

P.S.Kamat Memorial Tenth District Level Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition 2023-24

(sponsored by Shri Devadatt Kamat, Advocate, Supreme Court, New Delhi)



Topic: UNIFORM CIVIL CODE IS ESSENTIAL FOR NATIONAL INTEGRATION

jointly organized by



&

GOKHALE CENTENARY COLLEGE, ANKOLA

A BRIEF REPORT



Kanara Welfare Trust, pioneer Institution of Uttar Kannada District has been working for the cause of education and social upliftment since the last seven decades. Its main concern has been the emancipation of the poor and downtrodden people of the district.

As a part of the campaign for alerting the youths to the social, economic and political problems of our country and for developing leadership quality among them, Inter-Collegiate Debate Competitions and Lecture Series are being organized on an annual basis.

Devadatt Kamat has been sponsoring this District Level Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition in memory of his grandfather, Late P.S.Kamat.

Late P.S.Kamat shared the vision of KWT's founder, Dr. Dinkar Desai and was associated with Divekar College of Commerce and the Trust. He was a Gandhian and actively participated in the freedom struggle losing his Law *Sanad* which was restored later under Gandhi-Irwin Pact. He was an eminent Sanskrit scholar, freedom fighter, a legal luminary and an inspiring orator. He was an educationist who headed the Academy of General Education which established the first full-fledged College in Karwar which is presently known as Govt. Arts & Science College. He worked for the unification of the then Mysore State, subsequently named Karnataka State. He was Member of Legislative Council in Bombay Province between 1951 and 1957.



An attempt is made to realize his dreams of making the youth better leaders and creative personalities by organizing a District Level Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition open to students of all Pre-University and Degree Colleges, Technical Institutions and Engineering Colleges of Uttar Kannada.

Devadatt Kamat is a fourth generation lawyer, practicing in the Supreme Court of India. He has recently been elevated to the position of Additional Advocate General of Karnataka representing the state in the Supreme Court. He has a deeper interest in philanthropic initiatives and actively participates in the programmes aimed at poverty alleviation, rural health, youth empowerment, education for the children from backward classes & areas and the like.



He has instituted this debate competition in 2011-2012 and since then many competitions have been conducted over the years by Kanara Welfare Trust and its flagship Colleges. The main aim is to make the youth and people of the region aware of the prevailing social, economic and political issues of the country.

P.S.KAMAT MEMORIAL DEBATE COMPETITION OVER THE YEARS

No.	Year & Date	Topic for the Annual Debate	Place of Final Event	Chief Guests at the Main Event
I	18 th Feb. 2012	The Proposed Anti-Corruption Laws / Enactments will Eliminate Corruption in India	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Shri Vivek Tankha , Additional Solicitor General of India, New Delhi
II	8 th & 9 th Jan. 2013	Indian Parliamentary Democracy is a Success Story	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	Prof. G.V.Bhat , Trustee, Kanara Welfare Trust
III	4 th & 5 th Jan. 2014	Indian Culture and Law have ensured Liberty, Equality, Safety and Dignity of Women	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Smt. Indira Jaising , Additional Solicitor General of India, New Delhi
IV	23 rd & 24 th Jan. 2015	In the present context in India, Reservation in Education and Employment requires to be done away with	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	H.E. Mr. Idriss Raoua OUEDRAOGO , Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Burkina Faso, Burkinese Embassy, New Delhi
V	13 th & 14 th Feb. 2016	World Peace is an achievable reality and not an illusion	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Mr. Christian Kruger , Chairman, Krüger Holding AG and Krüger & Co. AG., Switzerland Ms. Lee Jihyun Julianne , Founder & CEO of JulianneLee & Co., South Korea
VI	27 th & 28 th Jan. 2017	Solution to Kashmir problem lies in integrating POK [Pakistan Occupied Kashmir] with rest of India	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	Shri Maneesh Chhibber , Chief of Bureau & Legal Editor, The Indian Express, New Delhi
VII	1 st & 2 nd Dec. 2017	Demonetization helped to curb the black money	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Shri Prashant Bhushan Renowned Lawyer & Social Activist New Delhi
VIII	14 th & 15 th Dec. 2018	Social media is ruining the life of students	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	Shri Ramanand B Nayak Former President, Zilla Parishat, Uttar Kannada
IX	25 th Jan. 2020	Nuclear Energy alone can solve India's power problems	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Shri Suresh Heblikar Film-Maker & Environmentalist Bangalore
X	20 th Jan. 2024	Uniform Civil Code is Essential for National Integration	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	Shri MADHU BANGARAPPA Hon'ble Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, Govt. of Karnataka

