



# eManaswini



Gargi College Alumni e-Newsletter

Volume 3, 2015



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## Editorial Board

Editor : Dr. Gita Mathur

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# Principal's Note

Dr. Shashi Tyagi



It gives me great pleasure that Alumni Association of Gargi College is bringing out next issue of its newsletter e-Manaswini. We at Gargi with the help of its passed out students will plan to have a panel discussion in near future on Alumni and Gargi College. I am sure you all feel emotionally attached to your alma mater and when alumni visit college they feel nostalgic and go down the memory lane. You all want to see your college on the top of the ladder and your suggestions and contributions in different areas will be of great importance in helping us in this endeavor.

I congratulate the entire editorial team & the contributors. I look forward to read the next issue of e-Manaswini.

Dr. Shashi Tyagi  
Principal (Offg.)

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# Editor's Note

Dr. Gita Mathur



I have great pleasure in writing for the **Third Volume** of eManaswini. This newsletter is published annually, and within this short period it has shown a dramatic growth. The newsletter, 'eManaswini' of Gargi College Alumni Association called 'Manaswini', was published for the first time in April, 2013 on the College Annual Day. Volume 1 had 20 pages; Volume 2 had 25 pages and now Volume 3 is here with 41 pages!

eManaswini Volumes 1 and 2 were sent by email to a long emailing list of Gargi alumni and also emailed to many alumni who sent a request at [gargialumni@gmail.com](mailto:gargialumni@gmail.com). The link to the newsletter was also put on Facebook pages 'Gargi College' and 'Gargi Manaswini'. The request for contributions to these volumes was also sent around and the response was very heartening. The editorial team is pleased to report here that this year the newsletter has done further networking among our alumni.

We understand that our alumni are very busy with their current tasks-at-hand and hence find it difficult to visit Gargi, let us meet in cyberspace. This newsletter is one step in this direction. This will be sent to alumni by email and they can further email it to all their Gargi contacts. The very idea of this e-newsletter is to build-up a network of alumni and to suggest various options to them regarding their involvement in college life.

Here are some suggestions: Generally come & talk to students about enhancement of skills; adopt a student for financial support; give scholarships to meritorious students; mentor students; help selected individuals with small research projects; be resource persons at subject seminars; join organizing team for college events and so on...

Hope you can select what suits you the most and enjoy keeping the link with your Alma Mater.

eManaswini is presented here with some new sections: Alumni Achievers; Alumni in the News; Alumni Back to Gargi as Faculty and Staff in addition to Report on Departmental activities of the year, photographs and reports on college functions.

This year Parineeta Chauhan came to Gargi as our Guest of Honour at annual sports meet, Seema Sirpal and Dr. Neena Priyanka delivered lectures at a technical workshop and Sneha Balani gave a counselling session to current students. Two alumni Priyanka Thagela and Kritvi Kedia visited the Psychology department and interacted with the current students in workshops. As the president of the Alumni Association I want to thank all of them for sparing time for their Alma Mater. Read about them in this volume. I hope this will inspire many more of you to revisit your college for a purpose.

I am grateful to Ms. Seema Sirpal for being a dedicated joint editor and Ms. Rajni for being an enthusiastic reporter of eManaswini, collecting information about all the events of different departments. Without their efforts eManaswini Volume 3 would not have grown so rapidly.

Your comments and suggestions about this newsletter eManaswini are most welcome. An email ID, a Facebook page and a Google group should help us build an interactive alumni association. You may send me a few lines about your achievements to be included in the next issue of eManaswini.

**Dr. Gita Mathur**

**President**, Alumni Association of Gargi College

and **Editor**, eManaswini

**Editorial Team: eManaswini 2015 Vol.3.**

**Editor: Dr. Gita Mathur**

**Joint Editor: Ms. Seema Sirpal**

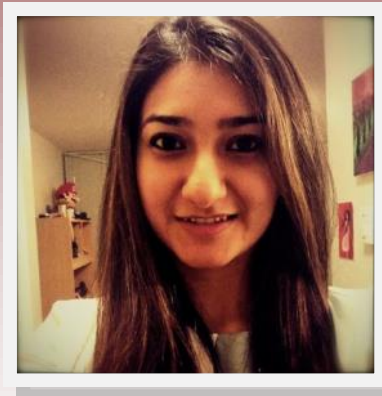
**Reporter: Ms. Rajni**

**Email ID: gargialumni@gmail.com**

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# Counselling Session: Sneha Balani

University of British Columbia



It is not often one gets a chance to give back to one's alma mater for all that they've done for them, so when I was invited to talk to the current Science students this summer I jumped up to the opportunity.

Gargi holds a special place in my life and made an impact to shape me into the person I have become. When I sit down to enumerate the ways coming to this institution changed my outlook and enhanced my personality it's overwhelming. Straight out of school at the tender age of seventeen, I set foot into this establishment to pursue a degree in Zoology.

Always sheltered and raised in a convent school, I was suddenly exposed to all the opportunities the world had to offer. To be honest I was scared what this sudden exposure would do to me. But was I surprised by how it helped transform me into who I proudly am. To list them down these are the things Gargi did for me:

Accepted me as I was and gave me the confidence to take up leadership roles such as class representative and President for my department.

Challenged me to go outside my comfort zone and become Chief Editor for the departmental magazine.

Taught me that there is more to university experience than just academics by involving me in community initiatives such as Eco club and making me aware of the volunteering opportunities available in the city.


Comforted me with a fabulous group of friends and teachers for those rainy days, who continue to be in touch till date.

Enhanced my research potential by introducing the concept of summer research internships and offering me an opportunity to pursue it.

Discovered the peer helper side to me and let me serve as counselor to students on admission days.

Broadened my outlook on how I approached academics, people, situations and the society because of the diversity we see here.

Educated me of all the endless prospects my degree can offer and motivated me to pursue my knowledge and further my education.



After finishing my Bachelor's degree I went on to pursue a Masters in Zoology with a specialization in Genomics, Metagenomics and Epigenetics at the University of Delhi and started applying to universities abroad for a Ph.D. in stem cell research. I worked at the Dr. B R Ambedkar Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in the gap year between completion of M.Sc. and start of my Ph.D. at the University of British Columbia. I am now in my 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Ph.D. working on radiation responses on mammary epithelial cells. I have also kept my leadership capability intact by being involved with a number of Graduate Student Associations on campus. I have furthered my advising skills by becoming a Residence Advisor in student housing at the university offering peer support to residents. I also volunteer with an organization called Let's Talk Science that aims to teach kids how fun and informative science can be. Yes, it may sound like I have achieved a lot but I want you to know that it all started at Gargi.

