

MESSAGE FROM FORMER DIRECTORS



My association with the Delhi School of Economics dates back to 1958, when Prof V K R V Rao was the VC, and Prof B N Ganguly was the Director. It has been my good fortune to interact with many stalwarts and generations of students.

The book, *D .School* edited by Profs. Dharma Kumar and Dilip Mookherjee (1995), and my 2017 article, *The Saga of the Delhi School of Economics-A Sketch*, provide an account of the achievements during the past 75 years, and problems being faced.

I end this message with a fervent plea for the maintenance of healthy standards and traditions, and Best Wishes for a Brighter Future.

- Prof. K.L. Krishna (1982-1984 and 1993-1995)



The world is crazy for specialization, e.g., supposing that a net gain would result if the present MBBS degree was divided and separated into two, one for surgery and one for medicine. From the beginning, D'School took the path of integration and believed in the unity of teaching and research, not as two contrasted activities under one roof, but believing that research should be a resource for pedagogy and vice versa, so that a student might question a senior member to explain the fundamentals of the discipline in the classroom. The regular publication of professional journals should stimulate and combine the results of individual project-based research.

- Prof. J.P.S. Uberoi (1991-1993)



After completing my doctorate under Prof. Paul Samuelson at MIT and a bout of teaching at Johns Hopkins University, I joined the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics in 1973. Here, I had the good fortune of interacting with K.N. Raj, Jagdish Bhagwati, Sukhamoy Chakravarty, Amartya Sen, Khaleq Naqvi, A.L. Nagar, Mrinal Dutta Choudhuri, Suresh Tendulkar, K.L. Krishna, Om Prakash, Dharma Kumar, Prashanta Pattanaik, V.N. Pandit, K. Sundaram, Ranen Das, S.B. Gupta, Pulin Nayak, Jean Dreze, Kaushik Basu A great team! These people are no longer at DSE but their dedication and vision must survive for DSE to continue to be what it is.

I served as the Director of Delhi School of Economics over two spells of three years each. Back in 1973 when I joined DSchool, the building and infrastructure were in shambles. I remember trying to move heaven and earth to get resources to put things in order. Gradually my efforts started paying off and the campus was revamped. When I retired in 2005, I did so with a sense of achievement.

I wish the Delhi School of Economics the very best in its auspicious 75th year!

Prof. Badal Mukherji (1998-2001 and 2003-2005)



I had the privilege of being associated with the Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, first as a student and then as a faculty member for a period of almost half a century. What I particularly appreciated was the consistently high quality of the students coming to the three Departments of the School, namely Economics, Geography and Sociology. There was also a very high degree of collegiality among the faculty members at all levels across the three Departments. During this long period, I also had the occasion to occupy administrative positions such as the Director of the Delhi School of Economics. The non-teaching staff of the three Departments, as well as at the main office of the Delhi School of Economics, were extremely helpful and cooperative. On the auspicious occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the School, I would like to wish all the current faculty members as well as the non-teaching staff the very best for the coming years.

Prof. Om Prakash (2001-2002)



For all those associated with the Delhi School of Economics it is a matter of great joy that this esteemed institution is entering its 75th glorious year of existence. The DSE was founded in 1949, shortly after India's independence, and has since been deeply associated with the trajectory of the country's development. It would be no exaggeration to say that the DSE has been India's pre-eminent centre for advanced teaching and research in economics, sociology and geography in the post independent era.

Throughout its history of three quarters of a century DSE has been acknowledged worldwide for its rigorous academic standards. It has always attracted the very best students from within the country, and sometimes beyond. Its faculty list through the years reads like a who's who of India's most iconic scholars: it includes a Nobel laureate and a former Prime Minister of the country. India however still has a long way to go to ensure better health, education, nutrition and general living standards to vast masses of its population. The task is daunting but we may be confident that the environment that the DSE provides will enable the stakeholders to more than measure up to the challenge.

Prof. Pulin B. Nayak (2005-2008)



For all of us associated with the Delhi School of Economics, it is a matter of pride that DSE is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee.

Established in 1949, with V. K. R. V. Rao as its Founder Director, DSE has to its credit stellar growth and unparalleled progress in its constituent Departments of Economics, Sociology and Geography. For the M A, M Phil. and Ph.D. students, admission to DSE has always been a dream come true.

The Faculty has been publishing in reputed national and international journals as also in research monographs, published by world class, international publishing houses. The syllabi are revised as per the parameters of frontline research and new courses are introduced to reflect changes in the world economy and society.

We hope that the torch of the glory of DSE will continue to burn bright with the efforts and cooperation of the authorities of the University of Delhi, Director of DSE and Heads of its constituent Departments.

Prof. B.L. Pandit (2008)



It gives me great pleasure to learn that Delhi School of Economics is entering 75 years of its existence. It has been 75 glorious years and it has remained an iconic institution. In any congregation of Social Scientists and especially Economists, the mention of DSE has commanded respect. It has continued to produce well trained economists, sociologists and geographers who have etched out significant places for themselves in their profession and hence, for the institution. DSE is known for its alumni. And I hope that it maintains its Numero Uno position in times to come. May its path be blessed.

Prof. Santosh C. Panda (2011-2013)



The Delhi School of Economics is not only the best institution for research and teaching in economics, sociology, and geography, it is set apart by the culture that prevails within it. It is this culture where research and teaching go hand in hand, where academic excellence is sought on all fronts, and where students hang out with teachers and friends, that gives it its 'DSchool' character. I was privileged to have been associated with DSchool since 1977 and loved every moment of my journey there from an overawed student to a teacher. It therefore gives me great pleasure to be part of this initiative for the 75th anniversary celebrations and wish the Delhi School of Economics the very best for all the events planned in its 75th anniversary year! May DSchool continue to shine and grow for many more decades to come!

Prof. Meenakshi Thapan (2018-2019)



The Delhi School of Economics with its constituent departments - Economics, Geography and Sociology - is a premier postgraduate institution of academic excellence in India.

The Founder-Director, Professor V.K.R.V. Rao along with India's first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru as President of the Delhi School of Economics Society envisioned an institution that would produce students who could play an important role in the economic development and social progress of the country. Professor V.K.R.V. Rao was also greatly influenced by the teachings of Swami Vivekananda and believed in fostering integrated human development through holistic education. His aim was to provide high quality education and at the same time instil in the students a spirit of social consciousness so that they would serve the society with sincerity and commitment.

The vision of our Founder-Director was truly actualized through the hard work and earnest engagement of generations of its faculty, non-teaching staff, scholars, students and alumni, who persevered to add glory to the institution and make the Delhi School of Economics an exemplar centre of excellence for teaching and research. Surely, this blend of academic excellence, social consciousness and integrated development has held our students in good stead throughout their life.

On the historic occasion of our Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, I take great pride in welcoming you to this unique temple of learning par excellence. As we celebrate our rich legacy of 75 years of excellence, dynamism and commitment to nurturing purposeful minds, I am sure that this shall continue to consolidate more in the future.

On this momentous occasion, I wish all stakeholders of the Delhi School of Economics the very best for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations!

Prof. Pami Dua (2013-2018 and 2020-2023)

