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TN girl speaks her way to London MBA

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City college girl Sruthi Vijayachandran has won the “Best Young Speaker from Asia” award at an international competition hosted by the University of Cambridge. She has bagged an MBA scholarship at the London School of Business and Finance—but the youngster has decided to put off the MBA, to first pursue a career in communications.

Sruthi holds a Masters Degree in Public Relations from Stella Maris College in the city, and had also taken up the Business English Certificate (BEC) vantage course. She was listed among the top 100 performers in the BEC exam in 2011, and short-listed as one of the nine young students from across Asia to be flown to the UK to take part in the finals of the competition.

Describing her experience onstage at Cambridge, she says, “The first round



Sruthi Vijayachandran

required all contestants to give a five-minute prepared speech about the advantages and disadvantages of hosting the Olympics and how the Games could impact the economy of the host country positively or negatively. The second round was an impromptu speech and the topic assigned to me pertained to the key factors to be considered when preparing for a job interview.” The third round comprised three questions, related to education, business development and professional life, Sruthi recalls.