



*GARGI COLLEGE
ANNUAL REPORT
1968-69*

Chief Guest Dr. D. S. KOTHARI M.Sc., PhD (Cantab)
Chairman, University Grants Commission

College Day 24 February, 1969

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Kothari, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have great pleasure in extending a hearty welcome on behalf of the staff and students of our college to you. Sir, the day marks very nearly the end of two academic sessions since the founding of the Institution in 1967. We are very glad indeed that you could spare some time to be with us as our Chief Guest on this important occasion. We are proud of the fact that you, who have had such long association with the University of Delhi and are now responsible for guiding and managing the affairs of the Universities in the Country are with us, this afternoon. We have some moral claims on your time for we look up to you, as many others for guidance and inspiration.

I may be excused for recounting briefly your long and distinguished academic career. Dr. Kothari after brilliant career at the Universities of Allahabad and Cambridge came to the University of Delhi in 1934 and was soon appointed Professor and Head of the Department of Physics—an office he held from 1934 till 1948. He was largely responsible for laying down a firm foundation and the reputation of the Department. He continued his association with the University in the Department as honorary Professor till 1961. In the intervening period he was appointed Scientific Adviser to the Union Ministry of Defence by the Government of India and was largely responsible for the Defence Development of the country. In 1961 he was appointed as Chairman of the University Grants Commission; an office he has held with great distinction ever since. More recently he was instrumental in concluding an agreement with Soviet Scientists for a broad based scientific collaboration between India and the Soviet Union. He was the leader of the Indian team of Scientists.

The countries educational problems have suddenly become very complicated due to the rapid expansion of Universities and Colleges, and the economic development of the country. He was appointed Chairman of an Education Commission (1964-66) to review the entire educational system of the country. The Commission's report is generally admitted to

be a landmark in the history of education in the country. We only hope that the numerous worthwhile suggestions that the report carries are duly implemented, without unnecessary delay. I personally think that on critical occasions such as we are in today we certainly require both courage and determination. I am sure that under your leadership these qualities are not wanting and the implementation will be carried out with confidence.

I have now great pleasure in presenting our annual report for the year 1968-69. We are an affiliated college of the Delhi University and we have, I am glad to say, been most sensitively concerned about implementing all the rules and regulations regarding the administration of the college. The College Governing Body is registered as an independent society. Though we have made some progress, we have yet not overcome all the obstacles. But I am confident that with your guidance and with the help of a Governing Body with a progressive outlook—we will be able to solve our problems as we come by them.

Admissions

The number of students on rolls of the college today is 545 of which 71 students are in the Pre-Medical. Our request for opening B. Sc. 'B' Group from the current academic year was met with favourable response from the University authorities and we were asked to open B. Sc. I & II Year classes which we did. Our science staff have worked very hard to bring our laboratories upto date. I am glad to report that their hard work was well rewarded as we were able to secure cent percent results in Pre-Medical University Examinations held in April, 1968. It gives me great pleasure to announce that Miss Madhu Chadda and Miss Veena Chugh passed in the First Division while twenty other students passed in the Second Division. Two students were placed under compartment. We have applied for permission to start certain Honours Courses from the next academic year. I sincerely hope that our request will be granted, as without Honours we cannot ever hope to attract better quality of students.

College Building

The college is housed, at present, in a new school building, which indeed has many advantages over similar, earlier buildings. In the next

academic session we expect one thousand or more students on the rolls of the college. With this large number of students, we will be, I am afraid terribly congested, and may not have enough accomodation in Class rooms, Canteen and the Library. The space for extra-curricular activities will also present a problem. Our Assembly Hall is too small and cannot accomodate more than three hundred students. The play grounds likewise are also insufficient, and this because of the limited space within the premises. Keeping in view the above difficulties our hope of encouraging students with special aptitudes and abilities is severely restricted. It is, therefore, strongly hoped that the Delhi Administration will make every effort to enable the college to shift to its permanent site as soon as possible. However till the college finds its permanent residence we would request the Delhi Administration and the U.G.C. to help us, by sanctioning some special grant, so that we can make temporary arrangements for Tutorial rooms as well as for the Canteen.

At present we have 35 members on the academic staff of the college. The new appointments for 1968-69 are :—

English

Mrs. Eira Patnaik.	Asstt. Lecturer.
Mrs. Prarthna Saran.	" "
Mrs. Jogesh Chadha.	" "
Miss Charusheela Sohni.	" "

Hindi

Dr. (Miss) Kanti Tripathi.	Lecturer.
Mrs. Vidya Sharma.	"
Miss Santosh Jain.	"
Miss S. Vijay Laxmi	Asstt. Lecturer.