My advise to you is to make the most of your time here. This is the time when you can shape your future and understand who you really are. Think of this as an opportunity to hone your skills and aim higher. It was heart-warming to see so many students come out to hear me speak. It's nice to see you have dreams and are thinking out of the box already but now is the time to actually start doing something about it. I would like to reiterate, do more than just your regular academics, and apply for internships and network. I cannot emphasize enough on how important training is; it teaches you more than what the books will tell you. Practical skills are an asset, moving forward you will realize habits are better developed early. Seek inspiration and use the knowledge you have around you in the form of teachers and senior students. And so, make a plan, try to stick to it, I'm not saying it'll all work out as you planned but you'll never know if you never try. You may have heard how you must shoot for the moon for you may land up in the stars, I rather challenge you to shoot for the stars but only settle for the moon.

**Sneha Balani**

B.Sc Zoology Hons. 2006-2009

**Gargi Alumni Long Strider Award Recipient 2014**



# Counselling Session: Sneha Balani

## Some Memories



Photographs: Dr. Gita Mathur

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# Chief Guest at Sports Meet:

Parineeta Chauhan



Visiting Gargi College on the Sports Day, as the Guest of Honour, was a great and very enriching experience. Every student dreams about re-visiting his/her college and there could not have been a bigger privilege. Even though it has not been too many years since I have graduated from college, it felt like it had been a long time and when I saw the fresh faced young girls participating, it gave me a sense of happiness and nostalgia. The sports teams all looked very great and efficient and I am confident they will bring laurels to the college. To sit alongside your teachers and Principal is an honour most students only dream of, and I got to do it in reality!

On the academic front, I did my schooling from Delhi and completed English (Hons.) from Gargi College, Delhi University. In 2014, I have successfully completed MA in Tourism Management.

My time at Gargi college is the most memorable as, apart from academics, I got the chance to follow my passion and dreams and go on the expeditions that I want, which have greatly helped me reach where I am today. It was solely due to the encouragement and help provided by Sheela Ma'am that I was able to achieve whatever I did and also enjoy a balanced college life.



Apart from being an alumnus of Delhi University, I am also a certified Wilderness First Aid Responder from NOLS, a certified Instructor for skiing and Mountaineering and a national level skier and mountaineer. I have represented India in skiing in the Asian Winter Games Championship held in Japan, the Youth Cross Cultural Environment Conservation Program held in Kazakh-



stan and have worked and lived in Europe for an intensive Institutional Corporation Program for training in Skiing and

Ski Resort Business Management. I have been associated with adventure activities like managing and organizing as well as conducting outbound activities like mountaineering, rock climbing, camping, trekking, skiing, para - gliding etc continuously since childhood and have been working as an Instructor/guide/outdoor program leader with different courses and organizations for the past 15 years now, along with studying. I have organized and managed trips and adventure sport activities for numerous organizations and also have the honour of holding the record of being the youngest person in India to do the following:

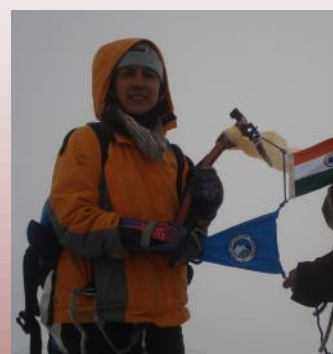
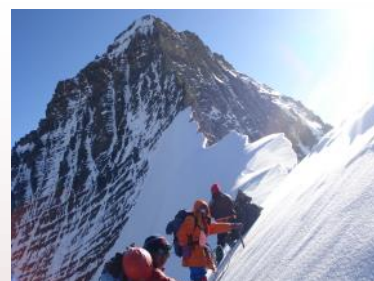
- Do the Basic and Advance Mountaineering courses.
- Have climbed Mulkila-4, a high and technical peak which is 6517 meters in height.
- I have represented India in :

1. The Sub-Junior Asian Skiing Championship held in Japan,
2. Youth Cross Cultural Conservation Program in Kazakhstan,

Ski Resort management program and training (6 weeks) held in Andorra, France, Spain and Finland.

I have undertaken the WFR (Wilderness First Responder) course which is conducted by the Wilderness Medicine Institute, NOLS - USA. It was held in Bangalore from the 14th to the 25th of August

2009. Needless to say, it is a highly prestigious course and adds greatly to the credibility of the person who undertakes it. I scored the highest in the course.



On the work front, I have previously worked with Youreka Outbound, iDiscoveri for more than a year and post that I was working with EdTerra Edventures (which is an Educomp company) for a 6 months assignment. Both the companies dealt with outdoor adventure trips for mostly children but adults as well. In Youreka I was handling their HR and hiring as well as designing the programs for them (both outdoor activities as well as indoor ones). In EdTerra I was their Camp Head and started the camping business for them and was heading it overall.

Post that, I worked with one of the leading Corporate Training firms in the country and after gaining sufficient experience, I decided to open my own Training and Adventure Travel firm. I feel it is very important for people to connect with the Nature and the environment. We become so accustomed to our everyday routine and the 'city' and 'office' life that we forget that there is more to living than school, college or work. Travelling and soft skills training is a big part of learning for us and opens up many doors we had never thought about. Physical fitness and bonding with each other is a vital concern for the working class today. Adventure and training are the ideal means for getting people out of their comfort zone, where one gets a chance to interact directly with Nature and each other. Adventure fosters the qualities of team spirit, comradeship, leadership and character building. These are a few reasons that motivated me to start my own venture.

**Presently I am a certified Soft Skills Trainer and Outbound Experiential Educator, trainer and facilitator. Apart from this, I also hold experience in team building, motivation, leadership, time management, presentation, group discussion & public speaking & communication skills among others. I recently worked as a Trainer for an intensive Training company, '4 Stars', in London, United Kingdom (July to September 2014). I was based in London.**



I have designed and delivered experiential learning programs and also corporate Fun offsite for various corporates. and schools like Welhams Girls School, DPS, Heritage School etc. I also do a substantial amount of work with under privileged children and conduct workshops for them.

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# Gargi Alumni back to Alma Mater as Resource Persons at a Technical Workshop



**Ms. Seema Sirpal**, Senior System Programmer, (DUCC) Delhi University Computer Centre, DU, delivered two lectures on June 11, 2014:

- 1. eLearning Scenario for Delhi University students**
- 2. Social Media and their Impact on Education.**

**Dr. Neena Priyanka**, Advisory Data Specialist at Pitney Bowes Software, India, delivered a lecture on: **Looking Ahead: Preparing for the Future** followed by a discussion on June 11, 2014.

