



Gargi College
Annual Report
1987-88

Gargi College Annual Day

Friday, March 11, 1988

Chief Guest : Mrs Tara Ali Baig

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

The Session '87-'88 had turbulent beginnings. Hardly had we settled down to start with the new academic year when everything was thrown out of gear by the All India teachers strike. At a time when colleges bustle with life, they had a forlorn and deserted look. We were no exception. The teachers were restive; the students, a little bewildered; and the Principal rather worn out by the uncertainty all around, and having to keep track of the developments from one day to another. Perhaps the worst sufferers were the freshers. Having just entered the portals of college in high spirits to begin a new phase of their lives, they felt lost and disillusioned. This situation continued for nearly three months, which is a very large chunk of an academic session. And then there was the aftermath and the fall out of the strike. It took sometime to settle down to a normal functioning of the college after the storm and the heat.

It was gratifying to note that the teachers did their very best to complete their courses thereafter; and that the students cooperated by following the 6 day week teaching schedule. Nevertheless, one cannot deny that we worked with shrunken time left at our disposal. Teachings had to be carried on at a tangent without the desirable breaks; and the co-curricular activities had to be steered without the advance planning required. The extra-curricular activities suffered the most on account of the truncated session of '87-'88. However much one may desire to forget it all on this happy day, not to speak of it would be nothing short of a conscious omission of not referring to the major happening of the year under review which affected the collegiate life in many respects. However, it is a matter of great satisfaction that everything possible was done. by the teachers for their students during the period they had at their disposal from November onwards. Teachers—being teachers—could hardly act otherwise. In the final analysis, it is their students who matter the most to them.

The total number of admission made for the session 1987-88 was 595:— 116 in B.A (Pass); 126 in B.Com (Pass); 117 in B.Sc (General); 160 in B.A (Honours), and 76 in B. Sc (Honours). The college has 1723 students on its rolls at present : 393 in B.A (Pass); 484 in B. Com (Pass); 276 in B.Sc (General); 383 in B.A (Honours) and 187 in B.Sc (Honours).

Our results in the final year University examinations of 1987 were outstanding. The college had 100% result in all subjects and courses offered. The number of 1st divisions obtained in the annual examination of 1987 were 35 in B.Sc (General); 11 in Botany (Honours); 7 in Zoology (Honours); 3 in B.A (Honours) and 3 in B.Com (Pass).

The performance of some of our students was quite gratifying. The positions secured by them in the University were as follows : Jyoti Puri stood 1st in the University in B.Sc (General) III year ; Karuna Aggarwal secured the 1st position in Botany (Honours) examination of II year; Sushila Pant had 2nd position in Hindi (Honours) II year; and Parminder Siddhu stood 3rd in Zoology (Honours) III year. In B.Sc (Group B) III year examinations, T. Kamala stood 4th in III year, and Rashmi Rawat, 5th, in II year. Geeta Menon secured 6th position in B.Com (Pass) II year examination; M. Sreelakshmi secured the 8th; and Paranjeet, the 9th positions in B.Sc (Group A) III year examinations. Gauri Secured 9th position in B.Sc (Group B) IIIrd Examinations.

The present strength of our permanent academic staff is 98 which includes Mrs. Nishi Bir Chawla, Miss Veena Tucker, Dr. (Miss) Keya Mukherjee who were appointed against permanent posts during this year. Besides this, 5 lecturers were appointed against the restructured courses, i.e., Analytical Methods in Chemistry & Bio-Chemistry, and Enterprenurship & Small Business. Over and above that, 20 lecturers were appointed from time to time during this year against leave vacancies and work load. An additional Directress of Physical Education was also appointed during the current year. Namely, Miss S. Sheela Kumari.

