



## A Report on Debate Competition Topic: Are Himachal Disasters Natural or Man-made?

Department Of Political Science in Collaboration with Free Thinker's Club



A debate competition was organized on 29th September 2025 (Monday) at 2:40 p.m. in Room No. 10 under the joint collaboration of the Free Thinkers Club and the Department of Political Science of Government Degree College Sanjauli. The event witnessed an enthusiastic audience of around 250 students.





The debate was gracefully **moderated** and anchored by Ms. Nikkita Dhiman, who welcomed the dignitaries and participants. The Chief Guests included Assistant Professor Abhishek Thakur (Political Science) and Dr. Harshvardhan Khimta (Professor of English), who also served as judges. The event was further graced by **Vice** Principal Prof. Deepak Kaprate (HoD English Department), Prof. Sandesh Kalta (Journalism), Dr. Poonam Chandel (HoD Political Science).





Special Guest Mr. Vartik Chatra, Alumnus Of Political Science graced the event with his presence.









The programme commenced with a welcome address by the moderator Ms. Nikkita Dhiman student of BA 3<sup>rd</sup> year, followed by an insightful speech from Prof. Deepak Kaprate [HOD of English department and Vice President Of College on climate change and its growing challenges.

The debate was contested between:

Team A (arguing disasters are man-made) and Team B (arguing disasters are natural).

Team A (Man-made Disasters):

Members: Cheshta (BA II), Aarchi (BA III), Sujal (BA II), Saksham (BA III), Jayantika (BA III)



## **Key Arguments:**

- Ignoring carrying capacity of fragile mountains.
- Illegal and unplanned construction on steep slopes.
- Deforestation leading to soil erosion and landslides.
- Weak waste management and transport systems.
- Unsafe tourism activities.
- Policy loopholes and corruption.

Case Studies: 2023 Shimla house collapse due to poor drainage, Summerhill temple landslide, Solan school building collapse, and bridge failures.

## Team B (Natural Disasters):

Members: Krish (BA III), Yashima (BA III), Samriti (BA I), Ritasha (BA II),

Sapna (BA II)



## **Key Arguments:**

- Natural climatic cycles like El Niño and La Niña.
- Geographical vulnerability of the Himalayas.
- Steep and unstable slopes.
- Solar flux and energy variations.
- Global comparison with other mountains like the Alps, Aravallis, and Wales.

The debate grew vibrant with **roasting, questioning, and counter-arguments**, keeping the audience engaged. Both teams supported their claims with facts and case studies, making the session both **informative and entertaining**.





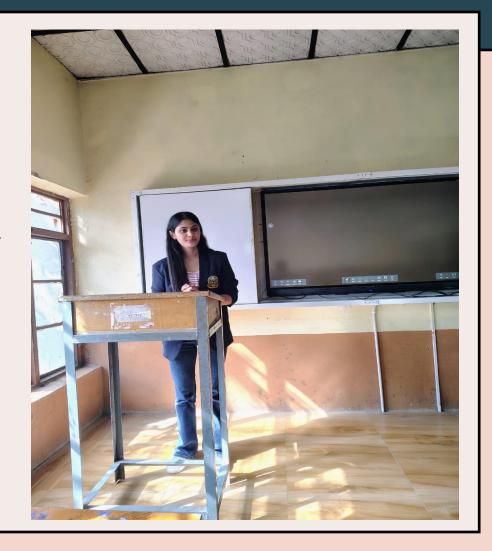
In the concluding remarks, **Dr. Harshvardhan Khimta** appreciated the depth of arguments and encouraged the students for their analytical approach. **Assistant Professor Abhishek Thakur** announced the results, declaring **Team A as the** 

winners.





Aarchi (BA III) was adjudged the Best Speaker.



The session ended with Dr. Poonam Chandel delivering the Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to all dignitaries, participants, and students for making the event a grand success.



Frozen in time, forever in memory



Report prepared by:
SNEHA
BA 3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR
23506001

Report guided by:

Dr. Poonam Chandel

HOD OF POLITICAL SCIENCE