

Golden Jubilee Souvenir

YCS/YSM INDIA

XVII YCS/YSM NATIONAL COUNCIL



GOLDEN JUBILEE

1966-2016

“Called to believe; begin; become”

YMCA, Greater Noida, Northern Region, India

OUR INSPIRATION



Joseph Cardinal Cardijn

“We are still at the beginning, we are always at the beginning, we are just beginning.”

Golden Jubilee Celebration
1966-2016

OUR VISION

To evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where each and every person is respected in dignity, hence valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality.

AIM

“A Just Society” - God’s Kingdom”

OBJECTIVES

Self change – Change others

Personality development

Leadership through talent exposure

Faith formation

Building up a better future


Fighting for social justice and peace

METHODOLOGY

Review of life - See, Judge and Act
(Awareness, Reflection, Action and Evaluation)

Golden Jubilee Souvenir

“Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul”

 Every celebration is an experience, the external fades away, and the internal lingers and echoes in the most depth of our hearts. We are reminded that jubilees are milestones on the journey of life and reminders of God’s fidelity all through.

Today our hearts are filled with gratitude and joy that overflows within us as we recall the path YCS/YSM has travelled, in these 50 years in India. We thank the Almighty for accompanying this movement in marvelous ways all through these years and changing the lives of many young students. Like any other movement, there were highs and lows. This movement flourished in some regions and saw a low in other regions. New Chairmen, Directors and animators have shown interest to keep the movement active and at times neglected it. YCS/YSM survived all these challenges and problems because God sent good people in the form of animators and they have strengthened the movement. I thank all the animators for their dedicated service. We need more animators to serve the student community. As Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field”.

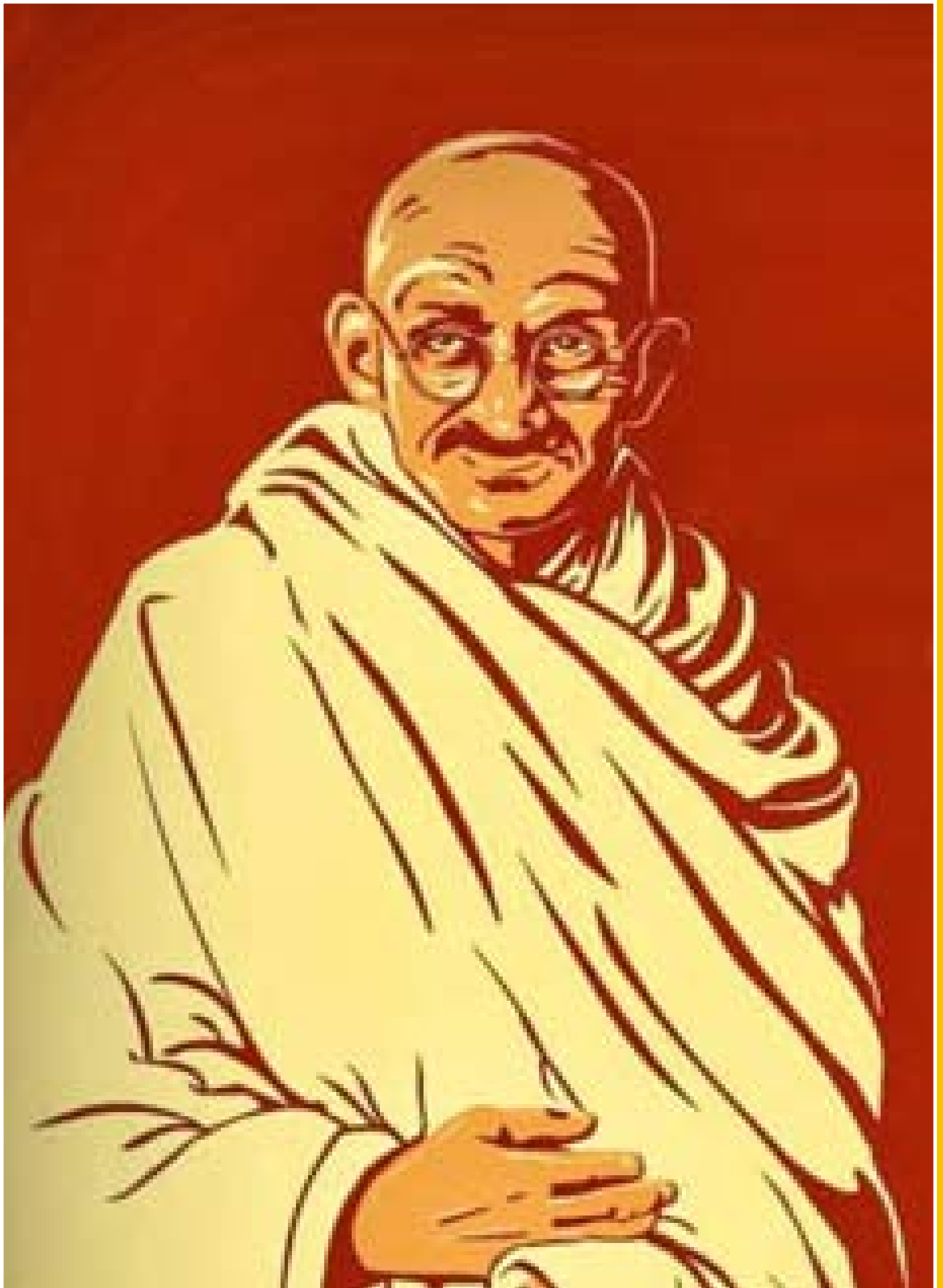
During the XVIIth National Council, we chose the theme, “Called to believe, begin, become”. One of the thrusts was, ‘back to the roots’. It was very apt to look back into the history, go back to the roots and see whether we are on the right track. Are we following the methodology of the movement? Are we keeping the spirituality and objectives alive? I am afraid, somewhere down the line, our movement has become an event-managing group which does decorations, organizes programmes, competitions etc. Today we need to go back to our roots and strengthen them.

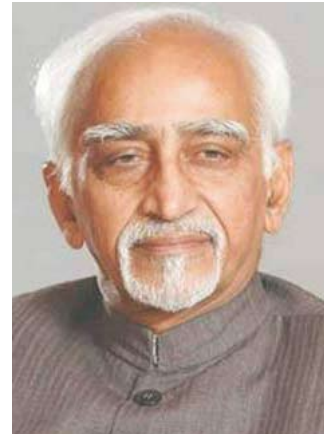
I have heard many church and political leaders addressing young people, saying, ‘you are the future of the nation/church’. They are right when they say that, because they don’t want youngsters to take up responsibility and bring about change in the society. They don’t want to recognize them as ‘present leaders’. In one of the youth commission meetings we were discussing about organizing training programme for the youth animators. One of the members present there remarked that we need to charge some nominal amount for this programme. One of the youth directors said that his bishop wouldn’t pay ‘a pie’... he expressed further saying that even if his bishop agrees, other priests will question! In another diocese, a priest came and wished me and said, ‘I am the youth director... I am also taking care of a school, parish and three other commissions’! When I visited one of the dioceses and spoke about ICYM and YCS/YSM, he said ‘Father, we never heard about this! Worse still, in another diocese, the DYD kept on saying that in his diocese he didn’t need youth ministry! According to him everything was perfect!

When I hear these things and experience this indifference, I wonder whether we are seriously interested in any youth ministry. How much of our resources are invested on them? I don’t see any investment. If there is no investment, we can’t expect any returns. If we say ‘they are the future’, we can imagine what kind of future we are going to have. We are conveniently forgetting that some of them will lead the church and the nation! If they are not guided and trained now, we will not have any right to expect a ‘better society-God’s Kingdom’.

Today our young people are living in an ultra modern world. Everything is done instantly and through various applications. Smartphone has made life easy but failed to make them smart. That is where the role of a teacher, parent and animator becomes important. Let us understand our role better and invest more on our young students. Let us help them to create a better society-God’s kingdom.

Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain (2016-)





भारत के उप-राष्ट्रपति के विशेष कार्य अधिकारी
OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY
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MESSAGE

The Hon'ble Vice President of India is happy to learn that Young Christian Students / Young Students Movement, Delhi Archidocesan Youth Centre, New Delhi had organized its National Council 2016 & Golden Jubilee from May 16 – 22, 2016 at YMCA, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.

The Vice President extends his greetings and congratulation to all the members of the Young Christian Students / Young Students Movement, Delhi Archidocesan Youth Centre for successfully organizing the event.


(Anshuman Gaur)

New Delhi
23rd September, 2016.



Manmohan Singh
Member of Parliament
Rajya Sabha



MESSAGE

I am glad to know that this year the Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement is celebrating Golden Jubilee of its existence in India. I am also happy to note that with a vision to evolve a new society, the Movement is guiding the youth to live with dignity and in harmony valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality.

I take this opportunity to send my good wishes to all members of Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement on the occasion of the National Council and the Golden Jubilee.

Manmohan Singh
(Manmohan Singh)

New Delhi
August 02, 2016

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MESSAGE



‘Believe! Begin! Become!’

YCS/YSM had sown its seeds in India in the year 1936 and was officially started on 16th January 1966. Over the years, the movement has grown throughout the country, creating great leaders not only in the country but also at the International level. Presently there are over 1.5 lakh students, around 1800 animators and youth workers across the country.

But, all of us need to know the fact and accept the reality of our movement i.e. our movement is being fading away. The question before us now, is that whether or not our movement is heading in the right path, despite many who are working for its growth. The theme of the 17th National Council- ‘Called to Believe! Begin! Become!’ should be implemented keeping in mind our present reality. When we evaluate ourselves personally, we can surely bring about a change within and around us.

‘Called to Believe’ - The first step is to believe. But what and whom to believe? Believe in yourself! Believe in others! Most importantly, Believe in the Word of God! Believe in all truths and values!

‘Called to Begin’ - Once we believe, we begin. Begin to change! Change which first starts within us. When we believe something we begin to value it!

‘Called to Become’ - What you have done is not important. What you have become is important! What have you become after believing and beginning? Here, what is more important is for us to know what we have become. Only then will our inward change be reflected in our actions, behaviours and thinking.

This wonderful theme helps us to realize our potential and also makes us better student leaders. As YCS/YSM’ers we should work for the upliftment of the movement. We should be the change we wish to see in others. During this 50th year let us give back to the movement what we have received.

I feel proud that you and I are a part of this movement; that you and I can be the change; that you and I can create a better society - God’s Kingdom!

My wishes to everyone on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee year of our movement!

Long live YCS/YSM!

Regards,

Jesvita Princy Quadras
National President (2016-2019)



MESSAGE



THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR GIVING ME A CHANCE.....

Dear YCS/YSMers it is my great joy and I consider it as a blessings for me to be part of YCS/YSM Family and much more to be part of NEXCO Team of 2013-2016 as Convenor. The journey started when I was elected as a NEXCO from North East Region in November 2012 and without my knowledge of the role and responsibilities of a NEXCO I attended the XVI National Council at Bethel, Shillong where I was elected as the National Convenor. I remember the day when I was told to introduce myself before the council, I couldn't even speak and introduce myself properly. But then I tried to be confident and that was the beginning for me to find out what is my role as YCSer and as a Convenor.

However, I fell in love with YCS/YSM and understood about the movement, my role and responsibilities and how it is relevant for me on the day when we had our NEXCO Live in Program and First NTA/EXCO Meet and perhaps it was the day that I met my other NEXCO members whom I shared a lot and who always stood by me and supported me wholeheartedly. From that moment I shared with them my happiness, my sorrows and together we worked, we had fun, we laughed and cried. YCS has given me a platform to be so close with all of them, they are my family and there is no other joy for me than this beautiful relationship that I had with all my NEXCOs. With all their love and respect and with their simplicity and humility they have given me the strength to serve the movement for three years and the greatest success for me during the past three years was not the measurable works that I did or completed but the way I have lived with My NEXCOs.

Dear Nexcos thank you so much for the most wonderful three years of my life, thank you for giving me a chance to serve you and serve the movement as a leader; you have inspired me in a very special way. I have learned a lot from all of you especially your kindness, love and care and I believed we will continue to grow in life together as a family. I take this opportunity to thank everyone who have helped and supported me in my journey as a NEXCO and convenor.

Jimmy Pdang
National President
YCS/YSM India
(2013-2016)



EDITORIAL



A journey which started in the year 1966 with a vision to evolve a new society where each one of us live in peace, love and harmony. A movement which made the students of today realise that we can build a new society by just changing of oneself and to inspire others to change in their own way.

This year this movement has crossed a milestone of 50 years of its existence in the heart and minds of the youth. This Golden Jubilee celebration gives each of us a chance to thank YCS /YSM for the change it has given us.

Years may pass, people may change, but what YCS/YSM has done in the past year what it is doing now and will do in future will never change. It had molded its members by making them efficient leaders. A major part of the success and the movement reaching its heights is because of its own chaplains and animators. They made it possible for each of us to bring the movement this far.

At this point of time when a journey of 50 years is completed and this movement is going to enter into a new threshold of its journey, we need to reflect and see what significant role it plays in the modern society? Training young minds to live upto its methodology is a big task that we have at hand. I wish YCS/YSM and all the YCS'er/YSM'er a heartfelt congratulation for having contributed for its growth.

May YCS/YSM continue to grow and flourish in the days to come and I humbly ask all the young students of our nation to work for this movement in the days to come. It is your movement and you are to be its torch bearers.

May YCS/YSM live many more years like these and cross many more milestones in its journey to come and let us make this golden year, a grand success.

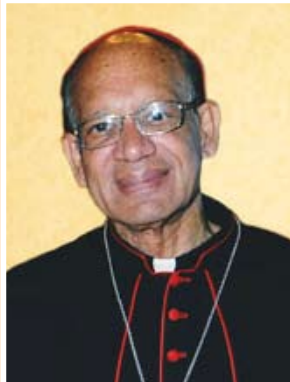
Long live YCS/YSM.

Natasha Ann Louis

Editor of SEARCH
(WEST BENGAL REGION)



MESSAGE



Oswald Cardinal Gracias

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MESSAGE

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim 4:12)

I am delighted to learn that the YCS/YSM, a student movement, an unit of Youth Council of Catholic Bishops' Conference of India, is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its existence in India. Founded in India in 1950, the YCS has taken deep roots in different parts of India. Slowly YCS inspired the students of other faiths and paved the way for the formation of YSM in 1970. The Movement now has over 1.5 lakh student members and more than 2000 dedicated Animators, youth workers spread out in 14 regions. The Movement has formed active and dynamic church leaders, social workers and liberators who are involved in the process of socio-economic-political-spiritual welfare of the people all over the country. Like the mustard seed in the Gospel parable, the YCS/YSM has grown from a tiny seed into a mighty tree.

In the words of Pope Francis at the Meeting with Educators Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador, 'We would do well to ask ourselves: 'What kind of world do we want to leave behind? What meaning or direction do we want to give to our lives? Why have we been put here? What is the purpose of our work and all our efforts?' (cf. *Laudato Si'*, 160).Personal initiatives are always necessary and good. But we are asked to go one step further: to start viewing reality in an organic and not fragmented way, to ask about where we stand in relation to others, inasmuch as 'everything is interconnected' (*Laudato Si'*, 138)."

As the YCS/YSM celebrates its Golden Jubilee, I pray that they continue to work for a just society, a new world. May the Holy Spirit inspire and accompany them and be their teacher and companion along the way.

August 23, 2016

• **Oswald Cardinal Gracias**
Archbishop of Bombay &
President, Conference of the Catholic Bishops of India



MESSAGE



TELESPHORE P. CARDINAL TOPPO
Archbishop of Ranchi

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Prot. No. 11/M/CTPT/2016

Message

It gives me much joy to learn that YCS/YSM is celebrating the "Golden Jubilee" of its existence in India (1966-2016) and is also organising a National Council and that on this auspicious occasion, a souvenir will be published to recount the significant growth, achievements and events of the Movement in India.

The Lord has blessed the YCS/YSM Movement in India abundantly over the past 50 years as is evident from its growth. The Golden Jubilee is not only an occasion for thanksgiving or simply the celebration of a memory; it is above all an occasion to take stock of the situation and re-launch with greater fervour and enthusiasm.

The vision of the pioneers who launched this movement was: to promote the personal growth of students and young teenagers who will be the future pillars of our nation. The present situation in the University campuses in our country should stir and challenge YCS/YSM, to be the catalyst, to end 'marginalisation', 'oppression' and 'discrimination' in our society. The Holy Father in His message at the world youth day 2013 told the youth "you too, dear young people, can be joyful witnesses of his love, courageous witnesses of his Gospel, carrying to this world a ray of his light". The YCM/YSM must remember that they are witnesses of Christ and these organizations should be special instruments to bring the message of GOD'S LOVE, MERCY AND COMPASSION TO OTHERS. The youth of the country wants to evolve a new society, a society where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual. The XVII National Council at YMCA, Greater Noida, I must say is a golden opportunity to debate and discuss, and lay the road map ahead in "Building a New Society" - "A just Society" - God's Kingdom.

I make use of this occasion to thank YCS/YSM for the wonderful and dedicated service you are rendering to the church and the nation. I assure my constant, prayerful support and our continual collaboration in the future.

I wish the celebration and the souvenir every success.

May 09, 2016

Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo
Telesphore P. Cardinal Toppo
Archbishop of Ranchi



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MESSAGE



MESSAGE FROM THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO

I am happy to learn that the YCS/YSM, on the auspicious occasion of the Golden Jubilee, is planning to conduct its XVII National Council from 16 to 22 May 2016 at Greater NOIDA, which will be organized by the Northern Region together with the Archdiocese of Delhi with the theme: "Called to Believe, Begin, and Become".

As a matter of fact, I understand that YCS being a Student Movement has conducted many studies on how to develop a new society with goals on focus 'to help people to live in harmony and freedom for the complete growth of individuals where one can enjoy respect for his/her uniqueness'. The Council also gives importance to the innate qualities such as love and peace and acquired qualities such as truth, justice and equality. This will enlighten the young people to encounter life from an optimistic point of view. A collective task with the active involvement of people definitely will make noticeable changes in the society.

I hope that this National Council will provide a useful opportunity to the participants to expand their knowledge upon the key points, i.e. 'Back to the roots and Restoring Human Dignity'. My best wishes and felicitations to the coordinators for the success of the programme, I convey the Apostolic Blessing of Pope Francis.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio
Apostolic Nuncio



MESSAGE



It's my pleasure:

It gives me great pleasure to connect once again with my parent movement YCS/YSM India on the occasion of its XVII National Council and Golden Jubilee celebration.

The Indian YCS/YSM has been at its helm in the service of students and teenagers for the past 50 years and all those who had been a part of this movement have become change agents in the society in the pursuit of Building a New Society-Kingdom of God. We can count on a large number of people; names apart, the individual lives and the people they have encountered with, have become the leaven in the society especially at the service of poor and downtrodden along with the service of the Church and Society in general.

The National Council has always been a source of new opening for the young YCS/YSMers to peep into the future with a new vision. By being a part of this innovative process the student members (delegates) become the sole partners of scheduling the three year long programme in which the whole national movement participates in changing the realities. The Study sessions and the National Council paves way for all of them to become the stakeholders of building the new society in the manner our predecessors and our Supreme Animator Jesus Christ sought about it.

Called to Believe, Begin, Become:

The present theme : “Called to believe, begin, become”, I believe is the apt one to bring about a change within and in the society which is our main objective.

To believe in God with faith, through the present reality will help us become rooted in the realities of human life. To begin with a change within to address this reality through the movement's methodology will help us to start our journey of life with a mission for the whole humanity. To become a source of making a difference in the society will help us to change all those who come in contact with us in building a new society- Kingdom of God.

The three thrusts; mainly Going back to the roots will enable us to learn from the past to make our present mission more relevant; Understanding the global reality of Media will enable us to become masters of media than becoming slaves of it, so as to use it effectively to promote Universal values; and working for Human dignity will enable us to become persons with convictions serving for the deliverance of humans, suffering from the various atrocities and indifferences in the society.

We are in solidarity with others:

We are not the only ones working for the change in the society. There are a large number of people and organizations who render their selfless service to make this world a better place to live. When we put our efforts in the world of changing realities with new possibilities, it will make us partners of this noble mission.

The International movement of IYCS has taken up the Global Campaign - to “Protect our Common Home” for its inhabitants from the atrocities committed by us which is playing havoc in the lives of people. The Climate change has effected so badly that the whole



humanity is suffering due to this. Due to our selfishness and narrow minded approach we experience various type of conflicts, among people and nature, resulting in mass killings and loss of God given gifts. As students it is the need of the hour for us to strive for reducing the Climate Change through Holistic Quality Education and Transforming the conflicts arising from human errors to achieve Sustainable Peace. We believe, it is possible to achieve this with our united efforts.

Hence, we remain and work in solidarity with all our brethren and there is still a ray of hope for the world when we all can respond to the present reality positively

Hats off to you at the Golden Jubilee:

The Golden Jubilee celebration is the crown of this National Council. The seed sown by our predecessors especially the inspiration of Joseph Cardinal Cardijn with the methodology – See, Judge and Act and the Spirituality of Action Reflection process has grown big. We are indebted to Ms. Betty King for initiating the movement in 1960s and Sr. Jeanne Devos for officially organizing the movement in 1966 in the national level. The efforts of these have borne fruit and the movement is ever growing.

The vision of our predecessors for the student community has moulded many a thousand young minds with the help of former National Chaplains, Directors and Animators, as mentors and partners for Change of Self and of Society. We remember with gratitude the service rendered by all those who were a part of this movement and the financial and spiritual support given by the Partner agencies, Parents, Church and School authorities to sustain this movement to date. I hope it will continue for quite a long time to nurture the dreams of young in the future too.

I remember with gratitude the time I spent in this movement and thousands of student members along with animators, who were a part of my life, in fulfilling Christ's mission in the little way we did. I miss you all. I feel proud for all those former members, who serve the society in many different ways, to bring about a change in the lives of the others and all the present student members who have become a strong foundation making this large tree bear lasting fruits.

I congratulate Fr Chetan Machado, the present National Chaplain, Jimmy Pdang, the National President, Sharon Kalinse, the National Secretary and the present NTA/NEXCO for organizing this event and wish success for the new team.

I earnestly urge the hierarchy of the Church of India and school authorities to encourage and support this movement in the Church and in their institutions. It is simply a life changing movement guided by the animators. I wish every teacher and individual student member could be a part of this movement. The Way of Life promoted by this movement is Jesus' way of life and it should be rooted in the hearts and lives of all of us. By doing so we will prepare a way for the future of the young generation who are our present on whom our Church and society stands.

From the International Secretariat Mr. Richard APEH, the Secretary General and I assure you our prayers and wish all success in your future endeavours in making YCS/YSM an instrument of change in the land of Incredible India.

Long live YCS/YSM INDIA.

Fr Charles Menezes, IYCS International Chaplain, Paris



MESSAGE



Jeunesse Étudiante Catholique Internationale
International Young Catholic Students
Juventud Estudiantil Católica Internacional
Internationale Katholische Studierende Jugend

JECI
IYCS
JECI
IKSJ

To the National team

YCS/YSM India

Dear Fr. Chetan and members of YCS/YSM India,

Fraternal greetings from the International Secretariat of IYCS in Paris

We are pleased to learn of the success of your just concluded 17th YCS/YSM National Council which was held under the powerful theme; Called to believe, begin, become. We acknowledge the important role YCS/YSM India has been playing in the formation of young leaders for the building of a better society and for your contribution towards the solidarity and growth of the International Young Catholic Students as affirmed by the appointment of one of your own; Fr. Charles Menezes by the Vatican to serve in the International Secretariat of IYCS as International Chaplain.

We wish to congratulate you as you celebrate this year the 50th anniversary of the coming of YCS into India and we welcome on board, your new national president Miss Jesvita Quadras. We wish her and all the National team of YCS/YSM India success in their mandate.

Your main focus of discussion during the council which were; Back to the roots, Media and Me and Respecting Human Dignity, are all very important topics that address issues that are necessary for the building of a fair and just society. We are very happy that YCS/YSM India is championing this discussion amongst the youth and we believe that the fruit of this discussion will have a far reaching positive impact in India and indeed the world.

The theme of your National Council "Called to believe, begin, become" is an invitation to a life of renewal for personal and profound encounter with the Saviour and for the propagation of our faith not only in words but by authentic witnessing through our actions. "No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples". (Cf. Redemptoris Missio, Chapter 1)

As you gather once more to deliberate on the progress of the YCS/YSM Movement in India for the past 50 years and the well-being of the entire human race which is faced with lots of crisis ranging from poverty, unemployment, starvation, injustice, violence of all sort, corruption, immorality, religious pluralism, insecurity, conflicts, violation of human dignity just to mention but a few, I wish to draw our attention to the scripture



passage in 2 Cor. 5:20; called to be ambassadors of Christ. Canon 225 section 1 states, 'Since, like all the Christian faithful, lay persons are designated by God for the apostolate through baptism and confirmation, they are bound by the general obligation and possess the right as individuals, or joined in associations, to work so that the divine message of salvation is made known and accepted by all persons everywhere in the world'. This section of the law only reaffirms our obligation as Christian and YCS and YSM members as written in 1 Cor. 9:16.

As YCS/YSM member you are a very important spiritual catalyst in the family and the world at large and you ought to live up to this responsibility lest you become passive and non-effective members of your family and the society. Allow the methodology of 'See, Judge, Act', to permeate every aspect of your lives so that through you, the embittered world may be sweetened, the darkened path may be lighted and God fully experienced in our milieu.

I would like to conclude by drawing your attention to the IYCS Global campaign 2015-2019 (Protecting our Common Home) which focuses on three main objectives; achieving the reduction of Global Warming by 2 degrees; grant access to holistic quality education for life worldwide, transforming conflicts and achieve peace building by young students' contributions. I encourage you all to champion this cause to see that our world is not totally destroyed through the inconsiderate action or inaction of many but from now on, we can pick the pieces of what is left and make and build a better world for all to live in peace and harmony with the whole creation.

Wishing you every success and the blessing of the Lord in your work.

Sincerely yours,

For IYCS International Secretariat



Richard Francis APEH
Secretary General



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MESSAGE



“Believe, Begin, Become” - the words, the very life and the spirit of Cardinal Joseph Cardijn whose memory we now recall. His famous ditty was: we are still at the beginning; beginning to believe, to become, to be alive--- to self, to others, to God! The YCS/YSMers are fantastic at seeing, reflecting and acting together. May the 17th National council at New Delhi be - ‘not only a fantastic experience ... May it EXPLODE in to a SHARE--TASTIC review of seeing and being; of judging and becoming; of acting and becoming ALIVE!

As the venerable Bishop Ireneus proclaimed: The glory of God is man fully ALIVE. As Jesus said : “I have come that they may have life more abundantly.” ONWARD YCS/YSMers HUMAN BEINGS as Shakespeare dramatized: OUT DAMN SPOT --! HUMAN BEANS --- BOILING EACH OTHER UP! As Cardijn professed: we are human beings, not human BEANS!!!

With you I share my joy in the Movement. In and through you I share my belief with all YCS /YSMers !

Fr. Johny Monteiro
Former National Chaplain
(1975-1979)



MESSAGE



PARISH PRIEST

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Dear Fr. Chetan Macahdo and NTA-EXCO members of YCS/YSM

It is a great joy to know that on the Golden Jubilee year of YCS/YSM India, you are going to conduct the XVII National Council with the theme 'To believe, begin and become'.

Sr. Jean Devos ICM who initiated the YCS movement in India is a great person. She has deep BELIEF in the talents of Indian students. She BEGAN to build up YCS as a strong student force. Thousands of Christian and non-christian students flocked to her with a deep desire to develop their personal talents and leadership. Making use of the YCS methodology she was able to create in them deep determination to change their personal vision and to stand for justice and peace.

Many animators like Fr. Johny Monteiro, Bishop Jude Paulraj, Mrs Mathew D'Souza and others came forward to support her work. In the process they formed many committed social activists like Mr. James Sylvester, Mrs Jothibai Moorthi, Mr. Badrinarayan, Mr. Syed Akram, Fr. Varghese Alengaden, Fr. Vincent Monteiro, Fr. Prakash Sagili and many others. I had the opportunity to work with many of them. These great persons continue to make deep impact in the society where they work.

In 1970s, when I worked in YCS/YSM, it was a great phenomenon that many youth volunteered to serve the society with personal sacrifice to build God's Kingdom based on gospel values. But in 1990s there was a total change. For the economic development of the nation, India opened its economy to the International market. In this globalization process multinational corporate started their projects in the Indian soil. As a result there was rapid economic growth in India. All the talented and educated youth got employment. They easily earned a good economic gain. Cell phone, computer, TV, laptop, internet connection, etc., gave vast general knowledge to the youngsters. Hence parents and teachers encouraged the students to enter into the computer world. As a result the youth of today have become selfish and isolated and money oriented.

Thus youth of today have lost the service attitude. Social vision has totally disappeared. Youngsters are not willing to take part in meaningful social oriented movements like YCS/YSM and AICUF. This is a challenge, the YCS today has to take up. Using the YCS methodology the movement has to analyse the situation and evolve its activity to catch the needs of youth of today.

I am really happy that Fr. Charles Menezes has become the First Indian to be the International Chaplain of IYCS. I wish him all success.

Yours in Christ

Fr. M.C. Michael
Former National Chaplain
(1983-1989)



MESSAGE



I am happy to hear that YCS/YSM India is celebrating the Golden Jubilee. Can't believe that fifty years have gone by. For me it is twenty five years because Silver Jubilee was celebrated during my time. We had this programme in Vasai, Bomaby on the last day of the youth convention on 1st January. Now, twenty five years have passed and we are celebrating Golden Jubilee.

I am so glad that this movement has contributed such an amount to the young generation for the last fifty years. I wish the programme a great success not merely a programme or function but this movement can contribute very much to the growth of the society and especially India needs leaders who are very open to all the religions as well as to the new ideas.

Let this Golden Jubilee celebration be a moment of joy to celebrate and time to look back and evaluate our growth and also to see to the future that our present youngsters and students become the leaders of tomorrow.

I wish you all the best and a good enriching celebration of Golden Jubilee.

Fr. Vincent Monteiro
Former National Chaplain
(1989-1995)



MESSAGE



DIOCESE OF BELTHANGADY

BISHOP'S HOUSE
BELTHANGADY

P. B. NO. 13
BELTHANGADY - 574 214
D.K., KARNATAKA, INDIA

Ref:

Date.....

8th April , 2016

Rev.Fr.Chetan Machado,
National Chaplain, YCS/YSM,
Ycs/Ysm National Office,
Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre,
25 Rosary Church Road, Santhome,
Chennai-600 004.

Dear Rev.Father,

I am happy to know that YCS/YSM is holding its XVII National Council from the 16th to 22nd May 2016 at YMCA, Greater NOIDA, organized by the Northern Region and hosted by the Archdiocese of Delhi with the study theme "**Called to Believe, Begin, Become**", having the thrusts on "**Back to the Roots, Media and Me, Restoring Human Dignity**".

I am also glad that YCS/YSM is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. So, this year is very special for YCS/YSM!

It is quite fitting that you have decided to bring out a Souvenir to mark these occasions! While I pray for the success of the Souvenir I congratulate all those who are behind this welcome venture.

May God bless you,

Your's lovingly in Jesus

+ Lawrence Mukkuzhy
Bishop of Belthangady

Tel : 08256 - 232439, Fax : 08256 - 233056 E-mail : bpmukkuzhy@gmail.com



MESSAGE



Anugraha
St. Ann's Provincialate
J-1166 A, Palam Vihar
Gurgaon, Haryana 122 017

“The joy of the Lord is your strength” (Nehemiah 8:10)

I am extremely happy and extend my warm greetings and felicitations to all those associated with the YCS/YSM Movement. On this joyous occasion of the Golden Jubilee celebrations I wish you success in all its endeavors and a very bright future ahead.

I am very happy and proud of the achievements made in the Archdiocese of Delhi YCS/YSM Movement. It has grown to greater heights. This movement has shaped the lives of thousands in the past and continues to do so because of its vibrant, ever lively methodology and it continues to guide and help the students to develop leadership qualities and a strong personality.

The movement has formed active and dynamic church leaders, social workers and liberators who are involved in the process of socio-economic-political-spiritual welfare of the people all over the country. Also it has helped the students to realize and respond to the daily life situations according to the signs of the time.