The following members of the faculty are on study leave at present working towards Ph.D. degrees on the topics mentioned against their names :—

Mr. V.S. Malik (Deptt. of Commerce)	: Mortality in Small Scale Industries in Delhi, Ghaziabad and Faridabad.
Mrs. Reeta Sahney (Deptt. of English)	: Jane Austen's Heroes and Other Male Characters.
Mrs. Manjeet Singh (Deptt. of Political Science)	: The Problem of Racial Discrimination and the United Nations—A study of the working of CERD.
Mrs. Tara Natrajan (Deptt. of Philosophy)	: The Nature and Structure of 'I' Consciousness in the Vedanta and the Phenomenology of Edmund Husserl—A Comparative Study.

The following are also on Study leave and are presently engaged in Post-doctoral research in the areas as specified below :—

1. Dr. (Mrs.) Lalita Sehgal : Micropropagation of Trees with special reference to Ornamentals (is attached to the University of Horticulture & Forestry, Solan.)
(Deptt. of Botany)
2. Dr. (Mrs.) Bharati : Ecological Study of Plant Species Diversity in Relation to Soil Variation in the J.N.U. Complex (is attached to the School of Environmental Sciences, J.N.U.)
Bhattacharya
(Deptt. of Botany)
3. Dr. (Mrs.) C.K. Khurana : A Method for Testing Teratogenic Drugs (is attached to the School of Life Sciences, J.N.U.)
(Deptt. of Chemistry)

I am happy to announce the award of Ph.D. degree to Mrs. Manjushree Singh (Deptt. of History) on her thesis on "Agrarian Problems and Indian National Congress in the United Provinces 1931-39"; and that of M.Phil Degrees to Mrs. Geeta Kitchlu (Deptt. of Commerce) and Mrs. Ira Bhaskar (Deptt. of English). Mrs. Praveen Sharma (Deptt. of Hindi) and Miss Indu Sarna (Deptt. of Physics) have submitted their thesis for Ph.D. Dr. (Mrs) Renu Sethi (Deptt. of Political Science) was awarded two diplomas—one in Constitutional Law and the other in, Parliamentary Procedures by the Institute of Constitutional & Parliamentary Studies. She secured the 1st and 2nd position in the two courses respectively.

A number of research papers were published in learned journals by some members of our Science faculty as listed below. The last three mentioned in the list have been accepted for publication and should be in print soon.

Dr. (Miss) S. Bhanumati
(Deptt. of Chemistry)

"Hydroxylation of Alkyl Phenols by Ce IV in conjunction with H_2O_2 and SDS' in the Journal of Chemical Society (USA)
'Ce IV induced hydroxylation of Alkylated Hydro-carbons and Phenols' in Tetrahedron journal (UK)

Dr (Mrs) Prakash Dabas
(Deptt. of Chemistry)

"Quinolinato and Salicylaldoximato Derivatives of Dialkoxydichlorooxotungsten (VI) 'in the Indian Journal of Chemistry. 'Adducts of $WOCl_4$ and WO_2Cl_2 with some Lewis Bases" in the Journal of Synthetic Reactivity Inorganic Metal Organic Chemistry (USA).

Dr (Mrs) Aruna Mohan
(Deptt. of Zoology)

"Effect of Prolonged administration of prolactin on the Oestrous cycle of the Laboratory rat" in the journal of Experimental clinical endocrinology

Dr (Mrs) Gita Mathur
(Deptt. of Botany)

"Use a weed to teach a class" in the Journal of Biology Education.

Dr (Ms) Indu Sarna
(Deptt. of Physics)

"Atomic positions of two new polytypes of the paper— CdI_2 " in the journal of Zeitschrift Kristallographic.

Dr (Mrs) A. Chintamani
(Deptt. of Botany)

"Cynobacteria and Biotechnology" (accepted) Journal of Environmental Sciences.
"Zinc induced changes in growth in the Cyanobacterium *Synechococcus* 6301: characteristics of adaptation to elevated zinc concentration" (accepted) in the journal *Phykos*.

