



Concept Note

“Pratinidhitva: Institute of Law Nirma University Socio-Political Conclave”

17th-19th November, 2017

“Pratinidhitva” is the Institute of Law Nirma University’s Socio-Political Conclave which is being organized under the aegis of Institute of Law, Nirma University by Students’ Welfare Board through a working committee having student members of the institute. Pratinidhitva this time will be having a Conclave Series along with the existing Model Indian Parliament conference.

Model Indian Parliament is a simulation of Indian Parliament and various other committees where students learn about diplomacy, parliamentary procedure, and political demographics of country. It involves and aims to teach research, public speaking, debating, writing skills in addition to teamwork, critical thinking and leadership ability.

The last edition of Pratinidhitva witnessed participation across the length and breadth of the country. The event hosted dignitaries like Shri Tarun Vijay, Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha in the inaugural ceremony and Shri Maninderjeet Singh Bitta, Chairman, All India Anti-Terrorist Front (AIATF) in the valedictory function. The event housed three committees namely, the Lok Sabha, All India Political Parties Meet and Historic Lok Sabha discussing on agendas like India’s Foreign Policy with respect to Baluchistan and Kashmir and National Prevention and Control of Organised Conversion Bill, 2016. The event was judged by experienced executive board.

This year the dates for the event even holds a special significance in the history. Where on 17th November, 1928 the nation mourn the brutal demise of ‘Punjab Kesari’ Lala Lajpat Rai, on 19th November in 1828, the ‘Rani of Jhansi’ Laxmibai was born. In 1917, at Allahabad the ‘Iron Lady’ and the only female Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi was born.

Pratinidhitva is an initiative where young minds of this country shall meet to discuss the future of their country. In Pratinidhitva's Model Indian Parliament Conference this year, three committees are being set up namely,

- I. Joint Parliamentary Seating,**
- II. Lok Sabha,**
- III. Gujarat State Legislative Assembly,**

A total of around 300 student participants are expected in these committees who will discuss on the issues of national importance. The event will witness delegates from across the nation speaking on policy issues, discussing the framework and ultimately leading to youth awareness. The committees will be chaired by highly experienced executive board which is set to raise the bar of youth parliament debate in the Model Indian Parliament Circuit across the nation.

I. Lok Sabha:

Agenda: Reviewing the Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Lok Sabha is the lower house of the India Parliament. Members of the Lok Sabha are directly elected by the people to represent their respective constituencies. It consists of 545 members presently. It deals with the legislative and financial businesses of the country. A committee will be simulated representing different parliamentary constituencies. The distribution will be on the basis of actual representation of parties in Lok Sabha.

II. Joint Parliamentary Seating:

Agenda: The Muslim Women (Protection of Right to Divorce and Maintenance) Bill, 2017.

The Supreme Court of India held, "Triple talaq is not integral to religious practice and violates constitutional morality. It is manifestly arbitrary to allow a man to break down (a) marriage whimsically and capriciously. What is sinful under religion cannot be valid under law, therefore, the practice is unconstitutional, arbitrary and not a part of Islam. The parliament must come up with a law in next six months."

A joint session of parliament will be simulated in the conference to discuss on the issue of rights of Muslim women. Our Constitution makers, made the Indian Parliament a bicameral legislature. It had been provided in the Constitution that a legislation has to be passed by both the Houses.

If the two Houses disagree, either in totality in respect of the Bills or in respect of some amendments, there is a special provision of article 108 to deal with such situation. However, the authors of the Constitution of India visualised situations of deadlock between the upper house i.e. Rajya Sabha and the lower house i.e. Lok Sabha. Therefore, the Constitution of India provides for Joint sittings of both the Houses to break this deadlock. The joint sitting of the Parliament is called by the President and is presided over by the Speaker or, in his absence, by the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha or in his absence, the Deputy-Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Joint session of Indian parliament has been called for only three bills i.e. Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1960, Banking Service Commission (Repeal) Bill, 1978 and Prevention of Terrorism Bill, 2002.

III. Gujarat State Legislative Assembly:

Agenda: Reviewing the Reservation Policy in the state.

In the recent past reservation has emerged as a critical issue which has at times posed serious threats to the law and order situation and brought the lives of common people on hold across the country. The Patidar's Anamat Andolan in the state of Gujarat is one such incident. The caste and reservation factor is expected to heavily influence the legislative assembly elections scheduled in the last month of 2017. The 183 member house will debate and review the existing reservation policy in the state and will propose changes to the same.

Adhering to the vision and mission of Nirma University of all-round development of the students this year a conclave series is added to the Model Indian Parliament competition where students can discuss and deliberate on issues with dignitaries from different walks of lives on the issues of national importance.

The three conclave sessions which will be conducted in Pratinidhitva this year are:-

- I. Idea of India**
- II. Indian Supreme Court and the Parliament**
- III. India in the world of Global Uncertainties**

The topics for the conclave sessions are kept abstract and open ended so that the speakers can infer and interpret the same in the way they want to provide a deeper insight to the participants.

We don't wish our endeavour to be meteoric, but expect it to promote sustainability of knowledge in the areas of public policy design.