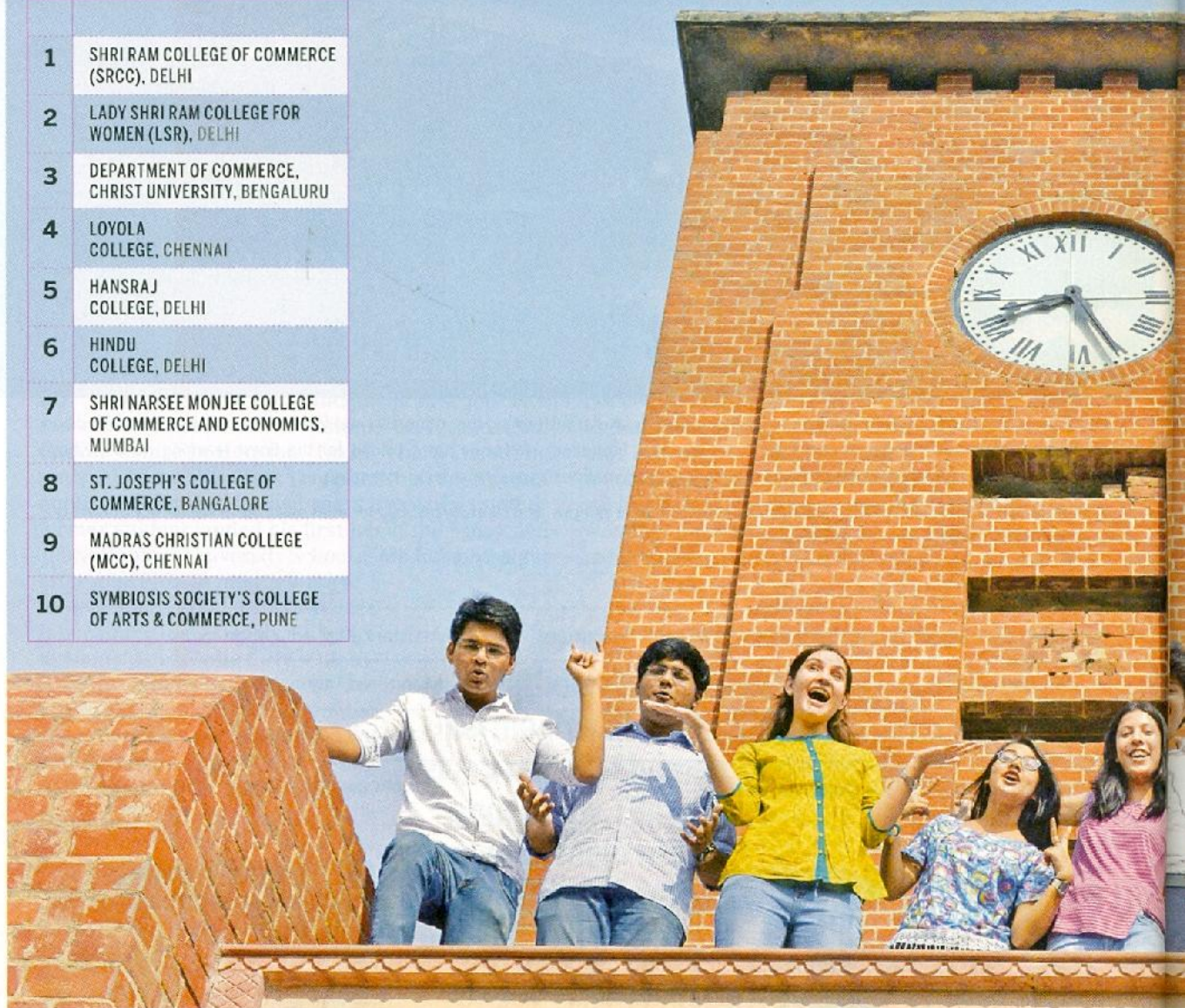




» TOP 10 »»»»

- 1 SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (SRCC), DELHI
- 2 LADY SHRI RAM COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (LSR), DELHI
- 3 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, CHRIST UNIVERSITY, BENGALURU
- 4 LOYOLA COLLEGE, CHENNAI
- 5 HANSRAJ COLLEGE, DELHI
- 6 HINDU COLLEGE, DELHI
- 7 SHRI NARSEE MONJEE COLLEGE OF COMMERCE AND ECONOMICS, MUMBAI
- 8 ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, BANGALORE
- 9 MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE (MCC), CHENNAI
- 10 SYMBIOSIS SOCIETY'S COLLEGE OF ARTS & COMMERCE, PUNE



Business IS GOOD

Shri Ram College of Commerce continues to lead with a focus on hands-on experience and a fresher perspective on education

By Shweta Punj



TOP 10

- 1 **Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi**
- 2 **Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi**
- 3 **Loyola College, Chennai**
- 4 **Department of Commerce-Christ University, Bengaluru**
- 5 **Hindu College, Delhi**
- 6 **Hansraj College, Delhi**
- 7 **Stella Maris College, Chennai**
- 8 **Symbiosis Society's College of Arts and Commerce, Pune**
- 9 **St Joseph's College of Commerce, Bengaluru**
- 10 **Mithibai College, Mumbai**

HOT TRENDS

Abhay Kumar,
Assistant Professor, SRCC

Undergraduates are now starting companies.

Bachelor of Management Studies is attracting talent. It combines the best of management and commerce degrees.

Commerce graduates are pursuing careers in development and the arts.



PLACEMENTS

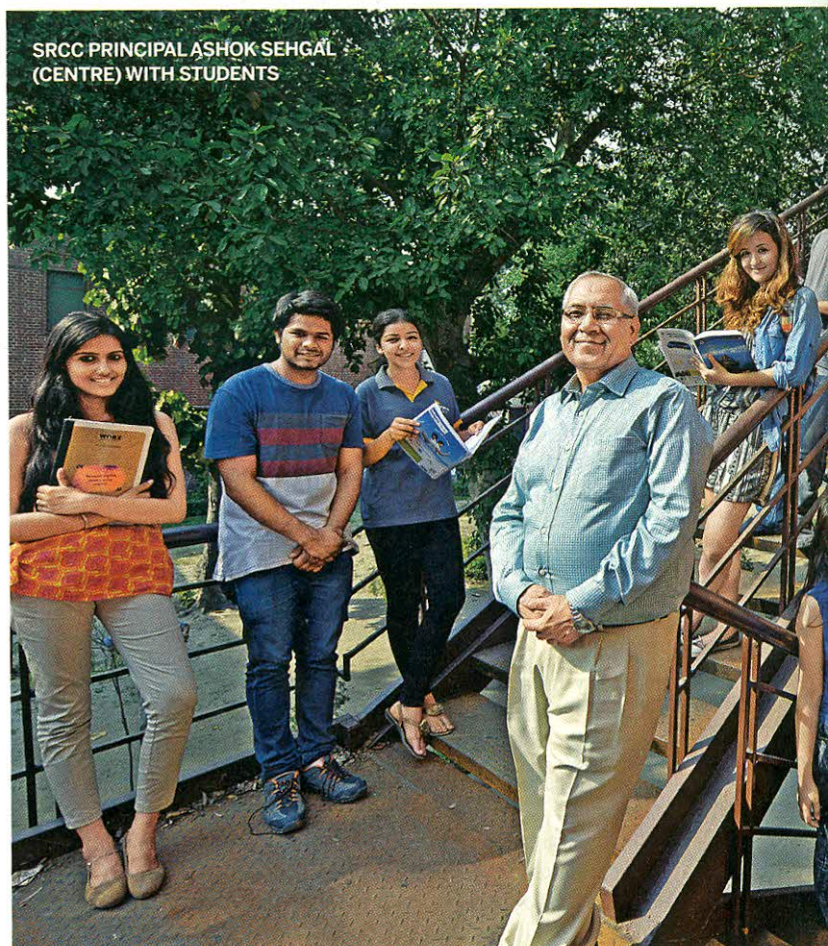
70 companies came to the campus including Deutsche Bank, Deloitte, Accenture, KPMG, McKinsey.

100% placement record.