"Some phenomenological observations in *Synechococcus* 6301 adapted to elevated levels of Zinc" in accepted the journal, *Biochem Bhysiol Pflanzen*. (Japan)

Besides, Dr (Miss) S. Bhanumati presented a paper on "Dye sensitized Photooxygenation of 3-Benzylidene-2-Phenyl-2,3-Dihydro-4 (H)-1-Benzopyran-4" at the National Symposium at Aligarh University. Dr (Mrs) Aruna Mohan presented a paper on 'Modifications in the oestrous cycle of intact rats by multiple pituitary grafts' at an all India symposium held at Annamalai University by the Society for Reproductive Biology and Comparative Endocrinology. I may add here that a text book entitled 'Developmental Biology' was published this year by Dr (Mrs) VB Rastogi. The book has had a good response from various Universities.

May I also report on the Post doctoral work done by Dr (Mrs) A Chintamani (Deptt. of Botany) and Dr (Mrs) Prem Khullar (Deptt. of Chemistry) during the period of their Study leave. Dr. Chintamani studied the techniques in Biotechnology with special reference to the Photosystem activity and carbon metabolism at the School of Life Sciences, J.N.U.. Dr. Khullar completed her work on a Low cost equipment for chemical education (namely, the Conductometer, pH meter and Colorimeter) at Delhi University. Besides, she had also undertaken a project at I.I.T. involving the study of the thermodynamic properties of aqueous solutions of surfactants and biologically important compounds.

From amongst the members of the Arts faculty, Miss. Shashi Mutatkar was appointed by the Department of English of the University of Delhi to edit the text-books prescribed for the B.A (Pass) Elective English course. In this connection, she also attended a five week workshop on 'Material Production' organized for the editors. Dr. (Miss) Vijaya Ramaswamy of the Deptt. of History is presently engaged in a project for the Handloom Board involving a study of the 'Weavers Folk tradition in South India'. It can well be taken as an extension of her earlier research on the Textile Industry in South India during the Medieval period.

Co-curricular activities

On the Sports front, once again a Gargi College Sports Festival was organized this year during Feb. 15 women's colleges of the Delhi University participated in this. The concentration was on Basket-

ball, Kho-Kho, Judo and Volley-ball. In the Inter-College events in the University, our students secured the 4th position in Kho-Kho. We secured the 2nd position in the University in the Inter-college Judo-championships. Manjeet Kaur and Arati Gosain of IInd year, and Veena Chautala of I year got Silver Medals in their weight categories. Besides, Neelam Arora of II year bagged the Silver Medal in the Netaji Subhash Memorial Judo competition. Niharika Negi of IIIrd Yr. was selected to represent the Delhi University in the Inter-University Kho-Kho tournament held at Patiala. Niharika Negi and Lata Thakur represented Delhi State in the National Kho-Kho Tournament held at Kannanore, Kerala. Besides, Jasvinder Kaur of IInd year represented Delhi State in the Junior National Volleyball Tournaments held at Bhadreswar, West Bengal. As is apparent the College did well in Kho-Kho and Judo. May I add here that while maintaining and improving upon our position in Kho-Kho and Judo, we need to put in greater efforts for better performance in sports other than Kho-Kho and Judo. Now that we have 2 D.P.E.S. in the College, we hopefully look forward to greater activity in sports.

320 cadets were enrolled in the N.C.C. in the year '87-'88. The N.C.C. activities were carried on successfully under the guidance of Dr. V.B. Rastogi (Deptt. of Zoology) and Dr. Renu Sethi (Deptt. of Political Science). I may report that Dr. Renu Sethi has recently taken charge as an additional N.C.C. officer in the college after completing the pre-commission course held at Gwalior. It gives me great pleasure to announce here that Dr. Sethi had stood 2nd in that course which was organized at an All India level and was attended by more than 50 N.C.C. officers from different parts of the country.

