

The Jan - Feb - 2023
Search
YCS/YSM National Newsletter

Book 43

Vol: 1

THINK
GREEN
GO GREEN



Inside this issue

Stories, Articles on protecting
environment, teen activists, testimonies

‘THINK GREEN GO GREEN’

Think clean, go green is a phrase that stresses the importance of taking care of the environment and promoting sustainable human development. As YCS/ YSMers, we need to adopt environmentally friendly practises in our daily lives and contribute to a cleaner and greener world. Going green means reducing the amount of waste we produce, reducing the usage of energy and non-renewable natural resources, protecting wild life, etc. This is a serious issue that must be discussed, reflected upon, and acted upon, which is why we have chosen this theme in this regard for our 19th National Council: “Gen Z for a self-sustaining world”. For the next 3 years, we will work on this theme and bring about noticeable changes as young students.



This year we see and experience extreme weather conditions; currently we are facing heat waves that are unbearable, water shortages, deforestation, uneven and unseasonal rainfall, etc. India was known to have all the seasons in equal proportion back then, but now, because of all the development work of man and also because of his greed and desire to acquire name and fame, he has started destroying nature, which is our mother. Nature, like a mother, takes care of us like her own child. But we humans haven't been her ideal children. In the name of development, we cut down all the trees and killed the wild animals.

As young students, we can make simple changes in ourselves, like switching off lights when not in use, reducing the usage of single-use plastic, and recycling, which can make a big difference. Using public transportation and walking instead of cars or bikes will help reduce air pollution. We must make conscious choices in purchasing and promoting products that are made from sustainable materials and support environmentally friendly practises. This can have a significant positive impact on our mother earth.



Currently, it's not just about protecting the environment but also about improving the quality of life for present and future generations. By making small changes in our daily lives, we can contribute to a cleaner and greener world for future generations. So let's live a greener and cleaner life and help our future generations experience the same.

Its now or never!

- Deril D'Sa
National convener



***D**ew year always brings new things, new ideas, new approaches towards life. But still the same old destructions: cutting down an entire forest to build new roads, using more and more carbons and increase in global heats.*

Greetings to all!

Happy New Year to each of you! It's still a shock to me how an entire year passed just in a blink, with lots of knowledge and many learning opportunities for each of us. But this new year brings plenty of new challenges for us to face, such as heat waves, severe climatic changes, and many other natural calamities. Don't we all know the reason behind it? Yes, the reason is nothing but the rate of increasing global warming.

What are the reasons behind global warming? How is it going to affect our generation? Well, the answer is pretty simple: the reasons behind global warming are humans. Our 'cutting down of trees without thinking about planting new', 'using vehicles for shorter distances that can be covered by walking', and "using resources such as electricity and water without any limits' are some reasons why we, the youth, result in global warming. This gradual change in global warming will affect our health and our lifestyle. And it is going to affect not just us but also the coming generations.

It is always a relief for us when we walk under the shade of a tree in the summer. When we say that we will always plant a tree, it actually means that you will be planting a sapling that needs to be taken care of for the next 5 to 10 years, and then it will be that tree that was cut down for our planet.

Reducing our unnecessary needs of wasting resources, looking after our planet, following the 3 R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), and also guiding others to be the person our Mother Earth wanted—these things can be done by us, the young people, to protect and cherish our planet.



This issue of The Search will include articles from students all around the country about how they think about ways to conserve our Mother Earth. Think Green, Go Green is one of the motions we should all follow in our lives.

It is important to give the earth as a better place to live to the next generation, as we received it when we were small.

Always think Green, Go green

- *Ashita Jimmy*, Editor.

ACTIVISM

Licypriya Kangujam was born 2 October 2011 is a child environmental activist from India. She is one of the youngest climate activists globally and has addressed world leaders at the 2019 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Madrid, Spain, asking them to take immediate climate action. Licypriya has been campaigning for climate action in India since 2018, to pass new laws to curb India's high pollution levels, and to make climate-change literacy mandatory in schools.

Licypriya started advocating against climate change in July 2018. On 21 June 2019, inspired by Greta Thunberg, Licypriya started spending a week outside the Indian parliament House to draw the attention of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to pass a climate change law in India. In her tweet, she writes, "My name is Licypriya. I'm 11 years old. I live in a rented house in Delhi. I studied in a school with free merit scholarship till Grade 12. My mom runs a small street vendor shop. My family doesn't own any property or a house or a car. I represented India in over 7 UN events."