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# Our Alumni Write Back

## GARGI ROCKS

Shubhangi Jain  
Research Scholar  
Department of Botany, Delhi University

What I remember about Gargi College? It's tough to pen down. When I go back down the memory lane, it seems I remember everything and a part of it has stayed in my heart. Right from Phycology classes, Mycology practicals, operon models, amazing Genetics lectures, our super fun Economic Botany theory and practical classes, Practicals with Bryophytes were super rocking; Our ecology practicals were also very interesting, the fun experiments we used to do with our ma'am!

Our Botany department festival ***Ficus***, each moment was enjoyable from volunteering for various competitions to participating in quiz and losing in first round, the salad dressing competition, Botanical rangoli making, card making, skit on botanical processes, everything seems so fresh in my mind.

The trip to Dalhousie is unforgettable. With all my friends it was super fun and at the same time a great learning experience. We were taught how along with altitude vegetation varies, why the roof tops were yellow (*Cedrus* pollen shower) and I realized seeing Dr. Gita Mathur ma'am how much fun it is clicking photographs and enjoying this beautiful nature mother earth has given us!! This excursion taught us how to work in groups, sharing, caring, learning and discussing.

Below is my photo with Internationally  
Distinguished Plant Scientist Professor Govindji



Now we have a group called Gargi rockerzz on whatsapp created by Yashika Sharma to catch up on each other in our busy lives. I love all my friends Meghna, Sulakshna, Kavita, Saakshi, Suman, Chinky, Deepa, Komal, Pritha, Drishya, Shailaja, Arpita, Sneha, Priyadarshini, Aditi, Ambika, Madhvi, Mani, Kaanan. Not to forget the tasty muffins, chatting at Nescafe and canteen, the elections, the library system all rocked in GARGI.

I am adding here my photograph with eminent botanist Professor Govindji and another one in which I am wearing the lab-coat of Professor Emerson (brought to our laboratory in DU by Professor Govindji). I am honoured to have these precious photos and am sharing with you all.

In the end from the bottom of my heart I want to thank all the teachers from Botany department, Chemistry department, Zoology department and English department who taught us and gave such precious moments to cherish life long!!



**In my research lab: wearing the Lab Coat of Prof. Emerson  
brought to India by Prof. Govindji**

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I think this was a party for Suhasini, I am the one in extremem right in the red kurta



Our class



On Gargi rooftop



This is our family now, my husband, Dr. Venugopal Pujari, me, Shivani Pujari (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and Padmasri G Pujari (5<sup>th</sup> grade).

## Dr. Uma Muthurajan 1990 (M. Uma Maheshwari)

I am currently in **Colorado State University** working as a Research Scientist. I went on to do M.Sc. Biotechnology at University of Pune after graduating from Gargi (in 1990). Then did Ph.D. at IIT Madras (where I met my husband), worked for a year in a company at Delhi before joining Dr. Karolin Luger's lab in 2000, and I've been here ever since. We have two girls 10 and 8.

The best memories of Gargi are sitting outside in the garden at lunch time gossiping with friends and feeding the friendly squirrels! I loved the practical classes we had and remember enjoying them thoroughly. I remember going on field trip to Yamuna banks and to Mussoorie to collect plant samples for the herbarium. The excitement of finding and identifying a sample was my favourite. I also loved to memorize the scientific names of common household things and annoying my brothers by using those at home!

Thanks to you and the other lecturers I am still passionate about Botany even though I am not working on anything Botanical right now (except cooking maybe).

I would love to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter to see how much my beloved college has changed.

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# Antardhwani 2015: Cultural Fest of Delhi University: Gargi Stall



Photographs: Dr. Gita Mathur

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# Reverie 2015



**Shreoshi Das**

**B.Sc.Life Sciences (III year)**

'Mind blowing' Yes, that's the word that describes REVERIE 2k15 perfectly. From the very beginning me and my friends were super excited for the fest as this was the first time we were attending it. I was a little more excited as being a part of HUES, The Fine Arts Society of Gargi College; I had to do the decorations, banners and canvases along with the team. So we started our preparations weeks before Reverie. As the days drew nearer everyone was gearing up for the fest. Finally the day came and Reverie'15 saw students turning up from various colleges. The zeal and zest could be well estimated by the energies that resonated from every individual who attended the fest. The Dramatics societies, Dance societies, Music societies, Fine arts societies of different colleges in Delhi University participated in various competitions organized by the respective societies of our college which brought about the best in the individuals and surprised many with their unflagging spirits.



The main highlight from the past few years has been the street plays that portray the social stigmas and atrocities in the society. This year too it lived up to people's expectations which showcased dramas by probably the best artistes in D.U. The very eventful Choreo Night witnessed some nail-biting performances by the choreo. societies of the various participating colleges. The main attraction for the following day was the comedy night by **Kanan Gill** and **Kenny Sebastian**. The show's popularity could be well judged by the countless heads standing in the que to experience a never forgetting laughter session for them. The following night **Anushka Manchanda** rocked the star night with her electrifying performance not only singing to the tunes of her latest Bollywood hits but reprising the old melodies as well. Nevertheless, the stalls put up for the event to cater to the demands of our young college mates, be it the jewelry sections to the sinful delights of pastries and cakes, walla! no one was left hungry for sure. And no one can of course forget those awestruck moments while riding on the Columbus! I thoroughly enjoyed the fest and am looking forward to Reverie'16!



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# Scintillations 2015

SwayangSiddha Nayak

B.Sc. Life Sciences (III year)

Science festivals are organized in a hope that every young mind discovers its hidden potential to not only think beyond the horizon but execute those thoughts to the best of ability. Each year our institution, Gargi College plays host to one such festival the “Scintillations”. All the science departments of our college collaborated and organised some really successful events that witnessed showcase of outstanding talents amongst students. The event was organized on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of February. On the 24<sup>th</sup> the commemoration of the event started with the lighting of the lamp as a symbol of prosperity and good luck and lectures by eminent speakers. **Mr. S.K. Bramachari** gave a talk on “Are Life Scientists trying to become God?” A very interesting and thought provoking theme indeed. The second speech was given by **Dr. Sujata Mohanty** on “A Scientist can look like me!” a very inspirational theme that can uplift the spirits of the young in this fast pacing life full of pressure.