Hearty congratulations to Fr. Chetan Machado and his team for guiding and animating the Youth. May you be a beacon of light to those who walk in darkness and hope to the hopeless and thus the bearers of light, love and peace to bring change in the society.

Sr. Rosily Paul
Provincial Superior



MESSAGE



Dear Fr. Chetan Machado,

Golden Jubilee of any event is indeed a great occasion to celebrate, much more so of the existence of a vital Student Movement like the YCS/YSM. The Movement's vision of building up a New Society where people live in harmony with each other is all the more relevant in the India of today. The young students of today will constitute the backbone of the country tomorrow. Hence it is very essential and urgent that these young minds grow up absorbing perennial values like mutual respect and living in peace with each other irrespective of differences of religion, culture, language, political affiliation or economic status.

Unfortunately conflict and strife are the order of the day. Newspapers and TV channels depict the gory details of this ugly face of our country every day. I wish that the study sessions and the various experience based programs of the YCS/YSM lead to the creation of a new mind, a new heart and a new will bold enough to build up a New India as envisioned by the Fathers and Mothers of our Constitution, namely, a nation where all people enjoy liberty, equality, fraternity and justice. "Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake," R. Tagore.

Wishing God's abundant blessings upon the YCS/YSM Movement,

Fr. Varkey Perekkatt SJ
Provincial,
Delhi Province of the Society of Jesus

April 26, 2016



MESSAGE



*Most Rev. Anil J.T. Couto
Archbishop of Delhi*



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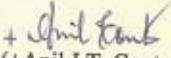
Ref: JM/430/2016

August 12, 2016

MESSAGE

On this joyful occasion of the National Council and Golden Jubilee of YCS/YSM (1966-2016), I pray that the organization may live up to its avowed vision of helping to evolve a new society where reign all the gifts of the Kingdom of God. Under the dynamic leadership of Fr. Chetan Machado, may YCS/YSM reach new heights in India.

CRESCAT ET FLOREAT!

+ 
(+Anil J.T. Couto)
Archbishop of Delhi



MESSAGE



Dear Fr. Chetan

Greetings and good wishes from Bishop Franco Mulakkal!

I am very happy that you are hosting XVII National Council in our region. First of all I thank God for this grace in the year of Mercy. As the Regional Chairman of Northern region I was closely associated with the preparations of this council. I am also happy to learn that YCS/YSM India is celebrating Golden Jubilee of its existence in India.

The theme is very apt i.e., “Called to believe, begin, become” with thrusts; Back to the roots, media and me and human dignity. We profess our faith in JESUS. Without Jesus our mission is empty. Without Jesus our youth are empty. Every Parish Priest and Diocesan Youth Director should contribute to the integral development of the youth. Unless and until our youth are not transformed by faith no change will occur. Year of Mercy and this great event will surely help our youth to take up the mandate of the Lord to witness him wherever they go.

I wish you and the Team and all those who will be working hard for the success of the National Council and Golden Jubilee programme all God’s blessings and great success.

Trust in the Lord, be at your best and may His Kingdom come.

Yours in Christ Jesus and Mary

+ Franco Mulakkal
Diocese of Jalandhar.



MESSAGE



The Archdiocese of Trichur

Catholic Archbishop's House
P.B. No. 706, Thrissur - 680 005
Kerala, India

MESSAGE

I am very happy to understand that the student movement YCS/YSM is celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its existence in India. The attempt of YCS/YSM for making "*A Just Society – A New World*" is very much appreciated by the general public and has been effective among the Christian youth to a great extend. In the present scenario of India as well as of the world where communalism, individualism and relativism are on the increase, we have to develop a culture of love, harmony, peace, justice, and equality. While I wish the Golden Jubilee celebration every success, I invoke God's abundant blessings on YCS/YSM, especially its leaders, so that we continue to march forward implementing the ideals of this youth movement among students.

Invoking God's blessings

Yours in our Lord

*Mar Andrews Thazhath

Metropolitan Archbishop of Trichur



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MESSAGE



JOSE PORUNNEDOM
BISHOP OF MANANTHAVADY

Prot. No. 18411/2016

April 19, 2016

Message

"Carry with you the flame of Christ's merciful love – as Saint John Paul II said – in every sphere of your daily life and to the very ends of the earth" - Pope Francis

In this auspicious moment of the Golden Jubilee of Young Christian Students/Young Students Movement (YCS/YSM), I wish the National Chaplain, Rev Fr Chetan Machado and all the members, all the best and God's abundant blessings.

A real Christian youth should be a person, who follows and witnesses Christ, his master in thoughts, speeches, actions and in the every realm of his life. I am sure that Young Christian Movement is helping its members to follow the teachings of Christ in the everyday life. As we know it is not only enough to have a Christian vision in life but it is also very important to impart this vision to others. I hope that the inspiration which you give to others is the real Christian spirit of the love of Jesus, support to the non-supported people.

I offer my support to this youth movement and wish you all the best for the 17th YCS/ YSM National Council and Souvenir that you bring out. Let it be the symbol of love and harmony that you live daily.



Yours sincerely in the Lord,

Jose Porunnedom

+ **Jose Porunnedom**
Bishop of Mananthavady



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MESSAGE



Most Rev. Dr. George Antonysamy
Archbishop of Madras and Mylapore

C/ABS/01/339

Chennai, 19 April 2016

To
Rev Fr Chetan Machado,
YCS/YCM National Office,
Archdioesan Pastoral Centre,
25, Rosary Church Road,
Santhome, Chennai – 600 004

MESSAGE: CALLED TO TRANSFORM

I am elated to know that Young Christian Students and Young Students Movement are celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year. Since its inception in 1966, YCS/YCM has been an inspiration for youngsters to become conscientized about the reality of our society and join hands in working towards a better future. It is indeed an occasion to thank God for his wonderful guidance and providence all through these 50 years of service.

I am also happy that YCS/YCM is holding its XVII National Council during this Golden Jubilee Year from 16th to 22nd May 2016 at YMCA, Greater Noida. The theme, "Called to Believe, Begin, Become".

I wish to remind you of the call of Prophet Jeremiah, who says to God, "Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, because I am a youth." The Lord replies to him, "Do not say, 'I am a youth,' because everywhere I send you, you shall go, And all that I command you you shall speak. (Jeremiah 1:6-7) As youngsters, called to believe, begin and become, you have a tremendous privilege of being witnesses of the Lord's transformatory power in today's world.

I join you in thanking God for YCS/YCM and I pray that the National Council may be a moment of reflection and re-commitment to your mission. Please be assured of my prayers for you on the happy occasion.

With Prayerful Wishes,

+ George Antonysamy

+ George Antonysamy
Archbishop of Madras – Mylapore

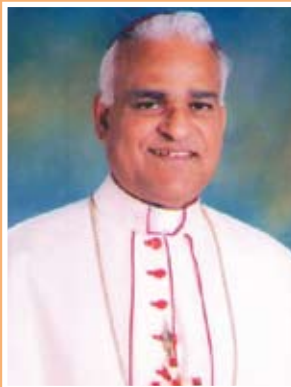


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MESSAGE



Most Rev. Dr. Albert D'Souza
Archbishop of Agra



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MESSAGE

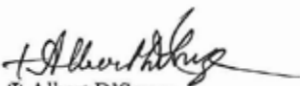
I am pleased to learn about the XVII YCS / YSM National Council to be held at YMCA, Greater Noida on May 16-22, 2016, celebrating the Golden Jubilee as the student movement in our country.

YCS/YSM engaged in various programmes and projects involving students building an effective networking of growing up generation of Christian youth. Faith consciousness among students interacting with social and secular values can result in a harmonious response to the issues of the times.

The current meeting of the Council organized by the Northern Region and hosted by the Delhi Archdiocese, is of much importance. The theme "*Called to Believe, Begin, Become*" with the thrust "*Back to the Roots, Media and Me, Restoring Human Dignity*" is relevant.

Towards the formation of a new society, restoration of integrity and unity of humanity as one family with the movement of inclusive human society ought to be the outlook of the youth and young adults of our time. Non-violence, tolerance, sensitivity to justice and adapting the path of compassion, reconciliation and peace assure the future of humanity.

I wish the YCS/YSM every success and seek divine blessings on all.


✠ Albert D'Souza
Archbishop of Agra



MESSAGE



DIOCESE OF UDUPI

Bishop's House, Udupi P.O. – 576 101, Karnataka, India

Rev. Fr Chetan Machado
YCS/YSM National Office
Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre
25 Rosary Church Road
Santhome, Chennai 600 004

11-04-2016

Dear Rev. Father,

It gives me great joy to know that the XVII YCS/YSM National Council will be held from 16 to 20 May 2016 at YMCA, Greater NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh), organized by Northern Region and hosted by Delhi Archdiocese. I am also happy to note that the study theme chosen for the Council is: "Called to Believe, Begin, Become" having thrust on, Back to the Roots, Media and Me, Restoring Human Dignity".

It is also going to be a celebration of the Golden Jubilee of YCS/YSM existence in India (1966-2016). I am well aware of the fact that YCS/YSM as a student movement has been very active in the past 50 years with a clear vision, mission and objective, first in building themselves and then to build others in the society thereby carving out a bright and humane future for themselves and others. Youth of any Country is a strength to reckon with. As you have rightly pointed out that your vision has been to evolve a new society in which people live in harmony with total freedom for the complete growth of the individual where each and every person is respected with dignity thereby working towards peace, love, truth, justice and equality.

I wish the XVII YCS/YSM National Council every success and offer my heartiest congratulations on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee having completed successfully 50 years of existence in India and spending all of them meaningfully, effectively and successfully in building the Youth of our Country for their joy and greater glory of God.

Invoking God's choicest blessings upon you all, I close with my best wishes and the assurance of prayers.

Yours sincerely in Christ,


✠ Gerald Isaac Lobo
Bishop of Udupi



A Christ-centered community filled with love of God at the service of all.



MESSAGE



Most Rev. Peter Remigius D.D.
Bishop of Kottar

DIOCESE OF KOTTAR

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09.04.2016

Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain
Young Christians Students/Young Students Movemnets
YCS/YSM National Office
Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre
25 Rosary Church Road, Santhome
Chennai 600 004

MESSAGE

Greetings from the Diocese of Kottar!

I am extremely happy to know that YCS/YSM an unit of CBCI youth council is celebrating a Golden Jubilee.

I take this opportunity to wish the National Chaplain, the Staff and young students every success in your vision to evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where each and every person is respected in dignity..

May God the Almighty bless all your endeavours.

+ *Peter Remigius*
+ **Bishop Peter Remigius**
Bishop of Kottar



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• E-mail : kottardiocese@yahoo.co.in

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MESSAGE



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF HYDERABAD

MOST REV. THUMMA BALA
ARCHBISHOP OF HYDERABAD

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, H.No. 9-1-17/1,
11, SARDAR PATEL ROAD
SECUNDERABAD - 500 003, Telangana, INDIA
OFFICE TEL : 0091-40-27805545, FAX : 0091-40-27800709

To
Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado
National Chaplain, YCS/YSM INDIA
YCS/YSM National Office
Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre
25 Rosary Church Road
Santhome, Chennai- 600004

Date: 30th April, 2016

Dear Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain, YCS/YSM INDIA,

Greetings & wishes to you from me in the name of Jesus, the Risen Lord & our Divine Master.

We are very happy to know that YCS/YSM INDIA is organising the XVII YCS/YSM National Council from 16 to 22 May, 2016 at YMCA, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh with the theme "Called to Believe, Begin, Become" having thrusts on "Back to the Roots, Media & Me, Restoring Human Dignity."

We come to know that YCS/YSM INDIA is also celebrating the Golden Jubilee of its existence in India (1966-2016). Hearty congratulations to you and to all the members of YCS/YSM INDIA. YCS/YSM INDIA as a student movement has been instrumental in "Building a New Society"- "A Just Society" - God's Kingdom. It is said that today is the present future of yesterday. YCS/YSM INDIA is constantly thriving to enable the personal growth of students and young teenagers promoting and strengthening their faith and commitment to society, imparting values of peace, love, truth, justice, Religious harmony and equality.

Students play a vital role in the society and how a society is shaped generation after generations. As a student movement YCS/YSM INDIA has recognised and promoted the talents and abilities of our students to create a better tomorrow. Today we need good and effective leadership committed to faith and social norms. We wish and pray that YCS/YSM INDIA continues to nurture the student members to build a better society where there is equality, justice, peace and freedom. May the good Lord bless & guide YCS/YSM INDIA to reach greater heights in shaping and building the lives of the young.

I wish you and the Editorial Team all the best, special blessings of the Risen Lord and the loving care & protection of our Blessed Mother, Fatima Mata.

With Cordial regards,

Yours in the Risen Lord,

+ Thumma Bala
(Archbishop of Hyderabad)



E-mail: abphydtbala@gmail.com & archdiohyd@gmail.com Website: www.archdioceseofhyderabad.org

The Archdiocese of Hyderabad is a registered society under the Andhra Pradesh (Telangana Area) Public Societies Registration Act, 1350 Fasli (Act. of 1350 F.) Regd. No. 196/73



MESSAGE



Archbishop Vincent M. Concessao

Residential Address:

Church of Immaculate Conception
House No. 922, Sector 45
kanhei Gaon, Gurgaon - 122003
Haryana, India



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Archbishop's House
1, Ashok Place, New Delhi - 110001
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January 13, 2016

Dear Fr. Chetan

Thanks for the invitation to the Golden Jubilee celebration on 16th January 2016. I would have loved to participate but I'll be out of Delhi. Hence my apologies.

My congratulation to YCS/YSM India and all the best wishes for a fruitful celebration. I assure you of my prayers.

With warm regards and God bless

Your sincerely,

+ Vincent M. Concessao
Archbishop Emeritus, Delhi



MESSAGE



Archbishop Thomas D'Souza
Archbishop of Calcutta



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MESSAGE

I am glad to know that the XVII YCS/YSM National Council will be held from 16th to 22nd May 2016 at YMCA, Greater Noida. I send my cordial greetings to the organizers, office-bearers and participants of this event.

It is also a special celebration in this Golden Jubilee Year of YCS/YSM. The past five decades have seen young Catholic students grow in faith and Christian values. The 'see-judge-act' formula so dear to every YCS/YSM member, is a spiritual strategy to make one's life successful. The leadership opportunities and achievements bear testimony to the quality of training every YCS/YSM goes through, and with great success. Once again, Hearty Congratulations!

The theme chosen for the National Council, viz. "Called to Believe, Begin, Become" is a capsule that contains the vision of YCS/YSM. It is a relevant theme since the young students are called to build up their lives on God who calls everyone to a life-giving experience. May the National Council be a successful event for all of us!

+Thomas D'Souza
Archbishop of Calcutta



MESSAGE



Rt. Rev. Dr. Anthony Chirayath
Bishop of Sagar

Sagar, 12 April 2016

Prot. No. 1.202/2016

Dear friends,

I am glad to know that the YCS/YSM intends to bring out a Souvenir on the occasion of the National Council and the Golden Jubilee.

On this august occasion I remember with gratitude the manifold and precious services which these two organisations have rendered to the Church in India, especially to the Christian youth during the last fifty years.

I wish that the VISION of these two national organisations to evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where there is peace, love, truth, justice and equality may become a reality.

With all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Rt. Rev. Dr. Anthony Chirayath
Bishop of Sagar



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MY YCS EXPERIENCE



During World War II, I was a small child in a peace loving village of Belgium. We experienced the violence of war, the fear and the agony, but also shared in the solidarity of our village. My parents shared the grief of neighbors, supported young persons who organized the safety of our people, and cared for the wounded and the needy.

Soon after the war, I joined the YCS in Belgium, I remember how proud I was with its uniform and how enthusiastically we worked for Hungarian students. The committee into the students milieu became clear and strong. The national chaplain Rev. Gust Van Hacgenborgh was one of the co-inspirers for the International YCS, review of life gave meaning to our youth. Some people thought we were too serious, others that we asked too many questions, but our committee was conscious, focused and clear. **This committee was our deepest joy.**

While teaching I got involved as an animator of YCS for our region. Young students were so creative and generous.

Then came the decision and preparation for a mission in India. More than ever I realized how awareness, reflection, action and evaluation have become part of life.

The beginning of of the Movement in India

Life in India started by living and working with blind and deaf children. A fascinating experience of 'other abledness', when we experienced blind girls choosing colors for a saree and the deaf enjoying music on vibration. Also an experience of pain when a child of seven shares how he forever became blind in an accident, or when we experienced the fear of the deaf, thinking that everyone during the night bombing would run and they would be caught because they do not hear.

For the Sunday afternoons some regular school students came to play with the blind and deaf students for their Legion of Mary's work. Playing with the deaf is not easy when we do it from our perspective for example deaf children do not enjoy standing in line for estaphed games etc, and so this game became more of a punishment for them than joy.

So we, hearing students and I, started talking while the deaf were playing. The students related how in their class some girls never finished homework, how the classroom was divided in clicks according to caste, how teachers would go ahead with a few bright students and leave the larger groups for tuition, which some could and some could not afford. The reflection in the groups grew, it could be different and we can do something about it.

A closer awareness revealed how these students had no facilities, had to work after school, how so many other girls of their age were already working for 12 hours, sometimes bonded labour, how students relate to working youth with a feeling of superiority, how caste divides and how the tuition system exploits....

A deeper reflection revealed the challenge of the gospels, the relevance to daily life and the inspiring person of Christ.

The action brought students together and influenced all students in class. A second group started, a third, a fourth and...

Meanwhile, the YCW was trying to start a pre YCW. In January 1966, Fr. Louis Sena, the then International Chaplain of IYCS visited Archbishop Mathias in Madras. To them, our two groups of involved students were a sign of a new start of YCS.

The Movement grew and since students were believing Muslims or Hindus we called it YCS/YSM (Young Christian Students – Young Students’ Movement).

Since I was with the first group and initiated the movement all over India, the CBCI – Archbishop Eugene D’Souza appointed me as “National Chaplain”. We accepted this as the most normal thing and only afterwards realized how fresh and open this move was to appoint a ‘woman’ as a National Chaplain.

Already in 1967, Mary Ann D’Souza worked full-time for a short while, then came Cherryl, Agnes Joseph, Evita, Alvito Baretto... the strength of their commitment and the depth of their reflection was revealing, hopeful and challenging.

Silvio Santana from IYCS contributed a great deal to the Indian Movement. Our National Councils brought a consciousness of India. The Leader and animator session gave growing life to the movement.

In 1967, we participated in an Asian session in Singapore and I was an observer in the Montreal World Council.

The presence of students of different faiths: Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Parsee took some search of how to situate and place it within a Catholic Movement, though in our experience, it was a richness, and the complementary of religions deepened by some theologians was a unique experience of the Indian Movement.

The social involvement of students was very clear and strong from 1970’s. Groups of students worked in the refugee camps, and cyclone area with a remarkable dedication, inspiration and vision. Others were active in the burned down village of Ayandur or in the cyclone destroyed area of Vendasandur.

Students lived in small group with the people most exploited or victimized people in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa... and being close to students but no longer students, we called this groups YSMD. (Young Students Movement for Development). To financially support these group some professionals helped out, even started a press SIDMA (student Initiative for Development in Madras).

The Inspiring Home : The ‘open house’ at Eliot’s Road, became the ‘home’ where volunteers and students met, relaxed, planned and could meet theologians, scripture professors and persons who deepened their analysis. Their reflection got an incredible depth, freshness, and contextualized sense. The house, the atmosphere, the persons were inspiring and until today yjat inspiration lives on.

Asian coordination, the role of the Indian Movement:

The Indian Movement was accepted as a member movement of IYCS in the 1970 World Council.

In 1972, the IYCS asked me to visit the Asian countries and movements. In the beginning of the 70’s many a student groups in Asia were highly committed and many groups suffered in Vietnam, Korea, Philippines, India, Indonesia. The Asian Movement was a great challenge and integrated faith experience.

The Asian sessions were a mutual support, inspiration and encouragement.

The first Asian co-coordination came alive and soon we subdivided the animation within a team with: Jeanne as Asian Animator, Fr. Luc Van Looy for Far East, Fr. Eugene Vaz for South East Asia and Fr. Johny Monteiro for South Asian. When Alvito Baretto started working as Asian fulltimer, the Asian coordination, animation, Asian teams & Asian YCS office became a reality and we all experienced the Asianness of YCS.

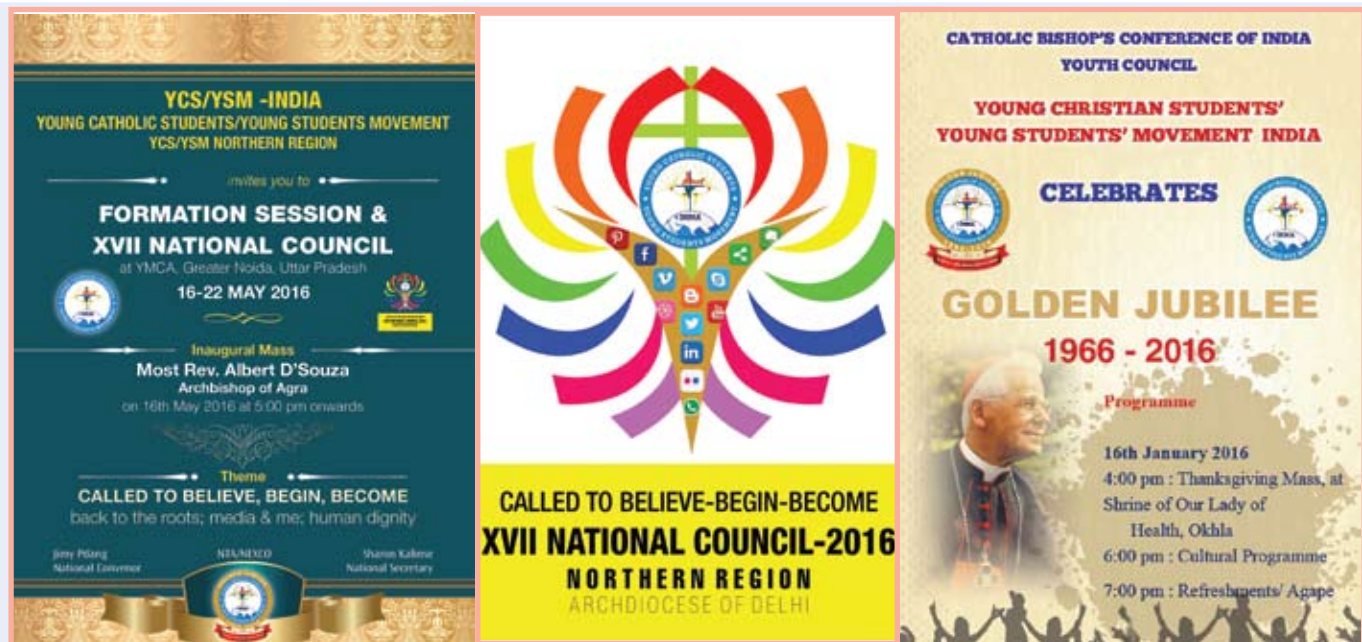
What inspired me most in YCS?

It is difficult to say what inspired me most, but I wish to share some of the elements which I carry through life without attempting to be complete.

1. The Hidden possibilities and creativity in young persons. Often I have been wondering at the inexhaustible possibilities and resistance in young persons. I think of Agnes as a 16 year old girl, who would go to the Orissa tribal belt to help Florencia starting YCS groups, and I would go to console her mother and assure her, Agnes was safe. With support and belief in them the leaders would do wonders, and that miracle of resilience is still alive today.
2. The depth of understanding of the society, church, one-self, one's vocation. Often we were surprised in meetings when we analyzed situations how different forces, myths, create a taken for granted reality which we thought could not changed, till we shared looking differently and with gospel eyes.
3. Discovering God active in reality. This became and is still a God's experience of "I'll be there". An experience where God awaits mine / our collaboration to transform an inhuman situation which diminishes persons, groups of people. It is a daily choice and response in faith, and incarnated spirituality.
4. The commitment of young people gives an integrated formation and a deep joy. In their conscious response to a given situation students feel that they are subjects of history and no longer objects. The experience that nothing is permanent but changes continuously (anijtja) and that they are instruments for change give them hope and a big joy. At an early age the biggest choice in the life of a young person is either for the others and Other or for oneself.
5. An integrated spirituality where the focus to meet God is reality and history and history and the response a conscious commitment creates continues relationship with God and becomes an everyday mysticism – young people get fascinated by God who suffers with people and in a God of Liberation.
6. Pluriformity of religions.
In a growing fundamentalism and communalism, the listening in faith to people of different religions is enriching and a growth in thruth and unity.
7. Committed young students were for me an inspiration and a sign that God is not yet tired of the world.
8. Team work with the National, Asian team, as well as, with the team of animators was an enriching experience, very supportive and strong.
9. As woman in the church I discovered my marginalization in a male dominated Church but also my feminine role in church and society, together with other women animators we contributed to the liberation of women. Later I became very conscious that men once again had taken up chaplaincy at national, regional level and that women were back in their stereotyped roles of secretary etc.
10. The experience of the movement created in me the certainty that any group of people in a movement's responds can grow in dignity, justice and empowerment. It was this experience which inspired the 'movement' aspect for domestic workers and children at risk.

YCS is no longer a uniform that I leave behind, but has become an integrated part of my life, faith experience

Sr. Jeanne Devos ICM
Former National Chaplain
(1969-1975)
St.Mary's Apts, 201- B
Nesbit Road, Mazagaon,
MUMBAI 400010



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL-2016 LOGO



National Council logo is a multi-color logo in which the strokes outside symbolise fourteen regions in the country in perfect unity. They are rainbow colors. Social network symbols in a figure of human shape symbolising how everyone is effected by media. The gold color signifies fifty years of the movement in India. The YCS/YSM logo as the head of the person represents the movement which stands for human dignity. The Cross symbolises our belief in Christ who is the beginning and culmination of everything and this is the time for us to go back to the roots of this movement. YCS/YSM National Council is the time to reflect on the theme and the thrusts to understand our vocation to believe, to begin and to become.

XVII NATIONAL COUNCIL Theme Song

“Called to Believe, Begin, Become”

We are the seeds sown in the garden of divine creation
Called to become the visible image of little heaven on earth
Be a blessing to the broken hearts and hope to the hopeless
God loves young people, called to be a messenger of peace
We have come together far and near to raise our voices in song

*We are called to believe the truth that God is love
We are called to begin to share this love and grow day after day
We are called to become the source of healing*

*to give peace to all nations
Brothers, sisters the world needs you and me to create a better place
We are called to become the children of God and build one big family*

You and I are called to be shining stars to guide the blind
Listen to the voice calling you and me to the light of truth
Give a little smile, a little bit of love to show you care someone
As we learn to feed the hungry, give a shelter to the homeless
We become a sign of mercy and grace to the whole world

compose by : Isaac Bukhli



Dear Fr. Chetan.

Thanks for the information about the Golden Jubilee Celebration of YCS/YSM. Congratulations and God bless you. May this ministry flourish and celebrate hundred years. Good Luck to you and all your Team Members. Praying for the success of the same.

God Bless You.

+ Ivan Pereira, Bishop of Jammu-Srinagar



Dear Fr. Chetan, Peace!

I thank you for the kind invitation. I am sorry that I am not able to join all of you to celebrate the day of the great movement of YCS/(YSM), India.

Kindly accept my hearty congrats and prayerful wishes for a very meaningful celebration on 16th. Kindly convey the same to all the concerned office-holders and full time workers as well as the chaplains. Thanks a lot!

Love and regards,

+ Jude Gerald Paul Raj, Bishop of Palayamkottai



Dear Fr. Chetan,

Greetings from Australia. Thank you for your email. I will not be in India on January 16. Let me wish you all the best for this important moment in the life of YCS/YSM. CONGRATULATIONS! May the Golden Jubilee usher in a period of even greater growth of the Movement.

God bless you.

+ Agnelo Gracias, Auxiliary Bishop of Mumbai



Dear Father,

Thanks for this information. I am happy to know YCS/YSM is celebrating its Golden Jubilee. I was associated with this movement as the Youth Director of then Ahmedabad Diocese (and coordinator of Gujarat Dioceses). It was the time when Fr. Michael was the National Advisor.

We had started in Gujarat, YCS/YSM in the name of Kishore Jagruti Sangh and was quite vibrant for several years. Fr. Orset Dias and later Fr. Harry Pinto were the Coordinators of this movement. We even tried to give it a local character and include students belonging to other religious groups of Dalits and Adivasi communities. Fr. Michael was very much interested in our groups and had conducted several training programmes too. It is unfortunate it is not active in Gujarat today; I wish you do something to make it active here. All the best and I wish every success for this great movement.

Sincerely and in solidarity,

- Xavier Manjooran SJ



Dear Fr. Chetan,

Hearty Congratulations to you and to your wonderful team as YCS/YSM India is celebrating Golden Jubilee on 16th January 2016.

With Prayerful wishes.

- Sr. Teresa Joseph, Secretary CBCI Office for Dialogue and Desk for Ecumenism



Dear Fr. Chetan Machado, Greetings in the Name of Jesus.

I am happy to hear that YCS / YSM India is celebrating Golden Jubilee on 16th January 2016. Congratulations....I was very much part of this movement as Shimoga Diocesan Youth Director as well as Karnataka Regional Youth Director. What touched me is the inner growth of students through its methodology i.e., AWARENESS- REFLECTION-ACTION-EVALUATION. Even though it came to India in 1961 and in 1962 it started helping our teenagers and it was in 1969 that CBCI recognized this movement. I am really proud of this movement which caters not only Catholics but also all students of other faiths in making them real human beings.

I thank God for all those who understood this movement and supported this movement. I assure my prayers.

- Fr Franklin D'Souza, Former National Youth Director, ICM



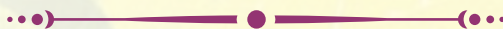
Dear Fr. Chetan,

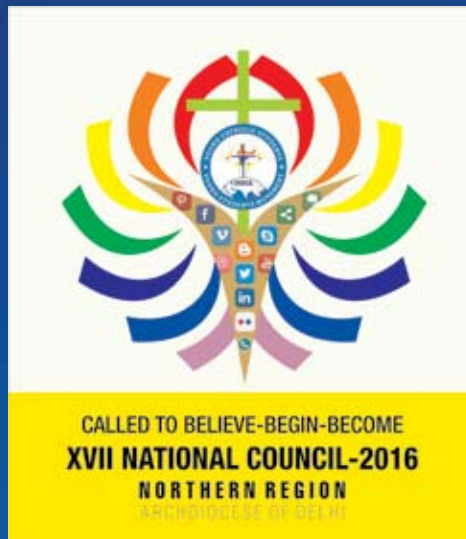
I am very happy to know YCS/YSM is celebrating its Golden Jubilee in Delhi. I would have been very happy to take part in the function. But being in this village parish, as its parish priest, it is difficult to find a priest to replace me for a week. I cannot forget my 19 years of contact with YCS/YSM, which was started with Sr. Jeanne Devos ICM in 1971 and Fr. Johnny Monteiro of Nagpur. I worked for ten years as Ooty Diocesan Chaplain, three years as Tamil Nadu Regional Chaplain and six years as National Chaplain. I visited the Bishop of Mangalore to get Fr. Vincent as my successor. I went round Andhra Pradesh (Eluru, Cadappa and Hyderabad) three rounds to get Fr. Prakash as the Regional Chaplain of A.P. who became National Chaplain later. Mr. James Sylvester, Mr. Akram and Fr. Varghese Alangadan are YCS/YSM products of my time.

So I am grateful to God for giving me the opportunity to work in YCS/YSM. I wish all success for the Jubilee programme.

Yours lovingly in Jesus

Fr. M.C. Michael, Former National Chaplain





NATIONAL REPORTS



This consists of the entire proceedings of the National Council which was held at YMCA, Greater Noida in the month of May 2016. National Council is the supreme body of YCS/YSM India and this takes place once in three years. There are study sessions and serious discussions after which the National Team comes up with the theme for the next three years.

