

Background Guide



CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
AMRITSAR-MODEL UNITED NATIONS

All India Political
Parties Meet

ABOUT CISAMUN

We, at CISA, proudly present the launch of the CISAMUN, a venture into the world of Model United Nation. We are just eight years old but we have the precision of winning awards at every MUN we have participated in. And we thought that if we have it then we ought to share it. The sprawling seven acres and the state of the art infrastructure in the charmed city of the Golden Temple, provides us the perfect backdrop to host some of the best schools for an interactive session on global issues.

In these last years, we have we have moved on from infancy to maturity. Our main achievements being a 1700 strong student brigade and their guardians as our shareholders, a committed team of teaching and non teaching staff and a management with a vision.

Young minds have the freshest ideas. Keeping this in mind, CISAMUN wishes to tap this pool of ideas and contribute to issues that matter, in whatever little way possible. United Nations: as the name suggests, thinks globally and that is exactly what we strive for too. Issues ranging from environment concerns and religious intolerance to terrorism and trade have an impact on all, hence the urgency to start young.

We proudly launch the CISAMUN scheduled for the 3rd, 4th and 5th of August 2017.

A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear Delegates,

Welcome to the first session of the Cambridge International School Amritsar Model United Nations Conference. I am Vansh Aggarwal and I am thrilled to be your Secretary General at CISAMUN '17. Before I go on to the specifics about the conference, I'll start by introducing myself. I am a pass-out from The Doon School, Dehradun. I have been an avid MUNer and have attended and chaired conferences both nationally and internationally. As such, my interests lie mainly in the field of Economics and Politics. I am going to pursue a degree in economics and psychology from the University of Chicago this fall.

As far as the conference goes, I hope you are all as excited as I am to take part in these incredibly unique simulations this year. Each committee will have the opportunity to explore a new dimension of its topics, ranging from the ongoing Syrian civil war to the militarization of the Arctic. Simultaneously, the International Press Core will help make sure that delegates are questioned and made accountable for their actions and decisions. I encourage you to embrace the important role you each will play, as your country's voice is crucial.

I hope these realistic yet challenging simulation will test the intellectual and diplomatic capability of every delegate. I expect all delegates to be 'aware' of the developments in current affairs and be familiar with their foreign policy. Further, I expect everyone to maintain a high level of debate and the committee to adopt a holistic approach towards the agendas. Also, ones ability to lobby and lead blocs will be highly judged upon, as diplomacy forms the core of any Model United Nations Conference. So be prepared for three days of intense debate, heated arguments, lobbying and above all, meeting new people and making friends.

I look forward to seeing all of you here at the holy city this fall.

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

"In a world full of contentions and ambiguities, opportunities are available as a cherry on the top" I, Madhav Setia, extend a warm welcome to all the delegates as the Chairperson of the All India Political Parties Meet. I am a class 12 passout and have been an "Arts person" throughout my childhood and High School. History and Political Science have been my strong points as far as I can recount. I plan to go to the UK for my Graduation. I started doing MUNs in class 8 and the past 6 years have seen me doing over 40 MUN Conferences, over 10 of which have been International including Zurich MUN, HMUN China and The Ivy League MUN and many more. Currently I am also serving as the Secretary General for The Renaissance Model UN Conference 2017.

I believe the circuit today has become more commercialized and debate is gradually eradicating. I want to bring back the level of Discussion to the Conferences today and make them more Conventionally focused and interestingly channeled. Having served as the Chairperson of AIPPMs many times prior, I have only one motto - serious Debate. At CISA MUN, I expect the delegates to be well researched and focused. The committee I am chairing, Historic AIPPM is unconventional, yet difficult. Being set up in 2002, its topic area summary (agenda) will require weeks of good research and much participation in the Committee. Delegates must also remember that they have to be well prepared for the crisis, which forms an integral part of the committee.

