

## The Winsome Debaters - Inter PSBB Debate



The Annual Inter-PSBB Debate, *Close Encounters of the Eloquent Kind*, was held at Dr. Mrs. YGP Auditorium at the KK Nagar premises on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February. It was an afternoon filled with high quality debate and thought-provoking speeches. The debate was presided over by three judges – Mr. Shantanu Prakash, Chairman and MD, Educomp Solutions; Mr. Gopal Arvind, renowned Chartered Accountant and Squadron Leader Unni Nair. The occasion was also graced by our Dean and Director, principals of both branches, teachers and student representatives from PSBB TP Road and The PSBB Millennium School.

The debate team of PSBB Nungambakkam consisted of K.R. Charan of Class XI, V. Sneha of Class IX, Krishna K. of Class X, Sahana Murali of Class IX, and Malavika Unnikrishnan of Class X. The topic of the debate was *This House Believes That Globalisation is Repackaged Imperialism*, and the judges believed it to be an incredibly detail-oriented subject that required a deeper understanding of the topic. The debate team of PSBB Nungambakkam spoke for the motion while PSBB KK Nagar spoke against it.

The debate began with the constructives being laid out, each speaker clearly putting forth their stances and arguments. The opposition, in particular, greatly relied on anecdotes and got their point across with great eloquence and verbosity.

The constructive session was followed by a short break after which the rebuttals began and the debate took a drastic turn, as the debaters started to “clinically and surgically analyse the points made by the other side, maintaining an icy calm all the while,” as put by the judges. The icy calm was almost a necessity, considering the sharp, sarcasm-infused words that were exchanged by the teams.

This was followed by a question-answer session, where each of the judges posed a question to both the proposition and opposition. Both the sides gave spontaneous, well-structured answers that showcased their level of preparation. This was followed by a long and arduous wait for the results.

To diffuse the tension in the air, the media club of PSBB Nungambakkam played a video exhibiting the preparation and brainstorming that preceded the debate. When, at last, the fateful moment came around, the best speakers’ prizes were bagged by Akilesh Raman, Hemant and Sadhana, students of PSBB KK Nagar. The trophy, too, was won by the debate team from KK Nagar. This session was a truly engaging and worthwhile experience for everyone involved.

We must work hard in order to turn the tables and emerge triumphant in the years to come!

**Ashwin T Shekhar XIA**

Reporter

**Cyber Pigeons, PSBB NGM**