Mathematics

Miss Kanchan Bashe.	Asstt. Lecturer.
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Economics

Mrs. Manjit Kaur.	Lecturer.
Miss Kiran Chopra.	Asstt. Lecturer.
Miss Indu Jairath.	" "

History

Miss Renu Adya.	Asstt. Lecturer.
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Political Science

Miss Amrita Arora.	Asstt. Lecturer.
Mrs. Madhuri Srivastava.	" "
Mrs. Sharda Nigam.	" "

Chemistry

Miss. Pratibha Sharma.	Lecturer.
Dr. M. H. Desai.	"

Botany

Miss K. K. Pushpavathy.	Lecturer.
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Zoology

Miss Amrit Kaur.	Asstt. Lecturer.
Miss Rita Anand.	" "

Miss Ritu Prakash, Lecturer in Botany resigned in the middle of the session and Miss K. K. Pushpavathy took her place.

Miss Manorma Abrol, our Physical Directress has been sanctioned extra-ordinary leave for one year for higher studies at the University of Wisconsin, (U.S.A.) Miss Inderjit Kaur Gill was appointed in her place but has left us to join a permanent post at Mata Sundri College.

Two of our lecturers in English, having attended the summer school in English language at Delhi University in May-June, 1968 initiated the scheme of a forty-days intensive course in the English language which was compulsory for all Arts students at the beginning of the first term. It is hoped that the students have benefitted from the scheme.

A number of staff-members are presently engaged in research work. Our congratulations to Dr. Miss Chander Prabha of the Sanskrit Dept. for having successfully completed her Ph.D. Thesis. And also to Miss R. Garg of the Hindi Dept. for standing first in the M-Litt. (Part I) Examination.

Library

Miss Navalini was appointed as Librarian in October and joined us in the Second Term.

Our Library has seen rapid expansion during the period under review. Number of books have more than doubled. Last year we had about 3,000 books on our stock. This year 3,339 volumes have been added raising their number to 6,339.

There has been great increase in the number of journals subscribed to by the Library. Last year, only half a dozen journals were being subscribed to, but now their number is 89. Besides this, we are also receiving 5 journals on a gratis basis.

More and more students and teachers are making use of the library. On an average, 200 readers come to the Library and 140 books are issued, daily. Visualising that still greater demands will be made on the Library next year, due to increase in number of both the students as well as classes, the present floor on which the library is situated, will be inadequate. Hence we have plans to shift it to the other side of the second floor, which will help us to add one more room to the present accomodation.

Last, but not the least, we have to place on record our deep appreciation of the generosity of the British Council, and of Dr. Gordon L. Hiebert and the Principal who have kindly donated books and periodicals to the Library.

Academic Associations

With the increase of number of students there was a corresponding increase in the membership of each association of the college. With the introduction of the B.Sc. Science courses, Science Association, has also been organised.

The English Literary Association held its elections in the second term and elected Anila Chawla as President and Shsaloie as Secretary. On the 4th of December 1968 Dr. Sarup Singh, Head of the Dept. of English

in the University addressed the Association and expressed the hope that Delhi University would produce students who thought maturely. On 7th of the December, 1968, a Recitation Competition was organized, in which Rani Singh won the first prize while Bharti Banerjee's recitation was highly appreciated.

The Hindi Sahitya Parishad held its inaugural function on the 22nd of November, 1968 with Dr. Om Prakash, from the Delhi University, in the chair. He spoke of the need for concerted efforts for achieving national unity. A short story competition held by the Parishad drew keen response from the students and the first three stories, were selected for publication in the college magazine.

The Sanskrit Association elected Unril Jain and Sanjogita Malhotra, as the President and Secretary respectively. The second years (Madhulika and Shyamlata) carried away the prizes in a recitation competition. The association sent students to the I. P. College recitation competition where they gave a creditable performance.

The Political Science Association invited three speakers from the University; Dr. Harnam Singh, Mr. Frank Thakurdas and Mr. R. B. Jain. Dr. Singh spoke on 'Force in International Relations'. Mr. Thakurdas, on 'Mahatma Gandhi', and Mr. R.B. Jain on 'the British Parliament. This varied fare was highly educative and thought provoking for the students. The Association proposes to organise a Discussion Group, in which it hopes to discuss the problem of "Twenty years of Democracy in India."

The Economic Association was inaugurated by Dr. K.A. Naqvi from Delhi School of Economics who spoke on 'Economic Planning'. The association also organized a trip to Simla which was greatly enjoyed by the students.

