

BEST PRACTICES



**DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, FACULTY OF MUSIC & FINE ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI, DELHI-110007**



The many covers of Vageeshwari since its inception in 1986

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Basant Panchami (Saraswati Puja)

Basant Panchami – The Department annually organizes Basant Panchami celebrations in January or February, depending upon the date, in the open lawns at the back of the Department. The best practises achieved are as follows –

- i. Students and teachers alike pay obeisance to Ma Saraswati, the Goddess of Learning, through Pushpanjali (floral offerings), thus enhancing the cultural values and moral traditions
- ii. Students, who have won the first prize in the annual inter-class music competition, perform in front of a galaxy of audience, along with select teachers, who too perform. The students thus share the same platform with teachers for performing before a very learned audience. In this way, the students are encouraged and motivated to give their best.
- iii. Both students and teachers perform Basant and Bahar group of ragas, i.e. those ragas which are performed exclusively in the season of Spring. The students are thus connected to nature in a major way
- iv. Students hone their leadership skills by planning and executing the entire programme, such as the decoration of the statue of Ma Saraswati and the seating area.
- v. This is a common platform where current as well as retired teachers, students with their parents, alumni, performing artistes and external examiners, all come and meet, where ideas for the development of music in the Department, and other issues related to music, are freely exchanged. It is, at an informal level, a very important feedback system, where parents speak about their wards to the teachers, while the alumni, many of them professional artistes and teachers in various educational institutions, share their wealth of experiences, which benefit the Department.
- vi. This is also a platform where present and retired teachers are honoured for their meritorious achievements, such as in 2016, Prof. Krishna Bisht, (former Head & Dean) was honoured for being awarded the prestigious Sangeet Natak Akademi award. Pt. L.K. Pandit, retired teacher of our department, and Pt. Dalchand Sharma, senior Pakhawaj accompanist in our department were felicitated for being honoured with the prestigious TansenSamman, by the Madhya Pradesh Govt.
- vii. Food is served as Prasad of the deity to the invited guests, teachers, students and office staff. The students volunteer to serve the guests and teachers, as do the teachers to the students and office staff. Arrangements for food are made for about 800 people in all.
- viii. There is a vast social outreach practised by the Department, wherein the entire administrative staff of the University (North Campus) is invited to be part of the celebrations and partake of the prasad.





Worshipping Goddess Saraswati in traditional way on Basant Panchami



Students presenting Saraswati Vandana under the direction of Dr. Vineet Goswami



An ensemble of Tabla students directed by Dr. Ajay Kumar



Prof. Suneera Kasliwal felicitating the Chief Guest Pandit Bhajan Sopori, famous Santoor Player
Padmshree & Sangeet Natak Akademi Awardee



**Felicitation of Vidushi Prof. Krishna Bisht by Prof. T.K Das, Registrar, University of Delhi,
for receiving the Sangeet Natak Akademi award, 2016**



**Felicitation of Pt. L.K Pandit
By Prof. T.K Das, By Prof. T.K Das,
for receiving the Tansen Samman, 2015**

**Felicitation of Pt. Dalchand Sharma
for receiving the Tansen Samman, 2016**

Malhar Utsav

The Department annually organizes the Malhar Utsav in August or September. The best practises achieved are as follows –

- i. National level artistes are invited to perform Malhar ragas in the two-day festival. The students thus get an opportunity to hear live performances of maestros in Indian vocal, instrumental and percussion music, without spending from their pockets.
- ii. The artistes perform the Malhar group of ragas, i.e. those ragas which are performed exclusively in the Rainy season. The students are thus connected to nature through the notes of the rain-oriented melodies
- iii. The students give a grand performance in the form of a Choir, of vocal, instrumental and percussion ensemble, directed by two or three teachers. This is one of the star attractions of the festival, where the Choir performs different varieties of Malhar ragas one after the other. The students and guests thus know about the various shades of Malhar ragas, often in the backdrop of incessant rain and thunderous claps.
- iv. As in Basant Panchami, this too is a means of social outreach where the teaching and non-teaching staff of the various departments of the University are invited to attend and listen to the musical performances. The festival is open to all the students of the University, so as to enable them to listen to and develop interest in Indian classical music.
- v. The festival has been organized on a grand scale on four occasions in the last 6 years; in 2014 and 2015, it was organized at the Convention Hall, Viceregal Lodge, University of Delhi. In 2016 and 2018, it was organized at the Conference Centre of the University.



