

Annual Report by Principal on College Day, 3rd April 2018

Namaskar! Warm greetings to all present here! I would like to welcome our esteemed Chief Guest Hon'ble Deputy CM and Education Minister of Delhi, Shri Manish Sisodia, our Guest of Honour, renowned cardiologist Dr. K.K. Aggarwal, our respected Governing Body member, Prof. Anu Kapur and Prof. Amit Bardhan, former Treasurer of Governing Body, teaching faculty, non-teaching and support staff, and my very dear students.

In this report, I would like to present a brief summary of our achievements on the academic, co-curricular and the extra-curricular front in the year 2017. Seminars, Workshops and invited lectures are a routine feature of the KNC intellectual climate. The Department of Geography organized a State Level Seminar in collaboration with ICSSR and UGC, titled "Askot Arakot Abhiyan: A Historical Geography research on Himalayan Communities". Prof. Shekhar Pathak and his team members presented the profile of three treks at the interval of a decade through the same route of Askote to Arakote. The Department of Hindi organized a one-day International Seminar on the topic: "Antar-rashtriya Paridrishya Mein Hindi Sahitya." A workshop was organized by Green Beans, the Environment Society to conclude the Community Outreach program on "Disaster Preparedness and Community Resilience". The program was part of the JNU-Disaster Research Program in which Kamala Nehru College was one of the cluster colleges beside LSR and Miranda House, chosen for conducting the community disaster resilience study in different parts of the city. Professor Amita Singh from the Center for Disaster Research, JNU and many other eminent professors attended the program at KNC. The English department in association with the Regional English Language Office, American Embassy, organized a two-day Faculty Development Program on 'English Speaking Skills' by Heather Mertens of University of Maryland, USA. The FDP was attended by about 40 participants from 15 colleges of Delhi University.

The Political Science department organized an ICSSR-NRC sponsored one-day workshop on 'Peace and Conflict Resolution.' Resource persons from JNU, Jamia Millia Islamia, South Asian University and University of Delhi deliberated on the issues facing the discipline. Dr. Kaushikee of Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia conducted a workshop for the Skill Enhancement Course on 'Peace and Conflict. The Commerce department organized a Workshop on 'Introduction of Stock Market and Technical Analysis' in association with Bajaj Capital. The Hindi department conducted a successful workshop on 'Creative Writing'. The Journalism department conducted a two-day Print Production Workshop by Ms.

Ruchika Mahajan, faculty member, NISCORT, New Delhi. The Adobe Workshop was conducted by Ms. Naazish Khan from School of Journalism, University of Delhi.

The Psychology department conducted a series of workshops in association with Children's First Organization on alternative therapies and cognitive-behavioural therapy in the month of September. The Creative Arts Therapy Workshop conducted by Ms. Ritushree; Play Therapy Workshop conducted by Ms. Lavina Nanda ; Arts Based Therapy Workshop conducted by Ms. Sandra Jose and Ms. Ankita Khanna and Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Workshop conducted by Ms. Priyanka Mittal. Ms. Mrinalini Mahajan successfully facilitated a workshop on Self Awareness for the Psychology students.

The IQAC team of the College has been working tirelessly on the preparation of AQAR which is due to be submitted this week. IQAC was instrumental in organizing many Workshops in 2017. A one-day workshop for faculty members on 'DELNET-Resources and Services' was organized by DELNET- Developing Library network, New Delhi in collaboration with IQAC, Kamala Nehru College. For the first time, as a unique initiative taken by the college under the aegis of IQAC, a two-day Skill Enhancement Training Program was organized for Non-teaching staff in collaboration with Computer Centre, University of Delhi for the Multi Task Attendants (MTS). The Joint Registrar of Delhi University, Dr. Raja Rajan addressed the members, followed by technical session and hands on training given by Ms Namita from Computer Centre. The program was well attended by number of MTS members from various Colleges. Another Workshop for Non-teaching staff was organized under IQAC on Office Procedures, Conduct Rules, E-Procurement and GeM for two days in December, 2017. The Joint Registrar, Dr. Vikas Gupta was invited as the Resource person for the same. The response was overwhelming from many colleges of the University. A Mentoring Workshop on "Interview Facing Communication Skills" was organized especially for SC/ST/OBC/PWD students by the Equal Opportunity Cell and Enabling Unit of the College to bridge the gap between knowledge and its application. The Students' Union organized a 'Workshop on Self defence' in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. It was conducted by the NGO, Street Level Awareness Program-SLAP.

The 13th Dr. K.K Gorowara Annual Memorial Public Lecture was held on 15th February 2017. Ms. Laila Tyabji, a renowned craft activist and social worker presented a talk on 'Craft as Empowerment in the Age of Technology'. Under the aegis of the Philosophy department, the annual Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan Memorial Lecture was held on 6th September 2017, wherein Dr. Aakash Singh Rathore, visiting professor, Centre for Philosophy, JNU and Director,

International Research Network for Religion and Democracy spoke on “Ethics of Critical Thinking”.