The present event is organized jointly by Kanara Welfare Trust and Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola. Around 164 colleges [52 Degree Colleges, 87 PU Colleges and 25 other Colleges] across the district are invited to participate in the competition. The competition is conducted at two stages – Cluster Level & District Level.

The following are the Cluster Level Centres.

Karwar & Joida	KWT's Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar
Ankola & Kumta	KWT's Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola
Honnavar & Bhatkal	KWT's Janata Vidyalaya PU College, Shirali
Yellapur, Mundgod, Haliyal & Dandeli	KWT's Janata Vidyalaya PU College, Dandeli
Sirsi & Siddapur	M.E.S. Commerce College, Sirsi

CLUSTER LEVEL STATISTICS

CENTRE	PARTICIPATION		COLLEGE LEVEL WINNERS			
	STUDENTS	COLLEGES	DEGREE + PG		PU + Diploma	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
Karwar & Joida	24	12	5	11	3	5
Ankola & Kumta	22	13	3	8	3	8
Honnavar & Bhatkal	27	15	3	6	4	14
Sirsi & Siddapur	26	13	5	7	3	11
Yellapur, Mundgod, Haliyal & Dandeli	32	16	6	10	-	16
TOTAL	131	69	22	42	13	54
Taluka Level Participation -	Male Total – 35		Total Degree Students – 64			
	Female Total – 96		Total PU Students – 67			

As was the trend in the earlier events, in the initial stages, girl participants outnumbered boys. Out of 131 students who participated at the cluster level, 96 were girls and 35 were boys. After the cluster level competitions were conducted, the male / female ratio of finalists who made it to the district level was majorly in favour of girls again. Out of 16 candidates shortlisted for the final event, 11 were girls.

WINNERS AT THE CLUSTER LEVEL

Cluster Centre	Name of the Participant	Name of the College	Class
Karwar & Joida	Ms. Nandini Prashant Savant	BGVS's Arts & Commerce College, Sadashivgad, Karwar	BA V Sem
	Mr. Md. Ashfak M Y Sayed	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	BCom V Sem
	Mr. Ganesh R Nayak	Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	BCom V Sem
Ankola & Kumta	Ms. Shruti S Nayak	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	BCom V Sem
	Ms. Nischita S Nayak	Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola	BSc V Sem
	Mr. Yogesh D Patgar	Vidhyadhiraj Polytechnic College, Kumta	Dipl. III
Honnavar & Bhatkal	Ms. Shambhavi G Hegde	SDM PU College, Honnavar	PU II Sci
	Ms. Kriteeka S Naik	Govt. PU College, Allanki, Honnavar	PU II
	Ms. Sana Shaikh	Anjuman PU Women's College, Bhatkal	PU II Sci
Sirsi & Siddapur	Mr. Prasanna S Marate	Govt. First Grade College, Sirsi	BA V Sem
	Ms. Meghana S Naik	Govt. First Grade College, Siddapur	BCom V Sem
	Ms. Naganjali Narayan Hegde	MES PU College, Sirsi	PU
Yellapur, Mundgod, Haliyal & Dandeli	Mr. Praveenkumar A Agasur	Vishwadarshan BEd College, Yellapur	BEd II yr.
	Ms. Shreegouri M Bhat	Vishwadarshan PU College, Yellapur	PU II
	Ms. Noorin Shaikh	Bangur Nagar Degree College, Dandeli	BCom V Sem
	Ms. Hema Suresh Gouda	Vishwadarshan BEd College, Yellapur	BEd I yr.

The district level final event was held on 20th January 2024 at Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola. Shri Madhu Bangarappa, Hon'ble Minister for Primary & Secondary Education, Govt. of Karnataka, was the chief guest.