YCS/YSM INDIA
XXVI STUDY SESSION & XVII NATIONAL COUNCIL
16 May – 22 May 2016
YMCA, Greater NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh
REPORT

16th May 2016 – Day 1

The YCS YSM National Council began with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The chief celebrant was Most Rev. Albert D'Souza, Archbishop of Agra. The co-celebrants were Fr. Chetan Machado, the National Chaplain and the other RYDs. In the homily, Archbishop spoke about our communion with Jesus. He elaborated by saying that we as humans have spiritual experience and those who live a spiritual life have a human experience. We as YCSers have a responsibility to follow the way given by Jesus and work for the welfare of the human kind.

The Eucharistic Celebration was followed by the Opening of the National Council by the Chief Guest Adv. Abraham Pattiyani, which was followed by a message given by Most. Rev. Albert D'Souza. Then the delegates moved to their respective stalls and the exhibition was declared open. The participants went to the different stalls to know about the different cultures of the nation.

Once the students had interacted with each other, students and guests moved to the auditorium for the Inaugural Programme. Mr. Roshan Lobo and Ms. Angela Anthony were the masters of the ceremony. They welcomed the gathering to the XVII YCS/YSM National Council. The dignitaries for the same were Most. Rev. Albert D'Souza, Archbishop of Agra; Adv. Abraham Pattiyani, Member of the Minorities Commission and Fr. Saji, DYD of Agra Diocese.

The theme song for the XVII National Council was played thereafter. The composer of the song, Mr. Issac was also present for the Council. Thereafter, Mr. Kevin Li from NEXCO led the gathering in prayer.

Then Fr. Chetan Machado welcomed all the guests, the directors, animators and students. He mentioned that this was the fifth time Northern Region had hosted a National Programme. He spoke about how we are all here with a purpose. The place where the delegates are staying is quite hot. For most coming from different parts of the country, are facing an extreme climatic condition. He said how some delegates happily said to him that they felt good as they were here to make friends and learn. He thanked all the delegates for their lively spirit. He briefed the gathering about the composition of the northern region and told the gathering more about the Northern Region.

Fr. Chetan thereafter gave a brief explanation of the logo. He said that the logo has 14 strokes, each representing the 14 regions, although YCS is not there in all the 14 regions; but in due course of time the movement aims to expand in all the regions of the nation. They are rainbow colors. Social network symbols in a figure of human shape symbolizes how everyone is affected by media. The gold color signifies fifty years of the movement in India.



The YCS/YSM logo as the head of the person represents the movement which stands for human dignity. Cross symbolizes our belief in Christ who is the beginning and culmination of everything and this is the time for us to go back to the roots of this movement.

YCS/YSM National Council is the time to reflect on the theme and the thrusts to understand our vocation to believe, to begin and to become.

Mr. Jimmy Pdang, national Convenor welcomed all the delegates and expressed his happiness to be amongst the

young people. He as the president officially welcomed the Archbishop of Agra and also Adv. Abraham Pattiyani. He said that personally he believes that God inspires all of us. And we are here to believe and become. Each one of us has the potential to grow and become the change. So therefore, we take up a challenge in this National Council to be the change that the world needs. In the coming seven days we need to put in all our efforts to make a difference. Thanking everyone once again for participating in the council he ended the presidential note.

Mr. Roshan welcomed Adv. Abraham Pattiyani to deliver the keynote address.



Adv. Pattiyani said that whatever he is today, is because of the church. There had been different organisations under the church that had helped him to understand the needs of the church and for its people. He shared that he was a part of different movements like the youth movement, AICUF, etc., which helped him grow and learn more about life. He shared how he has been helping people through legal aids, especially for the poor. He said that we must be proud to be Christians in our acts and deeds. The church has made efforts to build us not just spiritually but also socially to address the needs of the society. The theme of the National Council itself helps us to understand how we need to walk with Jesus and know about him. As a student it is important to acquire knowledge, but only with the help of the Holy Spirit can we acquire wisdom from the knowledge that we have. We need to pray to the Holy Spirit to be blessed with the wisdom to know about the different aspects of life. We need to love and respect our parents and teachers and then only will our efforts become fruitful and benefit others. YCS-YSM is a process. We are not just Catholics but also community leaders. Being a community leader is our call: to be there for the people of the community. We must not be secluded as a catholic person but live as a human being first. We need to address the society as a community leader to emerge as a national leader. We must select a good civilization, a good culture; culture of love, service and peace. We must give this message to everyone. Our church is giving us good opportunities to be at the service of the people. We must in turn respond to the opportunity given to us. He thanked Fr. Chetan and Mr. Midrash for inviting him for the programme. He expressed his gladness to see the talented youngsters and shared that we all must utilise the opportunity given to us to the best way possible.

Most Rev. Albert D'Souza was invited to share his message with the students. He said that it is a pleasure to have all the students here. Often Fr. Charles had invited him for programmes but could not make it, but now he is here. He expressed his experience of youth having often told him that they do not like to be 'churchy'. He suggested the young people to be somewhere between the 'churchy' and the 'worldly'. He asked the students to be the men and women of the church if not 'churchy' men and women. He said that he is a churchy man and always tries to understand people with their real life issues. He wished the delegates a very happy stay. Closing his message he asked the youth to be men and women of the church to promote humanity; be men and women to be in official status to serve the nation; be people with a clear conscience. He encouraged the students to let their light shine.

Then Ms. Angela announced for the onset of the cultural programme. Students of Church from Perpetual Succour, Mayur Vihar performed a dance on a patriotic song. They also presented a skit on the theme 'Going back to our roots'. Children from St. Luke's Church, Defence Colony and Church of Transfiguration, East of Kailash danced on a Bollywood song each. The NEXCO also made the students dance to an action song.

As the programme moved to a closure, Mr. Jimmy, the president felicitated Adv. Abraham Pattiyani with a token of love. Fr. Chetan was invited to felicitate Most. Rev. Albert D'Souza.

Ms. Sharon Kalinse, the secretary delivered the vote of thanks. She thanked the guests and dignitaries for sparing their valuable time. She also thanked the LOC for the evenings' programme. With this the participants dispersed for dinner.

After dinner, the participants gathered once again for ice breaking sessions. Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Roshan and Mr. Kevin conducted an action song and a game for the participants.

Before calling of the night, Mr. Jimmy instructed the participants with the needs and requirement of the council. He spoke about the kit that was given to each participant and the things that it contained. He also mentioned when we would be using the contents of the bag. Fr. Chetan also briefly explained the code of conduct with the participants. He shared how participants must take care of the facilities provided to them and how each one must take ownership of the things that belong to him/her. The students then dispersed to their rooms.

The students of northern region stayed back to prepare the liturgy for the following day. The LOC and the NEXCO also gathered for the day's review and preparation for the next day.

17th May 2016: Day 2

The day began with the Eucharist Celebration where Fr. Savio D'Souza, RYD, Goa Region was the main celebrant. In his homily he spoke about how each of us is attempting to fight for justice. He expressed how each one of us fight for justice in our own ways- some by going out on streets with placards, shouting slogans and sitting for strikes; on the other hand there are netizens i.e., those people who use internet to express themselves. The new era has seen a rise in the number of people writing their opinion on the interest through social networking sites and blogs. We as individuals need to understand the pulse of the people to respond to the issues and concerns of the present era for we are the future generation and the leaders of tomorrow. Father expressed that doing justice is the best good that anyone could do.



After the mass Mr. Kevin Li briefed the gathering of the day's events. The participants were scheduled to go out to a slum for exposure visit after breakfast and on return they would be reflecting on what all they saw. Fr. Chetan Machado spoke to participants telling each region could organise prayer the way they want to. Before dispersing for breakfast, Fr. Savio briefed the participants on what they are to observe and how they are to do it, once they are in the field for the exposure programme. He said that it is important not only to see with the eyes but also with the heart. He shared the story of the prodigal son and said that although the father was old and could not see well, he could see his son coming back to him. His servants had asked him how he could see his son although his sight was weak. The old man said that he could see his son coming back to him with his heart.

The participants then dispersed for breakfast and after breakfast headed for the slum area for the exposure programme. The participants once at the slum interacted with the children and the few adults they met at the venue. They even spoke to the teachers of the school (Apna School) run at the slum to know about the harsh realities that those people lived in. Ms. Payal, one of the teachers at the school, shared how the slum had no electricity and water supply and that the people barely had two meals a day. She also shared that parents had inhibitions of sending their children to school as they did not know the value of the education. She shared that parents had a perspective that children would cease to respect them if they get educated. They also felt that many did not get good jobs despite studying.

After knowing about the people of the village, the students in small groups jotted down certain points to ask the people they would meet. Thereafter, they went to the slum to meet the people. There were very few people there as most of them were out for work. Some families had their sources of income by making utensils and tools like hammer, sickle, pans, etc., which they sold right outside their shacks. The shacks had no doors and most of them were open. They shared that making of each tool took a lot of time and therefore they earned very little at the end of each month. After speaking to the people available in the slum, the participants went back to the school. They then, sang and danced with the children and also learnt songs from them. As the exposure programme came to a closure, the children of the school sang a hymn and the participants distributed goodie bags to the children. The children were thrilled on receiving goodie bags. The teachers also shared that the parents were glad and happy to interact with us and so were the children.

The participants after returning to the venue and a short tea break came back to the hall. Mr. Ebin, Mr. Roshan, Ms. Sharon and Ms. Angela conducted an action song. Mr. Kevin invited Fr. Ronald Veigas, the DYD of Shimoga, to give a brief orientation to the council.

Fr. Ronald began by explaining how every person who is attending the council has a great responsibility towards framing the policies. It is important that each one of the participant should have read the constitution atleast once. He recommended that each participant should read the constitution before they leave and also read the handbook. Reading this would help each member to understand and dwell on the existing policies and also be able to evaluate and if needed recommend the changes. He asked students to reflect on what the council is and how it takes place. The council takes place once in three years. The former council took place in Shillong. He explained that we are here to evaluate what we did in the last three years based on the thrusts- Interculturality, Religious Pluralism and Universal Culture of Love and Life;and also plan for the coming three years. Father emphasised that this is the only movement which constitutes of students and is run by students themselves; fathers and animators only accompany the students. This council is responsible to think and contemplate for building the nation together. All the discussions and deliberations shall take place on the basis of the preparatory document. Each participant is the representative of their own dioceses, therefore each of their responses shall reflect in the document to be prepared. Thereafter, he shared that the NTA/EXCO and LOC together are helping in running the council. He also deliberated on the objectives of the National Council and explained that we would have study sessions to contemplate on the theme and thrusts for the coming three years. One needs to prepare oneself for the council and be prepared to share their thoughts and ideas on issues that are important and sensitive. One needs to be creative and proactive to bring about the change that the society needs to see.



Mr. Kevin thereafter invited Fr. Chetan to speak on the present reality of the movement.

Fr. Chetan began by asking students to remember the place that the students visited for the exposure programme. He shared how there are still a lot of people who have no facilities. He connected the present reality situation to the reasons to why YCS was formed. The movement began with a purpose years ago. Earlier, when there was turmoil and war, certain people got together with a purpose to make young people aware of the problems and how they could overcome them. The roots of the movement lie in the social concerns that have emerged from the society. He shared statistics of the members and animators in the movement and also his inhibition about the statistics being true. If we truly had so many students it would not have been so difficult to select just two people from the region. We just simply gather people and go for events. The reality is also that a lot of people are seen only during councils and events and when they go back to their own dioceses, units and cells do not take any responsibility or action. There were people seen only in the certain times. He said that those coming for the Nationals must be proactive YCSers and be there throughout to contribute to the building of the nation. The NEXCO must not be callous rather must take their responsibility seriously. It is not the time to learn, it is the time to think. He said that the present day picture is not clear and bright. After 50 years of the YCS now, we need to go back to the roots to see where we have reached. Fr. Chetan asked the participants for the dioceses that are missing from this council. The gathering stated that Andhra Pradesh is the region that is not represented. Fr. Chetan stated that we have only 40 dioceses that have YCS and now need to go back and see how we can change things and make things relevant for the movement. After Fr. Chetan's session the gathering dispersed for lunch break.

The group gathered again and Mr. Kevin requested the RYD's to present the students from their regions that would be a part of the new Council (EXCO). The RYD's introduced their representatives to the new NEXCO.

Region Representatives

REGION	REPRESENTATIVES
BIHAR	1. Alex Antony 2. Nisha
KARNATAKA	3. Clatius 4. Jesvita
GOA	5. Xavier 6. Roslin
NORTHERN	7. Vanshika Paul
WEST BENGAL	8. Akanksha 9. Natasha
TAMIL NADU	10. Pradeep 11. Rachel 12. Abhisha 13. Prem
ODISHA	14. Sajit Kullu 15. Ria Kerketta
MADHAYA PRADESH	16. Mary Roshni 17. Akhilan
NORTH EAST	18. Rikam Bagang
UTTAR PRADESH	19. Jeris Joseph

After the directors had introduced their representatives, Fr. Chetan mentioned that the regions that had not yet sent names of representatives for the council have a last chance to send their names, i.e. before the Live-in programme in July. Father emphasised that the names would be taken only if they are sent before July, and any delay other than that would not be entertained.

Mr. Jimmy thereafter, requested the new NEXCO to introduce themselves. Each one of the new EXCO representative introduced themselves to the gathering.

This was followed by group dynamic activities by Mr. Gilbert. The participants thereafter left for the lunch break. After lunch the participants gathered in the hall for the follow up of the exposure programme that they went for in the morning. Fr. Savio demonstrated examples of the things that he saw when the group went for the exposure programmes. He expressed his amazement at the expression of a little girl when she saw the participants with shades (glasses). He asked the participants to group into the regions they have come from and list maximum 5 statements which had a great impact that would reflect their see task. He also shared with the participants that they would be going for another exposure programme. He explained how this place would be different from what they had seen in the morning therefore, they must not be going with presumed assumptions. He asked students to group themselves and list down the questions what they would want to ask all the children or those taking care of the children. With this the participants were asked to leave for Bal Bhawan. The students walked to Bal Bhawan and gathered in a hall. They were introduced to the work at Bal Bhawan by the director Fr. Bento Rodrigues SFX. The students also interacted with the teachers to know about the works and function; and played with the students in the green grassy lawns.

After a while the students returned to their venue and sat in groups to plan on what and how they wish to present what they



had seen in the exposure programme. The students used different ways to present their observations- through chart presentations, report presentations, dance, play and skit, etc. Fr. Mari Joseph was the moderator for this session and stated that he shall give feedback and conclude the discussion after all the presentations. The main points arising from their presentation were as follows:

- The dual faced society- one that has all the resources and the others who do not even have the basic amenities of life
- The scarcity of food and water
- People living in broken houses and shacks in the burning heat
- Children being deprived of their right to education
- People living in sickness and no medical help being available
- Children of the slum having a will to study and do something in life
- People living in slums not having any identity card or ration card or aadhar card- their sense of identity for basic needs not being available

Towards the end of the presentation session Fr. Mari concluded summarising their ideas. He also said that we must be careful listeners and respond according to what the group presents. He said that students did not attentively listen to the presentations nor did the people seeking clarification listen to one another, as doubts were also repeated. Evaluation was conducted by Roshan Lobo. The participants wrote their ideas and feelings under the four main questions:

Their wish...

- If possible serve cold drinks as it is hot.
- If there could have been some more people to explain in the exposure sites.
- Sessions should be more interesting and lively.
- First aid is needed at the earliest.

Their good moments...

- Two counters of food were better.
- Time table was good.
- Presentation of exposure visit was good.
- Session taken by Fr. Savio about See part was good

Their suggestions...

- LCD settings better
- Sound system to be better
- Follow the time table strictly.
- NEXCO Members are not wearing scarf and badges.
- Action songs can be increased.
- Some are not coming for morning mass.
- More group dynamics to interact with others.
- Want to buy Medicine.
- Discipline has to be maintained in the auditorium.

Their learning...

- Adjusting between complications.
- Touch others lives with your loving presence.
- Happy with whatever we have.



Each participant wrote their responses on a piece of paper and gave it to the NEXCO and called the day off. The participants were also informed that the following day's morning mass was to be organised by North East and Goa Region.

Then, the LOC and the NEXCO had an evaluation meeting for the day respectively.

18th May 2016: Day 3

The third day of the XVII National Council began with the Holy Mass by Fr. Moses from the North East Region in which he stressed on the necessity of 'call to harmony' and for tolerance towards everyone for the betterment of society. In his special message he touched upon the necessity of treating everyone equally just like in God's kingdom everyone is equal. He even quoted the works of Mother Teresa emphasising his point about treating everyone with dignity, love and respect.

After the Eucharistic Celebration Mr. Xavier from West Bengal region led the gathering in the YCS Prayer. Thereafter, participants dispersed for breakfast.

After a good breakfast, when the participants gathered back in the hall, Gilbert and Sharon had grouped everyone. The groups were made with the purpose of distributing and allocating responsibility for the different times of the day like asking people to gather on time, ushering, conducting animation sessions, etc.

Then participants had their first session on 'Media and Me' which was taken by Fr. Savari Muthu, Public Relations Officer of the Archdiocese of Delhi, who touched upon the importance of media and the various facts of public media. He began by asking certain questions which the participants were to answer. He then elaborated on what social media is and understanding the role of social media in the present scenario. He emphasised on the effects media has on the young today and analysis were drawn upon as to why media unfortunately has become a disadvantage for the young. The delegates had a deeper understanding of the theme. The aspects of social media and the other aspects of media were touched upon and spoken in detail, concluding with the role of media in nation building process. The session concluded with participants asking questions for clarification on issues like authenticity of news, privacy of accounts, hacking issues, etc. After the session, the students were asked to settle into the groups made in the morning to deliberate and discuss on the topic which was presented to them by the speaker. This was to further cull out the plans for the theme and thrusts for the coming three years. Mr. Gilbert asked each group to appoint a president, who would moderate the group and also a secretary who would note the observations and also present the same.



Students shared their thoughts, ideas and observations in groups and highlighted the key learning from the session. They together in groups prepared the plan of action which was to be followed in the dioceses and regions in regard to the thrusts for the upcoming three years. This discussion was followed by a tea break.

After the tea break the students gathered back in groups to present their group deliberations to the entire audience. This session was moderated by Fr. Mari Joseph. The students presented their learning, evaluation and assessment of the session 'Media and Me' and also proposed the plan of action for the given thrusts. The students were also asked to reflect on the exposure programme that they had gone for the previous day. The deliberations are as follows:

LEARNING AND EVALUATION (MEDIA)

- The new generation is addicted towards media because of what it offers.
- The youth needs to be careful and aware of the websites that they visit.
- Media is causing us to lose our human form of communication. We interact with people more over media rather than in real.
- Students are not focussed in their education and media is one of the strongest distracters. We must learn to be focussed.

- We need to use media to benefit the human kind by spreading awareness.
- Media could be used by students in a variety of ways for their welfare- for education, to find facts, know about recent developments in different avenues, etc. On the other hand we must also be careful about the information being posted and check its authenticity.
- There are cyber laws that have been laid down for every user. We must abide by those laws and those violating it, must be reported.
- The users of media should be careful about what they post on the internet (especially when it comes to personal information)
- Media is also used by the government for its works. Their work must be critically viewed on how media is used by them.
- Time management is an important aspect. We must not waste our time always on the internet.

REFLECTION (EXPOSURE VISIT)

- The people in the slums are not able to uplift themselves as they are not educated. Education is an important tool for social change to take place. Therefore, the education of the children is vital.
- The existence of the slum is a mirror reality of what we are doing to our fellow humans. We as YCS/YSMers need to visit such places to know about the ground realities and the harsh conditions that they live in so that we could voice for justice.
- The women in slums fear working outside as they feel that they would be exploited or harassed.
- The children in the slum are very talented. They even had aspirations of doing something good in life.

PLAN OF ACTION (THRUSTS)

- Conduct Street Plays, Quiz, Debates, etc., at the diocesan level
- Seminars, orientation programmes and camps on various awareness topics at the regional level
- Regular visits to the units so as to check on proper functioning
- Writing in Search and other print media to raise awareness on the theme and thrusts; Also encourage students to write to the editors of newspapers and magazines
- Parent-teacher animation programmes to make even parents about the movement
- Career guidance programmes can be organised at the Diocesan or Regional level
- Anti-media day where all the YCS/YSMers do not use media at all for a day
- Conduct sessions/workshops on 'Media'; 'Women Empowerment' etc.
- Organise regional forum of communication- magazine, whatsapp groups, gmail groups, etc.

On the basis of the presentations, the audience were permitted to ask questions to clarify points which could be answered by the secretary or any of the group members. At the end of the presentations, Fr. Mari gave feedback to the group saying that students must draw analysis from what they have seen and heard and not copy what the resource person has said.

Thereafter, the delegates grouped into their respective regions so that they could discuss the learnings that were shared in the regional language for better understanding. The animators and directors helped the delegates to understand the points shared.

Ms. Nawomi thanked Fr. Mari for moderating the deliberations. The gathering then dispersed for lunch.

After relishing the lunch the students moved back to the hall for animation session. This was followed by the second session for the day on the thrust 'Back to the Roots' which was taken by Fr. Varghese Alengaden, National Animator, Universal Solidarity Movement, Indore. Fr. Varghese was felicitated by Ms. Sharon and Fr. Chetan. He began by sharing his experience of being part of YCS/YSM as the regional chaplain in 1986. He said how being with the movement had such an impact that the movement set into him. He deliberated why it is necessary for



the movement to move into you. The delegates were happy to listen to an experience which made them realise the importance of the movement and how good it is to be a part of such a great movement. He quoted, 'It is not I entering the movement but the movement entering into me'. He shared how YCS gave him perspectives and provoked him to think and has helped him be who he is today. He spoke about the people he met during the time he was a part of the YCS/YSM and how each individual helped him develop his thoughts and feelings. He said that whenever we do anything we must keep Jesus in our minds and think, 'What would Jesus do in such situations...' He also mentioned how he was inspired to write books and each of his books has been related to his real life experience. After the session, the students were given opportunity to ask questions and also share their thoughts.

Thereafter, Fr. Varghese invited Sr. Ishpriya who was present at the Council to share her life experience of being part of USM, and how she felt after meeting the delegates in the council. Sister also shared her experience as principal, working with children and her association with USM for the all-round development of the students.

The session concluded with a vote of thanks to both the speakers and was followed by tea.

Once they returned from tea break they were asked to settle in their groups once again and were given three questions to ponder and discuss over. They also had to present the same. This session too was moderated by Fr. Mari. The deliberations were as follows:



HOW THIS MOVEMENT HAS TRANSFORMED MY LIFE?

- It changed the way I look at the world. It has transformed my personality.
- It has helped me develop the courage to accept my mistakes and act on them accordingly.
- The methodology of the movement is such that it solves the smallest problems that we encounter.
- Having friends from different parts of the nation has helped us to look at things in different ways and also learn about new things.
- It brings in a sense of responsibility towards myself and others. It helps us become a leader.
- It gives importance to the students as it is a students' movement (giving us space to voice ourselves)
- Makes us observant and helps us to create awareness about things happening around us.
- It helps us imbibe values like- truth, justice, honesty, etc.
- We get a platform to express ourselves, our problems and our concerns.
- It helps us introspect on our actions and thoughts; and also develops the skill of decision making.
- It helps us to be critiques, analysts and thinkers.

HOW CAN I MAKE THIS MOVEMENT MORE RELEVANT?

- By changing myself I can help change others.
- Working with each other and communicating better would help us to understand each other and the movement in a better manner.
- Use media as tool to tell others about the movement.
- Prepare plan of actions from the national to the cell level so as to achieve our theme and thrusts
- By sharing our experiences with others, new members, in cells and units about how this movement helps us and why this movement is important.
- Encourage members to be regular and not present for only a few events.
- Organise at least one activity a month (orientation, animation, etc.)

ACTION PLAN

- Adopting the YCS/YSM methodology in our lives with the things we do.
- Organising seminars, debates, sessions, and similar events at different levels.
- Concentrating on the grass root level.

- Raising funds
- Help in the education of those who do not receive education
- Visit those who are lonely, sick and needy.
- Movement oriented animators and directors need to be appointed.
- Co-ordinate with the priests and clergy about the work we do
- Help establish cells and units in schools where the movement does not exist.
- Help the DEXCOs to be more active and vibrant and also train animators to be more equipped to work for the movement.

Each group's presentation was followed by two questions for clarification (if anyone had any) and concluding with the remarks given by Fr. Mari as the moderator.

Thereafter, Ms. Sharon informed the gathering that they could get back into their regional groups to seek clarification and discuss on the two sessions and reports that were presented during the day, in case people found it difficult to understand anything. Simultaneously Fr. Chetan requested the present and future NEXCOs to gather for a meeting. The participants thereafter dispersed for tea break and group wise discussion.

In the evening, after the break, the students gathered in their regions for prayer. Each region was asked to conduct prayer the way they wished to which had a greater impact as well as insight, thanking god for the success of the day and for all the good. This was followed by dinner.

The delegates met again after dinner for the region wise cultural programme and had a great time. This was followed by the day's evaluation which was conducted by Fr. Chetan. The day came to an end by the announcements for the following day by Mr. Jimmy Pdang.

As everyone else left for bed, the LOCs and the NEXCOs met for evaluation.

19th May 2016: Day 4

The day began with the Eucharistic celebration where Fr. Roshan Santhumayer, DYD from the Karnataka Region was the main celebrant along with the other directors. The liturgy and the choir was taken up by Karnataka and Kolkata regions. In the homily, Fr. Mari Joseph spoke about the value of human dignity. He shared a story of a woman who struggled in difficult times during a drought to bring a child some food. As the child ate the food, the lady exhausted, slept without eating and passed away in the sleep because of the pain and suffering. Father emphasised how we must value human life and how we must have respect for the rights of each one of us humans who are to co-exist in this world. He elaborated how newspapers and new channels showed incidents of rape, violence and oppression of the strong on the weak. It is important for us to look at such incidents, reflect and evaluate if there is value to human life and dignity in such situations. We also see how in schools teachers often do not speak courteously to students. Such cases also are incidents of violation of human rights and dignity. We as YCSers need to respect humans and work towards the upliftment of our fellow human beings. After the Eucharistic celebration Mr Gilbert, briefed the groups about their roles and duties for the day. The Eucharistic celebration was followed by breakfast.

After a sumptuous breakfast, the participants gathered in the hall. Mr. Gilbert asked them to settle down in their groups and Mr. Roshan conducted an animation session. The participants danced and sang along.

After the action songs, Ms. Sharon took attendance of the people present region wise to see if everyone was present.

The first session for the day was taken by Fr. Aquinas SDB on Human Rights. The purpose of the session was to make the participants aware of their rights as children as well as citizens of the nation. He spoke and introduced



the organisations that are associated with the human welfare not only in India but also globally; namely UNICEF, WHO, UN, etc. He briefed the council about the constitution and the fundamental rights that the students have as children as well as adults. He said that if we are not given/granted the rights that are prescribed for us, then it is our responsibility to stand up and demand for it. He emphasised that there are systems and organisations that are there to help people in need. One needs to be aware of such organisations and be in touch with them to seek help whenever needed. Father was sharing his experiences that he had in the Odisha region when churches were set on fire. He shared how things were destroyed and people lived in fear and turmoil existed. In the initial stages, no one knew about what was happening, but later, gradually the issue was highlighted in the media. We have technology around us but we need to see how this technology is helping to develop our human dignity. Often as per the studies conducted around the world we see that more the use of technology more is the gap between the families, adding to it- problems from the political side, issues like suicide, rape, murder, etc. He shared that he was very glad that the young people associated with this movement are sensitive and responsive to understanding such situations of life. After the session, the participants were given certain questions to ponder upon in the groups. Deliberations took place after which one member from each group presented their responses. After each presentation, students were allowed to ask questions for clarification. The points arising are as follows:

HOW CAN WE PROPAGATE HUMAN RIGHTS (SUGGESTIONS)?

- Print calendars (multiple languages) and distribute to people which would have information on human rights
- Discuss about human rights in cells and units
- Organise sessions and seminars on human rights in schools/slums and places where people need to be made aware
- Presenting street play on the theme of human rights to build awareness
- Collaborate with NGOs that support and work for human rights
- Preparing and presenting posters where people would notice
- Celebrating Human Rights Day
- Organising silent rallies for restoration of Human Rights and Dignity
- Discussing on Human Rights issues in cell meetings or school morning assemblies
- Organise exposure programmes to where we feel Human Rights are deprived and build awareness there

HOW CAN WE RESTORE HUMAN DIGNITY IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

- Educating the rich and poor about human rights about basic rights like: Right to Vote, Right to Equality, Right to Education, etc.
- Celebration of all festivals together
- Be an example ourselves by respecting the people around us and the people we meet
- Help people in locality avail government facilities
- Identify the problems of a locality/community by conducting a survey

ACTION PLAN (SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO MAKE STUDENTS AWARE OF THEIR RIGHTS AND RESTORE HUMAN DIGNITY)

- Conduct awareness programmes at different levels
- Educating students about human rights at school level itself
- Collaborating with NGOs with similar cause
- Conduct street plays on the theme
- Write articles in magazines and on social networking sites
- Volunteer with organisations to help the people
- Raise funds to help others in need
- With the help of RTI help others who are deprived of their rights
- Training programmes for Directors and Animators on issues like Human Rights, Abortion, Life of a sex worker, etc.



The presentation concluded and each participant was thanked and applauded for the contribution they made towards this discussion and deliberation. This was followed by a quick animation session to refresh the delegates.

Thereafter, began the second session which was conducted by Mr. James Sylvester, a former YCSer and also the President to the YCS/YSM Alumni. He spoke to the participants about the International Plan of Action Module which is prepared at the IYCS Level. He shared how 68 countries meet once in three years at the international level to deliberate on the themes and thrusts to be prepared. He said that in the year 2015, members from India went to Philippines to attend the International Council and that the delegates from India put up the maximum number of concerns. Based on the discussions there, the International plan of action of was made keeping in mind the methodology of the movement-awareness, reflection and action. He laid emphasis on the third part, that is, to act. He said that we need to perform, give and involve. The important thing is action. The POA that was discussed by the 68 countries is presented in the handbook given to the students on pgs 38 and 39. He stated that there are five important areas of concern where we need to get involved. The implementation of which has to be done at all levels. He in detailed explained each point and also the plan of action as prepared at the International Council. The points are as follows:



- Global Campaign – Protecting Our Home
- Student Leadership Training
- Review of Life Methodology
- International Solidarity
- Organisational Sustainability

Mr. James concluded his session by saying that we are talking about the change and therefore we must become the change ourselves in order to bring about the implementation of IYCS.

Mr. James was thanked for the resourceful session that he delivered. Thereafter, the gathering dispersed for lunch.

After a filling meal the participants gathered for the next session. Mr. Roshan engaged the group with action songs and Ms. Sharon thereafter took a roll call of the all the regions. Thereafter, the next resource person, Mr. Manoj Mathew was welcomed and felicitated.

The post-lunch session was taken by Mr. Manoj Mathew, a former YCSer. He began his session with a powerful quote by Dante Alighieri stating, ‘The secret of getting things done is to act!’ His deliberations were on the importance of ‘Act’ as a part of our methodology. He asked the students to keep in mind the thrusts for the coming three years: ‘Back to the Roots; Media and Me and Restoring Human Dignity’. He also asked the participants to keep in mind the International YCS Call for Action which was shared by Mr. James Sylvester. He shared that these two statements would be the base documents on which the students would hereafter prepare the Plan of Action. He laid simple and basic points on as to how Plan of Action is prepared. He shared the following points:

- WHAT action or change will occur?
- WHO will carry it out?
- By WHEN or for how long?
- WHAT resources are needed?
- HOW to communicate and celebrate?

After explaining each of these points to the delegates, Mr. Manoj asked one person from each group to come and collect



a chart paper. Each chart paper had one of the International IYCS Call or the National Thrust for the three years to come. This was taken randomly by the groups and they were asked to deliberate and prepare a plan of action for the topic given to them. The students along with animators sat to discuss and prepared their plan of action. After a stipulated time, and according to the time table, the delegates were asked to wind up their work and disperse for tea break. They were instructed that after the tea break they shall gather to present their plan of actions.