Highest package last year—
Rs 16 lakh per annum.



NOT JUST COM



SRCC PRINCIPAL ASHOK SEHGAL (CENTRE) WITH STUDENTS

Global exposure, an enviable placement record and a focus on all-round development of students make Shri Ram College of Commerce a winner all the way

By Shweta Punj

For a 19-year-old, Mihika Sharma, a second-year economics honours student at the 83-year-old Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), comes across as extremely focused and passionate about the cause of development, breaking the perception of graduates of commerce colleges being the 'MBA types'. She says she chose SRCC for its focus on extracurricular activities. President of the SRCC chapter of

Enactus—a global not-for-profit that engages students, academics and business leaders across the world—Sharma has worked towards eradicating manual scavenging in a village close to Ghaziabad and is currently working out details for a new project that aims to bring in more efficiency in the dairy sector. "We launched 'Satwa' this year, under which we identified enterprising rural women in Karnal. These women will be trained by the National Dairy Research Institute on maximising c

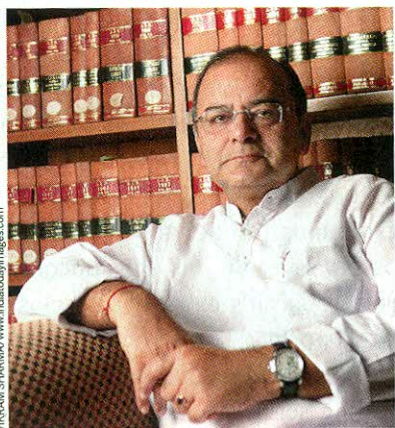
2013

INDIA'S BEST COLLEGES THE INDIA TODAY-NIELSEN SURVEY COMMERCE

SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE

Let's Talk Numbers

SRCC's reputation of steady placement rates and practical exposure makes it the top choice for commerce students



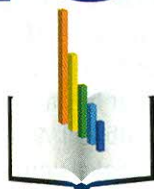
VIKRAM SHARMA/www.indiatodayimages.com

STAR ALUMNI

Arun Jaitley, 60
Class of 1973
Senior BJP leader,

"I have very fond memories of my college days at SRCC. Students don't just study modules in commerce or economics here but they are also taught the importance of personality development. The campus which is home to the only swimming pool in Delhi University and a brand new state-of-the-art auditorium also offers many opportunities for fun and extracurricular activities."

TOP 10 COLLEGES COMMERCE



- 1 Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), Delhi
- 2 Loyola College, Chennai
- 3 St. Xavier's College, Kolkata
- 4 Lady Sriram College for Women (LSR), Delhi
- 5 Christ University, Bangalore
- 6 St. Xavier's College, Mumbai
- 7 Hindu College, Delhi
- 8 Ramjas College, Delhi
- 9 Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai
- 10 Madras Christian College (MCC), Chennai

By Sonali Acharjee

Standing two feet in front of Narendra Modi," was Jhanvi Dutt's (name changed) Facebook status on February 6. Having shoved her way through a crowd of 1,800 eager students, throngs of angry protestors and eight police security checks, Dutt bagged a seat just in time to catch the keynote speech by Modi at a business conference held by her college. As she listened to Modi talk about youth, politics, Gujarat, optimism and business, the 19-year-old from Ahmedabad could not help but feel lucky to have opted for a B.Com degree from the Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), Delhi University.

"From Sunil Mittal and Abdul Kalam to Mukesh Ambani and Narendra Modi, SRCC gives students the opportunity to liaise with people

from every walk of life. This to our college and we are ve of the 100-plus events, s speeches and workshops arranged for students throu year. There is no alternative tical learning and exposure, Jain, principal of SRCC. Jain with the college for the last

Established in 1926, SRCC its present location in Delh city's North Campus in 195 the red brick building an large front lawns are an ic mark of the area and studen over the university flock to pus to catch up with friends bhel puri and fizzy banta. "W the most about SRCC is its rela going atmosphere. There an stant security checks or ov rules. You can lie on the law friends to your hostel, eat f

RAJWANT RAWAT/www.indiatodayimages.com

Not Strictly Business

Hansraj College is the big gainer at fifth spot. But there's no beating Shri Ram College of Commerce

By Shravya Jain

TOP 10 COLLEGES

	2012	2011	2010
>>	1 Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	2
>>	2 St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	2	1
^	3 Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	4	4
v	4 Loyola College, Chennai	3	3
^	5 Hansraj College, Delhi	10	6
v	6 Christ University*, Bangalore	5	5
v	7 Shri Narsee Monjee College of Commerce & Economics, Mumbai	6	12
^	8 Madras Christian College, Chennai	9	11
^	9 Hindu College, Delhi	11	-
^	10 Stella Maris College, Chennai	12	-

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked.

*Christ College was renamed Christ University in 2008 after being given deemed university status.

If there is one college that can get away with having a chip on its shoulder, it is Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC). Offering just two undergraduate courses, in BCom and economics, this institute has for years attracted the cream of the crop and maintained its premier position in the commerce stream.

"Ours is a college that takes academics seriously and is committed to providing students with the right infrastructure to promote learning," says P.C. Jain, SRCC principal. He also prefers to let results do most of the

talking. In 2011, the top ranks in BCom and economics in Delhi University (DU) went to SRCC students as did the top 14 ranks in the first year of BCom. No wonder the college has secured a perfect 10 for quality of academic input, care, infrastructure and placement opportunities in the INDIAN Nielsen best colleges survey 2012.

At number two, St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, got an overall score of 9.5. Although SRCC falls under the purview of DU, its style of functioning is different from other colleges affiliated to DU. For one, it places emphasis on helping students

REUBEN SINGH/www.indiatodayimages.com



2011

BEST COLLEGES

INDIA'S

Commerce

An industry-oriented curriculum and exceptional infrastructure push Shri Ram College of Commerce to the top, displacing St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, after a year-long gap

TOP 10 COLLEGES

2011	2010	2009
1 Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	2	1
2 St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	1	2
3 Loyola College, Chennai	3	3
4 Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	4	5
5 Christ College, Bangalore	5	4
6 Shri Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai	12	10
7 Symbiosis Society's College of Arts and Commerce, Pune	7	6
8 R.A. Podar College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai	14	12
9 Madras Christian College, Chennai	11	14
10 Hansraj College, Delhi	6	9

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked. Faculties were not considered.

NINETY-ONE AND NOT DONE

In early 1920, seven leading businessmen from Delhi established the Commercial Education Trust and Commercial School became the first school to be set up under it. The school introduced a post-matriculation diploma programme in commerce under the supervision of R.K. Kumar, who later became the first principal of Commercial College, after its affiliation to the University of Delhi in 1926. In 1932, the college was upgraded to the status of a degree college. In 1951, it converted itself into one specialising in commerce and economics streams. It was also rechristened as SRCC.

By Deepshikha Punj

Shrey Gupta, 21, landed a Rs 39 lakh annual package at Deutsche Bank as an investment banker last year. Gupta, a third year (Hons) student of the Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), University of Delhi, was among the lucky ones picked for campus placement by investment and consultancy behemoths such as Citigroup, Deutsche Bank, Future First, McKinsey, Deloitte and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Annual packages can zoom up to Rs 36 lakh and even the average salary is Rs 10.5 lakh per year. Which explains why SRCC topped the INDIA TODAY-Nielsen Best Colleges Survey in commerce, followed by St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, and Loyola College, Chennai.

For P.C. Jain, principal, SRCC, such honours are a routine. Every year, Jain bids goodbye to several hundred students, receives thousands of stellar applications for admission and selects the best among them. But this year, because of the change in admission procedure, only those who could apply earlier were eligible. The college was able to admit 640 students in commerce and 148 in economics.

"For the past 40 years, we have been striving to bring commerce education at par with the medicine and engineering courses. When we announced the 100 per cent cut off, we knew we would be able to fit the bill," says Jain. This year's cut off for admission into the commerce stream was 100 per cent. For non-commerce students was 100 per cent. Although it came as a shock for many, SRCC received a record number of applications even before the cut off was announced. This time, the college admitted a record 413 students for its two courses.

