

## **Political Science Society - Avaam 2018-19**

**Convenor: Dr. Uma Shankar**

Academic year 2018-19 started with successful completion of the admission process. This year faculty members of the Department of Political Science have been at the forefront of college's corporate life. Many teachers were part of various committees and societies of the college including committees like Library committee, Students' Union Advisory Committee, Proctorial Board and societies like Art and Culture Society, Debating Society North-East Students' Welfare and Counselling Cell, Enabling Unit and Gandhi study circle etc. Apart from this, faculty members have also been active in presenting papers at national and international level.

The Department conducted many events in this academic year starting with Avaam – the Political Science society – elections in which President, General Secretary and Joint Secretary were elected by the students, from 3rd, 2nd and 1st year respectively. The society includes all students and teachers and makes sure that various activities of the department are conducted smoothly.

This year Awaam held three lectures. Professor P. Kesava Kumar, from Department of Philosophy, University of Delhi delivered a lecture on 'Issues in Understanding the Philosophy of Ambedkar'. On 22nd January 2019 Dr. Nitasha Kaul from University of Westminster spoke on 'Kashmir: Gender and Resistance'. Roshan Kishore, editor, Data and Political Economy in Hindustan Times discussed complexities of elections and public opinion by 'Analysing Electoral Outcomes and Understanding Public Opinion' on 24th January.

Apart from these lectures, Avaam in collaboration with North East students' welfare and Counselling Cell organized a seminar on 'Assam: National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the Question of Citizenship' by Prof. Monirul Hussain from Jamia Milia Islamia and Bonojit Hussain. Awaam also organised a book discussion with Professor Neera Chandhoke on her book 'Rethinking Pluralism, Secularism and Tolerance: Anxieties of Coexistence'.

This year's theme for Awaaz – magazine of the society – was 'Democracy and Freedom.' Students also successfully conducted departmental annual festival, Abhivyakti, which was held on 26th March 2019. Students participated in competitions like poem recitation, essay writing, slogan writing, quiz, just a minute so on and so forth.