

# ASSAM VALLEY EXPRESS



*2 and a 1/2 MUN,  
an Assam Valley Express Special,  
Issue 80*

Will you follow tomorrow,  
on a route?



# SECRETARY GENERAL SPEAKS

The Assam Valley School hosted the second edition of The Assam Valley School Model United Nations Conference (AVSMUN) on the virtual platform this year. 34 schools from across India and the Middle East participated in the conference resulting in an incredible delegation size of 368 delegates among the 12 committees. The organising committee in the process un-learnt and re-learnt many new organising skills that has helped enhance the experience for all. Despite the lack of offline touch, the enthusiastic Executive Board ensured that the delegates feel virtually comfortable and flexible in bringing out their views on imperative issues.

The best school delegation was bagged by LA Martiniere College, Lucknow with the host school being the Runners-Up.

## AVSMUN Team

### Organising Committee

Anushcka Joshi- Secretary General

Akankshit Sharma- Deputy Secretary General

Anikaith Anant Joshi

Mr. Samuel Daniel David- Faculty Advisor

Mr. Rupjyoti Das

Mr. Shantam Basu

Mr. Thajeb Ali Hazarika

Mrs. Pooja Jain

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Dechen Sangay

Saumya Jindal

Niraj Sarmah

Sanjana Barooah

Tanisha Bhadra

Ujjwal Agarwal

Vasumann Lohia



-Anushcka Joshi

# COMMITTEE SESSIONS

## United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

*Agenda: The situation in Gaza strip with special reference to the role of Israel*

-Donovan Figg, XI

This committee albeit rather exclusive in nature was slotted to discuss the looming issue of the Gaza-Israel conflict with a special emphasis on Israel's role in the conflict.

The members of the committee stayed neatly divided over an unconventional stance: The USA declared unequivocally that it supported Palestinian interests in the Area, with the Russian Federation and The People's Republic of China maintaining neutrality till the end of day two. Matters moved swiftly with 6 nuclear submarines being moved to the Mediterranean sea to rid Israel of the forced US military (2,500 marines had been stationed around Tel Aviv).

The Lebanese Republic attacked and evicted the usurper Hezbollah presence from South Lebanon and opened the newly cleared area to Palestinian refugees and Sheikh Jarrah evictees. The Peoples Republic of China moderated the negotiations between Israel and the PLO-Hamas delegation, hosted by the Lebanese Republic, and observed by the entire UNSC.

Jerusalem was recognized as the capital of Israel, the Sea of Galilee was split in a 70-30 ratio, and Palestine was allowed to erect governmental civil buildings in Jerusalem.

**Best Delegate:** Russia, Donovan Figg - The Assam Valley School

**High Commendation:** Lebanon, Aditya Singh - Sunbeam English School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi

**Special mention:** Delegate of China, Purab Bhartia - Sanskriti The Gurukul

**Chair:** Mridushmoy Baruah; **Vice Chair:** Dechen Sangay

## United Nations Security Council Crisis

*Agenda: a. Validating Taliban as the legitimate ruler of Afghanistan b. Establishing a framework for rehabilitation of refugees in the Afghanistan Crisis*

- Hiyaneijemmy Das, XI

The United Nations Security Council-Crisis Committee was tasked with responding to the Afghanistan crisis. After establishing their policies on the first day, on the second day the delegates took on the role of Taliban leaders, formulating a plan of action to free their leaders arrested by India and planned bombings of strategic areas to push their agenda. Since the Taliban leaders could come to no consensus, they finally voted on a plan of action spearheaded by delegate 'Dolphin'. On the third day, taking on a new role the committee became an emergency meeting of India's security council. They were tasked to deal with the intel on bombings planned by the Taliban. They worked on forming a plan of action all the while receiving distressing updates. Though there were strong opinions and oftentimes, a lack of consensus, the passionate and well-researched delegates managed to discuss the matter through, creating a heated, entertaining, and productive debate.