Although she has represented India at the UN several times, she doesn't consider herself a 'celebrity', instead someone 'who love and care' about planet Earth. "We even don't have a bed to sleep. All my travelling expenses to speak at various events are sponsored by the organisations /institutions inviting me. I'm not a celebrity. I'm not a millionaires. I'm just a girl who love and care our planet. I will speak out on right time," she said. She concluded her Twitter thread by stating that she has 'donated all the remuneration' and 'awards' she received 'to support children's education and victims of climate change'.

Inspiration



THE RED MOON



Dear YCS/YSMers

I am sure that the title of this article is very confusing. We have heard about the white moon, but what about the red moon? I read this short story on the internet sometime ago. There once was a melancholy little grey planet. Despite having all the technology and spaceships you could ever need, the inhabitants hadn't taken care of them. There were no longer any plants or animals in the entire countryside because of how heavily it had been polluted and defiled.

A little boy was once strolling through the world when he came across a cave and a tiny red flower inside. The boy carefully pulled up the flower, roots, soil, and all, as it was very ill and on the verge of death. Then he began looking for a location where he could take care of it.

He looked all over the world, but nothing he saw could possibly contain the blossom because it was so tainted everywhere. He observed the moon as he turned to face the sky. The boy had the impression that the plant might be able to survive there.

So the young child dressed in his astronaut costume and boarded a spacecraft. They left for the moon after he placed the tiny red flower in the back.

The flower began to flourish because it was far from pollution and because the youngsters went there every day to take care of it. The flower received such excellent care that it quickly gave birth to more blossoms, which then spread to other flowers. The moon soon had blooms covering it from top to bottom.

Because of this, the moon occasionally develops a gentle red shine for a few minutes, acting as a warning light whenever the young boy's flowers bloom. Perhaps it is warning us that if we don't take care of our planet, there will come a time when plants will only be able to flourish on the moon.



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Dear young students, if we don't take care of our nature, when you grow old, you will show your grandchildren the red moon. You'll tell them the story of a 'white moon.'

I live in Delhi. Our newspapers carry reports on air quality almost every day. We read about AQI levels and PM10 levels. Almost every day the air quality is in the red zone, which means it is not fit to breathe. We felt good when the air quality went from "extremely bad" to "poor." We have not seen a day when it is 'very good' or 'excellent'. There is an extreme climate and unseasonal rains. During the summer, every year new records are created, and similarly during the winter. There were eight cold wave days during the winter in Delhi, and now that it is summer, we do not know how many heat waves we will experience.

There is a warning! Every time we hear about these heat and cold waves, some calamities, unseasonal rains, etc., nature



is warning us to change the course of our lives. But unfortunately, we are ignoring these warnings.

Nature has given us everything. We cannot live without the clean water and air that nature provides us free of charge. In the name of development and greed, we are continuously destroying our nature. Everybody needs to take responsibility. Beginning with government, institutions, industries, and all of us.

The Young Christian Students Movement is working tirelessly to create awareness about these issues. We have carried some articles and awareness campaigns in the past. The 19th National Council in the month of May 2023 will also discuss this topic of the environment.

We, as young students, need to do something. We need to protect our environment for ourselves and for generations to come. If we don't take the lead today, we will miss an opportunity.

In this edition, we have published some inspiring stories of environmentalists. There are many young environmental activists like Greta Thunberg of Sweden, Ridhima Pandey and Licipriya Kangujam of India, and many others who are inspiring the younger generations. Each YCS/YSMer should take this issue seriously and create awareness in their schools.

We need to begin now before it is too late.

Let YCS/YSM light shine

- Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain

ENVIRONMENT CHANGES WHEN YOU CHANGE YOURSELF



Climate change occurs over decades or longer time scales. Until now, changes in the global climate have occurred naturally, across centuries or millennia, because of continental drift, various astronomical cycles, variations in solar energy output, and volcanic activity. Over the past few decades, it has become increasingly apparent that human actions are changing atmospheric composition, thereby causing global climate change. Humankind's activities are altering the world's climate by increasing the atmospheric concentration of energy-trapping gases (greenhouse gases [GHGs]), thereby amplifying the natural "greenhouse effect" that makes the Earth habitable.

Our personal health may seem to relate mostly to prudent behaviour, heredity, occupation, local environmental exposures, and health-care access, but sustained population health requires the life-supporting "services" of the biosphere. Populations of all animal species depend on supplies of food and water, freedom from excess infectious disease, and the physical safety and comfort conferred by climatic stability. The world's climate system is fundamental to this life support. A changing climate is likely to affect all these conditions and hence have a powerful impact on human health and well-being.

Humans have already caused major climate changes, and we have set in motion more. However, if we stopped emitting greenhouse gases today, the rise in global temperatures would begin to flatten within a few years. Temperatures would then plateau but remain well elevated for many, many centuries. There is a time lag between what we do and when we feel it, but that lag is less than a decade.

