

**Ram Lal Anand College
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**60th Annual Day
And
Prize Distribution
Function**

Thursday, 9th May, 2024

Front Lawns

Principal's Report: 2023-2024

Good Evening Everyone!

I feel privileged to extend a very warm welcome to our distinguished chief guest Shri Santosh Taneja, Chairman Governing Body of the college, and Guest of Honour Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Awardee, Principal Scientist, CSIR-IMTECH, my colleagues on the dais Prof Mukta Majumder and Prof Subhash Chandra Dabas, Our Retired Faculty members and their families, esteemed alumni, my teaching and non-teaching colleagues and my dear students and parents to this 60th Annual Day and Prize Distribution Function of Ram Lal Anand College, which is a celebration of growth of college, and achievements of its students and staff in the current academic session. It has been a very fulfilling academic year for all of us.

I heartily welcome our Honourable Chairperson, Governing Body, **Shri Santosh Taneja**, Founder SAMKALP IAS Academy and Chairman, Academic Council, Samkalp Vedhik IAS Academy. It is to the credit of Sh. Santosh Taneja that numerous students each year get not only motivated but also trained to appear in one of the toughest professional examination held in our country. His success speaks loudly in many bright civil servants who prepared for the UPSC exam under his mentorship and guidance at SAMKALP IAS Academy. In his tenure as Chairman, Governing Body, Ram Lal Anand College, we have gained immensely through his vast experience, his vision for the younger generation, his commitment towards nation and his zest towards institution building. His warm and empathetic attitude has often helped us in resolving concerns or planning for new activities. Sir, we are fortunate to have you with us today in college. Our college has greatly benefited under your leadership and unflinching support. Thank you sir, for gracing today's occasion as our chief guest.

Our Guest of Honour today is **Dr Ashwani Kumar**, a luminary in field of scientific inquiry. Currently, he is Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR-Institute of Microbial Technology. We are so very fortunate to have amongst us a scientist of such huge repute. He has a wealth of expertise and accolades. Dr. Ashwani Kumar has been recently conferred the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award for the year 2022, for his groundbreaking research in Biological Sciences. This award has been given for his significant contributions to TB pathophysiology, especially the role of biofilm-induced infections. It gives us more pleasure to cherish Dr. Kumar's presence today because of his special and deeper relation with Ram Lal Anand College. Yes, he is our distinguished alumni. Dr. Kumar was an undergraduate student of Microbiology Department at Ram Lal Anand College during the academic session 1995-98. As a postgraduate student he also published an important paper on what makes the bacteria resistant to drugs, which became the most cited in the field. A paper he published in the journal Nature in 2016 became a landmark in the field of biofilms. Currently, his work revolves around the treatment of tuberculosis, and his lab has been one of the pioneers in addressing the problem of long treatment duration. I hope and wish that the stimulating presence of Dr. Ashwani Kumar today will be truly inspirational for current batch of students at our college.

Now, I take great pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of our college for the session 2023-24 **to brief you about the key developments and new initiatives taken by the college.**

Ram Lal Anand College was established in 1964 by Eminent Lawyer of the Supreme Court of

India and a Great Visionary **Shri Ram Lal Anand Ji**. It started with just two pass courses, B.A. and B.Com and now offers **Fourteen** Undergraduate courses in all the three streams, i.e. Humanities, Commerce and Science and **One** PG course in Hindi. Our college is fully funded by the UGC and is maintained by the University of Delhi.

This year we continued and extended upon “Undergraduate Curriculum Framework 2022” based on National Education Policy 2020 which is a four-year undergraduate program. This Framework has been formulated with a student centric approach and offers a wide choice of courses, creative combinations of disciplines for study with multiple entry and exit points, ease to learn incorporating the spirit of NEP to provide multidisciplinary and holistic education keeping the Indian cultural ethos and values. It also emphasizes on research, skill development and higher order thinking to promote innovation and employability. The college has geared up its faculty and infrastructure to successfully implement the UGCF 2022. The college today has 108 faculty members and many of these have gained their regular appointment in this session. The college has offered around 48 SEC, 56 GE, 23 VAC, 23 DSE course options to students under the new UGCF 2022 curriculum.

