

SD NEWS

2023-24

Volume-1



'A+'
Grade by
NAAC

'A College
with Potential
for Excellence'
UGC,
New Delhi

All India
Rank
70
NIRF
MoE, GoI

3.5 Star
★★★★☆

Ranking,
Institution Innovation
Council

'Deen Dayal
Upadhyay
Kaushal Kendra'
UGC, New Delhi

'FIST
Programme'
GoI, New Delhi

Goswami Ganesh Dutta
SANATAN DHARMA COLLEGE

Sector 32-C, Chandigarh-160030

A PREMIER MULTI-FACULTY DOCTORAL RESEARCH & POST GRADUATE (CO-EDUCATIONAL) INSTITUTION

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Salute to the Untiring Spirit...



Late Sh. Upkar Krishan Sharma ji

President, GGDSD College Society, Chandigarh

Ex-vice President, Eveready Industries India Limited

Son of Late Pt. Mohan Lal Ji (Former Home, Finance & Education Minister of Punjab)

(27 February 1941- 14 July 2022)



Hon'ble PANDIT MOHAN LAL

(April 1905-August 1999)

**Former Home, Finance & Education Minister, Punjab
Founder President, GGDSD College Society, Chandigarh**

About a fortnight ago, I was invited by the Goswami Ganesh Dutta Sanatan Dharma College Society to deliver the Pandit Mohan Lal Memorial Lecture. It was a learning experience for me. The interaction with the young audience at Chandigarh's SD College gave me quite a bit of satisfaction. I was pleasantly surprised to learn about the men and women who run the Society and of their dedication and commitment to education and social service. The Society can easily be cited as a prime example of civil society at its best.



This engagement obliged me to learn a little bit about Pt Mohan Lal. He was a leading political personality in the Fifties and Sixties and was Home Minister from 1962 and 1964. The organisers were kind enough to give me a copy of Pt Mohan Lal's book, Disintegration of Punjab. The book was first written in 1984 and a new edition issued in 2007.

Interestingly, the foreword to the first edition was written by one of my most distinguished predecessors, Prem Bhatia. In his brief note, Bhatia Sahib writes that he had known Pt Mohan Lal since 1959 when The Tribune was located in Ambala. He writes that though Mohan Lalji had "remained a loyal and staunch Congressman", his observations in the book were characterised by "fearlessness".

Indeed, I found Pt Mohan Lal's account fascinating. In one chapter titled Cabinet or a Marriage Party, Panditji pens an insightful portrait of the post-1947 Punjab's iconic political personality Sardar Partap Singh Kairon. As a student of the Congress party, I read with interest the absorbing account of factionalism within the Congress, especially how Kairon outwitted Sardar Darbara Singh.

No less absorbing are the details of the fight for supremacy between Sant Fateh Singh and Master Tara Singh. As Home Minister, Pt Mohan Lal was keeping a close watch on the situation because, as he put it, "both sides collected arms and armed men in the precincts of the Golden Temple".

Reading the book, I felt that it would be good if someone were to produce a history of the recent developments in Punjab. It would be fascinating to know how the Badals have managed to establish total domination over the Akali Dal.

Mr. Harish Khare, Editor-in-Chief, The Tribune wrote about Pandit Mohan Lal Ji and his role and contribution in the rebuilding of post-independence Punjab in his weekly column KAFFEEKLATSCH dated 20.10.2015

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