We can also take a few steps by recycling more, driving less, changing the light, planting more trees, etc. In order to do this, we need to change ourselves to make the world a better place for you and me. Your environment changes when you change yourself.

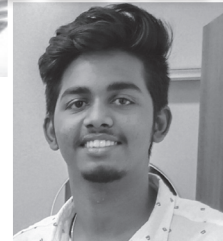
(courtesy: <https://www.paho.org/en/topics/climate-change-and-health/climate-change-and-human-health-questions-and-answers>)

compiled by:

- **Bibiana**, North East Region Nexco



THINK GREEN, GO GREEN: EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY



In today's world, environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, deforestation, and loss of biodiversity have become critical challenges that demand immediate attention. The need for sustainable living practises has never been more urgent. "Think Green, Go Green" is a powerful slogan that encapsulates the essence of sustainability, encouraging individuals and communities to adopt environmentally responsible behaviours and practises to protect and preserve our planet for future generations.

"Think Green" signifies the importance of changing our mindset towards the environment. It urges us to be mindful of our actions and decisions and consider their impact on the environment. It encourages us to think critically and holistically, taking into account the social, economic, and environmental aspects of our choices. For instance, before making a purchase, we can think about the environmental impact of the product's production, use, and disposal, as well as the social and economic implications for the workers and local communities

involved in its production. Thinking green involves considering the long-term consequences of our actions on the environment and making informed choices that prioritise sustainability.

"Go Green" emphasises the need to take action and implement sustainable practises in our daily lives. It calls for making conscious efforts to reduce our environmental footprint by adopting eco-friendly habits and behaviours. It also involves promoting policies and initiatives that advocate for sustainable practises at a community, national, and global level. Going green means taking responsibility for our individual and collective impact on the environment and taking steps to minimise our negative impact while maximising our positive contributions towards sustainability.



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Embracing sustainability by thinking green and going green has numerous benefits. Firstly, it helps protect the environment by reducing pollution, conserving natural resources, and mitigating climate change. It promotes the conservation of biodiversity, protecting endangered species and preserving ecosystems. It also helps prevent environmental degradation and its associated negative impacts on human health and well-being. Secondly, sustainable practises can lead to economic benefits by creating green jobs, promoting local economies, reducing costs through resource efficiency, and fostering innovation and technological advancements. Sustainable businesses are increasingly being recognised as drivers of economic growth and resilience. Thirdly, embracing sustainability promotes social equity and justice by addressing environmental and social inequalities, protecting the rights and livelihoods of marginalised communities, and promoting social cohesion and inclusivity. It also encourages global solidarity and cooperation towards achieving global sustainability goals, such

as the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

However, embracing sustainability is not without challenges. It requires changing deeply ingrained behaviours and mindsets, overcoming resistance to change, and challenging the status quo. It may also require upfront investments and financial costs, which can be perceived as barriers for some individuals and communities. Additionally, there may be conflicting interests and priorities that need to be addressed to achieve a consensus on sustainable practises. Overcoming these challenges requires collaborative efforts from various stakeholders, including individuals, governments, businesses, civil society, and international organisations.

Education and awareness play a crucial role in


promoting sustainable practises. Educating individuals from an early age about the importance of sustainability and providing them with the knowledge, skills, and tools to make informed choices can create a culture of sustainability. Governments and businesses can also play a significant role in promoting sustainable practises by adopting and implementing policies and regulations that support sustainability, providing incentives for sustainable behaviours, and investing in sustainable technologies and infrastructure. Civil society organisations can raise awareness, advocate for sustainable practises, and hold governments and businesses accountable for their environmental impacts.

Compiled by: Tony Richard, Tamilnadu, Nexco



IT IS TIME TO TAKE STEPS TO HELP SAVE OUR PLANET



 Our planet is in trouble, and the time to act is now. We have seen the effects of global warming, and it is time to take steps to help save our planet from further destruction. The concept of “Think Green, Go Green” is one way to make a change.

Think Green, Go Green is the idea of living a more sustainable lifestyle. It involves being more conscious of our consumption, reducing our waste, and increasing our use of renewable energy sources. This idea is about being more conscious of our impact on the environment. We need to be more aware of the choices we make and the effect they have on our planet.

One of the most effective things we can do is reduce our consumption of energy. This can be done by using energy efficient appliances and LED bulbs instead of normal ones. Also involves using public transportation or walking when we have to go to nearby places, and using reusable grocery bags instead of plastic. We can also reduce our use of water by taking shorter showers and using a low-flow showerhead. We can also think of ways to reduce our waste. This can be done by following the 3 R's (Reduce, recycle and reuse).