After the tea break, the delegates gathered in their groups to present their plan of action. The topics and their plans were as follows:

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Organise National Plantation Day
- Could approach the forest department for seeds, saplings, resource persons, etc
- Write in newspapers, magazines, SEARCH to inform people about the same.
- Upload videos and photos on facebook, youtube, and other social networking sites.
- Invite people from other places to join (other organisations, from schools, neighbourhood, etc.)
- Conduct programmes on protection of trees at different levels

STUDENT LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Encourage students to speak up without fear, on peace building, exposures programmes, media and on other issues.
- LTP could be inter-religious, where students of other faith are also invited
- It could be organised twice in a year for a week
- Apt resource persons be called for the training programmes, and proper translations be done where students do not understand the language.
- Articles be published in magazines and newspapers, also on social networking sites. These being the most common platforms to get information.
- Certificates be issued to participants who attend leadership training programme
- LTP preferably should be organised at the National Level
- Educational movies may be screened in the leadership programmes and also include debates where students participate.
- Resource books be prepared with relevant reading material so that students are better and well informed.
- There could be selection criteria for students to be sent for LTP. Example: Those who have been working for a stipulated period of time undergo LTP.

METHODOLOGY

- We are the biggest resource to understand, study and review the methodology.
- Alumni could be a set of resource persons to evaluate the methodology and also the growth of the movement.
- We could contribute through SEARCH about the methodology of the movement.
- Making people aware through posters, camps, sessions, discussions, etc.
- Have rigorous animators' training programme so that they too are well aware of the methodology.
- Leaders need to take initiatives to instil the methodology amongst the students.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY (13 NOV.)- HOW TO CELEBRATE

- Write about it in magazine, and other social networking site.
- Plan a day of exposure to educate the people.
- Have a three day programme with sessions and activities
- Organise a get-together where leaders from the entire nation are present.

- Organise and exhibition on YCS and its evolution.
- Conduct a programme where the extended family of YCS is also present- family of YCSers, friends and alumni.

ORAGNISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Strengthening SEARCH as it is our national magazine.
- Organise camps for underprivileged to educate them.
- Have better communication and connectivity among the councils and YCSers.
- Include senior YCS and directors in writing for SEARCH
- Publish experience sharing, testimonies, inspiring stories, alumni section, words of wisdom in SEARCH
- Use ads in SEARCH to raise funds, also upload the events on the website for publicity of the good work.

BACK TO THE ROOTS

- National office can publish a book on the Experience of the Alumni (Senior members)
- Prepare a Family tree of YCS/YSM (Statistics that shows the real numbers of member from cell to national)
- Prepare CDs which would contain the interview of Alumni, chaplains, pictures from the past, knowing about the movement, etc.
- Annual get-together where members of any council/era can come to meet and interact.

MEDIA AND ME

- Educate students about internet privacy
- Workshop on media issues like- 'Internet Privacy', 'Hacking', 'Cyber Crime', 'Cyber Rules', 'Plagiarism', etc.
- Organise a National Programme on the topic Media

RESTORE HUMAN DIGNITY

- Training for RYDs, DYDs, Animators on the theme and giving them detailed information so that they can help students at different levels
- Prepare a Resource book which can be used by students, which further empowers them to act on issues.
- Seminar/workshops/orientation programmes etc., be conducted on the topic.



The students were appreciated for their efforts made and Mr. Manoj had moderated the discussion. He wished all the students best of luck for their journey in the implementation of the POA that they just prepared.

Fr. Chetan asked students to get into their regional groups to discuss on the deliberation and presentation that took place in their own regional languages, to clarify doubts if any. The delegates then split into their regions and had discussions with their directors and animators. Father also asked them to simultaneously discuss the agenda for the national council, if any was to be discussed or presented the following day.

The groups dispersed for discussion and came back at the mentioned time for prayer. During prayer, the students sat around a candle and conducted an inter-religious prayer. After prayer, they all went for dinner which was followed by the cultural programme.

After dancing and singing together, the participants were instructed for the following days' schedule. Mr. Roshan also conducted the evaluation for the day by asking participants to share their feelings and learning. Thereafter, the day was called and all went to bed.

As everyone else left for bed, the LOCs and the NEXCOs met for evaluation.

20th May 2016: Day 5

The day began with the Holy Eucharist led by Msgr. MJ Albert, Regional Vicar Prelature of Opus Dei. In the reflection he shared about how people gathered to listen to and meet Jesus. He shared how the love of Jesus is undivided and given to all. He said that just like Jesus called his disciples, we too have been called. We just need to be humble and respond to Him when He calls. He ended by saying that we all are called to be agents of change and that the change must begin with us first.

After the Morning Prayer, the gathering dispersed for breakfast. They were asked to be back on time as the Council was to begin that day. After breakfast, the delegates all gathered in the hall.

The Council began by a prayer led by Ms. Rosalia. Thereafter, Ms. Sharon began taking the roll call of the gathering to see if the quorum was present in strength in majority for the meeting to begin. The attendance of the gathering was as follows:

The regions present for the council were as follows:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| • Bihar | • Goa | • Karnataka | • Maharashtra and Gujarat |
| • Odisha | • Northern | • North East | • Madhya Pradesh |
| • Uttar Pradesh | • Tamil Nadu | | |

The regions absent were as follows:

- | | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------|
| • Andhra | • Chattisgarh | • Jharkhand |
|----------|---------------|-------------|

Other than this the following present for the council:

- | | | |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| • Presidium | • NT/EXCO | • National Chaplain |
| • Alumni | • Observers | |

Mr. Jimmy officially welcomed the gathering for the meeting. He said that the National Council is the supreme body. This council has great potentials to do things. The purpose of the council is to evaluate the work of last three years. Also, prepare and plan for the coming three years- theme and thrust- based on the training and sessions they underwent in the last three days. This council's job is also to prepare the recommendations and changes to be made in the constitution and also elect the new national council. Mr. Jimmy thereafter invited Mr. Leo Joseph to explain the process of the voting rights.



Mr. Leo explained the events that would take place in the two days are technically called as Council Proper. It is something similar to that of a UN general assembly. If someone wants to speak in the quorum then they need to raise their roll call and then the chair gives the permission to speak. One can only speak with the permission of the chair. Each region gets only one vote. One vote each is also given to the NEXCO and the National Chaplain. The LOC can only speak as observers if they notice something and feel the need to be stated, yet again with the permission of the chair. For every decision to be implemented or passed, the quorum needs to be maintained i.e. 2/3 of the member regions need to vote. In this council we have 12 regions, including the NEXCO, therefore we need 8 members' approval to pass any amendment or rule. We follow the IYCS statutes. If there is any clarification in regard to any matter, the chair is answerable. While the need of asking questions come from the region, no matter can be addressed without raising the roll call. The larger regions can organise themselves in such a manner, so that the person translating can save time, i.e. if someone does not understand. It would be preferable that the delegates speak during the council. Agenda would be read, if any doubt arises delegates feel free to ask immediately and as it proceeds things would be understood.

Thereafter, Mr. Jimmy gave time to the gathering to ask for clarification regarding the roles that they are to play in the council.

Tamil Nadu: The National council is chaired by the convenor/president. But when do we have the elections for the new council?

Presidium: Elections shall happen in the due schedule.

Mr. Jimmy asked the regions present if they agreed on the voting rule that have been stated. He then asked them to show their acceptance by raising the placards. 10 regions raised roll call and passed the voting rule.



Thereafter, Mr. Jimmy stated that as per Article 5 (11a) of the constitution, one member from the present council was to be elected as the member to the presidium. The regions were asked to propose a member. The following regions proposed the respective candidates:

Tamil Nadu: Rachel, West Bengal: Natasha, Bihar: Ankit Baba

Thereafter, Mr. Jimmy called the proposed names once again and asked for the regions to vote. Rachel won in majority by 9 votes and was welcomed to the presidium.

Ms. Sharon read the agenda and also asked the regions to read the agenda and discuss to approve of it through voting.

Mr. Jimmy then stated that if anyone needs clarification they can ask now. Four people could state their concern. Removal and addition of the list of things on the agenda is not possible, only shifting of time schedule could be recommended. No region raised any issues, hence the quorum was asked to vote. Nine regions voted and passed the agenda.

Mr. Jimmy asked the gathering if any other matter is to be discussed.

Tamil Nadu proposed a discussion on the amendment of article 5.1.2: an open discussion of review of YCS in Tamil Nadu, the role of the council and the participation of RYD, DYD and animators. Mr. Jimmy stated that additions to the agenda would not take place at the last minute as the regions were given time of six months earlier to propose changes in the amendments and it was to come in written to the national office. Since no such proposition was received by the national office, this cannot be included in the agenda.

Karnataka Region stated that if the matter pertains to Tamil Nadu, they could discuss in the region itself, or with the National office separately, rather than in council. Tamil Nadu shared that this matter was discussed in the former national council meeting as well but the concerns were not answered. Mr. Leo stated that since we were ahead of time in the agenda, we could give time for their concern and clarify things with the region if they wanted. Mr. Jimmy thereafter, left the forum open to vote for taking up the discussion on the matter as shared by Tamil Nadu region.

Uttar Pradesh requested if Tamil Nadu could explain the concern slowly and in detail so that those unaware of the issue could understand it. Karnataka seconded the idea shared by UP saying that before voting, they need to know the matter.

Tamil Nadu shared that there are issues regarding TN region. There are some 'unwanted' elements in the regional administration. The same problem should not affect the other regions therefore wish to share the concern. They said that NEXCO members are stating that Tamil Nadu's YCS does not function properly and that the movement does not have members, etc. Mr. Jimmy requested Tamil Nadu to keep it simple and explain and possibly have the discussion scheduled for the evening. Fr. Chetan said that if a NEXCO is responsible and they have an answer to Tamil Nadu's concern, then clear the question now and avoid the discussion in the evening. NEXCO said that they

have asked for regional reports in the Goa meeting to evaluate the programmes that are already conducted. The work done in a region needs to be shown in the report given in the meeting. The NEXCO and RYD of the particular region is responsible for the report being presented. It is based on the report being presented what is evaluated.

Tamil Nadu said that there is not one problem but rather many problems. It is the NEXCO members who say that the region does not function. Region feels that they do not have a good relationship with the national office. The national office is at Tamil Nadu Regional address. Moreover, the alumni are taken for the programme without the information of the DYD and RYD. This may be the same with other regions but they may not state it now. It is a students' movement but we need clarification on the roles of each member.



Ms. Sharon stated that each RYD is to come with their NEXCO for the report presentation as well as for all other programmes. Moreover, information regarding all the events is sent three months in advance to the RYDs so they are aware of what is going on. Mr. Jimmy stated that in regard to communication there is a proposed amendment, so we could discuss it as per the agenda.

Fr. Chetan said that for the Alumni Programme, all the alumni were invited. It is a 'raw' association as of now and is not established. They may be anywhere in the nation and not necessarily have to come under the RYD. We invite people for the council and so were the alumni. As per the mail by Mr. Sylvester we were aware that alumni were coming. If any decision/amendment is needed, it could be stated but would only be taken up for discussion in the next council.

Tamil Nadu asked if the animators, DYD and RYD have voting rights.

Ms. Sharon quoted article 5.1.6 from the constitution stating that each region has one vote which includes students, animators, DYDs and RYD. Mr. Jimmy clarified that any proposition for amendment coming in this day would be scheduled for the next council. And the amendments scheduled for the present council shall take place in the evening at 4:30 pm. Fr. Chetan said that the amendments on schedule would require focussed discussion. The issues being presented here might not be taken there. If these are to be discussed, the regions would have to vote and if needed will discuss at 5:30 with the other matters.

Mr. Leo stated that it was decided in the NTA EXCO meeting in Goa that DYDs can also participate in the quota of the animators in the national council but it is preferable to give it to lay animators. This was stated in the meeting. Tamil Nadu asked for reasons for the presence of the outsiders (Mr. Leo) to be in the council. They also stated that Fr. Rozario was here as an animator.

NEXCO responded by saying that Mr. Leo is here because he was the former coordinator. He has come in the quota of a former YCS and alumni. It is upto the chair to decide for his further presence. And if still needed the presidium



could be asked for clarification. Tamil Nadu said that they appreciate Mr. Leo for all the services he has rendered, but now he is an alumnus and that he still sits with the NEXCO in their meetings. They questioned if this practice was appropriate or not. Mr. Jimmy stated that the NEXCO had asked him to stay and guide as they have a new coordinator and at times the former one is needed for help. Secondly, the presidium had permitted him to speak, that is why is free to express himself. Tamil Nadu thereafter questioned that on the previous day in the evening when everyone was there for prayer including Fr. Chetan, why was Mr. Leo with the NEXCOs sitting for a meeting.

Fr. Chetan with the permission of the presidium requested everyone not to take the issue personally. He said that they have had a lot of informal evaluations and meetings and that not everyone is expert at what to do. Everyone needs support. Moreover, there is an attachment that the NEXCO has with Mr. Leo as he has been there with them from the beginning. Father said that he conducted the meeting only after 10:30 pm. Mr. Leo has also helped them with a lot of minute things, and things that slip the mind while working. He shared that he too is not sure of everything, and Mr. Leo provides support as and when required. He emphasised that everyone in the hall has a chance to speak, provided the presidium permits. He requested everyone not to debate and cross question. Secondly it is the RYDs who elect and send NEXCOs, so they must not complain later. They are NEXCOS sent by the region. They are there in the region throughout. They need the encouragement. He requested RYDs and DYDs to do less speaking and respect the presidium. Presidium can stop when someone intervenes frequently. He also requested them to oblige and listen to the presidium.



Mr. Jimmy announced for a break and said that the presidium shall resume at 10:30 am.

After the tea break the council resumed and attendance was taken by Ms. Sharon.

Mr. Jimmy then asked the regions to vote if the matter presented by Tamil Nadu regions was to be taken into consideration for discussion. The regions did not vote in majority (2 votes), hence the presidium concluded that this matter shall not be discussed in the council. He thereafter requested the regions to present their reports and said that each region would be given 7 minutes each to present.

Tamil Nadu region staged a walk out at this moment. Ms. Sharon stated that it is not suitable for them to leave without the permission of the presidium. NEXCO also said that they respect the Tamil Nadu region but it is not right to leave the Council. The preparatory document was given six months prior to the council and if they wanted to discuss any matter so urgently, they should have given the matter in writing to the national office. Mr. Jimmy stated that no written document was given to the national office and as per their concerns as stated in the previous council, was discussed then and there. Karnataka suggested that the concerns being stated may not be understood properly by those present in the current national body, and that it was better to discuss this in the presence of the chairman bishop as stated in the last council as well. They also requested Tamil Nadu region not to leave.

Tamil Nadu said that these issues were almost 6-7 months old and was presented earlier as well. But until now, have not got any response and are still waiting for an answer from the national office. They also questioned as to why chairman bishop was not present for the national council. They said if the chairman is not here, then why even have the council at all.

NEXCO stated that the concerns raised by Tamil Nadu are to be dealt by the NTA and Bishops, and not in the council. The matters pertaining to property and trustees need to be given in writing to the national office. It may have slipped their mind to write to the office, but every official matter needs to be given in writing well in advance. Only of things are given in writing can be dealt with clearly and carefully. Moreover, if the matter pertains to the region, then it must be resolved in the region itself. If it pertains to the national office, then it needs to be settled with the bishop and the national chaplain and if the region is still not satisfied with the pertaining matter, then the region can give in writing and can be taken up in the next council.

Fr. Chetan said that the matter is dragging a lot and that we need to put it to rest. He said that a lot of personal matters are arising amidst these issues which do not pertain to the growth of YCS or the students. Even for the council, letters were sent to all the bishops and very a few responded to it. It is a valid question, that why the chairman bishop is not present and it be documented and we must ask him why he was not present for the Council. The matter being shared is not a national issue; therefore, it needs to be dealt with at its appropriate place. He said that he had received a mail from Fr. Marianus before the previous council meeting and the same was dealt with in the Council that took

place in Delhi. One matter was unanswered, for which the chairman bishop was needed. If the council feels that this matter need not be discussed then let us all respect it and focus on the agenda and continue with the council. YCS is a beautiful movement, but how many of us still have YCS spirit in us is a question. This movement is for the students, so let us concentrate on matters pertaining to the students. The unresolved official matters can be written to the national office and other personal matters can be resolved outside this room. Moreover, if we continue to fight over such matters we need to introspect on how serious we are for this movement. It is better not to have the movement at all if people are not serious about it. The seriousness level can be sensed, when reports do not come on time despite giving 2-3 months' time. Hardly anyone responds to the official mails being sent, except for maybe one or two people. It is time we all reflect on our actions.

Mr. Jimmy then said that the matter has been put to rest for now and the council shall resume with the presentation of the regional reports. Ms. Rosalia excused herself from the council as she had an exam and had to leave. She thanked the national chaplain and her fellow NEXCO members for all the support they had rendered during the three years' time.

Ms. Sharon requested Bihar Region to present the report. Tamil Nadu region along with some alumni members did not stay; rather they walked out of the council. Fr. Rosario came back and asked Ms. Rachel, the elected member to the Presidium to leave with the region. Mr. Jimmy said that she was nominated by the region and now as long as the council is on, she is a part of the presidium and not her region. NEXCO stated their concern and said that this attitude is not appropriate. North East Region also expressed that, Tamil Nadu should maintain the decorum and should allow Rachel to stay. Fr. Rosario wanted her to leave saying she is part of the Tamil Nadu region and that the directors are responsible for her. MP region shared that



Tamil Nadu should settle back for the council and maintain the decorum of the council. The act of moving out of the council was inappropriate. NEXCO stated that if they are not satisfied with the clarifications given, then they can give the matter in writing and demand for an answer. They could have asked the Bishops to come and sort the matter within a prescribed deadline. There were so many other ways to respond to this issue. Walking out of the council is not the way to respond. Neither the national nor the regional councils have any problem in addressing the issues. But abiding by the agenda is what is important as of now. Fr. Rosario did not agree and persisted to take Ms Rachel. Goa Region said that Ms. Rachel was being put in to a bad situation. Surely, there may be issues. The chairman has to be there to resolve them, but unfortunately he is not present. We could have come to a conclusion with the chairman. He asked: Are we not worsening up the situation. He requested Tamil Nadu to come back and agree on a mutual understanding,

Fr. Rosario thanked the regions for supporting Ms. Rachel. He yet again persisted on giving them time to speak in the council. They agreed that the chairman was needed but they wished to state their concerns. They have even shared this concerns with all the DYDs of the region and also with the national chaplain in Kolkata. And as the matter stands nowhere, he said that the region has decided to take Ms. Rachel with them.

Karnataka suggested that since Ms. Rachel has to be in the presidium as it is her responsibility now, let not the matter be dragged and requested Tamil Nadu region to let her stay. Mr. Jimmy said that the regions would have to vote if they agree to the idea proposed by Karnataka Region. Fr. Rosario sternly said that the Tamil Nadu region has decided and voting need not take place. Ms. Rachel requested by asking the Council to give Tamil Nadu region a chance to speak. She said that she is well aware of the fact that they are short of time, but still requested for time.

MP region felt that the issues were heating up. They said that the Church always listens to the pain of the people and suggested that the council could listen to what Tamil Nadu wished to share and prepare a draft to send to CBCI. North East said that no personal attacks should be made while they share their concern. They even shared that most regions felt that it is regional issue and that they could have settled it in their regions. They could have also shared their concern with the national team on their own.

Mr. Leo said that since the entire region has walked out and there is a big ratio of participants from the region it would be better they come back and the council could give them a chance to explain. Tamil Nadu said that the matter is not regional rather it is a national issue. The ones that are regional can be dealt in the regional general body meeting, and respected others not to mix the matters. They said that there are two issues to be dealt separately and that in the council anyone has the right to speak. They requested for only for 10 minutes and apologised for the situation that arose.

Mr. Jimmy suggested that the council could give time to region at 5:30, on the condition that the region comes back. Then he asked the council to vote for the same. Majority agreed (9 votes) and the region was asked to come back before, the council resumed with the matters. Thereafter, Jimmy stated that the regional report presentation time was reduced to 5 minutes due to constraint in time.

The presentation of the regional reports began thereafter. Mr. Jimmy also said that after each report presentation, any two questions could be asked by the quorum to the region seeking clarification on their reports.



BIHAR REGIONAL REPORT

2013

- ❖ 8th June YCS YSM Camp at Chakaram, Theme – Students Education in Modern Era Thrust – Religious Pluralism
- ❖ 5th July 2013 : Holy Mass for all the YCS Students
- ❖ 17th August Animators Training Program
- ❖ September: Orientation to all units
- ❖ 6th to 8th October 2013 Camp at Chakaram, Theme – Religious Pluralism & Interculturality
- ❖ November – December: Implementation of Other Programs
- ❖ Regular CELL Meeting; Regular Unit visit; Get together for slum children's; Christmas get together

2014

- ❖ January: Animators general meet at YCS office, Office Bearers meet, Unit Meetings
- ❖ July & August: Unit Visits
- ❖ 21st July: Loyola High School (Harnaut)
- ❖ 22nd July: Praksh Vidyalay (Maner)
- ❖ 25th July: St. Joseph's High School (Barh)
- ❖ 1st Aug: Don Bosco Academy (Digha)
- ❖ 2nd Aug: St. Michael's High School (Digha)
- ❖ 5th Aug: St. Joseph's Convent (Bankipur)
- ❖ 6th Aug: St. Joseph's Convent Hindi (Bankipur)
- ❖ 7th Aug: Hartman High School (Digha)
- ❖ 8th Aug: Notre Dame Academy (Kurji)
- ❖ 9th Aug: St. Xavier's High School (Gandhi Maidan)
- ❖ 11th Oct Office bearers & Animators Training Programs
- ❖ 19th to 23rd Nov NSLTP
- ❖ Nov 1 Day Camp for YCS ; Dec 1 Day Camp for YSM/ LTS



2015

- ❖ 23rd Jan Students And Animators Training Program (Based on the National Theme)
- ❖ July, September & October: Unit Visits

- ❖ Introduction of Aims, Objectives & Methodology
- ❖ One Day Camp, Selection of Unit core team
- ❖ 6th November: Seminar & Workshop for Students And Animators at Chakaram

2016

- ❖ 23rd Jan Animator's Training Program
- ❖ 9th April Animator's Quarterly Meeting
- ❖ April: Unit Visit; Prakash Vidyalaya (Maner)
- ❖ Loyola High School (Harnauth)
- ❖ Don Bosco Academy (Digha)
- ❖ St. Xavier's High School (Gandhi Maidan)
- ❖ St. Joseph's Convent (Jethuli)
- ❖ Selection of Dexco Members



Challenges Faced

- Lack of proper Communication
- Only One Diocese working
- No Funds
- Irregular Unit Visit by RYD , NEXCO & DEXCO

Achievements

- Regular Unit Visit ; Workshops
- Training Programs; Regular Animators meet
- Selection of office bearers; Formation of 7 New Units
- Appointment of New Animator; Appointment of New Coordinator
- New Diocesan Youth Office; Outreach Program

Action Plan

- Starting More Units; Reaching to rural districts and schools; Golden Jubilee celebration
- YCS YSM Camp; Inter School Sports Competition; Carol singing competition
- Retreat 3 Days; Regular Unit Visit; Regular Cell meet in Units
- Exposure / Outreach program; Beginner's Program; Oath taking Day

No clarifications were asked. Ms. Sharon thanked Bihar region for the presentation and asked Goa Region to present their report.



GOA REGIONAL REPORT

The region of Goa has been doing a wonderful job in the YCS/YSM Movement for the years gone by. At the start of the year the gathering of the animators takes place for the North and South of Goa. Here the old animators are welcomed and the new members are given the necessary orientation for the coming year and the work ahead.

It follows with cluster meetings wherein the students are made aware of the plan for the whole year and all the new comers are oriented in the movement.

This occasion is also made use of to guide them through a cell meeting and what are the dos and don'ts of the movement.

There are about 40 schools that are a part of the movement and thus they are divided into 15 clusters.

The animators number around 100. The cluster meeting takes place twice a year. We also organise two camps in North and South Goa. Every school gets the opportunity to send four students each.

There is a get-together organised for the animators at the end of the year in order to evaluate and discuss about the activities held for the whole year. We also organised a NTA/EXCO meeting in Goa last year.

In the years to come we intend to organise an Inaugural Ceremony for every year wherein all the members will have to necessarily be a part of the programme in order to prove their membership for this movement, thus organising it in a more systematic way.

Mr. Jimmy asked if anyone wished to ask any questions. Two questions were addressed. NEXCO congratulated Goa for the work that they have been doing despite being only one diocese. NEXCO said that they sincerely appreciate Goa for the work being done.

Karnataka asked Goa on how they plan to extend the movement.

Goa replied, quoting Fr. Chetan, 'Let's not bother at extending, let's work on quality.' They said that every YCS member would be called for the inaugural programme. This way the regular members would be identified, so to strength the roots and moreover, would also be able to gauge the correct statistics of membership. Ms. Sharon thanked Goa region and requested Karnataka Region to present their report.



KARNATAKA REGIONAL REPORT

YEAR: JUNE 2013 – MAY 2016

No. of Dioceses: 14 (Latin-10, Syro Malabar-3, Syro malankara-1)

No. of Dioceses YCS/YSM Present: 6

No. of Units: 247

Total No. of Members:

Boys: 4587; Girls: 6241; Total: 10828

Total No. of Animators: 287

No. of New Cells/ Units: 10

Programs conducted in the regional level:

1. Regional Executive Committee Meet
 - Regional YCS/YSM convention preparatory meeting in Udupi: YCS/YSM Regional Convention Preparatory meeting held in Moodubelle parish, Udupi diocese in Fr. Charles Menezes house. The meeting started with holy mass. REXCO and DEXCO and deanery office bearers of the YCS/YSM of Udupi Diocese participated.
2. Regional General Body Meeting
 - August 3rd, 2013: Minutes of the council The Karnataka Regional YCS/YSM Council was held on 3rd August 2013 at Regional Pastoral Centre Bangalore.
 - YCS/YSM General Council and Leadership Training Program 2015 – 2016: Karnataka Regional YCS/YSM



Council and Regional Election took place on 18th July, 2015 in Shanthi Kiran, Bajjodi Mangalore. There were 32 participants from five Dioceses. The Prayer conducted by Mangalore diocese, Ms. Frivita the Regional president welcomed the Council members; Mr. Flid Join Secretary read the minutes of the Previous Council Fr. Mari Joseph gave an introduction to the Council. The Regional two Years report presented By Ms. Frivita. Mr. Arun from Mangalore was the Resource Person of the day, in his sessions he shared his experience on the theme of “YCS/YSM a student movement” and “leadership qualities”

3. Regional Animators Training Program
 - CAT programme every year in the month of June conducted.
4. Regional Consultants
 - i. Diocesan Chaplains
 - Rev. Fr. Ronald Prakash D’Souza, DYD Diocese of Mangalore
 - Rev. Fr. Victor Anil Vas, DYD Diocese of Gulbarga
 - ii. Full Timers/ Coordinators
 - Sr. Irene Tauro, Bangalore

Other Programs

Karnataka’s first ever YCS/YSM convention: Karnataka’s first ever YCS/YSM convention was held on October 18-20, 2015 hosted at St Mary’s English medium school Kannarpady, Udupi Diocese. It was 3 days programme in the view of YCS/YSM golden jubilee. There were 700 students participants for two days where deferent sessions and cultural events are conducted based on the National YCS/YSM theme. Last day public peace rally with slogans in the streets of Udupi made people to know about YCS/YSM existence in Karnataka. There after public programme with different guest like politician, Bishops and social workers brought meaningful conclusion to Convention. The memorandum from students about education systems, text books in proper time, freedom of thinking for students, proper exams systems and about school bag Wight is submitted to education minister of Karnataka through Udupi diocesan PRO.

Regional Visits to Dioceses:

	Role	Date/Month	No of Cells/ Units Visited	No of Dioceses Visited
1	RYD	2013-14 2014-15 2015-16		4 3 4
2	NEXCO ROSHAN	2013-14 2014-15 2015-16	15 32 44	4 2 4
3	NEXCO ROSALIA	2013-14 2014-15 2015-16		3 2 2
4	Regional Coordinators/ Full Timers	No	No	No

Diocesan Level Regular Programs:

Program	Diocese	When
Animators Training/ Meet	Belgaum, Gulbarga, Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	June, July
Unit Office Bearers Training, DEXCO Election	Gulbarga, Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	June, July
Beginners Training Camp	Belgaum, Gulbarga, Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	July – September
Spiritual Camp/ Retreat	Shimoga, Udupi	September/ October/February

Talent Exposure	Gulbarga, Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	November – January
Village Exposure Camps	Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	April
Leadership Training	Shimoga	All the Year
DEXCO Live in Program	Mangalore, Shimoga, Udupi	July/August
Life Skill Camps	Mangalore, Udupi	October
Writers Training Program	Mangalore	August
Vanamahotsava	Gulbarga	June/July

Diocesan Level Special Programs:

Program	Diocese	When
Sports Day & Peace Rally	Udupi	November 2013
DEXCO Alumni Meet	Udupi	January 2015 and 2016
Swatch Bharat	Udupi	August 2015
Yuvathare Silver Jubilee	Mangalore	December 2014
Golden Jubilee Celebration	Gulbarga, Mangalore	January 2016
Diocesan Convention	Gulbarga, Shimoga	January 2015, October 2014

International Representation

Name	Diocese	Event	Where	When
Michelle D'Souza	Mangalore	IYCS World Council	Manila, Philippines	Aug 2015
Gaywin Lasrado	Mangalore	IYCS World Council	Manila, Philippines	Aug 2015

Strengths of the Regional Movement:

1. Annual plan of the Region and Diocese
2. Regular programs in the dioceses
3. Increase in units and cells every year

Challenges Faced in the Region:

1. Regional Meetings/Trainings etc., too expensive to attend
2. Response for regional programmes is very poor
3. No projects and no financial support from anywhere

Future Regional Programs:

1. Regular regional meetings
2. Planned diocesan visits and diocese programs

Diocesan Level Programs:

1. 7th July, 2013 Udupi: Diocese level Young Catholic Students Movement Animators & Office Bearers Training Programme and Central Council Elections were held at Holy Cross Convent at Katapady on Sunday, 7th July, 2013
2. 14th July 2013 : Young Catholic Students (YCS) Mangalore Diocese Annual General Body Meeting, Central Council Election & Unit Office bearers Training Programme 2013-2014 held on 14th July 2013, Sunday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
3. August 1st & 2nd, 2013: The YCS/YSM animators and the office bearers training programme was held at Sugyana pastoral center on 1 and 2 August 2013 at Gulbarga. 16 animators and 30 students participated in the programme.
4. Inauguration of YSM St Raymond's PU College, Vamanjoor Unit: It is for the first time in the history of Mangalore Diocese, the YSM (Young Students Movement) has been introduced on 19th July 2013 in the Pre University College level.

5. 11th & 12th July, 2014 Gulbarga: The YCS / YSM animators and the office bearers training programme was held at Sugyana pastoral center on 11 and 22 July 2014 at Gulbarga.

6. New YCS DEXCO of the diocese of Shimoga, 3rd Aug, 2014: There was an YCS Diocesan council meeting held on 03 - August 2014 in view of the formation of New Diocesan Executive Committee for the academic year 2014-2015 at Ragigudda Parish.

7. YCS Review of life Training program at Sorab, Shimoga, 21st September, 2014: There was a review-of- life training program being arranged for the YCS members of Sorab parish on 20-09-2014. There were 23 students, 2 animators and 2 DEXCO members present for this programme.

8. Young Students Movement Gulbarga Diocese, Convention – 2015

Venue: St. Mary's High School, Gulbarga

Theme: "Build Bridges and Build Lives – Be a Change agent"

The Diocesan Young Student Movement convention was held on 17th January, 2015 at St. Mary's High School Kotnoor in Gulbarga Diocese. 397 students from 12 schools all over the diocese took part in the convention.

9. Review of Life Program, Shimoga: The YCS unit of Anadapura parish had organized a day's orientation cum Review of Life Program for the YCS unit of the Parish on 21st and 22nd -February-2015 at St. Jude's Church, Anadapura.

10. Live in Program, Shimoga: The Yuvamithra Diocesan Youth Commission had arranged live-in-program for YCS Diocesan Executive Committee on 21st -22nd -February-2015 at St. Jude's Church, Anadapura.

11. NSLTP, from 5-9 November 2014 at Shanti kiran, Bajjodi, Mangalore: The diocesan Office for YCS / YSM Movement had facilitated 32 students from different schools and parishes of the diocese. The diocesan director Fr. Ronald Veigas was also one of the resource persons. There were 4 animators part of this program.