The college now aims to provide a more international experience to its students at the undergraduate level. Jain calls this "a more industry-oriented approach." Apart from regular classes, SRCC organises regular industry visits and invites corporates for interactive sessions with students. Mehak Nanner, a third year commerce student says, "We had a video conference with Citibank CEO Vikram Pandit this year. It gave us the advantages of working in the commerce industry." The college has a 1:12 teacher-student ratio and 108 faculty members. Also, all the classes

Commerce

A distinctive curriculum and excellent infrastructure take St. Xavier's College to the top of the table, displacing long-time leader Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi, even as new colleges join the league of toppers

TOP 10 COLLEGES

	2010		2009	2008
▲	1	St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	2	3
▼	2	Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	1
>>	3	Loyola College, Chennai	3	2
▲	4	Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	5	4
▼	5	Christ College, Bangalore	4	6
▲	6	Hansraj College, Delhi	9	14
▼	7	Symbiosis Society's College of Arts & Commerce, Pune	6	5
★	8	KPB Hinduja College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai	11	13
★	9	Mount Carmel College, Bangalore	13	12
▼	10	St. Joseph's College, Bangalore	7	9

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked. Faculties were not considered. ★ New entrants in Top 10



SUBIR HALDAR/www.indiatodayimages.com

By Nandini Vaish

For lakhs of students, June is perhaps the exciting and challenging month. That's when colleges open their gates to admission in undergraduate courses and there is virtually a deluge of students rushing in to pick up application forms.

For Rev J. Felix Raj SJ, the principal of St. Xavier's College, Kolkata, it's a sense of déjà vu. Every year hundreds of students swamp his office with all kinds of queries for admission, particularly commerce. Why not? With its huge campus, meritorious student body, interactive staff, St. Xavier's is a preferential option for admission for undergraduates. This year, in fact, it has been ranked No. 1 for commerce, displacing hot favourite Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), Delhi, which has been leading for 12 years.

"It's the students and staff members, popularly known as the Xaverians, who have moved the spirit of St. Xavier's College that makes it to the top at the undergraduate level," says Raj SJ. "As an autonomous college, our

2009

COVER STORY

INDIA'S **BEST** COLLEGES THE INDIA TODAY-NIELSEN SURVEY

COMMERCE

A sharp focus on academics and infrastructural development has helped Delhi's Shri Ram College of Commerce retain its number one spot yet again. A host of new colleges join the toppers.

TOP **10** COLLEGES

	2009	2008	2007
>> 1	Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	1
⤴ 2	St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	3	4
⤵ 3	Loyola College, Chennai	2	3
⤴ 4	Christ College, Bangalore	6	5
⤵ 5	Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	4	2
⤵ 6	Symbiosis Society's College of Arts and Commerce, Pune	5	7
⤴ 7	St. Joseph's College of Commerce, Bangalore	9	9
⤴ 8	Stella Maris College, Chennai	10	14
☀ 9	Hansraj College, Delhi	14	10
☀ 10	Shri Narsee Monjee College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai	11	12

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked. Faculties were not considered.

☀ New entrants in the Top 10.



SRCC STAYS AHEAD WITH FOCUS ON BOTH STUDIES AND ALL-ROUND DEVELOPMENT



PRINCIPALS SPEAK **P.C. Jain**, Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi

“At SRCC we try not to produce just toppers but those who lead societies with organisational, motivational and fund mobilisation skills.”

COMMERCE

For the 12th year in a row, Delhi's Shri Ram College of Commerce retains its top slot, while St Xavier's, Kolkata, moves to No. 3 and Stella Maris, Chennai, enters the elite group of toppers at No. 10

TOP >>> 10 COLLEGES

2008

2007 2006

1	Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	1
2	Loyola College, Chennai	3	3
3	St Xavier's College, Kolkata	4	4
4	Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	2	7
5	Symbiosis Society's College of Arts & Commerce, Pune	7	6
6	Christ College, Bangalore	5	-
7	Presidency College, Chennai	8	9
8	Madras Christian College, Chennai	6	-
9	St Joseph's College, Bangalore	9	8
NEW 10	Stella Maris College, Chennai	-	-

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked.

* New entrants in the Top 10. (-) Not ranked in the Top 10.

■ By Shruti Maheshwari

No surprises here. Delhi's Sri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) seems unshakeable from the top slot, having maintained its hegemony for the 12th year in a row. The movement of the other colleges has been more or less static in the top 10. However, that is not to say that there have been no great gainers or losers. Stella Maris, Chennai, has broken into the top 10, overthrowing Delhi's Hansraj College which is now at No.14. H.R. College of Commerce and Economics, Mumbai, has gained seven slots to rise to 15. Among those which are being featured for the first time in the hallowed circles of excellence are Jyothi Nivas College, Bangalore, at number 19, Bharati Vidyapeeth College, Pune, at 28, followed by M.S. Ramaiah College of Arts, Science and Commerce at 29. Two new entrants from Delhi University—Gargi College at 35 and Ramjas at 41—are some of the prominent movers. Others are Women's Christian College, Chennai, at 38, Sheshadri College of Bangalore at 42 and Maharaja College, Kochi, at 46.

SRCC Principal P.C. Jain is anything but sanguine about his record for the highest number of 'No. 1s' in the commerce stream in INDIA TODAY'S Best Colleges survey. If anything, it's a source of anxiety that keeps a worried principal on his toes. Just back from Guwahati where he was sent to by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to supervise setting up of commerce colleges, he says, "Last year, I toured commerce colleges around the country to see if I could pick up anything from them and improve in any way. It's not easy to stay on the top once you've reached there." Back home, the college governing body will be pumping in Rs 50 crore over the next two years to provide some enviable in-

frastructure—a wi-fi-enabled campus, air-conditioned classrooms equipped with LCD screens, laptops for students, a new hostel for girls, even sensors in the toilets to prevent loss of water. To make all this possible, some star alumni like Arun Jaitley, Jyotsna Suri, Pramod Bhasin, Analjit Singh, Atul Punj and Rajiv Memani are donating a minimum of Rs 6 lakh each.

If that doesn't make SRCC the toast of the Delhi University, there's more. To begin with, a Rs 23-crore stadium is being constructed in the back lawns, courtesy the Commonwealth Games fund. To make the most fundamental difference to teaching and learning experience, the distinguished faculty includes G.K. Ahuja and V.K. Singhania who make more than Rs 1 crore each in consultancy every year. Others like V.K. Kapoor, Dr C.V. Gupta and J.R. Monga are among the many who make



PRINCIPAL SPEAK P.C. JAIN, SRCC, DELHI



"WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT QUALITY and want to create our own model institution which sets a benchmark for others."

2007

COMMERCE

SRCC remains paramount for the 11th year running, LSR moves up, while three new colleges enter the honours list

TOP 10 COLLEGES

	2007	2006
◀▶	1 SRCC, Delhi	1
▲	2 LSR, Delhi	7
◀▶	3 Loyola College, Chennai	3
◀▶	4 St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	4
★	5 Christ College, Bangalore	11
★	6 Madras Christian College, Chennai	-
▼	7 Symbiosis Society's College of Arts & Commerce, Pune	6
▲	8 Presidency College, Chennai	9
▼	9 St. Joseph's College, Bangalore	8
★	10 Hansraj College, Delhi	15

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked. ★ New entrants in Top 10. (–) Not ranked in the 2006 Top 20.

■ By Shruti Maheshwari

It was not for nothing that President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam passed on the responsibility for developing creative leadership of the country to Delhi's prestigious Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) when he visited the college this March.

SRCC has put a final seal on its supremacy in the field of education in business and commerce by securing the top slot in the survey for the 11th year running, ahead of Lady Sri Ram College, Delhi and Loyola College, Chennai. In what was a dramatic shift in the commerce stream this time, the

Christ College of Bangalore found itself moving up from No. 11 last year to No. 5 this year, a feat accomplished by improved scores on curriculum and other major parameters.