In recent years, more and more people have become aware of the need to protect our environment. The idea “think green, go green” has become a popular slogan that encourages people to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle. It’s a call to action to reduce our environmental impact, and it’s something that everyone needs to do and can do.

There are numerous ways to do so, like switching off lights when not needed, closing the tap properly, and using solar energy systems.

Finally, it’s important to consider the impact of your transportation choices. Taking public transport, walking, or cycling can help reduce pollution. If you do need to drive, try using a fuel-efficient car or CNG vehicle.

- Arpit Katara

Nexco, Madhya Pradesh region

THINK GREEN GO GREEN

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Psalm 19:1*

Praise the Lord
Nature and its ever green environment is a gift from God, and we humans are responsible for protecting it and taking good care of it.

As Genesis 2:15 says "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." And by this we see that all created things belong to Living God and we are accountable to Him as stewards of the creation.

Let's now reflect on the topic THINK GREEN GO GREEN: As it is our duty to protect the earth and its environment, let's not misuse the resources that is been produced by the earth instead we can show out the unconditional love towards the one who provides us with everything we need to sustain ourselves.

As an individual let's bring out some changes in our daily lifestyle by following simple things:

- Reduce, reuse, and recycle: Lets cut it down on what we throw away. And let's follow the three R's to conserve natural resources.
- Plant a tree:-Trees provide food and oxygen. They help save energy, clean

the air, and help combat climate change. So let take a motive of plant a seed every year.

- Volunteer:-As a youngster let's indulge ourselves as a volunteer for cleanups in our own community.
- Conserve water:-The less water you use, the less run-off and water waste that will eventually end up in the ocean.
- Choose sustainable:-Say no to unnecessary goods and products.
- Shop wisely:-By buy-ing less plastic covers and bring a reusable shopping bag.
- Use long-lasting light bulbs:-Energy efficient light bulbs reduce greenhouse gas emissions. And we should also flip the light switch off when we leave the room.
- Avoid toxic chemicals:-Don't send chemicals into your waterways. Choose non-toxic chemicals in the home and office.
- Walk more. Drive less.

Conclusion:

Jesus says: _"Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." Hallelujah

Let YCS/YSM light shine

- **Steena Olivia**

NEXCO, Karnataka Region



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

—Margaret Mead

TAKE ACTION TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY



In recent years, environmental concerns have become a crucial aspect of our daily lives. As global warming and climate change continue to affect our planet, the phrase “think green, go green” has become a popular slogan encouraging individuals and businesses to take steps towards sustainability and reduce their carbon footprint.

The concept of “think green” refers to being mindful of the impact we have on the environment. This can involve small lifestyle changes like turning off lights and electronics when not in use, reducing plastic waste by using reusable bags and water bottles, and choosing environmentally-friendly products. It can also involve larger decisions like investing in renewable energy sources or supporting companies that prioritize sustainability.

“Go green” means taking action towards sustainability. This can involve making changes to one’s lifestyle and habits to reduce their carbon footprint. For example, reducing the use of personal cars and opting for public transport, biking, or walking instead. Additionally, individuals can switch to energy-efficient light bulbs and appliances, compost food waste, and reduce water usage.

Businesses can also play a crucial role in the effort to think green and go green. Companies can prioritize eco-friendly practices, such as reducing paper waste by going digital, using renewable energy sources, and reducing their carbon emissions. Moreover, businesses can encourage their employees to participate in green initiatives and adopt sustainable habits in their personal lives.

The benefits of thinking green and going green are numerous. It not only helps reduce our impact on the environment but also contributes to a healthier and more sustainable future for everyone. Additionally, reducing waste and energy consumption can lead to cost savings for both individuals and businesses.



In conclusion, the slogan “think green, go green” is a powerful reminder of the importance of taking action towards sustainability. Whether through small lifestyle changes or significant investments in renewable energy, every individual and business can play a role in reducing their carbon footprint and contributing to a more sustainable future.

- *Lindsaey Liandrah Jacob*
Karnataka Region.

“I’ll plant till my last breath.”

Padma Shri Jadav “Molai” Payeng

Ordained the “Forest Man of India” by the former president of India, Jadav Payeng planted a tree a day and created a man-made forest bigger than NYC Central Park.

At 16, environmental activist Jadav “Molai” Payeng saw hundreds of dead snakes, the victims of a major drought occurring on Majuli Reserve—the world’s largest river island located in the Brahmaputra river in India. Even at such a young age, he knew that someone had to do something, so in 1979, at 16-years old he started planting a tree sapling a day in the barren soil. Now over 40 years later, his forest covers 1,390 acres—approximately the size of 15 football stadiums. Jadav left behind his formal education to give all his attention to the forest. The son of a buffalo trader, Jadav grew up a poor farmer from a marginalized tribal community in Assam, India.



