## ANNUAL REPORT: 2001-2002

## DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA COLLEGE (UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)

Shivaji Marg, Karampura New Delhi - 110 015 Honourable Speaker of Delhi Assembly, and Chief Guest of today's function, Choudhary Prem Singh Ji, Dean of Colleges of Delhi University Dr. Kiran Datar, former Dean of Law Faculty and Chairman of the Governing Body Professor Mata Din, members of the Governing Body and faculty, distinguished guests and my dear friends. I extend a very warm welcome to all of you on the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College.

Choudhary Prem Singh is an eminent personality in the political arena of Delhi. He has the unique distinction of having been the elected representative continuously eight times from the same party and the same constituency, for which his name appears in the Limca Book of World Records and is being considered by the Guineas Book of World Records. Born on 20th December 1932 at Village Lado Sarai in New Delhi, Choudhary Prem Singh was educated at Zakir Hussain College, University of Delhi and contested his first election in 1958 to become the youngest councilor. He became Chairman of Rural Areas Committee and initiated strong steps for development of rural areas. When the Metropolitan Council was constituted for Delhi in 1967, he was elected as Metropolitan Councilor and remained its member till 1993. From 1983 to 1990, he was executive councillor, development. He was elected to the first Legislative Assembly of Delhi in 1993 and again in 1998. He was unanimously appointed Speaker of Delhi Assembly. As Speaker, he achieved remarkable distinction of controlling the House with masterly control. His superb handling of the Assembly created a record of minimizing the waste timing in the House from 38% to an unbelievable figure of merely 2%. He has enormously contributed to the organizational activities of the congress party. For 15 years he was General Secretary of Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee and then became its President in 1988, a position which he occupied till 1992. A God fearing person, Choudhary Prem Singh regards people of all communities equally and that is the reason why there has never been a communal tension in his constituency during the last 50 years. He is a widely travelled person in India and abroad. In 1973, he visited Moscow for the World Peace Congress and Germany as member of Indo-German Friendship Society. In 1999 he participated in a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Conference at London and the Speakers' Conference in Trinidad and Tobago. He also visited United States of America, Switzerland and France on study tours during this period. Our college is overwhelmed by your presence, Sir, and we are all grateful to you for having accepted our invitation at such a short notice.

Dr. Kiran Datar, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, is one of us. She has been the Principal of Miranda House since 1993 and has taken up the position of Dean of Colleges about 2 years ago. Dr. Datar is a Gold-medalist of M.A. (History) from the University of Delhi and did her Ph.D. from Jawaharlal Nehru University in International Relations and American History. She is the recipient of Fulbright Fellowship from 1966 to 1968 and obtained the prestigious Mahila Shiromani Award for excellence in Education from the First Lady of India Smt. Vimla Sharma in 1995. An author of two books and several research articles, Dr. Datar has been presenting papers in various National and International conferences and also has a wide teaching and administrative experience. She is member of several professional bodies and chairperson of a number of committees of Delhi University. On behalf of the Governing Body, staff and students, I welcome you, Madam, and express my gratitude for sparing your valuable time.

Professor Mata Din, former Dean of Law Faculty, University of Delhi is a well-known figure in the judicial circles. He has been the Chairman of the Governing Body of our college till recently. At present, he is holding the B.R. Ambedkar Chair in the Department of Contemporary Social Studies and Law at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra – an honorary post which he occupied immediately after retirement from the University of Delhi. On behalf of the staff and students, I welcome you, Sir, on this occasion.

**Development**: We are struggling hard to manage our activities in this school building. All the verandahs in the college have been covered to create expanded laboratories. We have also covered the various corners of the verandahs to create small cabins which can be used for holding tutorial classes. An annexe which used to exist adjacent to the library has been merged temporarily with the open courtyard and converted into a Seminar Room which will

be furnished shortly. A permanent dais has been constructed at one corner of the college play-ground for multi-purpose use. Renovation work has been carried out in and around the canteen. We are still looking ahead for construction of a proper parking place and a basket-ball court.

Besides infrastructural development, we have been concentrating on academic reforms as well. If we do not weed out, we grow a jungle. Same is true about the courses. We have been trying to identify courses which have lost their relevance in the current day context and to replace them with more meaningful courses. Switch-over from B.A. (Pass) BDP to B.Sc.(Genl.) Mathematical Sciences with due permission of the University of Delhi is one step in that direction. Our proposal to start Bachelor of Business Studies course and closure of B.A. (Pass) OMSP and Foreign Trade courses is still awaiting the approval from Delhi University. Hopefully, we will be able to introduce this change in the next academic session, and that too with a minimal change in the staff strength.

Activities: As per tradition, the activities in the new session started with an Orientation Programme for the Ist year students on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2001 organised by the Academic & Development Committee under the Convenorship of Dr. Sanjay Tandon. The students were invited along with their parents and were apprised of the various activities and facilities which the college provides.

