



DEBATE ON WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY

DATE	:	4 May 2022
EVENT	:	Debate on World Press Freedom Day
ORGANISED BY	:	Department of English
PARTICIPANTS	:	Classes IX- XII

"Freedom of the Press, if it means anything at all, means the freedom to criticize and oppose."

- George Orwell

ITL Public School observed the World Press Freedom Day on 4 May 2021. The Department of English organised **VERBATTLE – POINT A POINT** debate competition to pay tribute to the journalists all over the world for their unending efforts to provide citizens with the information they need to make the best possible decisions about their lives, their communities, their societies, and their governments. The topic for the day was **COMMERCIALISATION OF SERIOUS EVENTS LIKE WARS HAS BECOME THE ORDER OF THE DAY IN JOURNALISM**. The debate proved to be a battle of wits as the students expressed themselves prodigiously, presenting their perspectives along with statistics to support their claims. It highlighted the judicious research done by the students since their content was quite insightful and analytical. The esteemed panel of judges included Mr. Saswat Panigrahi (Multi Media Journalist & Resident Editor with Zee Odisha News Channel), Ms. Sreerupa Sil (Journalist, Writer & Editor), Sampriti Dutta (ExITLeen & Editor for Pinkvilla) & Jyona Roy Biswas (Ex ITLeen) as the Peer Evaluators. The judges were all praises for the participants for their sagacious inputs on such a burning topic of the day. Furthermore, they enlightened the students about various aspects of media and how media and press are different from each other. The judges also highlighted how one can become a patriot in the contemporary times and why it was important to be one. Revolution in journalism was one testimony that was voiced alike by all the judges.

With their exemplary oratory skills, all the debaters did an outstanding job. Ananya Jaggi (XII F) and Akshiti Rawal (X D) won the prize for the Best Team. Ananya Jaggi (XII F), Mishka Khurana (X A) & Tamanna Arora (XII F) were pronounced as the Best Proposition Speakers whereas Vrinda Warriar (XII F), Vernika Pathak (XII F) and Tanishqa (XII F) were declared as the Best Opposition Speakers. Pooja Rana (XII F) & Ritveek Kumar (XII B) were adjudged as the two Best Interjectors of the event.

The session was quite enriching for the students as they got a platform to express themselves and at the same time, also deepened their knowledge with the words of wisdom shared by the venerated judges.