The following dignitaries were present on the dais.

- **Shri S P Kamat**, *Chairman, Kanara Welfare Trust*
- **Shri Madhu Bangarappa**, *Minister for Primary & Secondary Education, Govt. of Karnataka*
- **Shri Bheemanna Naik**, *MLA, Sirsi-Siddapur Constituency*
- **Shri Devadatt Kamat**, *Advocate, Supreme Court. New Delhi*
- **Shri K V Shetti**, *Trustee-Secretary, Kanara Welfare Trust*
- **Dr. S V Vastrad**, *Principal, Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola*
- **Shri Nagaraj Divgikar**, *Coordinator, P.S.Kamat Memorial Tenth Debate Competition*

The inauguration ceremony commenced with an invocation by the students of Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola. **Dr. S V Vastrad**, *Principal, Gokhale Centenary College, Ankola*, welcomed the dignitaries and the audience. Garlands and bouquets were offered to the guests and the judges of the competition. The event formally commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries on the dais.



Shri Devadatt Kamat, *Advocate, Supreme Court, New Delhi*, who has sponsored the P.S.Kamat Memorial District Level Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition, spoke on 'Why this Event?' He commenced by narrating the preamble of the Indian Constitution which provides equality to all its citizens irrespective of religion, caste, creed and gender. The youth of today should know the constitution and what it entails. He stated that

generating awareness of various issues in the country among the youth is the main purpose behind organizing this competition. More than 600 students participate every year in this competition at various levels. Along with them, their parents, teachers and friends are also exposed to the prevalent issues in the country that are raised in the debates. The youth should be able to form their opinions and communicate the same to others, which will surely help in nation building.

The final level of the debate commenced with the final competitors speaking for and against the proposition.

Shri Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for Primary & Secondary Education, Govt. of Karnataka, spoke on this occasion. He expressed his appreciation on the debating skills of the participants. He congratulated Shri Devadatt Kamat and the organizers for conducting this competition on a vast scale in the district of Uttar Kannada.



Shri S.P.Kamat, Chairman, Kanara Welfare Trust, delivered the presidential address. He congratulated all the participants of the competition for presenting their views so eloquently.



Shri N.R.Balekai, Retd. Principal, Dharwad, Dr. Gururaj Hadagali, Professor, Dept. of Library & Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad, and Smt. Saraswati Pujar, Advocate, High Court, Dharwad, were the three judges for the final competition. They made observations on the overall performance of the participants and announced the final results.




Cluster level cash prizes of Rs.2000/- along with certificates were presented to all the finalists by the dignitaries. The special incentive gift pack consisting of a backpack bag, an autobiography of Shri APJ Abdul Kalam, an umbrella, tiifin box, water bottle and a padlock, sponsored by **Electronic Automation Pvt. Ltd. [EAPL] Group, Bangalore,** was presented to each participant.





This was followed by the most interesting part of the event - announcement of the names of the prize winners at this district level competition & distribution of prizes. 90% of the first, second and third prizes would go to the individual winner and 10% shall be shared with their concerned College. The prizes were distributed by the dignitaries.



FINAL WINNERS OF THE INTER-COLLEGIATE DEBATE COMPETITION

First Prize of Rs.50,000/-	Second Prize of Rs.30,000/-	Third Prize of Rs.20,000/-
		
Mr. Yogesh D Patgar Vidhyadhiraj Polytechnic College, Kumta	Mr. Prasanna S Marate Govt. First Grade College, Sirsi	Ms. Meghana S Naik Govt. First Grade College, Siddapur

2 Consolation Prizes of Rs.5,000/- each

	
Mr. Ganesh R Nayak Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar	Mr. Md. Ashfak M Y Sayed Divekar College of Commerce, Karwar

Towards the conclusion of the program, mementoes were given to each of the guests and judges.

Vote of thanks was proposed by **Prof. R.P.Bhat**, *G.C.College, Ankola*.

The program was anchored by **Ms. Raksha Hosmane** and **Ms. Sneha Naik**.

The National Anthem was recited respectfully at the end of the program.