



## **Dismissal Service, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2022**

### **Principal's Report**

Good morning everyone. Ms Atishi Marlena, distinguished member of the Legislative Assembly, Government of Delhi, former student of this College and Chief Guest for this important day in the academic life of St Stephen's College, parents, colleagues and my dear Junior Members, thank you for your presence here this morning. Today we bid our outgoing, undergraduate Junior Members farewell and Godspeed. It is a day when we encourage the young ones to take wing and fly, to soar and achieve all the good things that they have set their hearts upon. It is also a special occasion because after almost three years we are gathering for a significant and symbolic ceremony in College without the fear of death or disease over us. This day is special.

In keeping with the tradition of Dismissal Service, we began the day with the Chapel service where the Revd Dr Monodeep Daniel led us in the communion service with the homily being delivered by Prof Christel Devadawson, University of Delhi. I now continue the tradition by reading out the Annual Report for the year gone by. The full report is a detailed one running to        pages and which will be reproduced in the Stephanian magazine but for now I shall only touch upon the major achievements and landmark events during the past year. The founding fathers of the College had students in mind and that focus has not changed even a bit 142 years after the founding of the College. I shall therefore begin with a snapshot of how our Junior members have fared.

In the year 2020-2021 the post-graduate students came up with a 100 % pass result. 46 students were admitted and 46 passed. One student topped the University in Chemistry. In the UG category 428 junior members took the test and 428 passed and we thus have a pass percentage of 99.06.

I am happy to inform you that of these numbers 110 have chosen to go on for higher studies. Academics aside, 90 of our students were placed with the best in the corporate, NGO, Education and Tech sectors with one of our junior members getting an annual package of 52 lakhs. In sports we've done passably well considering the fact that we were in the middle of Covid. Arushi Dutt and Rohan Mehra brought us some cheer in Table Tennis and Lawn Tennis respectively.

### Undergraduate Results 2020-21

S. No.	Program Name	No. of Students Appeared	1 <sup>st</sup> Div.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Div.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Div.	ER*	No. of Students Passed	Pass %age
1	B.A. Programme	66	62	1		3	63	95.45
2	B.A. Honours Economics	53	53				53	100
3	B.A. Honours English	35	32	2		1	34	97.14
4	B.A. Honours History	61	55	6			61	100
5	B.A Honours Philosophy	9	8			1	8	88.89
6	B.A. Honours Sanskrit	8	8				8	100
7	B.Sc. Honours Chemistry	54	54				54	100
8	B.Sc. Honours Mathematics	43	43				43	100
9	B.Sc. Honours Physics	62	60	1		1	61	98.39
10	B.Sc. Prog. (Chemistry)	43	43				43	100
11	B.Sc. Prog. (Computer Science)							

### Postgraduate Results 2020-21

S. No.	Program Name	No. of Students Appeared	1 <sup>st</sup> Div.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Div.	3 <sup>rd</sup> Div.	ER*	No. of Students Passed	Pass %age
1	M.A. English	14	14				14	100.00
2	M.A. History	6	6				6	100.00
3	M.A. Philosophy	8	8				8	100.00
4	M.A. Sanskrit	4	4				4	100.00
5	M.Sc. Chemistry	7	7				7	100.00
6	M.Sc. Mathematics	1	1				1	100.00
7	M.Sc. Operational Research	2	2				2	100.00
8	M.Sc. Physics	4	4				4	100.00

ER\* - Essential Repeat

No. of students appeared: 480

No. of students passed: 474

**Pass Percentage: 98.75**

I am happy to place before you the list of our star sportspersons for the year under review. I must acknowledge that many of our Junior Members have been inspirational in carrying out their double-duty, academics and sports, and I appreciate all of them some of whom are:

1. **Shaurya Sareen** of 3rd Yr won the Silver Medal in the Junior World Championships in Lima Peru and further donned the Indian Tri Colour of the World Championships in Suhl, Germany where he narrowly missed a podium finish.
2. **Vishal Grewal** of 3rd Yr BA Prog was one of the Champion Swimmer for Delhi State, Delhi University and at the Khelo India University Games continued to dazzle in South Africa.
3. **Jaideep Sethi** of 3rd Yr BA Prog bounced back after an almost career ending ankle injury to play the entire domestic SRFI circuit and reach the quarter finals at the Bangabandu and Bangamata Stadium as a part of the International Squash Association Championships, in Bangladesh.
4. **Anurag Singh** of 1st Yr BA Prog has earned a position to represent India at the 19th FINA World Championships June 2022 to be held in Budapest, Hungary.
5. It is a matter sheer pride and joy to witness five stephanians earn a selection to the Delhi University Squash Team and cruise past every team in the country to be Crowned All India Champions at the Gurukul Kargra University, Haridwar March 2022.
  - **Jaideep Sethi** of 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr BA (P),
  - **Tejas Chawla** of 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr BA (P)
  - **Prithvi Singh** of BA Physics (H)
  - **Didar Rebello** of 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr BA History (H)
  - **Kabir Rebello** of 1<sup>st</sup> Yr BA Economics (H)
6. **Payal** of 1st Yr English and **Shaurya Sareen** of 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr History were members of the Delhi University Shooting Teams that annexed Gold Medals in the Team Events at the All India Inter Varsity Shooting Championships at the Maharaja Karni Singh Shooting Range in Tughlakabad, Delhi.