Mr. Jadav Payeng
Assam

Payeng began by planting bamboo and then moved onto other species. At first planting trees was time consuming until the trees started providing the seed themselves. As his forest grew dense, so did the amount of inhabitants. Soon, the forest was filled with hundreds of species of birds, with deers, rhinos and tigers, and even included a herd of elephants straying into his forest three months out of the year.

Jadav’s life began to change in the fall of 2007, when a photojournalist stumbled upon Payeng and discovered him seeding his forest and wrote an article about him. He soon gained the attention of the Indian government and then the entire country — winning multiple awards for his incredible achievements and giving TED talks. He has viable ideas to save Majuli Island from erosion by planting coconut trees that grow straight and when planted together in close proximity protect the soil. In turn, this would not only help India’s economy but help fight climate change.

Payeng’s worst fear for his forest is deforestation for financial gain, which makes the flora and fauna vulnerable to human greed. He believes all species on this planet are animals, including humans, and that humans don’t realize that frugality and honoring nature is key to our survival.

To honor Payeng for his environmental activism and for planting one tree every day, the forest was named “Molai” after him. Jadav’s story also inspired a children’s book, *Jadav and the Tree Place*, that tells his story of how he made a forest that is now home to wild animals.

REPORT



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NT/EXCO Meeting

Dhayana Ashram, Mylapore, Chennai

21st to 22nd January 2023

The Vth NT/Exco meeting of YCS/YSM was organised at Dhyana Ashram, Chennai from January 21–22, 2023. This meeting was held with the ICYM National Executive.

Day 1 : 21st January 2023

The day and the meeting started with a prayer led by Anjalina. All the participants were asked to introduce themselves and their role in youth ministry. After the introduction, Fr. Chetan Machado (the National Chaplain) called the President and Secretary of both the movements, YCS/YSM and ICYM to present the reports. Ashita Jimmy (General Secretary of YCS/YSM) presented the previous NT/EXCO meeting report of YCS/YSM, which was held in the same place on January 2-3, 2022. The report was passed by Fr. Dominic Pinto (regional youth director of the Agra region) and seconded by Mr. Abhishek Bhattacharjee (national coordinator of YCS and YSM).

After the presentation of the report, Fr. Chetan further explained how the youth always wanted a place where they could all gather and get proper training and guidance. He then explained how the initial search began and that the cities that were shortlisted were metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Bangalore. There was a place called Joelikote, which was suggested



by Most Rev. Ignatius D'Souza. Archbishop Anil from the Delhi Archdiocese also offered a few places, like flats and other houses. Then the youth commission found the current national office, which belongs to the Archdiocese of Delhi. On the 5-year contract between the Archdiocese and CCBI, we got Bethania Centre as the national office for youth commission (ICYM and YCS/YSM).

There was also a discussion put forward regarding the Yuva Gram place, which is situated in Nagpur's outskirts, and also about Patel Nagar House, which is registered under YAF. During this discussion, Fr. John Barman (Regional Youth Director of the North East Region) suggested that all the RYDs should have a direct meeting with the bishops and should have a dialogue with the chairman bishop and member bishops. Fr. Alex said to let Bethania be the permanent youth office, to which Fr. Chetan replied that there's no source of income in Bethania and it is tough to maintain the house. Fr. John gave a suggestion to make ICYM the face of Bethania, which all the regions will support.

After this discussion, Mr. Anthony Judy continued with the meeting and called all the regions to present their reports from August 2022 to January 2023. Regions presenting their reports were in this order: Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, the North East, Madhya Pradesh, and the Telegu region.



The second session began after the tea break at 11:30 with the evaluation of the NSLTP (which was held in Gwalior) and the National Convention held in Bangalore. Mr. Deril D'sa, National Convenor of YCS/YSM thanked everyone and every region for attending the convention on short notice, as well as RYD and DYD of the Karnataka region for helping throughout the event. Sr. Aluti (regional youth animator from the North East region) congratulated the national team and said that the convention was well organised and that delegates got a chance to interact and learn more about other regions. Fr. Lourd Raj (Regional Youth Director of Karnataka Region) said that it was a programme that benefited all and also said that short-term management was a great achievement.

The next session's main agenda was the **XIX National Council of YCSYSM**, which is supposed to be held in the Archdiocese of Chennai in the month of May from 23 to 30. The preparatory document was distributed amongst the RYDs and RYLAs, read by Ms. Anjalina Ekka, and discussed paragraph by paragraph. During the discussion, many problems and situations were discussed, and solutions were also made. Some discussions are as follows:

The theme for the next council was supposed to be discussed and shortlisted. As Fr. Chetan explained, based on the theme, resource people are invited. Therefore, it is important to finalise the theme. Many suggestions were given by all the RYDs, RYLAs, and NEXCOs. Fr. Chetan said that the regional elections should be conducted before the month of March. He also mentioned that this time the national office is going to be strict regarding election matters and that no regions would be allowed to give their representatives names during the council.



