

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Mother Teresa whose love of God has led her to single-minded devotion to the service of suffering humanity.

Born in Yugoslavia in 1910, Mother Teresa came to India in 1929 as a member of the Congregation of Loreto nuns. She taught Geography at St. Mary's High School in Calcutta and rose to the position of Principal in that institution. Looking outside the School walls she saw the sprawling Motizheel slums of Calcutta and started work amongst the poor and the sick residing there. After about twenty years of teaching in the school, in response to what she recognized as a divine call, she decided to leave the Convent and work amongst the poor. Living in a small room, she started teaching children in the slums. In 1950 she set up a new Congregation of Missionaries of Charity. The Congregation now covers more than 50 countries in which it runs schools for slum children, homes for abandoned children, mobile clinics, feeding centres and homes for the sick and dying destitutes.

Living frugally and shunning publicity, the Sisters and Brothers of the Missionaries of Charity are a source of hope and sustenance to the millions of destitutes living in urban ghettos all over the world.

A person deeply committed to her faith, Mother Teresa's compassion is all-embracing and is not restricted by considerations of caste, creed, colour or nationality. She was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1979 for 'outstanding service to humanity and saintly devotion.' In the following year 'Bharat Ratna', the highest Indian honour was conferred on her. Despite many national and international honours the Mother remains a picture of serene humility.

In honouring Mother Teresa, we pay our tribute to a person, who in her life and work, represents the noble traditions of all great religions.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Mother Teresa the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Dr. Manmohan Singh, one of the foremost economists in our country today.

Dr. Manmohan Singh has had a brilliant academic record. He stood first in the B.A. (Honours) and M.A. examinations of the Panjab University. He passed the Economics Tripos from the University of Cambridge and again won the top position, also winning the coveted Adam Smith Prize of the same University. He earned a D. Phil. degree from the University of Oxford.

Dr. Manmohan Singh has served the academic community with distinction. He was a Reader and then a Professor of Economics at Panjab University, Chandigarh. Later, he served as Professor of International Trade, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi. Because of his outstanding contributions to the subject, Dr. Manmohan Singh has been invited to take up many important appointments in his long and distinguished career. To mention only a few, he has served as Chief of the Trade Section, United Nations Secretariat of UNCTAD, as Chief Economic Adviser, and then Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, and as Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India. Currently he is serving as Governor, Reserve Bank of India, and as alternate Governor for India on the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund.

Dr. Manmohan Singh has been one of the chief architects of national economic planning as also of the policies of the Government of India in the field of international trade and international economic relations. He has effectively represented the interests of the country in such important bodies as the IMF and Aid India Consortium and has assisted the Prime Minister at international conferences like the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting and the Cancun Summit in 1981. He has been the foremost policy planner in the area of economic cooperation between India and the Soviet Union during the last few years.

Recently he was elected Honorary Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge and made a Member of the Economic Advisory Council appointed by the Prime Minister of India in 1983.

In honouring Dr. Manmohan Singh, the University is honouring a distinguished academician and economist who is very much at the helm of the country's economic affairs.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Dr. Manmohan Singh the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

Shrimati Mahadevi Verma, one of the foremost Hindi poets of our time is unable to be present here, so the University has decided to confer the honorary degree on her *in absentia*.

An outstanding scholar of Sanskrit, she was appointed in 1933 as the Principal and later as the Vice-Chancellor of Prayag Mahila Vidyapith, Allahabad. She is the author of twenty books, many of which are regarded as important landmarks because of her style and the exceptional treatment of her subject matter.

Her poetry, which she started writing at the age of twelve, is noted for its lyrical beauty as well as for its deep awareness of life's total reality.

*Yama* and *Deepshikha* are her two most outstanding collections of poems. Through these and through other writings, Shrimati Mahadevi Verma has made a major contribution to the movement called Chhayavadi poetry which attempts to evoke a sense of oneness between Man and Nature.

