

Honorary degree to LSR principal Dr Meenakshi Gopinath

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NEW DELHI: **Principal of Lady Shri Ram College**, Delhi University, Meenakshi Gopinath, was conferred a Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) doctorate by La Trobe University, Australia recently.

The award is in recognition of her outstanding contributions to national and international civil society initiatives that foster coexistence between communities and women's engagement in building peace.

LSR and La Trobe have had an active exchange programme over 17 years of engagement, following the combined initiative of then student Clare Tucker, Emeritus Professor Robin Jeffrey and Gopinath.

Professor John Dewar, vice-chancellor and president, La Trobe University said that the link with LSR "is La Trobe's most enduring partnership in India. Its success is due in large measure to Gopinath's commitment and support."

While at La Trobe Gopinath agreed to an expansion of our exchange programme and offered to assist in strengthening La Trobe's **research links in several of Research Focus Areas with the University of Delhi**. She also conducted a round table with La Trobe's centre for dialogue and met with senior officials attached to the Australia India Institute, of which La Trobe is a founding member.

Gopinath has been Principal of LSR since 1988 and has shaped it as a center of excellence, which seeks to educate women to take up positions of leadership in society. LSR draws to its fold some of the best students and the finest faculty strives to fashion best practices in democratic governance, the celebration of diversity, inclusivity and gender sensitivity. Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of the National League for Democracy in Myanmar and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate is the most famous alumna of the college. After graduating with **honours in political science from LSR** she took her master's degree from the University of Massachusetts, USA and her **doctorate from the University of Delhi**. Her post-doctoral work as a *Fulbright Scholar* was at Georgetown University, USA.

In addition to her work on higher education, her research interests and publications focus on issues of security, peace building, gender, Gandhian philosophy, Marxist politics, Buddhism and the performing arts.

... *Kudos, Meenakshi !!*