Mr. Leo Joseph suggested inviting new dioceses as observers, like Kerala or other regions, so that they could learn, implement, and start movements in their regions.

During the discussion about criteria, Fr. Chetan said that students whose parents don't allow

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them to travel or if the school doesn't provide leave should not be selected as NEXCOs. As it's a youth movement, all the arrangements cannot be fulfilled by the national office. The leaders who get elected for the regional representative post should be responsible and have experience regarding the movement. A quiz will also be conducted to check the knowledge of the movement.

Fr. Martin shared the details of the venue, such as that the food arrangement would be taken care of by the Archdiocese of Chennai, transportation would be taken care of by the LOCs, and he also mentioned that accommodating delegates won't be an issue at the venue.

After coming back from lunch, Fr. Chetan briefed about the morning sessions and shared everything in a short manner. The post-lunch session began with the sharing and announcing of responsibilities and the formation of committees among the national team and the LOCs. The committee members were:

Photos and video : Abhishek ; First Aid- Steena
Food- Joseph & Arpit; Cultural & Animation: Anjalina, Anushka, Steena, Arpit.
Liturgy: Anjalina & Jousha, Anusha; Finance: Fr. Chetan and National Office
Registration: Joseph, Steena, Abhishek; Reception & Arrangement: Arpit & Tony
Logistic & Accommodation: Arpit & Tony; Transport: Tony
Documentation: Ashita & Deril
Council Statement: Ashita, Deril, Abhishek; Evaluation: NEXCOs
Program Committee: Fr. Chetan, Deril; Media & Souvenir: Abhishek & Tony
Fund Raising :National Office; Stage and sound: Arpit, Tony & Joseph

The next important discussion that happened was about the fund-raising. Fr. Chetan clarified the doubts regarding the membership fees of 2000 rupees from each diocese annually and the contribution to the council from each diocese.

Regarding the fund-raising, Ms. Anjalina Ekka asked if t-shirts and badges could be sold in parishes and other places. To which Mr. Joshua replied that it would be difficult to do so in the North East region as the transportation would be difficult. Fr. Chetan said that it is tough to do this at the national level, but a specific diocese or parish could do it. And he also added that it is tough to just print 25 or 30 t-shirts, as just one t-shirt costs around Rs. 250. So it would actually be a loss for the office.

Before ending the afternoon session, Mr. Deril D'sa once again reminded all the RYDs about sending their representatives and their regional reports before the end of March, as the National Office needs to add all the reports to the handbook that is distributed during the council.



At the end, it was also said that the theme song should be prepared by the host region of the council, which is Tamil Nadu, and must be submitted before March. The day ended with the celebration of the Eucharist, with the main celebrant being Fr. John Barman.

Day 2 - 22 January 2023

Day 2 started with prayer and meditation led by ICYM Nexcos. After breakfast, ICYM Nexcos had their meeting, and YCSYSM Nexcos were there as observers. We were suggested to collaborate with ICYM in the G-India campaign and other campaigns. Before ending the Vth NT/EXCO meeting, our Chairman, Most Rev. Nazarene Soosai, joined through Google Meet and asked about the flow of the meeting and the discussions that happened. Both movements briefed him about the current situation of the meeting and also about the future planning. The bishop thanked all the participants for their enthusiasm for the movement. The day and the meeting ended with ICYM President Adv. Anthony Judy thanking everyone for their presence and their time.

Meeting ended on January 22, 2023, at 12 p.m.

- Ms. Ashita Jimmy

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

Nature is very beautiful and pleasant. God has created such a beautiful nature and we need to protect our nature. We need to preserve it because prevention is better than cure.

We as humans know the importance of nature and we need to value it by planting saplings or by saving the natural resources. There are always times when we fail to fulfill our responsibilities and duties.

One day there will be a situation where we can't do anything to change our future. So let's us all join our hands to save and protect the earth, protect our Mother Earth and she will do the same for us.

- Anushka Teronpi

NEXCO, Northeast Region.





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REPORTS

NORTHERN

Session on Mental Health

It was a beautiful morning of 5th February 2023. The weather was amazing for those who stepped out. Here are the YCS members of the St Alphonsa Church, Vasant Kunj, Archdiocese of Delhi after their cell meeting on “Mental Health” and sharing their thoughts and ideas it’s amazing to see how they are self-organized. Every Sunday the YCS members meet to discuss various topics. Next meeting, they will discuss ‘Minorities in India’.

