



Gargi College

Annual Report

1986-87

Gargi College Annual Day

Thursday, March 5, 1987

Chief Guest : Mrs. Amrita Pritam

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the twentieth anniversary of Gargi College. The college was instituted by the Delhi Administration in 1967 and was named after Gargi, the woman scholar who figures in the *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad*.

The total number of admissions made during the session 1986-87 were 639:- 113 in B.A. (Pass); 192 in B.Com. (Pass); 127 in B.Sc. (General); 131 in B.A. (Honours) and 76 in B.Sc. (Honours). The college has 1715 students on its rolls now: 469 in B.A. (Pass); 481 in B.Com. (Pass); 271 in B.Sc. (General); 317 in B.A. (Honours) and 177 in B.Sc. (Honours).

Our results in the Final year examinations of 1986 were outstanding. The college had 100% result in all subjects and courses offered. The number of 1st divisions obtained in the annual examination of 1986 were 6 in Zoology (Honours); 14 in Botany (Honours); 31 in B.Sc (General) and 1 in B.A (Honours).

Positions secured by our students in the University which deserve special mention are as follows: Miss. Jyoti Puri secured the 1st position in the B.Sc (Group B) II year examination. The 3rd and the 4th positions in the same examination were bagged by Gauri and T. Kamala respectively. In B.Sc II year (Group A) examinations Miss. Taranjeet Kaur secured the 2nd position and Miss. M. Sreelakshmi, the 3rd. Miss. Sudha Khurana stood 4th in Zoology (Honours) II year examinations. Again in Botany

(Honours) I year, Miss. Sushmita Mukherjee got the 4th position. Miss. Meeta Pandey stood 9th in the B.Sc (Group B) Final year examination. In B.Com (Pass) I year, Seema got the 2nd position; Miss. Sarita Anand of Sanskrit (Honours) II year got the 3rd position.

May I add here that our students have been doing extremely well in the newly instituted restructured B.Sc course consisting of Analytical Methods in Chemistry and Bio-chemistry and Matho-physics introduced in 1984. This year S. Asha secured the 1st position and Jyoti Gidwani the 2nd position in the University II year examinations. In I year, Rajeshwari secured the 1st position; and Amrit Pal Kaur and Bhuvaneshwari, the 2nd in the University in the same course.

There are 95 permanent Lecturers on our staff now. In addition to these, 22 lecturers were appointed on short term basis against leave vacancies and work load. 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
(Department of Hindi) | : Bachchan Aur Un Ka Kāvya |
| Mrs. A. Ansari
(Department of Psychology) | : Psychological Study of Handi-
capped. |
| Mrs. Monica Das
(Department of Economics) | : The Green Revolution of the Rise
in Real Earnings of Landless
Labour with special reference
to Orissa. |
| Dr. (Mrs.) Prem Khullar
(Department of Chemistry) | : Low Cost Equipment for Chemical
Education. |
| Mr. V.S. Malik
(Department of Commerce) | : Mortality in Small Scale
Industries in Delhi, Ghaziabad
and Faridabad. |
| Mrs. Reeta Sahney
(Department of English) | : Jane Austen's Heroes and Other
Male Characters. |

In addition to the above, two senior members of Botany Department, Dr. C. Biswas and Dr. A. Chintamani, are also on Study Leave. Dr. Biswas is engaged in writing a textbook on 'Gymnosperms' in collaboration with Prof. B.B. Johari. Dr. Chintamani is engaged in research on the Blue Green Algae (Cynobacteria).

I am happy to announce that Mrs. P. Dabas; (Deptt. of Chemistry) Mrs. Meenakshi Bakshi (Deptt. of History) and Mr. R.K. Jain (Deptt. of Commerce) have qualified for the Ph.D degrees. Mrs. Ishrat Haque has submitted her thesis and is awaiting the result.