There is a new trend in the circuit to initiate and innovate the MUNs with Indian committees. AIPPMs have been flooding the circuit since 2012 and since CISA is all about uniqueness and innovation, we have gone ahead with a more centralized and focused form of AIPPMs, the Historic AIPPM. Set in the backdrop of the 2002 Gujarat riots, which brought much controversy to our country and specially, our current PM Mr. Narendra Modi (the then CM of Gujarat) to the limelight for all the negative reasons. Delegates will be expected to represent their portfolios efficiently and effectively. The committee will be extremely interesting but at the same time serious too.

All in all I tend to restore the quality of MUNs for all the good reasons. I am looking forward to a great debate at CISAMUN 2017 and wish to give all the delegates an enriching experience.

I wish Vansh and his team all the best for the Conference! Please feel free to contact me anytime at madhavsetia@rocketmail.com or +919988443587.

Regards,

Madhav Setia
Chairperson AIPPM

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Procedure is a vital aspect of Model UN. In committee, there are very specific guidelines that must be adhered to when one wants to make an action. While rules of procedure vary from conference to conference, the following document explains the parliamentary procedure in Indian Committees. Parliamentary procedure is the language through which you will communicate during the conference. The following guide is a “translation,” and explains each rule in a few different ways. First, the “context” describes what the function of the rule is. Second, the “when” explains the time that the rule is used. Third, a “comment” is provided if there is another part of the rule. And lastly, the “best used for” explains the best time for a rule to be used.

Motions

A motion is used in committee when a delegate wants to have an action passed that affects the entire committee. Like the name suggests, “motion,” as in “moving,” means that you are “moving” towards an action (this may help you remember).

MOTION TO OPEN THE OPENING STATEMENTS

- Context: This motion is used when a delegate wants to start a new OPENING STATEMENT; the chair will then call on delegates who want to be added to the list.
- When: This is used at the beginning of the conference when an opinion statement has to be opened to set the agenda; it is also used to create a new opening statement after the agenda has been set (and for every new topic up for discussion thereafter).

MOTION TO SET THE AGENDA

- Context: This is used to set the order in which the topics will be debated; there will be two speakers for and two speakers against the motion.
- When: The motion is used after there has been sufficient debate upon which of the topics on the agenda is more important and will be entertained at the discretion of the chair.

MOTION FOR A PUBLIC SESSION

- Context: This motion is employed when one wants to start a public session,
- When: A public session can be called for anytime during organized debate (when the chair asks if there are any points or motions on the floor), or after a previous caucus is finished.
- Comment: When a delegate calls for a public session, they also must specify the length of the caucus, the length of each speaking time, and the purpose of the caucus; for example “motion for a ten minute public session with a thirty second speaking time for the purpose of discussing education within the field of child labor.”
- Best used for: A public session is best used for relatively fast paced discussions about a specific sub-topic. It is sometimes used to hear the opinions of many nations in order to focus what the committee will talk about.

MOTION FOR A PRIVATE SESSION

- Context: This motion is utilized when one wants to start an unmoderated caucus.
- When: An unmoderated caucus can be called for anytime during organized debate (when the chair asks if there are any points or motions on the floor), or after a previous caucus is finished.
- Comment: When a delegate calls for an unmoderated caucus, they also must specify the length of the caucus.
- Best used for: An unmoderated caucus is best used for informal debate. If a delegate wishes to have a discussion with another delegate, or if a delegate wishes to collaborate with others in writing a resolution, then a private session would be appropriate.

MOTION FOR A RIGHT OF REPLY

- Context: If a member of the committee makes a personal attack on another delegate, then the offended delegate is permitted to reply to the delegate. However, if an attack is made on a delegate’s position, the delegate does not receive a right of reply, meaning “Country A is stupid...” would deserve a right of reply, while, “Country B’s idea of satellites is idiotic...” does not deserve a right of reply.

- When: A right of reply is requested directly after the personal attack is made
- Comment: The chair makes the ultimate ruling as to whether or not the delegate in question deserves a right of reply.
- Comment: At ILMUNC, all rights of reply must be submitted to the chair in writing.

MOTION TO INTRODUCE PRESS RELEASE

- Context: This motion is used when a delegate wants to introduce (meaning read it to the committee and make it an official document) a press release.
- When: This motion is used after the dais staff has handed out the working paper/resolution/amendment to the committee.
- Comment: When you move to introduce the document, you also must specify the number (ex: motion to introduce resolution 2.3).

