

# Inter-Departmental Debate Competition Guidelines and Rules

## General Guidelines:

1. **Participation:** Each department may field **one team of two members**, one for the motion and one against the motion.
2. **Topics:** The judges will choose the subject to speak on for the participant on stage from the shared list.
3. **Medium of Debate:** The medium of debate will be **English** only.
4. **Reporting Time:** At least **30 minutes** before the scheduled start of the debate. Teams failing to show up on time will be disqualified.
5. **Venue:** will be informed.
6. **Dress Code:** Semi Formal (it should not have any department-specific print or writing)

## Team Composition and Registration

1. Each team must have registered participants from their respective departments and merged departments only.
2. Teams should register by **16th Feb 2025**, providing details of team members and their departments. ( <https://forms.gle/PYFBxeJd6pk6mykY9> )
3. Substitution of team members after registration is not allowed. Students are requested to carry their ID card for verification at the venue.

## Competition Rules

1. Participants will be paired anonymously (one for and one against) before the event. One pair will debate the specific topic assigned by the judges on stage.
2. All the participants will be identified by the ID given by the organizing team. Addressing other participants by their names during the speech will lead to penalty points.
3. Each participant will have a maximum of **5 minutes** to conclude their debate. The participants are responsible for structuring their speeches within this time frame.
4. A bell will ring **30 seconds before the end of time** and again at the end of the allotted time. Exceeding the time limit will result in penalty points.
5. The next **2 minutes** will be open for refutation where judges and the audience can do cross-questioning.
6. The first round of questions will be taken from the audience followed by the judging panel.
7. Participants will be allowed to read from their notes. But, during the refutation, they should not refer to their source material or the internet. This will result in disqualification.
8. No gadgets (phones, earbuds, watches) will not be allowed during the competition. The participants should take care of their belongings during the event.

9. Any personal attack, department/faculty/student-specific arguments, inappropriate language, and offensive remarks will result in immediate disqualification by the judges.
10. If any unforeseen situation occurs during the competition, the judge's decision will be final.

### **TOPICS for Debate**

1. Is social media a threat to democracy or a way to globalization?
2. The role of social media in global communication: Is it truly connecting the world?
3. The impact of technology on human interaction: Are we losing touch with reality?
4. Should we fear the rise of a surveillance state in a hyper-technological society?
5. Should technology companies be responsible for addressing employee issues?
6. Artificial Intelligence in Defence: Boon or threat?
7. Defence Budget Allocation: More on Research or More on Equipment?
8. Data privacy vs National Security: where should the line be drawn?
9. Economic sanctions are an effective tool for a country's foreign policy: political weapon or benefiting scheme for civilians.
10. India's stand on neutrality in international relations: mindlessness or smartness
11. Should agricultural practices prioritize sustainability and environment conservation over productivity and profit?
12. India's 2030 budget: more investment in defense and technology or more investment to rehabilitate the environment
13. Does preserving cultural traditions slow down progress and innovation or does it help in globalization?
14. Do we need to focus on a single sport and become a leader or should every sport get equal attention?
15. Is Sustainable Development an achievable goal or a waste of money?
16. Is EV a long-term solution or just an escape before the natural reserves dry out?