During the year under review, Dr. (Mrs.) Uma Jain of Physics Department visited the Theoretical Physics Division, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, England. During her short stay there, she worked on the problem of Solid State Sensors and submitted two reports for publication. They related to the work done on the "Temperature dependence of the conductivity of a gas sensor" and on the "Effect of electrode geometry on sensor response". Dr (Mrs.) Aruna Mohan of Zoology Department published two research papers in *Current Science*: one, "Modification of Oestrous Cycle in Albino rats"; and the other, "Distribution of Neurosecretory cells in hypothalmo-hypophyiscal neurosecretory complex of musk shrew". Dr. (Mrs.) Lalita Sehgal of Botany Department contributed a research paper entitled "Euphorbia Mili — Leaf bract Vasculature", to the 1987 session of the Science Congress Association.

The credit for three major publications goes to the Department of History. Namely, the books: *Textile and Weavers in Medieval South India* by Dr. (Miss.) Vijaya Ramaswamy; *Deferred Hope — Black Muslims in Contemporary America* by Dr. (Mrs.) Sanjukta Banerji and *Bhakti and the Bhakti Movement: A New Perspective* by Dr. (Miss.) Krishna Sharma. I am happy to announce that Dr. (Mrs.) Sanjukta Banerji has been awarded a senior Fulbright Scholarship to do further research on the Black Muslims.

Besides, a Symposium was organized by the Department of Political Science this year on "Dissent and Democracy". A cross section of eminent persons from the judiciary, politics, media and academics participated in this seminar. I must congratulate the Political Science Deptt. at its success.

May I state the following in connection with the co-curricular activities during the year '86-87.

On the Sports front, our students did extremely well in Judo. Anita Chauhan bagged three Gold medals; namely, in the Inter college Judo competition of Delhi University, the Netaji Subhash Memorial Inter college Judo meet and Gargi College Judo championship. In the All India Judo competition held at Meerut, Babita Saxena got a Gold; and Arti Gosain, a Gold in her weight category and a silver in the open. Neelam Arora also got a Silver. Both Anita Chauhan and Babita got a Silver in the L.S.R. College Judo meet. Manjeet Kaur got a Silver in the Netaji Subhash Memorial open championship. Both Manjeet Kaur and Seema procured Bronze in the Inter college competition held by Delhi University. Manjeet Kaur got a Bronze in the one held at Gargi. Jyoti Puri bagged the Gold Medal in the All India Invitational Championship in Taekwondo held at AIIMS, Delhi. Earlier she had won a Bronze in a national competition held in Bangalore. In Kho-kho, Niharika Negi of our college was selected to represent Delhi at the National Kho-kho championship held at Indore. There has been an addition in the sports activities this year. Coaching has started, in Cricket and a Cricket team is in the making at present. Besides, instructions in Yoga on a regular basis has also been introduced for those who want to opt for it. I may add that the students receiving instructions in Yoga gave a commendable demonstration on the Sports Day.

As regards the N.C.C., we had 320 cadets on rolls in the year '86-87. An additional N.C.C. officer from the Faculty was appointed this year; namely, Dr. (Mrs.) Renu Sethi. Our N.C.C. team stood first in the Boat Pulling Racketta once again. In this, college has held the championship consecutively for the last five years.

There was active participation by our cadets throughout the year in various spheres such as rifle shooting, nursing, signals trekking, traffic control training, mountaineering and horse riding etc. The Air wing of the N.C.C. Unit of the college was considerably strengthened this year. It had only 10 cadets last year. Now it has 39. Kshмата Joshi made as many as 21 launches in para sailing. Four of our cadets participated in the N.C.C. Air show; namely, Kshмата Joshi, Swapna Gupta, Vibha Malhotra and Monica Kathpalia.

