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*God Is One, Through the Guru's Grace Is He Realised*

ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਯੀਸ਼ੁਨ

**GURDWARA SAHIB YISHUN**

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF GURDWARA SAHIB YISHUN (GSY)**  
**FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2022 TILL DECEMBER 2022**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. The current Management Committee of Sewadars assumed office in July 2022. This report presents an account of the activities and programmes conducted for the period January 2022 till December 2022.

**COVID-19**

2. The Gurdwara Sewadar Group managed Gurdwara Sahib activities in line with Government regulation. Internal and external programs were carried out with due diligence and followed SOP's set out by MOH.

3. The Gurdwara Sewadars worked within the rules to ensure that the Gurdwara programmes proceeded smoothly and Sangat worshipped unhindered. The Langgar Hall was reopened and several new measures instituted.

4. While there were some "hiccups" created by a handful of unreasonable members, such as their refusal to comply with the restrictions placed in compliance with Government regulations, the Sangat generally cooperated with the Gurdwara Sewadars and all programmes were conducted smoothly.

**LAUNCH OF COFFEE TABLE BOOK**

5. August 2021 was an important milestone in Gurdwara Sahib Yishun's history. It was also decided then that a commemorative coffee table book be prepared to trace the history of GSY from its origins in the Naval Base/Sembawang/Jalan Kayu area to its present location. The book was subsequently released during Vaisakhi celebrations in April 2022.

**STAFF MATTERS**

6. Giani Amarjit Singh and Giani Bhupinder Singh joined in February 2023 .

7. Giani Sukhbir Singh resigned from his post in November 2022 for personal reasons as well as to attend his sister's marriage.

8. Giani Gurpreet Singh was promoted to Head Giani to replace Giani Satnam Singh who completed his contract in March 2023 and left for India to take up post overseas.

9. Giani Gopal Singh Contract was extended in March 2022 for two years subject to performance and review after one year.

10. Giani Prabhjeet Singh Joined in April 2022 on a contract for two years. He is helping Giani Gopal Singh in preparation of langar and in Akhand Paaths sewa.

## GSY's SUPPORT FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONS

9. GSY remains committed to providing support to various other institutions, Sikh as well as non-Sikh, both financially as well as in kind, as highlighted briefly below:

a. Sikh Welfare Council (SIWEC) and Singapore Sikh Education Foundation (SSEF). Gurdwara Sahib Yishun makes monthly contributions of \$500 each to both SIWEC and SSEF. For FY 22, SSEF requested all Sikh Institutions to make advance payments for two years so as to enable SSEF to enjoy the Government's \$ to \$ matching. Gurdwara Yishun made upfront payments to SSEF from March 2022 till March 2024. This is duly reflected in FY 2022 Accounts.

b. HEB Ashram – Ashram is a half-way house that GSY has been actively involved in since its establishment. While previously GSY members (as part of the SANA Sikh Aftercare Service) were involved in counselling and other related activities, GSY currently prepares Langgar for the inmates there every Thursday.

c. Local Charity Activities – Gurdwara Sahib Yishun continues to work in close liaison with local community organisations, including providing rations to needy families during Diwali through the Nee Soon South Community Club.

d. Support to Nam Ras Kirtan Darbar MC- Gurdwara Sahib donated \$5000/- and provided langar for three days for above Kirtan Darbar held at Changi Expo Hall.

e. Hijrah Night Cycling- Gurdwara Sahib provided fruits and water bottles to all participants taking part in the yearly event, passes by our Gurdwara sahib.

f. Chariot Procession- Gurdwara Sahib provided light snacks and water bottles to congregation who attend the procession which is held once a year and passes by most of the religious places located in Nee Soon South Zone.

## MAIN RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES

10. The following is a summary of the main activities and programmes conducted during 2021

### a. Sangat Programmes

S/No	List of Programmes	Total No of Programmes in 2022
1	Akhand Paths by Sangat	04
2	Akhand Path by Individual Members (In Gurdwara)	10
3	Akhand Path by Individual Members (At Residence)	04
4	Sehej Path Bhog	46
5	Weddings	03
6	Engagements	00
7	Janam Sanskars	08
8	Sukhmani Sahib Path (In Gurdwara)	45
9	Sukhmani Sahib Path (At Residence)	44
10	Mirat Saskars (Cremations)	05

#### **b. Religious Programmes**

- (1) 09 Jan - Parkash Guru Gobind Singh Ji
- (2) 14 Feb – Parkash Guru Har Rai Ji
- (3) 14 April – Vesakhi and Nishan Sahib Sewa
- (4) 01 May – Parkash Guru Angad Dev Ji
- (5) 15 May – Parkash Guru Amar Das Ji
- (6) 03 Jun – Shaheedi of Guru Arjan Dev Ji
- (7) 22 July - Parkash Guru Har Krishan Sahib Ji
- (8) 28 Aug – Parkash Guru Granth Sahib Ji
- (9) 15 Sep – Gurgaddi Guru Angad Dev Ji
- (10) 11 Oct - Parkash Guru Ram Das Ji
- (11) 24 Nov – Diwali Bandi Chorr Diwas
- (12) 08 Nov – Parkash Purab Guru Nanak Dev Ji
- (13) 28 Nov – Shaheedi Guru Teg Bahadar Ji
- (14) 26 Dec - Shaheedi Mata Gujri Ji and Sahibzade

#### **c. Signature Programmes**

- (1) 05 Aug - Barsi Sant Baba Harnek Singh Ji
- (2) 26 Aug – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gurdwara Sahib Yishun
- (3) 31 Dec – Rehan Sabhai Shabad Kirtan

#### **OTHER PROGRAMMES**

11. In addition to the above programmes, other regular programmes included the monthly Istri Sat Sang Sabha Sukhmani Sahib/Kirtan, the Children Kirtan and the weekly Thursday Simran Kirtan programmes. These are all generally well attended.

