Pratijja is an international level debating competition with a long-standing history of more than 17 years.

This annual flagship event poses an opportunity for all debating enthusiasts around the globe to showcase their skills.

With its highlight being a diverse pool of debating topics and its commitment to giving participants an unparalleled debating experience, Pratijja is a glorious platform for both novice and adept debaters.

Pratijja follows an Asian Parliamentary Debating format.

FORMAT OF THE ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE

**A.** Each debating match will consist of two teams; one to propose the motion and

one to oppose it. The team proposing may be known as ‘The Proposition’,

‘The Affirmative’ or ‘The Government’. The team opposing may be known

as ‘The Opposition’ or ‘The Negative’. Teams will be designated as the

Proposition or the Opposition for each round of the competition.

**B.** Each debate shall be timed by a timekeeper. In the absence of a

timekeeper, a member of the adjudication panel will time the speeches.

**C.** Teams will comprise the following members.

-> AFFIRMATIVE

* Prime Minister, or First Affirmative.
* Deputy Prime Minister, or Second Affirmative.
* Government Whip, or Third Affirmative.

-> NEGATIVE

* Leader of the Opposition, or First Negative.
* Deputy Leader of the Opposition, or Second Negative.
* Opposition Whip, or Third Negative.

**D.** Debaters will speak in the following order:

* Prime Minister
* Leader of Opposition
* Deputy Prime Minister
* Deputy Leader of Opposition
* Government Whip
* Opposition Whip
* Opposition reply
* Government reply

**E.** Common minute will not be given within reply speeches.

**F.** Speakers not ‘holding the floor’ may not rise during a speech unless it is to offer a

‘Point of Information’ (see Part Five of this document). Speakers doing so, or

considered to be heckling, barracking or whose behaviour is interfering with the

acceptable course of a debate will be declared ‘out of order’ or will be ‘called to

order’ by the Chairperson.