310 students volunteered for the N.S.S. during the year under review. The N.S.S. unit remained remarkably active throughout. The credit goes to the student leadership of Yasmin and the commendable involvement of the teachers in charge, Dr. (Mrs.) Aruna Mohan and Mrs. B. Dhar. Two Blood donation camps were organized in the college, in which the students and staff (academic as well as non-academic) donated more than 100 units of blood. This qualifies the college for the Lt. Governor's certificate in this respect. The N.S.S. volunteers devoted themselves to three major projects i.e. on Adult Education, Family Welfare programme and Education for the Blind. The first two were undertaken in collaboration with Jamia Milia and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences respectively. Our students actively participated in the Immunization Programme of the AIIMS as well. Besides, the college has become one of the Eye donation information centres with the help of Rajendra Prasad Eye Research Centre, AIIMS. Our N.S.S. unit has been working in collaboration with the Family Planning Association of India also. Two of our students along with the Programme Officer (Dr. Aruna Mohan) attended the National Integration camp held at Coimbatore in December. Forty N.S.S. volunteers attended the ten day special camp held in Dakshinpuri. Over and above these, four one day camps were organized during the year for different activities which were well attended. Besides, there was regular and active participation by our students in various seminars, rallies and inter-college N.S.S. activities.

During this session, the Women's Development Centre of the college organized a Career Guidance and Information Cell at the time of admissions to help the new entrants to choose the courses

and subjects most suitable to them. The consultations involved their parents as well. It also organized a Psychometric test for the final year students on career development. This test was given with the objective of broadening the knowledge about career planning and of assisting the students in formulating plans and strategies to be adopted. Initially, this work was undertaken as a pilot-study. It is gratifying to note that now more and more students are going in for it. A ten day workshop in 'Entrepreneurship Development Training Programme' was also organized by the centre in collaboration with the Gujarat Research Society. The aim of this workshop was to enlighten the students about schemes and facilities available for self-employment. Besides, a career exhibition was held in the college for the benefit of the final year students. Similarly, a training programme on Career Attitude Development. The activities of the Women's Development had a twin focus this year — one, to promote knowledge and awareness of specific careers; and two, the development of attitudes and personality as contributory factors for growth and success. I must record the keen involvement shown by Mrs. Asha Arvind towards the fulfilment of her obligations as the Counsellor appointed under the Women's Development Programme. I must also thank Dr. (Mrs.) Sanjukta Banerji and Dr. (Mrs.) Santosh Luthra for the assistance rendered by them.

As part of the Adult & Continuing Education programme we ran 3 centres — two at Shahpur Jat, and one at Neb ki Sarai. At each centre, women of the localities were taught reading and writing and were instructed in matters related to civic sense, hygiene and family planning by our students. I regret to state we could not run the Secretarial course this year because of the paucity of funds since we did not receive the necessary grant in time for the Adult and Continuing Education programme from the U.G.C.

The report on other extra curricular activities will be presented shortly by the President of the Student's Union, Miss. Vimmi Watts. Nevertheless, may I mention the following achievements of our students in particular. Deepti Bhatnagar of Botany Honours II year was awarded the 2nd prize in the All India Essay competition on 'Probabilities of Scientific Development in the 21st century'.

as arranged by the National Research Development Corporation of India. Shivani Gupta got the 2nd prize in light music in the All India Music Competition held at BITS Pilani. Our students secured 2nd and 3rd positions in the inter-college Science projects competition held at St. Stephens College. The 2nd prize went to the team of Sonia Narang, Molshree Jain and Chandna Arora for their project 'Strategic Defence Initiative', and the 3rd to that of Rohini Krishnan, Vibha Malhotra, Kshmata Joshi Ushma Seth and Monika Kathpalia for the one on the 'Calcium content of Egg shells'. Karuna Aggarwal and Sushmita Mukherjee of Botany Honours got the 1st and 2nd prizes in the debate held by the Botany Deptt., Khalsa college. They thus secured the Rolling Trophy for us. Sushmita Mukherjee also procured the 3rd prize in the inter-college Botanical Quiz programme held at Hans Raj college. Sushmita Mukherjee and Karuna Aggarwal together were awarded the 2nd prize by the Deptt. of Botany, Delhi University, in the inter college competition in Herbarium and Plant collection. Karuna Aggarwal got the 1st prize for Flower arrangement at Khalsa College. In the Genetic Model Competition held at Zakir Hussain College the 2nd prize went to Sushmita Mukherjee; and the 3rd to S. Prema. Gargi College team (Karuna, Veena and Nalini) was placed 3rd in the Botanical Guessing Game held at Miranda House. In the inter-college music competitions, Rohini Krishnan got the 2nd prize in Karnataka music both at I.I.T. Delhi and AIIMS. Vatsala Dubey got the 2nd prize in instrumental music at Kirori Mal College. Neetu Nayar got the 1st prize in English debate at Laxmibai College. Poonam Nagpal received the 1st prize in the inter-college competition held at Kamla Nehru College in recitation of Ramacharitamanas.