Following this the chemistry department had organized a paper presentation competition which saw a lot of students from various colleges participating enthusiastically. What could be a better platform to present ones involvement in science and research than a poster presentation! It indeed was successfully organized by the collaborative efforts of the Life Science Department and the Department of Physics of our college. There were ten participating teams which presented posters on their projects and gladly it was the group from Physics honours (III year) of our college that impressed the judges with their theme and exhaustive presentation. This was followed by several other interesting competitions, one of them being the very famous AD MAD competition organized by the microbiology department consisting of 14 teams including four from other colleges of Delhi University.

The Following day was all the more eventful with **Professor V.S. Chauhan** giving a lecture on “Science and Society”. The Department of zoology hosted a debate competition on “Should we be afraid of advanced robots living among us in the near future.” There were at least 11 teams which participated and were tested on their diction, presentation and content related to the theme by esteemed judges from our college. A fun event was yet again organized by the life science department “Zenith”, The Scientific Tambola which the competing teams thoroughly enjoyed.

#### Scintillations 2015: Winners



## Scintillations 2015: Rangoli



Photographs: Dr. Gita Mathur

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# Facebook Page: Gargi Manaswini

## Some Clips

Compiled by: Seema Sirpal



### **Sabina Bharwani**

Works at Barclays Investment Bank, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India



### **Gargee Singh**

VIDEO SCRIPT WRITER at Broadcast2world



### **Aimen Khan**

Project Associate at Vigilante Publications



### **Mercy Valson**

Owner-operator at Buzybee Cakes & Muffins



### **Surbhi Garg**

Chartered Accountant at The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India



**Aakshee Gakhar**

Assistant Director at Blue Mango Films, Announcer at ALL INDIA RADIO and Photographer at Wildlife S.O.S



**Kanika Kapoor**

Works at Universal Legal, Attorneys at Law



**Aashima Gandhi**

Works at Snapdeal



**Krittika Mehrotra**

Analyst at Grant Thornton and Intern at Moser Baer



**Mehak Mehra**

Works at Roobaroo and TIMES NOW



**Pooja Bhatna**

Works at SouthernTravels and Evalueserve



**Sudipta Majumdar**

Studies M.Phil. at Central Institute of Psychiatry



**Kashika Dabra**

Psych Intern at Family Court, Bandra



**Janvi Arora**

Article Assistant at Pricewaterhouse.Coopers



**Rimsha Uzair Ensary**

studies MBA at MNNIT



**Tarannum Nainkamal Manjul**  
Manager, Corporate Communications &  
Correspondent, Hindustan Times



**Divya Gupta**  
Works at Decathlon Sports India



**Vasundhara Bisht**  
Works at Amazon India



**Shreya Nahata**  
Studies at IIT Roorkee



**Pallavi Jain**  
Worked at Hôpital Hôtel-Dieu de Québec,  
Canada

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## Gargi Alumni: Back As College Faculty and Staff

S. No.	Name	Department	Designation
1	Ms. Sumant Meena	Commerce	Assistant Professor
2	Ms. Aakriti Chaudhary	Commerce	Assistant Professor
3	Ms. Anuradha Goel	Commerce	Assistant Professor
4	Ms. Jyotika Bahl	Commerce	Assistant Professor
5	Dr. Suchitra Bharti	Sanskrit	Assistant Professor
6	Nirmala Shah	History	Assistant Professor
7	Dr. Sheela Kumari	Physical Education	Associate Professor
8	Ms. Shailly	B.El.Ed	Assistant professor
9	Dr. Poonam Phogat	Psychology	Assistant professor
10	Dr. Shivani	Psychology	Assistant Professor
11	Dr. Renu Mundhara	Botany	Assistant Professor
12	Dr. Neha Sharma	Chemistry	Assistant professor
13	Dr. Beena Negi	Chemistry	Assistant Professor
14	Dr. Manju Saroj	Chemistry	Assistant Professor
15	Dr. Kavita Vasudev	Microbiology	Associate Professor
16	Dr. Vandana Chaudhary	Microbiology	Assistant Professor
17	Dr. Garima Saxena	Physics	Assistant Professor
18	Dr. Mudita Mohile	English	Assistant Professor
19	Ms. Rajni	Botany	Assistant
20	Ms. Madhu Kumar	Administration	S.O. Accounts (retired)
21	Ms.Nileema Mathur	Administration	S.O. Administration (retired)
22	Ms. Uma Duggal	Administration	Daftari (retired)

# Alumni Achievers : Awards

Deeksha Bisht: We at Gargi are proud of you!



## Gold Medal For topping

M.Sc. Environmental Management, GGSIPU

Unforgettable moments of my life are when I was studying in the Gargi College, Delhi University. This is the stepping stone of my future. I came here as an empty box but after three years I was filled with joy and understanding.

Botany department of Gargi College is just awesome and very helpful. This department is provided us with a base for learning. The people whom I met here are very valuable to me. I just enjoyed while studying in this department. This department is very supportive including teachers and lab staff. Teachers of this department are very encouraging and inspiring. I am very thankful to respected Gita Mathur Mam, Geeta Mehta Mam, Shashi Tyagi Mam, Usha Prasad Mam, Priyanka Kapoor Mam, Kiran Prabha Mam. This was the best phase of my life.

Moreover, after joining this department, I realized what true friendship is! Here I made some amazing friends especially my best friend. I have to thank Gargi College for providing me not only with the best teachers but also a lifetime friendship of Kimi Bhuyan, Shilpi Choudhary, Deepanjali, Neha Joshi & many others which I will forever cherish. Gargi is not just a College for me, it was a special part of my life where I enjoyed every moments.





Whatever I have learnt here is with me. After completing my Graduation from this college, I pursued M.Sc. in Environmental Management from Guru Gobind Singh University (GGSIPU). I topped in university examination and got the gold medal for the same by Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri M. Hamid Ansari in presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Shri Arvind Kejriwal and Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister & Minister of Higher Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Shri Manish Sisodia at 10<sup>th</sup> Convocation of GGSIPU.

I achieve it because of precious experience & knowledge, which I got at Gargi. I am again very grateful to this department for providing me a chance to express my feelings.

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# In The News: Sarpanch

Vasundhara Choudhary, we at Gargi are proud of you!

## DU Girl elected as the Sarpanch

Source: Hindustan Times, January 27, 2015



Abolishing all stereotypical notions of village politics and gender bias, a Rajasthan village elected a 21-year-old Delhi University girl its sarpanch as a step towards woman empowerment during the on-going panchayat elections in the state.

**Following the footsteps of 28-year-old Chhavi Rajawat, a management graduate, Vasundhara Choudhary, is proudly the second well-educated woman sarpanch in Rajasthan.**

The elections that started on January 16 ended with Saturday being the election day at Lilawali village in Hanumangarh District, about 415 kilometres from Jaipur. As the elders sat together and deliberated, it was decided that Vasundhara would stand unopposed and hence, she was elected as the Sarpanch.

