# MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8th AUGUST 2019

The following members and invitees attended the Meeting

- 1. Dr. Sardara Singh Johl, Padma Bhushan
- 2. Lt. Gen KS Gill (Retd), PVSM
- 3. Col JS Multani
- 4. S.JS Sodhi ,CE(Retd.)
- 5. S.N.P Singh
- 6. S.Inderjit Singh
- 7. S.Resham Singh
- 8. Dr. Baljinder Singh
- 9. S.Satbir Singh
- 10. S.Gurpreet Singh
- 11. S.Khushhal Singh

- 12. S.Gurkirpal Singh Dhatt
- 13. Maj.Karnail SIngh
- 14. S.Jatinder Singh
- 15. S.K.S.Aujla
- 16. S.Sukhdev Singh Laaj
- 17. Dr. Jaswant Singh
- 18. S.Amrik Singh

Opening Remarks & Reciting of Mool Mantra at 11:30 AM by Col JS

Multani before the commencement of the Executive Committee

Meeting.

## 1. Welcome Address by Dr.SS Johl, Padma Bhushan

- a) Dr. Johl welcomed all EC members to this quarterly EC Meeting. He praised the systematic Progress being made by our organization steered by General Gill, Col Multani and their Staff. The ISC has today created a very efficient well organised Headquarters, having all basic requirements of a high standard. This is really praiseworthy.
- b) However I am still not too happy with the timely attendance of Members. I will now have to move to my next commitment and come back to address you all on ISC matters. Our Members must respect PUNCTUALITY. We could in future start without waiting for LATECOMERS.

## 2. Address by Lt.Gen KS.Gill, PVSM(Retd.)

a) He welcomed Members present and regretted the reason for which Dr.Johl had to postpone his talk till later.

- b) Dr.Johl touching on the progress made by ISC since raising brought back memories of those early days. They were very challenging as we started literally from scratch. Dr. Kharak Singh Ji and our convener, Dr.Johl were our MENTORS and gave us the lead. Having named me the Chief Organiser and housed ISC in two Bare Rooms in this Gurudwara Sahib, we were tasked to raise the ISC in the shortest time to overcome the obvious setback to Sikhism due to nonfunctioning of the WORLD SIKH COUNCIL. Gen K.S Gill then very briefly reviewed the past Years of ISC hardships as well as Super Achievements.
- c) He also praised the Sikh Soldiers in the Armed Forces and their brave Achievements and qualities which made him very proud of our Sikh Guru Ji's.
- d) ISC is working on the launch of another two Coaching Centers in Punjab as follows:
  - i. School controlled by Gurudwara Sahib 34-D, Chandigarh located in Village SAWARA nearby.
  - ii. Govt. Senior Secondary School located at AMBALA JATTAN in Distt HOSHIARPUR. This is a Government School very efficiently boosted by a few devoted, well to do family Trusts.

## **Progress in Hyderabad Area**

f) As written in my Invitation Letter to you all we shall hold a discussion later on future plans after Col JS Multani briefs you all on his latest Visit to the Area.

## 3. Address by General Secretary Col JS Multani

- 1. Our very kind Donors in Hyderabad Area are:
  - a) Rs 30,000/- per Month paid for School Bus regularly by S. Surinderpal Singh Ji.
  - b) He has also Donated Rs 3.5 Lakhs for School Students whom we have identified in other Schools for their Technical Education.
- 2. Ultimately it amounts to a total donation of about Rs 7 Lakhs in the Year. Hence, we decided here to honour these very respectable and Liberal Donors with Excellent Momentos. When presented by Col JS Multani to them there was a very obvious very EMOTIONAL gesture of delivering a very Thanks giving Speech. They felt honoured to have been of some help to the ISC in a very needy CAUSE.
- 3. Both Donors also expressed appreciation of our Central control at HQ ISC by the Secretary General and Staff of every Rupee of the Donations and their utility. After that a WhatsApp Group of Donors was created. S.Hardev Singh who is acting as Principal is doing great Social Service without any pay from us. His own boys are good Students in Engineering Colleges.

