

## **Independence Day Celebration (2016)**

Indraprastha College for Women celebrated India's seventieth Independence Day on Friday, August 13th, 2016. The occasion was marked by the hoisting of the Indian flag by the Principal, Dr. Babli Moitra Saraf, and a brief programme preceding it.

A third year student of the BA Program, Jagriti Chaturvedi, spoke about the distance travelled in the past seven decades since India became independent, and questioned whether we are truly free. Her speech raised questions of democracy, the importance of progress, and our conscious liberation from the chains of the past. Ritu, a second year History Honours student, spoke positively about the changes witnessed in our nation since 1947, thus taking a wide and encouraging view of how far we have come. Most strikingly, the Principal read out a letter from an alumna of the college who had been a freedom fighter and who wanted to share her experiences with the youth.

The Indian classical music society, Alaap, graced the occasion with a rousing performance of patriotic songs that left everyone moved. The final and most important ceremony was the flag-hoisting, followed by the singing of the national anthem.