In recognition of her stature, Shrimati Mahadevi Verma was awarded the Seksaria Puraskar in 1934, Mangala Prasad Paritoshak in 1944, Padma Bhushan in 1956, 'Bharat Bharati Puraskar' in 1983 and more recently still the prestigious Jnanpith award.

In honouring Shrimati Mahadevi Verma, the University of Delhi honours a distinguished poet known for her vision of beauty, truth, and the essential unity of life.

Sir, Shrimati Mahadevi Verma being unable to be present, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon her the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa, in absentia*.

Mr. Chancellor,

Shri Ravi Shankar is an eminent artiste and musician of our time whose career as a sitarist has added a distinct dimension to the musical life of India, and thanks to whom millions of people abroad are able to appreciate the sound of the sitar and make it part of their musical experience. As he is unable to be present the university has decided to confer the honorary degree on him *in absentia*.

Born in 1920 at Varanasi, he accompanied his elder brother Uday Shankar to Paris in 1933 and became interested in composing music for ballet. He studied sitar under Ustad Allauddin Khan of Maiher from 1938-44 and was a distinguished pupil of a distinguished teacher. In 1947 he founded the group *Renaissance Artistes* and composed the music for the *Discovery of India* ballet. He joined All India Radio in 1949 and was in charge of Vada Vrinda. In 1958 he took part in the UNESCO Music Festival in Paris and performed in the same programme with Yehudi Menuhin and David Oistrakh. His careers in India and abroad now began to flourish in a parallel fashion. He started the Kinnara School in Los Angeles in 1967 and was head of the Indian Music Section in the California Institute of Arts in 1970. He became a Fellow of the Sangeet Natak Akademi. He composed the music for Satyajit Ray's *Pather Panchali* trilogy and this won him fame all over the world. He founded the research Institute for Music and Performing Arts in Varanasi, an Institute to which he is still attached. He is adviser to the National Centre for Performing Arts and President of the Shankar Foundation for Creative Arts in Calcutta. The title of his book *My Music My Life* speaks for itself. Ravi Shankar's life-long devotion to Indian classical music is an inspiration to all lovers of the arts. His distinction as a sitarist reminds us of the single-minded spirit which lies behind all attainments. Delhi University honours itself in honouring his achievements.

Sir, Shri Ravi Shankar not being able to be present at the Convocation, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon him the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.), *honoris causa, in absentia*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Shri Keshav Shankar Pillai, the founder of the Children's Book Trust.

Born at Kayamkulam in Kerala on July 31, 1902, Shri Shankar graduated in 1927 from the University College, Trivandrum, studied law in Bombay and art in London. A pioneer in the field, he took to political cartooning in 1929 and rose to be Staff Cartoonist of the Hindustan Times, New Delhi, in 1932. Sixteen years later he launched his own cartoon journal, *Shankar's Weekly*. He wound up the weekly in 1975 because of his preoccupation with children and activities connected with them.

Shankar's versatile genius, constantly searching for fresh avenues of fulfilment, inexorably drove him to the endearing world of children. And 1949 saw the birth of Shankar's International Children's Competition. Three years later he organised the first ever On-the-Spot Painting Competition for children in Delhi.

In 1957, he founded the Children's Book Trust, with its own printing press. The Trust's main objective is to bring out good books for children at reasonable prices. Paucity of good manuscripts worth publishing in the initial stages was a challenge he met by starting to write himself. He has since written over fifty books for children.

Shri Shankar's relentless quest in search of the very best for children has led to the establishment of the International Dolls Museum, the Children's Library and Reading Room, a Dolls Designing Centre and Workshop and a Children's magazine, *Children's World*.

His many-splendoured achievements have won him national and international recognition. He has received numerous honours and awards including the Padma Vibhushan, the Polish Children's Award of the Order of Smile, the UN Association Hamilton Branch, the Canada Award, the Commemorative Medal of the Hungarian Institute of Cultural Relations in appreciation of his activities for children, the Order de Saint Fortunat of the Federal Republic of Germany and a Gold Medal for the promotion of Indo-Czech Friendship.