College has continued with the change introduced last year, wherein admission is on the basis of CUET entrance examination. During the current academic session 2023-24, **894** students were admitted to different undergraduate courses and **6** students admitted to the PG programme in Hindi. At present, we have **2594 students** enrolled in all UG batches and PG put together with 40% girls. Besides, 5 new PhD students were enrolled this year under the supervision of the faculty members. There are 14 students currently enrolled in PhD under college faculty at various department.

It is a proud feeling to announce that the pass percentage of outgoing batch 2020-23 was 90.49%. **Ms Priyanshi Pandey** of B.Sc. (Hons) Geology III Year scored a CGPA of 9.216 and was awarded the University Gold Medal for securing Top position in the University of Delhi. She was felicitated in the University of Delhi Convocation this year. Congratulation Priyanshi. The college is proud of you. **Mr. Aditya Yadav** was awarded Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Gold Medal for securing highest marks in University of Delhi for the course Indian Political Thought (BA Hons Political Science). Aditya was also felicitated in the University of Delhi Convocation this year. Congratulation Aditya. The college is proud of you.

The outstanding academic performance of our students is very well reflected by receiving a number of academic scholarships/fellowships from various Institutions/organizations. 43 scholarships were received by students under Various Central Schemes (28 National Scholarships, 15 under Prime Minister’s Special Scholarship Scheme (PMSSS) in addition to the scholarships received from the State of Haryana, Bihar and various other Govt Organizations.

In addition to the above scholarships, the college also provides financial assistance to the needy and academically deserving students. The college provided full tuition fee concession to more than 505 SC/ST students and full fee concession to 8 PwD students. RLA has granted a total amount of

Rs. 5,21,000 in the academic year 2023-24 in the form of student aid and scholarships to a total of 103 students. Out of this, Rs 3,26,000 was disbursed to 72 students. Four Best student awards of Rs. 20000/- each and 31 scholarships of Rs. 1,95,000/- have been sponsored by our esteemed retired faculty members and their families from contributions of Rs 28 Lakhs in the college Endowment Fund. Last year Rs. 12 lakhs were donated by the family of Late Shri Ram Lal Anand Ji, the founder of our college. Ms. Uma Malik Best Student Award in Hindi (Pass out student) will be given to the student securing highest marks in the university examination Rs 20000/-. Also 8 scholarships of Rs 8000/- each will be sponsored from the same amount to the first year students.

In addition, last year a corpus fund of Rs. 2 Lakh was donated by **Dr. Surender Kumar**, Assistant Professor at Department of Hindi. This fund shall sponsor three scholarships namely Late Shri Dule Ram Memorial Scholarship, Late Smt Chatto Devi Memorial Scholarship and Late Shri Bir Singh Memorial Scholarship of Rs. 5000/- each for students belonging to SC/PwD categories studying in B.A. (Honours) Hindi and securing top position in university examination.

Under the students exchange program TWO of our students went abroad:

- 1) **Simran Arora**, B.Sc (Hons) Statistics, Sakura Science Exchange Program 2023 offered by the Japan Science and Technology Agency under the Ministry of Education, Culture & Sports;
- 2) **Akshit Katoch**, B.Sc (Hons) Mathematics, III year, Vietnam Youth Exchange Program under National Cadet Corps.