Veritably, SRCC has proved itself to be a bastion for commerce and business management over the past eight decades. Apart from its 25 modest classrooms, the college is also unpretentious about the kind of power its alumni wield—they are industry captains, senior bureaucrats, journalists and political top dogs. Students from SRCC consistently top at the university level. This year, the first three toppers for Commerce at the university level were from SRCC. Besides, a large number of students cleared the exams

conducted by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) while some of them made it to the IAS as well.

"The difference that we make to students here," says Principal P.C. Jain, "is to groom them to become global entrepreneurs and not just managers employed in any other organisation." Not surprisingly, SRCC graduates think of starting their own organisation before they can even land their first job and get results. "We try to inculcate ethics and values because that is what sustains organisations in the long run," adds Jain.

The stress on values is also reflected in some new ventures being undertaken by the college. PURA or Providing Urban Facilities in Rural



Commerce

FLYING HIGH: Jubilant students on the SRCC campus

TOP 10

Delhi's Shri Ram College of Commerce tops again, while four colleges make high-flying debuts

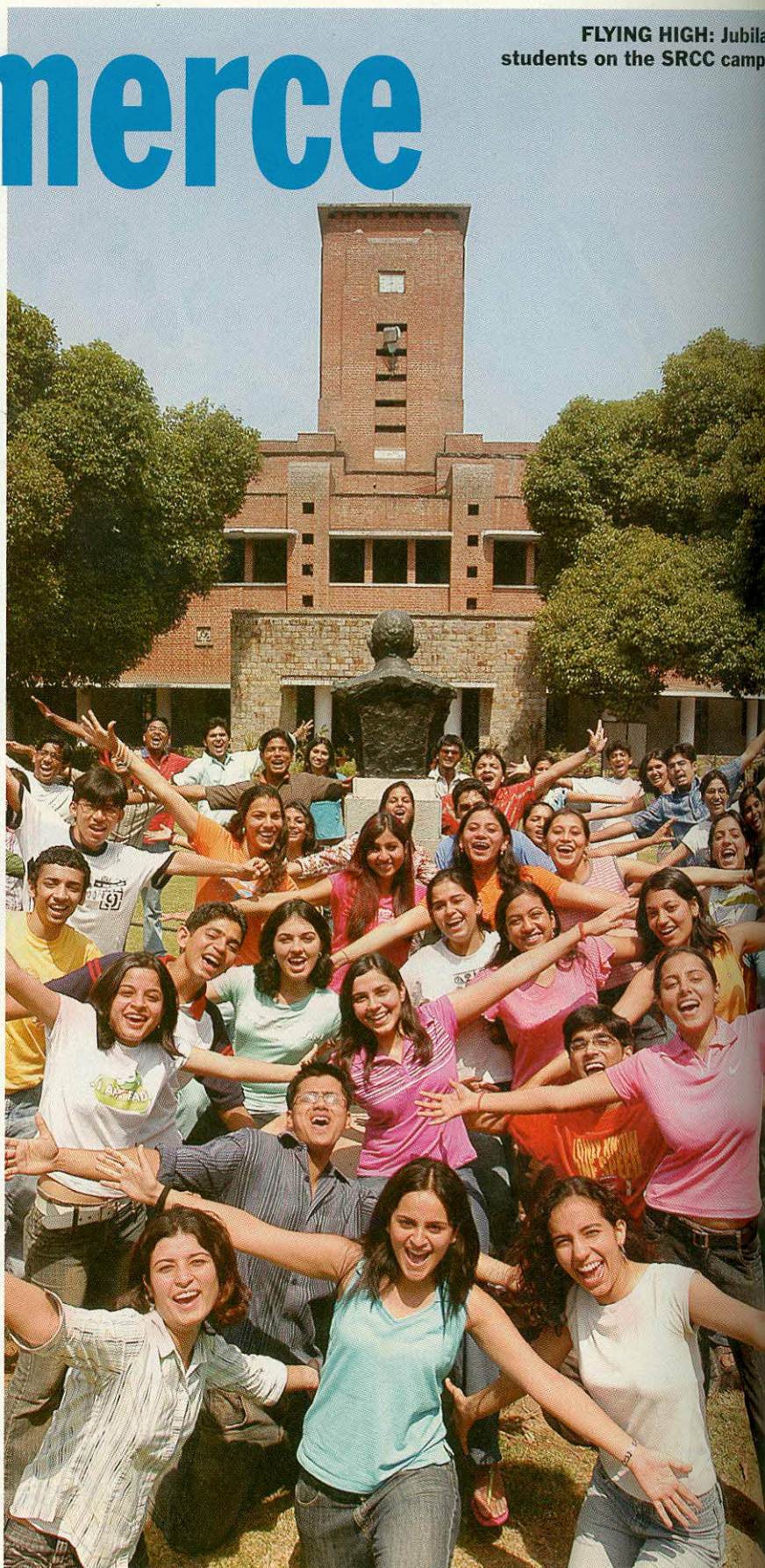
	2006	2005
◆	1 SRCC, Delhi	1
◆	2 St. Xavier's College, Mumbai	2
▲	3 Loyola College, Chennai	8
◆	4 St. Xavier's College, Kolkata	4
★	5 Narsee Monjee College, Mumbai	-
★	6 Symbiosis, Pune	-
▽	7 LSR College for Women, Delhi	5
★	8 St. Joseph's College, Bangalore	-
★	9 Presidency College, Chennai	-
▽	10 BM College, Pune	3

National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual scores. Colleges that did not provide factual information were not ranked. (★) Not ranked in the 2005 Top 10.

citywise ranking

Delhi	Mumbai
1 SRCC	1 St. Xavier's College
2 LSR College for Women	2 Narsee Monjee College
3 Hindu College	3 RA Poddar College
4 Hans Raj College	4 Sydenham College
5 Jesus & Mary College	5 HR College
Kolkata	Chennai
1 St. Xavier's College	1 Loyola College
2 Goenka College	2 Presidency College
3 Shivnath Shastri College	3 Ethiraj College
4 Shri Shikshayatan College	4 Pachaiyappa's College
5 City College	5 Stella Maris College
Bangalore	
1 St. Joseph's College	4 SBMJ College
2 Christ College	5 NMRV
3 Mount Carmel	

Based on perceptual scores



BANDEEP SINGH

SUMEET INDER SINGH

Top 10 New entrants make waves on the list but Delhi's Shri Ram College of Commerce continues its domination

