

St. Stephen's College University of Delhi Delhi 110007

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Society Activity Report 2018-19 Debating Society

• Debating Introduction Workshop:

The first event of our society in the year 2018-2019, was an introductory workshop in Parliamentary Debating on August 18th, 2018.

This workshop was conducted by Jainah Jaffar, a Worlds Debating Champion; and introduced all fresh members of the society to basics of debate format, preparation and the scope of this activity on a global scale.

• Adjudication Introduction Workshop:

An interactive workshop was conducted on 18th August, 2018 by the alumni from the Stephens Debating Society, batch of 2017- Dev Baraya and Tejas Luthra on the technique of adjudicating parliamentary debates; focusing on details of making decisions and delivering feedback.

This workshop was attended by enthusiastic junior members across the three years and was a great learning experience for us all.

• First Panel Discussion: Gender and Legislation - Mukarji Memorial Dialogues, 2019:

- The panel discussions were aimed at fostering a sense of inquiry in the student community.
- The first panel discussion was in collaboration with the Gender Studies Cell of our college, which was held on 21st January, 2019 at 3:30 PM in the Seminar Room.
- The topic was Gender and Legislation, which primarily focussed on anti-trafficking legislation and the trans bill.
- The panellists were Tripti Tandon (Deputy Director of Lawyers Collective), Karthik Bittu Kondaiah (Gender Queer Trans Activist), Satya Rai Nagpaul (Founder-Facilitator of Sampoorna) and Chandni Mehta (Research Scholar at JNU).
- The session was moderated by Professor Alia Zaman, Political Science Department, St. Stephen's College.



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The Debating Society & Gender Studies Cell presents;

DEBATING SOCIETY Mukarji Memorial Dialogues 2019





• Second Panel Discussion: Farmer Distress in India - Mukarji Memorial Dialogues, 2019:

- The second panel discussion was in collaboration with the Informal Discussion Group of our college, which was held on 22nd January, 2019 at 2:30 PM in the Seminar Room.
- O The topic was Farmer Distress in India, The panellists were Harish Damodaran (Rural Affairs and Agriculture Editor, Indian Express), Professor Himanshu (Associate Professor at Centre of Economic Studies and Planning, JNU) Dr. Nilabja Ghosh (Professor, Institute of Economic Growth in the Agriculture Economics Research Unit) and Sayantan Bera (Journalist who writes on agriculture and food policy in Mint, Down to Earth and EPW).
- The session was moderated by Professor Benston John, Economics Department, St. Stephen's College.



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Mukarji Memorial Dialogues 2019





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• Academic Talk on Sex Trafficking - Talk and Movie Screening:

The society also organised a movie screening of Tabrez Noorani's "Love, Sonia", a film about the horrors of sex trafficking, on 29th January, 2019. It was accompanied by an interactive talk by Ruchira Gupta, an activist and founder of the women's rights organisation Apne Aap Women Worldwide.

Tournaments Organised

• 6th Mukarji Memorial Pro-Am Debate - Competition/Parliamentary Debate Tournament:

- This national level debate tournament was organised from 27th September, 2018 to 30th September, 2018, in which 32 teams participated.
- Every team participating in the tournament had pro (experienced) and amateur debaters. It was a unique tournament which followed the two-versus-two modified American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA) format.
- The tournament was co-convened by Riti Sengupta and Meghna Chakravarthy.
- The Core Adjudicators for the tournament were Vineet George, Tarun Sundaram, Achitha Jacob.



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• School Conventional Debate - Debate Competition:

The society, under the aegis of IQAC, organised a School Conventional Debate on 12th October, 2018 at 1:30 PM.

The school students engaged in a battle of wits to win exciting prizes. Students from Class 9-12 participated and no cross school teams were allowed.

The motion for the debate was: This House believes that developed countries should be subject to more stringent environmental regulations than developing countries.





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• 71st Mukarji Memorial Debate - Competition/Parliamentary Debate Tournament:

- This inter-varsity parliamentary debate tournament was organised by the society from 21st February, 2019 to 24th February, 2019, in which 44 teams participated.
- The Core Adjudicators for the tournament were Kundan Sen, Piali Bopanna, Shivam Bakshi and Rakesh Talukdar.
- NLS, represented by Aniruddh Nigam and Siddharth S. Aathreya, were the winners while Pratyaksha Jha was the best adjudicator.



• Indian Women's Debating Championships - IWDC, 2019 - Competition/Parliamentary Debate Tournament:

- The 4th edition of this national level parliamentary debate tournament was organised from 30th March, 2019 to 31st March, 2019.
- The Core Adjudicators for the tournament were Himani Mehta, Piali Bopanna, Sameeksha Rao and Heena Dabke.
- The Deputy Core Adjudicators were Pratyaksha Jha, Felina Das and Kavya Jain
- Susan Sreemala, Sanutha Shetty and Swaha Sinha were the Tournament Directors.
- Anagha Shivprakash and Nikhila Dharmaji, from RVCE, were the winners, while Evita from St. Stephen's College was the best adjudicator.



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Tournaments Won

Society members participated in debate tournaments held in Conventional, Asian and British Parliamentary formats across the country and in neighbouring countries as debaters and adjudicators. Some of our achievements this year are summarised below:

- UPES Dehradun Debate- Winners
 Tony Sebastian, Jacob George, Noumaan Anwer
- Polemic, Ramjas College-Finalist Tony Sebastian
- Guru Gobind Singh College-Semi Finalists
 Trivikrama Madhusudhana and Tony Sebastian
- Guru Gobind Singh College-2nd best adjudicator Noumaan Anwer
- Shanti, Hansraj College-Semis Trivikrama Madhusudhana and Tony Sebastian
- FTD, Kirori Mal College-Quarter finalists
 Jacob George, Trivikrama Madhusudhana and Tony Sebastian
- FTD, Kirori Mal College-Best adjudicator Rutvi Dhuvad
- Punjab Engineering College, Octa Finalist
 Trivikrama Madhusudhana and Tony Sebastian
- IUB Ascension, Dhaka-Octafinalist Noumaan Anwer and Anushka Ganguly