Student Debate Competition Report: Semester 3 vs. Semester 5
Department of Computer Science, Gurudas College
Date: 17.12.2024

Venue: Room6,Gurudas College, Kolkata

The Department of Computer Science at Gurudas College hosted a stimulating Student Debate Competition between the students of Semester 3 and Semester 5 on significant contemporary topics. The event was conducted with great enthusiasm, where students presented their viewpoints on cutting-edge subjects like Artificial Intelligence, space exploration, and climate change.

Debate Topics and Groups:

Topic 1: Exploring Mars Should Be Delayed Until We Stop All Climate Change on Earth Caused by Us

- **Group A (Semester 3):** Sumit Adhikary, Ankita Roy, Suryasis Roy
- **Group I (Semester 5):** Sayan Gunin, Soumyodeep Dolui, Ankit Dewan

Topic 2: Space Colonization – Should We Expand?

- **Group B (Semester 3):** Sameer Parasd, Bikram Mondal, Souvick Dutta
- **Group II (Semester 5):** Joydeep Mandal, Subarta Ghosh, Sushmita Ghosh

Topic 3: Exploring Mars Should Be Delayed Until We Stop All Climate Change on Earth Caused by Us

- **Group C (Semester 3):** Sharadindu Mukherjee, Debanjan Biswas, Priya Bhowmik
- **Group III (Semester 5):** Akash Kumar Ghosh, Parambrata Moitra, Priyanshu Dhar

Debate Highlights:

1. **Exploring Mars Should Be Delayed Until We Stop All Climate Change on Earth Caused by Us**
   Group A (Semester 3) and Group I (Semester 5) debated the pressing issue of whether humanity should prioritize Mars exploration over addressing climate change on Earth. Group A emphasized the urgency of tackling environmental crises on Earth, advocating for sustainable practices before venturing into space. In contrast, Group I argued that Mars exploration could provide vital insights and technologies that could ultimately help in solving Earth's environmental problems.
2. **Space Colonization – Should We Expand?**
   Group B (Semester 3) and Group II (Semester 5) discussed the ethics and feasibility of space colonization. Group B raised concerns about the financial, environmental, and ethical costs of space colonization, suggesting that Earth's immediate problems should take precedence. On the other hand, Group II from Semester 5 argued that space expansion is crucial for humanity's survival, highlighting the need for alternative resources and the potential benefits of technological advancements from space exploration.
3. **Exploring Mars Should Be Delayed Until We Stop All Climate Change on Earth Caused by Us**
   In this second debate on the same topic, Group C (Semester 3) and Group III (Semester 5) focused on the moral responsibility of addressing climate change before investing in Mars exploration. Group C emphasized that the resources for space missions should first be used to combat climate change and protect Earth's environment. Group III countered by suggesting that space exploration, including Mars, could offer innovative solutions and insights that could aid in resolving the climate crisis on Earth.

Judges' Evaluation:

The competition was judged by **Dr. Swati Mukherji**, Associate Professor at Gurudas College, and **Prof. Sougato Chatterjee**, Assistant Professor at Gurudas College. Both judges praised the students for their extensive research, critical thinking, and articulate presentations. They highlighted the students' ability to engage with complex global issues and present well-rounded arguments.

Winners:

The winners of the debate competition were:

- **1st Prize:** Sameer Parasd (Semester III)
- **2nd Prize:** Joydeep Mandal (Semester V)
- **3rd Prize:** Priyanshu Dhar (Semester V)

Conclusion:

The debate competition was an outstanding success, fostering an intellectual exchange between the students of Semester 3 and Semester 5. The event allowed the students to critically engage with crucial topics impacting the future of technology, space exploration, and climate action. The judges' feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and the event concluded with an increased understanding of the contemporary challenges and opportunities facing society.