The laurels brought by the students were not restricted to academics only. Their performance in co- curricular activities and sports was equally outstanding and commendable. It is a matter of pride to inform you that around 82 prizes/medals were won by our students in various events organised at University, State and National Levels. Many of the students attended prestigious camps and events of national importance. Some selected students achievements is as below:

- **Rishabh Ahuja**, BCom (Hons) (2021-24), secured funding at Shark Tank India Season 3 for his startup "MePack"
- **Stutii Grover**, BA Hons Political Science (2021-24), secured Third Position in Judo at Khelo India Tournament organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports held at Lucknow from 25th June - 3rd July 2023 -
- **Matlum**, BA Hons Hindi (2023-27), secured Second Position in Kho-Kho at Khelo India Tournament organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports held at SDT Complex, Madurai, Tamilnadu
- **Sneh Priya**, B.Sc.(Hons) Microbiology was awarded the best student award by Microbiologists Society of India at the state level

- **Shivam Arora**, BA Programme 2nd Year won two accolades.
 - a) Secured the 1st position at the startup weekend for designing MVP level prototype at design hackathon, New Delhi organized on 23-24 September 2023.
 - b) adjudged best group project which includes designing an app for online and offline appointments with doctors in the event “Design for the 21st century” organized by Interaction Design Foundation, New Delhi on 29th August 2024.
- **Nikita Pathania**, B. Sc. (H) Computer science 3rd year has been an enthusiastic participant in various arts and fine arts competitions held at intercollege and national Levels. She won significant number of prizes (20).
- Two students; **Riya Jain** and **Tanish Malhotra** of BMS, 2nd Year were selected to join an international conference at Harvard College Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR), USA from 9th-11th February, 2024
- **Shivansh Saxena**, BSc. Hons Microbiology 2nd year performed as Media Presentor at the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024 organised by THSTI-RCB between 17th to 20th Jan 2024.
- **Istiyak**, BA Program 1st year displayed his various athletic skills through his participation in various sporting events at the national and university level including 1st Position in Delhi Olympics.
- Two of our NSS students from B.A. (H) English 3rd Year **Riddhima Shukla** and **Harshdev Singh** made spirited participation at Pre Republic Day Camp and National Youth Festival respectively.

CO-CURRICULAR HIGHLIGHTS from 2023-24 Session

In its pursuit to train students to enhance their employability, college offered 1 Diploma in Chinese language and 7 addon skill development Certificate courses for students (**Environment Sustainability Practices, Medical Sales Representative, Fundamentals of financial modelling, Gender discourse: the Indian prospective, History of English literature, Rust programming, Japanese language certificate course**). 18 Alumni lectures and 109 Seminars/talks were organized for the benefit of students and faculty.

Our commitment to holistic education is reflected in several **hands-on skill training workshops**

for students including:

1) **Medical Sales Representative** – MSR and **Environment Sustainability Practices** – ESP conducted under IQAC in association with Life Sciences Sector Skill Development Council (LSSSDC) and **Training on Ground-Water Management and Rain-Water Harvesting** to recharge groundwater conducted in association with Central Ground Water Board.

2) Two-week long National FDP on “**Essential Skills in Genomics**” in association with Centre for Innovation in Infectious Disease Research, Education and Training (CIIDRET) and Delhi School for Skill Enhancement and Entrepreneurship Development (DSSEED); and

3) “**Research Writing & Mathematical Typesetting with LaTeX**” in association with Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi were conducted.

PLACEMENTS - We are evolving in terms of facilitating Career Counseling and Placement of our students, each year. This year **132 Companies** visited for placement and internships in the fields of insurance, advertising, education tech, software services, customized clothing, financial consultants, NGO, wealth management, business development and marketing. **28** out of 75 appeared for placement interviews; **204** students secured internships.

Mohit Pratap Singh, our student and NCC cadet from 2019-22 batch got selected in the Indian Air Force securing All India 26th Rank.

The College has embraced five picturesque villages nestled within the enchanting landscape of the **Almora District—Pilkha, Kotyura, Patiya, Bhatgaon, and Kasoon**—as part of its noble endeavor, the Institution Outreach Initiative. This initiative, undertaken without any financial aid, serves as an extension of the esteemed NMHS Project – National Mission on Himalayan Studies. College is offering guidance and mentorship to the youth among the communities residing in these villages. Through tailored programs, we provide comprehensive career counseling for both school and college students, while honing their communication skills to empower them for success in the modern world. Furthermore, our commitment extends to fostering sustainable livelihood opportunities, exemplified by our organization of captivating geo-excursions and eco-tourism ventures. These initiatives not only enrich the educational experience of our own students but also welcome scholars from prestigious institutions across India and beyond. In our dedication to preserving the rich geo-heritage surrounding these villages, we champion the cause of environmental conservation and heritage protection. Moreover, we actively engage with the villagers, fostering awareness of government schemes and interventions that can uplift their communities.