Padma Vibhushan Vidushi Kapila Vatsyayan Presenting Esraj to Hon'ble V.C Prof. Yogesh Tyagi

With Padma Bhushan Pt. Debu Chaudhuri and Prof. Suneera Kasliwal



**Students Ensemble ‘Mangal Varsha’ Presented on Second day of Malhar Utsav
Conducted by Dr. Gopal Krishan Shah and Dr. Vineet Goswami**



Tabla Ensemble Conducted by Dr. Rishtosh Kumar



Esraj Ensemble Presented by Pt. Buddhdeb Dass and his students from Shanti Niketan, Vishva Bharti University, Bardhaman



Prof. Yogesh Tyagi as part of the distinguished audience in Malhar Utsav - 2016 at the Conference Center



Dr. Ajay Kumar with his Team of Tabla Ensemble, being felicitated by Prof. Suneera Kasliwal



A Group Photo after the presentation of Karnatak Vocal recital by Smt. Nandini in Malhar Utsav - 2017

Braille section in the library of the Department of Music

The library of the Department is quite extensive. The Department is sensitive to the needs of the Differently abled students, especially those with visually challenges. Hence, the Department has developed a Braille section for the benefit of the visually challenged students of the department. The highlights are as follows –

- i. Started in 1995-96 by Prof. Krishna Bisht, then Dean & Head, Faculty of Music & Fine Arts, University of Delhi
- ii. A total of 23 ‘Talking Books’ in the form of 122 CDs are available and the students may listen or copy it for their reference. The facility was made available with the kind assistance of the All India Confederation of the Blind (AICB), Rohini
- iii. Two computers are reserved for this section with JAWS software* installed in both, for primary use of the visually impaired students
- iv. 304 books in Braille script are also available
- v. 23 Talking Books in 122 CDs
- vi. 4 Brailleurs, for writing notes in Braille language
- vii. A total of 10 Visually Differently abled students have regular access to all of the above facilities

***JAWS** ("**J**ob **A**ccess **W**ith **S**peech") is a computer [screen reader](#) program for [Microsoft Windows](#) that allows [blind](#) and visually impaired users to read the screen either with a [text-to-speech](#) output or by a [refreshable Braille display](#). JAWS is produced by the Blind and Low Vision Group of [Freedom Scientific](#).

1. Facilities for the Differently abled – The Department has the following facilities for the differently abled students, which may be enumerated as follows –

- i. Lift has been installed in 2015
- ii. Two Ramps at the front and back
- iii. One Washroom for their exclusive use
- iv. Writers for Visually Differently abled students



Dr. Shalini Thakur Showing the Students the use of Braille Slate, Braille and Computer fitted with JAWS



Visually Differently-abled Students Vasundhara and Diwakar using the Computers fitted with JAWS



Visually Differently-abled Students Reading Braille Books and Writing on Brailier



Visually Differently-abled Students Learning Various Musical Instruments as part of Skill Enhancement initiatives

Braille Library



Braille Books



Talking Books in CD form

Yoga Day Celebration

Department celebrates Yoga Day on every 21st June. Faculty, Staff & Students Participate in large numbers.

On 21st June 2017 the program started with an invocation song sung by the students of the department.

Prof. Suneera Kasliwal, Dean Faculty of Music & Fine Arts adressed the gathring and spoke about the benefits of yoga like maitaning the balance between the mind and the body.After that Prof. Deepti Omchery Bhalla conducted the yoga sessions.

All the participants learnt yoga Aasans.Prof. Deepti Bhalla also discribed the benifits of various aasanas and encourage the participants to practice it daily.The session went on for more than one hour and was very successful.

Biscuits & Harbal drinks were served in the end to all the participants.



Presenting Invocation song by the Department Choir on Yoga Day (21st June 2017) at Sumati Sabhagar



Prof. Deepti Bhalla conducting the Yoga sessions.