680 books were added to the Library during the year under review. The total, number of volumes in the Library is now 40731. The total expenditure during the year on books and journals was Rs. 67125/- and Rs. 22375/- on binding, equipment and other accessories. As many as 1,71297 volumes were loaned out to borrowers as against 1,27782 in the year 1985-86.

We have been trying for the introduction of a number of new courses in the college for a long time. The concerned committees of the University have also been recommending their introduction each year. We feel unhappy about the non-clearance from the U.G.C. of our longstanding demands in this respect. As stated in one of my earlier reports also, perhaps this is a reflection of the U.G.C. policy not to make new investments in the conventional courses. Besides, it may also be due to their policy to avoid multiplication of similar courses in the Delhi Colleges falling in a common zone. However, all fundamental disciplines are of vital importance in the life of every college irrespective of its location in relation to others. How can the newer colleges grow otherwise? We have asked for the introduction of M.A. Courses in Hindi, History and Sanskrit; and of Honours in Economics, Psychology, Mathematics and Chemistry. This year, we are in the process of placing our request for Honours courses in Physics and Applied Psychology as well. Whatever be the constraints faced by the U.G.C., considering that our students have been doing exceptionally well in the Sciences, we expect that the U.G.C. will give serious thought for sanctioning the Science Courses at least at their earliest. We are hopeful in this respect in view of the proposed thrust of the new educational policy of the Government on scientific advancement in general. Besides, we have new expectations as well in view of the big allocation made for education in the budget recently placed before the Parliament.

Talking of the financial support required from the UGC, the college is anxiously awaiting release of funds from that source for the additional furniture we need. The student strength of the college has risen from 1100 in 1979 to well over 1700. But we have not received the necessary grant from the UGC for the purchase of furniture we now require, in spite of our repeated requests. I sincerely hope we will be able to resolve this problem during the coming session. Furthermore, no grants have been released as yet for our long-standing requirements for having a permanent electrical connection, a permanent sewage connection; and for other essential development works. Another immediate need of ours is an auditorium. Not having it has been a great

handicap. Although we have been functioning under this handicap as best as we can, a full collegiate life is not possible without it. As things stand, we ourselves, the staff and students, will have to make an all out concentrated effort to raise funds for it on our own with the help of our Governing Body.

However, let me conclude these observations on a happy note. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the planning for the construction of Staff quarters is already afoot and we can hopefully look forward to having them ready for occupation by the end of this year.

May I convey my thanks to both the academic and non-academic staff for their help and cooperation. I am particularly grateful to all such members of the faculty who, alongside their teaching obligations, gave much of their time to serve the institutional interest at large. May I congratulate the President and all office bearers of the Students' Union for looking after the extra-curricular activities during their tenure. I also wish to place on record my appreciation of the work done by Dr (Miss) Anita Katyal and Dr (Miss) Keya Mukherjee as Staff Advisors to the Students' Union.

In the end, may I convey my sincere thanks to the former Governing Body which functioned till 31st December, 1986. I am deeply grateful to its Chairman, Shri N.L. Chowla and to its members for steering all affairs of the college. I thank them once again for their assistance and cooperation.

I look forward to the guidance from the newly constituted Governing Body which is scheduled to meet shortly.

Dr (Miss) Krishna Sharma
Principal