In addition to the College's expansive efforts, the National Service Scheme (NSS), National Cadet

Corps (NCC), Gandhi Study Circle, and an array of departments and societies produced a remarkable array of over 100 outreach and extension initiatives. These endeavors spanned a diverse spectrum of endeavors, signifying our institution's commitment to holistic community engagement. Among these endeavors, the **NSS participated in a memorable 7-Day Special Camp** in the captivating terrain of **Jaisalmer**, Rajasthan, from the 2nd to the 9th of February 2024, marshaling the energy and dedication of 40 impassioned volunteers. Furthermore, the collective efforts of various societies and departments bore fruit in the form of, **Literacy Workshops for slum dwellers, Self-Defense Camp, Blood Donation Camps, Swachhta Abhiyan initiatives, Waste Segregation programme, E-Waste Management programme, Adoption of underprivileged girls, Cleanliness Drives and events for promotion of Hindi language**, etc. were also conducted. These activities saw very enthusiastic participation from students which benefitted them immensely. Through these multifaceted endeavors, our institution continues to serve as a catalyst for positive change, enriching lives and communities while nurturing a spirit of service and excellence among all involved.

2-Days Workshop on IT Literacy was meticulously orchestrated at Hope Worldwide India School, Tigri extension, Sangam Vihar, in collaboration with Embetter Technologies.

In alignment with the DST-SEED project, the college organised transformative 2-day training on **Soil Testing at Niwai, Rajasthan**, drawing the participation of over 90 farmers, thus sowing the seeds for agricultural innovation and sustainability.

The students embarked on enriching educational field trips to a myriad of destinations, including the prestigious **National Science Museum; Nainital** and the picturesque villages of **Almora** district, **Amrit Udyaan** of Rashtrapati Bhawan.

Moreover, students were privileged to participate in enlightening experiences such as the **CSIR Decadal Achievement Exhibition** and **Global BioIndia**, as well as immersive industrial visits and field trainings to renowned sites like the **AMD Exploration Site in Narnaul** and **Hindustan Copper Mines** thus nurturing their academic growth and practical acumen.

Additionally, the college facilitated a series of certificate hands-on training workshops encompassing diverse disciplines such as **pottery, paintings**, and the sorting of **biodegradable waste**, fostering creativity and sustainability among its students.

Many students participated in Departmental Cleanliness Drives, Tree Plantation, Voluntary Donation Drives including Cloth and Sanitary Pad Donation drive, Stray Animal Feeding Drive, Lymphatic Filariasis Awareness Drive and Material distribution drives, Zero Waste Mission Drive under Swachhh Bharat and Ek Tareekh Ek Ghanta national schemes.

SPIC MACAY's RLAC chapter presented the prestigious "**VIRASAT 2024**" event, showcasing a dazzling array of cultural luminaries. From the enchanting Bharatnatyam by Smt. **Ragini**

Chandershekar, classical rendition by Shri **Bhuvanesh Komkali**, and enthralling melody by Pandit **Rajendra Prasanna** to the enlightening Heritage Walk led by Dr. **Swapana Liddle**, the event was a testament to artistic excellence. Prof. **Mateen Ahmad**'s insightful discourse on Cinema Classics, **Brahmakumari Rama**'s profound Spiritual Talk, and Shri **Purna Chandra Moharana**'s mesmerizing Pattachitraa further enriched the cultural tapestry. With over 500 students participating, "Virasat" was a vibrant celebration of tradition and creativity.