Various yoga Asanas Taught by Prof. Deepti Bhalla to the participants.

Short-Term Courses

The Department has constantly been in the process of enhancing the skills of our students, which leads to an increase in their productivity and output. Keeping these in mind, the Department has always strived to innovate and introduce new courses from time to time. Starting from 2008-09, the Department has introduced special courses, which are job-oriented in keeping with the objectives of the University. Many Diploma and Short-Term Courses have been introduced to fulfil this purpose. A Two-Year Diploma course in Harmonium was started in 2015-16. In 2017-18, the said course and the decades old Sangeet Shiromani Diploma Course of two years' duration, were restructured from the Annual form into the Semester form, in tune with the main undergraduate and post graduate programmes.

The Department has also introduced Short-Term Courses in many genres, namely Tabla, Harmonium, Santoor, Thumri-Dadra, Post-Pallavi compositions in Karnatak music, Veena, Violin and Mridangam, as also Journalism and Sound Engineering: Techniques and Equipment. Thus, at present, the Department conducts two Diploma and 6 Short-Term Courses of six months (Advance) and four months (Certificate) duration in the aforesaid and other genres.



Tabla Students of Short Term course performing under the direction of Dr. Rishitosh Kumar



Mr. Saurabh Kumar conducting the sound Engineering Short Term four month certificate course classes in the Department



Mr. Sumit Kumar a visually challenged student, learning harmonium
as a part of skill enhancement programme.



Dr. Ajay Kumar conducting as extra class of visually challenged students
Mr. Sumit Kumar of B.A IIIrd year, Tabla.

