

Meet calls for developing universal values

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: A symposium on peace proposal presented by Daisaku Ikeda's, president, SGI (Soka Gakkai International) titled 'Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace' propounded the need to create universal values in individual lives here on Saturday. The symposium was organised by BSG (Bharat Soka Gakkai) at Gandhibhavan. BSG is the Indian affiliate of Soka Gakkai International, a global movement of people connected by Buddhism.

In his inaugural speech, former Indian Ambassador to the United Nations T P Sreenivasan said that UN agendas have expanded from preventing war to immunising children from all communicable diseases. He also pointed out the stark contrast between the "environmental colonialism" proposed by Indira Gandhi in 1972 and the "climatic justice" discussed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "Disarmament and prohibition of nuclear weapons, a key pointer of the peace proposal is very significant taking into regard that India has not signed the NPT (Nuclear non-proliferation Treaty) till today. In all agendas of the UN, inputs of NGOs like these are very significant", he said.

Echoing the words of T P Sreenivasan, Deputy Chairperson of BSG Akash Ouchi said that the peace proposal does not originate from the interests of any particular nation or community. "The Goal is to create universal values in individual lives," he said. The three main pointers put forward by the proposal were humanitarian aid, ecological integrity and disarmament of nuclear weapons.

Bharat Soka Gakkai holds symposium on peace in Thiruvananthapuram

The peace proposal examines ways and means to bridge different cultures and nationalities to create a better world where no man is left behind.

Bharat Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of an international Buddhist association, has held a symposium on peace here.

The symposium titled "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace" was organised by BSG, an affiliate of Soka Gakkai Internataional (SGI), to discuss about SGI President Daisaku Ikedas 2016 peace proposal.

Inaugurating the symposium yesterday, former Indian ambassador to the United States T P Sreenivasn said 'this year marks the 35th year since SGI began its activities in support of United Nations'.

A strong proponent of world peace, SGI President Daisaku Ikeda, has worked over 60 years to spread the universal message of peaceful coexistence, he said.

This peace proposal examines ways and means to bridge different cultures and nationalities to create a better world where no man is left behind.

Business Standard

Symposium on peace held

Press Trust of India

September 25, 2016 Last Updated at 17:57 IST

[Bharat](#) Soka Gakkai (BSG), the Indian affiliate of an international Buddhist association, has held a symposium on peace here.

The symposium titled "Universal Respect for Human Dignity: The Great Path to Peace" was organised by BSG, an affiliate of Soka Gakkai Internataional (SGI), to discuss about SGI President Daisaku Ikeda's 2016 peace proposal.

Inaugurating the symposium yesterday, former Indian ambassador to the United States T P Sreenivasan said 'this year marks the 35th year since SGI began its activities in support of United Nations'.

A strong proponent of world peace, SGI President Daisaku Ikeda, has worked over 60 years to spread the universal message of peaceful coexistence, he said.

This peace proposal examines ways and means to bridge different cultures and nationalities to create a better world where no man is left behind.

(This story has not been edited by Business Standard staff and is auto-generated from a syndicated feed.)

DECCAN Chronicle

NGOs have a greater role to play in world peace

DC CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM,
SEPT 25

Can people or people's organisations make a substantial contribution towards world peace? The question was addressed in the inaugural speech of former diplomat T.P. Sreenivasan, at a symposium held at Gandhi Bhavan on Saturday.

The symposium was held to discuss a peace proposal submitted by Daisaku Ikeda, president, Soka Gakkai International (SGI), a global association of grassroots organisations promoting the ideals of human dignity. What role can organisations like SGI play?

Sreenivasan started by saying that the first words of the United Nations charter said "We, the

■ The symposium was organised by Bharat Soka Gakkai, SGI's Indian affiliate and Ikeda Centre for Value Creation

peoples of the United Nations", not "we the governments". He said that more "resolutions are adopted by consensus than by vote. This we arrive at by continuous discussions and deliberations. Most often that consensus position is provided by the NGOs." He added that an NGO's view was welcomed better than one country's point of view.

The symposium was organised by Bharat Soka Gakkai, SGI's Indian affiliate and Ikeda Centre for Value Creation. Gandhian N Radhakrish-

nan, the centre's founder, said that Ikeda had been addressing the world body since 1983. He said while there was no dearth of literature on how to make the world a better place, the peace proposals of Ikeda spoke about change at the level of an individual.

BSG Honorary Deputy Chairperson Akash Ouchi spoke about "Universal Respect for Human Dignity", which was also the title of the peace proposal. He said that when one did not respect the dignity of human life, one was no better than animals. BSG Chairperson Vishesh Gupta highlighted the importance of one-on-one dialogues in achieving world peace.

The symposium concluded with a panel discussion on the peace proposal.

'Ikeda has made substantial contributions to UN'

By Express News Service | Published: 26th September 2016 04:37 AM

Last Updated: 26th September 2016 04:45 AM



THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: NGOs help the United Nations to arrive upon a consensus on several issues, said former ambassador T P Sreenivasan. “A good number of resolutions are adopted by the United Nations through consensus than by voting. Elaborate discussions and deliberations help the UN to arrive upon consensus. Most often, a consensus position is provided by NGOs,” he said. He was speaking after inaugurating a symposium based on Soka Gakkai International president Daisaku Ikeda’s 2016 peace proposal. It was organised by the Bharat Soka Gakkai, Indian affiliate of the SGI.

According to Sreenivasan, over the years the UN has evolved a system in which people’s organisations can apply for consultative status. The consultative status enables NGOs to submit proposals to the UN and to promote the UN ideas, he said. “In this effort Mr Ikeda has been a pioneer. He has acquired a reputation of making substantial and helpful contributions to the UN,” Sreenivasan said.

Gandhian and founder of Ikeda Centre of Value Creation Prof N Radhakrishnan said Ikeda has made considerable success in influencing many decisions of the UN. Each Peace Proposal submitted to the world body and world leaders has well-articulated suggestions and appeals for sustainable peace and human transformation, he said.

Bharat Soka Gakkai chairperson Vishesh Gupta said the 2016 peace proposal highlights that dialogue will help in building strong and unassailable defences of peace in the heart of one individual after another.

BSG deputy chairperson Dr Akash Ouchi opined that universal respect for human dignity was the most essential requirement for world peace. “When we do not respect the dignity of other communities and nations, we are no better than animals. This unconditional respect is fundamental to building lasting peace in society,” he said.