

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

A large gathering of more than 350 youngsters along with some parents were given a realistic exposure to the opportunities available in Civil and Public Services, at the first seminar held by The Bombay Catholic Sabha on Sunday 13 August 2017 at St. Anne's High School, Borivli. His Lordship Emeritus Bishop Bosco Penha invoked God's blessings on this venture and offered the full support of the Hierarchy too. He also said that it is the need of the hour that the Christian community makes its presence felt in the political and government arenas and takes the values of Christ into the secular areas of administration and governance. The President, Ms Rita D'Sa in her welcome address congratulated all the students who had come and said it was her dream that many of them would be in the corridors of power in a few years from now and be there to make sound and better policies and make a difference. Towards this brighter, greener and happier tomorrow we have committed ourselves today, she said. Mr. Albert D'Souza, well known Educationist, Businessman and Banker, placed before the students the various powers that control the socio-economic and political development of the country like Social, Political, Economic, Judicial, Media, Knowledge and Bureaucratic. He made an urgent appeal for our community members to fill up the vacuum that exists of their presence specially in the Political, Economic and Bureaucratic spheres. He also said that the Sabha should work towards setting up an Academy for training in Civil & Public Services and offered the support of his associates in the Business sector as well as Banking sector to take the project forward to fruition. Mr. Brendon Brako, retired Asst Commissioner Of Police, shared his experiences in serving the Police and the need to be focused on a goal and be steadfast in values that we have been taught and learnt. He showed a video on the Vallabhai Patel Police Academy which showed how the all round development of the recruits is emphasised. Mr. Merwin Alexander, Joint Secretary, Dept. Of Atomic Energy, shared his experiences in various government departments that he has worked in and impressed upon the students that choosing a career in the public services is a wise choice because it is the only career in which job security is assured, the take home pay is attractive, the respect one gets is self fulfilling and the post retirement benefits are also substantial. He also said that the opportunity to learn different subjects and handle varied situations is a wonderful experience that cannot be got in any corporate job. Having got to know the 'Why' for these careers, it was the turn of Mr. Ryan Pinto to tell the students about the 'How' of these careers. He gave a thorough run-through of the exams conducted and the syllabus. He encouraged daily reading of the newspapers and the need to improve general knowledge besides brushing up on the subjects they had already learnt in school and college. An interesting interactive session followed in which students asked many questions and clarified their doubts too. The encouraging turnout and the enthusiastic participation has given an impetus to the BCS. Similar awareness sessions will be held in the coming months at Mulund, Mira Road, Vakola and a few other venues. A follow-up session for those who are interested in pursuing these careers is also planned in the coming months. The Vote of Thanks was proposed by Mr. Ronald D'Souza, the Borivli Deanery Councilor and the entire programme was ably compered

by Mr. Anthony Dias, the Jt. Secretary of BCS. The BCS thanks Mr. Lawrence Fernandes, the Convenor of the Civil Services Project, and his very committed team for the excellent organisation of this first of its kind programme in the archdiocese. The BCS is also grateful to Fr. Ryan Alex of the Diocesan Youth Centre for his guidance and help.