**Best Delegate:** Russia, Mitee Chetan Agarwal - Val Labh Ashram's Mgm Amin & Vn Savani School; Afghanistan, Darshan Dinesh- Gems Our Own Indian School, Dubai

**High Commendation:** USA, Vineet Patel, Rajkumar College, Rajkot; UK, Ashnita Nambiar- Mayo College Girls'

**Special mention:** India, Navneet Nier- Abu Dhabi Indian School, Branch 1- Al Wathba; China, Sunbeam School Varuna- Parul Srivastava; Vietnam, Di Sha Jain- Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti; Palestine, Deeksh- Hyderabad Public School, Ramanthapur

**Verbal Mention:** Egypt- Avni Shah-Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya; Mexico, Tani Shq Jain- Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti

**Chair:** Shrest Gupta; **Vice Chair:** Saumya Jindal

# The Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

*Agenda: Threat posed to international security by non-state actors*

-Ojas Ayapilla, XI

The Disarmament and International Security Committee is the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly and is a vital organ of the United Nations.

The delegates understood its imperativeness, and engaged in heated debate over a very prevalent issue in today's world; the threats posed to international security by non-state actors. The loosely defined agenda provided a lot of scope as the committee first decided upon the nature of the agenda and the specific definition of 'non-state actors.'

The Delegates finally came to the issue of the Taliban and Afghanistan; two topics that correlate and have dominated world news. The committee mainly debated and deliberated on the plausible solutions to the problems concerning funding for these violent non-state actors, and ways to stop it.

Although a modestly sized committee, the delegates were able to pass a lot of comprehensive and detailed paperwork that addressed the agenda at hand perfectly. The committee stood out for its skillful debate and active participation by the delegates.

**Best Delegate:** Palestine, Shaurya Rautela- LA Martiniere College, Lucknow

**High Commendation:** Iran, Diva Zalani- The Sanskaar Valley School Chandanpura, Bhopal; Central African Republic, Lakshya Talreja- Emerald Heights International School

**Special Mention:** Egypt, Shreyanshi Sikaria- Sanskriti The Gurukul Burundi; Suryansh Agarwal - Sanskriti The Gurukul

**Verbal Mention:** Germany, Shanaya Hiranandani- Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya, Gwalior; Afghanistan, Luke Das- LA Martiniere College, Lucknow

**Chair:** Ananya Khaund; **Vice-Chair:** Humraj Singh

# The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Committee (UNHCR)

*Agenda: Threat posed to international security by non-state actors*

-Kekhriesino Meyase, XI

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Committee had a wide array of topics for discussion, ranging from providing employment opportunities to refugees as well as finding the solutions and an equitable access to vaccination against COVID-19. The session started off with three speakers addressing the general committee followed by a presidential speech by the Russian and American delegates. Questions were entertained by both as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson who used it to harvest a productive session amongst the delegates who raised questions on the speeches as well as the policies they indicated. A crisis accelerated the workings of the committee which volleyed questions between member committees and the delegates of the effected countries. This was followed by a press conference. The active participation of the delegates ensured that an atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect pervaded the Committee making the sessions productive and constructive. A feedback session by the Chairperson was conducted at the end.

**Best Delegate:** USA, Zainah Choudhary- Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls' School Jaipur

**High Commendation:** Russia, S.m. Ayaan Rizvi- LA Martiniere College Lucknow; Vietnam, Jonathan Ved- Abu Dhabi Indian School Branch I- Al Wathba

**Special mention:** South Korea, Suhani Chatterjee- Pathways World School, Araval; China, Arnav Jain- The Sanskaar Valley School Chandanpura, Bhopal

**Verbal Mentions;** Bangladesh, Jasmine Kahlon- Yadavindra Public School Mohali; Syria, Gracy Lochan- Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti; Sudan, Ayush Kumar- Rashtriya Military School Dholpur

**Chair:** Anannya Dalal; **Vice-Chair:** Shrabona Borthakur

# United Nations Economic and Social Council

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*Agenda: Threat posed to international security by non-state actors*

