



## Point–A–Point Debate Competition

**Title of the activity : Intra School Debate Competition**

**Date of the activity : 4th May, 2024**

**Organized by : ITL Public School**

**Class Participated : IX- XII**

**Facilitators : Department of English**

"Freedom of the press is the mortar that binds together the bricks of democracy — and it is also the open window embedded in those bricks."

To commemorate World Press Freedom Day, ITL Public School, Dwarka, organised a Point–A–Point Debate Competition on 4th May 2024 to cultivate media awareness, critical inquiry, and articulate expression among students. On a pertinent day such as this, ITL had the privilege of having Ms. Vidheesha Kuntamalla, Senior Correspondent at The Indian Express and recipient of the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award, 2026, as the Chief Guest.

Keeping the theme "Shaping a Future of Peace: Promoting Press Freedom for Human Rights, Development, and Security" in mind, the competition centered on the motion, "In the contemporary world, media neutrality is a myth," and witnessed the participation of students from classes IX to XII. The competition showcased rigorous research by the students, from the influence of private ownership to the global standards of Reuters. Students debated the withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement and the concept of 'National Truth' vs. 'Global Narratives'. By dissecting issues like the Great Nicobar project and Fox News, participants proved they don't just consume news, but they challenge its very foundation.

The esteemed panel of adjudicators, including Ms. Vidheesha Kuntamalla and Ms. Ritu Sharma, HOD English, ITL Public School, had high praise for the participants for their sagacious inputs on such a burning topic of the day. They commended the participants for their clarity of thought and confident articulation, while underscoring the importance of discernment, balance, and responsibility when engaging with the media.

The competition was conducted in a single round. The students had received the topic beforehand. Among the winners was Adrika Saha, XII D, who was the Second Runner up Proposition. The First Runner up Proposition was Kushagra Goel (XI F) and the Best Speaker Proposition position was bagged by Aarvi Joshi (XII B). For the opposition, Nitin (XI E) was adjudged the Best Speaker. Apeksha (X E), and Rihav Kumar (X E), got the First Runner up and Second Runner up positions, respectively. The prize for Best Team was awarded to Aarvi Joshi (XII B) and Apeksha Gupta (X E). Adrika Saha (XII D), and Radhya Khanna (XI E), got the First Runner up for the Best Team and Second Runner up position for the Best Team was bagged by Soham (IX E), and Nitin (XI E).

Tanzil Tandon (XII B), received the certificate for the Best Interjector. Aishwarya Goel (X D), got the First Runner up for the Best Interjector. The Second Runner up position for the Best Interjector was bagged by Nancy (XII F).

The competition was a stimulating and enriching experience, inspiring students to engage thoughtfully with diverse perspectives and to uphold the enduring values of freedom, truth, and responsibility.