VIKSIT BHARAT:

At the behest of the University Grants Commission, all Higher Education Institutions have been urged to instill a sense of awareness among their students regarding the Vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. In response, Ram Lal Anand College has taken proactive steps by establishing the Viksit Bharat Ambassadors (VBA) club and a Design Ideation Center. Since their inception, the VBA Club has engaged in disseminating awareness through a variety of events such as cultural chaupals and informative talks, championing the noble cause with enthusiasm and dedication.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

The faculty published 57 research publications, 6 books and 26 book chapters. The average impact factor of research publications and the H index of journals of our science departments was 3.34 and 36.96 respectively. The total Impact Factor and H Index of science journals was 88 and 1368. Most notably, 7 research/review papers and 7 book chapters out of these have been co-authored by our undergraduate students. 62 papers were presented by faculty members and besides that 13 participated in national and international conferences. Faculty members attended professional development courses including FDP (27), refresher (18). All 70 newly appointed faculty members attended faculty induction and NEP Sensitization Programmes. 3 Faculty Development programmes were conducted in collaboration with TLC Ramanujan College.

RESEARCH PROJECTS –

During this year, Ram Lal Anand College has been the proud recipient of funding for a total of **11 research projects**, amounting to a substantial sum of **2.66 Crore**, generously provided by esteemed Government Agencies such as ICMR, DBT, ICSSR, DST, and NMHS (MOEF & CC). Noteworthy among these grants are two projects bestowed by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, and ICSSR, totaling **69.76 lakhs and 4 lakhs** respectively, entrusted to Prof. Prerna Diwan (PI), Prof. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Prof. Sanjay Sharma, Dr. Nidhi Yadav, Mr. Siddharth Gupta, and Ms. Debashree Das from the Department of Economics.

In a remarkable display of innovation, two faculty members from the Department of Computer Science, Ms. Shikha Verma and Ms. Sakshi Taresh Khanna, have secured Indian UK Design

Patents for their groundbreaking inventions—"AI-Driven Centrifuge Tubes for Optimized Laboratory Workflows" (Patent No. 6349127) and "Smart Biometric Device to Record Attendance" (Patent No. 6345938) respectively.

Furthermore, the Department of Microbiology, represented by Prof. Rakesh K Gupta, Prof. Prerna Diwan, and Dr. Sunila, has filed an Indian patent application (No. 202411010372) for their pioneering work on "Method For Metagenomic DNA Extraction From Bioaerosols Collected Using Biosampler." Heartiest congratulations are extended to Ms. Shikha Verma, Ms. Sakshi Taresh Khanna, Prof. Prerna Diwan, and Dr. Sunila for their exceptional contributions to the field.

In light of these achievements, the college is pleased to announce the commencement of the **third call for research proposals**, reaffirming its commitment to fostering groundbreaking research endeavors through in-house funding opportunities.

The **Department of History** organised an esteemed gathering—the International Conference on **Cultures in Transformation: A Subcontinental Experience**—on March 1st, 2024, with support from the NRC and ICSSR, under the auspices of the Government of India.

APPOINTMENTS & PROMOTIONS

After a long time, the college has appointed faculties on a permanent basis. A total of 73 Assistant professors have been appointed in 13 departments. 16 permanent appointments have also taken place for non-teaching posts of library attendant, lab attendant, junior assistant and assistant. Three Faculty members have been promoted from Associate Professor to Professor level; 3 have been elevated within the Assistant Professor level.

SPECIAL AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Prof. Rakesh Kumar was honored with the prestigious Sahitya Ratna by the BPA Foundation on March 9th, 2024. Furthermore, **Dr. Deepti Gupta** and **Dr. Anubha**, from Department of Management Studies, earned accolades as Best Paper Presenters at the School of Vocational Studies, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University, New Delhi, and the Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. Additionally, **Prof. Neeraj K Sharma**'s expertise was recognized through his appointment as an Expert for the CAS Cases Promotion Committee for DAV Colleges in Punjab by the DAV Management Committee.