The Historical Society invited Dr. Romila Thapar, Reader, Delhi University, who spoke on "The Interpretations of Indian History. It was highly illuminating talk, greatly appreciated by the audience. The society took the students to the National Museum from which they benefitted greatly. The society also organised a trip to Jaipur for two days. It was highly instructive as well as a delightful outing for the students.

The new Science Association elected Girja Kaul and Kiran Mullick, both of the Second Year as President and Secretary respectively. The association was formally inaugurated by Dr. B.M. Johri, Dean of Science Faculty, who gave an interesting talk on "Prospectus of Science Education." Some Science films were arranged for the students during this session. Botanical excursions were arranged on 9th and 10th of February 1969 to Budha Jayanti Garden, Okhla and Jamuna Banks.

Union Societies

The year began with the election of the Union Office-bearers:—Jyotsna Mahapatra was elected President, Bharti Banerjee the Secretary, Charanjit, the Vice-President and Madhulika, the Treasurer.

In our college there are six Union Societies. The English and Hindi Dramatic Societies, the English and Hindi Debating Societies, the Music and Dance Society and the Social Service League. The most active society this year was the Hindi Dramatic Society. In the welcome given to the new students, the Second Year students produced a lively play in which they cleverly imitated the mannerisms of the First Years. The First Year Students in return put up a play called (*Kya Musibat Hai*) which showed that there was plenty of dramatic talent among them. This was followed by the annual dramatic competition in which Charanjit of first year stole the limelight with her performance as Chacha Chokkan. The second year's entered two plays, *Ande ke Chilke*—which received the prize for best direction and "*Ma*". The second and third prizes went to Jasbir and Indra Bhardwaj respectively. The greatest contribution of this society, however was a play called "*Uljhan*" which was performed for the public. This was the first public performance staged by our infant college. The audience was deeply impressed by the high standard of acting. A great deal of the credit, I must say, goes to the three staff members—Mrs. Malhotra, Miss Santosh Jain and Miss Vijaylakshmi—who put in a lot of hard work. We also sent an entry to the Inter-College Hindi Dramatic Competition held at Lady Shri Ram College. The Music and Dance Society has also been quite active this year. Folk dances and songs were performed by both the Second and First Year at the inaugural functions. At the light

Music Competition Shyamoli Chatterjee of Pre-Medical won the first prize. Anila Chawla of Second Year got the second prize and Renu of First Year the third prize. The society also held a Classical Music Competition in which Swaran Kapoor received the first prize. Swaran is a very promising newcomer with a very mellifluous voice. She received the first prize in the Punjabi Inter College song Competition held at Dyal Singh College. The Society is performing a ballet, '*Shakuntala*' for the College Day Function. The Society has also started Odissi and Kathak classes which are held twice a week.

The English Dramatic Society found a lot of talent among the students of the B.Sc. Class. In the English Dramatic Competition the three acts of Bernard Shaw "*Arms and the Man*" were performed by different groups. Girja Kaul of B.Sc. gave delightful rendering of Nicole. Neelam Kapoor of First Year as Louka and Vrinda Mehta as Raina were also very good. In the opening functions, Rani Singh and Jasbir sang an English song, while the First Year presented a tableaux of the '*Seven Ages of Man*'.

The two Debating Societies held, one debate each. Hema Krishanan received the first prize in the English debate and Jyotsna and Santosh received the first and the second prize in the Hindi Debate.

The Social Service League is doing good work by sending groups of students to nearby villages. The League also gave books to those students who have applied to the Student's Aid Fund. The League invited Dr. S.N. Ranade, who spoke on "Drinking Water Supply in every Indian-Village." The students decided to contribute 25 Paise per month for the same and 10 Paise per month for the Child Welfare Association. Our students also participated in the Gandhi Centenary Project at Rajghat.

The Students Union had also organised several film shows which are always greatly appreciated by the students.

Games

The College has made progress in the field of sports since the last year. We have participated in the Inter College Matches in Throwball and Basketball.

We have played friendly matches with Lady Shri Ram College in Throwball. In the Inter Class throwball matches the Second Year Class defeated the First Year Class.

This year for the first time we formed a Basketball team. They practice regularly with great enthusiasm. We have played friendly matches with Indraprastha College and the International American School. We entered the Inter College and Delhi State Tournaments. In the Inter-Class Matches the First year defeated the Second Years by a narrow margin.

