

Report on IQAC organized National Seminar on Indian Values and Knowledge System in Higher Education

A National Seminar on **Indian Values and Knowledge System** in Higher Education was organized by **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)** of the college on February 15, 2024. The Seminar had distinguished speakers from diverse academic disciplines, sharing their knowledge with the participants. **Prof. Sangeeta Dodrajka**, Convenor, IQAC, introduced the theme of the seminar elaborating the need of integrating traditional Indian knowledge systems with modern educational practices.

Principal, **Dr. Jatinder Bir Singh**, in his address stated how India has always been a knowledge setter in diverse fields such as medicine, metallurgy, oral literature. He added that Indian and western knowledge systems are not contradictory and mutually exclusive.

IAS Sonal Goel, presently Secretary, Tripura Government, in her discussion insisted on the need to incorporate Indian values in primary and higher education. Sharing her personal life story, she encouraged the young audience to have the courage to innovate and lead. She urged the youth to align their personal goals with that of the country.

Dr. Jaspal Singh, former Vice Chancellor, Panjabi university, in his address demonstrated how Guru Granth Sahib Ji is pluralistic in nature as the 'bani' includes the 'shabads' by 15 saints from diverse cultures, religions and regions of the country. Quoting extensively from Guru Granth Sahib Ji, he stated that the message of Guru Granth Sahib is inclusive and global.

Prof. Ashok Acharya, Department of Political Science, highlighted how there is a need to *decolonize our mind* by acknowledging, accepting and protecting the plurality of our cultures. He said Indians have inherited the sense of connectedness with the community.

Prof. A.K. Singh, Dean and Head, Department of Commerce, University of Delhi, the last speaker of the inaugural session, brought to the forum very interesting experiments where modern day science and traditional knowledge systems, when put together, have produced splendid results. The two case studies he showed were from ambidextrous Gurukul and Art of Living Intuition Programme.

The inaugural session was followed by two parallel academic sessions in which 13 research papers were presented by academicians from variety of fields. The first technical session was adjudged by Prof. Prakash Narayan, Department of Adult and Continuing Education and Prof. Gayatri Verma, Lakshmbai College, University of Delhi. The parallelly conducted second technical session had Prof. J.K. Goel, Former Director JIMS and Prof. Anjala Kalsie, FMS, University of Delhi, as the judges. The presentations were edifying, interesting and informative, reflecting the intensive research undertaken by the presenters. Ms. Dipavali Debroy, retired Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi was awarded the Best Paper Award in Technical Session I for her work titled "Ancient and Contemporary Knowledge System in India". The paper titled, "Indian Moral Values: Select Inferences from Shri Ramcharitmanas with Special Reference to Economics and Business" by Dr. Anand Saxena, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, University of Delhi and Dr. Rekha Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi was adjudged the Best Paper in Technical Session II.

The technical sessions were followed by a valedictory session in which Prof. Aradhana Nanda member IQAC gave the Vote of Thanks which was followed by the felicitation ceremony wherein the presenters and the Best Paper Awardees were commended by our chairman, S. M.P.S. Chadha.

The seminar opened new avenues for discussion of how Indian values and knowledge systems can be assimilated in higher education system. The implementation of NEP 2020 is leading to a substantial

transformation by acknowledging profound value of ancient Indian knowledge through research and innovation.