Studying in her third-year of Psychology in Gargi College, she is on her way to complete her masters in Psychology and a Ph.D. as well. Her education and skills coupled with passion to work for society helped her achieve this stature and she aims to reach even greater heights.

The village committee decided to have women occupying all the posts, following PM Modi's suit for women empowerment and upliftment.

It is a matter of pride and honour for this DU girl, her family, her college, her fellows and all of India to see a rising leader in this young blooded female who has miles to go before she sleeps.

Read more about her extra ordinary achievement, here: <http://dubeat.com/?p=29250>

**Compiled by Dr. Gita Mathur**

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# Departmental Events 2014-15

Compiled by: Rajni

## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Deepti Lehiri

Name of society: Quasar

Inaugural function was held on 29th Aug'14, Guest was Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh (Shiv Nadar University). Other activities were: A lecture on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept' 14, by Dr. Shatendra K. Sharma (JNU), Physicharades on 24<sup>th</sup> Sep' 14, Group Discussion on 29<sup>th</sup> Sep' 14 (Mars Orbital Mission), Physicuz on 28<sup>th</sup> Oct' 14, Internships at JNU on Dec' 14 for final year students. During Scintillations, annual science fest 2015. **Quasar** the Physics Society presented Poster paper presentation (In collaboration with Zenith) and also Treasure Hunt on 24.2.2015.

## DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Leisan Judith

Name of Society: GCBS-Taru

Inauguration was held on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept' 2014 with a lecture on "**Plant Molecular Biology**" by Prof. J. P. Khurana, University of Delhi, South Campus. **Summer Seminar cum Workshop entitled "eResources and ICT Enhanced Learning Methodologies for Biologists"** was organized on June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Invited speakers were: **Dr. G. Mahesh**, Coordinator, NKRC, NISCAIR, New Delhi. **Ms. Seema Sirpal**, Senior System Programmer, (DUCC) Delhi University Computer Centre, Delhi University. **Dr. Neena Priyanka**, Advisory Data Specialist at Pitney Bowes Software, India.

**Teacher's Day celebrations** were on 5<sup>th</sup> Sep' 2014 (invited guests **Butterfly NGO**). **Poster Making Competition** was organized on 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct' 2014. **Botanical Quiz** was organized on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb' 2015. **Salad Making Competition** was organized on 19<sup>th</sup> Feb' 2015. **Scintillations** Science Departments fest Botany Department organized **Scientific Rangoli** on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb' 2015. GCBS organized a lecture by **Dr. Rajendra Gupta** (Retired Associate Professor, Department of Botany, Delhi University) on "**DNA of Words**" on 4<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

## DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Neelam

A good number of students are undertaking short term research projects under the able guidance of **Dr. Kohinoor Kaur, Dr Richa Sharma, Dr Deepika Mehta and Dr. Vandana Choudhary**. The final year students undertook a visit to **Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory** in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi with Dr. Kavita Vasdev and Dr. Deeksha Tripathi and had an enthralling experience. In the Annual Sports Day 2015 our first year student Witty Tyagi bagged third prize in the fun game Chak de Gargi. Devika Majumdar member of Kshitij won prizes at various inter-college events. In the Annual Science Festival **Scintillation 2015** our department organized **Ad Mad** event and won first prize in Debate, second prize in paper presentation, first prize in AD Mad and third prize in quiz respectively. Our department also emerged as winner of the overall rolling trophy for fourth successive year.

## DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Neelam Sachdeva

Society: Albatross

21<sup>ST</sup> July Orientation. 5<sup>th</sup> Sept Teacher's day. 9<sup>th</sup> Sept Departmental inauguration. 15<sup>th</sup> Oct Departmental trip.

## DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Sushmita Chaudhary  
Chemical Society - RASGANDHAYAN

Teacher coordinators: Dr. B. Vaijyanthi, Dr. Neha Sharma,  
Dr. Tripti Kumari, Dr. Ritika Chauhan

The inaugural lecture on “**Oxygen evolving complex of Photosystem II**” was delivered by Prof. Pavan Mathur, Department of Chemistry, University of Delhi, on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. Ozone day was celebrated by holding inter departmental “**Poster Making**” and “**Quiz**” competitions. A **debate competition** was also held on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan., 15 on the topic “**Chemistry enhances life expectancy**”. This was followed by Dr. C. K. Khurana memorial Annual lecture on “**Basic concepts of crystallography**” by Prof. M. A. Wahab of Jamia Millia Islamia, marking the celebration of **International Year of Crystallography**. The department has its own magazine “**Amalgam**” which would be released soon. Our students were actively involved in organising the inter – college Science festival Scintillations 2015 which was a great success. The **Paper Presentation** event in the festival saw a huge participation of students from various colleges of Delhi University. The valedictory function of the society which involves degree distribution to our students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Chemistry, will be held in the end of April 2015.

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## DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Name of Society:- Zenith

Faculty advisor: Dr. Jasmeet Kaur Abat

Zenith organized **Talent Hunt** (Singing & Dancing) Competition on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015. **Ozone day celebration**; Crossword competition and Slogan writing competition. **Scintillations: Poster presentation competition and Scientific tambola** competition.

## DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Teacher-in-charge: Ms. Pooja Gupta

Faculty Advisors: Dr. Promilla Kumar and Ms. Pooja Gupta

The year 2014 has been an eventful year for the Department. The faculty and the students of the Mathematics department geared up to celebrate the “**Scintillation 2015**”, inter college science festival, which was held on 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. The festival included a **science quiz** by the department. The department organized career counseling session on **IIT JAM and Actuarial Sciences** inspiring the students towards future prospects. The 8<sup>th</sup> Inter College Annual Fest “**NO**



**GUTS, NO GLORY**”, was organized by **NAVDRIшти**, B.A. Programme /B.Sc. (H) Mathematics on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The eminent speakers were very inspirational. The fest comprised of various events like debate, quiz, bid wiser, face painting. There was a huge participation of students from other colleges making the festival a great success.