In the Delhi State cycling championships, Nayantara of the Second Year stood second in the Senior Section. She was selected for the North Zone Cycling Meet to represent the Delhi State, and also represented the Delhi Team for the Nationals held at Trivandum. She also participated in the First Sarojini Naidu Hockey Touranament held at Dehra Dun.

In the Inter Class Volleyball Matches the First Year Class defeated the Second Years.

The College Sports Day was held on 11 January 1969. Our Chief Guest was Dr. S. P. Luthra, the Chairman of our College Governing Body, who distributed the prizes. The function was a great success. Maya was adjudged as the Best athlete. Other interesting highlights of the Sports Day were the Chatti Race, the Staff Race, the Obstacle Race and the Tug-of-War between the Staff and the Students, which was won by the students this time.

The elections of the Office bearers for the Sports was held in November. Veena Sethi of the Second Year was elected as President, Maya was elected as the Vice President and Arvinder was chosen for the Secretaryship.

N.C.C.

The N.C.C. Classes started this year only. The girls showed great interest and 150 girls were enrolled. On 15th of August about 100 cadets participated in the Oath Ceremony, when they promised to abide by the rules and regulations of the N.C.C. The 14th of November, was celebrated as the N.C.C. day and ranks were disbursed to the Cadets. On

25th January a march-past was arranged. Km. Harbeer Kaur First Year was selected as the best cadet of the year and got the attendance prize as well.

Conclusion

It would not be quite out of place for me to record our moral concern for the future of collegiate education. The past year or so has been in the life of the Delhi University in many respects an exceptional one. Our life in this college has not been seriously disturbed by the repeated disturbances in the University campus. Yet we find ourselves involved in the process of change that is going on. We recognise that the time for changes has come—changes in the administrative structure ; in the courses of studies ; in the outmoded system of examinations. The crisis of University Education in India has many dimensions, as you have rightly observed in your recent convocation address at the Indore University. But the most important one from our limited point of view is, in your expressive phrase "*To see the university carried into the colleges.*" I do not think that affiliated colleges are mere appendages of the University, and I hope that ways and means will be found to make them more an integral part of University life. We have constantly to remind ourselves that colleges are and ought to be the centre of activity for students in their formative years of development. For when all is said and done against affiliated colleges - they remain the chief instruments for transmitting the capital of our civilisation from generation to generation. We are conscious of the change in values and outlook and the great limitation that this change has placed on those in the teaching profession. Even so the question how to be a good teacher remains unaltered. How to make a class an experience worth remembering is a question which we teachers have to ask ourselves almost every year and before the beginning of every term. This function has been sacred in the past and will remain sacred in future. We only hope that institutional arrangements would be improved in such a manner as would enable us to carry out our duties to the best of our ability.

Every college, I believe, is unique and the hall-mark of its uniqueness is self-generative and not imitative. We in this college have a challenge and an opportunity and a responsibility : a challenge to

encourage the growth of good education and an opportunity to achieve this in a physical setting which we hope will soon be more spacious and congenial; and the responsibility to prepare our students for service in our growing and developing country. It is thus that we hope to be true to the image of the philosopher—saint Gargi who herself resolutely strove after truth and knowledge which indeed is the end of all education.

I think I am singularly fortunate in having a staff which is so dedicated and devoted to discharge of their respective responsibilities and the enthusiasm it has shown in establishing the reputation of this infant institution. I am grateful for their warm and unstinted co-operation and feel proud of them. I must also gratefully acknowledge the assistance of the entire administrative staff which has carried out its duties with scrupulous attention and thus have never failed to inspire confidence. This report will not be complete without reference to the role of the student leaders especially Jyotsna, Bharoti, Charanjeet, Madhulika and Nirmal whose enthusiasm and affection have not only kept alive the many sided activities of the college but have also laid the foundation of some traditions which I hope will gather more strength in the years to come. This after all is the only capital which a college can boast of.

I have one more word to add. To have a Board of Governors which has a parental attitude towards the staff and students and the welfare of the institution, is a matter of some good fortune, especially for me. I therefore, cannot help but record my personal gratitude for the manner in which our Chairman, Dr., Luthra and our Treasurer L. Harish Candra have guided me in my work throughout the last academic year which has seen so many changes. Their kindly interest has been a constant encouragement to me and I have often wondered what I would have done without their personal concern and wonderful spirit of cooperation.

In conclusion may I thank you once again for accepting our invitation to be the chief guest this afternoon. I am sure it is going to be memorable day in the life of this Institution. May I thank you all ladies and gentlemen for your kind interest in this institution and for gracing this occasion.

(Mrs.) Indira Thakurdas

Gargi College
24 February, 1969.

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