12. Leadership School Cabinet Training Program, Shimoga: Leadership is a quality to be inculcated, possessed and lived. Leaders are not born but they are made. School is a place where these leaders are made and evolved. Integral education will enable a person to be a leader to one self and to others. What we do in our life does not matter but what we become is all that matters and is of utmost importance.

13. Yuvamithra School Cabinet Training Program, Shimoga: 'Yuvamithra' the Youth Commission of the Diocese of Shimoga continuing the mission of creating value based leaders to build a new society had a unique 'School Cabinet Training Program' at St. Sebastian's High School and Pre University College on 27.06.2014 to bring out the real leader in each individual and teaching them the value of being a leader at the service of the nation and society.

14. School Cabinet Training Program, Shimoga: 'Yuvamithra' the Youth Commission of the Diocese of Shimoga continuing the mission of creating value based leaders to build a new society had a unique 'School Cabinet Training Program' at St. Charles Kannada Medium High-School on 28.06.2014 to bring out the real leader in each individual and teaching them the value of being a leader at the service of the nation and society.

15. YCS Orientation Program at Thirthahalli, Shimoga: YCS unit of Thirthahalli had an orientation program on 01 March 2015. The Diocesan Youth Director Fr. Ronald Veigas addressed the YCS members of the unit. There were 44 members and two animators present for this program.

16. Report of YCS Review of Life Programme at Hiriyur, Shimoga: There was an YCS review of life programme held at Assumption Church, Hiriyur on 28-3-2015, It was conducted by Fr. Ronald Veigas the Diocesan Youth Director. There were 20 students participated in this programme.

17. YCS – DEXCO Live in Program at Jog Falls, Shimoga: The YCS central council of the diocese of Shimoga had its Live-in-Program on 08-April 2015 at Christ the king Church, Jog Falls. It was conducted by the youth Commission of Shimoga.

18. Report of YCS/YSM Village Exposure Camp, Shimoga: YCS/YSM Diocese of Shimoga had organized Diocesan level village exposure camp from 9th to 12th April at Padanbail, Jog Falls. There were 80 student delegates and from 10 parishes and 2 schools.



19. Village Exposure and life Skill program, Shimoga: Village Exposure and life Skill program at Madanthyar was organized by YCS of Mangalore Diocese. There were 45 students who participated in this camp and three students represented the diocese of Shimoga. Fr. Ronald Veigas the DYD of Shimoga animated the students along with Fr. Edwin Correa the YCS director of Mangalore.
20. Formation and Orientation of YSM at Loyola High School, Shimoga: The YSM has been initiated at Loyola High School, Shimoga. The Head Master Rev. Fr. Joseph Toppil took keen interest in organizing this orientation program. Rev. Fr. Mathias and 4 animators were present for the program.
Formation and Orientation of YSM at St. Charles PU College, NT Bhadravati, Shimoga: There was an orientation program being organized for the PU students of St. Charles PU College at New Town Bhadravati. There were 220 students who were present for the orientation. 58 students have come forward to be members of family of YSM. They will be shortly initiated in to the movement with due preparation.
21. Formation and Orientation of YSM at St. Charles PU College, NT Bhadravati, Shimoga: There was an orientation program being organized for the PU students of St. Charles PU College at New Town Bhadravati. There were 220 students who were present for the orientation. 58 students have come forward to be members of family of YSM. They will be shortly initiated in to the movement with due preparation.
22. Report of the YCS/YSM Training Programme At Gulbarga: The YSM animators and the office bearers training programme was held at Sugyana pastoral center on 26 and 27 June 2015 at Gulbarga. 16 animators and 51 students participated in the programme.
23. Formation of YCS Unit and Cell groups at Ragigudda, Shimoga: YCS orientation, formation of new unit and election for the office bearers was held on 06.07.2015 at St. Anthony's Church, Ragigudda. There were 29 students and 4 animators present for the training program.
24. Formation of new YCS unit at Kable, Shimoga: The formation of new YCS unit took place with an orientation program conducted by the Yuvamitra youth office. There were 18 students present for the program. After the orientation the students were lead in to the process of Review of Life program. New office bearers for the year 2015-16 were elected.
25. YCS central council Election, Mangalore: Mangaluru , July 12: Melroy D'Souza, Siddakatte was elected the president of YCS, Mangaluru diocese during the annual general body meeting, central council election and unit office-bearers' training programme 2015 - 2016 of YCS held on Sunday July 12 at ShanthiKiran, Bajjodi. The annual general body meeting and unit office-bearers training programme of YCS were also held on the same occasion.
26. YCS Orientation Program at Harihar, Shimoga: There was an orientation and training program arranged for the YCS unit of Harihar Parish on 08th July 2015. 39 students attended this training program.
27. YCS/YSM General Council and Leadership Training Program 2015 – 2016: Yuvamitra the Commission for Youth of the Diocese of Shimoga had convened the 4th General Council of YCS/YSM On 11th -12 July 2015 in view of the election of YCS Central Council (DEXCO) for the year 2015-16.
28. YCS live-in-program for the DTS of Shimoga: A two day Live-in-program was organized for the newly elected members of central council, the DTS of Shimoga. The program was uniquely designed as to know each of the council members closely. A lot of group dynamics, ice breakers and action songs were taught.
29. YCS orientation in St. Anthony's Church at Karehalli, Shimoga: The YCS unit of Karehalli Church had an orientation and training program on 31.10.2015. The diocesan Youth Director Fr. Ronald Veigas was the resource person
30. Golden Jubilee of YCS/YSM in India, Mangalore: To commemorate the Golden Jubilee of YCS/YSM in India, YCS/YSM Diocese of Mangalore organized "YCS GOLDEN BLASH" at Vamanjoor Church Grounds from 5.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. This day was celebrated by conducting few competitions such as Cooking without Fire, Collage, Flower Arrangement, Memory Test, Mono Acting, Still Image and Singing which was followed by a cultural evening.



Mr. Jimmy asked the regions, if anyone had any clarifications to ask. With no questions towards Karnataka, Northern was requested to present their report.



NORTHERN REGIONAL REPORT

National Programmes:

Date	Programme	Venue	Participants
19th to 28th May 2013	Formation Session & 16th National Council YCS/YSM India	Bethel, Barapani - Meghalaya	5
5th to 7th October 2013	NTA/EXCOs Live in Programme	Navinta, Delhi	2
18 – 22nd May 2014	Attended National Convention of YCS/YSM	St. Xavier's Senior Sec School, Barkheda	12
19-23 November 2014	NSLTP	Patna	15
22-28 April 2015	NTA/EXCO Meeting	Goa	3
31st May – 8th June 2015	Chaplains and Animators Training	KROSS, Bangalore	1
23-30 May 2015	NATP	Indore	2
5-6 September 2015	Special NTA/EXCOs Meeting,	Chennai	3
19-23 October 2015	NSLTP	Bhopal	10
15th -17 January 2016	NTA/EXCOs Meeting,	Navinta, Okhla, Delhi	4
16 January 2016	Golden Jubilee	Okhla, Delhi	300

Diocesan Programme

Date	Programme	Venue	Participants
5-12 June 2013	YCS/YSM Summer Camp	NOIDA	150
23rd to 29th May 2014	YCS Camp	NOIDA	120
21 October 2014	YCS/YSM Animators/ coordinators Training	Yusuf Sadan	25
30th November 2014	YCS Day	DCC Hall	200
18-22 June, 2015	YCS Camp	NOIDA	150
28-30 June 2015	YCS Camp	Vasant Kunj	55
23 August, 2015	Jamborie YCS Day	St. Michael's School	200

Diocesan Level Programme & Activities

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. YCS /YSM Orientation | 2. YCS /YSM Follow up visiting schools |
| 3. Animators/ coordinators Training | 4. YCS/YSM Animation |
| 5. Students Leadership Training Program | |

Activities of YCS/YSMers

- Conducting School Assemblies/mass/choir
- Maintaining Discipline
- Creative School Notice Board
- Organizing competitions
- Street Plays
- Visiting: orphanages, villages, homes and jails.

Strength of the Movement

- Cooperation and support from authorities: Bishop Chairman for youth Commission, Director & Team, Bishop, Diocesan Youth Directors, Principals and Parish Priests
- Responsible and cooperative Student Leaders



Challenges of the Movement

- Too many movements confuse the Students in the archdiocese
- Lack of knowledge about the Movement among some leaders and authorities
- Lack of dedicated coordinators and animators
- Inconsistency of animators, coordinators and youth directors
- Lack of Diocese wise long term coordinators
- Lack of regular funds

Future Regional Programmes

- YCS Convention
- Students Leadership Training Programme
- Expansion of the movement in other dioceses
- Exposure Programme

Achievements

Northern region has revived the movement in the last four years. At the moment we have 12 units in Delhi and two in Jammu Srinagar. We have both parish and school units. Archdiocesan YCS/YSM organized Golden Jubilee of the Movement at the National level. NTA/EXCO meeting was held in Delhi.

The XVII National Council is also scheduled to be held in Delhi. Student leaders and animators are working hard to make it a big success.

Mr. Jimmy asked the gathering if anyone had any questions.

North East asked how the movement is taken care of in the schools. Northern region said that the director and animators visit schools, speak to principals and conduct animators training programme. Then the students and teachers/animators in the school are given an induction to what YCS is. Thereafter, also have follow up programmes with the children of the school in a month. Thereafter the school functions on its own as a unit.

With no more questions asked Ms. Sharon invited the North East region to present their report.



NORTH EAST REGIONAL REPORT

The year 1988 marks the beginning of Young Catholic Students/ Young Students Movement (YCS/YSM) at Shillong in North East India. It officially began in 1995. Today the movement has its presence in all the Seven States under the 15 dioceses of Agartala, Aizawl, Bongaigaon, Dibrugarh, Diphu, Guwahati, Imphal, Itanagar, Jowai, Kohima, Miao, Nongstoin, Shillong, Tezpur and Tura.

(YCS/YSM) Programmes and Activities in North East Region:

National Programmes:

Date	Programme	Venue	Partici- pants
19th to 28th May 2013	Formation Session & 16th National Council YCS/YSM India	Bethel, Barapani - Meghalaya	
5th to 7th October 2013	NTA/EXCOs Live in Programme	Navinta, Delhi	4
8th -12 Oct, 2013	National Youth Convention (NYC)	Holy Trinity College at Jalandhar, Punjab	3

13th – 17th November 2013	NSLTP – National Student Leaders Training Program	St. John's Seminary, Hyderabad	12
13th – 17th November 2013	NSLTP – National Student Leaders Training Program	St. John's Seminary, Hyderabad	12
18 – 22nd May 2014	Attended 1st Convention of YCS/YSM	St. Xavier's Senior Sec School, Barkheda	59
15th – 16th November 2014	NTA/EXCOs Meeting, Bangalore	KROSS, Bangalore	3
31st May – 8th June 2015	Chaplains and Animators Training	KROSS, Bangalore	4
5-6 September 2015	Special NTA/EXCOs Meeting,	Chennai	2
26 -30 October 2015	SLTP Kolkata	St. Antony High School Kolkata	23
15th -17 January 2016	NTA/EXCOs Meeting,	Navinta, Okhla, Delhi	6

Regional Executive Committee & General Body Meeting

Date	Programme	Venue	Participants
3-5 April 2013	YCS/YSM Executive Body Meet	Bethel Barapani	15
10-12 May	Evaluation, Assessment & Planning	Diphu	
17th & 18th May 2013	Orientation for the NE Delegates of 16th National Council YCSYSM India	St. Joseph Co – Cathedral Church, Panbazaar	25
26-27 July 2013	Regional Council Meeting	Tezpur	35
19-24 February 2014	Regional Council Meeting	St. Joseph Church Pan Bazar Guwahati	40
5-6th May 2015	Regional Council Meeting	Itanagar	30
21-23 Nov 2015	Regional Council Meeting	Mt. Tabor Kohima	32

Regional Programme

Date	Programme	Venue	Participants
14-16 March 2013	YCS/YSM Animators/ coordinators Training	Nongstoin Diocese	15
17th August 2013	Animators, Evaluation & Planning for 2013-2014	Shillong	40
4th – 6st April 2014	Regional Training of Program Coordinators & Student Leaders	Guwahati	40
14-17 May 2015	Leadership Training Programme	Agartala	35

Diocesan Level Programme & Activities

1. Peace Education
2. YCS /YSM Orientation
3. YCS /YSM Follow up

4. Zonal YCS MEET\Animators/ coordinators Training
5. Evaluation, Assessment & Planning
6. YCS/YSM Animation
7. Students Leadership Training Program
8. YCSers Bible Quiz Contest
9. Exposure: Visit to Jail, Homes, slums, villages.
10. Spiritual Retreat
11. Cultural Exchange
12. Pilgrimage
13. YCS/YSM Convention



Activities of YCS/YSMers

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Cleanliness Drive | 2. Planting Trees |
| 3. Conducting School Assemblies | 4. Maintaining Discipline |
| 5. Creative School Notice Board | 6. Organizing competitions |
| 7. Health Awareness Programmes | 8. Street Plays |
| 9. Distribution of clothes to poor people and victims of natural disaster. | |
| 10. Visiting: orphanages, villages, homes and jails. | |

Strength of the Movement

- Cooperation and support from authorities: Bishop Chairman for youth Commission, North Eastern Youth Commission (NERYC) Director & Team, Bishops, Diocesan Youth Directors, Principals, Parish Priests and Former YCS/YSMers.
- Regular Regional and Diocese Level Meetings
- Dedicated and Self-sacrificing Animators and Coordinators
- Responsible and cooperative Student Leaders

Failure of the Movement

- Failed to organise Animators' and Principals' orientation every year
- Failed to send students for NSLTP

Challenges of the Movement

- Many movements confuse the Students
- Lack of understanding about the Movement among some leaders and authorities
- Lack of dedicated coordinators and animators
- Inconsistency of animators, coordinators and youth directors
- Lack continuity of the movement
- Lack of Diocese wise long term coordinators
- Difficult Geographical terrains which cause communication barrier and makes travel tedious and expensive
- Lack of regular fund
- The student executives are left to organise by themselves as the chaplain cannot attend meetings often due to his busy schedule.

Future Regional Programmes

- Principals, Animators and Co-coordinators Training Programme
- Students Leadership Training Programme
- Cultural Exchange Programme
- Exposure Programme
- Commitment Day
- General Assembly Council
- Orientations to units



Achievements

North Eastern Youth Commission (NERYC) has made giant effort to make YCS/YSM movement grow in the region. In spite of the various challenges and problems YCS/YSM Regional Office has been able to reach out to all the 15 dioceses of the region. Youth Directors, more of school authorities, animators and coordinators have come to understand better about the movement. There are many enthusiastic and interested students who are active in the movement.

The movement has made great impact in the lives of students. It has helped the students build their personality development. They have become more self-confident, responsible, Self-discipline leaders. Exposure programmes has enabled them to be open minded, mingle freely with students of different cultures, tribes, castes and languages. Cell meetings have built their leadership qualities, developed team spirit, genuine respect for self and others, opportunity to share their ideas and views with others, thus building better relationship.

The movement has also opened a bank account and also received a Diocesan office from the Archbishop.

Many coordinators, animators and students are dedicated, enthusiastic and active. They give their best for the movement. We have great hope that YCS/YSM movement will continue to change the lives of many more students and thus building new society; God's Kingdom.

Mr. Jimmy asked the regions if they had any clarifications.

NEXCO especially thanked the region for the timely submission of reports and information. They said that North East was one of the regions that respond on time for all programmes and sends in their report as well.

Ms. Sharon thanked the North East region for their report and thereafter asked UP region to present their report.



UTTAR PRADESH REGIONAL REPORT

Under the worthy guidance of His Lordship Most Rev. Peter Parapullil, the Bishop of Jhansi Diocese and with the blessings of Gracious Rev. Fr. Richard Arul, a small unit comprising of sixteen young and dynamic students of Christ the King college, Jhansi, an Anglo-Indian College, are actively participating in this prestigious movement, but since efforts are being made to 'change the very self of the students that they may transform others and influence the society in an optimistic way.

We have been doing every possible action to spread the methodology, among the students, not only Catholics and Christians, but also those who follow other religions. We conduct the morning devotional assembly and YCS/YSMers take the lead. And now, we assure that we will energize, synergize and become more active. We are new to this movement and seek your guidance and support at every step we take. Presently we are a team of 7 students, 5 from Christ the King, Anglo Indian College and 2 from Agra Diocese, Greater Noida.

Mr. Jimmy asked if anyone has any clarifications to make.

NEXCO said that for the previous meeting the DYD from Jhansi was present and had responded very well in the council but the follow up since then has no continuity. UP region said that the old students had left and new ones have come and the animators were new, therefore it would be take time for stability to come in the movement.

West Bengal asked about the programmes that they have done so far.

UP region said that they have conducted cleanliness programmes in school under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Ms. Sharon thanked UP region for their presentation and requested Tamil Nadu region to present their report next.



TAMIL NADU REGIONAL REPORT

Regional Participation in National Programs

S.No.	Date	Program	Venue	Participants
01.	22-28/4/2015	NTA/Excoco Mtg.	Goa	5
02.	05-06/09/2015	Special NTA/Excoco Mtg.	Chennai	3
03.	16/01/2016	Golden Jubilee	Okhla, Delhi	5
04.	15-17/01/2016	NTA/Excoco Mtg.	Navinta, Delhi	6

Special Programs in Diocesan Level

S. No.	Date	Program	Venue	Participants
01.	29/01/2013	Value Education	Nagerkoi, Kottar	98
02.	15/04/2013	Life Orientation	Tanjore	185
03.	08/07/2013	Education and Environment	Vellore	195
04.	24/08/2013	Education is Must Kunnore,	Ooty	125
05.	27/09/2013	Animators' Orientation	Chinglepet	220
06.	20/11/2013	YCS/YSM Camp	Palyamkottai	340
07.	11/12/2013	You Can...	Vellore	112
08.	21/02/2014	Self Confidence Formation	Chennai	200
09.	09/06/2014	Environmental Preservation	Ulundurpet, Pondy	450
10.	25/07/2014	Decision Making Training	Chennai	170
11.	05/06/2015	Environment	Trichy	150
12.	30/06/2015	Animators' Training	Madurai	51
13.	25/07/2015	Leadership Program	Salem	200
14.	06/08/2015	Animators' Training	Sivagangai	68
15.	06/08/2015	Students' Training Program	Sivagangai	247
16.	25-28/08/2015	Media Education	Madurai	372
17.	27/08/2015	Personality Development	Trichy	340
18.	02/09/2015	Media Education Kodaikanal,	Madurai	62
19.	13/10/2015	Global Warming	Salem	155
20.	23/10/2015	YCS/YSM Orientation	Chithirangkode	94
21.	27/10/2015	Counseling	Salem	400
22.	04/11/2015	YCS/YSM Day	Sivagangai	270
23.	6-20/11/2015	Founder's Day	Theni	379
24.	15/12/2015	Folk Training	Kumbakonam	75
25.	08/01/2016	Exam Experience	Trichy	175

General Activities of YCS/YSM

01. Animating the teachers and students to make sure the knowledge and follow up on YCS/YSM.
02. Regional REXCO training programs.
03. Students' orientation programs in Diocesan level.
04. Visiting the Schools and strengthening the movements in Units/Cells.
05. Cultural Events and Competitions in diocesan level to bring students together for an exposure and exchange of culture.

Strength of the Movement

01. Enthusiasm and involvement of the Diocesan Directors and the YCS/YSM students.
02. Animators' volunteer participation in the activities of YCS/YSM.
03. Students and animators are active in the Schools and dioceses.

Challenges of the Movement

01. Students and Parents feeling insecure to come out of their homes and schools (environment).
02. Lack of interest to come for regional and national meetings.
03. Lack of Regional funds and lack of long term Regional Lady Animator.
04. Inability to support financially diocesan programs and diocesan coordinators.



Upcoming Programs

01. Regional Level YCS/YSM Golden Jubilee Celebrations.
02. Deepening of the Movements in the Diocesan and Unit Level.
03. Animators' Orientations in Regional Level.

Special Achievements

01. "THUDIPPU" - "HEART BEAT", a monthly magazine is revived after 24 months of being stopped. This magazine comes in the local vernacular language which contains the articles, the creative arts and the experience of YCS written by students themselves from various Schools.
02. "KAVANIPPA KANDIPPA" - "CONCERN OR PUNISHMENT", a TV talk show for the students was organized by the Tamil Nadu YCS/YSM in Madha Television which is a Television Network owned by the Regional Bishops' Conference. The program was twice telecasted and all over the region people very much appreciated.
03. The students are very much eagerly preparing themselves to participate in the XVII National Council which is going to be held in Noida, Delhi.

Mr. Jimmy asked if any region wished to clarify any doubts.

Karnataka region asked for clarification in regard to the regional programmes that they have conducted. Tamil Nadu said that they had organised Animators and Student leadership programme and the other regional programmes are a part of the future plan.



Presidium asked Tamil Nadu that the report shows 18 dioceses but as per national records there are only 17. Tamil Nadu stated that the particular diocese did not participate in the regional activities.

Ms. Sharon thanked Tamil Nadu and requested West Bengal to present their report.



WEST BENGAL REGIONAL REPORT

Month: May '13 to May '16

No. of Dioceses: 1

No. of Units: 23

No. of New Cells/Units: 4

Programs Conducted in the Regional Level

1. Regional Executive Committee Meet:
The Regional Executive Committee meet together whenever there is a need
2. Regional General Body Meeting:
General Assembly on 27th October 2013
General Assembly on 12th July 2014
General Assembly on 25th November 2015
3. Regional Animators Training Program 14-17 October 2013
4. Regional Students Leaders Training Program: 5-7 October 2014
5. National/ Regional Theme Based Program
Christmas Fiesta on 14th December 2013
Christmas Fiesta on 13th December 2014
6. Other Programs if any:
DTA Meeting on 29th June 2013
Bishop Meet at 29th June 2015



Diocesan Level Programs

1. Commitment Day
2. General Assembly
3. Forysta (Students' Leadership Training Camp)
4. Christmas Fiesta

Strengths of the Regional Movement:

1. Support of a good Chaplain and Coordinator
2. The decisions made in the Region are mostly left to the student executives and so they gain experience in hosting events whether it becomes a success or not

Challenges Faced in the Region:

1. Our students don't know much about YCS and thus there is a lack of interest
2. Due to constant exams and unit assessments in schools, conducting events continuously is difficult

Future Regional Programs:

1. Commitment Day and Golden Jubilee Celebration on 1st May 2016
2. Due to no meeting held regarding this yet, the decision regarding this is not yet made.

Mr. Jimmy asked if any region wished to seek clarification.

North East region asked West Bengal what they do on 'Commitment Day'. West Bengal said that it was programme where new students took their oath and pledge towards the movement.

Ms. Sharon thanked West Bengal and asked MP region to present their report next.



MADHYA PRADESH REGIONAL REPORT

May 2013 to May 2016

MP region is a new region since 2013 to know about YCS/YSM after a gap of 12 years led by the first Regional Director Fr. Varghese Allengadan and Fr. I. Peter- one of the national Directors in the past. By the constant and frequent visit and efforts taken by Fr. Charles Menezes, the former National Chaplain, we have the presence of the movement in our region. Fr. Charles met and discussed many times with His Grace Most. Rev. Leo Cornelio SVD and Fr. Shellmon Antony, the former Regional Youth Director of ICYM to have the presence of the movement in the MP region. Seeing the importance of guiding the confused teenagers at school as well as parish level, for the first time a team was formed under the leadership of Fr. Alexander Jesudasan, Mervyn John and Simran Sharma.

Since then YCS/YSM took its root in MP region in three dioceses out of ten and newly added recently is Gwalior Diocese.

Total number of units: 43

Total number of boys: 807

Total number of girls: 2025

Total number of animators: 56

New Cells (Gwalior): 2



The regional consultations: Diocesan Chaplains- Fr. John Victor (Khandwa), Fr. Sumit (Indore), Fr. Alexander (Bhopal), Fr. PratapToppo (Gwalior), Fr. Anish Mathew (Ujjain), Fr. Sonu (Jhabua), Fr. Nirmal (Udaipur), Fr. Joshy (Sagar), Fr. Antony (Satna) and Fr. Benny (Jabalpur).

Full timers/Coordinators: Afrema, Amit, Deep (Bhopal), Joshna (Khandwa), Leema (Gwalior) and Sr. Shiny (Indore).

Regional Office Bearers: Fr. Alexander Jesudasan (Regional Director), Afrema (Regional Animator), Ravi (Regional President), Mary Roshni (Regional Secretary and NEXCO), PriyanajanaBhalrai (Regional Treasurer) and Akhil (To be presented as NEXCO to National Office)

YEAR 2013

- 19-22 May: Fr. Alexander, Mervyn John and Simran participated in the XVI National Council of YCS/YSM at Bethel, Shillong.
- 15 July: Discussion was done with the DYDs of Madhya Pradesh and was decided to appoint full time Regional Director for YCS/YSM.
- 18 October: Fr. Charles took a full day Animators training programme on YCS/YSM for all the DYDs and Animators of MP Region during the Regional Youth Retreat.
- 20-24 November: First NSLTP in Hindi was hosted by MP Region in DivyaVani, Misrod, Bhopal (Students from Orissa, Maharashtra and MP regions were participants.)

YEAR 2014

- 8-11 January: Participation of Fr. Alexander, Richa, Mervyn and Jeslin in NTA/EXCO meet held at Hyderabad
- 26 January: Fr. Alexander was appointed officially as YCS/YSM Regional Director for Madhya Pradesh Region
- 25-27 February: Fr. Charles visited Bhopal for the discussion of YCS/YSM first National Convention
- 8-14 March: 5 delegates from MP region along with the other regions attended full day animators training programme held in USM, Indore
- 14 April: YCS programme in Baresia Parish
- 17 May: NTA/EXCO was organised in Bhopal

- 18-22 May: First National Convention of YCS/YSM was hosted by MP region in Bhopal
- October: Fr. Charles through his presence and active participation in the VII Regional Youth Convention inspired the students and youth with the knowledge of YCS/YSM
- 11 November: YCS/YSM programme was conducted by Fr. Alexander in St. Jude Hr. Sr. School, Khargone, Khandwa diocese
- 15-16 November: Participation of Fr. Alexander, PreetiBandod, Mervyn, Richa and Joshna in NTA/NEXCO meet held in Bangalore
- 19-23 November: 7 delegates from MP region participated in NSLTP held at Patna
- December and January 2015: Fr. Alexander visited Khandwa, Indore, Ujjain and Gwalior diocese to speak about YCS/YSM

YEAR 2015

- 15 January: A serious discussion was done in the General Body Meeting of ICYM, MP Region, with Archbishop Most. Rev. Leo Cornelio, Chairman of Youth Commission with regard to spreading YCS/YSM in every diocese.
- 22 January: YCS programme in Bairagarh Parish
- 29 January: YCS programme in Idgah parish
- 8 February: YCS programme Seroha parish
- 18-19 April: YCS/YSM Orientation programme for 10 dioceses of MP region was held at AICUF Ashram, Bhopal
- 21 April: Career guidance programme was organised for VIII to XII students in Regional Level, at pastoral centre, Bhopal
- 24-26 April: Participation of MP region delegates in NTA/NEXCO meet held in Goa
- 5-6 September: Fr. Alexander participated in NTA/EXCO meet and farewell –welcome ceremony held at Chennai
- 15-19 October: NSLTP (Hindi) was organised by MP region in Bhopal
- 29-30 December: YCS programme in Khandwa Diocese

YEAR 2016

- 2 January: YCS/YSM programme in Lourde Mata School, Sehore
- 9 January: YCS programme in St. Antony Parish, Dwarka Nagar, Bhopal
- 14-17 January: MP region delegates participated in the NTA/EXCO meet held at Okhla, Delhi. Also joined the Golden Jubilee Celebration of YCS/YSM India
- 30 January: In the presence of Most Rev. Leo Cornelio SVD, Regional Chairman of MP, all 10 dioceses DYDs were informed more about YCS/YSM movement and asked by Archbishop to spread the movement in all the dioceses of Madhya Pradesh
- 14 February: YCS programme in Christ the King parish, Bhopal
- 8 March: YCS/YSM orientation to Deacons along with the Youth ministry course held at AshtaTheologate by Fr. Alexander
- 23 March: Regional team meet was held in Bhopal
- 1 April: Regional team meet was held in St. Xavier's Hr. Sr. School, Bhopal.
- 3 April: Golden Jubilee celebration was held in St. Xavier's Hr. Sr. School, Bhopal. Participants were from Bhopal, Sagar, Khandwa and Gwalior dioceses of MP region. Fr. Chetan was present.

Diocesan Level Programmes

1. Career Guidance; Orientation Programmes
2. Seminar for Principals ;Christmas gathering
3. Sports
4. Competitions
5. Retreat and recollection
6. More classes in schools



Strengths of the Regional Movement

1. Active youth director and REXCO
2. Many schools and parishes in our mission dioceses- YCS/YSM can spread
3. Enthusiastic students and resources are available
4. Bishops support every youth director
5. Presence of YCS/YSM in four diocese of our region

Challenges faced in the region

1. Lack of time for directors to go around and spread the movement
2. Gap of 12 years, it takes time to convince principal and parish priests even though it is a church movement
3. Lack of finance
4. The students are not approached for the movement frequently
5. Directors are interested to have the movement in their dioceses.

Future regional programmes

1. Spreading the movement in the rest of the 6 dioceses of MP region in 6 months by next December 2016
2. Frequent visit to the existing units and cells and have a proper system of function
3. Approaching diocesan coordinators from ICYM office to each office
4. Visiting and having presence of YSM in schools and YCS in parishes
5. Collecting contributions to sustain the movement
6. The regional team has to work hard and give time to spread the movement.

Mr. Jimmy asked the regions if anyone had any clarifications to ask for. With no questions, Presidium thanked MP region for hosting first YCS convention.

Ms. Sharon requested Odisha region to present their report next.



ODISHA REGIONAL REPORT

The YCS/YSM in Odisha has 48 years of history. In 1968, Fr. Francis Pelzar SVD the youth animator started YCS/YSM in St. Mary's Girls High School, Sundargarh and appointed Sr. Leo HM the first animator. In 1970, St. Mary's Girls High School, Rajgangpur joined the movement. And in the same year, the first camp for Odisha was held at St. Joseph's Convent School, Sambalpur. Gradually the movement spread to other places under the guidance of Fr. Jose Vazhail SVD.

In 1978, during the IV National Council, Odisha was given the status of a separate region and Fr. Paul Ethakat SVD was appointed the first Regional Chaplain. After him Fr. Joseph Satyasilan SVD, Fr. Francis Percira SVD, Fr. Casmir Damor SVD, Late Fr. Ajit Lakra SVD, Fr. Gregory Turkey, Fr. Hubatus Minj and Fr. Ranjit Minz served as the Regional Chaplains.

Odisha region consists of 5 diocese out of which YCS/YSM is active in 2 diocese at the present, namely in Rourkela and Sambalpur. Our region has about 2070 students, 40 animators and 26 units.



Orientation and Implementation of the National Theme

After XVI National Council priority has been given to introduce the National Theme 'Students Education in modern era' in every unit of the region by organising YCS/YSM programmes at Regional as well as Diocesan levels.