#### **NON RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES**

12. Phone Scam Classes – Special arrangements were made with Nee Soon South CC Office for special classes to be conducted at Gurdwara for the benefit of senior citizen members of Gurdwara during the early part of the year.

#### **LOHRI**

13. As usual, the Management Committee made special arrangements for Lohri to be celebrated within the Gurdwara premises in Jan 2022/2023.

#### **DONATION DRIVE- Reconfirming the last report shared by previous MC with Sangat.**

14. As the Sangat is already aware, an EOGM was called on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021, whereby it was unanimously decided to authorize the MC to undertake renovations/refurbishments and other related works solely through fund raising efforts/donations. As explained at the EOGM, while there were sufficient funds for the lease renewal, there were hardly any funds for the much urgently needed renovation works, especially the toilets, kitchen, air-conditioning, roof water proofing, carpet, sound system, CCTV, paint works etc. which were all done more than 12 to 15 years ago and hence warranting urgent attention. MC is happy to announce that over \$700,000 has been collected within a year. This could not have been possible without Waheguru's grace and blessing.

## **RENOVATION UPDATE**

15. The renovation works are being executed in stages through prudent spending and appropriate procurement procedures. The following works have been completed:

- a. Installation of new Sound System
- b. Renovation of main toilets as well as that of Priests' rooms, and washing points in Langgar Hall
- c. Relocation of the Shoe Racks along walls outside of the Building and construction of canopy all-round the temple, including the front entrance linkage with outside shelter.
- d. Repainting of Gurdwara Building
- e. Waterproofing of Gurdwara Building Roof-top.
- f. Concreting of open area behind Kitchen
- g. Renovation of Kitchen, including proper exhaust system
- h. Replacement of Carpet at Darbar Hall, Office and bridal room.
- i. Extra benches installed in Darbar hall for Senior Citizens.
- j. Extra cupboard in Darbar installed for keeping of Gutka's/Rumallas etc.
- k. Fresh coat of Asphalt applied on existing worn-out car park base.
- l. Wash basins installed near shoe racks and outside the langar hall
- m. Laying of new fire line to resume water supply to langar hall Fire hose Box.

16. The next lot of renovations, to be undertaken in stages, include the following:

- a. Streaming of Live kirtan/programs of Gurdwara sahib.
- b. Renovation of doors at Langgar Hall/Darbar Hall
- c. Upgrading of lift
- d. Replacement of Aircon System at Darbar Hall
- e. Renovation of washing area outside the Kitchen
- f. Building of another room outside the office to facilitate Sangat for conducting two programs independently, if main hall is occupied with other programs.
- g. One room outside facing SPS gas station. This is to accommodate overseas Gianni's visiting gurdwara sahib or for in house Gianni's families.
- h. Purchase of 2 nos. each high-pressure floor washing machines and Heavy duty refrigerators.
- i. Renewal of cupboards in Priests room, Office, Library and bridal room.
- j. Installation of Solar system subject to study on real saving's on electricity cost.

## **GURDWARA'S FINANCIAL SITUATION**

17. The Gurdwara's financial situation is generally healthy, albeit enough for day-to-day operations and sufficient funds for lease renewal. Details are enclosed in the financial reports attached.

## **LANGGAR OURTREACH PROGRAMME**

18. Every Monday, we have continued with the preparation and distribution of 200-250 packed meals to "Willing Hearts"

19. As part of support to various organizations, Gurdwaras sahib prepared langar of 250 bento boxes for migrant workers' center which were distributed at JTC Space @AMK, supported by LOP group.

#### **GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

20. The MC is trying their best to tap the government fee bees for religious activities. To get the approval for current MC had lot of queries on noncompliance of submitting documents by the previous MC who was at the helm for Nealy 10 years. We are still pursuing our case.

#### **UPDATE ON LEASE ARRANGEMENTS**

21. Members have been kept updated on the lease-related issues. At the EOGM , members were apprised of the Government offer of April 2021 entailing payment of over \$900,000 for renewal premium, GST, survey fee and stamp duty etc. It did not include the additional gross plot ratio or floor area currently used, such as the lift and sheltered washing area behind the kitchen. We were supposed to make all the payments by 5 May but we decided to seek extension as we, while having enough for the lease, were short of funds for various urgent works and other improvements. So MC members went to see Minister Shanmugam and managed to get extension till end Aug 21.

22. As briefed to Sangat during GSY's Silver Anniversary Celebrations, subsequently, however, the Singapore Land Authority, on their own initiative, invited GSY for a meeting on 6 Aug 2021 to discuss the proposed rescission of the lease renewal offer that we had accepted on 5 May 2021. We were informed that the Government was in the process of conducting a special review of the lease rates of state land being used by religious organisations. While it was not explicitly stated, the general indication is that the review will result in the leases of such non-profitable organisations being lower than the commercial rates now being charged. The MC/Trustees then decided that we take the Government's offer to rescind the earlier offer and await completion of the review, which will hopefully result in a reduction of the lease renewal fee. All the monies paid, including the stamp duty, have since been returned to GSY.

23. The latest development is that, while awaiting the Government review of the lease renewal for religious institutions, SLA requires that the Gurdwara enters into a rental agreement from Dec 2022 in the interim for a year pending the review. This is because our current 30 year lease expires in Nov 2022. This is being processed and an update will be provided during the AGM.

**Sewadars  
Gurdwara Sahib Yishun**

**9 Jun 2022**