

COMPASS 2023

The Annual Festival of Caucus: The Discussion Forum of Hindu College

Compass 2023 was part of the broader commemoration of '**Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**', and India's G20 presidency. It was organised on the **18th and 19th of April**. Kautilya School of Public Policy was our title sponsor this year, the coverage partner being Delhi College Of Photography, while our media partner was the Instagram page, Delhi University Official. The event had a stellar speaker lineup. The inaugural session was with **Shri Rajat Sharma**, senior journalist and Chairperson at India TV. The eminence of the speaker and the wealth of experience and wisdom that he shared with the audience truly justified the epithet of the session "Learning From The Legends".



Shri Rajat Sharma with Dr. Maneesha Pandey

After the inaugural session, we had a Fireside chat with our title sponsor "Kautilya School of Public Policy". The organisation was represented by **Mr. Prateek Kanwal**, the co-founder of KSPP, and **Mr. Dilip Cherian**, a member of its advisory board. This fireside

chat was like a Socratic dialogue, discussing the merits of a Masters' degree in Public Policy in contemporary times.

In the second session, **Shri Yashovardhan Azad** and **Air Marshal (Dr) Rajeev Sachdeva**, two former Hinduites, participated in a panel discussion on “**Borders and Beyond: India’s National Security**”. Their discussion illuminated the multifaceted nature of security, as well as reassured the youth of the nation about our self-sufficiency and strength.

The last session of Day One was with **Mrs. Mitali Nikore**, founding president of Caucus and founder of Nikore Associates. Mrs. Mitali’s session was on “**Breaking The Glass Ceiling: Moving Towards a More Inclusive Society**”. Her exposition was penetrative, yet lucid and devoid of unnecessary jargon.



The first speaker for the second day was **Dr. Lakshayraj Singh Mewar**, the prince of Udaipur. He stressed the importance of synergy between the fundamental need to preserve national heritage, which can be utilised as our soft power, as well as the need for rapid development to achieve India’s destiny as a global superpower.

The 6th session of Compass ‘23, titled, “**Tracking The India Way: The Growing Assertiveness Of Indian Foreign Policy**” featured **Ambassador Pankaj Saran**. In the session, Shri Saran summarised our recent evolution in a few pithy attributes; Increased

self-confidence, greater ambitions, the firm conviction to ensure our national interests, along with a praxis rooted in our civilizational ethos.

In the penultimate session, we had a book talk with former R&AW chief **Shri A S Dulat** on his book 'A Life in the Shadows: A Memoir'. Not only were we able to get a glimpse into the life of one of the most eminent spymasters of this nation, but we had the privilege of getting his insights into contemporary issues, ranging from conflict-resolution as well as the need for inclusivity.

The last session was, **Prof. Aakash Singh Rathore's** talk on his excellent biography of Dr. Ambedkar, titled "Becoming Babasaheb. He discussed unveiled aspects of Dr. Ambedkar's life in a most alluring manner, yet with scholarly rigour. He went on to highlight the multifarious ways in which Dr. Ambedkar is appropriated, not just by politicians, but also by academicians.



Prof. Aakash Singh Rathore being interviewed by Siddhant Sinha and Milind Shekhar Singh

Shri A S Dulat and Prof. Rathore were generous enough to interact with students and sign copies of their books for them.

Compass was an enriching experience for everyone. It truly embodies the tagline "Navigating To An Informed Tomorrow".