MOTION FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE

- Context: During voting procedure, as oppose to raising one's placard to vote, a delegate can motion for a roll call vote, which means that each country will be called on individually to cast its vote.
- When: The motion is used during voting procedure and automatically adopted, with the chair's approval.
- Comment: The ways one can vote during a roll call vote are yes, no, yes with rights, no with rights, abstain, and pass. If a delegate votes yes, it means he/she is in favor of the resolution. If a delegate votes no, it means the delegate is against the resolution. If a delegate abstains, it means he/she does not wish to cast a vote on the resolution. If a delegate votes yes/no with rights, it means the delegate wishes to explain his/her vote. The delegate, upon completion of the roll call vote, will receive a thirty-second speech. If a delegate votes yes/no with rights it usually means that the delegate would like to explain why he/she is voting against their country's position or against what the country was arguing for during debate. If a delegate passes, it means that the delegate is unsure of how to vote, and will be called upon at the end of the roll call vote. Please note that if a delegate passes, he/she cannot vote with rights.

Yields and Comments

YIELD TO THE CHAIR

- Context: After the completion of a speakers list speech, a delegate may yield to the chair. This means that the chair will absorb the time remaining in the speech (meaning nothing will happen with any time remaining).
- When: After a speech on the speakers list.

YIELD TO QUESTIONS

- Context: After the completion of a speakers list speech, a delegate may yield to questions. This means that with the remaining time, the chair will call upon other delegates to ask the delegate giving the speech questions that must pertain to the speech that was just given.
- When: After a speech on the speakers list.
- Comment: The time taken for a delegate to ask the question will not be counted towards the time remaining in the speech.

YIELD TO ANOTHER DELEGATE

- Context: After the completion of a speakers list speech, a delegate may yield to another delegate. This means that with the time remaining in the speech, another delegate will be able to elaborate on the ideas that the first delegate presented; the second speaker may not talk about a topic the first speaker did not mention. Please note that only one yield may be made per speaker on the speakers list.
- When: A delegate yields to another delegate after a speech on the speakers list.
- Comment: If the speaker intends on yielding to another delegate, he/she should be sure that the delegate yielded to will support his/her ideas.

YIELD TO COMMENTS

- Context: After the completion of a speakers list speech, a delegate may yield to comments. This means that 2 thirty-second speeches can be made by any delegate (the chair will call on two delegates who wish to make comments). Note that the comment must pertain to the original speech.
- When: A delegate yields to comments after a speech on the speakers list.

COMMENTS (NO YIELD REQUIRED)

- Context: If a delegate fails to yield after a speakers list speech, then 2 thirty-second comments are in order. If a speaker fails to yield, a delegate can motion to comment. These comments can be made by any delegate in the committee (the chair will choose 2 delegates who wish to speak). Please note that the comment must pertain to the original speech.
- When: Comments are warranted after a speech on the speakers list.

Points

In general, points are a way to ask a question in committee, or bring something of nonsubstantive importance to the committee's attention.

POINT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

- Context: This point is used when a delegate is unsure of or wants a clarification of a rule or committee procedure; it can also be used if a delegate has a non-substantive question (such as "point of parliamentary inquiry, would it be in order to start handing in working papers at this time?").
- When: This point can be used any time when the chair is taking points from the floor.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

- Context: This point is used when a delegate's ability to participate in committee is impaired. For example, one could use this point if it is difficult to hear the speaker or it is very cold in the room.
- When: This point can be used anytime, even during another delegates' speech.
- Comment: Using too many points of personal privilege can be unproductive to the committee, so use them very sparingly and only if the issue is truly impairing your ability to delegate, not just if it is a touch hot.

POINT OF CLARIFICATION

- Context: This point is used when a delegate wants to clarify a non-substantive point (meaning grammatical, spelling, word choice, awkward phrases) in a resolution or amendment.
- When: This point should be used while or directly after a resolution or amendment has been introduced.
- Comment: This point is only used during the introduction of a resolution or amendment.