In honouring him and in having his name permanently associated with the University of Delhi, we are honouring one who has made lasting contributions in order to bring joy and happiness to young minds.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Shri Keshav Shankar Pillai the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Mr. G. Parthasarathi, one of our most distinguished diplomats.

Mr. Parthasarathi, after a distinguished academic record in India and England, began his career as a journalist on the staff of *The Times*, London. Later, he joined *The Hindu* of Madras and proceeded to become a Director of the Press Trust of India.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution in the field of International Relations, Mr. Parthasarathi was appointed as Chairman of the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Cambodia and then worked in a similar capacity in Vietnam. He rendered distinguished service to the country as Ambassador to Indonesia and to the People's Republic of China. After completing the difficult assignment of being India's High Commissioner in Pakistan, Mr. Parthasarathi became the permanent representative of India at the United Nations. He had the distinction of becoming the President of the Security Council in 1967. In 1969 Mr. Parthasarathi was appointed as the first Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Mr. Parthasarathi has held a number of other important positions including that of Chairman, Policy Planning, in the Ministry of External Affairs. At present he is an Honorary Adviser in the Cabinet Secretariat. Mr. Parthasarathi has made a significant contribution in representing India's interests in various international bodies and has been involved as a consultant at the highest level in the policy planning agencies of the country. Currently he is playing a quiet but crucial role in the search for a solution to the sensitive issue of the minorities in Sri Lanka.

In honouring Mr. Parthasarathi, the University honours a man of many parts who after a long and outstanding career as a diplomat, is still actively engaged in resolving delicate issues with India's neighbouring countries.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Mr. G. Parthasarathi the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Dr. Mulk Raj Anand, distinguished novelist, art historian and critic, patriot and humanist.

He was born in Peshawar in 1905 and was educated at the Universities of Panjab and London. He was a lecturer at the School of International Cooperation, Geneva from 1927-29 and obtained his doctorate from London University in 1929 for a thesis on Hume's philosophy. His contact with Gandhiji left a lasting impression on his mind and he became a major Indian novelist with the publication of *Untouchable*, *Coolie* and *Three Leaves and a Bud*. He is today the doyen of Indian writers who write in English. His novels and short stories depicting Indian life, especially the life of the toiling millions, have reached an international public. Paraphrasing what James Joyce said in his *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, Mulk Raj encountered the reality of Indian experience and forged in the smithy of his soul the uncreated conscience of his people. Mulk Raj Anand is a writer with a conscience. Four volumes of his monumental autobiographical novel on India's freedom struggle called *The Seven Ages of Man* have already appeared.

After three years' service in the B.B.C. he founded *Marg* Publications in 1948. This not only did a great deal to make his fellow countrymen aware of their own art heritage but helped to acquaint the world at large with the vast treasury of Indian art. From 1962-65 he was Tagore Professor of Literature in Panjab University. He was also a Fellow of the Lalit Kala Akademi. He won the coveted Sahitya Akademi Award and was honoured with the Padma Bhushan by the President of India. He was awarded the International Peace Prize by the World Peace Council and has never ceased to raise his voice in innumerable international conferences in the cause of peace and justice.

In honouring Dr. Anand, the University is honouring the creator of a noble gallery of Indian characters in his novels and an eloquent spokesman of Indian culture.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Dr. Mulk Raj Anand the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.), *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Shri Ali Akbar Khan, a distinguished Sarod Player of the Senia gharana.

Born in 1922, he studied dhrupad, dhamar, khayal and sarod under his father Allaudin Khan and pakhawaj and tabla under his uncle Aftabuddin. He worked both in Uday Shankar's Culture Centre in Almora and in All India Radio. In 1956 he founded the Ali Akbar College of Music in Calcutta, and in 1968 he started the Ali Akbar College of Music in Sausalito, California. He has given recitals in the East-West Music Encounter held in Tokyo, and at Montreal and McGill Universities in 1961 and performed at the festivals in Bath and Edinburgh in 1963. He has been Court Musician in Jodhpur. In 1963 he received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Hindustani Instrumental Music and for the musical score of the film *Hungry Stones*.

