ACTIVITIES IN THE ACADEMIC SESSION 2024-25

(1) Constitution Day 2024

The Department of Political Science, Shivaji College, University of Delhi, organized a Conventional Debate Competition and a Special lecture on the occasion of Constitution Day, 2024. The event was to commemorate the 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution of India since November 26, 1949. The motion of the House for the Conventional Debate Competition which preceded the Special lecture was "Judicial Activism Poses a Challenge to Governance" and the title for the Special Lecture was:

"Celebrating 75 years of Indian Constitution"

The event aimed to foster a deeper understanding of constitutional values and their relevance in contemporary India. The program began with a formal welcome address by Prof. Virender Bhardwaj, Principal of the Shivaji College, who emphasized the significance of Constitution Day and its role in strengthening democratic awareness among citizens in general and students in particular. Prof. Bhardwaj also highlighted the Indian Constitution as a living document that continues to guide the nation's progress.

The keynote speaker for the event was Prof. Rekha Saxena, an eminent constitutional expert on the working of Indian parliamentary-federalism and Head of Department at the Department of Political Science, University of Delhi. In her lecture, she delved into the historical context of the Constitution's framing, its core principles, and its evolving interpretation in light of socio-political challenges. The speaker also addressed pressing contemporary issues, such as the balance between fundamental rights and constitutional duties, the role of judiciary in safeguarding constitutional values, and the relevance of constitutional ideals in fostering inclusivity and pluralism in a diverse society like India. An engaging interactive session followed the lecture, where students and faculty members posed insightful questions about constitutional amendments, federal dynamics, and the role of youth in upholding constitutional ideals.











The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Alka Mudgal, Teacher In-Charge of the Department of Political Science, Shivaji College, who acknowledged the speaker's thought-provoking insights and the active academic participation of attendees. This special lecture not only enriched the understanding of the Constitution's significance but also inspired students and faculty members to reflect on their responsibilities as informed, aware and active Indian citizens. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and other members of the college community, making it a memorable and intellectually stimulating occasion.

Date: 27th November, 2024

Venue: Jijabai Auditorium-I, Shivaji College, University of Delhi

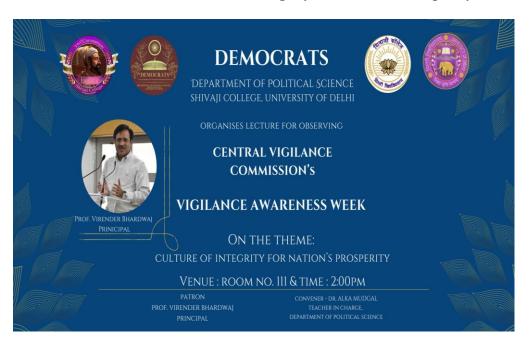
Attendance: Approximately 200 participants

(2) Program on "Culture of Integrity in Nation's Prosperity" on 14th November 2024

Central Vigilance Commission of India adopts several strategies to fight the problem of corruption. CVC observes *Vigilance Awareness Week* every year in the week in which the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel falls. This year, Vigilance Awareness Week was observed on the theme:

"सत्यनिष्ठा की संस्कृति से राष्ट्र की समृद्धि"

"Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity"









As a prelude to the Vigilance Awareness Week, Vigilance Commission has directed institutions to conduct several programmes aimed at developing virtues of transparency in governance and public administration. In line with the directions of CVC, Department of Political Science, Shivaji College conducted a programme in Room Number 111 of Shivaji College at 2:00 PM on the theme of "Culture of Integrity for Nation's Prosperity".

During the Program, teaching faculty of the Department delivered lectures on the topic and emphasized the significance of transparency and integrity in nation's development and prosperity. On this occasion, all teachers and students participated in an *Oath Taking Ceremony* and affirmed their commitment to transparency, integrity and accountability. The programme was concluded with the vote of thanks by the TIC of the Department followed by the singing of National Anthem by all the participants.

Total 92 students had participated in the programme.

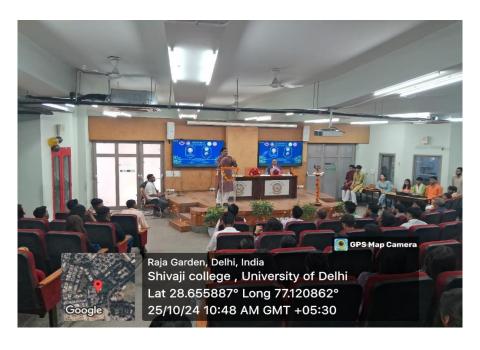
(3) UN Day Celebrations



The date of 24th October 1945 is a milestone in the history of humanity. On this day the United Nations Organization was founded with the aim of creating a world based on peace, prosperity, collective security and togetherness. So every year 24th October is commemorated as United Nations day to mark this historic occasion.

Beginning with the traditional lamp lighting ceremony along with the Saraswati Vandana, which symbolized the importance of knowledge and wisdom, the programme was followed by the introductory speech of Principal, Prof. Virender Bhardwaj in which he emphasized the need of constructive role of United Nations to bring about peace and security against the backdrop of Russia Ukraine crisis.







The keynote address was delivered by the Guest Speaker, Prof. Shantesh Kumar Singh in which he comprehensively dealt with the birth of the United Nations after the failure of the League of Nations to prevent war and maintain world peace. Then Prof. Shantesh focused on the contemporary challenges to UNO such as threat to security of nations and human beings like war, global terrorism, pandemic, migration, refugee crisis. He also stressed the need to introduce structural reforms to make UNO more representative and democratic. After he went on to emphasize the significance of ancient Indian thoughts of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam' and 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhin' to make this world more peaceful and secured.