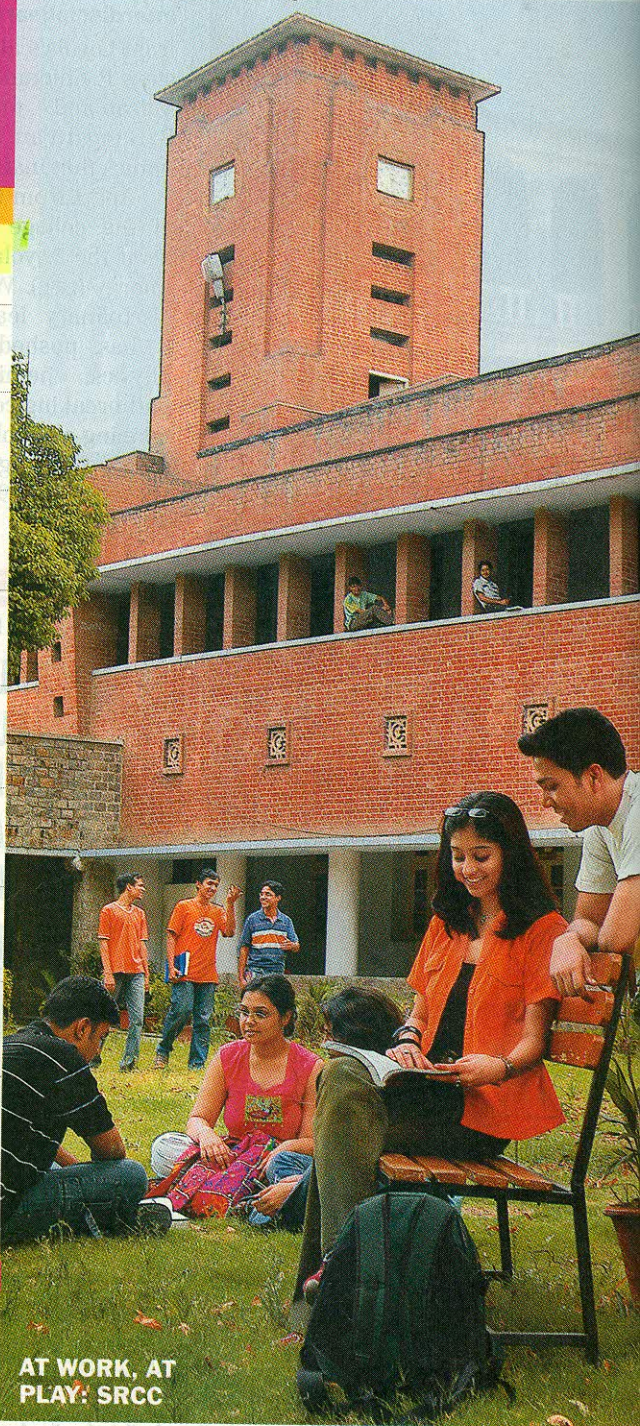
COMMERCE

	2005	2004	2003
1	Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	1
2	St Xavier's College, Mumbai	5	2
3	BM College of Commerce, Pune	-	-
4	St Xavier's College, Kolkata	3	3
5	Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi	6	5
6	Hindu College, Delhi	7	-
7	Hans Raj College, Delhi	-	-
8	Loyola College, Chennai	4	4
9	Bhavan's College, Mumbai	-	-
10	Dr Ambedkar College, Pune	-	-

(-) means the colleges didn't figure in the top 10 of the previous years mentioned. National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual ranks. The city-wise ratings below are based on perceptual ranks alone.

CITY-WISE RANKING

Delhi	Chennai	Kolkata	Mumbai	Bangalore
1. SRCC	1. Loyola	1. St Xavier's	1. St Xavier's	1. St Joseph's
2. Lady Shri Ram	2. Stella Maris	2. City College	2. Bhavan's	2. Christ College
3. Hindu College	3. MCC	3. Goenka College	3. RA Poddar	3. NMKRV College
4. Hans Raj	4. Ethiraj	4. Shri Shikshayatan	4. KJ Somaiya	4. Mount Carmel
5. Indraprastha	5. Meenakshi	5. Sivanath Sastri	5. Mulund College	5. MES College



AT WORK, AT PLAY: SRCC

By Sushmita Choudhury

When Heraclitus, the Greek philosopher, wrote change was constant, he certainly did not take Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) into account. For the ninth time in a row, the Delhi college occupies the top slot. But he was right about the rest. Two new players from

Pune, BM College of Commerce and Dr Ambedkar College, join the big 10 for the first time and two others, Delhi's Hans Raj and Bhavan's of Mumbai, stage a return after a long gap.

SRCC, however, is not smug about its achievements: an excellent faculty, infrastructure and illustrious alumni—right from politician Arun Jaitley to Pramod Bhasin, president and CEO of

Gesis. Big plans are being drafted for the college's five-year-old postgraduate course in Global Business Operations (GBO), which is much in demand and has a separate entrance test. The course's USP? While IIMS and the other top B-schools—except Delhi's FMS—offer only a postgraduate diploma certificate in GBO, SRCC offers a degree course. And the takers are not com-

Commerce

THERE IS NO SHAKING THE TOPPER SRCC, NOT EVEN BY NEW ENTRANTS MAKING A SPLASH

Top 10 Ranking

2004		2003	2002
1	◀ Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	1	1
2	▲ Presidency College, Chennai	7	9
3	◀ St Xavier's College, Kolkata	3	2
4	◀ Loyola College, Chennai	4	4
5	▼ St Xavier's College, Mumbai	2	3
6	▼ Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi	5	5
7	▲ Hindu College, Delhi	-	-
8	▲ Dept of Commerce, Osmania Univ, Hyderabad	-	6
9	▲ K.J. Somaiya College, Mumbai	-	-
10	▼ Madras Christian College, Chennai	8	7

(-) means the colleges didn't figure in the top 10 of the previous years mentioned. National rankings are derived from a combination of perceptual and factual ranks. The city-wise ratings below are based on perceptual ranks alone.

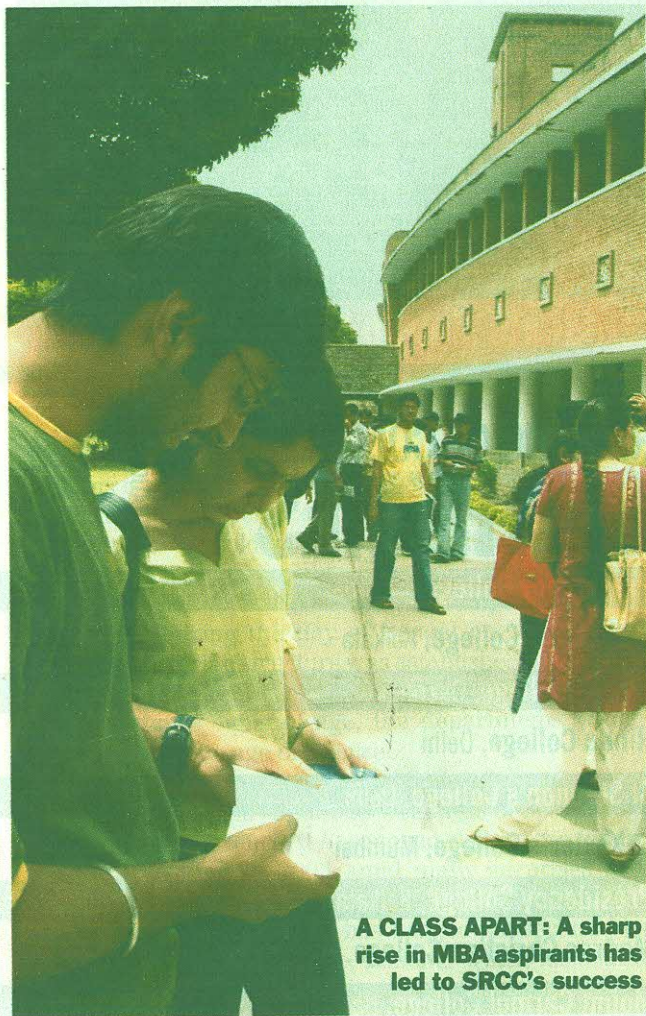
CITY-WISE RANKING

Delhi	Chennai	Kolkata	Mumbai	Bangalore
1. SRCC	1. Presidency	1. St Xavier's	1. St Xavier's	1. Christ College
2. Lady Shri Ram	2. Loyola College	2. City Col. of Comm.	2. K.J. Somaiya	2. Mount Carmel
3. Hindu College	3. Madras Christian	3. Goenka College	3. R.A. Poddar	3. St Joseph's
4. Indraprastha	4. Stella Maris	4. Shri Shikshayatan	4. Hinduja	4. M.A. Ramaiah
5. Jesus & Mary	5. Ethiraj College	5. Sivanth Sastri	5. Bhavan's	5. Oxford Degree

By Malini Goyal

This success story comes with pedigree. Virtually every year, the students of this college hog the top 10 ranks at the Delhi University exams. Last year, 20 of them went on to premier B-schools, including the IIMs, while others were whisked away by the bluest of blue-chip companies. In keeping with the rich tradition, the 77-year-old Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) has been rated, for the eighth time in a row, as the No. 1 commerce college in the survey.

It has hardly mattered to SRCC that there have been significant shifts otherwise in the top 10 bracket. Presidency, Chennai, which was at No. 7 in 2003 has climbed to No. 2 replacing St Xavier's, Mumbai, which has slipped to the fifth position. Major gains have also been made by the



A CLASS APART: A sharp rise in MBA aspirants has led to SRCC's success

Photographs by BANDEEP SINGH

Students from other colleges also often attend SRCC's famed tutorials.

2003

commerce

SRCC continues its unsurpassed run at the top slot, while Mumbai's Xavier's is the second best

THERE IS NOTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY ABOUT THE look of the college. Located in the heart of Delhi University, the 77-year-old Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC) is like any other building on the dusty, ill-kept campus with a narrow, pebbled lane leading to it through a slip door. It is vacation time and the spartan classrooms seem all the more forlorn.