We thank Mr. Manoj Mathew for your leadership. Be the salt and light!

- Mr. Abhishek Toppo
YCS Member



February 2023 and also at St. John Bosco Secondary School Rambrai, on the 28th March 2023. Around 100-plus students attended the Orientation program in both schools along with animators.

We congratulate Fr John Albert Rynthiang, DYD Nongstoin Diocese, and Sr Pherdalin, DYLA for taking the initiative in reviving the movement in Nongstoin Diocese.



YCS/YSM Orientation - Diphu

YCS/YSM North East Region organized an orientation program for Animators and students which was held at Don Bosco School, Satgaon, West Karbi Anglong on 4th February 2023. Around 70 students and 27 Animators participated in the orientation.

NORTHEAST

YCS/YSM Orientation - Nongstoin

YCS/YSM Nongstoin Diocese organized an Orientation Program at Sacred Heart Secondary School, Mawlangdep on 24th



YCS/YSM Orientation - Kohima

YCS/YSM Kohima Diocese organized an Orientation Program at St Paul HSS, Dimapur, and Carmel HSS on February 11, 2023.



YSM/YCS of St Paul HSS, Dimapur at Renewal Gathering in the School Camp

YCS/YSM North East Region congratulates Fr Benny Varghese, DYD Kohima Diocese, and Sr Mariyam Khiyang, DYLA for taking the initiative, in reviving the movement at their Diocese.

YCS/YSM Regional Meeting - Northeast Region

YCS/YSM North East Region organized a REXCO meeting on 12 February at North Eastern Regional Youth Commission Office with Fr. John Barman MSFS the Regional Chaplain and Sr. Aluti Rabha MSMHC YCS/YSM Regional Coordinator for the planning of 1st YCS/YSM Regional



Convention to held at St. Lawrence School Ramther Veng, Aizawl, Mizoram from 17th to 20th March 2023 on the theme ' Young Students for Youthful life'. Around six REXCOs were present during the meeting.

YCS Evaluation & Assessment - Shillong

YCS Evaluation & Assessment was organised by the YCS/ YSM Shillong Archdiocese on 19 February 2023. College cell and All the YCS/ YSM Animators we're present during the program. Rev. Fr. John Regional Chaplain and Sr. Aluti Rabha we're also present during the program.

YCS/YSM Orientation - Miao

YCS/YSM North East Region organized an orientation program for Ferrando School Mahadevpur, Miao Diocese on 8th February 2023. Around 80 students along with 4 animators were present during the orientation. Students who adored our movement have commented that they have never witnessed or have been part of anything such.

- *Ms Alva Khyrem*

YCS/YSM President - North East region

KARNATAKA

YCS/ YSM Regional Meeting & NEXCO Election

Karnataka Regional youth Commission in collaboration with YCS/YSM Archdiocese of Bangalore organized Regional Meeting and NEXCO representatives election on Saturday 7th January 2023 at NBCLC Bangalore. The Regional Team of Students (RTS) ushered the directors and participants in the morning.



Mr Deril D'Sa, the National President YCS/YSM, conducted the animation. The formal inauguration began at 9.45 AM. Augustine Neil from Bangalore Diocese called upon the guests Fr Lourduraj(RYD), Fr Anil Dsa (YCS Asian Chaplain), Fr Vivian Richard (Bangalore Diocesan Chaplain), Mr Deril D'Sa (YCS/YSM National President), Mr Abhishek (national co-ordinator) and YCS Regional President Mr Briston Rodrigues to the dais. The session was inaugurated by watering the sapling. Fr Vivian Richard welcomed the participants. Fr Lourduraj the RYD set the tone through his keynote address.

First Session: Fr Anil D'Sa the Asian Chaplain the resource person of the day led the group to analyze the present situation of YCS/YSM by conducting a didactic game of counting numbers in minimum seconds. He then proceeded to speak on the need for YCS through brainstorming. We require YCS to fulfill our basic needs. It is a cell-based movement.

Through an activity of filling out a form of 'Hello, Hi Friendship' Fr Anil motivated the participants to speak on the qualities required to build YCS and YSM. Making use of all the resources, persuasion, taking initiative, standing by each other, sharing or speaking despite inferiority complexes etc. After tea break, the session continued.

Then the participants were divided into four groups with assigned activities to know

each other; to share anything from the social scene that is in their head topmost. After sharing reflect that which is shared most in the light of the Bible. The four groups shared their doable action based on their respective topic of discussion/reflection.

