



# NEWS BULLETIN

**OLD STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**  
**GOVERNMENT MAHENDRA COLLEGE, PATIALA**

1875

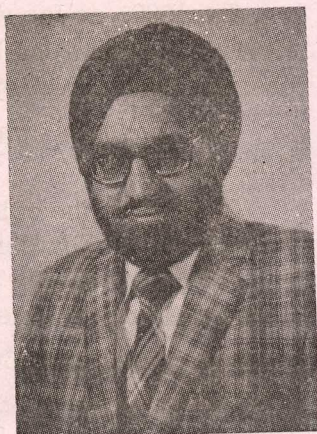
Hony. Editor : S. C. SHARMA

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Vol. 1, No. 1

## Our New Patron

Dr. Gian Singh Mann



Our new Principal, Dr. Gian Singh Mann, is a prodigious and prolific literary genius who shines with singular scintillation on the academic horizon of the state. That he would rise to such eminence was evident from his early student career at Govt. College, Ludhiana, where he won College Colour for Co-curricular Activities and excelled as a debater. At Ram Garhia College, Phagwara, he earned the prestigious Roll Of Honour in Academics. He had his post-graduation in Hindi and English and Ph. D. from Punjab University. But he obtained his post-doctoral research degree, D. Litt., from Bihar University. During the past twenty four years of his teaching career, he has moulded the minds of innumerable alumni, some of whom are now occupying very high echelons of administration.

His flair for writing has found expression in more than three dozen books, not to mention the steady flow of articles and research papers from his fertile pen. His penmanship has earned him two National Awards and four State Awards for

Novel, Epic, Drama and Stage respectively, besides a Gold Medal for Literature.

He presented papers on Indian Culture in Paris and Cambridge in 1978. He has made 20 appearances on TV, participated in 15 National Conferences and has delivered 90 extension lectures on Indian Culture, Astrology, Yoga, Divinity, Literature, Theatre etc.

He is happily married to Mrs. Veena Gian Singh, a lady of wit and charm, and is blessed with a son, Anubhav.

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## Commemorative Stamp

In recognition of the outstanding contribution made by this more than a century old college, the Govt. of India has decided to issue a commemorative stamp on this premier institution on 14th March, '88 at 11-00 a.m. H. E. Shri S. S. Ray, Governor, Punjab, has very kindly consented to be the chief guest.

The college is deeply indebted to H.E. Shri S.S. Ray, Governor, Punjab, who has taken personal interest in getting this well-merited honour for the college.

## Welcome to the OSA Secretariat

You are welcome to pay a visit to the OSA Secretariat to renew your association with the college. We are generally together at the OSA room, Room No. 86, Hostel Block, between 10-00 a.m. and 1-00 p.m. on working days.

*You've a date with us on 14th March, '88 at 11-00 a.m. when H.E. Shri S.S. Ray, Governor, Punjab is paying a visit to the College for the Stamp Release Ceremony.*



## A PROFILE OF THE COLLEGE

Mohindra College, Patiala, owes its existence to the munificence and philanthropic zeal of H.H. Maharaja Mohindra Singh who ascended the throne of Patiala at the tender age of ten and left his impress on the educational life of the state by creating this magnificent institution during the short span of 24-years of his eventful existence. His highness invited His Excellency Lord Northbrook, the then Viceroy of India, who laid the foundation stone of this grand structure on 30th March, 1875. Its foundation was laid in accordance with the Hindu custom of placing an image of Shesh Nag at the base to propitiate the deity and the European custom of placing some coins in the foundation was also observed. The building was completed in about ten years and on 17th March, 1884, Lord Ripon, Viceroy of India, performed the opening ceremony of the college. In his brilliant address His Excellency hailed it as a 'magnificent architectural monument' and complimented His Highness Maharaja Mohindra Singh who had spent more than Rs. 5,000,00/- (a stupendous amount in those days), on its construction. The institution has played a stellar role in shaping the destinies of its countless alumni for well over a century.

At the time of its inception, it was the only institution of its kind in the vast area stretching from Lahore to Delhi.

Apart from its architectural grandeur which reflects a fine synthesis of Oriental and Occidental styles, the college attracted students from far and wide and occupied a place of pre-eminence in the educational landscape of the country. The gift of free education to all and the tradition of secular education made it very popular with all sections of society and eminent scholars drawn from all disciplines gave it the prestige and popularity which it still enjoys. Though initially it was intended to impart instruction in Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic, the teaching of English and Mathematics was added shortly afterwards and the college was affiliated to Calcutta University.