POINT OF INFORMATION

- Context: This is used when a delegate has a substantive question for a speaker during formal debate.
- When: This point can be used any time the chair says that questions are in order.

POINT OF ORDER

- Context: A delegate can raise a point of order when there is a violation of the rules of procedure. The chair will decide whether there is a violation immediately, and if there is, then the violation is corrected or stopped.
- When: This point can be used anytime, including during another delegates' speech
- Comment: A point of order is a very serious procedural matter, especially since it has the power to interrupt other committee proceedings. Therefore, it should be used in a responsible manner; it should only be used if a delegate is sure a rule is broken. If a delegate is not sure if a rule is broken, or if the possibly broken rule does not affect the committee proceedings, it could be prudent for the delegate to rephrase the question at a more appropriate moment in the form of a point of parliamentary inquiry. Also note that while all ILMUNC chairs are well versed in the official rules and procedures, they have the ability to adopt rules of debate at their own discretion. All modifications will be announced at the beginning of the conference and delegates are encouraged to use Points of Parliamentary Inquiry if anything is unclear.

It might be very intimidating to see all these different points and motions, and it seems difficult to have to remember all the specific procedural rules. But relax and take it slowly, and it will come much easier than expected... After a few committee sessions, you will feel like a procedural expert!

THE 2002 GUJARAT RIOTS - A DIFFICULT BUT FATHOMABLE STORY

The 2002 Gujarat riots, also known as the 2002 Gujarat violence and the Gujarat pogrom, was a three day period of inter-communal violence in the western Indian state of Gujarat. Following the initial incident there were further outbreaks of violence in Ahmedabad for three months; statewide, there were further outbreaks of communal riots against the minority Muslim population for next one year. The burning of a train in Godhra on 27 February 2002, which caused the deaths of 58 Hindu pilgrims karsevaks returning from Ayodhya, is believed to have triggered the violence.

According to official figures, the riots resulted in the deaths of 790 Muslims and 254 Hindus; 2,500 people were injured non-fatally, and 223 more were reported missing. Other sources estimate that over 2000 people died. There were instances of rape, children being burned alive, and widespread looting and destruction of property. The Chief Minister of Gujarat at that time, Narendra Modi, was accused of initiating and condoning the violence, as were police and government officials who allegedly directed the rioters and gave lists of Muslim-owned properties to them.

In 2012, Modi was cleared of complicity in the violence by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) appointed by the Supreme Court of India. The SIT also rejected claims that the state government had not done enough to prevent the riots. The Muslim community was reported to have reacted with anger and disbelief, although Teesta Setalvad of the Citizen for Peace and Justice stated that the legal process was not yet complete as there existed a right to appeal. In July 2013 allegations were made that the SIT had suppressed evidence. That December, an Indian court upheld the earlier SIT report and rejected a petition seeking Modi's prosecution. In April 2014, the Supreme Court expressed satisfaction over the SIT's investigations in nine cases related to the violence, and rejected as "baseless" a plea contesting the SIT report. While officially classified as a communalist riot, the events of 2002 have been described as a pogrom by many scholars, with some commentators alleging that the attacks had been planned, were well orchestrated, and that the attack on the train was a "staged trigger" for what was actually premeditated violence. Other observers have stated that these events had met the "legal definition of genocide", and called it an instance of state terrorism or ethnic cleansing. Instances of mass violence which occurred include the Naroda Patiya massacre that took place directly alongside a police training camp, the Gulbarg Society massacre where Ehsan Jafri, a former parliamentarian, was among those killed, and several incidents in Vadodara city. MARTHA NUSSBAUM has said, "There is by now a broad consensus that the Gujarat violence was a form of ethnic cleansing, that in many ways it was premeditated, and that it was carried out with the complicity of the state government and officers of the law."

Gulbarg Society Massacre

The Gulbarg Society was a Muslim housing complex in a lower middle-class neighbourhood, attacked by a mob acting on rumours. On February 28, a day after the train fire, rioters packed in trucks breached the boundary wall of the complex and set houses ablaze. They dragged people out and burned them alive. It was one of the two biggest massacres during the riots -- the other was in Naroda Patiya suburb, where more than 90 died.