Our in-house peer-reviewed academic journal *Akaderos*, both Hindi and English editions became UGC approved journals in 2017. This makes *Akaderos* one of the very few journals in the University to have received this recognition. We are completing the process of building the new website of the College, which will be launched in the coming few days.

The culture of workshops and FDPs at KNC is further reinforced by invited lectures by various departments. Number of talks and lectures were organized throughout the year on topics like “Introduction to Auditing, CPA, CMA and CFA” and “Public Relations and its Current Dynamics” by the Commerce department, on “Press Freedom” and “Feminism and Trade Unionism” by the Economics Department. The English department hosted lectures titled, ‘Theatre: Performance, Pedagogy and Politics’, ‘Time and Emotion in a Music Video’ ‘Indian Theatre: Multiple Voices ’and ‘Indian Speculative Fiction.’ In collaboration with Sangeet Natak Akademi , the English Department screened a recording of the 1989 performance of *Andhayug*.

The History department carried forward its tradition of the Annual Lecture, wherein Prof. Madhavan Palat from Peace and Conflict Studies, JNU spoke on “History and Memory”. Other talks on “Tails and Tales within a Tele-Ramayana,” “Importance of Heritage and Archival Records” and “Pastoral Nomadism: Debates and History” were also organized. Prof. Pramod Kanwar of Ohio University, Zanesville was invited by the Mathematics Department to speak on "From Elementary Maths to College Maths." Other lectures on “Magic Numbers,” “Mathematical theory of Communication at the Root of Information Age,” and “The History of Indian Maths and its Contemporary Relevance” were also organized by the Maths Department.

The Political Science Department invited Dr. Anuja Agrawal from the University of Delhi to deliver the lecture on ‘Unending Stigma: Denotified Communities in India.’ The RTI activist Ms. Aruna Roy delivered a lecture on ‘Freedom of Speech and Ambedkar.’ A lecture by Prof. Harihar Bhattacharya of Political Science department, University of Burdwan, was delivered on ‘Federalism and Democracy in India’ in collaboration with the Comparative Federalist Research Group, University of Delhi.

The Psychology department conducted various talks like: “Decolonizing Desire’ by Mr. Aleksandr Chandra; a talk on “What Depression Feels Like’ by Ms. Asavri Misra. Dr. Maitri Chand, family therapist and Director at Healing Relationship Center spoke on family therapy and

counseling. An open-house session on ‘Depression: Let’s Talk’ was organized in collaboration with Children’s First, a well-known mental health organization headed by Dr. Amit Sen.

Sociology department organized a lecture on “Music, Memory and Society’ by Dr. Sumangala Damodaran from Ambedkar University. A lecture on the “Social construction of disability” was delivered by Dr. Mahesh Panicker from Lady Shri Ram College. The Consumer Club of Kamala Nehru College organized a talk on “Digital Literacy and Consumer Protection” by Professor Sri Ram Khanna, Former Head and Dean, Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics.

Theoretical knowledge is fostered by hands-on experience in the form of field/educational trips organized for the students and faculty. The History department has been involved with imparting heritage awareness program to the students, and this is reflected in the many certificate courses and workshops that the students have attended under the guidance of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Delhi. In connection to this Dr. Swapna Liddle, an eminent historian took students for a visit to Lodi Garden in January, 2017. The students of Geography department made a long excursion to Bikaner to do a socio-economic survey. The Sociology department organized a field visit to Suraj Kund Mela understanding the use of camera to make ethnographic films for their prescribed course. The final year Journalism students were taken on a study visit to Parliament. The Parliamentary reporting constitutes a part of their paper on Print Journalism and Production. Another trip to the Parliament was organized by the Political Science department where the students were given information about the Parliament’s history and working. The Geography department organized a one-day excursion to Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary located in the National Capital Territory of Delhi where the group undertook a nature’s walk in the sanctuary and observed the micro-ecosystems in the sanctuary. The Commerce Association organized an Industrial visit for students to Yakult’s Factory in Sonapat with more than 100 students of the Commerce Department. The Psychology department organized an educational trip to Purukul Youth Development Society and Learning Academy, Dehradun. A faculty member of History department, Dr. Archana Ojha took the students to Old Delhi in November 2017 and visited number of sites of what was once the city of Shah Jahan. The Green Beans Society organized a trip to Sultanpur Wildlife Sanctuary to acquaint students with the migratory birds and their habitat.