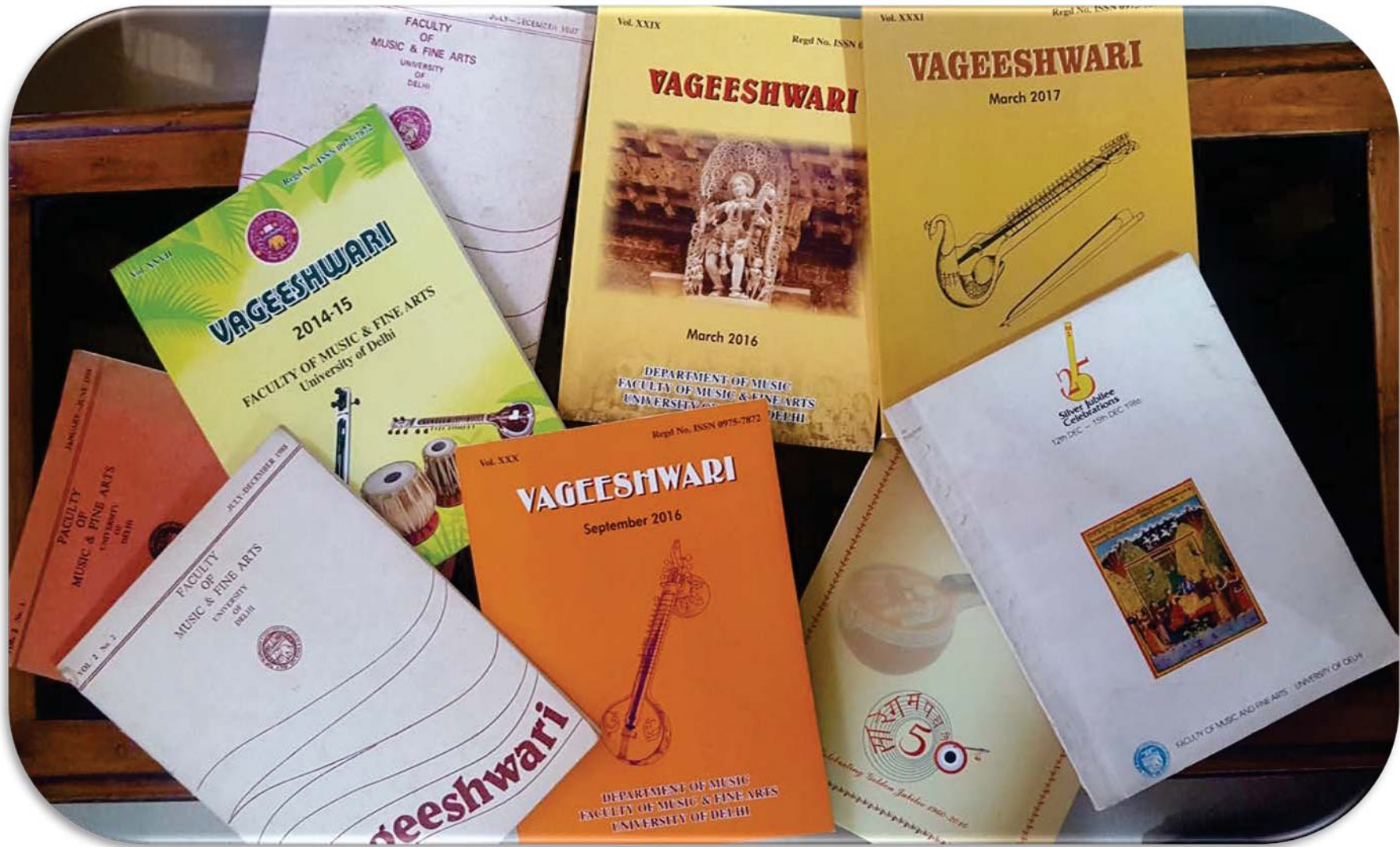
Vageeshwari

Publication of Departmental journal

The Department brings out its research journal – Vageeshwari. Started in 1986 on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Department, the name “Vageeshwari” is a name synonymous with Goddess Saraswati, and was suggested by Prof. Sumati Mutatkar. The journal has completed a glorious journey of 32 long and musically enriching years. The journal is a treasure house of knowledge, which encourages scholastic outpouring of information and innovative ideas in the field of research in music. It publishes proceedings of the Departmental seminars, as also research papers and articles contributed by eminent musicologists, teachers and research scholars both from the Department and other institutes in India. Vageeshwari is an ISSN numbered journal (0975-7872) and was uploaded on the Journal’s portal of the UGC in 2017.



Releasing of Vageeshwari (Departmental Journal) Sep. 2016



Vageeshwari Departmental Journal

Sargam Choir: A Multi-Dimensional Choir with Social Outreach

The foundation of the ‘Sargam’ Choir of the Department of Music, University of Delhi, was laid down way back in 1971-72 by late Vidushi Prof. Sumati Mutatkar. The first conductor of the Sargam Choir was late Ustad Yunus Hussain Khan, an eminent artiste and composer of Agra gharana. The key features of this Choir were amalgamation of different ragas and talas in a single composition, Taranas in different talas, songs based on seasonal ragas and patriotic songs. Carrying forward the tradition, the Choir has been performing at various major cultural events and platforms in Delhi and has been appreciated by artistes and music lovers.

दिल्ली विश्विद्यालय के संगीत विभाग के ‘सरगम कॉयर’ की संकल्पना सन् 1971-72 में प्रो. सुमति मुटाटकर की प्रेरणा से गायन विभाग के प्राध्यापक उ. यूनस हुसैन खां (आगरा घराने के प्रसिद्ध गायक) के निर्देशन में प्रारंभ हुई। उस समय इस वृन्द समूह के आकर्षण थे विभिन्न तालों में तराने, एक ही रचना में भिन्न-भिन्न रागों व तालों का मिश्रण, देश-भक्ति गीत एवं ऋतुकालीन रचनाएं। पूर्व से चली आ रही इस परंपरा का आज भी निर्वहन हो रहा है। संकाय प्रमुख प्रो. सुनीरा कासलीवाल व्यास के दिशा निर्देशन में वर्तमान में यह ‘सरगम कॉयर’ शांति एवं सैहार्द के अपने संदेश से परिपूर्ण इस वृन्द समूह को राष्ट्रीय तथा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मंचों पर अपनी सफल प्रस्तुति से श्रोताओं की प्रशंसा मिलती रही है।



Choir Presentation on various Prestigious Events



Sargam Choir Presentation in Front of Hon'ble Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu



Sargam Choir Presentation in Front of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