Moving on now to the achievements of my colleagues in the departments...and I would like to mention here how impoverished we all are, how poorer the College is, with the passing away of Dr David Baker last year. With his service and dedication, Dr Baker ensured that College and in his last years, the Residence especially, benefitted from his sharp eye and unparalleled love for our College.

At this moment I would like to place on record our grateful thanks for his life and contributions to College.

Before I proceed to read out some of the significant achievements of my colleagues I would like to preface that by appreciating each one of them for the teaching work that they have been doing. The Covid years have been disastrous for students and teachers alike, but I can say that my colleagues have always tried to keep their academic commitments foremost. Their personal interventions in the lives of many students to retrieve them from despair, hopelessless, depression and even financial troubles are gratefully recorded here.

### **DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**

- Lt (Dr) Rakhi Thareja had four publications including a chapter in a book. As Associate NCC Officer she was the overall for the National Kargil Diwas and took charge of the national event for paying homage to martyrs on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.
- Dr Jaspreet Kaur delivered a lecture at a workshop conducted by CSIIR-IIIM Jammu and DAV University Punjab. She was invited to talk on NMR Technique: Principles and Interpretation under CSIR-IIIM research and training programme.
- Dr. Jyotirmoy Maity published over six articles and had two chapters in two different books published.
- Dr. Yogita Bisht had two articles published under her name.

### **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

The Centre for Economic Research had talks by Dr. Karan Nagpal from IDInsight and Dr. S Chatterjee from Pennsylvania State University. A certificate course in Public Policy and Governance by our former student Ms Shruti Lakhtakia and a Workshop on the Fundamentals of Doing Research were offered from the Centre. The Goutham Krishna Research Fellowships were offered to ten students and were mentored by two members of the Department. The Vinod Chowdhury Memorial Lecture and Memorial Debate was held on 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Rohini Pande on a very relevant and important topic “Women and Work: From Cambridge University to India today”.

- Mr Anurag Malhotra mentored a research project under the Gautam Krishna Fellowships.
- Dr Manjula Singh attended an online FDP.
- Ms Divya Singh attended a one-week-log FDP, then conducted a session as part of the Workshop series from the CER, mentored a research project

along with Mr Anurag Malhotra and served as the Staff Advisor for the Environmental Society.

### **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

- Dr Karen Gabriel was awarded with a one-year WSF-CES Digital Fellowship, University of Columbia. She was also Appointed Executive Member of RINGS - The International Research Association of Institutions of Advanced Gender. She has one scholarly article and over three creative pieces during the year under review.

### **DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

- Dr Radha Mohan published two articles and continued to undertake research supervision.
- Mr. Kashif Ahmed Presented a paper titled - Tropical Algebraic Structures in Cryptography at The International Conference on Recent Trends in Mathematics held from December 22-24, 2021 at Hansraj College, University of Delhi.
- Dr. Manisha Aggarwal Participated in International and local Faculty Development Programmes
- Mr. Piyush Bansal had two publications to his credit and Delivered an online talk on the topic Legacy of Srinivasa Ramanujan in Kalka Public School, Alaknanda on 22 December, 2021.

**The DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS** has some significant achievements to report

1. Rohit Vasav (2018-21) was awarded the University Gold medal in the 98<sup>th</sup> Convocation held on 26th February 2022 for scoring the highest marks in B.Sc. (Hons.) Physics.
2. Four research papers were published in peer-reviewed international journals by the Department's faculty members, one each by Dr. Geetanjali Sethi and Dr. Rekha and two by Dr. Akshay Rana.
3. Dr. Geetanjali Sethi got an FRP project under the Institution of Eminence (IoE) scheme by the Ministry of Education.
4. Dr. Akshay Rana published a book as a contributing author titled 'Introduction to Special Relativity: An Indian Adaptation' by Wiley publication.
5. The Department of Physics conducted a three-week add-on course on "Python and Latex" in collaboration with the Department of computer science.

