representative also moved to the larger implications toward world peace. He argued that while the U.S. often purports to act in ways that maintain peace and order, its actions and policies very frequently destabilise and cause friction rather than contributing to the ideals of cooperation and understanding between nations. He urged the international community to bring the U.S. to account for past and present actions in advocating for a more equitable and just approach to global security.

To put it succinctly, North Korea used the committee meeting as a platform to deliver this harsh critique of American nuclear policy and conduct abroad. By calling on history and the moral grounds on which to appeal for non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the North Korean representative outlined all the complexities and contradictions now presented as the current landscape. Such kind of discourse, in the view of the latter, would rest on true dialogue between nations, mutual respect for one another, where actual security would be achieved only when collective efforts were made regarding disarmament and peace.





AIPPM

(ALL INDIA POLITICAL PARTY MEET)

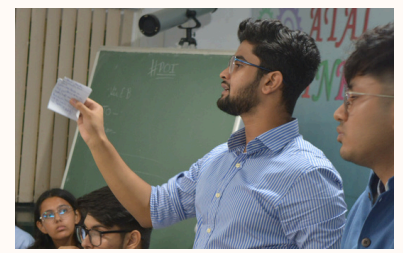
Reservation Moment Calls for a New Politics

The Times of India

On the Day 1 of AIPPM's, the debate took its form on India's reservation policies. Various leaders expressed differing opinions on the effectiveness and fairness of these measures, designed to aid the less fortunate.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee pointed out that Other Backward Classes (OBCs) made up roughly 17% of the population in India, with Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) being a sizable share of the population. Ten percent of the reservations helped 81 Muslim communities, she said, and ninety-one other Muslim villages received seven percent. Banerjee contended that rather than being distributed among particular groups, reservations ought to be directed towards the most economically and socially disadvantaged individuals. Following her, Uttar Pradesh's chief minister, Yogi Adityanath, has spoken out against the present reservation system, saying that it does not give SCs and STs enough chances to succeed.

Senior BJP leader Piyush Goyal expressed concern about the frequent politicization of issues like OBC certificates and the Ram Mandir. He suggested that occasionally political factors rather than a sincere desire to resolve real issues drove discussions about reservations. Meanwhile, government official Nirmala Sitharaman called reservations a "lie" and said that the money should be directed towards helping the most economically and socially disadvantaged people in society. Understanding the economic and social issues that reservations seek to address was one of the main points made by another BJP leader Smriti Irani. In her opinion, the only way to improve reservation procedures was to acknowledge these issues. Countering, Shashi Tharoor, the Congress leader, endorsed reservations as a method of assisting marginalised communities; however, he acknowledged that the system was not flawless. He called for the reservation policies to be reviewed and improved on a regular basis and blasted the BJP for alienating minority groups. Instead of concentrating only on reservations, Mohan Singh said that it was more necessary to fight prejudice head-on. Taking note of the fact that many Indians belonged to the SC and ST groups, he proposed that reservations should only be granted to the poor (the "creamy layer"). Then, the Samajwadi Party leader, Akhilesh Yadav, defended reservation laws by bringing up old grievances such as untouchability. He outlined the difficulties associated with reservations for OBCs and women in Maharashtra and attacked the BJP for not doing enough to advance reservation laws. Since his party assumed power, he underscored that reservation policies had positively impacted women's job opportunities.



Congress President Sonia Gandhi stressed the significance of reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and backward sections during the discussion on India's reservation policies. She proclaimed that these laws were essential to providing these communities access to opportunities and safeguards. Women's reservations, according to BJP leader Amit Shah, are frequently exploited more for political ends than for actual social advancement. He took issue with opposition parties' engagement in this matter. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, MK Stalin, contended that reservations might not be necessary in the future if women had more access to education. For the time being, he insisted, reservations were necessary to support women's access to higher education and improved employment chances. According to Prakash Javadekar, there have been large financial losses as a result of insufficient reservations. But his theory was called into question because the real economic data did not back up his assertions. In a contentious statement, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi called Muslims "ghuspathiye" (intruders). This remark was widely criticised for being out of step with the larger conversation about social justice and reservations.

