

Doon School wins 61st Annual All India Chuckerbutty Memorial Debates

By OUR STAFF
REPORTER

DEHRADUN, 13 Nov: The 61st Annual All India Chuckerbutty Memorial Debates held in The Doon School between 10 and 12 November had 12 schools from all over India participating. The schools included Welham Girls' School, Vivek High School, St Joseph's Academy, St George's College, Mayo College, Mayo College Girls' School, Vasant Valley School, The Shri Ram School, RIMC, Genesis Global School, GEMS Modern Academy, The Lawrence School, Sanawar, and, The Doon School.

Over the course of these three days, 24 debates were conducted across the campus. The preliminary rounds saw seven simultaneous debates in the World Schools (WSDC) Format which required each speaker to deliver an eight minute speech with only 45 minutes of preparation. The preliminary motions covered a wide range of topics, from the issue of



'Godmen' to the Kashmir Crisis. In the end, four teams qualified to the Semi-Final Round: The Vivek High School, Welham Girls' School, The Sri Ram School and The Doon School. The topic for this round was 'This House Believes That Metropolitan Cities Have Outlived Their Time'. By the end of the second day, only The Doon

School and The Sri Ram School remained as finalists.

On the final day, the teams were given a chance to prepare in the School Library, after which they proceeded for the Final Round. The motion was on whether the 'Darkest histories of a country would be publicly preserved', and was proposed by The Doon School, and opposed

by the Sri Ram School. After considerable contention, a joint best-speaker was awarded to Aryam Mathur and Armaan Kalsi from the Sri Ram School, and The Doon School was seen as the Overall Winner.

Matthew Raggett, Head Master of the Doon School, gave the trophy to Sri Ram School as the host school does not keep it

as per convention. The judges for the debate were Lokesh Ohri, Naziya Usufizudin and Ranjona Bannerji. The school debating captain Devang Laddha thanked Priyanka Bhattacharya and Mercedes Garcia for their support in organising the debate. Also present on the occasion were Philip Burret, PK Nair, Kamal Ahuja and Piyush Malaviya.