



Gargi College
Annual Report
1984—1985

Gargi College Annual Day

Thursday, February 28, 1985

Chief Guest : Mr. Abu Abraham

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the eighteenth anniversary of Gargi College, named after the ancient women scholar Gargi. The college was instituted by the Delhi Administration in 1967. It functioned in a school building at Lajpat Nagar for nine years before it shifted to its present premises in 1976. Though it is one of the younger Colleges affiliated to Delhi University, it has made remarkable progress over the past eighteen years.

The total number of admissions made this year were 614 : 192 in B.A. (Pass); 134 in B.Com. (Pass); 103 in B.Sc. (General) ; 108 in B.A. (Hons) and 77 in B.Sc. (Hons.). The college now has 1489 students on its rolls : 457 in B.A. (Pass); 331 in B. Com. (Pass); 230 in B.Sc. (Gen.); 284 in B.A. (Hons.) and 187 in B.Sc (Hons).

Our results in the Final year examinations have been quite satisfactory. B.Sc. (General) 100%; B.Com. (Pass) 100%; B.A. (Pass) 95% English (Hons) 100% ; History (Hons) 100%; Political Science (Hons) 100%; Hindi (Hons); 90%; Sanskrit (Hons) 78% ; Botany (Hons) 100% and Zoology (Hons) 96%. The number of 1st Divisions obtained by our students (all classes) in 1984 examinations was 21 in Zoology (Hons); 45 in Botany (Hons) 6 in B.Sc. (Gen.), 8 in B.A. (Hons) and 1 in B.Com. (Pass).

The positions secured by our students in the University which deserve special mention are as follows. In the Final examination Miss Manju Bala secured the first position in Sanskrit (Hons); Miss P.V. Leela stood third in B Sc. (Gen); and Miss Sunita Gupta the seventh in Political Science (Hons) ; In B.Sc. (Gen) II year the first position in the University was secured by Miss Meenu Arora the second by Miss Shehnaz Ansari and Ritu Ahluwalia and fifth by Rakeshwari Arora and Alita Sood. In B.Sc. (Hons) II years, the third and fourth positions went to Miss Nandini Iyer, Miss Seema P. Ajaibani.

There are 93 permanent Lecturers on our staff now. Two new appointments were made during the year 1984-85, those of Dr. (Miss) Sanjukta Banerji in the Deptt. of History and Dr (Mrs) Usha Prasad in the Deptt. of Botany. Four of part time Lecturers were appointed on the basis of increased work-load. [Miss Seema Bharadwaj (Physics) ; Miss Sushma Mattoo (Chemistry) ; Miss Anju Gupta (Commerce); and Miss Medha Dubhanshi Vinze (Commerce)]. In addition to these, 21 Lecturers were appointed on short term basis against leave vacancies.

At present the following members of the faculty are on Study Leave working towards Ph.D. degrees on topics mentioned against their names :

Mrs. Praveen Sharma : 'Bachchan Aur Unka Kavya'
(Deptt. of Hindi)

Mrs. A. Ansari : 'Psychological Study of Handicapped Children'
(Deptt. of Psychology)

Mrs. Monica Das : 'The Green Revolution & the
(Deptt. of Economics) Rise in Real Earnings of Land-
less Labourers with special
reference to Orissa'.

Mrs. P. Dabas : Some New Organo-metallic
(Deptt. of Chemistry) Compounds of Tungsten'—CAS
Recipient, Teacher-Fellowship
of the U.G.C.

Mrs. Manju Dhawan (Deptt. of Hindi) who was on Study Leave during 1982-83 submitted her thesis for Ph.D. in October 1984 on Bhakti Kaleen Sufi Kavya Mein Baramassa Varnan, Dr. (Miss) Asha Goswami (Deptt of Sanskrit) presented a paper on 'The concept of Gods and Goddesses in Hinduism (Indian Theism), in the VI World Sanskrit Conference held in Philadelphia during October 1984. Dr. (Miss) Vijaya Ramaswamy presented a paper on 'Proto-industrialisation' at the annual session of the Indian History congress held at Chidambaram. She also presented papers on "Merchants and Politics" at the South Indian History Congress held in Mysore, and on Textiles under the Qutub-Shahis of Golkunda at a conference organized by the Salar Jung Museum at Hyderabad.

Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Mohan who was on extra-ordinary leave last year presented a number of papers during the period of her leave in the Conferences held under the auspices of the Physiological Society of Nigeria and the Federation of American Society for Experimental Biology, U.S.A. She presented a paper at the Medical conference held on Experimental Biology also at Madras. One of her research papers was published in the Biological Bulletin of India.

The *co-curricular* activities went on fairly well.

On the Sports front the College secured third position in the Inter College Table Tennis tournament. In the Hockey Inter College match our students defeated St. Stephens College team (3-0). The College was placed third in the Inter College Kho Kho competition. In the All India shooting competition at Shantiniketan, Shatroopa was declared the best shooter. In the Inter College boat pulling competition, Gargi College secured the first position again for the fourth time in succession. Miss Paula Corera was selected to represent the Delhi University in the Inter University Kho Kho match held at Rajkot.

320 cadets were enrolled for the NCC during the year 1984-85. Gulshan Tikka, Shatroopa, Nirmal Dogra, Pushpa Raina and Renu Gulati attended the All India Basic Leadership camp held at Calcutta. The College was awarded the first prize in the Drill competition organized in the All India Training Camp held at Ratighat. At the same camp, Preeti got the first prize in the solo song competition, Shatroopa stood first in firing, and Nirmal Dogra stood first in the cross country race. Alka Khanna, Babloo Khandpur and Renu Gulati attended the Trecking camp in Srinagar and covered the distance assigned to them, successfully. Gulshan Tikka represented the College in both the Republic Day camp and the Prime Minister's Rally.

320 students registered for the N.S.S. during the year under review. A large number of our students attended the orientation programmes organized by the Delhi School of Social Work, All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the University College of Medical Sciences Under the general N.S.S. project of Basic Community Health and Medicine programme, our students participated in the immunization programme in different resettlement colonies in collaboration with the Medical Institute. They also worked for orphans and the mentally retarded children at Kasturba Niketan, (Lajpat Nagar) and for the blind children in the Blind Schools located in South Delhi and Panchkuin Road. They also organized a blood donation camp for the

Red Cross and helped the UNICEF and the Blind School in their fund raising activities. In the way of Self-help, the N.S.S. Volunteers rendered assistance to the College Library staff from time to time in maintaining cleanliness and discipline in the Library and in repairing the damaged books.

Besides, a number of lectures were also organized by the N.S.S. for the entire student body of the College. The ones related to 'Purposeful Utilization of Leisure Time' and 'Pre-marital Counselling' were the most well attended. The Gargi College N.S.S. Choir was awarded the first prize in the Inter-College N.S.S. cultural programme held at the Delhi School of Social Work. Miss Sangeeta Gopal of our College was declared the best participant in a programme for child development sponsored by the Jaycee's Group in collaboration with UNICEF. Miss Suman Bala, Miss Rachna Chaturvedi and Miss Vandana Chaudhri deserve special mention for the work done at various relief camps set up after the Delhi riots. I am happy to add that some of our teachers Dr. (Miss) S. Bhanumati, Dr. (Miss) Vijaya Ramaswamy, Miss Vishlakshi Menon and Miss Pragati Mahapatra also actively participated in the welfare work for the blind under the auspices of the N.S.S. Unit of Gargi College.

The report on the extra-curricular activities will be presented shortly by the President of the Student's Union, Miss Rakeshwari Arora. I wish to place on record my appreciation for the work done by Dr. (Mrs.) Uma Jain, Dr. (Miss) Sanjukta Banerji and Mrs. Vidyabati Das Arora as staff Advisors to the Student's Union.

3065 books were added to the library during the year-bringing the total number of volumes in the library to 39117 (35981 in main and gift collection, 1166 in the text books and 1970 in the Book Bank). Besides the annual recurring grant of Rs. 21,500/-, we also received from the UGC a non-recurring grant of Rs. 60,000/- for the

library under the Sixth Five Year Plan. Another non-recurring grant of Rs. 15,000/- was received for the new courses introduced in the College during the year under review. We also received a grant of Rs. 84,115/- for the purchase of a Xerox reprographic machine. The machine will be installed in the library very soon. I sincerely hope, both students and teachers will make full use of the new facility offered.