Blind eye

Hindu nationalist Modi, then chief minister of Gujarat, was widely accused of turning a blind eye to the violence. One senior policeman even testified Modi ordered officers not to intervene as the killing spread. India's premier has always denied wrongdoing and has never been convicted over the violence. However, the bloody riots tarred Modi's international image, leading him to be blacklisted for a decade by the United States and the European Union. Official probes also absolved the state police and government of any collusion in the violence, which left 200,000 people homeless. Many Muslims never returned.

Convictions

More than 100 people have been convicted over the riots in a series of trials over the past 14 years. An Indian court in 2011 found 31 Hindus guilty of murdering 33 Muslims who were seeking shelter in a single house. And in 2012 a former minister in Modi's state government was handed a life sentence for her role. Yet activists say many guilty have been acquitted, notably following a 2003 trial described as a "black day" for India's justice system amid reports of witness coercion.

'Vent their anger'

The riots began after 60 Hindu pilgrims died when a train carrying them was set on fire. Sanjiv Bhatt was a senior police officer in the Gujarat intelligence bureau during the 2002 riots. In a sworn statement to the Supreme Court, he said that his position allowed him to come across large amounts of information and intelligence both before and during the violence, including the actions of senior administrative officials. He also alleges that, in a meeting in the night before the riots, Mr Modi told officials that the Muslim community needed to be taught a lesson following an attack on a train carrying Hindu pilgrims. The Gujarat government has responded to the allegations by saying they have already testified before a special panel investigating the riots and will wait for the court's verdict.

My government used its "full strength" to "do the right thing"

Defending himself against accusations over the 2002 riots, Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi has said his government used its "full strength" to "do the right thing" and he had no guilty feeling. In an interview to the newswire *Reuters*, he said people had the "right to be critical in a democracy," but he did not have any guilty feeling. He said he was sad about the riots, adding he would be sad even if a "puppy" came under a car. "... any person if we are driving a car, we are a driver, and someone else is driving a car and we're sitting behind, even then if a puppy comes under the wheel, will it be painful or not? Of course, it is. If I'm a Chief Minister or not, I'm a human being. If something bad happens anywhere, it is natural to be sad," Mr. Modi said to a question whether he regretted the riots. "Up till now, we feel that we used our full strength to set out to do the right thing," he said.

"People have a right to be critical. We are a democratic country. Everyone has his own view. I would feel guilty if I did something wrong. Frustration comes when you think 'I got caught. I was stealing and I got caught.' That's not my case," he said.

'Clean chit from SIT'

Mr. Modi also contended that the Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team had given him a clean chit. "India's Supreme Court is considered a good court today in the world. The Supreme Court created a Special Investigation Team and topmost, very bright officers who oversee the SIT. That report came. In that report, I was given a thoroughly clean chit, a thoroughly clean chit."

This is the first interview to a news organisation by Mr. Modi after he was made chief of the BJP's election campaign committee, an appointment which is being seen as an unofficial declaration that he is leading the party for the 2014 Lok Sabha elections.

He has emerged as a strong contender for Prime Minister from the main Opposition, though the controversies over the riots refuse to die down.

Why memories of Gujarat 2002 stay

Riots under BJP rule are the culmination of the Sangh Parivar's ideological impulse to keep communal tensions alive while for Congress they are tactical instruments

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Rajnath Singh's decision to accord a prominent role to Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi is presumably based on the belief that the diverse Indian electorate would forgive him for the communal mayhem of 2002, as it often has the Congress for the riots under its rule. This can be presumed from the comments Mr. Singh made at a function in Delhi in early February. In a recriminatory tone, he had then asked, "Our opposition parties allege that BJP is the party which creates enmity between Hindus and Muslims. Did riots not take place during Congress rule?"

Not just the votaries and apologists of the BJP but even ideologically neutral individuals often echo the sentiments Mr. Singh expressed. From Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) in 1961 to Bharatpur (Rajasthan) in 2012, the Congress has palpably failed to control communal hotheads from running amok periodically. Yet the party hasn't been tagged communal, and still garners a substantial chunk of the minority as well as secular votes. What explains the dichotomy in the public response to the riots under the BJP rule as compared to those under the Congress governments?