In 1880, Intermediate classes were started and in 1887 the college was raised to B.A.

standard of Punjab University, in commemoration of the 50th Year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Postgraduation in Mathematics was started in 1912 and in the same year the first meeting of the Old Students Association was held under the chairmanship of Principal E. Candler. The F.Sc. classes were started in 1920 and in 1922, during the tenure of Principal Manmohan, Postgraduation in Philosophy was introduced.

The credit for publishing the first college magazine The Mahendra and staging Shakespearian plays goes to Prof. K. K. Mukherjee in the 1920s. His Highness Maharaja Bhupindra Singh highly commended the performances.

Till 1930, no fee was charged from students. However, a sum of Rs. 04/- p.m. began to be charged from non-subjects of Patiala in 1931.

The college was affiliated to Punjabi University in 1962.

At present, the college imparts instruction in Postgraduate Courses in History, Economics, Pol. Science, Hindi & Punjabi, besides the under-graduate courses in Science, and Arts.

It deserves mention that Justice R. S. Sarkaria and Shri Jagan Nath Kaushal are among the illustrious alumni of the college. Similarly, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Shri Jai Parkash Narayana, Mrs. Tarakeshwari Sinha, E. M. Forster, Shri Buta Singh and His Excellency Shri S.S. Ray are some of the distinguished personalities who have paid a visit to this college.

Eminent educationists including Principal E. Candler, Principal (Sadhu) T.L. Vasvani, Dr. G.L. Bakhshi, Dr. Bhagat Singh, S. Gurusewak Singh, S. Harbakhsh Singh and Dr. Jogindar Singh have preceded the present and 23rd Principal, Dr. Gian Singh Mann (D. Litt), who has won National Awards from the Govt. of India twice and is an author of more than three dozen books.

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### Old Mahendrians' Section in the College Library

You will be glad to learn that a section of the college library has been dedicated to the Old Mahendrians. If you have written a book/books which you would like to be placed in the library, please send it to us with the inscription "For the Old Mahendrians Section".

You are also welcome to pay a visit to the library at your convenience.



## THE AIMS AND OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- To foster brotherly relationship among the members themselves, with the Old Students of the College, with old members of the staff and with the present members of the staff and students.
- To provide an opportunity to Old Students of the college to maintain their association with their Alma-Mater and to take interest in its development, expansion and all round improvement and welfare.
- To honour the Old Students who have won eminent places in various walks of life.
- To collect, exhibit and preserve the works of Old Students.
- To institute running shields, and trophies and to award medals in order to promote the academic, sports and cultural life of the college.
- To arrange quarterly/annual meets and hold functions to raise funds to be utilised for the benefit to the Alma Mater and its students.
- To look after the welfare of the Alma Mater and the alumni and to float various schemes for financial assistance in the form of stipends and loans to help the present needy and deserving students to pursue their studies in or outside the college.
- To do all other things deemed necessary or proper for the benefit and advancement or achievement of all or any of the aims and objects of the association.

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### Appeal for Enrolment

We are launching a vigorous enrolment drive to bring all old Mahendrians to the fold of the alma mater. If you know of an old friend of yours who may be contacted in this regard, please send this information to the Secretariat of the OSA at the earliest. Forms are available with the secretariat, Room No. 86, Hostel Block, Govt. Mahendra College, Patiala.

## OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

### *Ex-Officio Patron :*

Dr. GIAN SINGH MANN, P.E.S. (I)  
Principal  
Govt. Mahendra College, Patiala

### *President :*

Brig. SUKHDEV SINGH

### *Vice-President :*

Shri RAM LALL KAD

### *Secretary :*

Prof. M. S. SALH

### *Jt. Secretary :*

Prof. S. C. SHARMA

### *Finance Secretary :*

Prof. S. R. SAHNI

### *The Executive Committee :*

Dr. BHAGAT SINGH  
Vice Chancellor  
Punjabi University, Patiala  
Shri CHARANJIT SINGH WALIA  
Member Parliament  
Shri N. S. RATTAN, IAS  
Shri S. K. AHLUWALIA, PCS  
Shri G. S. GREWAL, PCS  
Shri A. S. KALEKA, AETC  
Prof. GURSEWAK SINGH  
D.P.I. College Punjab (Rtd.)  
Prof. Mrs. RAJBANS KAUR  
Prof. Mrs. AMRIT KAUR GURAM  
Prof. Mrs. RANJIT KAUR  
Mrs. SURINDER KAUR GREWAL  
Dr. S. P. PANDOVE  
Dr. N. S. SODHI  
Er. S. K. SHARMA, XEN  
Shri SARUP SINGH SEHGAL  
Prof. R. C. VERMA,  
Prof. P. S. SIDHU  
Dr. JOGINDAR SINGH, P.E.S. (I)  
Maj. B. S. S. BEDI