Infrastructural Developments and Upgradations

We also made strides in enhancing our infrastructure. Projects included the development of a new auditorium, renovation of an existing one, and the construction of two computer laboratories. Our classrooms are now fully IT-enabled, with the addition of 8 new smart boards, bringing our total to

18 across various classrooms and laboratories. Moreover, we upgraded our technology with 51 new computer systems and 1 smart TV. On the sustainability front, we are proud to announce progress in harnessing solar energy, with 130 KV solar panels now linked to the main grid, moving us towards a goal of zero electricity bills. To enhance operational efficiency, we invested in a comprehensive ERP system with an app, covering modules such as timetable management, attendance tracking, internal assessments, notifications, placement and internship coordination, society activity management, and faculty and student profiles.

College has applied for NIRF ranking framework as well as working on securing ISO certification.

Since 2023 RLA College became the first college of Delhi University to start a Community Radio named TARANG which is aired on FM frequency 90.0. Spanning over a radius spread onto 10 kms the unique educational and infotainment channel is also made available across the country via Android App & I Store app. It is one of the most important contributions in the technology space of our college & university. We began airing on `13th Feb 2023. The state-of-the-art studio is specially designed to train budding journalists and also make available a platform to our faculty and students both. This year we also added numerous audio programmes prepared and curated by students primarily under the guidance of faculty. Successful programmes like Career Pathshala and Distinguished Guest Interviews are worth mentioning.

An excellent sports ground is being developed with 3 cricket pitches for Net practice and 2 pitches in the centre for tournaments along with one football ground, 1 volleyball ground and a ground each for kho-kho and kabaddi.

A total of 1121 books (text and reference) were purchased with a total expenditure of 99,19,83/- in the library. N-list membership has been provided to each student to access variety of e-resources. 40 journals and 14 newspapers are regularly subscribed by the library. Book Bank facility has been developed for needy students to provide complete set of books for the core courses.

All the facets of education cannot be met by working in isolation. Collaborations with the eminent institutes and organization always open new vistas to the leaning process and to look at world in a different way. More than 25 collaborations are active at present. The college has 11 ongoing MoUs for teaching, learning, research and extension activities.

Without the year-round hard work and dedication of our talented teachers, hardworking non- teaching colleagues, and the students, none of the above accomplishments would have been possible. Therefore, I express my gratitude towards all of them.

Organizing an event of this magnitude requires a considerable amount of time and effort. Hence, I am grateful to the highly motivated and dedicated members of the Function Committee who worked tirelessly to make this event a reality. Additionally, I would like to express my appreciation to the Student Award Committee for their commitment to selecting the Best Students of the year based on their academic performance, research, and participation in extracurricular and extension activities throughout their three-year undergraduate program.

The editorial team of the college, which comprises both faculty and students, has put in a lot of new ideas and significant effort in producing a remarkable edition of the magazine 'Samdrishti with enthusiasm.' The magazine will be available for release shortly.

I would also like to extend heartfelt gratitude towards the Chairman and all the members of the Governing Body for working in the direction of strengthening and augmenting the college facilities and guiding us in all our endeavours to take this institution to newer heights.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to our retired faculty members and their families, Malik family Dr. Ranjana Srivastava, Prof. Manju Sharma, Ms Pabby, Sh Om Parkash Ji, Mrs Rani Gupta, Ms R C Mishra, Sh R K Aggarwal, Shri M S Verma, and to Prof. Archana Gaur, Dr. Surender, for contributing to the college endowment fund and sponsoring Best student awards and scholarships.

In the end, I congratulate and give blessings to our three Best Students of the year and other best students in various fields, who have showcased remarkable talent and dedication in academics and extracurricular activities in their respective undergraduate programs.

I extend my congratulations to all the students who have achieved excellence in academics and are about to receive prizes soon. I wish you all a good and memorable time in tomorrow's farewell party and best of luck for university examinations scheduled in the coming months. I also hope this college has infused required knowledge and inculcated sufficient skills to make you ready for the future as per the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) that proposes to harness full human potential and develop well-rounded competent individuals.

I thank you all for your patient listening. Jai Hind!

Dr Rakesh Kumar Gupta

Principal