To formally conclude the event formal Vote of Thanks was offered by the TIC of the Department, Dr. Alka Mudgal in which she thanked keynote speaker, Principal, teachers, non-teaching staff and all Democrats.

The programme culminated with the recital of national anthem by all present in the auditorium.

(4) Program to Commemorate 300th Birth Anniversary of Mata Ahilyabai Holkar

The Department of Political Science, Shivaji College in collaboration with Women Development Cell of the College, University of Delhi organized a special lecture to celebrate and pay tribute to the remarkable life and legacy of Ahilyabai Holkar, one of India's most revered woman-rulers. The event aimed at educating and inspiring the students with her contributions to society, governance, and women empowerment.

The event commenced at 11:00 A.M. in the Jijabai Auditorium of the college with students, faculty members, and guests coming together to commemorate the life and work of Ahilyabai Holkar on the occasion of her 300th birth anniversary. The program began with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony, symbolizing the importance of knowledge and wisdom. This was followed by a speech from the Principal of the college, Prof. Virender Bhardwaj.



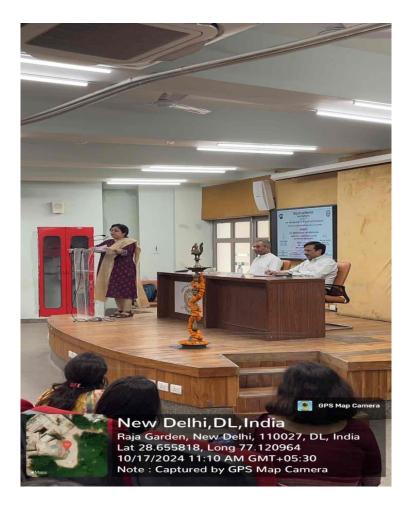
The keynote address was delivered by the Guest Speaker, Shri Vinayakrao Deshpande, the General Secretary of Vishwa Hindu Parishad organization. He delved into the life of Ahilyabai Holkar, exploring her journey from a young widow to a successful ruler of the Malwa kingdom. The speaker emphasized on Ahilyabai's progressive policies and how she created a society that valued education and the well-being of its citizens, irrespective of their caste, creed and sex.







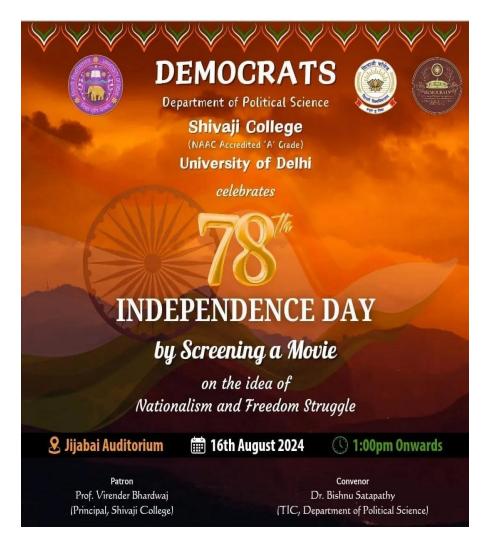
The event was concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Dr. Ritu Madan, Convenor of Women's Development Cell. On behalf of the college, she expressed gratitude to all the participants, speakers, and organizers for making the event a grand success. She also emphasized on the importance of learning from historical figures like Ahilyabai Holkar who demonstrated exemplary courage, wisdom, and leadership during challenging times.



Intra-college competitions of poem-writing and painting on the theme of women empowerment were also organised by the WDC. Students participated in these activities with great enthusiasm.

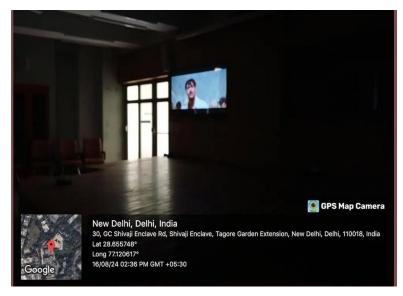
(5) Celebrating 78th Independence Day: Movie Screening

The Department of Political Science, Shivaji College, University of Delhi, celebrated the 78th Independence Day on August 16, 2024, with a special program emphasizing the themes of nationalism and the freedom struggle. Organized under the banner of "DEMOCRATS," the Political Science society of Shivaji College, this event featured a movie screening and was held in the Jijabai Auditorium.



The program commenced at 1:00 PM, with students, faculty, and staff members gathering to commemorate this significant occasion. The documentary showcased during the event provided a thought-provoking perspective on India's journey to independence, highlighting the sacrifices and struggles of freedom fighters as well as the evolving idea of nationalism over the decades.







Dr. Bishnu Satapathy, the convener and Teacher-in-Charge of the Department of Political Science thanked the patron of the event, Prof. Virender Bhardwaj, Principal of Shivaji College, while his address to the audience. He emphasized the importance of revisiting the history of India's freedom struggle to understand its relevance in contemporary times, and also spoke about the role of students in upholding the values of democracy and national unity. The event concluded with an interactive session where attendees shared their reflections on the movie, discussing the themes of patriotism, collective responsibility, and the role of youth in nation-building. This initiative by the Department of Political Science was a fitting tribute to the spirit of freedom and a reminder of the enduring values that underpin India's democratic fabric.

Dr. Alka Mudgal, Teacher-in-Charge, Department of Political Science, Shivaji College. University of Delhi