Elemental

For one, the phenomenon of communal riot is an elemental aspect of the Sangh Parivar's ideology, an extreme manifestation of its politics which is predicated on articulating and redressing the grievances of Hindus, real or imagined, the provenance of which lies either in the medieval past or in post-Independence public policies the saffron brigade perceives as unjustifiably favouring the minorities.

This worldview pits the Hindus against the minorities, particularly the Muslims, until such time the inexhaustible list of grievances is addressed. The politics emanating from this worldview consequently spawns an ambience of tension among communities, reduced or heightened depending on the exigencies of circumstances but never allowed to dissipate. In other words, the inter-community tension, signifying the abnormal in politics, has no possibility of closure in the immediate future. It is designed to become our daily state of existence.

The tension is stoked at pan-India, State and district levels. The Ram Janmabhoomi movement sought to meld the Hindus, with all their class, caste, linguistic and regional divides, into a monolith, through a demand asking Muslims to voluntarily relinquish their custody of the Babri Masjid. Of similar nature are the demands for relocating mosques abutting the Krishna and Shiv temples in Mathura and Varanasi. These symbols of pan-India Hindu mobilisation are augmented through the manufacturing of disputes over places of worship of local significance. Into this category fall the protracted disputes over the Bhagyalakshmi temple at the base of the Charminar in Hyderabad, the Baba Budangiri-Guru Dattatreya shrine in Karnataka, and the Bhojshala complex in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh.

In addition, there are hundreds of places of worship and graveyards in mofussil towns whose ownerships are contended between Hindus and Muslims. No doubt, some of these disputes date back decades but, over the years, myriad groups comprising the Sangh Parivar have taken over the leadership of these 'little battles of liberation'. For variety, Christian priests are attacked and churches vandalised on the charges of converting Hindus to Christianity.

In this culture of inter-community tension, alternatively fanned and allowed to simmer, the riot is the logical culmination of an insidious process. It is akin to a person experiencing a nervous breakdown after suffering acute mental agony for months; it is similar to living life on the edge, uncertain though you are about the precise moment of the inevitable fall off the precipice. Indeed, communal tension in perpetuity is less traumatic only in degrees to an outbreak of a riot.

The sheer salience of tension-riot in the politics of BJP is precisely why a localised inter-community conflict under its rule acquires a resonance countrywide. It is perceived as illustrative of the fate awaiting the minorities in an India in which the BJP exercises untrammelled power. The 2002 riot of Gujarat was horrifying not only because of its barbarity but also because it was viewed to have been ideologically driven and, therefore, bound to be replicated elsewhere.

By contrast, the riots under the Congress rule, even the ones its activists spearhead, are instrumental rather than ideological. Barring the anti-Sikh pogrom of 1984, the riots under the Congress rarely spill beyond a

parliamentary constituency or two. The motive behind such mayhem is usually a local Congressman wanting to win an election from a constituency; a riot or communal tension rarely becomes a tool for political mobilisation countrywide, again, the 1984 riots being the exception. Though cynical, the breakdown in inter-community relationship is almost always followed by attempts to restore the earlier social harmony.

