

YOUNG MINDS DEBATE ON 'FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND EXPRESSION'



Caption: Seen in the picture are (sitting from left) Rtn. T.N. Mohan; Prithviraj; Prof. Govinda Sharma, guest of honour; Rtn. R. Venkatesh, President, Rotary Mysore Midtown; Chaya Srivatsa, chief guest; Anita Braggs and Nandini Srinivasan, Judges of the competition.

Mysuru, Feb.10- 'The young minds should be courageous and confident,' was the message given to the debaters by Chaya Srivatsa, Life Coach at Infosys, Mysuru, during her inaugural address at 'Y. Bhagavan Memorial Debate Competition,' organised by Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Institute for Management Development (SDM-IMD) in association with Rotary Mysore Midtown at SDM-IMD premises in Siddarthanagar here on Sunday.

She went down the memory lane and recalled incidents from her college days as a student of Y. Bhagavan at Maharani's College in Mysuru. She encouraged the young debaters to be courageous and confident on the stage.

The guest of honour Prof. N.R. Govinda Sharma, Faculty of Business Ethics & Strategy at SDM-IMD, shared his views on the significance of such events.

This year, 60 participants from leading Engineering, Medical, Management, Law and Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Colleges across the State took part in the debate competition.

In the first round, the participants debated on the topic "Should my 'Freedom of Speech & Expression' be absolute?"

Anitha Braggs and Nandini Srinivasan judged the views expressed by these young minds during the first round.

The second round for the top 10 finalists was on the topic 'Industrial and Infrastructure development at the cost of Agriculture and Environment in India – Yes or No?' The topic for the second round was given on the spot. The second round was judged by Prof. B.N. Balajee and Prof. Shekar.

Venkatram Harish Belvadi, a M.Sc Physics student of St. Philomena's College (Autonomous), Mysuru, who spoke against the topic in the debate competition, won the first place. He was awarded a trophy and cash of Rs. 20,000.

Y. Aditya and Rahul Raman of Christ University, School of Law, stood second and third respectively.

Y. Bhagavan Memorial Debate Competition

Charishma Narayan and K.M. Keerthi of Xaviers Institute of Management (XIM), Bengaluru, won the Consolation Prize for securing fourth and fifth places.

Mary Angelia Alfred, a 2nd semester B.Sc student of St. Philomena's College (Autonomous), Mysuru, the youngest among the debaters, was able to go up to the final round.

Rtn. R. Venkatesh, President, Rotary Midtown, Rtn. Mohan, Y. Bhagavan's family members, students from the host institute and Rotary members were present on the occasion.

Valedictory: Dr. R. Jagadeesh, Professor - Operations, SDMIMD, was the guest of honour for the valedictory function.