## DEPARTMENT OF SANSKRIT

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Sunita Gupta

Name of Society: Sanskrit Association

The Sanskrit Department remained very active and has been engaged in a series of activities and programs during the year 2014-2015. It's very first event started with the Orientation function for the fresher's admitted to 1st Year Sanskrit (Hons) course followed by the various activities. A Seminar '**Sanskrit Vanmaya Mein Vigyan**' was organized by the department which was followed by various educational and cultural activities. **Prof. O.P. Pandey**, an ex-Professor in Calcutta University and a renowned scientist associated with NASA and **Dr. Punita Sharma**, Assoc. Professor in Sri Venkateshwara College were the eminent speakers in the Seminar. It was very enlightening and highly appreciated by the entire audience. Various activities and competitions-**Sanskrit Slokavritti, Sanskrit Paper Reading, Natyabhivyakti, Essay - writing, Chitrakarma and Rangoli** competitions were successfully conducted by the **Sanskrit Association** with enthusiastic participation .

**Inter-college Sanskrit Recitation and Sanskrit Natyabhivyakti Competitions** were organized during the College Fest--'Reverie'. Our students excelled not only in academics but also in innovative and cultural events. They are participating in other colleges also .The Association is also planning an educational trip.

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## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

**Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Sheela Dubey**

Department of Economics organized annual fest on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 on the theme "**Youthonomics**". **Dr. Rohit Azad**, Associate Professor, CESP, JNU was the honorable speaker who enriched the formal session by sharing the current challenges and issues of the youth in the Indian context. Department organized a **career counseling session** by IMS ON 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015.

## DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

**Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Mukesh Gautam**

The department organized various activities listed below: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 **Intra departmental quiz** on general political issues with Mr. Amit Sinha as the quizmaster. 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 **screening of the documentary "Occupation 101"** on the **Israel-Palestine conflict**. 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 **Pol Pourri, Annual fest** of the department. Theme of the fest was "**West Asia in Turmoil and its Implications on International Politics**". A panel discussion was organized with **Professor P.R. Kumaraswamy, Dr. Col. Rajeev Agarwal and Mr. Shaheen Nazar**. 8-12 October, 2014 Annual Departmental **trip to Dharmashala and Mcleod Ganj**. 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 a talk by **Prof. Zoya Hassan** of JNU (retired) on "**Revisiting Indian Politics: the Road Ahead**". 17 - 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2015, first **Annual Gargi Model United Nations conference**. 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2015 a talk by **Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan** (JNU) on "Thinking about Justice: Some Dilemmas". 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 a talk by **Prof. Mausumi Basu** (JNU) on "The United Nations Security Council and Global Conflicts". 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 screening of two **documentaries "Bol ke Labh Azad Hain Tere"** and "**Kuch Na Kaho, Khamosh Raho**" by filmmakers Sania Hashmi and Mohan Kumawat. 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 a talk by Prof. Ajay Gudavarthy (JNU), on "Indian Democracy: Politics without Opposition?"

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

**Teacher-in-charge: Ms. Geeta Siddharth**

The Commerce Department of Gargi College has actively conducted seminars and events for students. On 16 September 2014, a special lecture by Professor J P Sharma, Head of Department of Commerce, Delhi University, on the topic, "**Companies Act 2013**" was organized. Commerce Department actively participated in the cleaning mission on 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2014 and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The annual departmental fest "**Cascade**" was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2015 on the theme "**Digital India: Empowering Banking & Business**". Students across DU participated with full zest and zeal.

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Commerce department initiated **Panorama**, an academic forum where the faculty of commerce department together commits to share, a topic of academic or research interest at least once a month. Past sessions include:

**1<sup>st</sup> session:** Human Resource Accounting by Dr. Geeta Siddharth.

**2<sup>nd</sup> session:** Personal Tax Assessment and E-Filing by Dr. Kiran Batra & Mr. Sanjay Sharma

**3rd Session:** Application of Efficient Market Hypothesis in Bombay Stock Exchange by Ms. Shikha Mahajan.

**4<sup>th</sup> Session:** Financial statements as per schedule VI by Ms Premlata and Ms Anuradha goel.

**5<sup>th</sup> Session:** Convergence of IFRS into Banking Sector by Mr Nishendra.

## **DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY:**

**Name of association: Gargi Psychology Association**

**Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Sangeeta**

**Faculty Advisor: Dr. Veena Tucker**

The year 2014-15 started with the inaugural function of the Gargi Psychology Association, on “**Healing the Invisible wounds – 100 years of war and celebrating life**”, students presented an act on the theme followed by reading from Pat Barker’s war books, by Dr. Anjana Dev Associate Professor, Department of English. Another seminar was held on the theme of ‘**Man-Nature Relation**’ having a talk by Professor Sunit Verma, Delhi University and presentation by the students. In October, a lecture/workshop was conducted by a renowned Mentor Mr. Pradeep Dutt on the topic “**Significance of strengths and use of Clifton strength finder for career and self-development**”. Another workshop on career development was conducted by the School of Inspirational Learning SOIL. “**Psyfiesta**” the annual psychology fest was celebrated on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 on the theme “**Psychology of Music and Dance**”. The keynote address was by the consultant Psychiatrist Mr. Madhu Sudan Solanki, of Saket City Hospital, Delhi. This was followed by talk/workshop by Ms. Kanika Batra on “**Music Therapy**”. Students of the department presented theme papers on Music and Emotions, Dance and Learning, Neuropsychology of Music and Dance as well as group performances to highlight the significance of Music & Dance for self-expression, self & group development & its healing aspects. Music and dance therapies are found to be having the healing aspects. An exhibition of photographs, posters by the students was displayed in ‘**Expressions**’. A **trip to Dalhousie** for students was arranged that energized/ enjoyed by them.

Two **alumni Priyanka Thagela** and **Kritvi Kedia** visited the department and interacted with the current students in workshops.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HINDI

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Anita Yadav

Department of Hindi: हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद्  
विभाग सलाहकार : डा. स्वाति श्वेता

हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद् ने शैक्षणिक वर्ष 2014-2015 के प्रारम्भ में **मौलिक कविता वाचन प्रतियोगिता** का आयोजन किया जिसमें विभाग की छात्राओं ने अपनी स्वरचित कविताओं का पाठ किया। इस अवसर पर परिषद् ने **सृजनात्मक लेखन प्रतियोगिता** का भी आयोजन किया जिसमें विभाग की छात्राओं ने अपनी साहित्यिक प्रतिभा को अभिव्यक्ति दी। इस वर्ष हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद् द्वारा **एकल वक्तव्य परम्परा** का भी आरम्भ किया गया। **डा. पुरुषोत्तम अग्रवाल का वक्तव्य** इसी परम्परा के अन्तर्गत पहला कदम रहा। 22 जनवरी 2015 को हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद् की ओर से **कवि सम्मेलन** का आयोजन किया गया जो अत्यन्त सफल रहा। कवि चिराग जैन, कवि शम्भु शिखर, कवि चरणजीत सिंह चरण ने अपनी कविताओं से सब को खूब हँसाया। मार्च 12, 2015 को हिन्दी साहित्य परिषद् ने विभाग का वार्षिक उत्सव '**साहित्योत्सव 2015**' मनाया। मीडिया इस वर्ष का थीम रहा। इस अवसर पर एक परिचर्चा का आयोजन किया गया। परिचर्चा का विषय था '**मीडिया हम और रोज़गार**'। इस परिचर्चा में मीडिया जगत की प्रसिद्ध आवाज़ श्री शम्मी नारंग जी, डी डी न्यूज़ के प्राइम टाइम एंकर श्री अशोक श्रीवास्तव तथा ए आई आर एफ़ एम रेनबो 102.6 के रेडियो जाकी श्री मनीष आज़ाद ने अपने विचारों से सभी को लाभान्वित किया। इस अवसर पर **आशु भाषण प्रतियोगिता, कवि हूँ मैं प्रतियोगिता, जानो तो बूझो, एड मैड प्रतियोगिता** का आयोजन किया गया।

## DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Teacher-in-charge: Aparna Joshi

Association: Asmi

**CESI international conference on 'Education, Politics and Social Change'** was hosted by the department in collaboration with Institute of Home Economics and Regional Resource Centre for Elementary Education from 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at the Conference Centre, University of Delhi. This conference was attended by over 250 participants and had over 190 paper presenters. The department was **involved in DU innovative project** titled: '**To Deepen Understanding Of Practices In 'Ecological Living': A Multidisciplinary Approach**'. Students brought out a compendium, titled '**Green Activities for Primary School Children: A Resource Book**'. An audio-visual resource, titled '**Listening to Our Planet**' that represents the key learnings of the student-teachers from this project has also been created. A series **story telling sessions** by Kamal Pruthi, Irshad Alam and Vinita Krishna along with a **heritage walk** in old Delhi was organized for our students. A two day workshop was organized on '**Effective Teaching and Learning**' at the American Centre in collaboration with the Regional English Language Office, Delhi on 11th and 12th August, 2014. A workshop on '**Enriching Mathematical Pedagogical Skills**' was organized in collaboration with Jodo Gyan on 16th September, 2014 and 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. The B.El.Ed association, 'ASMI' organized its **annual festival** on theme, '**Story Telling**' this year on 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 2015. The panelist include **Paro Anand, Navina Jaffa, Kamal Pruthi, Prachi Kalra and Deepti Chawla**.

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## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Meenakshi Jain

The History Department had a packed year. The students went on trips to the to see the **Indus Valley Gallery** in January 2015. The same month, they visited the **Indira Gandhi National Centre of Art** which was displaying the Alkazi Collection of rare photographs. In association with Jesus and Mary College they went on a **historical walk** around the old city of Shahjahanabad in February 2015. Students went to the **Mathura Museum** in March 2015.

In October 2014 the Department organized an outstation trip to **Dharamsala**, which has become a centre of Buddhist practice and learning. They also visited the **Kangra Fort** and the **Norbulingka Institute of Tibetan Art and Culture**.

Among the scholars invited in 2014 to deliver talks on their areas of specialization were **Dr. Jamal Hasan** of Archaeological Survey of India. He spoke on Problems of Conservation in Uttarakhand. **Dr. Indivar Kamtekar** of JNU spoke on Nationalism and Modern India. Eight students from the Department attended a two day **Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop** conducted by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) in January 2015.

The theme of the Department's annual festival, **Antaraal**, in February 2015, was "**Celebrating Intangible Heritage- Performative Traditions in Indian History.**" Besides talks by **Prof. TKV Subramaniam** and **Ms. Geeta Chandran**, the activities included competitive events like one act play, quiz, debate, face painting and mask making.

## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY - Learning Resource Center

Librarian: Dr. Babita Gaur

**Library Orientation program** was conducted for the new users of library. **Library Literary week** in collaboration with student union was celebrated during 25<sup>th</sup> August to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014. Book discussion, literary competition and reference day etc. was a part of the program. Separate area was devoted to rare/out of print books in the reference section. Old question papers and syllabus were **bar-coded** during the year. **WEBOPAC** and facility of **UGC INFLIBNET** and access to **DU Library Catalogue** continued during the year. **623 books were added** during the year till January making the total of 71938 books in all. At present library has an asset of **116 CDs** and subscribed to **57 periodicals**. `Electronic Resource Management package for e- resources: User control provided by **NLIST**. The library subscribes to a large number of **Electronics Resources through UGC-Info net** and University of Delhi connectivity, Its includes **11 Online Databases on Reference & Citation Sources, 6 online Databases on Bibliographic Sources, 2 Online Databases on Citation Analysis Resources, 8 online Databases on Financial and Statistical Sources, Single databases on Doctoral Theses and 105 online Databases on Full Text Sources**. This includes around **97000+ eBooks and 6000+ e-sources** available in the present library with Wi-Fi Library computer lab (presently needs to be updated).

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## DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Teacher-in-charge: Dr. Sheela K. S.

**Cricket Match between UKEIRI XI and GARGI XI on 22.08.14. GARGI OLYMPIAD** (inter stream sports competition for general students) from 21.08.14 to 17.09.14. **VIGORO** match for Non Academic Staff (women) on 19.12.14. **Cricket Match** for Non Academic Staff (men) on 09.01.15. **VIGORO** match for Academic Staff (women) on 13.01.15. **Cricket match** for Non Academic Staff (men) between **Kamala Nehru College** and **Gargi College** on 16.01.15. **Annual Sports Meet SPIN'15** on 29.01.15.

### **NSS ACTIVITIES**

The first flagship event of the society was the commencement of **“HOLISTIC LIFE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS”** in collaboration with Sri Sathya Sai Organisation in August. Next in our event calendar was **“Poster Making”** and **“slogan writing”** competition on **“Swachh Bharat Abhiyan”** following the lead given by the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi.

The second major event of the society was **“BLOOD DONATION CAMP”** which was organized in collaboration with *AIIMS* and *Blood connect*. There were successful 115 donations which included donation from students, teachers, as well as non-academic staff. **“NSS DIWALI MELA”** was the next event which the society organized in collaboration with college union. The fourth flagship event of the society was **“NSS FRIENDHIP DAY”** where elderly people from two old age homes, *ARADHNA* and *SANDHYA* were invited to the college. Our last flagship event for the year was **“NSS CHILDREN'S DAY”** where children from *TAMANA* special school for kids were invited to the college.

