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**ACHARYA NARENDRA  
DEV COLLEGE  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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## I. INTRODUCTION AND 'AWARD OF GOOD PRACTICES'

As the session 2012-13 came to close, we had reasons to celebrate! We were recognised for our hard work and the practices we follow in college. Our efforts to make a difference were applauded in the form of an **AWARD OF GOOD PRACTICES** among colleges at the mega multidimensional event of University of Delhi- 'Antardhvani 2013' from February 22 - 24, 2013. Among almost all the University of Delhi colleges that competed, some of whom are ages older than Acharya Narendra Dev College, our college was awarded the third prize of Rs 5 Lakhs for its '***Beyond the Classroom...***' approach, a moment of great pride for the ANDC family.

The Antardhvani required colleges to present their best practices in a stall allotted for the purpose. We felt it would be good if we used this opportunity to consolidate what the college had achieved over the last seven years (since I joined the college). We decided to compete with the theme 'Beyond the Classroom...' for our stall and prepared our exhibit accordingly for the stall in the "Good Practices' Plaza. The event saw a foot-fall of over fifty thousand.

Since we have always felt very strongly about providing opportunities 'beyond the classroom' for both our faculty and our students we decided to highlight some aspects of our college-life that showcased it most effectively. We focused on four aspects that were very diverse in their very nature but fitted the theme in that it helped

the faculty and students to realize their potential outside of classrooms. The four aspects we projected this year included, Research in college, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre, our pursuit of Open Education and last but not the least our use of Theatre in Education and Personality Development. We projected all these aspects through a presentation that was continuously projected using an LCD screen.

### ***Opportunities for Research***

Students need exposure that help them understand ‘what it means to DO SCIENCE’ – hence we provided students opportunities to do research, so that they learn how to identify a problem, how to read scientific literature, how to hypothesize, how to design experiments, how to conduct them, how to collect and interpret data. This also provides them a milieu for closer interaction with teachers and peers, to learn how to work as a team, to think creatively, to innovate... and basically also to have fun while learning. The various exhibits under this category included:

- 1 India Today magazine showing college ranking of last four years
- 2 Books published by college teachers
- 3 Various awards won by the college teachers
- 4 Posters highlighting the completed and ongoing research projects
- 5 Bound copies of ‘Research Publications’ upto 2012-13
- 6 Fiber Optics Kit developed by SPIE Chapter

- students along with annual reports and DVD of the Optics fair
- 7 Annual Reports, Prospectus, Insight - the college magazine, magazine 'Biomer' of the last few years
  - 8 Conference proceedings of various National and International conferences organized by college in previous years
  - 9 First Ph. D. thesis from the college
  - 10 Various NEWS papers clipping highlighting research in college
  - 11 Indiabioscience blog (poster)

### ***Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre***

While most of us seek jobs after education it is only the very special people, who dare to strike out on their own and become job-creators rather than job-seekers since the country needs more entrepreneurs than ever before. Professional colleges and technical institutes realizing this – have promoted the entrepreneurial culture since long. However traditional colleges like us knowing our strength as a Science college, decided to seek the help of the Department of Science and Technology, GOI to set up an '***Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre***'. Various exhibits under this category included:

- 1 Products viz. herbal MassageCream, cold cream, foundation cream, cleansing milk, Apricot scrub,

- Face Gel, body wash, anti-wrinkle cream
- 2 ISO certified Cleansing solution for washing of laboratory glassware developed under Student Innovative project
  - 3 Low cost glucometer developed under Student Innovative project
  - 4 ISO certified products like hair shampoo; body lotion; hand and body cream; and bath soap made from silkworm cocoons waste
  - 5 Products developed by various NGOs with help of IEDC at ANDC
  - 6 Posters highlighting the activities of IEDC