Sargam Choir Presentation at Gandhi Bhawan D.U on Gandhi Jayanti 2017



With Hon'ble V.C. Prof. Yogesh Tyagi After the presentation at Ghandhi Bhawan



Presenting of Saraswati Vandana under the direction of Prof. Kanna kumar in Malhar Utsav 2017



Presentation of Saraswati Vandana under the direction of Dr. Prasanth at Int. Seminar in Feb. 2018



Presentation of Saraswati Vandana under the direction Of Ms. M.V. Bindu in National Seminar 2015



Presenting Vocal & Instrumental Ensemble under the direction of Dr. Rajpal & Dr. Gopal Krishan

Library

Department of Music

One salient feature of the infrastructure of the Department is its vast and well-equipped library with several wings. It has recently been upgraded into being partly automated. The reading and lending section of the library has around 16,000 books, some of them are very old and rare, and providing valuable source material for regular as well as research-oriented study. The Braille section for the visually challenged has a large collection of 304 Braille books and relevant material transcribed into Talking Books, which is made available to the students in the form of CDs. The audio section has a listening room and has a collection of over 2,200 cassettes and CDs. A unique feature of the 'Audio library' is its lending facility. The teachers, research scholars and the students, all are given two audio cards, through which two cassette/CD/record may be obtained for three days. This facility is only available in the Department of music in Delhi University and therefore be considered one of the best practices. Students are encouraged to listen more and more, so as to absorb the finer nuances of this great art form. One of the features of the Library is its listening room where students can sit & listen to the Cd's. There are 8 CD players with headphones and cubicles where 8 students may sit & listen to the Music of their choice without disturbing others

Listening Room



Students are listening to various CDs & recordings.

Audio Library



CDs of various recordings



Catalogue of various CDs & recordings

MUSEUM

The Museum in the Department of Music, University of Delhi, was conceptualized with the idea of having a one of its kind and unique museum housing musical instruments used in Indian Classical Music – both Hindustani and Karnatak Music. It was intended to be a valuable platform for both students and connoisseurs of music to observe, study and admire the beauty of these instruments.

With these objectives in mind, the Department started the Museum in 2013. It houses primarily stringed and percussion instruments. All these instruments are very old, mostly from our Department, while some have been gifted by others, such as the Dilruba and Esraj by Padma Vibhushan recipient Vidhushi Kapila Vatsyayan, whose mother used to play these two instruments.

Other musical instruments being displayed, some of them rare, are as follows –

1. The six stringed Tanpura
2. The folding Tanpura
3. Tanjauri Veena
4. Rudra Veena
5. Vichitra Veena
6. Sitar
7. Tabla
8. Pakhawaj
9. Mridangam

The Museum is regularly visited by research scholars and music lovers, apart from the students of the Department. It is unique in the sense that it is perhaps the first Museum of Musical Instruments, that has been conceptualized and created by any University in India, and has an unrivalled and unparalleled collection of instruments displayed aesthetically.

It is the pride of the Department, which takes good care in its day to day upkeep with the limited resources at hand.

Museum (Instrument Gallery)



Mr. Bhaiwani Singh Meena, Advisor to V.C. keenly looking at the musical instruments displayed in the Museum



Different views of Musical Instruments gallery

Annual Inter class Competition



Annual Inter Class Competition



In-House Seminar for Ph.D Students – 22nd September 2017



Ph.D. research scholars presenting their papers

In-House Seminar for Ph.D Students – 22nd September 2017



Green Practices (Growing Papaya Trees)



Maintaining Green Area



Tree Plantation on 18th Aug 2017



Tree plantation was organised on the Fresher's day on 18th August 2017 in the Department All the freshers along-with teachers, and office staff planted new saplings in the ground with the help of gardeners.