Programmes and activities

S.No.	Programme	Date	Theme	Highlights
1	Regional Animation Programme at Kalunga	26-28 July 2013	Students' Educator in Modern Era	166 unit leaders and cell leaders, 2 EXCOS and 11 animators participated in it. Stress was given to inter-culturality.
2	Rourkela Diocesan Camp in Kalunga	13-15 November 2013	Students' Education in Modern Era	108 students and 8 animators participated in it. There were school assembly presentations, classroom presentations and cultural dance presentations.
3	Regional YCS/YSM Day celebration at Utkal Jyoti, Jharusuguda	22-23 January 2014		350 students, 2 EXCOS along with their animators participated in it. National Chaplain Fr. Charles Menezes and former Regional chaplains participated in it.
4	National Chaplains visit to Odisha	20-26 January 2014		National Chaplain Fr. Charles Menezes visited Jhumur, Kahupani, Rajgangpur, Harmirpur units of Rourkela diocese together with Fr. Ranjit, the regional chaplain.
5	Animation programme for unit executives and all leaders of Rourkela diocese at Kalunga	5-7 July 2014	Students' Education in Modern Era	242 students, 2 EXCOs and 12 animators from 12 schools participated in it. DEXCOs were chosen. Stress was given to Religious Pluralism. They were trained in the See-Judge-Act methodology.
6	Sambalpur diocesan YCS/YSM camp at Amlikhaman	29-30 August 2014	See-Judge-Act	254 students of 5 schools participated in it. See-Judge-Act methodology was practiced. Different competitions were held.
7	Regional YCS/YSM day celebration at Hamirpur	25-26 April 2015	Students' Education in Modern Era	419 students, 2 EXCOS and 14 animators from 14 schools participated in it. There was DEXCO elections, different competitions, action plan.
8	Animation programme for cell leaders of Rourkela diocese at Kalunga	17-19 July 2015	Let YCS/YSM Light Shine	Students were trained in See-judge-Act methodology. Inputs were given. Different competitions were held.
9	YCS/YSM day in Raikia, Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Arch-diocese	2 August 2015	Let YCS/YSM Light Shine	Regional Chaplain and three animators introduced YCS/YSM in Raikia for two schools there. 220 students and 4 animators of Raikia participated in it.
10	YCS/YSM day in Barbil of Balasore diocese	16 August 2015	Let YCS/YSM Light Shine	Regional chaplain with 2 animators and three students introduced YCS/YSM in Barbil. 200 students from two High schools participated in it.
11	Sambalpur Diocesan Camp in Amilkhaman	29-30 August 2015	Students are the light of the world	289 students and 6 animators participated in it. There were input sessions and competitions.

12	YCS/YSM day in Soroda in Berhampur diocese	20 September 2015	Let YCS/YSM Light Shine	Regional chaplain together with 2 animators and two EXCOs introduced YCSS/YSM in Saroda. About 100 students and 3 animators participated in it.
13	Regional animation programme in Sambalpur	18-20 October 2015	We build the nation	500 students, 2 NEXCOs and 21 animators from 21 schools of Odisha participated in it. There was input sessions, cell meetings in see-judge-act methodology, different competitions and cultural programme.

National Programmes

S. No.	Programme	Date	Highlights
1	NTA/EXCO Live in programme at Delhi	5-7 October 2013	2 NEXCO together with one animator participated in it.
2	NSLTP, Bhopal	20-24 November 2013	11 students and two animators from Odisha participated in it.
3	NTA/EXCO Meet at Bhopal	17-18 May 2014	Regional Chaplain and 2 NEXCO participated in it.
4	National Convention at Bhopal	18-21 May 2014	20 students, 2 NEXCO and 7 animators from Odisha participated in it. Its theme was 'Explore, Experience and Exchange'.
5	Christo Centric leadership retreat for animators in Indore	27 October-2 November 2014	3 animators from Odisha attended it which was conducted by Fr. Varghese Alengadan. The programme was based on pilgrimage with Jesus presenting reflectively the film 'Jesus of Nazareth'.
6	NTA/EXCO meet at Bangalore	15-16 Nov. 2014	Regional Chaplain and one NEXCO participated in it.
7	NSLTP at Bhopal	15-19 October 2015	16 students and 2 animators participated in it. They were trained in YCS/YSM methodology.

Major Achievements

1. Regular training the students in Diocesan and Regional programmes have taught them how and have cell meeting in see-judge-act methodology.
2. Students are organised in cells and have regular cell meetings in YCS/YSM methodology.
3. Regularity in conducting Regional and Diocesan programmes.
4. Participation in Regional, Diocesan and National programmes have helped the students in personality development, leadership, value education and social awareness.
5. More interest is seen among students for YCS/YSM activities.

Major Challenges

1. In busy schedule of academic life, students as well as animators find it hard to give time for the movement.
2. Many animators are not sufficiently prepared for animation.



3. To sustain the newly introduced units of the region.
4. To make YCS/YSM visible before schools, society and church.

Future Hopes

1. Arranging training programme for animators.
2. Organising Diocesan and regional programme in regular basis.
3. Having cell meetings in units in regular basis.
4. Extend YCS/YSM to more units of the region.
5. Publish YCS/YSM hand book in Odisha.

Concluding Note

Growth is seen in YCS/YSM Odisha. New units are formed. It is a challenge to train in see-judge-act methodology. Many regional and diocesan programme held in 'Student education in modern era'. Students and animators seem to be more interested in YCS/YSM. It is a challenge to make the movement more visible in the schools, society and church by growing in its credibility.

Mr. Jimmy asked if any region had any clarification to make.

MP region appreciated Odisha region for sending the highest number of participants for NSLTP.

With no other questions from the quorum, Ms. Sharon asked the last region Maharashtra to present their report.



MAHARASHTRA REGIONAL REPORT

In Maharashtra region, the YCS/YSM movement has its existence only in Nagpur diocese, in two schools namely- St. Antony's School and SFS School.

Once in a month, students come together and conduct meetings and every Saturday cell meeting.

Fr. Philip is the DYD and Ms. Regina is the animator.

Mr. Jimmy thanked all the regions for presenting their reports.

Ms. Sharon requested all the regions to submit a copy of the regional reports to the documentation team.

Thereafter the National Office Report was read by Fr. Chetan Machado.



NATIONAL OFFICE REPORT

Dear Friends, Greetings!

I took charge of the office of YCS/YSM India in the month of September 2015 immediately after the handing over ceremony that took place at Pastoral Centre, Chennai. I thank Fr. Charles Menezes, my predecessor for his contribution to mould the student community in our country. I am only getting a feel of what this ministry is all about and how this ministry can make a difference.

I received my appointment in the month of November from the CBCI and since then taking care of the National office. In 2013, the archdiocese of Madras Mylapore settled the property issue and Fr. Charles moved to Delhi to work in close collaboration with another movement of CBCI (ICYM). It was to have a better visibility and to take the movement to greater heights.

For YCS/YSM India, journey was bumpy, especially the last three years. Fr. Charles became a refugee in Delhi without a place to work. He went around knocking at doors of various organisations and congregations but no one really opened the doors. Finally Archdiocese of Delhi offered a place to stay at St. Lukes's Church, Defence Colony. There he stayed in and out for nearly two years and continued to support the movement. During this time all the activities organised without any difficulty and he visited dioceses and regions to expand the movement.

It was during this time, YCS/YSM India bought a house in Santhome, Chennai which remains our registered office and in Delhi we have the National working office. At the moment Archdiocese of Delhi has given us a place at Delhi Archdiocesan Youth office until we get ready with our own office in Najafgarh, Delhi which may take some time. We now have a place to keep our files safe and a place of our own to stay in Chennai for any YCS/YSM work.

After my taking over we appointed Ms Aparna Babu as the part time coordinator at our Delhi office and Mr. Ebin Navis volunteered to look after the Chennai home. They are coordinating well. Ms. Aparna had to leave in the month of March; we have now appointed Mr. Midrash Mathew at Delhi office as part time coordinator.

We are in the Jubilee year. During this time I visited MP, North East, West Bengal regions and visited YCSer in their schools. For the first time YCS/YSM Alumni get together was organised by the National Office to give them a platform to come together. Golden Jubilee celebration at the National level was organised in the month of January 2016 and NTA/EXCO meeting too was held during this time.

During this short period of time in the office my experience is both a mixture of challenge and disappointment. I am happy and get encouraged when I see our student community, so vibrant, enthusiastic and committed. They want to learn and go ahead in life. I feel disappointed because at time these young people are like sheep without a shepherd. There are no animators to accompany them, no teachers to guide them, no pastors to organise and help them. At times young priests and religious showing no interest make me feel sorry for this movement.

At the National level effort is on to make it a vibrant movement but at the regional and diocesan level, I need your support to make it significant and meaningful for young people.

God bless you.

Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain

After the presentation of the report, the regions were given an opportunity to ask for clarifications.

Karnataka region said that the address on the documents of YCS is still the pastoral centre of Chennai. Although we have our own home, then why is the home address not used as an officiating address?

Fr. Chetan said that when Fr. Charles moved out, we did not have any address. The Archbishop agreed to keep a letter box there, as told to him. That is therefore the registered office address. With change in home, change of address was also made. We cannot keep changing the address frequently for fcr. We could do it, once the Delhi office is ready. Thereafter the report was passed by Tamil Nadu region and seconded by North East Region.

Mr. Jimmy then requested Ms. Sharon to read the National Movement report.



NATIONAL MOVEMENT REPORT

May 2013 to May 2016

1. INTRODUCTION: We are celebrating the Golden Jubilee of the existence of YCS/YSM in India. It is a proud feeling to be a part of this wonderful movement and working for the movement at the national level during the Golden Jubilee year. In the last council held in Bethel, Shillong in 2013 we were elected and have successfully completed another memorable term.

In Shillong we chose the theme, 'Students' education in the modern era'. Thrusts were 'Interculturality, Religious freedom and universal culture of love and life'. For the past three years we have deliberated on these topics and spread awareness on various issues. Most of our programmes at the diocesan, regional and national level were based on this.

With the guidance, collaboration and co-operation of the National Chaplain, National Coordinators, Regional Chaplains, the National Team Members (NT) and ExcOs have worked with the student leaders and Animators to achieve our goals. Through various national and inter-regional programs and through the publication of 'The Search', our bi-monthly newsletter, the students are formed to be leaders and agents of change.

This National Report contains various undertakings of our Movement of the past three years with our National Theme as its back-bone and guiding principle. This report will give us ample evidence that the movement has believed in the dignity of every individual and worked to strengthen their Rights.

Though this is an elaborated report, still we are unable to express the hard work, selfless dedication and sacrifice of our students, animators, chaplains, coordinators, parents, well-wishers and for the growth of the Movement. Heartfelt gratitude to all of them.

1.1. Student Reality:

What is the student reality?

In a fast moving world everything happens instantly, our education, projects, research, relationship, spirituality, everything is affected by this. Today gadgets control us and program our lives. In a world like this students are confused. They are confused because there is a conflict in what they believe and what they are taught, what their parents/elders/teachers say and what media says, what Holy Scriptures says and what social media says. They do not know where to go for guidance. They are in search to find out their existence and this is the reality of today.

1.2. Vision:

To evolve a new society, where people live in harmony, where there is total freedom for the complete growth of the individual, where each and every person is respected in dignity hence valuing peace, love, truth, justice and equality.

1.3. Aim:

"Building a new society"- "A Just Society"- God's Kingdom.

1.4. Objectives: Change Self- Change Others

To have:

- a) Self-discovery, personality development through review of life
- b) Creative leadership through talent exposure
- c) Social awareness to fight for justice and peace
- d) Group reflection and community building
- e) Respond to current issues and realize it
- f) God experience or faith formation
- g) Better future through studies, discipline in life and partaking in social activities
- h) National integration and communal harmony
- i) Collaborate with the likeminded movements and organizations.

1.5. Present Scenario:

At present, the Movement has more than 1.5 lakh students and 1800 dedicated Animators, youth workers spread out in 14 regions. The Movement has formed active and dynamic church leaders, social workers and liberators who are involved in the process of socioeconomic- political-religious welfare of the people all over the country.

2. Statistics of the Movement* (Dioceses having the movement)

Name of the regions	No. of Dioceses	No. of Units	No. of Students	No. of Girls	No. of Boys	No. of Animators
A.P. (Telugu)	9	142	5,400	3,250	2,150	105
Bihar	4	33	2,300	1,140	1,160	38
Chhattisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goa*	1	60	4,800	2,843	1,957	68
Karnataka*	5	318	12,600	7,048	5,552	372
MG (West) Nagpur	1	5	310	206	104	10
Madhya Pradesh	2	30	2,800	1,240	1,560	52
North East	15	155	9,800	4,282	5,518	155
Northern Region*	2	15	1,520	840	680	16
Odisha	3	25	1,600	638	962	25
Tamilnadu	17	1,210	1,20,603	69,728	50,875	1,260
U.P. (Agra)	1	3	280	146	134	6
West Bengal*	2	12	830	340	490	17
Total	62	2,008	1,62,843	91,701	71,142	2,103

* updated in 2015

3. NTA/EXCO:

The National Team of Animators consists of the National Chaplain, National Coordinator and all the regional chaplains. The National Executive body comprises of two (one boy & one girl) student leaders who represent their region. The NTA/EXCO meets once in six months to evaluate study and plan for the growth of the Movement. It also shares and takes the opportunity to participate in the Inter-Regional, National, Asian, International and partner movement programs.

The responsibility of the NTA/EXCO is to convey the orientation of the National Council at the grass root level i.e. both the regions and the diocese. The Movement is fortunate to have dedicated and inspiring Chaplains/ EXCOS with clear objectives, guidance and direction at all level. We appreciate the involvement and participation of a few EXCOS at their regional and diocesan level. In the meantime, the Movement has suffered too due to the absence/ non co-operation of some of the Regional Chaplains and discontinuation/ negligence of some EXCOS and negligence in selecting the EXCOS by some regions.

3.1. NTA/EXCO Meetings: During the last three years NTA/EXCO meetings were held in different regions:

5-7 October 2013 at Navinta, Delhi. The main agenda of the meeting was to give the orientation of the movement and the National theme, the roles and responsibilities of the NEXCOS and electing the new National Team.

11-12 January 2014 in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh at Jyotirmai Centre where we discussed mainly on the First National Convention which would be held in May 2014.

17th May 2014 at Bhopal where we discussed about the roles and the responsibilities for the running of the First National Convention.

15-16 November 2014 at Karnataka Regional Centre, KROSS, Bangalore where we evaluated the national training programs that took place and the agenda for the forthcoming programs was discussed.



24th to 26th April 2015 at Diocesan Youth Centre, Madgaon, Goa where the main discussion was on the Golden Jubilee of YCSYSM and the progress in the regions were discussed.

5th to 6th September 2015 at Pastoral Centre, Chennai. In this extra ordinary NTA- EXCO meeting Fr. Chetan Machado took charge of YCS/YSM India from Fr. Charles Menezes.

16th to 17th January 2016 at Navinta, Delhi. During this meeting we discussed elaborately on the forthcoming National Council and also celebrated Golden Jubilee in a meaningful manner.

14-15 May 2016 - The last NTA/EXCO meeting was held in Delhi where LOC's and Nexco's met and the responsibilities were given for the running of the National Council.

EXCOS Responses: EXCO's from most of the regions actively participated in most of the National programmes during this period. Unfortunately responses from a few regions were very poor.

3.2. NTA/ EXCOS Live – In Program:

The first NTA/EXCO live in programme was held at NAVINTA, NEW DELHI from 5th to 7th October 2013. 8 regions participated in the meeting including 13 NEXCOS, 2 animators, 2 RYD, 3 DYD's, Mr. Leo Joseph, National Chaplain Rev. Fr. Charles Menezes, National Chairman Bishop of CBCI Office for Youth Most Rev Leo Cornelio attended in which Asian Coordinators Ralph and Homme also visited and shared their work experience in the Asian Movement.

The Present National Team

National Chaplain - Fr. Chetan Machado
National Convener - Mr. Jimmy Pdang from North East
National Secretary - Miss. Sharon Kalinse from Tamilnadu
National Treasurer - Mr. Bala Praneeth Reddy from AP

3.4. Administrative, Organizational Meetings:

Regular meetings and planning of National Team were held during NTA/EXCO meeting itself. Since all were students and having different time table and considering distance and travel hazards we could not come together often. But at various occasions we met and through emails, Cell phones and the use of social networks we could decide things much faster.

3.5. Changes in the National EXCO and NTA:

During this term some NTA/EXCO members were unable to continue due to other assignments, studies and personal reasons. We appreciate their service and contribution to the Movement and wish them all the very best. The following members belong to the NTA/EXCO (Those changed are shown in the bracket)

Region	National Exco	NTA
Tamilnadu	Ebin, Sharon, Shyam	Fr. Esthakiyus. P/ Fr. Marianus Isaac
Karnataka	(Roshan), Rosalia, Praveen	Fr. Mari Joseph
M &G Region	Rohan & Eliza	Fr. Philip Topno
Goa	(Deanne)	Fr. Olavo/Fr. Savio D'Souza
Bijhan (Bihar-Patna)	Angela, (Ankit Baba)	Fr. Sabu Davis / Fr. Asit Lakra
West Bengal	Kevin, Annette	Fr. Robin Gomes /Fr. Devraj/ Fr. Peppin/ Fr Michael
Northeast	Nowami, Jimmy & Gilbert	Sr. Bernadette/ Sr. Agnes
Uttar Pradesh	-	Fr. Richard Arul
Odisha	Arman &Amiyalata	Fr. Ranjit Minj

Northern	(Anita Bara)	Fr. Chetan Machado
Madhya Pradesh	Mervyn & (Roshni)	Fr. Shellmon/Fr. Alexander
Andhra Pradesh	Maria & Bala Praneeth Reddy	Fr. Balaswamy
Jharkhand	-	Fr. Peter Barla
Chattisgarh	-	Fr. Sunil Kerketta

4. NATIONAL COUNCIL:

The National Council is the highest decision making body of YCS/YSM. It is held once in three years where student representatives from different regions meet. The National Team, NTA/EXCO members are responsible in organizing the Council.

4.1. XVI National Council:

The 16th National Council was held in May 2013 at Bethel, Shillong. Around 140 student members from all over India participated in it and evaluated the movement for the past three years and chose the theme for next three years.

The theme: “Student Education in the modern Era”

The National thrusts are:

1. Interculturality
2. Religious Pluralism
3. Universal Culture of Love and Peace

5. EVALUATION OF THE MOVEMENT:

National action plan suggested by the XVI council:

Based on the experience of the evaluation in the past, the NTA/EXCO had proposed to conduct the evaluation with a questionnaire that is simple and easily understood by the students. Hence a questionnaire was prepared and was circulated a year before the Council. We planned in such a way to have sufficient time for study and evaluation. But the response was very poor.

6. FINANCE:

Raising funds is a concern all the time. For all our programmes we pay one way TA and subsidize Board and lodging fees. We find it difficult to raise funds locally. If there are funds we can organize more animators training programme. We totally depend on funding agencies for our budget. But nowadays it is not easy to receive projects for formation programs. As we claim it as a student’s movement, we also have to realize our duties and responsibilities towards it. Lack of motivation, attitude and efforts, make us fail in raising funds locally towards our movement. There are a lot of opportunities and awareness to raise funds locally. The need of financial support and the means to raise funds must be made aware to all and each of us should try our level best in giving a helping hand to the movement. At this juncture, we are extremely grateful to the funding agencies that are supporting us, without whom certain programs are not possible. We are also grateful to our sponsors, benefactors and well-wishers. With their support we were able to organize Golden Jubilee and other training programmes successfully. We are receiving good support for the National Council 2016.

7. NATIONAL NEWS LETTER – THE SEARCH:

Our National Newsletter “The Search”, is published six times a year. It publishes our views, articles, experiences, reports and the current happenings of the world. It gives an opportunity to the students to be budding journalists. We appreciate the Editorial Board and all those who assist in bringing out the issues. Though we spend a lot of money, time and energy, it’s not possible to achieve its aim. The subscription and the articles from the student members are not satisfactory. But with the help of present NEXCO’s we have been able to get some subscriptions and expecting more in the coming days. Keeping in mind our national theme, we bring out articles pertaining to the theme in every issue. As it’s our magazine, it’s our duty to make it meaningful and reachable to many students.

8. PARTICIPATION AND COLLABORATION WITH IYCS & IYCS- ASIA

As our Movement is an International Movement we are proud of being a member movement, where every cell member belongs to it at every level. We also have a good relationship with the International Movement through



correspondence and regular membership fees. Hosting the World Council for the First time has made us closer with the International movement and also to all the other countries having YCS. YCS/YSM - India has never missed the opportunity to participate in any Asian level programs and have used the full quotas for students. We are proud to have our own Fr. Charles as the International Chaplain. Our members have participated in the Global Session which was held in Phillipines and Asian Youth Day in South Korea.

Programs- IYCS - International

XIV IYCS World Council- Phillipines

Global Training Session and World Council/Assembly took place from July 24 to August 03, 2015 at Mariapolis Peace Center, Tagaytay City, Philippines. The event was a joint project of the International Young Catholic Students (IYCS) and the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS)-PaxRomana, which headquarters are both in Paris, France. There were 100 to 150 participants from affiliated student catholic movements around the world.

The Global Training session brought together young leaders under the theme: “Salt of the Earth, Light of the World: Students Building the Kingdom of God”. The main objective of the event was to form the members of both the International Movements to become examples of good leadership and true service in their respective countries and also in the broader International community as well. This was an opportunity for the participants to immerse in different cultures and meet people of different backgrounds.

Mr. Gaywin and Mischelle along with our former National Chaplain participated in this programme.

Programs- IYCS- ASIA

Asian Youth Day: Asian Youth Day was held in Dajeon, South Korea from 10th to 17th August 2014, The theme was, “wake up, Asian Youth”. Fr. Charles Menezes, Fr. Chetan Machado along with some YCS members participated in this program.

Students’ Faith experiences from the International Programs:

It’s once a life time chance for the students to meet and have a healthy rapport with the students of other nations. Students realized that they are a part of such a huge International movement and came to know about the wide spread movement started by Cardinal Joseph Cardijn. They experienced, lived and shared the methodology of YCS movement. As India was preparing for the National Council, it too learnt how to organize programs much better. In all the programs, the role of LOCs was highly appreciated.

9. ANIMATION, VISITS, CONSULTATION:

One of our main and effective methods of orientation and animation is visitation. Visiting the cells and units in schools and parishes, dioceses and regions; meeting the students, leaders, animators, parents, chaplains/directors and the diocesan and regional teams; conducting sessions, training, seminars and participating in the general Body Meetings, consultations and planning, do strengthen and revitalize the Movement at every level. Hence, the National Chaplain, Coordinator, National Students team, Team of Animators regularly undertakes this program.

The visit brings a new life to the cells and the students. It is the golden chance for the members to meet, share, reflect, interact, plan and evaluate with the national representatives and the national chaplain. A good linkage between the national body and the members at grass root level. We also appreciate the EXCOS who visit their diocesan units along with their Regional Chaplains.

The National Director regularly visits various regions and dioceses whenever there is any program. Sometimes he may be called for the program and some other time he may visit on his own. The importance of the visit is to strengthen, revive & encourage the good work that is being done in the movement.

Accordingly Fr. Charles, Former National Chaplain visited, Mangalore, Udupi in Karnataka region, Bhopal, in MP region, Chennai in TN region, Goa region, Patna in Bijhan region, Kolkata in WB region, Hyderabad and Vijayawada in AP region, Delhi and Punjab in Northern region, Guwahati, Shillong, Jowai, Aizwal, Itanagar and Diphu in the Northeast region. Fr. Chetan Machado, after taking over, visited MP region, Karnataka, Northeast and West Bengal regions other than his regular visits to Chennai office. Being part of the Diocesan YCS/YSM Movement he has

visited schools in the Northern region as well. It was a long journey on the train, bus, flight and in smaller vehicles worth mentioning.

During these visits, they have met a number of students, animators, Directors and Local Ordinaries, appreciated and encouraged them for what they are doing and pleaded them to revitalize where our movement is in a dormant stage. The effect is seen in many of the dioceses and hope it will flourish in the years to come.

10. FORMATION PROGRAMMES: Regular training programmes are very essential at different levels. Those who come for the National or Inter Regional Programmes should have already attended some diocesan/regional level training programs which will help us to give them deeper inputs.

10.1. Inter-Regional Student Leadership Training Program (IRSLTP)

IRSLTP is the best platform for the students of two regions to come together, get to know each other and their movement activities and to share their culture and friendship with others.

Karnataka, TamilNadu& Goa- 17th May to 21st May 2015 at Don Bosco Youth Animation Centre, Ennore, Chennai in which 45 students benefitted from the program.

Responses from the Students: The participants were happy to know and get in touch with new friends. The movement, through national training programs has helped them to know more people from all over the country. Specially to know about other region's culture and their tradition, learning new languages etc add more essence to the program. Obviously they too learn about the importance of Being and Becoming a Leader. Some have even felt the difference of how they were before the program and after.

10.2. National Student Leaders Training Program (NSLTP)

Twice a year, the National Student Leaders Training Program was organized for the English and the Hindi speaking regions separately.

2013

13th to 17th Nov 2013 at St. John's Seminary, Hyderabad for the English Speaking members of the YCS/YSM in which 57 members participated.

20th to 24th Nov 2013 at VidyaBhavan, Bhopal for the Hindi speaking members of YCS/YSM in which 35 members participated.

2014

5th to 9th Nov 2014 at Diocesan Pastoral Centre, Mangalore for the English Speaking members of the YCS/YSM in which 82 members participated.

19th to 23rd Nov 2014 at Sewa Kendra, Patna for the Hindi speaking members of YCS/YSM in which 70 members participated.

2015

15th to 18th Oct 2015 at Aicuf Ashram, Bhopal for the Hindi speaking members of YCS/YSM in which 73 members participated.

25th to 30th Oct 2015 at St. Antony's High School, Kolkata for the English Speaking members of the YCS/YSM in which 40 members participated.

Responses from Students:

In the beginning of the program some were feeling home sick, but when the days passed by they all felt at home and considered each one as their own family member. The students after living 5 days in a new world with new environment never had the feeling of going back. The training programs did have an impact on the students in the faith aspect and we are happy to see these leaders grow with it for a better tomorrow.

10.3. National Animators Training Program (NATP)

23rd May to 30th May 2015 at Universal Solidarity Movement, Indore in which 17 animators participated and got benefitted with a whole new idea of YCS/YSM and Christo centric leadership.

10.3.1 Trainings for Animators on the Thrusts of the National Theme:

7th March to 14th March 2014 at Universal Solidarity Movement, Indore in which 22 members participated in the Christo Centric Leadership Training under the theme Religious Plurality.

27th October to 3rd November 2014 at Universal Solidarity Movement, Indore in which 27 members participated in the Christo Centric Leadership Training under the theme Religious Plurality.

Responses from the Animators: They came to know about other regions in YCS/YSM, A healthy relationship was built, all were open minded, Friendly, Co operative and always ready to share and help. They had chance to get more friends all over India and felt like one family. The animators never had obstacles to communicate. They too learned from each other and the proactive use of the leisure time made them to know more about the other animators in organizing and strengthening the YCS units. Getting trained from highly experienced resource persons added flavor to the sessions. They felt committed to the cause of animation to the student community. The only requests from the participants were to organize it frequently for more days.

10.4. Regional / Diocesan Programs: A number of Diocesan and Regional programs have been organized. Every bit of the effort has gone through in building up a new society. We salute the Directors who have gone out of the way to collect resources and organize these programs.

11. YCS/YSM & CBCI – Youth Commission

YCS/YSM as a NCO (National Catholic Organization) is under CBCI Council for Youth. Whenever we get an opportunity to participate in WYD, AYD, Taize Pilgrimage, National Youth Convention etc. we do so. The Bishop in charge of the Council for Youth, Bishop Henry D’Souza plays a vital role in the life and work of the Movement. He also guides us in our project proposals. Bishop Henry was with us during one of our NTA/EXCO meetings in Goa. He also blessed our new home in Chennai in May 2015.

We thank all the other movements with whom we are collaborating. We thank Fr. Franklin former Director of ICYM and Fr. Deepak Thomas, Director of ICYM for his help and invitations for all the national and international exposure programmes.

We are regular in introducing YCS to the new DYDs, Religious and Animators during CAT program organized at Bangalore every year by the ICYM.

12. PARTICIPATION & COLLABORATION WITH PARTNER MOVEMENTS:

In our aim to achieve our goals we need to work collectively, independently, and orderly. We believe in collaboration for effective results. YCS/YSM India works more closely with the like- minded movements. AICUF as a senior movement inspires and collaborates with us more closely. We exchange our magazines and resource materials. For the past few years the connection has been found missing and YCS India has taken the initiative of inviting two delegates from the student movements: ICYM, AICUF and Jesus Youth for this National Council.

12. 1. WYD Preparatory Meetings:

Fr. Chetan Machado along with Fr. Deepak Thomas, National Chaplain ICYM attended this meeting held in Poland.

13. OUR SOCIAL CONCERN: Many movements at unit level partake in the local social events. National office guides them, sends intimation to them and supports them in this process.

14. ALUMNI, FORMER ANIMATORS & CHAPLAINS:

Our movement has been a guiding light throughout its existence and still continues to do so. Many of the members who have been a part of the Movement in the past have truly realized its essence. They continue to be associated with

the Movement by their assistance as animators, resource persons, correspondence etc. The Movement has helped them to be an inspiration and a model to the society. We are glad to say that the former YCS/YSMers have been a part of the Movement in its struggle and achievements.

October 22nd 2013 YCSYSM National Consultation was held St. Joseph's Degree College, Hyderabad in which Our Former Chairman Archbishop Leo Cornelio and Other Former National Chaplains Fr. Vincent Monteiro, Fr. Johnny Monteiro, Fr. Vincent Arokiadoss, along with Regional Chaplain Fr. Balaswamy, Former Diocesan Chaplain Fr. Fathima and Former Asian Coordinator Mr. Deepak Raj were present along with Former Members of YCSYSM had met for the consultation based on the shifting of National Office, Role of Alumni and methods of fund raising.

November 6th to November 8th 2015 for the 1st time YCS YSM India organized YCS YSM India Alumni Gathering to give a platform for the YCS/YSMers to continue to stay connected in the movement. In which an elected body was formed to coordinate and to associate with us in which Mr. James Sylvester of Hyderabad was elected as the First National President of Alumni.

16. NATIONAL OFFICE

16. 1. The National Office is situated in Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre, 25, Rosary Church Road, Santhome, Chennai. In 2015 we moved to Delhi and presently our working office is in Delhi at Yusuf Sadan, 1 - Ashok Place, New Delhi from where, the National Coordination is carried out. We own a plot in Hyderabad and have a home in Chennai at Kutchery Road near Santhome. We have advanced money to buy a house in Delhi to set up our office.

The persons in the National Office are:

Fr. Chetan Machado – National Chaplain

Mr. Midrash Mathew – Part time Coordinator

17. OBSERVATION, RECOMMENDATION & SUGGESTIONS

1. It is the duty and responsibility of all the YCS members to keep up the identity of the Movement in today's world.
2. Able, responsible and dedicated students should be elected as EXCOS who would extend their service for the whole term.
3. The Chaplains need to take the responsibility of selecting and guiding the EXCOS.
4. Better coordination between the National Office, Regional Chaplains, Diocesan Chaplains and EXCOS is required.
5. Need to work with likeminded Movements and NGO's in raising special issues at all levels.
6. There is an urgent need for full-timers and National Coordinator.
7. DTA/DTS (DEXCO) and RTA/RTS (REXCO) should be formed in all the Regions and have regular meetings for better collaboration and functioning.
8. It is very important to have live in programs for the new EXCOS for better formation and understanding.
9. The New theme should reach down to the grass root level soon after the Council.
10. Constitution has to be followed in letter and spirit.
11. It needs to be translated in vernacular and made available to all the members when they join the movement with membership fees.
12. Resource material on National theme and thrusts, and other resources for cell meetings have to be provided by the Regions and Diocesan offices at the beginning of the academic year.
13. A lot of exposure needs to be arranged for the members.
14. Subscription to the Search should be promoted.

NEW NATIONAL CHAPLAIN, COORDINATOR & EXCOS:

Fr. Charles Menezes was elected as International Chaplain. With the shifting of the working office to Delhi we had a change in the National Chaplain. Fr. Chetan Machado took over in September 2015 at Chennai. We have a lay person, young Mr. Midrash Matthew helping at the National office.

18. IN GRATITUDE:

1. We are grateful to Archbishop Leo Cornelio, former Chairman and Bishop Henry Dsouza the Chairman of CBCI Council for Youth, for his support, guidance and encouragement.



2. To all the other Regional Chairmen Bishops, Bishops, Religious superiors for supporting and encouraging more Chaplains and Animators to commit themselves for this cause.
3. The funding agencies, for their support and encouragement to the ministry, programs for the development and formation of the young students. They are Caritas India, Propaganda Fide, Missio and Missio Munchen and other funding agencies.
4. The committed Animators, Regional chaplains, Diocesan directors, Coordinators, Parish Priests and Heads of the institutions and others involved in the movement for their interest, care and concern for the welfare of the students.
5. The parents of YCS/YSM students who have allowed to involve their children and trusted them in the movement.
6. To the Asian and International Team members, collaborator movements, well-wishers for their role of solidarity and encouragement in our reflections and actions.