Apart from this NSS members have been donating newspapers and clothes on a regular basis which are sent to Family of Disabled. We also collaborated with ***Indian Cancer Society*** for spreading awareness about Breast Cancer. NSS members also participated enthusiastically in **39<sup>th</sup> National Blood Donation Rally** organized by Ministry of Health in October.

# Gargi College Students' Union

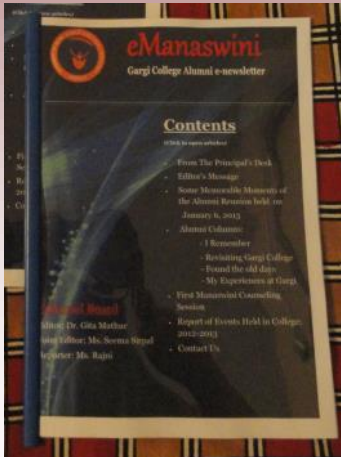
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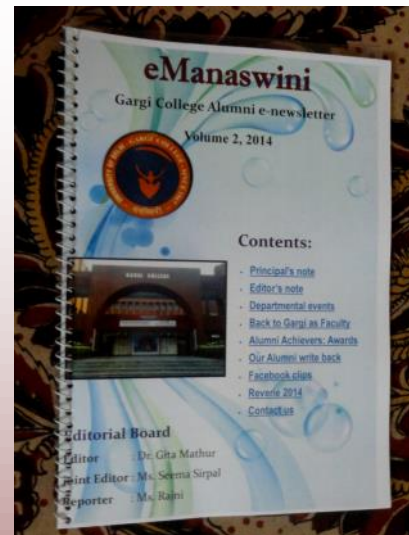
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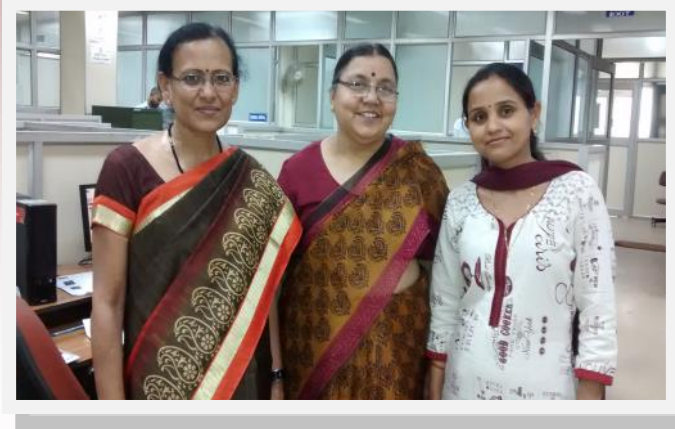


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# Gargi Views

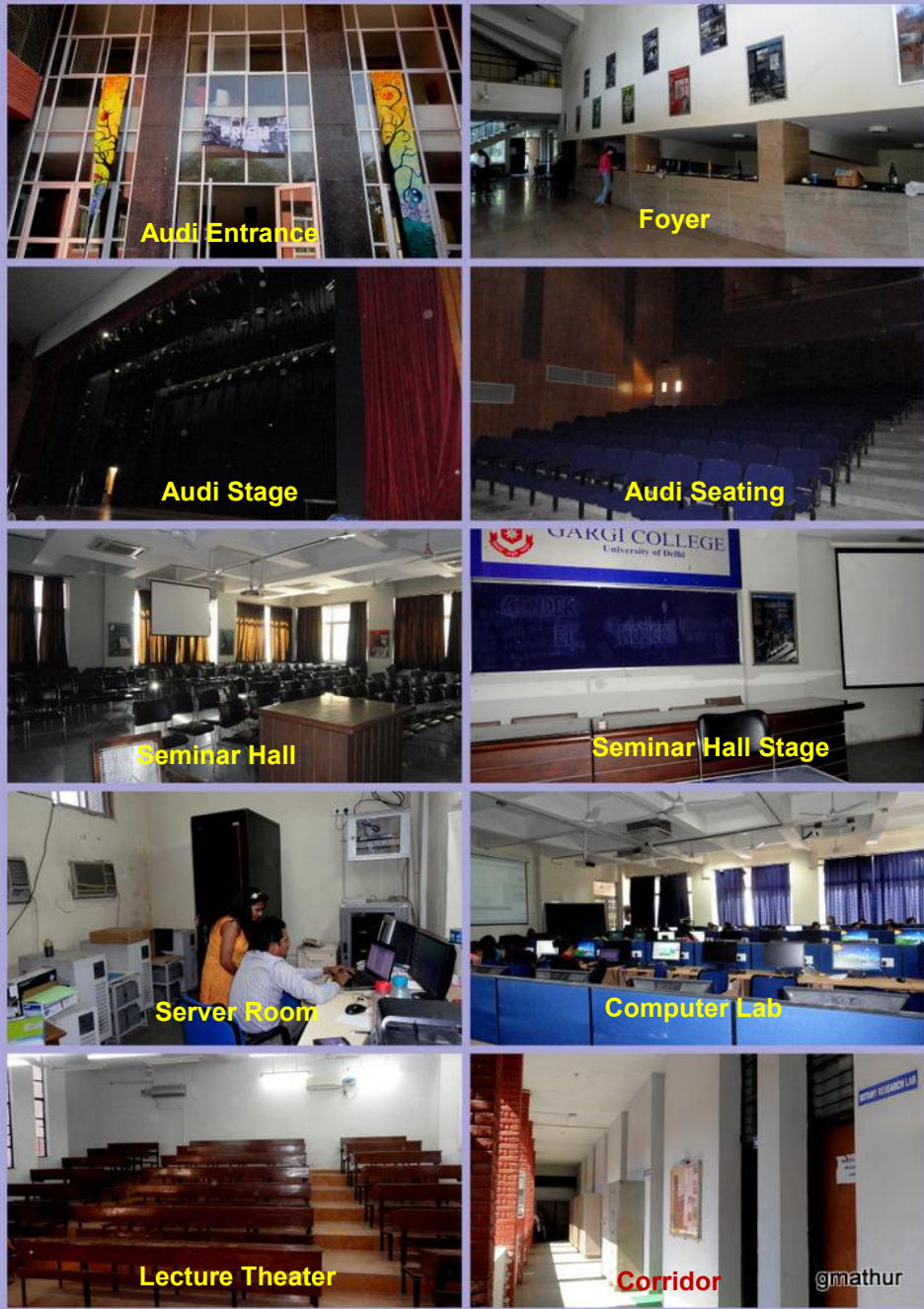


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# Gargi Views



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