In the afternoon, Fr Anil enlightened the participants on dynamic leadership and the 15 Cs of a qualitative leader through group activity. After the session, election of the Representatives for the National team was conducted. The nominated young students from the dioceses were enthusiastic to contest for the election. They were introduced to the group and asked to share



their views. The Female Nominees were Amica Frank, Shiny, and Ruby and Male Nominees, Anson, Alvin, Joshua, and Allen contested the election. Fr Lourduraj gave some directions before casting ballots. Amica was elected as female representative with an absolute majority on the first ballot. Anson was elected as the boy representative to the national team. Both were felicitated. Both responded by promising to build YCS/YSM stronger than it is at present.

The tea was served after the election. Fr Lour Raj gave instructions for the evening programme and asked the participants to attend the mass in KROSS where the newly elected representatives took oath.

- **Mr. Briston Rodrigues**
YCS/YSM Regional President

DO JUSTICE TO OUR MOTHER EARTH



According to *Atharva Veda*, the three blankets of our surroundings are referred to as *Chandamsi*: 'Wise utilizes three elements variously which are different, visible and full of qualities. These are water, air, and plants or herbs. People back then knew the value of nature; they worshiped and respected every aspect of it because they knew that it is an important and integral part of mankind.

What is our generation doing?

The 21st century, a century of technology. where we have been destroying the resources that mother earth provides us and we are carelessly polluting the earth knowingly or unknowingly. This has led to global warnings causing constant tsunamis, earthquakes, forest fires, sudden changes in weather, droughts, etc.

In some areas, people don't have clean water to drink, pure air to breathe, and no greenery to adore. Earth is encountering its downfall. We all are catching a glimpse of the drastic changes in nature, but we don't want to do anything because it is not yet bothering us much.

But better do we know that it is high time for us to start taking personal initiative to protect our environment. You must be thinking how do we do that? The most crucial thing to remember is the three R's Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.



According to factorydirectpromos.com, following are 9 simple ways that we can adapt to help our planet:

1. **Go Reusable:** Disposable plastic bags cause so much environmental harm from the use of non-renewable resources to the damage and destruction of ecosystems as well as the extinction of wildlife.
2. **Recycle Everything Possible:** When you recycle items you provide new life to the materials.
3. **Purchase Local:** When you buy items that are cultivated and manufactured nearby that summarizes into less pollution emitted than would be the case if you purchased items from far away areas that were trucked in.

Search

4. **Donate Old Items:** Just because you no longer have use for an item doesn't indicate that it requires ending up in the trash.
5. **Conserve Water:** Reduction efforts protect drinking water that is in a limited supply.
6. **Plant a Tree:** Trees convert greenhouse gases into breathable oxygen, help prevent soil erosion and when planted close to your home can lend some shade that will help cut cooling costs in the warmer months.
7. **Have a Plan for Paper:** There will always be times when the paper is necessary, but using recycled paper and recycling can have a big impact.
8. **Travel Green:** When possible use public transportation and ride share to minimize carbon emissions.
9. **Save Electricity:** From hanging clothes to air dry, switching off lights when not in use, waiting to charge electronics until the battery is drained, and using energy-efficient appliances, you can greatly reduce the amount of electricity you use and in turn the number of resources used to generate electricity.



I will try to follow these measures in my day to day life to contribute to the betterment of our planet and I hope you will also follow some of these measures. For YCS/YSMers one of our 5 rules is to 'Protect our mother earth and save its resources' so we should make a habit to do justice to our mother earth.

Let YCS/YSM Light Shine.

- **Abhishek Bhattacharjee**
National Coordinator

National Chaplain's Activities

1. 15-16 Jan 2023 - Mysore Convention
2. 19-22 Jan 2023 - NT/Exco Meeting, Dhyana Ashram, Chennai
3. 23-30 Jan 2023 - CCBI plenary, St. John's Bangalore
5. 1-2 Feb 2023 - Udupi
4. 13- 14 Feb 2023 - Eluru, Telugu Regional Commission Meeting
6. 15-16 Feb 2023 - Nagpur - Yuva Gram
7. 18-19 Feb 2023 - Bareilly - Diocesan Animators Training.

Future Programmes:

1. 2-5 Mar 2023 - National Leaders Training, Delhi
2. 6-9 Mar 2023 - Diocesan Meeting on Synodality - Khandwa
3. 10 Mar 2023 - Teachers Training Programme, Delhi
4. 16-22 Mar 2023 - YCS/YSM Regional Convention, Aizawl
5. 2-9 Apr 2023 - Holy Week , Delhi



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XIX FORMATION SESSION & NATIONAL COUNCIL


GEN Z FOR A SELF-SUSTAINING WORLD.


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23-30
MAY 2023

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YCS/YSM
INDIA

YOUNG CATHOLIC STUDENTS' / YOUNG STUDENTS MOVEMENT

YCS/YSM INDIA ACTIVITIES



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