PWD friendly Infrastructure



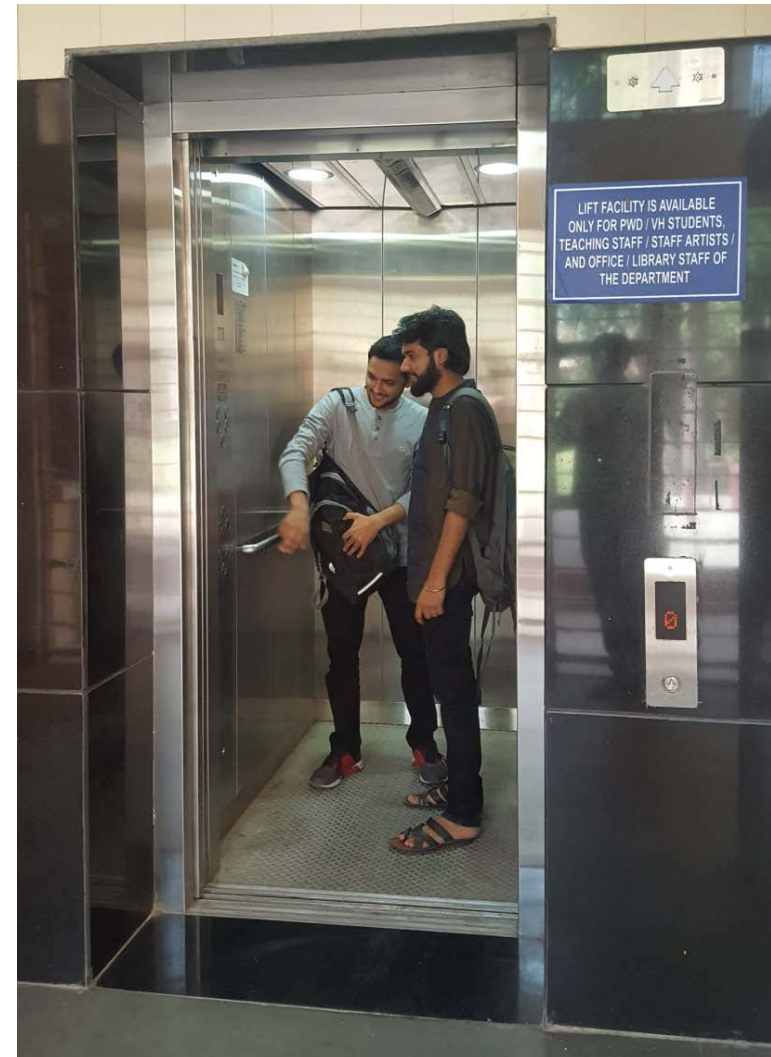
Ramps and Rails for differently abled students