-Donovan Figg, XI

The general consensus in the committee was that the base foundation of every single block chain cryptocurrency was based on the foundation of being untethered and unregulated. The need for a cryptocurrency arose because fiat money was too heavily surveilled and monitored by the governments of the world. The need for a nodal, decentralized system was the genius of the elusive person/ person Satoshi Nakamoto. In his/her/their honor, the individual parts of a bitcoin were named "satoshis", which are to bitcoins what cents are to dollars. Almost every delegate had a problem with the fact that two of the biggest governments in the world (The USA and India) were effectively trying to ban the use of cryptocurrencies. Many were of the opinion that this was being done because these governments were shifting to authoritarian policies bit-by-bit. In the end, every delegate agreed that the need for a decentralized, alternative platform was a necessity rather than a luxury, with the main given paradigm being that of the collapse of the financial systems globally in 2008. While the debates and discourses did get heated that is exactly what made the experience memorable.

**Best Delegate:** Venezuela, Keshav Mittal - LA Martiniere College, Lucknow

**High Commendation:** Singapore, Sunbeam English School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi; UK, Amrit, Sunbeam School Varuna

**Special Mention:** South Korea, Nadiya Vahid-Memon-Val Labh Ashram's Mgm Amin & VN Savani School; Colombia, Advay Das- Army Public School, Tezpur; Brazil, Aman Kumar- Army Public School, Tezpur

**Verbal Mention:** Thailand, Riya Gaur, Birla Balika Vidyapeeth Pi Lani, Rajasthan; Italy, Divyansh Tiwari-Rashtriya Military School, Dholpur; USA, Lavanya J Indal, The Assam Valley School

South Africa, Hridyangi Srivastava- Sunbeam School Varuna; Cuba, Rudransh Vardhan Singh-Mayo College, Ajmer; Netherlands, I Shita Agarwal, Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti

**Chair:** Aaswash Mahanta; **Vice-Chair:** Aarav Jain

# UNGA 4 Special Political and Decolonisation Committee (SPECPOL)

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*Agenda: Deliberating upon equitable access to Outer Space*

- Hiyaneijemmy Das, XI

The United Nations General Assembly Fourth Committee (also known as the Special Political and Decolonization Committee or SPECPOL) was given the task of deliberating upon equitable access to outer space.

On the first day, most of the committee sessions were invested in countries delivering their opening statements and making their stances and policies clear to the rest of the committee. They answered comprehensive questions from the Chair and set the base for productive sessions the next day.

The following days were invested in several discussions, particularly important was the Privatisation of Space, and Space Mining. Certain countries like Singapore, and China, argued in favour of privatisation while others, like Venezuela, argued against, stressing that it would only further inequalities on earth.

The Chair kept the committee on its toes whenever there was a lull in sessions, and ensured that delegates challenged each other to deliberative and engaging discussions.

**Best Delegate:** Japan, Ananya Syngal - Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls' School

**High Commendation:** Georgia, Vedant Vig- LA Martiniere College, Lucknow; Belgium, Sudhamshu G- The Hyderabad Public School, Ramnathapur

**Special Mention:** Japan, Ananya Syngal - Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls' School; Venezuela, Shiv Kini-Dhirubhai Ambani International School; China, Swastika - Yadavindra Public School, Mohal

**Chair:** Sarthak Bhatt Amishra; **Vice-Chair:** Vasu-mann Lohia

## World Health Organisation (WHO)

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*Agenda: Investigating the role of China in the COVID-19 pandemic and its reparations*

- Keshav Bhati, XI

The point of discussion at hand in this committee was very relevant considering the ongoing pandemic crisis and was fairly addressed by the delegates.

The session commenced with a general session during which the delegates put forward their views followed by an unmoderated caucus with two blocks; one proposing a China-led investigation of the source of the Covid-19 virus and the other proposing the formation of a specialized committee with no Chinese intervention; curating their communiqués.

All delegates actively participated in discussions and contributed adequately towards a fruitful session which took place efficiently due to the committee's combined efforts.