Atonement

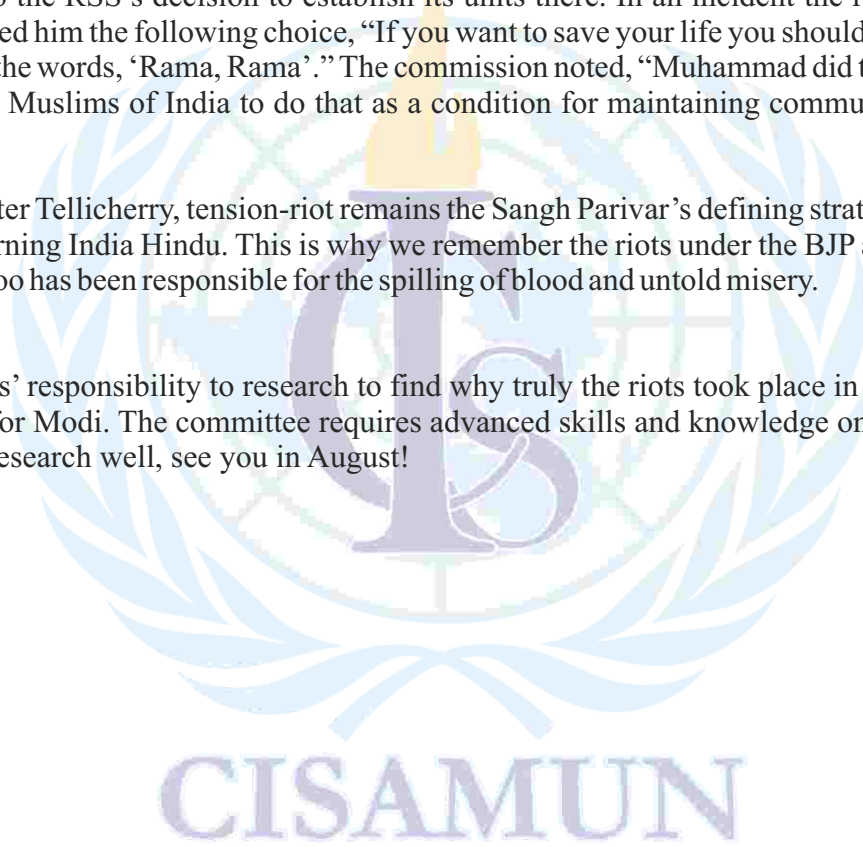
No doubt, the Congress was justifiably implicated in the 1984 riots. It symbolically atoned for its guilt by appointing Manmohan Singh as Prime Minister, and he, on August 12, 2005, apologised not only to the Sikh community in Parliament, but also to the entire nation “because what took place in 1984 is the negation of the concept of nationhood in our Constitution”.

More significantly, the Congress is forgiven because the riots under it are often (not always, though) the handiwork of organisations owing allegiance or belonging to the Sangh Parivar. It’s a conclusion several commissions of inquiry appointed to probe riots have reached. There are just too many to be quoted. But sample what the Joseph Vithayathil Commission on the Tellicherry riots of 1971 said. It traced the origin of communal tension in the town to the RSS’s decision to establish its units there. In an incident the rioters accosted one Muhammad and offered him the following choice, “If you want to save your life you should go round the house three times repeating the words, ‘Rama, Rama’.” The commission noted, “Muhammad did that. But you cannot expect the 70 million Muslims of India to do that as a condition for maintaining communal harmony in the country”.

More than 40 years after Tellicherry, tension-riot remains the Sangh Parivar’s defining strategy of achieving its ideological goal of turning India Hindu. This is why we remember the riots under the BJP and not those under the Congress, which too has been responsible for the spilling of blood and untold misery.

CONCLUSION :-

It is now the delegates’ responsibility to research to find why truly the riots took place in this session and decide a fair verdict for Modi. The committee requires advanced skills and knowledge on the topic for the approaching crisis. Research well, see you in August!



POSITION PAPER GUIDELINES

Position papers are usually one to one-and-a-half pages in length. Your position paper should include a brief introduction followed by a comprehensive breakdown of your country's position on the topics that are being discussed by the committee. A good position paper will not only provide facts but also make proposals for resolutions.

A good position paper will include:

- A brief introduction to your country and its history concerning the topic and committee;
- How the issue affects your country;
- Your country's policies with respect to the issue and your country's justification for these policies;
- Quotes from your country's leaders about the

issue;

- Statistics to back up your country's position on the issue;
- Actions taken by your government with regard to the issue;
- Conventions and resolutions that your country has signed or ratified;
- UN actions that your country supported or opposed;
- What your country believes should be done to address the issue;
- What your country would like to accomplish in the committee's resolution; and
- How the positions of other countries affect your country's position.