- 4. A Gentleman Mr.Kohli, who heads an Engineering College is a Volunteer to accept any able Student recommended by ISC without charging any Fees including Boarding and Lodging. These are very generous SIKHS.
- 5. As for our Financial Commitment in the Hyderabad Project, we were initially spending upto a Lakh per Month, which has now been reduced to about Rs. 30,000.
- 6. We have also been visited by a Lobana Member of Parliament from the Center and after Col JS Multani's briefing to him with visits to the Hyderabad Area to observe actual Progress in Education and Religious Events in Gurudwaras, was very impressed. He has committed to donate Govt. Funds available to him to boost Education in the Hyderabad Area where we are now committed. This will definitely take our Project forward at a faster pace.

## 4. Address by S.AMRIK SINGH-HEAD OF MEDIA TEAM "FILM TOWN STUDIOS"

1. We first became acquainted with Brig GJ Singh while working with many "YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMPS". We also joined up in Skill Development Programs. In fact, we worked on many vital Govt. Projects such as cleaning of Statues of History's many National Hero's.

We also helped the distribution of PRAN Cards for the National Pension Scheme and organized 10 Camps in NEPAL in various CULTURAL PROGRAMS in 2013.

## 2. PRESENT ASSIGNMENT

- a) Production of AIKAM TV. In this we cover Religious Program and NEWS BULLETINS.
- b) Interviews with Social Activists, Intellectuals & Politicians.
- c) GURMAT VICHAR PROGRAMME to be powered by ISC.

## d) Health Project at Punjab Level

- i) Survey of Punjab's selected areas for Health Survey to gauge the no's affected by major diseases.
- ii) Team will provide info how to avoid these diseases and also arrange to distribute suitable Medicines from Central Govt. sources.
- e) Selected Private Schools to be targeted for opening of "Coaching Center's/Home Work Coaching Center in Area GURDASPUR.

## **5. Talk On HOMEWORK TUTION CENTERS**

- 1. We have with us a Volunteer S.NARINDER PAL SINGH (RETD CHIEF MANAGER, BANK OF INDIA). He has the above Tution Centers going strong in the ALAMPUR Area (RAJPURA Distt PATIALA). He has been regularly helping many Villages in Education Upliftment by running those Centers.
- 2. In Villages NEPRAN and ALAMPUR. We have the financial backing of 3 NRI's. He goes regularly to supervise the work of our Volunteer Teachers from the Villages who are involved in HOMEWORK HELP and UPLIFT. This has brought about a remarkable improvement plus morale in this whole expanding area. 12 Students are also getting a Scholarship from us.

## 6. OPEN HOUSE SESSION

We then started our open house session. The first speaker was:-

### • S.SUKHDEV SINGH LAAJ FROM LUDHIANA

- a) He praised the leadership qualities of Dr.Sardara Singh Johl Ji and stated that we are totally dedicated to his guidance and advice. During the last 500th Birth celebrations of GURU NANAK DEV JI's, many good things were established which still stand in our memory. It seems that except for NAGAR KIRTANS nothing special has been done so far.
- b) He then went on to acquaint us with the various activities in India towards the upliftment in Education and Employment of Sikligars, Vanjara, Satnamis etc all over India. We are requesting S.SUKHDEV SINGH JI to please issue a comprehensive paper on this subject for the information of all major Sikh Organisation as that would be the correct forum to circulate all relevant information in detail.

## S.GURPREET SINGH, PRESIDENT (IOSS)

1. He praised the good work being done in the Education Sphere. We now feel that ISC should broaden their spheres of action to working closely with SIKH SANSTHAS. That is already written in our mission for the ISC. I attended the meeting of the GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL in SWITZERLAND and we were all for a HIGH LEVEL meet with the Christan Community at the VATICAN level. Bishop Ahyuso was with us and hence the meeting was most productive in an interfaith dialogue at the highest level. The Christan rep. informed us they had inserted relevant writings from the SIKHGURUS BANI in their own Religious Charters.

2. I met a personality there who was not in a Sikh Saroop and insisted, whole talking to me, that he is a Sikh and kept stressing that we must accept such personalities as SIKHS and also call them to our Gurudwara to present their Sikh knowledge and Religious expertise. He agreed to this and emphasized that we must specially welcomes such visits to our own Meetings if they desire.

# Dr.Baljinder Singh, Msc, PHD, Environmental Biotechnology, Professor, Punjab University

1. He is a frequent visitor to ISC and has a very interesting experience with Teaching in Schools too. His wife is a Teacher.

He spoke about her experience in Schools where she was desperately working to improve the performance of her Students to no avail. He helped out by visiting the School to display various ANIMATION VIDEOS he had recorded. They showed interesting things like how trees utilize water at the roots for total growth. Also a video on the natural movement of planets around the moon etc. This was in Geography Classes. A startling response to these videos improved their performance and results.