Shri Ali Akbar Khan personifies the living character of India's musical tradition. He has taken Indian melody and rhythm beyond the shores of this land, and he has trained prominent students who excel, thanks to the teaching he has given them. Shri Ali Akbar Khan's artistry witnesses to the rich musical heritage of India and to our composite culture. He has shown how the best things in our tradition can be cherished and passed on to the next generation.

In honouring Ustad Ali Akbar Khan we wish in this Diamond Jubilee Year to recognise the vital role of the arts in an all-round education. Delhi University as an institution of higher learning wishes to honour a man who has been able to combine the individual pursuit of excellence with training and inspiring the young.

Sir, I pray that he may be pleased to confer upon Shri Ali Akbar Khan the Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Smt. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, who has made an outstanding contribution to the enrichment of social and cultural life in this country.

Born in 1903, Kamaladevi had her education in Mangalore and Bedford College, London.

At a very early age Kamaladevi was drawn into the struggle for India's independence. She was a member of the All India Congress Committee and of its National Executive. She participated in the civil disobedience movement and was imprisoned several times by the British Government. She was a member of the Congress Socialist Party from its inception and was elected its President in 1936.

A champion of the cause of women's liberation, Kamaladevi was Organizing Secretary and later President of the All India Women's Conference. She was the Commander of the Women's Wing of the Congress Sewa Dal and worked for creating political awareness amongst women in India. She was also one of the founder members of the Family Planning Association of India.

After independence, Kamaladevi made a significant contribution to the rehabilitation of refugees from Pakistan through the Indian Cooperative Union which she founded. It was her inspiration which brought into existence in Faridabad, the first township built by refugees themselves through cooperative effort.

Kamaladevi championed the cause of artists and craftsmen. She was chairman of the All India Handicrafts Board and was responsible for the organization of the Central Cottage Industries Emporium. She is one of the organisers of the World Crafts Council and is currently its Vice-President.

A great lover of fine arts, she was chairman of the Sangeet Natak Akademi and Vice President of the Indian Council of Cultural Relations and the India International Centre.

Kamaladevi is an eloquent speaker and has many publications to her credit. She has received many awards. Amongst these are the Ramon Magsaysay award for community leadership, the Watumull Foundation award and the UNESCO award. She has also been honoured by the Vishwabharati and the Banaras Hindu Universities.

In honouring Kamaladevi, we are honouring a distinguished daughter of India.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Letters (D. Litt.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Dr. Raja Ramanna, an outstanding physicist and an able organiser.

After his early education in Bangalore he went to England for research in nuclear physics. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in 1948 from London University and joined the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research the following year. He was transferred to the Atomic Energy Establishment Trombay (now known as Bhabha Atomic Research Centre) in 1953 as head of the Nuclear Physics Division. From 1972 to 1978 he was Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. In 1978 he was appointed Scientific Adviser to the Minister of Defence, Director-General of Defence Research and Development Organisation and Secretary to the Government of India for Defence Research. Presently he is Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.

Dr. Ramanna is one of chief architects of our Atomic Energy programme. He was associated with the design and construction of our research reactors; *Apsara*, *Cirus* and *Purnima* and also with the Variable Energy Cyclotron at Calcutta. He is also in overall charge of the Research Reactor Centre at Kalpakkam. He led the group which successfully carried out the peaceful nuclear explosion experiment at Pokharan in 1974.

Dr. Ramanna's scientific work in the fields of neutron physics and fission physics has been very well received in the scientific world. He is well known for his work on experimental and theoretical investigations of neutron thermalization and neutron scattering, stochastic theory of the fission process and a geometric theory of atomic and nuclear structure. He has participated in several international conferences, many of them at the U.N. level. He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency at Vienna, and of the newly constituted Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet.