SAMPLE DRAFT RESOLUTION

General Assembly Third Committee

Authors: United States, Austria and Italy

Signatories: Greece, Tajikistan, Japan, Canada, Mali, the Netherlands and Gabon

Topic: "Strengthening UN coordination of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies"

The General Assembly,

Reminding all nations of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human

Rights, which recognizes the inherent dignity, equality and inalienable rights of all global citizens, **[use**

commas to separate perambulatory clauses]

Reaffirming its Resolution 33/1996 of 25 July 1996, which encourages Governments to work with UN bodies

aimed at improving the coordination and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance,

Noting with satisfaction the past efforts of various relevant UN bodies and nongovernmental organizations,

Stressing the fact that the United Nations faces significant financial obstacles and is in need of reform,

particularly in the humanitarian realm,

1. Encourages all relevant agencies of the United Nations to collaborate more closely with countries at the

grassroots level to enhance the carrying out of relief efforts; **[use semicolons to separate operative clauses]**

2. Urges member states to comply with the goals of the UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs to streamline

efforts of humanitarian aid;

3. Requests that all nations develop rapid deployment forces to better enhance the coordination of relief

efforts of humanitarian assistance in complex emergencies;

4. Calls for the development of a United Nations Trust Fund that encourages voluntary donations from the

private transnational sector to aid in funding the implementation of rapid deployment forces;

5. Stresses the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;
6. Calls upon states to respond quickly and generously to consolidated appeals for humanitarian assistance;
7. Requests the expansion of preventive actions and assurance of post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development;
8. Decides to remain actively seized on the matter. **[end resolutions with a period]**

PREAMBULATORY AND OPERATIVE CLAUSES

PREAMBULATORY CLAUSES

The preamble of a draft resolution states the reasons for which the committee is addressing the topic and highlights past international action on the issue. Each clause begins with a present participle (called a perambulatory phrase) and ends with a comma. Preambulatory clauses can include:

- References to the UN Charter;
- Citations of past UN resolutions or

treaties on the topic under discussion;

- Mentions of statements made by the Secretary-General or a relevant UN body or agency;
- Recognition of the efforts of regional or nongovernmental organizations in dealing with the issue; and
- General statements on the topic, its significance and its impact.

SAMPLE PREAMBULATORY PHRASES

Affirming
 Alarmed by
 Approving
 Bearing in mind
 Believing
 Confident
 Contemplating
 Convinced
 Declaring
 Deeply concerned
 Deeply conscious
 Deeply convinced
 Deeply Disturbed
 Deeply Regretting
 Desiring
 Emphasizing
 Expecting
 Emphasizing
 Expecting
 Expressing its appreciation
 Fulfilling
 Fully aware
 Emphasizing
 Expecting
 Expressing its appreciation

Fulfilling
 Fully aware
 Further deploring
 Further recalling
 Guided by
 Having adopted
 Having considered
 Having examined
 Having received
 Keeping in mind
 Noting with deep concern
 Nothing with satisfaction
 Noting further
 Observing
 Reaffirming
 Realizing
 Recalling
 Recognizing
 Referring
 Seeking
 Taking into consideration
 Taking note
 Viewing with appreciation
 Welcoming

OPERATIVE CLAUSES

Operative clauses offer solutions to issues addressed earlier in a resolution through the perambulatory section. These clauses are action oriented and should include both an underlined verb at the beginning of your sentence followed by the proposed solution. Each clause should follow the following principles:

- Clause should be numbered;
- Each clause should support one another and continue to build your solution;
- Add details to your clauses in order to have a complete solution;
- Operative clauses are punctuated by a semicolon, with the exception of your last operative clause which should end with a period.

SAMPLE OPERATIVE PHRASES



Accepts	Encourages
Affirms	Endorses
Approves	Expresses its appreciation
Authorizes	Expresses its hope
Calls	Further invites
Calls upon	Further proclaims
Condemns	Further reminds
Confirms	Further recommends
Congratulates	Further requests
Considers	Further resolves
Declares accordingly	Has resolved
Deplores	Notes
Designates	Proclaims
Draws the attention	Reaffirms
Emphasizes	Recommends
Encourages	Regrets
Endorses	Reminds
Expresses its appreciation	Requests
Expresses its hope	Solemnly affirms
Further invites	Strongly condemns
Deplores	Supports
Designates	Takes note of
Draws the attention	Transmits
Emphasizes	Trusts