Finally, to Our Lord who has been guiding and walking along with us in this long journey. These three years have been a time of opportunities to learn more, mature, grow and experience Team life and life's reality and face challenges that come our way. These years have been the wonderful years in our lives and the experiences are long lasting.

We are grateful to our Former National Chaplain - Fr. Charles Menezes without whom we would have never become somebody, all the NTA/ExcOs and others who have supported, been with us and guided us through these three years. We thank Fr. Chetan, our new NYD for his constant support and guidance.

Thank you all for helping us to help ourselves and to help others to build the New and Just Society – God's Kingdom.

Let YCS light Shine. Long live YCS/YSM India

Sharon Kalinse, Secretary & Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain

The forum was open to the regions to seek clarifications.

MP Region brought to the notice of the presidium that the National convention was not mentioned in the report.

Ms. Sharon said that it got missed, and that she shall add the same.

Karnataka said that the secretary had done a great work and thanked them.

The report thereafter was passed by Northern region and seconded by North East region.

Thereafter, Mr. Jimmy presented the evaluation of the national theme and activities (report based on the questionnaire sent).



YCS/YSM INDIA EVALUATION OF THE NATIONAL THEME AND ACTIVITIES

(This report is based on the questionnaire which was sent to the regions and received by the national office)

FOR MEMBERS/STUDENT LEADERS/ANIMATORS:

CELL LIFE:

1. Do you function as a cell or a unit?
Most of the participants said they function as a unit. Some places it is because of the lack of animators, some places the concept of cell is not understood properly.
2. How many cells do you have in your unit? - varies
3. How many members are there in your cell? - varies
4. Topics dealt in your cell?
Participants said both social and personal topics are dealt with
5. Do you follow any group dynamics/methods? Specify?
Most of the times it is a session. Every session a few activities are conducted. Once a year or occasionally exposure visits are conducted.



6. Does everyone get a fair chance to express his/her view in your cell?
Most of the participants answered positively
7. Do you feel a collective responsibility in your cell meeting?
This question was not answered by many. Those who replied said 'yes'
8. What problems do you face in your cell or in your involvement in the YCS/YSM in the school?
To this questions almost all the participants said there is a lot of pressure from the authorities and the parents. School work, tuition, time crunch, lack of guidance, no animators, finance, lack of trained animators etc are the problems faced.
9. In what ways has the YCS/YSM Cell life helped you?
Cell life has helped students to gain more friends, has made them to become a good leader and a responsible person:
10. Does your Diocesan Director/Regional Director visit your unit?
To this question almost 80 percent answer was 'NO'

METHODOLOGY

1. Do you follow the YCS/YSM review of life Methodology?
2. What other areas of your life do you apply YCS/YSM Methodology?
3. Specify some of the actions taken up after the cell meeting?
4. Does the methodology help you in bringing about any change in your attitude? If so, How?

SPRITUALITY

1. Has the Movement helped you come closer to God and Religion?
2. With regard to people of other faiths:
3. Do you use scriptures of other religions?
4. What is your understanding of God/Spirituality before and after you joined the Movement?
5. As a member where did you have a unique God experience/encountered the presence of God in your life?

THEME OF THE MOVEMENT

1. Do you know the National Theme?
2. Was the theme sufficiently clear and relevant to you?
3. What are the themes you have worked other than the National Theme?
4. What activities/actions have you taken based on the theme?
5. What would be the theme and thrust you would like to propose for the forthcoming years?

THE MOVEMENT& ITS IMPACT

1. What is the uniqueness of YCS/YSM when there are so many other movements/organizations like NCC, NSS and Scouts & Guides and Red Cross, etc?
2. Are you able to create an interest in other students about the Movement?
3. Has your involvement helped you to be better member in you parish/school/neighborhood? If yes, how if no why?
4. Have you in any way succeeded in influencing the social situation?
5. Are you able to reach out/help students in need in your school/locality?

ANIMATION:ONLY FOR STUDENTS:

1. Who conducts the cell meetings?
2. Do you need an animator?
3. Qualities I expect in my animator?

ONLY FOR STUDENT LEADERS:

1. How do you think you are different from other leader?
2. What is your relationship with DTS/RTS/NATIONAL EXCOS/NATIONAL TEAM?

ONLY FOR ANIMATORS:

1. How is your relationship with the students?
2. As an animator your strengths; Weaknesses:
3. Do you feel the experience you have gained as an animator valuable? Why?
4. Do you get adequate training on the theme/thrusts?
5.
 1. Are you in contact with the students?
 2. How?
6. What do you suggest for the growth of the movement?

FOR HEADS OF INSTITUTIONS /PARENTS/BISHOPS/BENEFACTORS/EX-YCS/YSM'ERS

1. Do the members influence the student community?
2. What is the uniqueness of YCS/YSM when we have so many other movements/organizations like Scouts & guides, Red Cross, NSS, NCC, etc?
3. Does the Movement help in the integral formation of its members?
4. What is your experience in sending YCS/YSMers for camps and programmes?
5. What is your relationship with Diocesan Office?
6. What is your response to your children/students being in YCS/YSM?
7. Would you like to contribute financially towards the growth of this movement?
8. How will you promote YCS/YSM in your place?

THE SEARCH- NATIONAL NEWSLETTER: FOR ALL

1. Do you read "The Search"?
2. The newsletter is available to whom?
3. Do you subscribe the "The Search"?
4. Do you think 'The Search' is a genuine Newsletter?
5. Have you shared your views in 'The Search'?

ANY OTHER SUGGESTION FOR THE GROWTH/BETTERMENT OF YCS/YSM:

EVALUATION OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT AND CHAPLAIN - NTA/NEXCO

- a. National Chaplain and his role
- b. The National Movement
- * The growth of the movement in achieving the aim and objectives
- * Implementation of the national theme
- * Implementation of National Programmes
- * Advocacy and reaching out to the regions and dioceses
- * Management of the National Office
- * Finances
- * The Search newsletter
- * Successes, weaknesses, challenges, opportunities of the movement

This evaluation report was then passed by Karnataka region and seconded by Northern region. The presidium then paused for lunch break and resumed at 2:30 pm. Ms. Sharon took the roll call for the regions. Mr. Jimmy asked Ms. Sharon to present the National Team Report.



NATIONAL TEAM REPORT

Dear Friends

It is our great joy to work and serve as YCSers to make a difference. The past three years is the cause of our joy and XVI National Council was all that it took for us to be elected as part of National team. “Do your duty and a little bit more with perseverance and you will always have success”. The past three years haven’t been easy, it took immense effort and perseverance for each of us to fulfil our duty and responsibilities we had promises to fulfill. We were successful in doing things and do justice towards our responsibility. Even though we failed at several occasions but we believe these three years were the most memorable and sacrificial years of our life as students.

National Team consists of Convener Jimmy Pdang from North East, Secretary Sharon Kalinse from Tamil Nadu and Treasurer Bala Praneeth Reddy from Andhra Pradesh. It wasn’t easy for us to work together as we were from different parts of the country having different exam time tables. In spite of this, under the guidance of our wonderful former National chaplain Fr Charles we have led the movement since 2013. Life is unpredictable they say and it was true for us. It happened during our tenure Fr. Charles could make it. He was elected as the new International Chaplain and with us comes a wonderful man Fr. Chetan as our new National Chaplain who shared with each one of us his constant support and his Love to work for our movement. Together, under his guidance we have been leading the movement since 2015 till today.

We are sad as National Team we couldn’t meet regularly but we are glad that we were successful in having regular NTA/EXCO meetings. Today if we say we have learned, we have changed, it’s all because we are in one cell and in fact we are blessed to have our NEXCO Team in our cell and with them, and with the help of our Regional Chaplains and Mr. Leo as a Family together we work for the betterment of our movement.

We take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped and supported us in our journey. First and foremost thanks to our dear beloved Fr. Charles. Since the beginning you have encouraged each one of us and made us aware of every situation and what we should do as Leaders. Thank you for being part of our team. We thank Fr. Chetan who has taken up as our new National Chaplain last year. Dear Fr Chetan though we worked with you for a very short time yet your examples, your humility and your words and deeds have been one of the best and fine ways for us to look upon you as our role model. Thank you for your support and encouragement. We thank all our RYD’s who have been the backbone of our success and backbone of our movement. We are grateful to you and humbly beg you to extend the same support to our future team. We thank in a very special way the man who was always behind us and will always be with us whenever we need him and that is our most beloved Leo Anna. Thank you Anna, you have inspired us in a very special way. You are always silent but always reflective and that is the wonderful thing we learned from you. We also thank Miss Aparna & Mr. Midrash our new part time coordinators though you have joined us recently yet you have shared your love and supporting hands to all of us. We cannot complete our report without thanking our beloved NEXCOs. In a very special way we thank all our dear NEXCOs.

Dear beloved Nexcos there can be no words to describe you, your supporting hands, mind, heart and soul. All that we can say is you are the cause of our success. We have always supported each other, together we made mistakes and together we grew and learned through our mistakes. Thank you so much. Last but not the least we thank our parents. Without their generosity and their support we know we couldn’t have made it up to this level. We always say YCS YSM is a Student Movement. We take this opportunity to thank all our YCS YSM members. It’s your support and your activeness that make us glad and happy to serve throughout our term.

LET YCS YSM LIGHT SHINE

Jimmy Pdang

The forum was open to seek clarifications.

Tamil Nadu region remarked that reports shouldn’t contain vote of thanks.

Mr. Jimmy said that since the council’s term is ending and also because there were a lot of people who came and had to leave the movement, the report constitutes of gratitude.



Tamil Nadu once again commented that the report needs to be kept formal.

West Bengal expressed that the report was written well and they are happy with the way it is. It shows the YCS spirit.

Karnataka region said that YCS is about what we are learning, so the report is really nice.

Mr. Leo said that the real report is with the NTA, which they could sit and work on later. This is just a report that the EXCO presented. They would finalise the report later along with evaluation.

This report was then passed by Odisha region and seconded by Karnataka region.

Thereafter the financial statement was presented by Fr. Chetan Machado.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT				
Sl.	Particulars	2015-16	2014-15	2013-2014
Income		unaudited	audited	audited
1	Grant in Aid	412,481.00	6,36,349.00	6,84,125.00
2	Contributions	10,700.00	4,60,276.00	3,18,040.00
3	Interest	1,382,460.00	22,98,867.00	16,75,398.00
		1,805,641.00	33,95,492.00	26,77,563.00
Expenditure				
1				
	National Student LT Programme	276,272.00	3,04,349.00	3,43,757.00
2	Interregional SLTP	126,796.00	-	-
3	Animators Training Programme	57,551.00	36,600.00	-
4	Alumni Expenses	39,675.00	-	-
5	Jubilee Expenses	56,919.00	-	-
6	National Team Exco Meeting	140,097.00	-	-
7	Search Newsletter	102,870.00	1,54,269.00	24,870.00
8	Students Training Programme	157,718.00	3,59,193.00	45,516.00
9.	World Council	79,186.00	-	-
10	National Council	2,000.00	-	8,12,634.00
11	National Coordination	333,323.00	4,90,924.20	6,52,965.95
12	Loss on sale of assets	37,264.00		
13	Depreciation	27,609.00	22,149.00	14,282.00
14	National Convention	-	11,50,558.00	-
		1,437,280.00	2,518,042.20	1,894,024.95

After the presentation of the financial statement, West Bengal asked for the particulars where the amount shown was Rs. 2000.

Fr. Chetan said that it was the remaining balance of that particular event.

Thereafter, the financial statement of the previous term was passed by Bihar region and seconded by Madhya Pradesh region.

After this Fr. Chetan also presented the Budget for the next 3 years' term.

YCS/YSM INDIA BUDGET FOR 2016-2019

INCOME			
Sl.	Particulars	1YR	3YRS
1.	Membership Fee	100000	300000
2.	Contribution from the regions	25000	75000
3.	Contribution from dioceses	50000	150000
4.	Donations	100000	300000
5.	Search Subscriptions	10000	30000
6.	Registration Fee	15000	45000
7.	Projects Caritas (for council)		169000
8.	Interest on FD's	1382460	4147380
	Total	16,82,460	52,16,380
EXPENDITURE			
1.	Salaries & Wages	260000	780000
2.	Travel	120000	360000
3.	Search Newsletter (6 issues)	150000	450000
4.	Extension work & visitation	60000	180000
5.	Repair & Maintenance	40000	120000
6.	Miscellaneous	25000	75000
7.	National Student LT Programme(2)	250000	750000
8.	Interregional SLTP	50000	150000
9.	Animators Training Programme(2)	270000	810000
10.	NT meetings(2)	10000	30000
11.	NTA meetings(2)	36000	108000
12.	National Team Exco Meeting(2)	160000	480000
13.	National Council (2016)		1200000
14.	Animation & visits/consultations	50000	150000
15.	NTA/EXCO live in programme	-	80000
16.	National Convention (2017)	-	1500000
17.	National Coordination	100000	300000
	Total	14,91,000	72,53,000
	Expenditure over income	20,36,620	

After sharing the proposed budget for the coming three years, Fr. Chetan asked the regions to deliberate on the budget for a while before approving or passing it as each region would be responsible in helping with the raising of funds as per the scheduled programmes. The regions must also look into organisation of the programmes. Then father asked the regions if they had any clarifications to make.

Karnataka region asked about the project.

Fr. Chetan said that the national chaplain/office writes projects to funding agencies that helps in the raising funds. Karnataka also asked how the National office plans to collect the membership fee of 1 lakh, and how much each member would have to pay.

Fr. Chetan said that each member would pay Rs.2 to the national office. For example, if there are 50,000 student members in a region, then we should be able to collect 1 lakh.

Odisha asked to whom the salaries are paid.

Fr. Chetan said that the part time coordinators are paid remuneration and also to those who help in the cleaning and maintenance of the national home. The Chaplain is also paid for his maintenance.

West Bengal asked about the expenditure for national co-ordination.

Fr. Chetan replied that the expenses that come for national programme taken by the national office come under the national coordination.

Mr. Leo enquired whether the membership fee collected goes to corpus fund of YCS. To this Fr. Chetan replied that he is not sure about where the membership money is deposited, but once it starts coming he would check with the former chaplain. In fact the fees to be paid by the regions were not received yet. Each diocese can pay at least Rs. 5000 for major programmes. We have an expenditure of about 12-15 lakhs for the council itself. We are hopeful that 20 dioceses will support some way financially.

Mr. Midrash said that the national office did not get registrations for the council until last minute. Had the responses been better, office could have responded and organised things in a better manner. We had also written to the bishops and even the chairman. We have also sent registered post to everyone so as to ensure delivery.

Fr. Chetan further added that we have received donations but that amounts to about 1.4 lakh. Regarding Search, he said in fact not all members of the council have subscribed to the Search. The present NEXCO achieved about 100-150 subscription in the last 3-4 months. The income sources are drying and are banking on the resources that we are left with. We need to pay about one crore for the new office in Delhi. This council should know that this is our status and work for it accordingly.

Ms. Sharon said that an FD was broken for this council and shared her concern as to how the team would manage the finances.

Fr. Chetan said that the registration received from the regions is only about a little over one-lakh. Students of Archdiocese of Delhi have sold donation coupons and from the contribution received from the parishes and schools have managed to raise about 4 lakhs for the council. Caritas had also given some amount. Breaking an FD is the only solution to manage funds.

After deliberating on all the issues pertaining to the budget, Mr. Jimmy asked the quorum to vote for the passing of the budget. This was passed with a majority of 11 votes.

After sharing the financial concerns the presidium was dismissed for tea break and resumed at 4:30 pm. The session began with Ms. Sharon taking the roll call. The next session was pertaining to the amendments to be made in regard to the constitution.

Amendments to the Constitution

- Clause 3.4.2 - The first amendment was in regard to the membership. (Clause 3.4.2) The proposed amendment is that each registered member must pay Rs. 10, where Rs. 2 would be sent to the National Office, and the remaining would be divided for the Region, Diocese and Unit. He also said that West Bengal region has been collecting membership and has been giving half of their collection to the national office and by now in the last two months have paid about Rs. 15,000-20,000 already.

To a query by Karnataka region regarding membership fees, Fr. Chetan answered the diocese or region can take whatever amount they wish to as membership, but to the national office, they must send the registration forms as well as Rs. 10 per member. He emphasised on the need of having a database to know the exact number of YCS members. He said that we need to present accurate statistics at IYCS. He shared that when he visited certain dioceses, there were no YCS units but as per regional records there were units.

Karnataka region suggested that to keep the accounts clear and simple Rs. 10 can be contributed to each level-national, regional, diocesan, unit and cell- making the contribution Rs. 50. North East said that Rs. 10 for National membership is good enough.

Ms. Sharon suggested that the regions take about 5 minutes and discuss in their regions.

Fr. Chetan added that if there is more representation from a region to the nationals but has less functional diocese, then the NEXCO can withdraw the membership of the extra representation of the NEXCO members from that particular region.

West Bengal region suggested that Rs. 10 is less and that we could increase it. Fr. Chetan replied that the region/diocese could collect as per their understanding of the students, but the minimum is Rs. 10.

After all the clarifications, Mr. Jimmy asked the quorum to vote to pass the amendment. This amendment was passed with 10 votes.

- The next addition (correction) was in regard to the change of names for the regions and formation of new regions. Fr. Chetan said that Bihar and Jharkhand have been separated and Andhra will be known as Telugu region as per the notification of CBCI. (Appendix XI, 1)

Karnataka region said that if it is CBCI that has made policies there is not much that can be deliberated. Fr. Chetan said, it still has scope of deliberation as Goa is not a region as per CBCI, but because of the way we function, we have Goa as a region.

The quorum did not deliberate but rather passed it with full 12 votes.

- The next addition was suggested regarding communication. Fr. Chetan said that there are 14 regions and 138 dioceses. He emphasised that we are not focussing on spreading the movement as of now but rather strengthening it. If it is possible to spread then we should. For a few regions, the directors, be it regional or diocesan, the person is the same for two movements- YCS and ICYM, but certain dioceses they are different. So it would be better to communicate with the DYDs also directly as well.(Appendix XI, 2)

The Presidium requested the regions to discuss the amendment in their groups as they wished to hear from each region their opinions.

Bihar and Goa regions both said that they were in favour of the amendment.

Karnataka region said that the regional office should also be kept in loop when the DYDs are being informed. Fr. Chetan said that often certain RYDs are busy with other responsibilities as well and the dioceses miss out on important information. The RYD and RYLA would be kept in the information cycle. This method is only used to help the active dioceses to function with easy. If the DYDs got the information, they can also get back to RYD for further updates.

Karnataka said that the information going to the national office from diocese should be via the region as well. Fr. Chetan agreed and said that the point made is valid. Although the information would go to the DYDs but the final decisions would be by the region only.

NEXCO sought a clarification that if the regional director is not interested then what does the DYD do in such situations. Fr. Chetan said that in many regions it is only one diocese that is functioning. Out of 10 regions present, in seven regions it is only one diocese that has the movement.

Karnataka added that the CBCI body appoints priests as directors. The Youth commission secretary is the post that the priests are given with. It consists of all the youth movement in the diocese. Priests cannot say that they are not interested. It is their responsibility and cannot run away from it.

North East added that they have separate RYD for ICYM and YCS. While responding to national office a copy must be sent to the RYD, but the implementation should come through the regional office. They also suggested appointing separate regional youth directors as well.

Tamil Nadu said that such a rule in black and white leaves the RYD with less responsibility. The RYD cannot bypass the DYD to reach institutions directly. The amendment did not seem practical to them. Fr. Chetan clarified that 7 out of 10 regions are functioning as dioceses only. This is not an amendment, rather an addition. The duties of the RYDs do not change. It is only dissemination of information to more people. Passing of information should not be a problem. He added that all mails being sent to DYDs would also be CC to RYDs.

After deliberations this addition was passed by a majority of 10 regions.

Clause - pages 2, 3, 12, 13 - Fr. Chetan also said that there were certain mistakes (grammatical errors) that have been noted and these corrections are being made. (pages 2, 3, 12, 13) He also requested all the regions to rigorously read the constitution and if they find any grammatical/spelling errors, write a mail to the national office.

(These changes have to be intimated to CBCI Standing Committee along with the original copy, including a clause that if they do not reply within 3 months it is deemed passed.)

After the discussions and deliberations on the constitutions and the changes and amendments, Mr. Jimmy shared about the non-performing regions. He elaborated on the regions that have active YCS functioning units.

Region	Total no. of dioceses	Dioceses with YCS
Bihar	4	1
Chhatisgarh	-	-
Jharkhand	-	-
Goa	1	1
Karnataka	14	6
Maharashtra and Gujarat	12	1
Madhya Pradesh	10	4
North East	15	15
North	4	2
Odisha	5	3
Tamil Nadu	18	17
Uttar Pradesh	14	1
West Bengal	8	1
Andhra Pradesh (Telugu)	12	9

Mr. Jimmy asked each region about the plan of the dioceses in term of expansion versus stability.

Fr. Chetan said that there are regions where there is nothing at all and asked the present regions as to what is to be done in such situations. There also have been situations where bishops have said no to the movement, at times even the DYDs. He asked for remedial suggestions.

Madhya Pradesh region suggested that we use the CBCI statement which talks about the mandate presence of the youth commission in all units. The National office could demand for director for dioceses from bishops and send letters to the regional bishops and CBCI where ever YCS is not present.

Fr. Chetan said that the top authorities have said that it is no more relevant. Out of 138 Latin dioceses, only 50 dioceses have this movement. All the three YCS chairman and member bishops have no YCS in their own dioceses.

Fr. Vincent, former YCS National Chaplain from Karnataka region said that Kerala has KCYM. Things in such movements have been decided by the seniors. There have been instances where multiple regions formation is expected within the same state. Moreover, in many places directors have been appointed without being informed

about the status of the movement in their region/diocese. Every member has the right to communicate to the national office. Whenever there is no regional coordination it becomes the responsibility of the national team to communicate to the student. Odisha had a strong movement. We have had strong leaders from places where there is no YCS today. This issue must be seriously dealt with.

Mr. Jimmy concluded that every diocese must have YCS /YSM and the National office shall send letter to the DYDs pertaining to this issue.

After this deliberation, Tamil Nadu was given the opportunity to share their concerns that they spoke about in the first half of the day.

Tamil Nadu said that it is actually a regional issue with the national office, and so felt it is national issue. They said that for the last 6 months, they have been stating the issue but no answer has been given. The crucial issues have been stated to the national chaplain. They said that there is a way to work it out. They stated their concern that all information needs to go through the RYD only and that is how they function. They wished to know about who is taking care of the national home, who is keeping the key and who is taking care of the things that happen at the national home. They said that all such matters affect the director. They shared that meetings have taken place in the national home and directors have been targeted there. Mr. Ebin resigned from the diocesan position when he was working with national. They questioned Mr. Ebin on sending mails from National Office and demanded to know what office he held there. They said that Mr. Ebin had left his resignation on the table and that it was no way to function. They expect things to be done in the proper manner.

NEXCO shared that there should be a clarity when statements are made. While sharing concerns, one cannot say that we have problems and leave it arbitrarily. The problem needs to be stated clearly. The council comes to evaluate the works. The National office can appoint anyone to stay in the national office. The national office can be taken care of by anyone the national chaplain wishes to ask. There was no place for the former chaplain to stay and that's when that place was bought, just because the trust was registered in Chennai.

Karnataka region requested Fr. Chetan to take this matter up with the Chairman Bishop and said that the council is not the place to discuss about the other individuals. They added by saying that the national office should have complete freedom to run the office. The national chaplain and NEXCO should have complete freedom.

Fr. Vincent, the former Chaplain said that the registration problems are severe and that is why national home is in Chennai. The land went into a court case a few years before and then eventually it was closed. Such matters need to be brought up at appropriate places. He requested not to destroy the movement by bringing up matters like this. There should be no problem in maintaining a house. This should not hamper the function of the local movement.

Tamil Nadu said that the national team has bypassed the diocesan programmes and has gone for other programmes. The RYD emphasised that following the protocol is important to avoid more misunderstanding. He said that things happening in his region, someone needs to be answerable and that the people appointed at the national office are not competent to be there.

Presidium asked Tamil Nadu as to why they think the office staffs are not competent.

Tamil Nadu asked as to why meetings are organised there without the information of the RYD and that every meeting happening there should take place with the knowledge of the DYD/RYP.

Fr. Chetan said that we have blown the issue out of proportion and could have handled this issue better. Father said that the RYD of Tamil Nadu had asked for it to be in the agenda in Delhi meeting. It was discussed there and the directors were requested to close the matter and move on. Information regarding meeting have been sent to all. In fact it is not just directors; every student has the right to get the information about the movement. He added that he did not ask for any gathering to take place at the national office. Had the directors of Tamil Nadu told him as they got to know, things would have been sorted then and there. If things have happened and if the directors are hurt Fr. Chetan personally as well as in the council apologised and said that he shall see that it does not happen again.

All this matter was discussed in the Delhi meeting and since then, such problems have not emerged. Mr. Ebin was appointed in the National Meeting to take care of the National Office as he volunteered and is paid TA. Delhi office has the National Part Time coordinator. If Mr. Ebin had mailed and the directors felt bad, they could have personally spoken to him and told him. These are young people and they are still learning. It is our responsibility to help them learn. Let us put a full stop on this issue. And happily participate in the council.

Tamil Nadu said that they have no personal problem but the movement is being affected.

Fr. Chetan said that he will visit and stay at the National home as and when required.

Mr. Jimmy said that it is not necessary for the National Chaplain to take permission to visit any region or diocese.

He thereafter adjourned the council for the day.

This was followed by the evening prayer and dinner. The day culminated with cultural programme.

21st May 2016: Day 6

The day began with Morning Prayer. After the prayer, the delegates dispersed for breakfast and were requested to gather in the hall for the Council by 9 am.

The delegates gathered and Ms. Sharon took the roll call before beginning the council. Once all the participants were present for the day, Mr. Jimmy welcomed the delegates to the second day of the council. He said that the delegates would be deliberating on the Council Statement and plan of action for the day. He also briefed the gathering of the schedule for the day. Thereafter, he asked the regions if there were any suggestions to be made towards the agenda for the day. No suggestions were made so, with 8 votes the agenda for the day was passed.

As per the agenda Mr. Ebin was welcomed to read out the Council Statement as prepared by the Drafting Committee. After reading of the Statement, Ms. Aparna was invited to moderate the discussion and take the feedback on the statement. Ms. Aparna also explained how the council statement was prepared and how the deliberations were to take place. The gathering discussed the statement paragraph by paragraph and made suggestions and comments. After the deliberations which took place for about 2 hours, the gathering dispersed for tea break and the documentation team was to finalise the stated changes and feedback which was to be presented after lunch.

Fr. Chetan had also requested the newly elected representatives to NEXCO to gather in his room for elections for NEXCO.

After the tea break the regions gathered back and roll call was taken. Only Goa region was absent as they had their scheduled journey back home. Then, the three year action plan was presented by Ms. Sharon and the regions were asked to deliberate and discuss on the same within their groups. After the discussion, the presidium invited Ms. Aparna to process the suggestions and feedback on the Three Year Action Plan.

After the internal discussions and deliberations, the final plan of action presented is as follows:

Plan of Action for the forthcoming 2016-2019

Back to the Roots

- The NTA/EXCO could organise programmes where former YCSers gather to share experiences in national programmes.
- The former YCSers be called as resource persons in panel discussions, seminars, workshops, etc., to animate participants in programmes.
- The NEXCO could organise an exhibition on the history on the evolution of YCS-YSM. (for whom and where)
- The NTA and EXCO shall visit all the dioceses in their respective regions, with prior information to their directors where ever applicable.
- The National Office shall bring out the revised edition of the testimonies.
- Initiate/revive the regions where YCS/YSM Movement is inactive.

Media and Me

- The NTA/EXCO could organise sessions on themes like: ‘Internet Privacy’; ‘Cyber Security and Crime’; ‘Plagiarism’; etc. at the National Level
- The NTA/EXCO could write to local newspapers, YCS/YSM website, social networking sites and other magazines in regard to media.
- The National Office could organise workshop for office bearers on media

Human Dignity

- The NT could organise training programmes, seminars, workshops and symposiums for RYDs, DYDs, animators and student leaders on ‘Restoring Human Right and Dignity’.
- The NT and National Office could prepare a resource book on ‘Restoring Human Rights’ and ‘Media’ to be used during the academic calendar and other sessions for students/animators.

General POA

- Dedicating a special column in the ‘Search Magazine’ that cater to the thrust of the year and encourage more members to write in that particular column.

After the deliberations on the Plan of Action and its finalisation, the group dispersed for lunch. After lunch, the group gathered and roll call was taken by Ms. Sharon.

The final Council Statement was presented by the Drafting Committee. The statement is as follows:



YCS/YSM INDIA

**Theme Statement of XXVI Study and Formation Session and XVII National Council, Greater Noida, UP
16-22 May 2016**

We, the Student Delegates, Animators, Diocesan Youth Directors, Regional Youth Directors, NEXCO and Invitees, 130 members in total, representing 11 Regions of YCS/YSM India, gathered at YMCA, Greater Noida, UP, hosted by the Archdiocese of Delhi, Northern Region from 16-22 May 2016, for the XXVI Study and Formation Session and XVII National Council on the theme “Called to Believe; Begin; Become”. The theme had three key thrusts namely ‘Back to the roots’, ‘Media and Me’ and ‘Human Dignity’.

Through the input sessions by resource persons, exposure to relevant places, group discussions and workshops, we reflected together on the theme echoing the methodology of the movement – Awareness, Reflection, Action and Evaluation, and drew up the following Theme Statement. Called to Believe, Begin and Become is a call to every YCS/YSMer. A divine call that comes from within to work for God’s Kingdom. The theme helps to reflect and introspect on self and to understand the purpose of life.

Called to Believe: Believing means to have faith in God and in one another. It is to have confidence in truth, existence, reliability and value in the Review of Life and Spirituality of the movement. We need to believe in God, ourselves and others around us in order to build a new society.

Called to Begin: Our role as human beings is to mutually co-exist in the society. We as social beings need our families and community to support one another and live life in harmony. For the existence of a peaceful society, it is essential to Change Self in order to Change Others.

Called to Become: We all strive to become somebody in our lives, but at the end we need to know who we aspire to be? The process of Becoming an individual involves developing the values of love, equality, freedom and justice. We as YCS/YSMers attempt to become responsible persons sensitive to others and free in spirit. We are called to Become God’s perfect creation.

On the basis of the theme, the thrusts call us to work on the factors that would strengthen the movement and bring change in the world.

Back to the Roots: We are in a world that is progressing, but in order to know where we came from and why we are here we need to go back to the roots. Reflecting and analysing the history of the movement and its teachings is vital for continuity and sustainability. We as YCS/YSMers shall imbibe the teachings of our movement to transform ourselves to be men and women for others.

Media and Me: Media is one of the largest social forums in the present era. Children and youth are the main users of this medium. We need to be aware and vigilant towards the constant changing role of media and its influence on young minds. We as YCS/YSMers need to be proactive in responding to media responsibly and help the young to be critical users.

Human Dignity: God created humankind in His image (Gen. 1:27). The Indian constitution affirms that we all are equal and should treat one another with respect and dignity. We YCS/YSMers shall work towards the welfare of human beings by promoting human rights and justice.

Thus, we resolve to renew our responsibility towards the movement and bring back the true spirit with which this movement began; not fall prey to the pretentious previews of the media and work towards the cause of the human rights and dignity. Hence to actualize this, we need to Believe, Begin and Become by following the true spirit of YCS/YSM Movement.

We, the family of YCS/YSM India shall pledge to transform our lives in the light of the Holy Scriptures and Moral Values in ‘Building a New Society’ i.e. ‘God’s Kingdom’.

This Council Statement was then voted and passed unanimously.

New Office Bearers

Thereafter, Fr. Chetan presented to the gathering the newly elected NEXCO for term from 2016-2019. The office bearers are as follows:

President	:	Jesvita Quadras (Karnataka Region)
Secretary	:	Rachel Patricia (Tamil Nadu Region)
Treasurer	:	Jeris Joseph (U.P. Region)
Editor (S)	:	Natasha Louis (West Bengal Region)
Liturgy Sec.	:	Mary Roshni (Madhya Pradesh Region)

Fr. Chetan thereafter stated that the newly elected NEXCO needs the support of the RYDs and DYDs. They need to be accompanied during their term.