The birthday of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya was celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2001 by the Art & Cultural Society under the Convenorship of Dr. Vinod Kumar. Dr. Surya Kant Bali, former editor, Navbharat Times and Zee TV was the Chief Guest and Chief Speaker. While inaugurating the activities of the Students' Union, he emphasised the need for self-confidence and discipline on the part of every individual. The prize winners of the House Examination were given awards on this day. The Students' Union and the NSS unit of the college, in collaboration with the Lions Club, organised a blood donation camp on this occasion.

NSS: The NSS unit of the college that got activated last year under the leadership of Dr. Shashi Saxena, generated greater enthusiasm amongst the students with about 70 students joining the programme this year. The NSS volunteers worked on various projects such as blind schools, literacy project for the slum children, assisting the hospital staff and taking-up volunteering activities in the college. To create better awareness about AIDS, a lecture by Dr. Vinita Bal, Senior Medical Scientist at National Institute of Immunology was organised.

Alumni: Having completed 11 years of its existence, the college thought it appropriate to have an Alumni Association. Students who passed out more than 5 years ago were invited by Alumni Committee under the Convenorship of Dr. Shashi Saxena to become members of the DDUC Alumni Association. The first meeting of the Alumni was held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2001 in the college premises which was attended by more than 50 students. The students were so thrilled that a large number of them volunteered themselves to take over the activities of the Association which includes expanding the Alumni base, getting it registered, launching its own website, and to hold at least one function every year. It is heartening to see that many of them have become I.T. professionals, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, Doctors and Executives. We are sure that this young Alumni will soon grow and extend cooperation to the college in its further development.

**New Appointments:** This year, we have been able to appoint a full-time Director of Sports and a Librarian. Mr. Anek Goel joined the college as Lecturer in Physical Education. Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, **Gold Medalist** in M.Lib.Science from Delhi University has joined as Librarian. Mr. Manoj Sharma, also a **Gold Medalist** of Delhi University, has joined as Lecturer in Electronics Department.

Achievements of the Staff: Faculty development is an integral part of higher education. In the words of Rabindra Nath Tagore, "A lamp can never light another lamp unless it continues to burn its own flame. A teacher can not really teach unless he keeps fearning himself." The members of our faculty have been actively participating in various Conferences and Seminars. Dr. Deepak Jain of the Department of Physics was an invited speaker in the

Conference on "Recent Advances in Gravitation and Cosmology" held at Jamia Millia Islamia this year. He was also awarded the Ph.D. degree in the current academic session. Dr. Pankaj Gupta presented an invited talk in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention of Operational Research Society of India held at Ahmedabad in December 2000. Dr. Vinod Kumar of the Department of Chemistry attended an IUPAC sponsored International Symposium on Green Chemistry in January 2001, organised by the Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi. He, along with Dr. Sachin Mittal, also presented a Poster. More than 25 teachers attended Refresher Courses in different subjects at CPDHE and other institutions.

Ms. Vanita Tripathi completed her M.Phil. on "Mutual Funds' Performance and Investors' Perceptions" setting a record by securing 84.8% marks in the University of Delhi. Incidentally, she topped in B.Com.(Hons.) as well as M.Com. examinations of Delhi University with more than 80% marks. Her record in Delhi University is still unbeaten. She has also published two articles in the journals *Chartered Secretary* published by the Institute of Company Secretaries of India and another in *Vikalp*, a research journal of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad.

Co-curricular Activities: The Department of Mathematics formed a separate society named Harish Chandra Mathematics Society. It celebrated the Mathematics Day with a full-day Seminar on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2001. It was preceded a day earlier by an inter-college mathematics quiz, in which 80 students from 9 colleges participated. The Seminar was partially sponsored by National Board for Higher Mathematics and was presided by Dr. Rajendra Bhatia of ISI, Delhi. Three lectures were delivered and the speakers included Prof. T. Parthasarthy from Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi; Prof. R. Ramaswamy of JNU, and Prof. B.V. Rao of ISI, Calcutta. It was concluded in the afternoon after a film show on "Proof of the Fermat's Last Theorem". Our college takes pride in being the first one to celebrate such an event in the West Campus.

The Charak Sushruta Biochemical Society held its inaugural function on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2001 with a lecture on "Diagnostics in Clinical Chemistry" delivered by Dr. Varun

Malhotra of Maulana Azad Medical College. The Society has also organised a paper reading contest as well as a Poster Making Contest in which 22 students participated.

The art of debating is an excellent medium of expressing oneself and shaping one's intellectual capabilities. This greatly helps prepare the students to face the rigours of tough competitive atmosphere that exists these days. Under the guidance of Mr. R.M. Bhardwaj, the Debating Society of our college continues to be a vibrant one. It began its activity with a Freshers' debate on 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2001. Then it had an extempore debate in the month of November 2001 and then a mega inter-college debate with attractive prizes on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2001, in which judges were invited from outside the college. Our debators like Manshu Verma, Vikram Chaddha and Albert John have done extremely well in the University debates and have brought laurels. Following are the achievements of our debators:

- Manshu Verma won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize and Vikram Chaddha 3<sup>rd</sup> prize and also the Best Team prize at S.G.T.B. Khalsa College on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2001.
- Albert John of III year F.T. won first prize in the Group Discussion held at Dyal Singh College. He also won Ist prize at Sri Venkateswara, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize at Hans Raj College and 2<sup>nd</sup> prize at Miranda House for the same event.
- Manshu Verma and Vikram Chaddha were second runners up at the Hindustan Times
  Youth News Debate Competition, held on 7th November 2001.