**Best Delegate:** Pakistan, Manya Mehra- Pathways World School , Aravali

**High Commendation:** China, Ameya Gupta - La Martiniere College, Lucknow

**Special Mention:** USA, Kanak Chandak- Mayo College Girls' School; Brazil , Shruti Patel - Sanskriti The Gurukul; Australia, Shubhajeet Dasgupta- The Assam Valley School

**Verbal Mention:** Poland, Abhishek- Ratriya Military School, Dholpur; Canada, Utkarsh Jajodia, The Assam Valley School , Balipara; Sweden, Innora Dasgupta - Scindia Kanya Vidyalaya, Gwalior

**Chair:** Tawhid Laskar; **Vice Chair:** Letminlun Haokip

## United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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*Agenda: Discussing Food Security and its importance in achieving SDG 2*

- Raseen Shah, XII

There were many fruitful discussions over the three days. The committee started on an enthusiastic note with all the delegates putting forward their policies on the topic at hand i.e, Food Security and Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 ('zero hunger' by 2030). Discussions regarding the impact of COVID-19 on food security, the relations between climate change and food security took center stage as the issues began to get addressed.

The second day addressed various loopholes in the governmental plan of action of various countries between cross questions and debates.

The last day was a culmination of all the discussions with practical solutions and the formation of the press releases with a feedback session from the Executive Board.

**Best Delegate:** Fiji, Aditya Ramanathan- Dhirubhai Ambani International School

**High Commendation:** Norway, Kashish Wahi- Pathways World School , Aravali

**Special mention:** Myanmar, Samarth Surana- Emerald Heights International School; Peru, Vi Smaya Vi Swanathan - Abu Dhabi Indian School , Branch I- Al Wathba; Somalia, Koustubh Persai- The Sanskaar Valley School Chandanpura, Bhopal

**Verbal Mentions;** Israel , Ronil Borah- Army Public School , Tezpur UAE; Kanav Kapoor- LA Martiniere College, Lucknow; Qatar, Pankhudi Singh- Sunbeam School Varuna

## Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

*Agenda: Legalisation of LGBTQ+ in Islamic Nations*

- Hiyaneijemmy Das, XI

This committee albeit rather exclusive in nature was slated to discuss the looming issue of the Gaza-Israel conflict with a special emphasis on Israel's role in the conflict.

The members of the committee stayed neatly divided over an unconventional stance: The USA declared unequivocally that it supported Palestinian interests in the Area, with the Russian Federation and The People's Republic of China maintaining neutrality till the end of day two. Matters moved swiftly with 6 nuclear submarines being moved to the Mediterranean sea to rid Israel of the forced US military (2,500 marines had been stationed around Tel Aviv).

The Lebanese Republic attacked and evicted the usurper Hezbollah presence from South Lebanon and opened the newly cleared area to Palestinian refugees and Sheikh Jarrah evictees. The Peoples Republic of China moderated the negotiations between Israel and the PLO-Hamas delegation, hosted by the Lebanese Republic, and observed by the entire UNSC.

Jerusalem was recognized as the capital of Israel, the Sea of Galilee was split in a 70-30 ratio, and Palestine was allowed to erect governmental civil buildings in Jerusalem.

**Best Delegate:** Brunei, Siva Nanda-Our Own English High School, Sharjah Girls' Branch, UAE

**High Commendation:** Azerbaijan, Mi Sty Bhavesh Desai- Val Labh Ashram's Mgm Amin & VN Savani School

**Special mention:** Turkish Cypriot State, Yasha Jain- Pathways World School, Aravalli; Pakistan, Abhilasha Pathak Sanskriti, The Gurukul

**Verbal Mentions;** Mozambique, Amish Shrimal I - LA Martiniere College, Lucknow; Libya, - Abu Dhabi Indian School, Branch I- Al Wathba; Togo, Onaiza Benjamin - The Sanskaar Valley School Chandanpura, Bhopal

**Chair:** Anushaa Seth; Vice-Chair: Sanjana Baroah

## The Union of European Football Association (UEFA)

*Agenda: a. The consequences of joining the European Super League b. Suggesting modifications to the existing Champions League format*