But come July and the deserted college will transform itself into a riot of colour. As thousands of students fresh out of school throng the campus and jostle for admissions, it is evident that there is more to SRCC than its sombre environs.

Indeed this college, which has now retained its first position in the survey for four years in a row, has set for itself a very high standard. Despite the rush of aspirants, only the creme-de-la-creme are eventually admitted. Last year, the cut-off percentage was as high as 90.5 per cent for the commerce course. This year will be no different. Says N. Chinmayi, a second year commerce student from Rourkela, who got in with 94 per cent: "It was like a dream come true."

That is no exaggeration. Once the students are in, they know that the star faculty has it all charted out for them. Churning out university toppers is routine here. Just as getting them qualified for the premier B-schools is. Says principal J.L.Gupta: "We have a

very distinguished and illustrious faculty, the best in the country."

A seasoned professor himself, Gupta has had a varied and impressive track record of over 36 years of teaching in India as well as abroad. A graduate of Allahabad University, he joined SRCC in 1966 as a lecturer and continued for 17 years with stints at foreign universities thrown in. Subsequently, he was picked up by the National Institute of Bank Management in Pune. But when the job offer as SRCC principal came, he could not resist. "Despite the lower salary, the challenging job and the charm of Delhi brought me back," he says.

One of the things that he aggressively pursued after taking over is to add an MBA degree to the courses offered at SRCC. For a college specialising in commerce and economics, it is a logical expansion but the proposal met with stiff opposition from the university as the Faculty of Management Studies is already offering a similar degree. Gupta's persistence finally paid off with the introduction of the Global Business Oper-

Overall Ranking

2003		2002	2001	2000
1	Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi	↔	1	1
2	St Xavier's College, Mumbai	↑	3	5
3	St Xavier's College, Kolkata	↓	2	2
4	Loyola College, Chennai	↔	4	11
5	Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi	↔	5	8
6	Pragathi Mahavidyalaya, Hyderabad	↑	-	-
7	Presidency College, Chennai	↑	9	3
8	Madras Christian College, Chennai	↓	7	4
9	Christian College, Lucknow	↑	30	-
10	Stella Maris College, Chennai	↑	22	-

J.L. GUPTA, Principal, Shri Ram College of Commerce:

CITY-WISE RANKING

Delhi	Bangalore	Chennai	Hyderabad	Kolkata	Lucknow	Mumbai	Pune
SRCC	St Joseph's	Loyola	Pragathi	St Xavier's	Christian Col	St Xavier's	Symbiosis
Lady Shri Ram	Mount Carmel	Presidency	Nizam's	City College	National	R A Poddar	Wadia
Hansraj	Christ College	MCC	IIMC	Goenka	Lucknow Univ	KJ Somaiya	ME Society's
Hindu College	Vijaya College	Stella Maris	Andhra Mahila	Sivnath Sastri		Narsee Monji	Ambedkar
Duval Ram	Jyothinivas	Ethiraj				Elphinstone	Fergusson



2002

COMMERCE



Brilliant chartered accountants and multinational executives, able bureaucrats and politicians—old favourite SRCC doesn't stop churning them out by the dozen

TOP 10 COLLEGES

- ① **SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, Delhi, 2001 (1), 2000 (1)**
- ② **ST XAVIER'S COLLEGE, Kolkata, 2001 (2), 2000 (4)**
- ③ **ST XAVIER'S COLLEGE, Mumbai, 2001 (5), 2000 (2)**
- ④ **LOYOLA COLLEGE, Chennai, 2001 (11), 2000 (-)**
- ⑤ **LADY SHRI RAM COLLEGE, Delhi, 2001 (8), 2000 (6)**
- ⑥ **OSMANIA UNIVERSITY, Hyderabad, 2001 (-), 2000 (-)**
- ⑦ **MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Chennai, 2001 (4), 2000 (8)**
- ⑧ **R.A. PODDAR COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, Mumbai, 2001 (5), 2000 (-)**
- ⑨ **PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, Chennai, 2001 (3), 2000 (3)**
- ⑩ **IIMC, Hyderabad, 2001 (28), 2000 (-)**

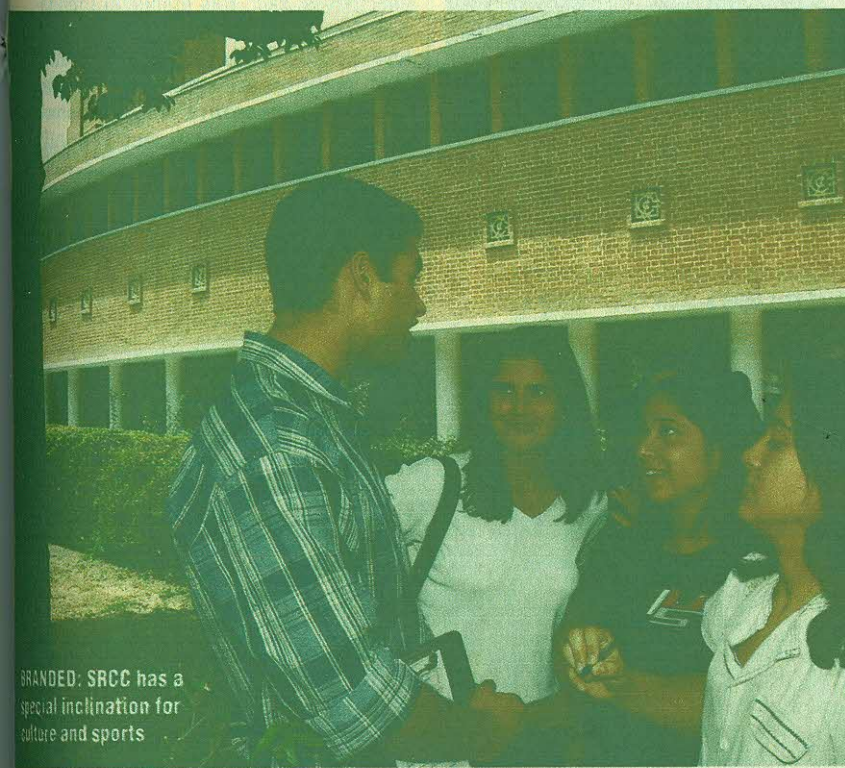
Figures in brackets denote previous years' ranking

by Methil RENUKA

A commerce college with a triple A-rated blue chip brand name, the Shri Ram College of Commerce (SRCC), Delhi, is basking in the afterglow of its platinum jubilee celebrations—it turned 75 last year amid a shower of bright sparks like former students Arun Jaitley, the Union law and company affairs minister, and television host Rajat Sharma who came to bond with the present batches.

The special occasion apart, Professor J.L. Gupta, who has been the principal for the past 17 years, hopes the serious student will "forgive" the "little problems" that make its exteriors less than inspiring. The scrubby, dust-filled space in front was once intended as a lawn; water shortage and, of course, the regular power cuts make the less fortunate label it "SR chee chee". But it is the stringent admission criteria, not compromised through years of "immense pressure" that, according to the principal, make it the mecca for those who aspire to great things.

SRCC's vital stats are highly impressive. To begin with, the college has maintained the top slot in Commerce in the INDIA TODAY-Gallup survey for the sixth consecutive year. It is among the few colleges in India that routinely sends students to the Indian Institutes of Management by the dozen. Management guru Shiv Khera and the late NASSCOM president Dewang Mehta are among its contributions to the business world. Its students make preferred recruits for accountancy and consultancy firms like Price-Waterhouse-Coopers, KPMG and McKinsey. And their contribution to



BRANDED: SRCC has a special inclination for culture and sports

BANDEEP SINGH

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Commerce: Ranking by key factors

	Academic Input	Reputation	Student care	Curriculum	Infrastructure	Admission	Job/Placement	Rank in 2000	Rank in 1999
SHRI RAM COLLEGE, Delhi	1	1	3	1	8	1	2	1	1
ST XAVIER'S, Kolkata	5	3	2	4	2	6	1	4	2
PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, Chennai	4	4	7	2	3	2	4	3	-
MADRAS CHRISTIAN, Chennai	6	2	5	6	5	3	9	8	-
R.A. PODDAR COLLEGE, Mumbai	3	5	6	5	4	4	7	-	6
ST XAVIER'S, Mumbai	2	6	1	3	1	10	10	2	3
ELPHINSTONE COLLEGE, Mumbai	7	8	4	7	7	9	6	-	-
LADY SHRI RAM COLLEGE, Delhi	8	7	8	8	10	7	8	6	10
STELLA MARIS COLLEGE, Chennai	10	10	9	10	6	5	3	-	-
BHAVAN'S, Mumbai	9	9	10	9	9	8	5	-	-

H.K. RAJASHEKHAR



BLUE CHIP: SRCC (left) continues to be the top career launcher; MCC is catching up

IDBI chairman G.P. Gupta and Tony Singh, head of Max New York Life, are among those who have studied here.

