

DEBSOC, KMC

Annual Report 2021-22

DEBSOC - the Debating Society, KMC started the year 2021-22 in online mode, which had become the new normal in the debating circuits. The year before this had seen major fall in debating activities as the students were still not used to online debating. The new mode picked up quite rapidly this year with all the major tournaments being held with good participation. As the University opened from mid-February 2022, the debating fraternity was delighted to go back to the offline tournaments organized by a few colleges, including us, with great enthusiasm. Debsoc KMC successfully organized two of the most prestigious annual debating tournaments offline – The Frank Thakurdas Memorial Debate and the NS Pradhan Memorial Debate. The motions debated at FTD and NSP were both intriguing and challenging and spanned a variety of themes – history, politics, economics, philosophy, gender and popular culture. As all the members of the society, including the senior batch, had hardly any experience in conducting tournaments of this scale offline, the dedicated hard work they put in to make this possible is highly praiseworthy.

The English wing of Debsoc organised the 41st edition of its flagship event, the Frank Thakurdas Memorial Debate, on 9th-11th April 2022 on campus. 32 highly competitive teams and about 100 adjudicators from prestigious colleges across the country participated in the tournament, making it a grand success. Kamala Nehru College emerged as the winners of the FTD/41, taking home the FTD rolling cup. The runner-up was Delhi College of Arts and Commerce. We were very generously supported in this effort by the reputed entrepreneur Aditya Ghosh, our alumni and former President of Debsoc, and his organization Homage.

The Hindi wing of Debsoc organized the 31st Narendra Singh Pradhan Memorial Debate Tournament offline on 23rd-25th April 2022, wherein 42 teams participated. The winners were a cross team from Campus Law Centre and Department of Physics and the Runner up was a team from the Arts Faculty, DU. The Hindi wing also organized the Fresher's tournament Udbhav online on 12 and 13 February 2022, wherein 32 teams participated. The winning team was from Hansraj College and the Runner up team was from Shivaji College. Apart from this, they organized a debating competition as a part of the celebration Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on 13 October 2022.

Our members were very active in all the tournaments held throughout this year and achieved distinctions both as debaters and adjudicators by participating in tournaments organized by various colleges of the University and other educational institutions.

For the Hindi wing the most notable achievements are Best Institution award at Jaswant Kaur Memorial Debate conducted by Satyawati College, Winner of Savitri Bai Phule memorial Conventional Debate conducted by Moti Lal Nehru College, Winner of Kapil Ratnu Freshers Parliamentary debate conducted by Ramjas college and Runner up positions at Zakir Hussain Day College Parliamentary Debate and Rajdhani College Conventional Debate.

For the English wing some of the most notable achievements were reaching the semi-finals at Munazraah organised by Kamla Nehru College, the semi-finals at Fresher's Debate organized by Guru Govind Singh College; the finals in the Novice category at IIT Delhi British Parliamentary Debate as well as the Octo-finals at Chanakya National Law University Parliamentary Debate. Our members also distinguished themselves in adjudication. Particularly notable are the adjudication prizes at Rahat Parliamentary Debate, GGS Fresher's Debate, LSR PD, DNLU PD and FTD'41.

Apart from this the members of the society worked throughout the year in regular practice sessions which involved training the juniors, holding mock sessions and brainstorming to create innovative motions for debating. The Hindi wing also organized a two weeks online open session for training, where any student was free to join.

With the resumption of debating competitions in the physical mode and the students interacting with each other in person, both the level and intensity of activities are expected to be even higher next year.

Sd/-

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