The regions congratulated the elected members.

The regions were then requested to individually evaluate the council. The groups dispersed in their regions and discussed the events that took place in the five days. After their discussion, they came back and roll call was once again taken.

Thereafter, Mr. Jimmy asked Ms. Rachel to propose the vote of thanks. She thanked all those who contributed to the Council. Mr. Jimmy then declared the Council proceedings closed. Fr. Chetan thanked the out-going council for all their hard work and commitment towards the movement.

The group then dispersed for the day and all gathered in the evening for the concluding Eucharistic Celebration. On 21st May 2016, Msgr. Joseph Chinnayan, Deputy Secretary General, CBCI, was main celebrant for the concluding ceremony. He celebrated the Eucharist and encouraged the delegates. During his homily he remembered his younger days and asked the students to be active in the ministry. He also congratulated the newly elected team of students and wished them all the best. The newly elected Council also took their vows to serve the movement during the Mass.

After the Eucharist, all gathered near the flag area. Flag was brought down and Mr. Jimmy Pdang declared the National Council closed. In the evening there was concluding programme. LOC presented colourful cultural programme. Fr. Vincent Montero was the guest of Honour. Fr. Vincent shared his experience and also compared the movement then and now. He said that the movement has seen a lot of changes for the past fifty years. There had been ups and downs. He said, one shouldn't get discouraged but rather support this movement and help the students. During the concluding ceremony the newly appointed NEXCO's gave a meaningful farewell to the outgoing NEXCO's. It was an emotional evening where tears rolled and gratitude expressed. The day ended on a high after a short session of DJ.

21st May 2016: Day 7

Fr. Alex celebrated the thanksgiving mass. After the Eucharist there was regionwise photo session. After the breakfast there was a combined meeting of the outgoing and new NEXCO's with RYDs. Regions also came together for a short meeting to prepare their plan of action. Fr. Chetan, National Chaplain thanked everyone. After the tea break at 10 am delegates left for Delhi by two buses and further left for their home town.

Drafting committee

Ms Aparna & Mr. Ebin & team

YCS/YSM IS A LADDER FOR ME

testimony

I remember, as a child, I tend to follow what the adults were doing especially the things my father and my uncles did at home and possessed their behavioural conceptions. Soon I started smoking and drinking locally made alcohol. Interestingly, I didn't have money to buy the stuff, instead together with a few boys of my age including my cousins roamed around the streets and picked the ones that elderly men had thrown away after smoking. I followed my friends always; I threw a fight with my neighbourhood friends, with my brothers, and most of the time I never obeyed what my parents taught me. I remember my mother's tears once when I nearly broke our television at home when she told me not to spend time watching it. I saw her tears rolling down when I had a fight with my elder brother, when I scolded her and when our father went away from us. The greatest monster was my wrath anger and speaking slang language. These few bad habits continuously urged me to provide them a permanent house within me as I physically and intellectually continued to grow. I have seen some of my friends especially in hostels who are deep inside the same well as I was once, ending up in living a wretched life. They consume other dangerous stuff like dendrites, weed etc. Few get married at a young age and now struggle hard to maintain their broken families. Later on I came to know that they were trying hard to come out from the same well but they couldn't make it. The reason is there is no one to give them a ladder for them at the right time and even if there is one, many don't want to climb.



Then, my memories go back to the mid-2010 when the brothers from Sacred Heart Theological College visited our school, St Francis D' Assisi High school at Mawkasiang for the YCS/YSM introductory program (orientation program). At the first place, I didn't want myself to be part of the movement. As a boarder I wanted to be free on Saturdays and Sundays! I didn't want to spend time rather I wanted to play and be with my friends on such free days. However, the U-turn occurred in my life at that time because of my fear. I feared that our home director who was also the principal might give me punishment because it is compulsory for Catholics to join the programs, and in hostels cleaning the toilets, drains, etc. are well known punishments. Somehow, I attended programs just for the sake of attendance. Subsequently, days went on and without any external influences I took part in every programme conducted by YCS/YSM in our school such as meetings, school assembly, cleaning drive, picnic and in the dioceses programs like leadership training program, commitment day, exhibitions programs, holy retreat and few others. I cannot deny the fact that this was the first step of the ladder that helped me to change. It was this time that I quit smoking, drinking alcohol, I am able to control my anger, stop being very stubborn, learn to love others and my studies also improved. I began to respect my mother and helped her to support our family during my holidays; I learned to respect my teachers and friends including the respect for the environment. It is YCS/YSM!! I was taught by YCS/YSM and it **IS A LADDER FOR ME** to come out of that well and grow as a better person. Today I could have been like my friends; going to night clubs, sleeping with prostitutes, consuming weed, dendrites, fighting along the streets and even to be carried away by the police cars. Instead I chose to change myself from whom I was not supposed to be. It is YCS/YSM that helped me to change. It has provided me a platform of living a new life, a platform to abandon smoking and drinking habits, a platform to remember the tears people shed because of me and become a new person who can bring happiness and joy to others, a platform where I knew what is good and bad, right and wrong and what to do and what I should not and most importantly it has served me as a way and direction to live on moral values and values of Jesus Christ. Apart from these it has improved my leadership skills, communication skills which are also of great importance. Furthermore, SEE-JUDGE-ACT helped me to see the reality of life, i.e., struggles, conflicts, injustice, greed, selfishness and many other problems of life that each one of us have gone through especially those living in orphanages and so on, and finding a solution to cope with the same.

Today I am happy and proud to say to the world that I AM A YCSer. I have changed and YCS/YSM helped me to change. I wanted to thank all those who have helped me to reach this level and the next to come as a YCSer. "I AM ALWAYS AT THE BEGINNING"

LET YCS/YSM LIGHT SHINE

Jimmy Pdong
National President (2013-2016)

A Journey I will always be grateful

I always was contemplating when the previous National Chaplain said you don't participate in many exposures even though there is a special chance you decline, when are you going to learn in life? , reiterating these words many at times I was moving forward, amidst work , amidst busy and hectic life ahead came in the month of January 2016 was a special chance to participate in the NTA-EXCO Meeting as an observer along with the former National Coordinator Leo Joseph and others and to partake in the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of YCSYSM India, where there were serious deliberations on the National Council in Delhi in May 2016, observed and came back and realized that though there may be many chances I declined, this time I have to be there by all means and decided on my return journey that I will be there from the beginning and to tell you it was a gifted opportunity through the willingness of Leo Joseph, who gave me that space to take care, I began to initiate the little process by helping Fr. Chetan Machado, our Chaplain who has always been with me and appreciated my presence and help. Being with him, made me understand that calmness amidst all situations, and facing every situation with a smile was a special gift you can learn from him. It was special to meet Midrash Matthew, the local man who was taking charge of things in the working office, who was ably loved for his perfection in doing things and the positiveness in seeing things forward.



Preparations began , best moments passed by and came the 6 best days of my life , each day was a gift for which I thank god, and also was a heaven on earth feeling, witnessing the various input sessions on our defining theme and thrust was apt for the present reality, observing through the exposure I realized that “we cannot promise victory to all the students but children need to develop the value of courage, which is the most essential value for the world today “and realized that as a YCS YSM'er I should do more for a change of the present reality. It was special to meet Fr. Varghese Alengaden, sharing about the joyous experiences of writing Inland letters and communicating was a different feeling and his inspiring life experience in the session back to the roots really set a tone for the council, and felt special in sharing listening to some best moments of YCSYSM India during his time with Fr. Vincent Monteiro Former National Chaplain whose able experience is still a value for life, witnessing the National Council proper was a special and an experience that you can have forever in your lifetime, having a student oriented presidium was inspiring , looking at the way the National Team organized it with excellence and order amidst many commotion. Having a cultural exposure in exhibition and getting to know what each region is known for their cultures and values, I believe you need to be gifted and indeed YCSYSM has given me. Being as a support to the NEXCO Team and helping them in every aspect was special feeling apart, and the unity that the team had and guiding them was a different experience where every participant had to learn and the team made everyone feel at home by their care and concern.

Lastly my gratitude to Fr. Chetan Machado, National Chaplain for giving me this opportunity to help and to Regional Chaplains and to the Regions for making it and for being part of the Historic Council, special thanks to Jimmy, Gilbert, Sharon, Amiya, Angela, Nowami, Arman, Kevin, Mervyn, Ebin, Rosalia and Roshan who accepted me as part of the team and worked for the success of the council along with Midrash, Aparna and the Hosting LOC'S whose efforts need a special appreciation. I would specially thank Alice and Melvyn, former Nexco's from Nagpur who were there helping and shared necessary suggestions for the NEXCO's for the Council and to Leo Joseph, who gave that time and experience for the council's success in a silent manner. Thank You YCSYSM for giving me this opportunity and for giving people who were there for with me for life.

The greatest changes in the world are prepared in each person, by a change of heart. Changing means first of all reorienting whatever, within us, is not turned towards love. The important thing is to make a choice: to choose hope, to choose to love and as YCS YSM'ers we are in an era where our relevance is being questioned by which we are called to change but the choice remains with us.

Thank You YCSYSM!

KAMAL FRANCIS

EXCO, YCS/YSM IndiaAlumni.



In YCS my experience is very good. The council was something very new to me. It was a good learning time for me. The things I learned like Self Awareness, Self confidence and positiveness in me. I am thankful to the movement because the things that I learned from YCS I can't learn it in my regular life. The main thing I learned and found interesting was the presidium and the going. It made me clear about the movement. In council got chance to meet new people and had new friends. The stay at YMCA was too good. Had a good time and learning experience. I am Thankful to our National Chaplain and to all my YCS/YSM friends.

- Julie Anthony
(St. Anthony School, Nagpur)

My 3rd Council and every council I find a new me inside me. Every Council has a certain charm of its own that teaches new stuff and the good part is that it's not all related to YCS YSM, because half the things I've learnt from the past three councils are not at all related to the movement we are in, but it is only because of this movement that I've had the opportunity to gain so much and I will always be indebted to it.

I made my way in this council not as a delegate but as an Ex-YCSer, a so called SENIOR for some, but in my heart I will always find myself in the learning stage of life where I get to explore new ways to do the things I did before. Being junior has many advantages which is why that's what I actually want to call myself always and forever. One other plus point for me in this council was that I got to work with extremely new and wonderful personalities which I will always cherish, Fr. Chetan whom I call uniquely unique, Kamal Anna the cool meticulous one, loving and caring Aparna mom and also Mr. Serious Midrash bhaiyya and many many more such people of whom I speak about will take a day or so that's why I'll stop on them.



Meeting some after a span of years is also another fruit that we get from councils and such national meets. This time I met the man who plays a very important role in making a better me Mr. Leo Anna. Truly I say to the present NEXCOs you shouldn't miss any opportunity to work with him or interact with him, I can tell you it will surely be worth the time.

The council is the highest body meet of YCS/YSM India, and it is always a great honour and privilege to be a part of this meet. The proceedings are just worth experiencing. We get to know the actual view of the movement in a better way and also learn and realize the capability of what a student can do.

Let me tell you readers something YCS YSM India has changed my life completely and it hasn't stopped its just growing deeper and deeper inside of me and as for this council it is just a tool that YCS YSM has which it uses to bring out the best in one and lucky are those who are selected to be a part of the council.

In the end I thank God for his watchful eyes over the council and everyone present there, and pray to him that he may bless us all abundantly.

Thank you guys for letting me share my experience with you.

Let YCSYSM Light shine always.

Melwyn Titus
Former NEXCO

Greetings to everyone!

Raichel Patricia is here with you, YCS/YSM is an “Identity” for me. I am in YCS/YSM for the past five years. I had a passion from my childhood to create some kind of change in my surrounding and I’m very happy to share that YCS/YSM is making my passion coming true each day of my life. YCS/YSM has been a great part in my life. This movement has made me to identify “ Who I really am and What should be donetto realise -being me”. As youngsters, students join in many activities for their identities. But this is a movement which stands unique to be the “identity” for students. More than a person to bring happiness, YCS/YSM has taught me to be the reason for happiness. I am happy and privileged to share the changes happened to me becoming a YCS/YSMer. Before being a part in this movement my life was just something rare to be spoken before people, a life without friendship and courage, somewhere... to be someone. But after getting into this wonderful family of YCS/YSM... I realized who is “ME”. It has been a great platform in my life to achieve my greater heights. I am thankful to my school who gave me the knowledge to be a part in this family!



Joining this movement made me more energetic and vibrant, get to know different sorts of people from different parts, interacting with people with a big open smile and a good handshake, to create a friendly environment. Moreover, this family has lots and lots of brothers and sisters in one home! I am proud enough to say that I became a great speaker and leader after entering into YCS/YSM. Yes being a part of this family involving teenagers, makes them to be aware of the reality of life and stand unique from the crowd!! I am thankful to say that YCS/YSM gave me full satisfaction to live life knowing the true worth of it. I am blessed to say that entering YCS/YSM started the journey as diocesan leader continued...to be the National Secretary at present. It is indeed a proud moment for my parents to say that “Our daughter is a leader” as YCS/YSMer. I find joy and happiness in their face that I owe being a part in YCS/YSM and as a National Secretary! My family YCS/YSM made my dreams come true as leader and a simple child who wants to make her parents proud. To conclude YCS/YSM is an “IDENTITY” for me to stand unique among many and traveling -as YCS/YSMer is a wonderful experience. I take this moment to thank all my friends who made me to inbuild my talents and explore it to others..I also thank a special person who inspired me to be here...from my region! Thank you all. As the thrust portrays to believe, to begin and to become in which YCSYSM made me to discover my stone of talent to build God’s Kingdom. I invite everyone of you too, to be the reason for the change and to build God’s Kingdom! Once a YCS/YSM’eralways a YCS/YSM’er.

Let YCS/YSM light shine!!!
Thank you!!

Raichel Louis Patricia, National Secretary
(Tamil Nadu - Region)



I was glad to be the part of 16th National Council. My experience of NC cannot be explained in some words. Right from the first day till the last I had an amazing experience. National Council has taught me the importance of YCS/YSM, the values, my family, my friends and my surrounding. I am lucky that I go to school, I have sweet home. As we went for an exposure to slums which was a part of YCS/YSM methodology-SEE. I could see small kids having willingness to study, but unfortunately they could not afford it. When I went for NC I didn’t know anyone there but when I left from there after seven days I could say that I had many friends who were really loving and caring. I would like to show my gratitude towards our National Chaplain Rev. Fr. Chetan Machado for arranging everything to make us to learn something. This National council has made me responsible, confident and self- reliant. These seven days will always be cherished in my heart. Long live YCS/YSM, Let the light of YCS/YSM always shine!!!

- Vanshika Paul, National EXCO (Northern region) Delhi

Hearty wishes to all the readersThe 17th National Council of YCSYSM India is truly a milestone for us. The theme of this council was to Believe Become and Begin. I think this is the way we should be in our life, first we need to believe in ourselves then become what we believed in and then begin our struggle to make this society a better place to live in i.e. God's Kingdom. Being the NEXCO member I was very nervous about the National Council as it is the most important event. But with the support of our chaplain Fr Chetan our coordinator our RYDs, DYDs, Animators we were able to achieve what we aimed for. We can say that National Council was a success because almost all the regions were present, representatives were presented, the new team got selected, we made few amendments and the vigour in the students present was good. For me this was very special as it was the last event which was organised together with all my NEXCO team. We together did this. Many ups and downs came but our team was together. This is the message I want to give to the future NEXCOs; do your best, you may make mistakes but also have the courage to accept and correct them. Always remember you all are a team, a family which can only work when everyone will support each other even when the time is tough or good always be by each other's side have that team spirit. Lastly, I would like to thank our National Chaplain Fr. Chetan Machado, former National Chaplain Fr Charles, coordinator Mr Midrash Mathew, former coordinator Mr Leo Joseph and Miss Aparna Babu, all the RYDs ,DYDs, Animators, the LOCs, the students and a very special thanks to my fellow NEXCO members thank you for this beautiful journey. Stay blessed everyone. May the Almighty always shower his blessings upon you. All the very best once again. Let YCS/YSM light shine! BELIEVE BECOME BEGIN!



Angela Anthony
Former NEXCO, Bhijan



Needed a break and it was the Council for me.

It gives me immense joy to share my experience Being a part of the XVII council makes me feel the lucky one and thankful. Coming back to YCS for the council not as a delegate but as a Ex-YCSer to help for the council. The council is of important one meeting of all regions getting to know about the working at regional level as well as of the national working of the movement. Participated for the third council but still it had a different impact on me. Starting from the exposure to the input sessions had a learning experience and gained knowledge and a beneficial one.

I feel happy that I got a chance to be with the NEXCO's. Even though being a senior to them had a good bonding with them. The love, respect and attitude of oneness never made me felt a elder one but felt was one of them, can say The YCS FAMILY, HAPPY FAMILY...

Much more to add on the LOC's were too good friendly and loving. To work with and to be with them was a wonderful experience. Working with different people with different style and attitude made me learn from them. Had full on fun with all and for sure had a good friendship with them. Even it was a time for me to meet the known and dear ones after few years and to work with them and have a good time.

I am thankful to Fr. Chetan, our National Chaplain for giving me a chance to come back and be a part of the National Council. To work with him was a great pleasure. Always with a smile and calmly he does his responsibilities. No doubt he is Cool Chaplain. Even got a chance to meet amazing people and to work with, Aparna Didi and Midrash was a good learning as well as a joyful experience. Thank you for changing me always learning something new.

Thanks to all who made the council a great success... all who left me with best and sweet memories of the council...

- Alice.V. Anthony
(Former Nexco, MG Region)

Before I became a NEXCO, I was a type of person who used to only stick to a few friends in my school and locality and would spend most of my time in front of my computer playing online games. One day, through God's plan, I was chosen to become the NEXCO of my region. Thinking back, at the time, I was quite hesitant to take up the post which I am glad right now that I took because God had used it as a medium to transform my life. I started meeting a lot of new people, learning new things like how to travel in public transport, public speaking, organizing events, and most importantly meeting the most important person in my life right now, and that is Jesus. Today, he is a friend, a mentor, someone irreplaceable, and whatever term you use to describe someone close to you, as it is because of him that I am who I am today and what I will become tomorrow.



During the process of transformation, a person will always experience hardships and difficulties and it will always be within the limits of what we can handle for it is written, "The Lord will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify us and refine us like gold and silver" –Malachi 3:3

The process of refining silver requires the silversmith to hold the silver in the fire and sit in front of it. When the silver starts reflecting the image of the silversmith that is the time when the silver is fully refined. Putting in any longer will destroy the silver. In the same way God refines us by putting us through hardships until we start reflecting his image.

As for me, what I hope is that this transformation that has happened to me and that which will happen in the future may become an instrument in transforming others; not through words, but through my lifestyle.

"Change Self – Change Others"

- **Kevin Li, Former NEXCO**
West Bengal



I was a boy who was fully dependent, a boy who was very shy, a boy who was never interested in interacting with anybody, a boy who was not at all responsible. My world was limited within my family, schoolmates and my playground.

I was always taken care by my parents, teacher and fellow mates. This year, I was elected as the Captain of St. Peter's house (Yellow house) of my school, before I could realize the responsibility and duty of a leader. I was informed by my parish priest Rev. Fr. Mathew Kumbloomtil, that I was chosen from our parish and had to represent our diocese in YCS/YSM Seminar. I was not aware of this YCS/YSM organization at that point of time. I had no idea that this programme was going to bring a drastic change in me and it was going to teach me the true meaning of leadership.

16th May 2016, in the YMCA Campus, among all 140 delegates of different region I felt lonely among the multitude. While interacting with them I start learning different skills of life which was necessary for becoming a perfect individual. Coming seven days were the days of learning from the exposure visits, discussions, group sharing, prayers, animations (that was fun) etc. I learned a lot of things from the YCS/YSM members.

I realized these changes, within me, on the day of election for the members of the council. Because of these changes, a boy, who was not known to anyone before one week was their choice. The same boy who was fully dependent, was shy, was never interested in interacting with others, was not responsible had now proven himself worthy to be the National Treasurer with the help of YCS/YSM. That was a great leap for me, from a school student to an elected National Treasurer of YCS/YSM.

As a part of change, for the first time I took the responsibility of booking my ticket myself and travelling for the first time all alone to Udupi to attend the live programme of YCS/YSM. For this positive change I give thanks to YCS/YSM. And I hope I will be able to bring changes not only in me but also in my surroundings in future....

Thank you YCS/YSM ...
Jeris Joseph, NEXCO, U.P. Region

THANK YOU

As the former National Secretary from 2013 to 2016, I take this chance to show my gratitude to all my beloved ones who were with me in each and every moment throughout my tenure. First of all I thank almighty God for his abundant blessings. Secondly to my beloved Mom and Dad who supported me every time. They understood me and were always with me in whatever I do. They love YCS/YSM more than me. Fr. Charles with whom we started our journey; he made us learn from our mistakes, he was and he is with us, as a good role model, a guide and friend. Thank you father for all that you are to us. We will always follow you and we miss you a lot. Fr. Chetan, our CM, with whom we ended our journey; a unique soul. We always wondered how come you were always silent and never panicked for anything. But later specially during the National Council days when we NEXCO's were with you, you made us feel proud, when you trusted us in all that we did, even if we were wrong, you let us do things. Your confidence in us made us confident too. Thank you dear chaplain. We love you and miss you. Leo *anna*, my brother, who was with us, who is with us and who will be always with us; the pioneer of our team, without whom it was impossible for what we are now. He made us understand "*change self – change others*".... He is that person who made us feel and live as one family. We learnt everything from him. Thank you *anna* for all that you are to us. Kamal *anna*, for being a constant supporter full of positive energy always encouraging us in our failures and appreciating in our success. Thank you Kamal *anna*. Aparna *di*, our cute little charming friend, who made everything possible with her cheerful attitude. You were with us in all our success and failure. Thank you my sweetest sister. Midrash *bhai*, you are Mr. Perfect...!!! Whenever we were in need you were there to fulfill all our needs. Your regular reminders through phone and your selfless dedication for our movement made us look at you a step higher. Thank you *bhayya*. A big hug to all my predecessors, specially Melwyn, Alice *dii*, Jovita *dii*, Joyce *dii*....and to each and every one of them. Your presence made us motivated. Love you all.. A special thanks to "my President", Jimmy Pdang, with your calmness and smile you made everything possible. You proved who you are and made everyone feel astonished when you speak. I am a great fan of yours and have learnt and 'stole' many good ideas of yours. Thank you my president. To all my fellow NEXCO's, my sisters and brothers, my family, we have failed together many times but finally we also appreciated our success together. We cried, we laughed, we yelled, we did everything together. Togetherness is our strength. I couldn't compress all our feelings in a single word, "thank you"....but more than that I love you all a lot for your presence. Thank you my friends. To all the RYD's, DYD's, Animators, all the sponsors, well wishers and to all other people who constantly helped us throughout our tenure. We express our gratitude whole heartedly. I also take this opportunity to wish all my successors to carry on this movement with true spirit and desire and always make YCS/YSM light shine. May God bless you all my fellow YCS/YSM NEXCO's 2016 to 2019.



YCS/YSM is a beautiful platform through which we can realise the reality practically. Each and every YCS/YSM'er taught me a new lesson and each and every single moment in YCS/YSM is a beautiful experience. I am a YCS/YSM'er now and forever and when I think about it, it's a happy realisation. I cherish each and every moment with my fellow YCS/YSM'ers. I would miss you all but still I will serve my movement forever. I have changed myself and I will try to change others too. NTA/EXCO meetings at different places..... all national level programs, first convention, first alumni meet... when I sit back and reminisce this epic journey, I have no words to define my movement. I love my movement and once again I thank each and every one of you .

Let YCS/YSM light shine...

With love and regards,
Sharon Michael Kalinse, (former National Secretary)
Tamilnadu Region



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National Council 2016



Glimpses of

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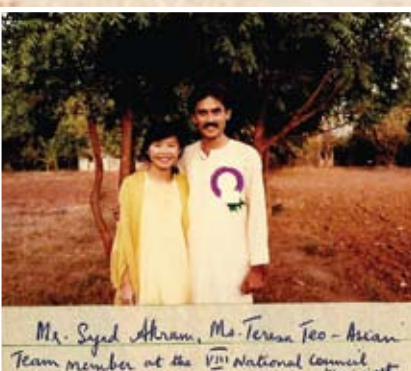
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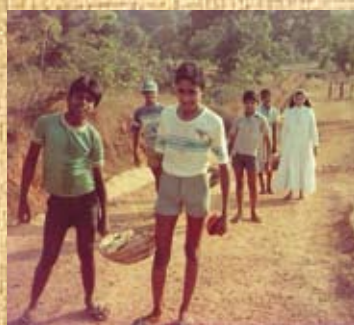
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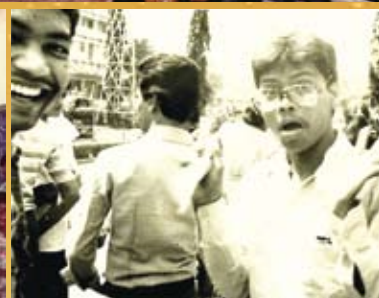
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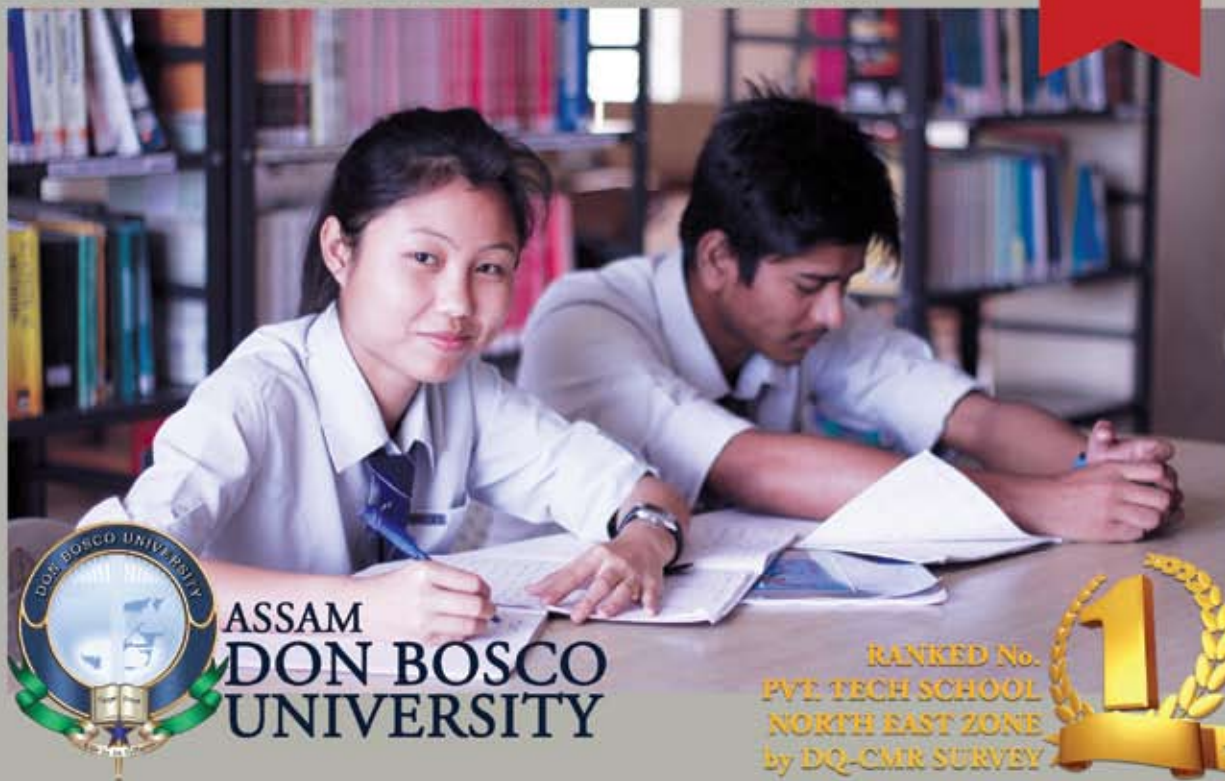
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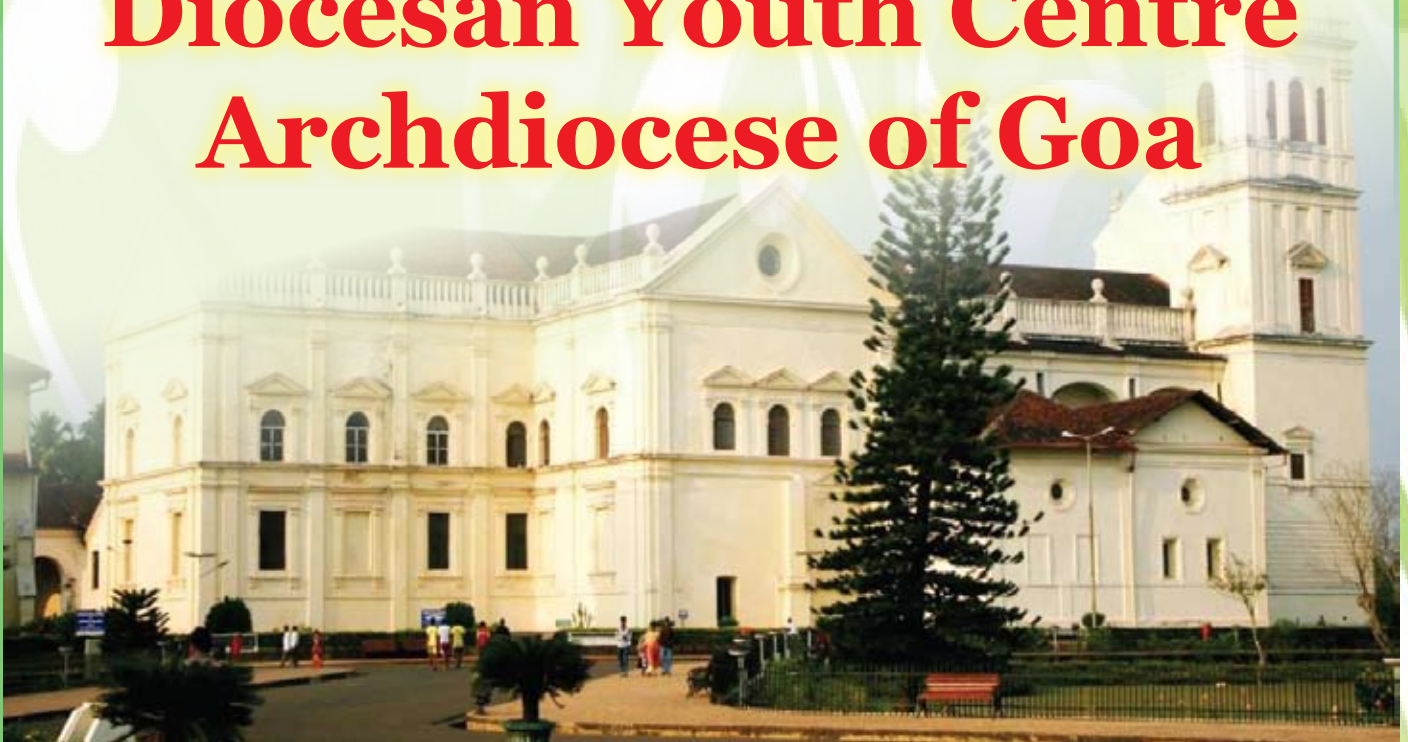
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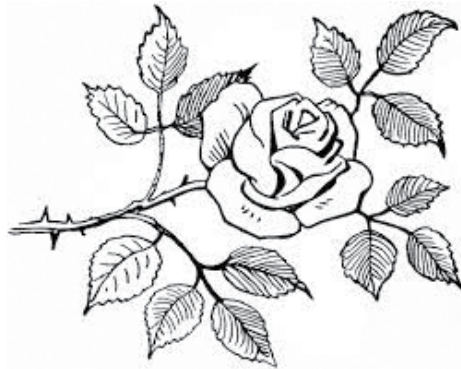
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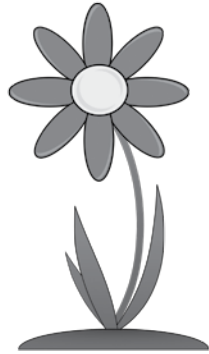
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