Some rival colleges, however, remain unconvinced. Anil Kumar, a B.Com professor in Hindu College, says, "They are living

off the reputation that they have built over the past 25-30 years when no other colleges offered BCom (Hons)." Now everyone does, but that does not appear to be telling on SRCC. The results of the survey speak for themselves. ■

DELHI

- 1) Shri Ram College of Commerce
- 2) Lady Shri Ram
- 3) Hans Raj
- 4) Hindu
- 5) Indraprastha

MUMBAI

- 1) R.A. Poddar
- 2) St Xavier's
- 3) Elphinstone
- 4) Bhavan's
- 5) Vivekananda

CHENNAI

- 1) Presidency
- 2) Madras Christian
- 3) Stella Maris
- 4) Loyola
- 5) Queen Mary's

KOLKATA

- 1) St Xavier's
- 2) Goenka
- 3) City College
- 4) Shri Shikshayatan

BANGALORE

- 1) St Joseph's
- 2) Mount Carmel
- 3) Christ College
- 4) MES
- 5) Jyothi Nivas

HYDERABAD

- 1) Nizam's
- 2) Indian Institute of Management and Commerce
- 3) St Paul's
- 4) AV College
- 5) Badruka

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COMMERCE

TOPPER: SRCC, DELHI

BANDEEP SINGH



Each year, goes the lore, chartered accountants who are srcc alumni, save taxes equivalent to the Indian GDP. And how do they do it? As principal J.L. Gupta puts it: "The focus is to get two things right—get the best students and the finest faculty." But getting into this niche college (it mainly offers courses in commerce and economics) is one of the toughest things to achieve. The only college in the country which boasts of a placement cell that attracts as many blue-chip companies as any business school. In fact, last year it launched its own business school and the buzz is that it is going to give a tough competition to the IIMs. The srcc alumni includes I&B Minister Arun Jaitley, Standard Chartered Bank CEO Tony Singh and IDBI chief G.P. Gupta, among others.

COLLEGES
Ranking in 2000

Ranking in 2000	Academic input	Reputation	Curriculum	Infra-structure	Student care	Admission procedure	Job placements	Earlier rank 1999	Earlier rank 1998
1. SRCC, Delhi	1	7	1	3	2	6	1	1	1
2. St Xavier's, Mumbai	4	1	6	2	6	5	7	3	-
3. Presidency College, Chennai	7	8	2	1	4	3	6	-	-
4. St Xavier's, Calcutta	2	6	7	5	3	9	4	2	4
5. Hans Raj College, Delhi	3	9	3	4	7	2	2	-	-
6. Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi	6	3	4	7	8	4	3	10	-
7. Loyola College, Chennai	8	4	8	6	1	8	8	4	2
8. MCC, Chennai	9	2	5	8	9	7	5	-	-
9. Hindu College, Delhi	5	10	9	9	10	1	9	-	4

Among the commerce colleges, srcc, Delhi, is ranked the first on academic input, curriculum and placement opportunities. Hindu College, Delhi, has topped on admission procedure. It deserves a special mention as it is ranked 9 or 10 on almost all other parameters except quality of academic input. Also, as several colleges tied for the 10th position, the listing has been left out.

86 per cent, Commerce: 80 per cent

Remains a leader in political science. Has good clubs and co-curricular activities.

I

IIT, Chennai (Est: 1958) Address: Sardar Patel Road, Chennai - 600036 **Tel:** 4458000
Seats: 1,660 **Cut off:** Entrance exam

IIT, Delhi (Est: 1962) Address: Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016 **Website:** www.iitd.ernet.in

The IIT edge apart, it stands out for its innovative "venture incubation" programmes and alumni funding.

IIT, Kanpur (Est: 1960) Address: Kalyanpur, Kanpur **e-mail:** director@iitk.ac.in
Seats: 450

There's no hierarchy here: senior professors attend classes taught by young assistants.

Has slipped from its No.1 position but it remains a trendsetter.

IIT, Kharagpur (Est:1950) Address: Kharagpur, West Bengal - 721302 **Tel:** 55221
e-mail: jee@hiji.iitkgp.ernet.in

IIT, Powai (Est: 1958) Address: Powai, Mumbai - 400076 **Tel:** 5782545 **e-mail:** pro@cci.itb.ernet.in

Indian Institute of Management & Commerce, Hyderabad (Est: 1973) Address: 6-1-91, Khairatabad, Hyderabad - 500 004 **Tel:** 3237902 **e-mail:** iimc_hyd@123india.com **Seats:** BCom (Honours): 80, Computers: 40 **Cut-off:** 60 per cent

Indraprastha College, Delhi (Est: 1925) Address: University of Delhi, Delhi - 110007 **Tel:** 3954085 **Seats:** 560
Cut-off: Arts: 85 per cent, Science: 88 per cent, Commerce: 82 per cent

TOP



AS COLLEGES ACROSS THE COUNTRY GIRD UP TO TAKE IN ANOTHER BATCH OF STUDENTS, AN INDIA TODAY-GALLUP MBA POLL IDENTIFIES THE CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

COLLEGE

THIS IS THE SEASON OF HIGH anxiety and frantic trips. Across India, families of more than fifty lakh high-school students will spend time visiting old colonial red-brick structures called college campuses. There—as the days dwindle down to a precious few before the last date—these students and their families will struggle to identify the right college that will bestow upon them a pedigree ensuring success in life. It won't be easy. As students scurry around with a gnawing fear that an incorrect choice could ruin their future, the hustle and bustle of the admission process smacks them between the eyes. Overcrowded corridors, multi-coloured forms, harried counsellors, differing admission rules—everything suddenly seems to swirl around in an indifferent haze.

That's where we come in. After three years of compiling the country's only ranking system for colleges, we take pride in becoming an authority on ranking colleges. The trouble in India is that we are besieged with colleges that are mired in mediocrity. After all, there are almost 250 universities and about 10,000 colleges to choose from. But which are the ones that are centres of excellence—and how do you go about establishing they are the best? Grading quality, one quickly learns, is about as easy as particle physics. A classic case of failure is the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, set up five years ago to grade quality. It worked out a variety of impressive criteria: goals and objectives, curriculum design, teacher assessment, financial resources, consultancies and extension activities and student feedback. Sadly, more than half the universities they sought to rank, did not even respond.

In 1997, INDIA TODAY made the first landmark attempt to identify the top 10 centres of excellence in India. By our standards today, that poll was simplistic: a total of 145 principals were

ARTS

1. ST STEPHEN'S, Delhi
2. PRESIDENCY, Calcutta
3. ST XAVIER'S, Mumbai
4. ST XAVIER'S, Calcutta
5. LOYOLA, Chennai
6. LADY SHRI RAM, Delhi
7. MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Chennai
8. HINDU, Delhi
9. BRABOURNE, Calcutta
10. PRESIDENCY, Chennai

SCIENCE

1. ST STEPHEN'S, Delhi
2. PRESIDENCY, Calcutta
3. ST XAVIER'S, Mumbai
4. LOYOLA, Chennai
5. ST XAVIER'S, Calcutta
6. HINDU, Delhi
7. PRESIDENCY, Chennai
8. ST JOSEPH'S, Bangalore
9. MADRAS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Chennai
10. RUIA COLLEGE, Mumbai

COMMERCE

1. SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE, Delhi
2. ST XAVIER'S, Calcutta
3. ST XAVIER'S, Mumbai
4. LOYOLA, Chennai
5. MITHIBAI, Mumbai
6. PODDAR, Mumbai
7. GOENKA, Calcutta
8. BADRUKA, Hyderabad
9. ST JOSEPH'S COM., Bangalore
10. LADY SHRI RAM, Delhi

centres of excellence by ranking the country's top 10 institutions of higher learning. We had then commissioned ORG-MARG to speak to 145 principals in 10 major cities and bring out a list that identified the top 10 colleges of the country irrespective of the various fields. It was easy to see that we hadn't gone wrong. All of them were exceptional colleges whose styles of functioning are imitated, ideas adopted and examples followed.