KNC is conducting a Botanical Audit of the College. The study began in September 2017 by the Green Beans Society which is conducting a botanical audit of trees, herbs and shrubs of the

campus on the basis of seasonality of vegetation. Based on the inventory the Simpson's biodiversity index is calculated on a scale of 0 to, which came out be 0.88 for KNC. This implies that the college campus is rich in variety as well as number of trees. After the Pilot Project on water harvesting, now we are extending it to the entire set up of the College. The Disaster Management Plan for the College is being prepared by Geography students with the help of GPS and GIS techniques in collaboration with National Disaster Management Authority to make the College building disaster resilient.

During the Admission season of 2017-18 Kamala Nehru College was the first college in South Campus to have organized an Open House session in collaboration with Delhi University Students Welfare. The session received an overwhelming response from the prospective students and their parents/ Guardians, where the Deputy Deans Dr. Amrita Bajaj and Dr. Shalini Baxi addressed the queries. The College became a Centre for a yoga camp on International Yoga Day organized by 4DGBN at the college, which saw participation from colleges like LSR, JMC, Gargi.

At KNC co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are encouraged with a view towards holistic development of our students. Every year, Crossfire, the English Debating Society organizes the Annual International Parliamentary Debate Tournament – “Munaazrah”. The event was a grand success with participation of over 30 colleges from all over the country. Sangeetika, the Indian Music Society of KNC participated in a number of Inter-College competitions between January-April, 2017. The choir stood first at Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies, Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies and second at Ram Lal Anand College, Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women. At IIT-Delhi festival Rendezvous’17 and IIT-Kanpur festival Antarangni’17, Sangeetika secured third prize in the group classical music competition. The western music society ‘Zephyr’ also bagged second prize in December at the cultural festival of BITS Pilani- Oasis 17. Our Fashion Society, Glitz had a resounding success in the University by securing the first position at Vivekanand College, Kirorimal College, Ramjas College, UCMS, IIT Delhi and second position at IMT, Jaypee Institute, AIIMS, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, Ramanujan College, Jamia Millia Islamia University, and third position at Hindu College. Ms. Medha Vijay of Psychology Hons. was awarded ‘The Best Model’ in Pulse’17- the cultural fest of AIIMS.

As part of cultural activities, distinguished visitors and experts from all walks of life have graced the College with their presence. Mr. Gabor Lanczkor, a renowned Hungarian poet and Ms.

Krisztina Lanczkor, an acclaimed flutist were invited by Expressions, the English Creative Writing Society of the College. The Fine Arts Society of the College- Luminoso adorned the college in best of aesthetic traditions. As part of their annual project, the members of this Society created a mosaic of 40 canvas paintings for the Students' Common Room and totally refurbished its look. Shining Network, the youth empowering and value creating society of KNC, hosted an event on 18th September 2017, in which Mr. Nitesh Jain from the 'Rally for Rivers' campaign of 'Isha Foundation' interacted with students on the value of rivers in human life.

I am proud to announce that Shining Network has been awarded with a Seed Grant from Society for Philosophers in America (SOPHIA) to start the SOPHIA Chapter in India, to initiate a dialogue on Public Philosophy as a part of their first International collaboration. Dr. Geetesh Nirban has been instrumental in this venture of Shining Network.

In the domain of co-curricular activities, NCC and NSS enable wider social outreach as an integral part of education. The NSS wing of Kamala Nehru College conducted a Swachhta Awareness Campaign in the College campus, Masjid Moth area, Gautam Nagar and Nitibagh. It also conducted a 'Sanitation and Hygiene Awareness Drive' in the Begampur Slum. The members also celebrated "Swachhata Hi Sewa" for a fortnight as part of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan on the occasion of Independence Day. NSS volunteers took pledge on the observance of "Rastriya Ekta Diwas", in remembrance of Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel, one of the most distinguished leaders of our country. A Cancer Awareness Program was organized in association with Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute and Research Centre (RGCIRC). Like our NSS, KNC boasts of an equally active and enthusiastic NCC. Six cadets of final year from the College also went for National Integration Camp in Amritsar. Our two very able cadets SUO Joyti and Preeti got selected to pay homage at Amar Jawan Jyoti, India Gate.

Active social engagement and consumer awareness is the vision of our Consumer Club. The members of the Consumer Club were invited by Doordarshan for the programme, "Meri Baat" to discuss consumer related problems, and once again to participate in the discussion on the topic 'Indian Culture and Tradition'. In the same vein, the NCC cadets were invited by Doordarshan for a program on self defense in "Good Evening India". The team of Entrepreneurship Cell- Asar won the 'Enactus Blue Dart Empowering Competition 2017 Grant' and the 'Enactus Mahindra Competition 2017 - 2018 Grant' of Rs.90,000 to support Project Kadam, as a community outreach program for cobblers. Dr. Vibhuti Vashisht, as convener of 'Asar'- the Entrepreneurship Cell of KNC, received the Best Faculty Award by Enactus India. Students of

Entrepreneurship cell put up a stall at Ullas 2017, the annual College festival and Diwali Mela 2017 and sold handcrafted sandals made under the aegis of Project 'Kadam', thereby generating some revenue. The annual cultural festival 'Ullas-17' organized by the Students Union was full of fun and entertainment for youth. The celebrity singer Jubin Nautiyal made the crowd groove to his musical notes. The Sufi evening 'Sufiyana' was celebrated with sufi renderings by Dhruv Sangari and Nizami brothers juniors.