The performance of our cadets during '87-'88 has been highly commendable. Indrani Rangachari bagged a gold medal for being declared as the best all round cadet at the All India Advance Leadership Camp held at Ranchi. Indrani Rangachari and Anju Sharma got the 2nd prize in Signals at the same camp. Anju Sharma, Sangeeta Narula and Sangeeta Sethi were awarded gold medals in the Annual Navy Regatta for boat pulling. Our team of Indrani Rangachari, Vandana Rakheja and Sangeeta Narula was awarded the 1st prize in the 'kit layout' competition held at the All India Basic Leadership Camp at Puri. At the Annual Training Camp held at Dehradun, Gargi

College cadets secured the 1st prize in drill, and also in the cultural programme held at that camp. Our cadets did equally well in the Air and the Naval Wings. In the competition held at the Vayusena Camp at Jaipur, Kshмата Joshi was awarded a gold medal as the All India Best Cadet, Vayusena. She obtained yet another gold medal at Jaipur for the cross country championship. Radhika procured a gold medal for Scuba diving competition organized by the N.C.C. in Delhi. Besides, two of our cadets, Indrani Rangachari and Kavita, have been selected for training in horse riding under the programme initiated by the batallion 2RT. Lastly, Manjari Sharma and Aparna Chand deserve special mention for their very active participation in the Nursing Course held at the Army Base Hospital.

313 students volunteered for the NSS during the year under review. Gargi College NSS Unit was actively engaged in the Adult Education Programme sponsored by the Ministry of Human Resources and Development. It also conducted a survey of the slums in Dakshinpuri, and organised various welfare activities for the children in the area. Throughout the year, our NSS volunteers carried on with their continuing programme of rendering help to the patients at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, and to the blind children at the Blind Association at R.K. Puram. They also worked for the Blind Relief Association. This year, they also undertook a programme of welfare work at the Lady Noyce School for the Deaf and Dumb (Delhi Gate). A great deal was done by them in the way of organizing Blood Donation Camps. The college was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Lt. Governor for the commendable service rendered to the public by our students in this respect. Some of our students actively participated in the Anti-sati Campaign. Responding intensely to the Kanpur tragedy, they observed the International Women's Day by holding an open seminar within the college on the dowry theme. Papers were presented in this seminar by students as well as teachers, which aroused active participation on a large scale. A series of talks were also arranged under the NSS on topics of social significance. There was full participation by our students in the NSS activities organised by the University. The college got the 3rd prize in the Inter College NSS cultural programme.

The Adult & Continuing Education programme was carried on in the college in close conjunction with the N.S.S. Besides working for

adult literacy, the college arranged for showing a film on Population Control measures in the nearby villages. Talks were also held on the subject with the women folk there. A couple of lectures were also arranged for the college students to promote awareness of the legal rights of women. A summer school for proficiency in typing, shorthand and secretarial practice is being planned for 1988.

The Women's Development Centre in the college saw an increased inflow of students for career guidance, mostly from the final year. According to the Counsellor, Mrs. Asha Arvind, there is a growing trend amongst our students towards career mindedness. Frustrations seem to surface very often on account of the lack of clarity of purpose and the inability to fix goals they wish to achieve. Counselling is made available in all respects through the Women's Development Centre. I was happy to receive the information that there have been only a few active cases with personal problems; and that all such cases were found to be self-referral. Nevertheless, we must make further efforts to widen the scope for greater interaction with our students. Ordinarily, the initiative has to come from them of course. It is good to note however, that they are gradually shedding off their inhibitions to seek advice, when advice is needed.

The report on other extra-curricular activities will be presented shortly by the President of the Students Union, Miss. Sonia Narang. It must be mentioned here that the students had to squeeze their extra-curricular activities to fit into the short period they had at their disposal on account of the teachers strike. Notwithstanding the constraints however, they did manage to hold all annual events, and were able to participate in some of the inter-college activities as well. They were also able to organize lectures by a number of eminent persons during the year. While leaving the presentation of a detailed account of these to the Student President, may I mention the following extra curricular achievements of our students. Sushmita Mukherjee and Deepti Bhatnagar of Botany Hons. (III year) bagged the first prize in an All India contest of paper presentation held by the Deptt. of Botany, Delhi University. They also brought the rolling shield for the overall best performance in that contest which was open to both undergraduate and postgraduate students. In the Inter-college Genetics Model Competition held at Delhi University, Niharika of Botany Hons (II) year got the first prize and Farah of the same class was awarded a special prize. In the Inter college competition in crea-

