

Swachhta Pakhwada 2021 – Mini Model United Nations

Agenda - Achieving Net Deforestation by 2030

On 13th September 2021, the SRIHER Debate Club members and Student Council organised a Mini Model United Nations, as part of the Swachhta Pakhwada, 2021. The agenda was set as 'Achieving Net Deforestation by 2030.' The event was held between 2:00 – 4:00 pm in the lecture hall.

The judges for the event were:

- Dr. Kennedy Kumar, Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology
- Dr. Rithika Rajendran, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pathology

The conference was chaired by Mr. Vedant Bawa, 3rd year MBBS and co-chaired by Mr. Niranjana Ragavan, 3rd year MBBS, Ms. Mahek.V, 3rd year Clinical Nutrition and Ms. Gouri Vinod Pillai, 4th year MBBS. We were also joined by Dr. Leena Dennis Joseph, Associate Dean of Students and Dr. Manikandan, Assistant Dean of Students.

The event started off with Mr. Niranjana welcoming the judges as well as the delegates. Committee proceedings began with the General Speakers List (GSL) where the delegates were required to give their respective countries' stances within a 1:30 minute timeframe. Each of the speeches were followed by a barrage of questions through chits, mainly from the delegates of China and Russia. These were equally matched by retaliatory answers by the delegates of India and Germany and this pattern persisted throughout committee.

After multiple failed motions, a moderated caucus proposed by the delegate of Norway was finally passed on the topic "Sustainable Forest Management".

Some of the key points highlighted were:

- Prevention of artificial forest fires and agro-forestry to maintain villager's economic needs - Ukraine
- Role of forests in combating climate change – Canada
- Financing reforestation and standard timber – Russia
- Silviculture and Federal Forest Act – Germany
- Combatting desertification – Bahrain
- Joint forest technology - India

- Cooperative and ecofriendly forest plan - Norway.

Post the first moderated caucus, a new motion was proposed by the delegate of Canada from an economic perspective, developed countries helping the underdeveloped ones. Seven speakers spoke with a time limit of 1 minute each. Some of the noteworthy points that caught the judges' eyes were:

- Importance of climate financing – Netherlands
- Selfish nature of developed nations – China
- Enforcing laws on expenditure and the net amount of forest area in every country – Norway
- Recognition of different landscapes and forests in every nation with the 'one size does not fit all' theory – Ireland
- Patents to revive landscape in developing countries and making a profitable income - Canada.

The final moderated caucus was proposed by the delegate of Germany. The various proposals under this were

- A 6 goal plan legislated by the Govt., - Norway
- Marked emphasis on recycling and renewable resources – Bahrain
- Approaching high Carbon stock – India
- Efficient Timber management – Nigeria
- The need to change GNP as a whole to proper data analysis and pricing of resources – Netherlands
- Switching to alternative sources, protein based crops, land tenure modifications in other countries - Germany.

The GSL continued after the moderated caucus and the session concluded with a definite conclusion- forest laws must be reversed which would only be a consequence of numerous official UN resolutions being passed. The session came to a closure with the judges giving accolades to all the delegates for putting up a pomp show. The first, second and third places were bagged by the delegates of India, Germany and Netherlands respectively. An ode to the eye indeed!

The background guide and the poster links are attached below: -

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-9avrIHkZPw7TkC-mkgBKGzNU_W6kxXL/view?usp=sharing

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z2gzQ1zl8cy1V4xyNN4kTXxGRSF1Ewig/view?usp=sharing>