2. The result was astonishing as the classed just lapped up the wonders and really became very attentive to such methods of teaching. He has many other such videos for use at various levels.

## •S.JAGDEV SINGH SODHI

He felt that TV, MOBILES and other such gadgets are turning our Youth especially girls away from Sikh Religion. Besides Mothers have no time for their kids having a good Head Bath for proper Hair upkeep. Hence, the tendency to clip them at their will.

## **CLOSING SPEECH BY DR.SARDARA SINGH JOHL**

#### WAHE GURU JI KA KHALSA WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH

a) The purpose of our being named International Sikh Confederation was to ensure that we cover a large mandate on SIKHISM in and outside INDIA.

I had mentioned earlier about highly qualified candidates applying for Security Guards in PUNJABI UNIVERSITY, PATIALA. This means our educated Youth lack in Skills .When I was active in setting up a School and College in India, we stressed on Students spending at least one hour on any one of about eight different SKILLS TRAINING in a day.

- b) I find that S.AMRIK SINGH who has started this Media work in a Joint Project with ISC is doing a fine job. This should boost our efforts to enter this sphere so far.
- c) You are doing a good successful PROJECT IN Hyderabad. S.SUKHDEV SINGH LAAJ is running a School for them in LUDHIANA alone. You should both combine your efforts.
- d) When we started we had created a number of Advisory Councils headed by chosen qualified Members. They were tasked to keep latest information on their subjects and feed it to the HQ ISC. I found at Darbar Sahib there were carvings of DEVI/DEVTAS on the PILLARS/GUMBAOS. Awareness of such things and follow up action is most necessary.
- e) RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS:- You are working on Education as well as Religious Affairs in Hyderabad where you hold Religious Camps and also have a Granthi in your School. Delhi Gurudwara Committee and SGPC will never co-ordinate efforts with us. So, we would now have to do this ourselves.

### f) 550 YEARS GURU NANAK DEV JI CELEBRATION

At BHAI VIR SINGH SADAN, we had put up an Exhibition from "RABAB TO NAGARA". It was held in HARYANA and other places. It was to go to PAKISTAN also. You can get the PHOTOS from there and use them.

I will request you to give more emphasis on Villages. Sikhi is present most in Villages of Punjab. A survey revealed shocking facts. Percentage of Sikh students in PUNJABI UNIVERSITY, AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY AND GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY are 6,3%, 1.7% AND 10%. Shocking figures these which need to be improved by all SIKH COLLEGES. ISC must raise such issues at all concerned forums.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

During the open discussion, Members present brought out the following important points:-

- 1. In case at Ludhiana 100 Gurudwaras can get together and discuss the important issues Why not at Kendri Sri Guru Singh Sabha call for all the Singh Sabha Gurudwaras.
- 2. 3 people named Sh.Mittal Sen ,Sh.Sukhdev Singh Laaj and Sh.K.S Aujla can get the notification done from Punjab Govt. to make Punjabi as compulsory subjects in CBSE and ICSE Schools. This is to promote Punjabi language. Sh.K.S Aujla said any help required from Ludhiana will be extended.

- 3. Not blaming RSS, we should do our job well and bring in character, Social Upliftment and Religious environment during this Year of Celebration of 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.
- 4. Col JS Multani, accepted that we can do all above provided we get sufficient Funds as promised by Sh.K.S Aujla that all the help will be extended by them.
- 5. We must raise minimum demand from Political Parties/Govt. within the frame of Constitution we must come up in the form of pressure Groups and go to use NOTA and reject all Political Party Candidates during Assembly/Parliament Elections.

## 7. Closing Address by Lt. Gen KS.Gill, PVSM(Retd.)

Lt. Gen KS Gill, PVSM (Retd.) conveyed his thanks to all Members for attending the Meeting and contributing richly to the Meeting and also made an appeal to contribute financially to the ISC, so that we successfully complete our Projects.

He requested all the members to attend our Annual General Body Meeting which is being planned for October 2019.

He again thanked attending members for their kind attendance and requested that we all proceed to partake of LUNCH laid out in the Veranda.

WAHE GURU JI KA KHALSA WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH

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Lt.Gen K.S. Gill, PVSM (Retd.)
Secretary General