tive writing in English held in our college, V. Buntly Pai got the first prize; and Chanda Handa, the second. In Hindi Creative writing, Sushila Pant was given the second prize. The second prize in English Debate went to Chanda Handa and Purnima Sarin. In the Inter College competition held at all India Institute of Medical Sciences, Rohini Krishnan secured the first prize in Karnatak music. Shivani Gupta got the second prize in light music in the competition held both at Kirori Mal and Sri Venkateshwara college. The group of Molshre. Shreya Seetha. Shabnam Jain and Poonam Buta were awarded the second prize in Indian dance and Choreography in the Inter-College meet held at Indraprastha college. Vidya Mahadevan, Sreelekha and Salina were given the second prize in the Indian Folk Dance Competition at Jankhi Devi College; and Shalu Pholekar and Sushmita Pehara, the second prize in Western Dance at Hansraj College. V. Uma got the third prize in the Rangoli Competition at Kirori Mal. Nidhi Kapoor and Anu Bhagat got the first prize in 'What's The Good Word' in the Inter college Meet at Gargi. I must not leave out Shalu who got the second prize in the Fashion show, held at Venkateshwara College. She was also awarded a special prize for her presentation in that show.

On the extra-curricular front, a major event of the year was the introduction of a 'wall magazine' by the students. This venture of the Students' Union under the editorship of Purnima Sarin of I year Botany Honours is most welcome. Besides editing the wall magazine, Purnima initiated a Newsletter, "Horizon". The Horizon could only be cyclostyled this year. We hope to have its issues in print in the years to come. The wall magazine and the Horizon throw open ample possibilities for our students to cultivate their writing talents. I wish to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation of the efforts made by Purnima Sarin in this direction.

930 books were added to the Library during the year under review. The total number of volumes in the Library is now 41661. The total expenditure during the year on books and journals was Rs. 96283 and Rs. 22097 on binding, equipment and other accessories. As many as 1,67,694 volumes were loaned out to the borrowers in the year 1987-88.

Two new courses were introduced during the year 87-88: namely, Honours course in Applied Psychology and M.A. in Political Science.

We are trying hard now to get sanction for the introduction of M.A. in History and the Honours courses in Electronics and Biochemistry for the next academic session.

The college accepted the proposal of the university in July '87 to serve as a Centre for the Non-Collegiate Women's Education Board. 363 students were admitted for I year B.A (Pass) at our Centre during this session. Dr. (Mrs) Aruna Mohan was appointed as Teacher in charge of the Centre. She is being assisted by nine members of our non-academic staff who are doing their best to make it a success. The centre has been functioning well under her able stewardship.

Plans and estimates for the construction of Staff Quarters have been prepared and are awaiting necessary approval of the various authorities involved. Efforts are being made to have all clearances expediated. Construction work is hopefully expected to commence in the near future.

May I convey my thanks to all members of the faculty for their help and cooperation. I am particularly grateful to all those who, alongside their teaching obligations, gave much of their time to serve the institutional interest at large. I may also convey my thanks to the non-academic staff for having fulfilled their obligations.

May I congratulate the Student President, Sonia Narang, and all office bearers of the Student's Union for the new spirit they instilled in the student activities this year. Their involvement in the college affairs was most heartening. The efforts put in by them to ensure greater participation of students in the collegiate life as a whole is greatly appreciated by all of us. I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. (Miss) Anita Katyal and Dr. (Miss) Keya Mukherjee, the Staff Advisors to the Student's Union, for the hard work they had put in to steer all students' activities.

In the end, please may I convey my sincere thanks to the former Governing Body which functioned till 21st Feb. 1988. I am most grateful to its Chairman Justice A. N. Grover; Treasurer, Shri Yogeshwar Dayal, and all its members for their valuable guidance and assistance. At present, we are awaiting the formation of the new Governing Body.

Dr (Miss) Krishna Sharma
Principal