

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

Lady Irwin College is one of the pioneer institutions constantly striving to achieve growth and excellence through professional development and skills for women empowerment. For the same, the college has been networking and collaborating with various governmental and non-governmental organizations of national and international repute in various capacities. The College lays emphasis on state of the art education, research and extension by nurturing innovation, leadership and national development.

Building capacities on Sustainable Development through sponsored Annual Symposium: The College strives at addressing a critical gap in sustainable development education, which is in line with future demand and industry requirements. In transacting its curriculum, the college, through its different departments, networks with various national and international organizations which provide enriching experience to develop research focus and thrust in the area of sustainability. Students are given enriching experiences through different pedagogies to build their knowledge skills and aptitude in the area. Towards this effort, the Department of Resource Management & Design Application, Lady Irwin College, in collaboration with School of Planning, Design and Construction, Michigan State University, USA; has been organizing its prestigious annual symposium on Sustainable Development for more than a decade, with sponsorship from Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India and Energy Efficiency Services Limited, a JV of PSUs under Ministry of Power. The Department convened the 11th Annual Symposium on Energy Efficiency in Built Environment: Issues & Concerns in October' 2018, and 12th annual symposium on Energy efficiency in buildings: Bringing transformation through sustainable partnerships in March' 2019 in New Delhi. The symposium is an endeavor to empower stakeholders towards much needed sensitization in environmental issues and concerns. In the past, this annual event has witnessed participation from eminent speakers from industry and academia, like Dr. Ajay Mathur (Director General, TERI), Late Dr. P. C. Jain (Chairperson, IGBC), Dr. Arun K. tripathi (Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy), Mr. Ashok B. Lall (Eminent Architect), Mr. Manit Rastogi (Managing Partner, Morphogenesis), Dr. Suresh Kumar Rohilla (Programme Director, Urban Water Management, CSE), and Mr Kamal Meattle ,CEO, Paharpur Business Centre.

Centre of Women Collectives led Social Action (ROSHNI): Department of Development Communication and Extension, Lady Irwin College, has established a technical support unit

of National Rural Livelihood Mission financially and technically supported by UNICEF, India. The Centre (ROSHNI) functions as a semi-autonomous Centre governed by the administration and governing body norms of Lady Irwin College, as per University Grant Commission norms, and has entered in an MoU with Ministry of Rural Development, GoI. This centre has been serving as technical support unit to DAY-NRLM for knowledge management, policy and convening support for food, nutrition, health, family planning, gender-transformative work and WASH interventions with and for women self-help groups and their federation network under DAY-NRLM. The Centre serves as the knowledge management unit to Swabhimaan Programme, supporting in research and outreach activities on the field sites of the programme. The Centre is now diversifying its portfolio works around maternal nutrition efforts with women collectives and initiating a nested evaluation in UNICEF supported initiative Swabhimaan across three Indian states. This centre is working as a knowledge and capacity building hub for scaling-up DAY-NRLM's Dashasutra Strategy and DAY-NRLM committed activities under the POSHAN Abhiyan 2018-2022. UNICEF India provided the technical and 100% financial support to establish the centre and its running for 2018-2020.

National Centre of Excellence and Advanced Research on Diets (NCEARD): This centre, established in 2018 within the Department of Food and Nutrition at Lady Irwin College, New Delhi with start up support from UNICEF, is a technical assistance resource centre to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India on research and policy formulation for women's nutrition. NCEARD centre of foods and nutrition has partnered with National and State governments and also various reputed organizations such as International Institute For Population Studies (IIPS), Medical colleges (Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital and Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital), National Centre of Excellence and Advanced Research on Anemia Control, UNICEF, Alive and Thrive, Nutrition International, National Institute of Nutrition, Yenepoya Medical College and Institute of Economic Growth (IEG). Furthermore, NCEARD has signed Memorandum of Understanding with IIPS and IEG and has initiated a joint UNICEF-Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay Fellowship programme. Over the past one year significant progress has been made in the centre like release of Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram diet norms guidelines in September, 2018, Jan Andolan (Poshan Maah) activities at test, talk and treat (T3) camps under Anemia Mukta Bharat and development and ongoing pilot testing of draft maternal nutrition guidelines and tool kit (algorithm for facility and

community level, BMI chart and application for field workers, counselling material (flip book, at-risk cards, recipe books, thali models, pamphlets on seven conditions), CAPI based tool on CSPro, Monitoring checklist and Frequently Asked Questions, methodology of pilot testing and training presentations across the country with the objective of integrating maternal nutrition into routine antenatal care. Various on-the job trainings provided to NCEARD team helped in not only refreshing the existing knowledge but also provided insight on recent data entry and analysis as well as referencing software and structured review of literature that helped them in their research related activities such as drafting policy briefs and research papers.

The college as well as faculty have earned several awards and distinctions. They are recognized in their areas and are invited as experts and resource persons in every part of the country.