6. A group of six B.Sc. Hons. Physics students (Vedanta, Josiah, Hari, Deepanshu, Aishwarya, and Sandra) mentored by Dr. Akshay Rana participated in a National level Antenna simulating Competition conducted by IUCAA, Pune selected as the top three teams for the prototype making of antenna. Some students are also working on antenna designing at the department level under the supervision of Dr. Geetanjali Sethi.
7. The physics society of the Department was extremely fortunate to have Prof. Spenta R Wadia, founding director of ICTS, Bengaluru to deliver the 26th Popli Memorial Lecture Series on the topic "A Tour of Space-time Physics: Newton, Einstein, Hawking, and Beyond". This year's edition of the physics society journal 'ECHO' was released on the last day of the Popli Memorial Lectures under the grace of the speaker- Prof. Spenta R. Wadia. It includes physics articles and poems from alumni, faculty members, and students.
8. The annual Meera Memorial Paper Presentation Competition was organized by the physics society of the Department in a hybrid mode. The competition witnessed the participation of students from all over India.

### **The DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS SCIENCES**

The Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences has been working tirelessly to help the students strike a balance between their online education and sporting ambitions. One of the most critical role was to help students in their struggle in the domain of mental health through one to one counselling sessions and adopting strategies for these struggling champions who were suddenly confined within the four walls of the homes and unable to train and compete.

- Mr SK Chakravortty, Associate Professor and Head of the Department was deputed as Co-Opted Member of the Delhi University Sports Council for redressing grievances of applicants with regard to Uploaded Sports Certificates for PG and UG Admissions during Admissions 2021-22.
- Mr Chakravortty successfully retained his position with the Delhi Basketball Association as the Vice President of the state unit.
- He participated in the National Virtual Seminar on Adolescents and Youth Well Being in the Post Pandemic Scenario organized by RV College of Engineering, Bangalore (Sept 2021)
- Mr Chakravortty participated in the One Day - National Webinar on Opportunities, Issues, Challenges and Compliances of Sports in Indian Universities organized by the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (September 2021).

- Mr Chakravorty participated in the One Day - National E-Conference on Metamorphosis and Contemporary drift in Sports and Yogic Sciences (October 2021)
- Mr Sujay John K was a member of the Selection Committee of Sports Authority of India for Coaches for their state and regional units.
- Mr Sujay John was a member of the National Advisory Panel of the National Council of Sports and Physical Education. Events held in 2021-22:
- Seminars and Training Workshops in: Leon, Mexico,
- Summer Training Session along with European Commission for Sports.
- Mr Sujay John, Assistant Professor is an invited Member of the Core Advisory Committee with the Delhi Soccer Association for planning strategies to promote Football in Delhi NCR.
- Mr Sujay John, Assistant Professor has participated as Resource Person and delivered the Key Note Address on Public Policy and Practice in Education at the National Conference organized by National Council of Sports and Physical Education Dec 2021.

#### **The DEPARTMENT OF SANSKRIT**

- Dr A D Mathur was invited to deliver special lectures by the Himachal Law University, Shimla and by the Prayag campus of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan University. Two students were awarded their PhDs done under the supervision of Dr. A.D. Mathur in the last convocation.
- Dr Pankaj Mishra published two books, translated one attended over 17 national seminars and was invited to chair of address seven international conferences. He also delivered over 13 lectures in four different languages. He also helped design the curriculum and courses for over five Universities. He has a record 52 lectures over MOOC and has given over four radio talks during this period.
- Dr Chandra Bhushan Jha was felicitated with two national awards – Mithila Vibhuti and Mithila Ratna. Dr Jha continues to serve on the Departmental Research Committees of one Central and one state University and one autonomous College. He was the external Examiner for three doctoral dissertations and conducted their viva voce.

#### **The Departments of Urdu & Persian**

- The Departments of Urdu & Persian managed single-handedly by DR. SHAMIM AHMED has done substantial work in the year under review. He published three books, one paper, attended over three workshops and one seminar.

The Alumni Association of the College is hale and healthy and growing from strength to strength. We now have a full-fledged Alumni Office manned by a

member of the faculty, Ms Ann Susan Aleyas. The number of our alumni chapters have grown both in India and abroad and their interactions with College are on the rise.

The Centre for Languages is thriving providing useful learning in languages to many and our Centre for Advanced Studies is doing exceptionally well having offered several short-term online, courses last year and with Dr Geetanjali Sethi being appointed as Director of the Centre there is a hope of better things to come.

The IQAC has been doing excellent work headed by Dr Aditya Pratap Deo and Dr Vibha Sharma. As we approach our second NAAC accreditation I hope that we will get our due recognition as one of the top colleges in this country.

Covid does not seem to have made any dent on the activities of the 50 plus Societies in College, the only difference being that for the year under review they went online. I have here with me the reports of over 35 of the 50 societies together totalling 111 pages and knowing that each report will take considerable time to read and complete and being aware that our time is short, I shall therefore skip reading them here. But rest assured that they will feature in the Annual Report when The Stephanian our annual magazine is published. I would like to make special mention of the efforts put in by Dr Ekta Kundra towards planning, organising and conducting the Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav series of activities in College. It is the dedication and hard work of colleagues like her which exemplifies what College has always stood for. We don't just go around declaring how old and good we are, we prove ourselves through our works and... our alumni.

Ad Dei Gloriam

Professor John Varghese  
Principal