All these students, along with Cherry Dhiman of Physics (Hons.) II year, Vijay Laxmi of B.Sc.(Genl.) II year and Ajmal Hassan of B.Sc.(Genl.) II year deserve to be congratulated not only for their achievements, but also for the organisational work.

The achievements of our students in Quiz is not lagging behind. Kartika Rajaram, Sudhir and Chandramauli won second prize in Inter-college Quiz Competition at Khalsa college. Sudhanshu Khurana and Abhishek Garg received second prize at Kalindi college. Sumit Sharma and Manmeet also won the second prize at Mata Sundri College. Kartika Rajaram and Chandramauli won the third prize at Miranda House.

After the success of the musical band PLUNO, which we started two years ago, we have initiated the Dramatics Club to tap the latent talent among college students. Theatre is useful not only for entertainment but also for education. Since theatre develops personality as well as communication skills, the Dramatics Club will play a significant role in enriching the cultural ambience of the college. Our students performed their first play "Us and Them" on the occasion of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya's birthday on 25th September 2001. The Dramatics Club, under the Convenorship of Dr. Pramesh Ratnakar, **organised a 15-day theatre workshop conducted by a professional director, Shri Ajay Manchanda**. A full-length play "Yaad Karo Kurbani", based on an original award winning script on Jalianwala Bagh Tragedy, is being prepared under the direction of Shri Manchanda and our students will stage it on 19th December at Shri Ram Centre, Mandi House.

Academic Discipline: For the last two years, we have been conducting the House Examination in the beginning of January with a very good response from the students. Whereas there is penalty for absenteeism or securing less than 20% marks, there is also a reward to those who secure highest marks in each paper. We are very strict on attendance rules. Last year, we had to do the unpleasant task of detaining 43 students due to shortage of attendance. This year, we have added an incentive for the students who have high attendance. All those who have more than 90% attendance will get a certificate to this effect and those with percentage between 100 and 96 will also get cash prizes also.

Academic Distinctions: Despite the fact that we admit students of rather low percentage in various courses, our results in the University examinations have been fairly good. A number of students have been getting positions in the University. Whereas there were two University toppers last year, we have 4 University toppers this year. The number of position holders within first five also increased from 7 to 14 this year. Aarti Bhasin in B.Sc.(Genl.) Group 'B' III year, Ruchika Bhatt in B.Sc. (Genl.) Group 'B' III year, Pankaj Dhamija in B.Sc.(Genl.) Group 'A' Ist year and Rajni in B.Sc. (Hons.) Maths III year obtained first position in the University. Aarti Chhikara of B.Sc. (Genl.) Computer Science Ist year, Ritesh Ralhan of B.Sc. (Hons.) Electronics II year, and Shalini Sharma of PGDCA got

the second position in the University. Jyotsna Batra and Yogesh Joshi of B.Sc. (Hons.) Mathematics III year, Bandana Kumari of B.Sc. (G) Group 'B' II year, Roma Dev of B.Sc. (G) Group 'A' II year and Kavita Chand of PGDCA were adjudged third in the University. Shruti Bakshi of B.Sc. (G) Group 'B', Sangeeta Gambhir of B.Sc. (G) Computer Science I year and Deepak Sharma of B.I.S. stood fourth in the University. My heartiest congratulations to all of them.

We are not, at the moment, in a position to compete with the established colleges of the University and so we compare our performance with our own past performance and struggle ahead to improve it. In the last three years, the quality of our results has improved steadily. In 1999, the pass percentage was 80.7, it became 89.2 in the year 2000 and has improved to 91.7 per cent this year. The number of First Divisions scored by our students in all the courses taken together was 177 in 1999, became 258 in 2000 and was 269 last year. I am sure this trend will continue in the years to come. I wish good luck to all the students who will be passing out this year and pray for their bright career.

We are about to enter into the teens and still constrained to work in a school building. As mentioned earlier, we have covered every possible bit of the verandahs. The students have no auditorium for organizing functions, as the same has been converted into the Library. There are no proper play fields. As a result sports facilities are lacking. We desperately need a plot of land where we can construct a building as per our own requirements. The plot allotted to the college earlier was surrendered by the Governing Body as it was neither of an optimum size nor at a suitable location for a college building. We need your blessings, Sir, for helping us in getting allotment of a new plot as early as possible.

With these words, I once again extend a warm welcome to you all on my own behalf as well as on behalf of the staff and of this college.

