**Dept of Political Science**

**Deen Dayal Upadhya Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur**

I feel honoured and privileged to write the report for the Dept of Political Science of DDU Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur. As a faculty in St Andrew’s College, which is affiliated to DDU Gorakhpur University, I got the opportunity to know the Dept of Political Science from very close quarter. I was associated with the Dept of Political Science of Gorakhpur University for more than a decade. During this long period, I got the opportunity to interact with the founding members of the Dept of Political Science such as Prof Raghuveer Singh, Prof RKM Tripathi, Prof GN Tiwari and Prof SK Jha. All were stalwart in their respective fields. Under their creative and imaginative leadership, Dept was founded and nurtured.

Dept of Political Science was established with the establishment of Gorakhpur University in 1958. Thus Dept of Political Science is as old as is the university itself. Founder Head of the Dept Prof Raghuveer Singh was a world renowned Political Scientist and his works on Heraclitus and Lock published in International Journals of Political Science is most cited papers by any Indian Political Scientist. Prof Singh was a globally recognised eminent scholar of Political theory. Dept of Political Science was established under his leadership and he has the distinction of serving the Dept for longest period of time till his retirement.

Prof RKM Tripathi was another well known faculty of the Dept. Prof Tripathi was a hugely popular teacher and was known for his photogenic memory. He was a voracious reader and marvellous speaker. Though, primarily a scholar of Political Theory, but his scholarship was not confined to Political Theory only. His range of scholarship was very wide. Prof GN Tiwari was equally known faculty of the Dept. He was hugely popular among the students because of his friendly nature. He was an eminent scholar of International Relations.

Prof SK Jha, who studied in Indian School of International Studies (ISIS), New Delhi, which later grew into Jawaharlal Nehru University was well known faculty of the Dept. He served in many Universities such as Banaras Hindu University, Kumaon University, Nainital apart from Gorakhpur University. He belongs to the first group of IR scholars in India, who were trained and taught in the prestigious ISIS. Prof Jha also headed the Dept with distinction and the present building of the Dept was his significant achievement. Because of his academic leadership quality, he was appointed Director, Gandhi Research Institute, Rajghat, Varanasi. Gandhi Institute was founded by Jay Praksh Narayan Ji.

Dept. is not resting on past laurels. Prof Dinesh Singh, Prof ID Mishra, Prof SPM Tripathi are other distinguished Professors of the Dept, who served the Dept for many years. At present Dept of Political Science have five Professors, one Associate Professor and two Assistant Professors. All of them are well known for their teaching, research and administrative skills. Dept has cosmopolitan character. Present Head Prof Rusi Ram Mahananda is from Orissa. Prof Mahanand studied in Sambhalpur University and then JNU, New Delhi. He is immensely popular among faculty and students.

Faculty are one part of the Dept, the other part and that is more important is students of the Dept. Over the years, Dept has produced many political leaders, administrative officers and academics. Prof Shubha Rao in BHU, Prof Kaviraj in Lucknow University, Prof Rajesh Singh, Prof Rajnikant Pandey, Prof Vineeta Pathak, Prof Gopal Prasad, Dr Nisha Jaiswal and Dr Amit Upadhya all in DDU Gorakhpur University and many others in different academic institutions are product of the Dept. Shri Mata Prasad Pandey Cabinet Minister in the different UP Govt. and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly is the alumnus of the Dept. Many Civil Servants, who served Central and State Governments, are alumni of the Dept. Few name whom I can recall are Shri Virendr Singh, IPS (Haryana Cadre), Sri CP Singh, IAS (Tamilnadu Cadre) did their Masters from the Dept. Dr. Nisha Jaiswal apart from faculty of the Dept is a renowned artist of miniature paintings. Over the years, alumni of the Dept have excelled in every field of life and Dept can be proud of their achievements.

Apart from teaching, Dept has also excelled in research. High quality research has been produced in the Dept under the able guidance of the faculty of the Dept. Many research students have been awarded the JRF/SRF by UGC, ICSSR student research fellowships, Post Doctoral Fellowship (PDF) by ICSSR, RGNF to SC/ST and differently abled research students. Faculty and students have authored many high quality research papers, which have been published in the leading journals of the discipline. Faculty have written many books, which have been published by reputed publishers. Some faculty members have successfully completed major research projects and some others are in the process of completing it and some others are planning to apply for financial assistance to undertake research in their respective area of specialisation.

Dept has successfully organised all kind of academic activities. Important among them is successful organisations of many refresher courses in collaboration with Academic Staff College/Human Resource Development Centre of DDU Gorakhpur University. From time to time Dept has organised many National and International Seminars, workshops, special lectures, etc. Faculty of the Dept are also helping university in its various academic and administrative responsibilities. Prof Vineeta Pathak is heading for many years the women NCC wing of the University, Prof Gopal Prasad is Chief Proctor of the University, Prof Rajnikant Pandey is heading HRDC, Prof RR Mahananda is holding the Chair of Manyvar Kashi Ram and Dr Mahendr Singh is PRO of the university.

Dept of Political Science of DDU Gorakhpur has excelled in teaching, research and academic leadership. Enthused by the achievements of the Dept, the Dept is venturing into new fields. A certificate course in Political Leadership has already been launched by the Dept. Dept is also planning to launch new courses in Public Administration, Public Policy, State Politics, International Relations, Peace and Conflict Studies etc. Dept has also proposed training programme for the elected members of Panchayt Raj Institutions. Since Nepal is nearby, Dept has proposed a course in Nepal Studies. These courses are in the pipeline and proposed to be launched soon after getting it approved by the Academic and Executive Council of the University.

In the Academic Year 2020-21 one faculty Dr. Mahendr Kumar Singh was awarded Ph D. Two books and two papers were written by Faculty members of the Dept. 41 students were registered in the Dept for Ph D. and two Ph D. were awarded to research students by the Dept. Total 1906 lectures were delivered by the faculty members. Because of pandemic and lockdown most of them were in online mode. (Data was provided by HoD, Political Science)

With this impressive record in teaching, research and academic administration and achievements of the alumni of the Dept, Dept of Political Science can be proud of its achievements. With many new courses in the pipeline, capable and competent faculty and bright students and researchers in the Dept, I see great future for the Dept of Political Science. I congratulate the Dept for its significant achievements and wish the Dept of Political Science all the best for their future academic endeavours.



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