This year the process has been refined further. ORG-MARG broke up the entire process of assessment into two phases. The first was an exploratory phase where a selected bunch of principals/head of departments were asked to work out attributes on which to eval-

THE TOPPERS

ARTS - St Stephen's, Delhi

SCIENCE - St Stephen's, Delhi

COMMERCE - SRCC, Delhi

**ENGINEERING - IIT, Kanpur
IIT, Mumbai**

MEDICINE - AIIMS, Delhi

**LAW - National School
of Law, Bangalore**

uate colleges, the relative importance of each attribute and a list of colleges which they felt were the best in India.

These were then analysed to short-list the right set of attributes, to calculate importance of scores for these attributes and work out colleges of national stature. Instead of just limiting the poll to general/medical and engineering courses, like the one last year, the general category was broken into arts/science and commerce, and even included law as a category. Care was taken to include specialised attributes for various fields like "kind of patients the hospital attracts" in medicine and "provision of legal practical training" in law. Finally, in the second phase, the net was cast wide and 300 principals (twice last year's number) and heads of departments were polled on a detailed questionnaire to work out the best colleges of 1998.

Let's hope it goes far in helping you to choose, instead of just getting chosen.

BEST COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY

Overall Ranking		Average weighted rating out of 10	Reputation of faculty	Infrastructure (Library, computers etc.)
ARTS (Importance of attribute in %)			30	20
1	St Stephen's, Delhi	8.0	8.0	8.1
2	Presidency, Calcutta	7.8	7.9	7.9
3	St Xavier's, Calcutta	7.7	7.7	7.8
4	Christian College, Chennai	7.6	7.4	7.8
5	St Xavier's, Mumbai	7.5	7.4	7.9
5	St Joseph's, Bangalore	7.5	7.4	7.6
7	Loyola, Chennai	7.4	7.4	7.7
7	Presidency, Chennai	7.4	7.6	7.2
7	Brabourne, Calcutta	7.4	7.3	7.5
10	Fergusson College, Pune	7.2	7.3	7.2
SCIENCE (Importance of attribute in %)			30	20
1	St Stephen's, Delhi	8.0	7.9	8.2
2	Presidency, Calcutta	7.8	7.9	7.9
3	St Xavier's, Mumbai	7.4	7.1	7.6
3	Presidency, Chennai	7.4	7.5	7.5
3	LSR, Delhi	7.4	7.5	7.5
6	St Xavier's, Calcutta	7.3	7.1	7.5
7	Hindu, Delhi	7.2	7.3	7.1
7	Brabourne, Calcutta	7.2	7.2	7.2
7	Mt Carmel, Bangalore	7.2	7.0	6.9
10	St Joseph's, Bangalore	7.1	6.7	7.6
COMMERCE (Importance of attribute in %)			30	20
1	SRCC, Delhi	7.8	7.9	8.0
2	Loyola, Chennai	7.8	8.0	7.3
3	St Joseph's (Com), Bangalore	7.5	7.3	7.6
4	St Xavier's, Calcutta	7.3	7.2	7.4
4	Hindu, Delhi	7.3	7.5	7.3
4	Mt Carmel, Bangalore	7.3	7.5	7.1
7	Christian College, Chennai	7.2	7.1	7.3
7	Podar, Mumbai	7.2	7.4	7.4
8	Ruparel, Mumbai	7.0	6.8	7.0
8	Ravenshaw, Cuttack	7.0	7.0	7.0
ENGINEERING (Importance of attribute in %)			35	20
1	IIT, Powai	8.0	8.9	8.8
1	IIT, Kanpur	8.0	8.9	8.8
3	IIT, Delhi	8.8	8.3	8.6
4	IIT, Chennai	8.4	8.4	8.2
5	IIT Kharagpur	8.0	7.9	7.8
6	BITS, Pilani	7.6	7.6	7.6
7	Roorkee Engineering College	7.5	7.6	7.4
8	REC, Suratkhali	7.0	7.3	6.9
9	VJTI, Mumbai	6.8	6.8	6.8
10	Jadavpur University	6.7	6.7	6.6
MEDICINE (Importance of attribute in %)			20	15
1	AIIMS, Delhi	8.6	8.0	8.2
2	CMC, Vellore	7.9	7.7	8.1
3	JIPMER, Pondicherry	7.7	7.6	7.6
4	KEM, Mumbai	7.3	7.3	7.2
5	Manipal Medical College	6.7	6.8	7.0
LAW (Importance of attribute in %)			40	20
1	National School of Law, Bangalore	8.5	8.5	8.3
2	Law College, Delhi University	7.3	7.4	7.4
3	Law College, Mumbai	7.0	7.3	7.1
3	Law College, Pune	7.0	7.0	7.0
5	Law College, BHU, Varanasi	6.7	6.8	6.9

I means a tie for the position and therefore some ranks have been skipped. In the following pages the

BEST COLLEGES

It's admission season, the time for students to make their choice. An INDIA TODAY-ORG-MARG poll rates the Top 10 colleges. Plus pen profiles.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE country, to put it mildly, is swamped in a crisis. Far-reaching changes are chipping away at the foundation of its edifice.

Today one of the largest higher education systems in the world (203 universities and 9,278 colleges catering to 55 lakh students every year) is tottering on the edge. Its problems are two-faced: lack of resources and declining quality. Yet among this vast sea of mediocre colleges, there are still some centres of excellence. These colleges have fought the apathy by accomplishing things subtle and difficult. Colleges whose styles of functioning are imitated, ideas adopted and examples followed. A regular college just gets you a degree, an excellent one changes your attitude to life.

Which brings us to the question: What makes a good college? Obviously, the quality of education it offers. But unfortunately, trying to assess and grade quality is about as easy as particle physics. Ask the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, set up in 1994 to do just that. Since inception they have worked out a variety of criteria: goals and objectives, curriculum design, teaching, learning and assessment, research and publications, consultancies and extension activities, organisation and governance, infrastructure, student feedback and financial resources. But sadly this novel attempt to rank colleges has so far evoked a limited response with only a third of the universities agreeing to assess themselves.

As colleges gird themselves to take in a fresh batch of students, INDIA TODAY-ORG-MARG decided to help identify centres of excellence and make one of the first attempts to rank the country's top 10 institutions of higher learning. The key to the ranking was academic reputation based on a poll—conducted on June 9 and 11—of 145 college principals based in 10 major cities: Mumbai, Delhi, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Lucknow and Patna. The principals were asked to rank colleges from 1 to 10.

Scores were then calculated giving statistical weight to the rankings. Once the colleges were identified, a team of correspondents visited them to understand what makes them tick. It was obvious that we hadn't gone wrong. All the institutions were household names, hurtling along to an extent with the momentum of past glory. But that said, all of them displayed a spark—that ability to innovate and bring reform even in periods of crises.

"Education," someone once said,

TOP 10 COLLEGES*

- 1 St Stephen's
Delhi

- 2 Presidency
Calcutta

- 3 Lady Shri Ram
Delhi

- 4 St Xavier's
Mumbai

- 5 Loyola
Chennai

- 6 SRCC
Delhi

- 7 St Xavier's
Calcutta

- 8 Stella Maris
Chennai

- 9 Hindu
Delhi

- 10 Vivekananda
Chennai

* Among colleges offering arts, science and commerce degrees.

