

CHRISTIAN CORPORATORS FELICITATED BY THE BOMBAY CATHOLIC SABHA

In a first of its kind event, the BCS along with Bombay East Indian Association, Watchdog Foundation and Save Our Land, felicitated the newly Elected BMC Corporators, Ms. Winnie D'Souza, Ms. Tulip Miranda and Ms. Steffi Kinny at a well attend programme at St. Anne's High School Hall, Orlem on Sunday 2 April 2017 evening. The gathering also felicitated and prayed for Ms. Jayshree David who was elected to Thane Municipal Corportation but could not be present as her child was unwell. At this event, all the Christian candidates who contested were appreciated and honoured.

Ms. Rita D'Sa, the BCS President, shared the vision of the Sabha to be more actively involved in the civic and political fields, the urgent need of getting greater representation in local governing bodies and encouraging the Christian youth to consider Civil Services and Political involvement as a viable career options. Adv. Vivian D'Souza, President BEIA and Mr. Dolphy D'Souza, Spokesperson SOUL briefly outlined the need for greater involvement of our Christian youth in issues of governance and to overcome the pessimism and apathy that prevails in the community.

In a brief interesting talk show conducted by Mr. Dolphy D'Souza, the Corporators shared what motivated them, their experience and acknowledged the support of the community in their election. They also gave tips for the future to the candidates who contested and lost as well as other aspiring candidates and offered them all their support. It was important to have a banner behind them as in the present scenario the chances of an independent canditate making it was near to impossible. They assured their full support for all the issues affecting the community and said they would cooperate in any way needed.

The Guest of Honour, Fr. Gilbert D'Lima, Parish Priest of O L of Lourdes Orlem and Dean of Borivli Deanery, placed the importance of this event in the light of the gospel of the day, stressing on the point that Jesus needs the cooperation of all of us in the work of transforming society and responding to the present political scenario. He also stirred all to be vigilant about the threats to our constitution and the values of secularism and democracy and to be ready to ask questions and stand up for our rights.

The Chief Guest, Bishop Barthol Barretto, conveyed the felicitations of the Archdiocese to the elected corporators and wished them a fruitful tenure of service. He offered them the values of Integrity, Benevolence and Unity urging them to be transparent and open in all that they do, pleading of them to reach out to the poor, marginalised, exploited and vulnerable and requesting them to be united in prayer with Jesus, who could do all things for them.

The event was ably compered by Mr. Anthony Dias, Jt Secretary BCS and was well appreciated by all.