- Ojas Ayapilla, XI

The UEFA Committee in AVSMUN 2.0 2021 was filled to the brim with intense debate on the beautiful, beloved and bespoken game - Football. The committee kicked off the discussion with the European Super League's, controversial business decision made by some of the biggest clubs in the world. The committee in unison was against the ESL from the start, and all the delegates contributed points as Spain, Italy and Netherlands authored the first working paper, which among other things included points such as dissolving the UEFA Nations League, implementing changes to the UEFA App and improving the marketing strategy of UEFA in Asian, African and Pan American markets. Following the first agenda was a period of heated debate about the away goals and two-legs rule that the UEFA Champions League had instituted in accordance with the new Swiss-Style format. The committee shared their thoughts and opinions and this debate sparked the committee's need to talk about the more technical aspects of the game; such as fixtures and fouls. The delegates elaborated their stances about the topics in various moderated caucuses, where they deliberated at length on changes to be implemented. In the end, Spain, Italy and Netherlands once again authored the second Working Paper, which was passed unanimously by the committee. It repealed the sanctions placed on player celebrations and added more leniency to the handball rule. It also changed the scheduling and amount fixtures in the new UEFA Champions League format. This committee was comprised of delegates who had a true passion, understanding and love for the game of football. This made the debates interesting, intense and entertaining to watch.

**Best Delegate:** Spain, Ojas Ayapilla- The Assam Valley School, Balipara; Italy, Krish Gogoi- Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti

**High Commendation:** Netherlands, Ansh Jain- Genesis Global School, Noida

**Special Mention:** Austria, Akshat Raghunath- The Hyderabad Public School, Ramanthapur



**Verbal Mention:** Poland, Kavish Kaul-The Hyderabad Public School, Ramanthapur; Switzerland-Arjun Chahalia- The AssamValley School

**Chair:** Neil Goswami; **Vice-Chair:** Param Nongmaithem

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## All India Political Party Meet

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*Agenda: Discussing the vaccine rollout in India*

- Hiyaneijemmy Das, XI

The All India Political Parties' Meet was to discuss the vaccine rollout in India.

This special committee in MUNs is known for being boisterous and passionate, and it was no different here. The BJP and its allies, led by Cabinet Ministers, ensured the committee that the vaccine rollout in India was going well, and that though there were many challenges and much to do, India was more than capable of handling it.

Opposition parties countered this by bringing up the disastrous second wave of spring 2021 and the stories of sluggish, ineffective administration of vaccines. Since the delegates were given portfolios of real people and politicians, and not countries, their personalities and opinion on things was much more apparent, something which led to some great discussions and debates.

It was a very interesting and entertaining committee to observe, and everyone present definitely took away a great deal of ideas and discussions from this committee.

**Best Delegate:** Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Ivy Khatti-Mayo College Girls' School

**High Commendation:** Anil Desai, Rutvi Mahendra-Sunbeam School, Lahartara; Rajnath Singh, Kaviya Bagrodia- The Assam Valley School, Balipara

**Special Mention:** Binoy Viswam, Namha J Igar-Vallabh Ashram's Mgm Amin & VN Savani School; Desaimahua Moitra, Bhavya Khatri-Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls' School Jaipur; Rahul Gandhi, Adama Rawat-Mayo College Ajmer

**Verbal Mention:** Annapurna Devi, Ryna Himatsingka-Sanskriti The Gurukul; Anurag Thakur, Harshay- Sarala Birla Gyan Jyoti

**Chair:** Aryadutta Goswami; **Vice Chair:** Niraj Sharma

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## International Press

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*Anoushka Rabha, Associate Editor, 2020*

Turn on your notifications, yes, that was all that one needed to do to witness the International Press Corps delegates thrive at live reporting in the form of tweets.

What started as an outlet creativity while ensuring daily coverage, turned out to be a most promising enterprise. From trending hashtags to witty reportage, the three days of IP saw an array of cleverly structured interviews to sizzling press conferences and intense Op-eds.

It was not beginner's luck that catapulted the reporters to fame but sheer professionalism and due allegiance to the sacred deadlines.

