Second term 2013, we embarked on a challenging journey which extended till the third term, *National ICAC Debate Competition 2013*. The topics mainly revolved around corruption and we had the opportunity to probe in this issue.

Initially, we found it difficult to impose our idea on an unfamiliar audience, using a microphone as the sole tool. Managing the tension, the stress and above all being convincing, was what we both cultivated, as time elapsed. We clearly remember our first victory: a mixture of dread and excitement. What if we lose the next round or how is it going to be like afterwards? Then it came naturally. We discovered with great thrill, the accuracy of argument and eloquence. Topics came and were analysed. We must admit that many a times, we sank into despair when the topics were not in our favour. But our determination and hard work made us shine in the coming rounds.

We will definitely not forget that one occasion when RCC was declared winner and we were the first best losers. This taught us to accept the notion of fair play and we were supported by our friends and teachers. We were then selected for the semi finals and the grand final came shortly. Unfortunately RCPL was declared the winner and we were the first runners up.

This journey would have been impossible without our wonderful coach, the ever supportive one, Mrs Heerah, the Deputy Rector and the Rector herself for their immense trust in us. We would also like to extend our gratitude to our supporters from Lower 6 S2 and lower 6 ST for their never ending support and love. Yes, indeed we need two hands to make a clap and without each other's support, we would not have been attributed the title of "Miss ICAC" and the "Refuting Queen".

We would also like to thank the ballet dancers for their outstanding performance during the finals. We have also met wonderful people across this journey, the chairperson, the members of the jury, the RCC team, the RCPL team and the Paille SSS team who were very outstanding persons. Last but not the least, we would also like to thank Mr Ramdonee and all the wonderful people who have helped us shape our personality. It is indeed sad that these moments are now memories and we did not even realise when this debate ended. It was a splendid journey which ended with joy as well as tears.

The message that is dedicated to each and everyone, quoted by every single debater: “Power corrupts but absolute power corrupts absolutely.” We would also like to thank the one and only, the most powerful idol, God. Yes, once a cure, forever a cure!

Neekita Sewnundun

Heshna Woodun

2nd October, 2013