### ***Open Education***

Under the personal leadership of Principal, Acharya Narendra Dev College is the first college in the University of Delhi, to actively pursue a philosophy of 'OPEN' in education. In December, 2007, we adopted Linux as the preferred platform for all our computers while in October, 2008 we took our first steps towards uploading course materials on the web as 'Open Educational Resources'. Of course, this needed a thorough understanding of the Open paradigms - the software and content licenses – and how to use them, learning how to install and use different software and many more things. But, most importantly, it required a radical change in mindset – something we are still struggling to fully achieve! The various exhibits under this category included:

- 1 The OPAL award

- 2 Poster highlighting the OPEN initiatives of the college
- 3 Course material developed
- 4 CD of the software used in “EasyNow”
- 5 Manuals created for conducting workshops on Open Educational Resources, Creative Commons and EasyNow
- 6 ‘Quality Assurance in Multimedia Learning Materials’ - Booklet prepared under an initiative of CEMCA of which Dr Savithri Singh was a part.

### ***Theater in Education***

Personality Development in form of compassion, courtesy, cooperation, responsibility, fairness, tolerance, self-control, courage, perseverance, helpfulness, honesty, respectfulness, confidence building, and realization of one’s potential – our students needed support towards these characteristic traits. Good classroom teaching, even research opportunities don’t provide the natural spaces for such developments. How does one tackle such important aspects of a students’ overall ‘character’? What is it that will provide a space or milieu for the student to overcome their fears, give expression to their thoughts, stand up for their convictions, fight for their rights, know their duties, become socially-sensitive, be caring, become a leader, able to work in a team – all the things that will make them well adjusted to a life ahead where they have to take informed decisions? We believe that Theatre can be the best medium to develop these skills and to overcome inhibition. We showcased our Add-on Course on ***Effective Communication and Personality***

***Development*** as well as our Annual theatre productions in this section through:

- 1 Poster of the ECPDT workshops, culmination function and the Annual Theatre productions.
- 2 DVDs of the Annual theatre production of the last three years

A flyer was specially designed for distribution during the conference. Special large sized banners and film strips (all pasted on sunboard) were printed for display. The college stall was thronged by visitors at all times. They ranged from academicians including the University team of Vice Chancellor, Pro- Vice Chancellor, Director, South Campus, Dean of Colleges, Head of University departments to general public. All were of the opinion that college is providing the right blend of education that is contemporary in today's scenario. How can we forget the remark made by our Vice Chancellor '*Acharya Narendra Dev College is the best college for me.*'? Our stall was on the VIP list - the Chief Guest Shri Ashok Thakur, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt of India was taken to the college stall. The college effort was applauded by all visitors.

Let me now highlight all the achievements of this academic session under various heads starting with research.

## 2. RESEARCH

At Acharya Narendra Dev College we firmly believe that a person learns better by experiencing things rather than only reading or writing and acting in this spirit we lay a great emphasis on practical training and hands-on experience. Being primarily a Science College, we stress a lot on research. Over the last few years our faculty has bagged around 19 externally funded research projects which amount to Rupees Two Crores. The college provides conducive environment and policies to encourage students to do meaningful research under guidance of highly motivated and dynamic faculty.

### 2.1 RESEARCH INITIATIVES AT UG LEVEL

#### 2.1.1 Summer Projects and Training Workshops for Students

Although, our faculty and students are involved in research projects all through the year, summers provide an opportunity when students are free from their routine classes and can work with more dedication and vigor in laboratories and learn things better. Some of areas on which we worked with students over last summer include:

#### **ELITE – ‘Education in a Lively, Innovative Training Environment’ Summer Fellowship:**

College’s self-funded fellowships of Rs. 1,000/- p.m. per student which are offered to 200 students. These allow all interested students to take on summer projects under a mentor teacher during vacations i.e. June and July. It provides first exposure to diverse research possibilities

and helps them learn various laboratory techniques and skills, do data collection through field studies, conduct surveys, interact with various external field experts, exposure to current research, inculcate habit of reading research journals and get an opportunity to execute their innovative ideas into practice. The programme designed has been an experiential educational opportunity and add to the student's knowledge base in their major or career field of interest.