Dr. Ramanna has served as President of the Physics Section of the Indian Science Congress, the Indian National Science Academy and the Indian Physics Association. Dr. Ramanna received the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Memorial award for Physical Science in 1963. For his services to the nation, the Government of India awarded him Padma Shri in 1968, Padma Bhushan in 1973 and Padma Vibhushan in 1975.

In honouring Dr. Raja Ramanna, the University is reasserting its faith in further development of atomic energy programmes in the country under his able leadership.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Dr. Raja Ramanna the Degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

I present to you Professor A.S. Paintal, Director and Professor of Physiology, Vallabhbai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi.

After receiving the M.B.B.S. Degree from Lucknow Medical College, he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh as a Rockefeller fellow and obtained the Ph.D. degree in 1952. He worked at the V.P. Chest Institute as Assistant Director from 1954 to 1956. He was Visiting Professor at Albert Einstein Medical College, New York and at the Universities of Utah and Goettingen (1956-58). After serving as Professor of Physiology at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for six years, he joined as Director of the V.P. Chest Institute in 1964.

Professor Paintal has made significant contributions to the understanding of visceral sensory mechanisms and their reflex effects, properties of mammalian nerve fibres, the mode of action of chemical substances on sensory receptors, the fusimotor fibres and pressure-pain receptors of muscles and the mechanism of stimulation of aortic chemoreceptors. He is particularly known for the discovery of the volume receptors of the atria, the gastric stretch receptors and the J receptors of the lungs and for showing that the natural stimulus for the aortic chemoreceptors is oxygen availability. He is currently engaged in research on high altitude problems and the responses and reflex effects of J receptors which produce breathlessness and muscle weakness. This work has led to a better understanding and treatment of certain diseases involving the heart and lungs.

In recognition of his outstanding work, he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and Royal Society of London (1981). He has received numerous honours and awards including the B.C. Roy Oratorship (1974) and the Silver Jubilee Award of the Medical Council of India (1978), the Barclay Medal of the Asiatic Society (1982), the Rameshwardas Birla National Award (1983) and the Jawaharlal Nehru Science Award of the Government of Madhya Pradesh (1983). He served as Vice-President of the Indian National Science Academy and President of the Indian College of Allergy and Immunology (1980). He has been elected General President of the Indian Science Congress Association, 1984-85.

In honouring Professor Paintal, the University is reasserting with pride and happiness its association with one who represents the finest traditions of scientific enquiry and scholarship.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Professor A.S. Paintal the Degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) *honoris causa*.

Mr. Chancellor,

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, presently Director-General, International Rice Research Institute, Phillipines is not able to be present here, so the University has decided to confer the honorary degree on him *in absentia*.

In honouring Dr. Swaminathan, we receive into the University community an outstanding scientist, administrator and planner, who has earned a name for himself in the international scientific community.

After obtaining the Ph.D. Degree from Cambridge University, Dr. Swaminathan worked at the universities of Wageningen and Wisconsin and joined the Division of Genetics, Indian Agricultural Research Institute. He served as Director of this Institute and subsequently as Director-General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (1972-79). He was also Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and Member (Science), Planning Commission.

Dr. Swaminathan has made significant contributions to the understanding of the origin and differentiation of potato and wheat species and of improvement of potato, wheat, rice and jute. His work leading to the identification of barriers to high yields in wheat and the initiation of the wheat breeding programme involving the 'Norin' dwarfing genes paved the way for the green revolution in India.

Among his other services to agriculture are development of the concept of 'Crop cafeterias', mid-season corrections in crop scheduling, risk-distribution agronomy and alternative cropping strategies for different weather conditions, development of whole village or watershed operational research projects based on principles of ecology and economics.

A number of honours, titles and distinctions have been bestowed on him, including honorary doctoral degrees from over twenty universities, both in India and abroad. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, London; Foreign member, All Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, U.S.S.R. and Foreign Associate, National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A. He is the recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay Award (1971), Padma Bhushan (1972) and the Meghnath Saha Medal of INSA (1981). He was General President, Indian Science Congress Association (1976) and President of the recently concluded XV International Congress of Genetics

Dr. Swaminathan has served as Chairman, U.N. Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development (1980-83) and has been Independent Chairman, F.A.O. Council since 1981.

