

As a new academic year begins, the Newgen Digital Discovery Paathshala (NDDP) is excited to continue our journey with our talented students. We believe in fostering a platform for them to showcase their abilities and gain a deeper understanding of themselves. Keeping this in mind, NDDP hosted its first debate competition of the year for students from grades 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

The debate topics were carefully chosen to reflect the current events and inspire lively discussions.

Students in grades 7 and 8 debated the topic, "Has the celebration of festivals changed with time?" while students in grades 9 to 12 tackled the question, "Is the voting/polling system an effective way to select a country's government?"

We were impressed by the insightful and thought-provoking arguments from our young minds. Newgen volunteers from various departments also participated as judges, sharing their expertise in public speaking, research techniques, and presentation skills. Their guidance greatly encouraged the students.

Paritosh Tiwari (Associate Business Analyst) -"Being a part of the jury panel was a wonderful experience. It was invigorating to share insights and perspectives and foster a dynamic exchange of ideas with the students."

## Anecdotes from the Debate:

Deepa, Class 7th : "Firecrackers create a lot of pollution, leading to school closures and disruption of studies."

Sanaya, Class 8th: "Festivals used to be about family gatherings, now they seem more about showing off."

Riya, Class 9th: "Many people vote based on personal biases like caste, without understanding the candidates' platforms."

Rima, Class 10th: "There's a lack of awareness about the importance of voting in India. We need to educate people about their rights and responsibilities."

Khushi, Class 11th: "The uncontrollable expenses during elections are a waste of public funds."







Nisha, Class 12th: "Media focuses on the well-funded parties and neglects the smaller parties with potentially valuable ideas."

At NDDP, we are dedicated to fostering the holistic development of our students. Initiatives like this debate competition offer a platform for them to not only demonstrate their academic excellence but also enhance their critical thinking and communication skills.

Sorbani Mahapatra, (CSR Team)

To join as a CSR/NDDP volunteer kindly reach us at csr\_nddp@newgensoft.com or csrvolunteers@newgen.co.in