During the year 1974-85 Gargi College implemented, as a new venture four projects under the Adult and Continuing Education Scheme of Delhi University. Namely, Adult Literacy, Continuing Education, Environmental Awareness, Legal Literacy and Population Awareness. Our students ran three Centres for Adult Education in Saket, Badarpur and Palam Gaon. A regular course in shorthand typing and Secretarial practice was offered by the college in the way of Continuing Education. Successful candidates will be awarded Certificates in July. Under the Population Awareness project, a plan has been made to survey certain slum areas of the city to study and analyse the problems of stress on women, particularly in regard to the nature of distribution of food within the family. A number of lectures were arranged under the Environmental Awareness and Legal Literacy programmes including some on the 'Matrimonial Rights of Women'. May I congratulate Mrs. B. Dhar for co-ordinating the aforesaid activities successfully.

Two new courses were introduced in the current academic session, i.e. Analytical Methods in Chemistry and Biochemistry and Entrepreneurship and small Business. 19 students enrolled for the first and 37 for the second. Although there is a general cry for the introduction of job oriented courses in the University curriculum, one noticed that the response of the students to these new courses was neither spontaneous nor enthusiastic. The students had to be persuaded and convinced of

their utility to make them opt for it. This is an indication of how deeply entrenched are the conventional degree programmes and how fearful an average student is of making new choices. Under the given system of examinations in which the questions asked tend to be repetative and under the prevalent system of instruction which is tightly geared to examinations, the students are bound to favour the conventional courses. They feel secure with the familiar and the well trodden path.

While we welcome the new courses for which we have received the required grants from the UGC, we feel perturbed about the non-clearance from the UGC of the longstanding and repeated recommendations made by the University for introduction in this college, of M.A. courses in Hindi, History and Sanskrit; and honours courses in Economics, Psychology, Mathematics and Chemistry. Perhaps this is a reflection of the UGC policy not to make new investments in the conventional courses. Needless to state, fundamental disciplines such as these are of great significance in University education. Their importance has to be maintained in the newer colleges as well. No doubt, vocational education is an urgent need in our national context. No doubt, the national priorities must determine the nature of the allocation of government funds. Nevertheless, the character of our universities as places of higher learning has to be retained. Perhaps the way out of the dilemma we face, lies in making university education a highly selective affair in other words, by raising the norms and standards for entry into colleges. This should be possible at some point of time if the policy declared by the government of delinking jobs from degrees is implemented and its implementation is matched a speedy furtherance of vocational training and education.

Talking of financial constraints, the college still awaits the necessary grants from the UGC for the completion of unfinished develop-

ment works on the campus-such as the procurement of a permanent electric connection, having a permanent sewage system and the proper paving of the frontage of the college building etc. I am happy to report, however, about the timely assistance given by the UGC and the Delhi Administration to enable us to meet an unforeseen expenditure this year. Our Science Laboratories which had got damaged because of certain initial defects in construction needed immediate repairs. We received a grant of Rs. 1,41,600 (Rs. 70,800/- from the UGC and an equivalent amount from the Delhi Administration) to meet the cost of the repair work which has been entrusted to the C.P.W.D.

May I convey my thanks to both the academic and non-academic staff for their help and co-operation. I am grateful to all such members of the Faculty who, alongside their teaching obligations, gave much of their time to serve institutional interest at large. My appreciation of the work done by the office bearers of the Student's Union, namely Miss Rakeshwari Arora (President); Miss Vinita Sood (Vice-President); Miss Vandana Bagga (Secretary); and Miss Anjali Kwatara (Treasurer).

In the end, I wish to convey my sincere thanks to the Governing Body of the College. I am grateful to Justice A.N. Grover (Chairman), Shri Yogeshwar Dayal (Treasurer), and all other members of the Governing Body for their valuable guidance and assistance.

Dr. (Miss) K. Sharma
Principal