The human qualities that mark Dr. Swaminathan's personality are affability, generosity and humility.

In honouring him, we are honouring a person who is deeply concerned with the alleviation of hunger and deprivation in the developing world.

Sir, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan not being able to be present at the Convocation. I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon him the Degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), *honoris causa, in absentia*.

Mr. Chancellor,

Professor Satish Dhawan, is one of our most outstanding engineers. Prof. Dhawan not being able to be present here, the university has decided to confer on him the honorary degree *in absentia*.

Professor Dhawan had his early education in Panjab. He then went to U.S.A. and obtained his Ph.D. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from California Institute of Technology in 1951. He returned the same year to India and joined the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore, from where he retired as Director in 1981. He has been the Chairman of the Space Commission, Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation and Secretary to Government of India since 1972.

Prof. Dhawan has contributed substantially in the fields of space research and agro-engineering. His pioneering work in fluid mechanics and aerodynamics, particularly on high speed problems concerning shock waves and boundary layers, transsonic and supersonic wind tunnels is well known. He developed instruments for direct measurement of skin friction for high and low speed flows and this is regarded as a significant contribution in the field of instrumentation.

He has served on a number of Commissions and Committees, including the Atomic Energy Commission and the Electronics Commission. During 1973-75 he worked as a one-man Committee of the Government of India to evaluate the performance of the passenger aircraft Avro HS-748 designed and built in India. He has also been closely associated with many educational and research institutions.

Professor Dhawan has won several national and international academic awards and honours. He has received many honorary degrees from Universities in India and abroad. He was awarded Padma Shri in 1966, Padma Bhushan in 1971 and Padma Vibhushan in 1981. In 1983 he received the prestigious Aryabhata Medal of the Indian Science Congress.

In honouring Professor Dhawan the University reaffirms its recognition of true scientific values and reposes confidence in continued space research work in the country under his able stewardship.

Sir, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon Dr. Satish Dhawan the Degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.), *honoris causa, in absentia*.

Mr. Chancellor,

Dr. Homi Nusserwanji Sethna, an outstanding Chemical engineer, is not able to be present here, so the University has decided to confer the honorary degree on him *in absentia*.

Dr. Sethna had his early education in Bombay and obtained his M.S.E. degree from the University of Michigan in 1946. In 1949 he joined the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., a public sector undertaking of the Government of India and was responsible for setting up the Rare Earths Plant at Alwaye in Kerala and for the Thorium Plant and a plant for production of nuclear grade uranium metal at Trombay. He was the Project Manager for the setting up of the 40 MW Research Reactor CIRUS and responsible for the design and construction of the Plutonium Plant at Trombay in 1964. In 1959 he joined the Atomic Energy Establishment at Trombay (now known as Bhabha Atomic Research Centre) as its Chief Scientific Officer. He later became Director of Engineering Group. In 1983 he retired as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and Secretary to the Government of India, a position he held for over ten years.

Dr. Sethna took up key assignments as Deputy Secretary General to the U.N. International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy held in Geneva in 1958, Member of the U.N. Scientific Advisory Committee and Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the International Atomic Energy Agency. He was a General President of the Indian Science Congress Association.

Dr. Sethna is the recipient of many honours and awards, including the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Memorial award (1960). A number of Universities have conferred honorary degrees on him. He is a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy and of other academic bodies. In recognition of his services to the country, the Government of India conferred upon him Padma Shri in 1959, Padma Bhushan in 1966 and Padma Vibhushan in 1975.

In honouring him we receive into the University community a person who has distinguished himself as a great engineer and an able organiser, and we reiterate our faith in the use of atomic energy for world peace.

Sir, Dr. H. N. Sethna, not being able to be present at the Convocation, I pray that you may be pleased to confer upon him the Degree of Doctor of Science (D. Sc.) *honoris causa, in absentia*.