

The Ramjas College Centenary Begins 2016

Ramjas centenary starts with flag, logo



HOLD YOUR HORSES: A tonga rally during the event

Ramjas College formally started celebrating its centennial year on Monday with a commemorative flag, a logo, and the release of hundreds of balloons. Picking up from the principal, Rajendra Prasad's declaring the college a "hub of political dissent", **lieutenant governor and chief guest Najeeb Jung** advised students to "become independent thinkers" as that'll take them "much ahead of their religion and caste." "Ramjas has been the hub of dissenting political activities. During the Emergency, a large number of teachers and students were jailed. It continues to be the hub of dissent even today. Some see that as bad but I see it as the light of hope and renewal. That is our legacy," said Prasad. Jung advised them to "think of the poorest of the country" and recalled his own days in college, which, incidentally, he shared with Prasad. *Jung also shared the nature of his relationship with Ramjas and that goes beyond his friendship with the principal.*

"The governing body member Ramkumar Gupta was a foster father to me. I grew up in his home in Connaught Place. He had adopted me as a fifth son and the best years of my life were spent in M Block, CP. When I became VC of Jamia (university), Gupta sahab... had called me but I could not come. I regret that because shortly after, he passed away," he said.

The celebrations on Monday began *with a tonga ride and cyclothon across North Campus*, and included a performance by a group of snake-charmers recast as a band.

Jan 19 2016 : The Times of India (Delhi)

The college was founded in 1917 by **Rai Kedar Nath** in memory of his father, **Lala Ramjas Mal**. "We are a country that is progressing, but we are a very poor country. It becomes incumbent on each one of you to remember your commitment to our country," LG Najeeb Jung .

Adapted from Indian Express Jan 19 2016

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