Diverse viewpoints were exposed in India's reservations dispute. While some leaders pushed for improvements to the system, others voiced concerns about its current administration and usage. The day ended with the discussions underscoring the fact that there was still a significant amount of work to be done to resolve social inequalities and enhance reservation policies in the country.

The Creamy Layer Saga

The Times of India

The second day of Meet started off unlike its usual self, with a bit peace, and cooperation with the executive board. The Indian National Congress proceeded with the notion for the public session on the topic of discussion “The Creamy Layer,” which got all the favour in the Party Meet.

Press/Mess

In the press conference of the AIPPM, Prime Minister Narendra Modi faced intense debate over his controversial use of the term “ghuspathiye,” meaning “intruders.” It was criticized for being offensive. During the press conference, Modi apologized for his choice of words, acknowledging that they might have hurt or offended some people. He clarified that his intention was to discuss national security, not to target or insult any specific community. To address the backlash, Modi highlighted his government’s efforts to support Muslim communities. Modi’s apology and his emphasis on these positive actions aimed to shift the focus from the controversy to the benefits of his administration’s policies.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamta Banerjee made headlines with her statement that a family of four needs ₹8 lakh annually to be financially stable. This figure has been controversial, with many critics arguing that it does not reflect the economic realities faced by many poorer families. They believe that this fails to address the true needs of disadvantaged communities. This controversy has sparked debate about Banerjee’s understanding of poverty and the effectiveness of her party’s policies in addressing economic challenges.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari added another dimension to the discussion for causing outrage that common people only aspire to get their basic needs but that solely just describes the basic human needs of a man indirectly stating that a commoner should not dream of achieving something out of his financial box. His comments nowhere highlighted the importance of balancing the fulfilment of basic needs with supporting people’s ambitions and aspirations. Congress leader

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also contributed to the discussion by criticizing Congress for potentially undermining national unity with its stance on reservation policies.

In response, Smriti Irani clarified that reservation policies are designed to ensure equal treatment under the law. Irani emphasized the need for a fair and effective approach to social justice, reinforcing the importance of maintaining a reservation system that addresses historical inequities and ensures fairness.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister The discussions reflected a range of views on reservation policies, economic inequality, and the challenges of addressing the needs of marginalized communities. Each leader’s perspective contributed to the broader debate about how best to support disadvantaged groups, promote fairness, and address economic and social challenges in the country.



Sonia Gandhi weighed in by concerning reservation policies. She stressed that their vision is centred on fairness and social justice and argued that these principles should continue to guide current policies. Gandhi asserted that maintaining these ideals is essential for ensuring equity and effectively addressing the needs of disadvantaged groups.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath took the opportunity to criticize opposition parties for allegedly exploiting the issue of the creamy layer in reservation policies for their own benefit. He claimed that these parties were using the situation for political gain rather than genuinely addressing the needs of the poor. Adityanath’s remarks highlighted concerns about political manipulation and the effectiveness of reservation policies in genuinely supporting marginalized communities. His comments suggested a need for more sincere efforts to address poverty and inequality.