**Best Delegate:** The Japan Times, Izma Fatima-Our Own English High School, Sharjah Girls' Branch, UAE

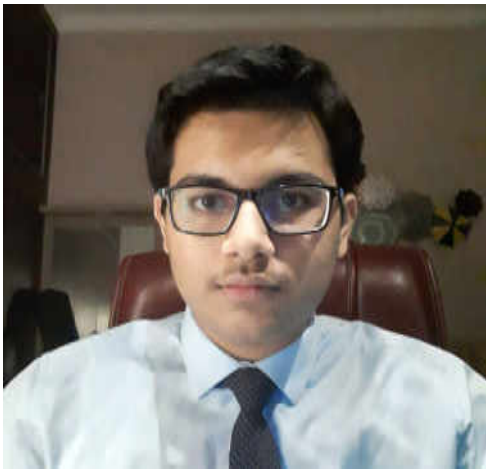
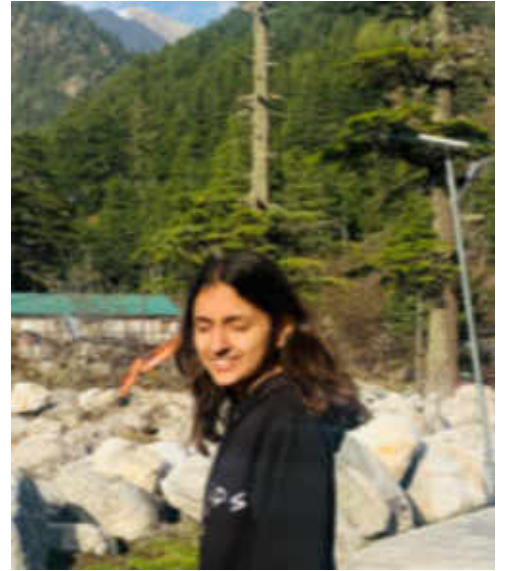
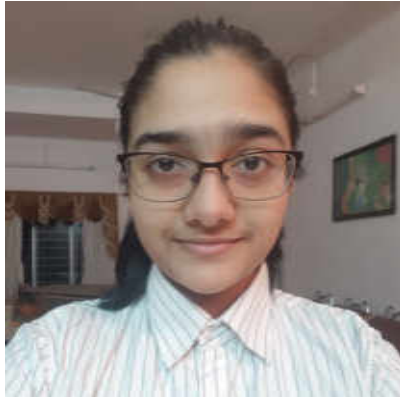
**High Commendation:** Al Jazeera, Sanvi Khaitan-Sanskriti The Gurukul; The Straits Times, Neil Agarwal- Pathways World School, Aravali

**Special Mention:** The New Zealand Herald, Rajveer Wadhwa- La Martiniere College, Lucknow; The Times Of India, Lakhsya Vir Singh Guleria-Army Public School, Tezpur; The Sydney Morning Herald, Bhvsm. Anugna- The Hyderabad Public School, Ramanthapur

**Verbal Mention:** The New York Times, Diksha Rajpurohit- Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls' Public School, Jodhpur; The Washington Post, Priashi Khakholia- The Assam Valley School, Balipara; The Wall Street Journal, Nishi Garg- The Emerald Heights International School, Indore

**Chair:** Anoushka Rabha; **Vice-Chair:** Tanisha Bhadra

# MUN DELEGATES







Editor-in-Chief: Tanisha Bhadra

Deputy Editor: Moom Lego

Associate Editors: Eloziini Senachena and Neelabh Kashyap

Correspondents: Marwati, Raseen, Donavan, Ojas & Lavanya

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E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com

Telephone: 09678074320/08812009627 Website: www.assamvalleyschool.com

Patron: Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal, The Headmaster of The Assam Valley School

# BEHIND THE SCENES



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(L-R): Aaswash Mahanta, Aryadutta Goswami, Shrest Gupta, Anushkaa Seth, Mridushmoy Baruah, Tawhid Alom Laskar, Aryan Chowdhury



Photo credits: MUN Organization

*The Headmaster with the Organizing Team and the MUN Executive Board Members*

Every creature was designed to serve a purpose. What is yours?





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