Sports is yet another field of excellence at KNC. The range of games played is simply fantastic. Athletics, Gymnastics, Ball Badminton, Cricket, Football, Judo, Kurash, Taekwondo – we have it all! Amongst the many laurels, I would like to mention that Bhawna Arya secured first position in both the Junior and Senior Categories in Delhi State Weightlifting Competition. Deepika represented Delhi Team and secured Gold Medal in Wako India National Kick Boxing Competition. Sangeeta Choudhary secured Gold Medal in 10,000M in Delhi State Athletic Meet and Silver Medal in 5000M in Delhi State Athletic Meet. Laxmi and Sonia represented Delhi Senior Women's Team in Cricket and secured the first position in Senior Women's 20-20 League Tournament held in January 2017.

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to showcase the individual achievements of the members of the faculty. Dr. Carmel Christy's book, *Sexuality and Public Space in India* was published by Routledge. Dr. Sheila Karki of the French department published a book in translation. M.K. Arora and S.K. Sran published their book, *Psychology of Health and Well Being*. Dr. Maitreyee Kumari and Dr. Kamlesh Rani, both from the Department of Sanskrit published their books titled, *Modern Sanskrit Literature* and *Shrṅgār-prakāsh*, respectively. A book discussion was organized by the American Consulate General, Kolkata on the book, *Ecocriticism and Environment* by Dr. Sarita Sharma as the co-editor from the Sanskrit department. Dr. Rajat Rani Arya's story "Hum Kaun Hein" has been the topic of research for Valentina Barnabei from University of Rome. Many others have contributed 'Chapters' to books, and published articles in peer-reviewed international, national and e-journals of repute. A large number of faculty members have attended, as well as presented papers at international and national forums, the details of which are included in the relevant sections of the Annual Report.

It is a matter of pride for the institution to acknowledge the higher academic pursuits and accomplishments of its faculty members. Dr. Kalpana Bhakuni was honored with "Daughter of Uttarakhand" award in the second women's summit, 2017 at India International Centre, New Delhi for her contribution to resource development of Kumaon in Uttarakhand. She also received

on behalf of the College “World, Ecology, Environment and Development Award” by the International Association of Educators for World Peace during the 26th World Environment Congress. Dr. Sushma Choudhary of the Sanskrit Department was awarded the “Sanskrit Samaradhak Samman” by the Delhi Sanskrit Academy. She was also honored with Sahitya Sewa Samman, 2017 by the Haryana Granth Academy, Panchkula. Dr. Sushma Sehrawat of the Hindi department was awarded the 'Sahitya Gaurav Samman' by the Arnav Kalash Association in Haryana.

Dr. Carmel Christy of the Journalism Department was selected as Visiting Scholar at the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla. She received the Charles Wallace India Trust short-term Fellowship in London in June 2017. Dr. Archana Prasad of the Sociology Department was awarded with the ICSSR post-doctoral fellowship for two years. Dr. Urna Sarkar Dutta of the Sociology department is part of an ongoing international collaborative research with Dr. Ishita Chatterjee from University of Western Australia. Vibhuti Vasishth of the Commerce Department was awarded the Ph.D. degree for her thesis titled: ‘A Study of Relationship between Trading Volume and Price Momentum’ by University of Delhi. Captain Sunaina Singh from the Psychology Department submitted her Ph.D thesis entitled ‘Authentic Leadership and Positive Psychological Capital in Relation to Work Well Being’. H.R. Prajapati of the Economics department was awarded the Ph.D Degree in Economics titled “Producer Behaviour: A Study of Organic Farming in Gujarat” from the Central University of Gujarat. Anil Kumar of the Sanskrit department also secured his Ph.D on the topic, “Philosophy of the Subtle Body in Indian Philosophy.” The members of the faculty are also actively involved in syllabi conceptualization and revision, spearheading various committees in the University of Delhi.

Time constraint prevents me from mentioning the numerous other achievements of the College. They, however, find a place in the detailed College Report. On this note, I would like to conclude by once again extending my gratitude to Shri Sisodia ji, Dr K.K. Aggarwal, our GB Members and other dignitaries present here; and all those associated with KNC, who have believed in our vision of progress and perfection. Thank You!

Dr. Kalpana Bhakuni
Principal
3rd April, 2018