### *Life Patrons :*

Mrs. BHUPINDER KAUR  
Shri J. ROY MANGLA  
Shri JAGATJIT SINGH



## WELCOME DEVELOPMENTS !

It is very gratifying for all of us to learn that, as per the information available, these Mahandrians have earned the following distinctions after the last meeting of the Association on 30th March, '87.

Our President, Brig. Sukhdev Singh (Retd.) was specially honoured on the occasion of the Independence Day '87 by the Commissioner, Patiala Division for rendering very valuable service to the community.

Our Vice-President, Shri Ram Lall Kad, Past Governor, RI Dist. 309 was also presented with a special award by the Commissioner, Patiala, Division for his distinguished social service.

Our Secretary, Prof. Mohinder Singh Salh, who is also President, Punjab Govt. College Lecturers Association, has been appointed member of Punjab School Education Board.

Prof M. S. Salh is also President, PFUCTO.

Our Joint Secretary, Prof. Subhash Sharma, has written two books entitled 'A Course in General English' Part I and II. He also delivered talks on 'Speech Communication', 'Dreams-their Nature and Significance' at the Senior Citizens Welfare Association meetings and on 'Problems of English Pronunciation, Accent and Intonation in India'. at the Govt. Inservice Teachers Training Centre, Patiala.

Our Finance Secretary, Prof. S.R. Sahni, has written a book entitled, 'A Systematic Approach to English Grammar'.

Dr. Dalip Kaur Tiwana has been recently awarded the Shiromani Sahitkar Award 1986-87.

Our distinguished Mahendrian and member of the executive, Professor Gursewak Singh, DPI (C) Retd. visited a number of European Universities and delivered talks on the Punjab Crisis and other issues of general interest.

Sh. S.K. Ahluwalia, an important member of the Executive of the Association, has taken over as Administrator, Municipal Committee, Patiala.

S. A.S. Kaleka, Assistant Commissioner, Excise and Taxation, Patiala, also a member of the Executive, has taken over as Asst. Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Gurdaspur.

Prof. O.P. Vij, Principal, Public College, Samana, has taken over as Principal, Modi College, Patiala.

## LIVING GLORY OF THE COLLEGE

The following distinguished Mahendrians were awarded mementoes by H.E. Shri S.S. Ray, Governor Punjab, at the Founder's Day Function held in the college on 0th March, 1987.

1. Justice I. S. Tiwana  
Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court
2. Justice M. R. Agnihotri  
Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court
3. Prof. Gursewak Singh  
D.P.I. (Colleges) Punjab (Retd.)
4. Sardar Zora Singh Brar  
Ex-Chairman PSEB
5. Padam Shri Dr. N.D. Aggarwal  
Eminent Orthopaedic Surgeon
6. Dr. Dalip Kaur Tiwana  
Sahitya Academy Award Winner
7. Sh. Harpal Tiwana  
Internationally-known Theatre Artist
8. Sh. Ram Lall Kad  
Ex. Governor, Rotary Distt. 309
9. Sh. Balkrishan Singh  
International Hockey Player
10. Sh. Gurmeet Singh  
International Hockey Player
11. Sh. Prem Singh  
International Artist
12. Sh. Jaswant Singh  
International Volley-ball Player
13. Sh. Sikandar Singh  
International Cyclist

### Living Pride of the College

The following Old Mahendrians, above the age of 80, were awarded mementoes by the Guest of Honour, Dr Bhagat Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala, at the Founder's Day Function held on 30th March, 1987.

1. Sh. Shamsheer Chand Mathur  
Retd. Commissioner
2. Sh. Devinder Singh Chahal  
Retd. Excise Commissioner
3. Sh. Gurnam Singh  
Retd. Tahsildar
4. Dr. Partap Singh  
Retd. Chief Medical Officer
5. Dr. Ram Dass Aggarwal  
Retd. Medical Officer

### Updating the information

You are requested to keep the secretariat abreast of the latest honours/distinctions won by you.