PWD friendly Infrastructure



Washroom for differently abled



Lift Facility

Security and Safety Issues



Security Guard

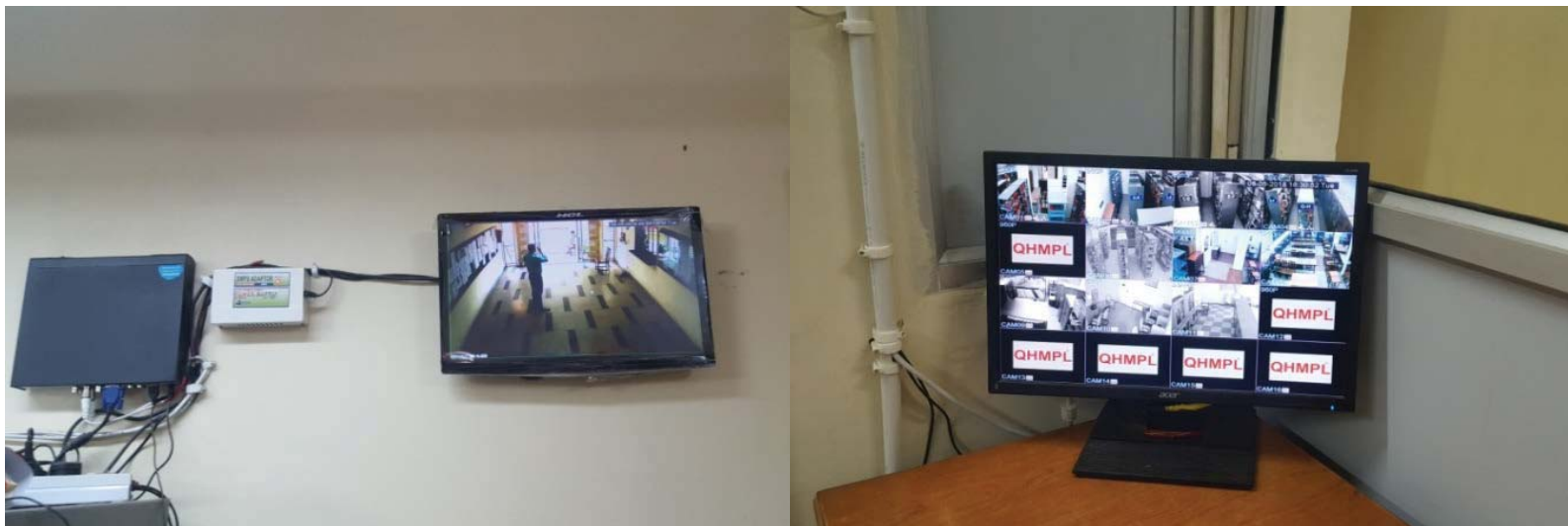


Fire Extinguisher refilled



Water cooler serviced regularly

CCTV Cameras installed in the Department





Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel birth centenary on 31 Oct 2014

Managing Green Waste and depositing it in a Compost Pit to create manure



Staff and Students using public transport



Students and Staff using bicycle



Activities in the new session 2018-19



Sargam Choir presentation in JNU convocation on 8th August 2018



Malhar Utsav Celebrations - 30-31 August 2018



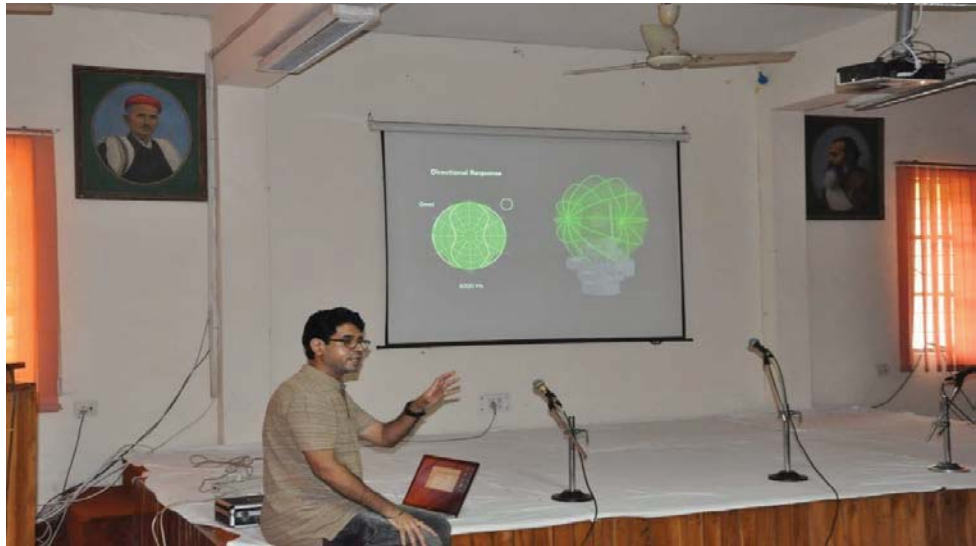
Vidushi Shanno Khurana & Vidushi Krishna Bisht in conversation in a program “Samvaad”



A workshop conducted by Ghatam Vidwan, Sh. Suresh Vaidyanathan on 29th September 2018



Tree Plantation programme organized in the Department of Music on the occasion of Fresher's Party On 24th August 2018 with the help of Prof. Sudeshna, Secretary, Garden Committee, Delhi University



Glimpses of a workshop “Know your Microphone” conducted by Mr. Saurabh Kumar in the Department of Music for the M.Phil. and Ph.D. students held on 09th October 2018



Department of Music
Faculty of Music & Fine Arts
University of Delhi
organises

संवाद

Interactive Session
featuring

Vidushi Shanno Khurana
Khayal exponent of the Rampur-Sahaswan Gharana
Padma Bhushan recipient
Sangeet Akademi Fellow
with

Vidushi Shama Bisht
Sangeet Natya Akademi Award recipient
Head
Faculty of Music & Fine Arts

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