Reservation Dilemma 2.0

The Times of India

Understanding Reservation Policies: Insights from Manmohan Singh's Statement

The day three started off quite where the day 1 was left; In India, reservation policies aim to support disadvantaged groups by providing them with special opportunities in education and government jobs. Recently, former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh made a significant comment about the effectiveness of these policies. He pointed out that, despite various reservations, untouchables living in slum areas continue to face severe poverty and marginalization. Singh's statement highlights that current policies might not fully address the deep-rooted issues of economic hardship and inequality faced by these communities but that is not what is the real cause of highlighting this as a main event of the public session he referred them to be untouchables by quoting the lines, "Kya abhi slum areas mein UNTOUCHABLES garib nahi h ? kya unke sat discrimination nahi ho rha h ?". This is a huge and very strong statement to propose as the Ex-prime minister of India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been a strong supporter of reservation policies, particularly for backward classes. In 2019, he introduced a 10% reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) with the aim of improving opportunities for those in economic need. Modi's approach emphasizes "Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas" (Everyone's Support, Everyone's Development), reflecting his focus on inclusive growth. On the other hand, Rahul Gandhi, leader of the Congress party, has criticized the BJP for introducing and passing reservation laws close to elections. He argues that these actions are more about securing votes than genuinely helping people, and he has pointed out by the ruling ally that Congress did not support EWS reservation during PV Narasimha Rao's tenure.

Amit Shah, a senior BJP leader, supported the 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, which provides 10% reservation for EWS. He suggested that changes could be made to improve economic disparities if needed, noting that economic differences are more pronounced in the general category compared to SC/ST categories. Shashi Tharoor raised concerns about the overlap in reservation categories, such as EWS and OBC, which can complicate the system's effectiveness. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman discussed efforts to create a more equitable society and responded to questions about making reservation reforms effective and legitimate.

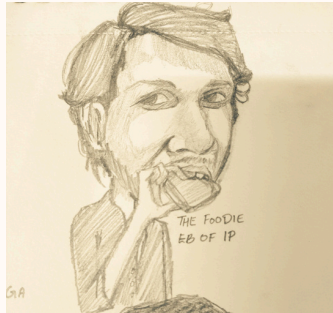
Prakash Javdekar argued for including general category individuals in EWS reservations due to the significant economic disparities observed in this group. Akhilesh Yadav highlighted the 10% reservation for EWS in education and government jobs, in addition to the existing 50% reservation for SC/ST categories. The Indra Sawhney case also emphasized the need for ongoing improvements in the EWS reservation system.

Subramanian has accused the BJP of favouring upper castes and advancing a Hindutva agenda, which he believes undermines fair reservation practices. This perspective adds to the broader debate about the effectiveness and fairness of reservation policies in addressing socio-economic inequalities.

The debate surrounding these policies revealed that while the parties aim to reduce economic disparities, there are ongoing challenges and criticisms about their effectiveness. Continuous reform and effective measures are essential to ensure that all communities truly benefit from the opportunities provided by reservation policies.



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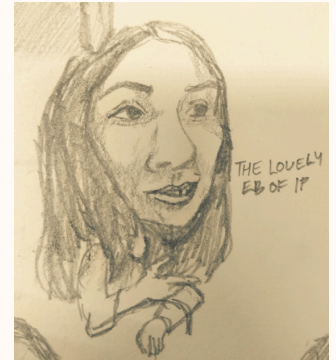
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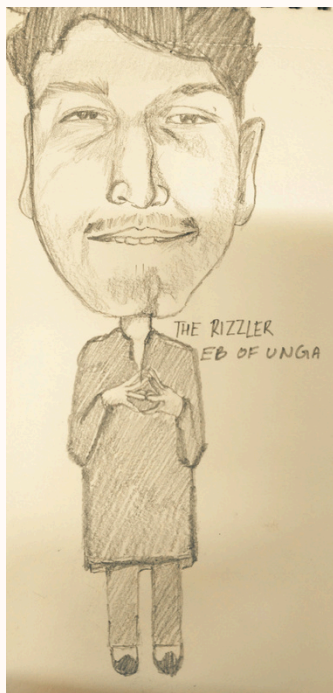
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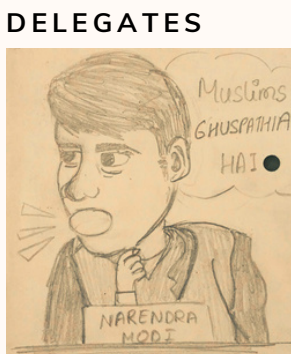
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