

# Celebrating 70th Independence Day

Smriti Bakshi | B 81

**T**HIS YEAR WE we celebrated our 70th Independence Day. Yes!!! 70 years ago on 15th August 1947, we claimed our independence from the British Rule, and ever since there has been no looking back. From sports to education to finance to technology, we have shown our mettle in every field. As much as we feel proud of our achievements, it is a day to remember those who laid down their lives to give us the gift of freedom. There are thousands of freedom fighters to whom we should bow our heads to, like Bhagat Singh, Khudi Ram Bose, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Netaji, Gandhiji.

Remembering their sacrifices, the **Chief guest, Mr. Somnath Bharti**, our MLA, gave a befitting introduction to the gathering at the Community Centre. The stage was set in flag colours with balloons and trimmings. Kids of all ages, from our neighbourhood, had worked hard to create a celebratory atmosphere. We started with *Ganeshvandana* followed by *Gayatri Mantra*, which inculcates a strong foundation of Indian traditions, culture and values in us. From dance to songs to solo performances, we had it all. Wow!!! The audience participated wholeheartedly in encouraging the children and enjoyed the show. The atmosphere was so lively and patriotic. In the end, the elders in our colony were felicitated with garlands and shawls. It touched everybody's heart. **We concluded the celebrations with flag hoisting and singing the national anthem.**



## Improving Security for Women in Sarvodaya Enclave

Anjali Mehta | B 119

**I** THANK SERWA for asking me to write on women's safety and the residents for generously sharing suggestions. Most expressed concern is about non-residents frequenting our colony. These include visitors from Adhchini, Begumpur; staff working at offices within homes; delivery boys, salespersons and construction workers. Often enough, they are found using vulgar or threatening language or making inappropriate remarks. Insiders also make residents uneasy, particularly security guards and staff who pass comments at ladies passing by and also the youngsters drinking in their parked cars at night.

### Suggested solutions to address these issues are

- 1 Gated entry with mandatory non-resident visitor/worker registration at Adhchini-2, Begumpur-1 and DDA park entrances also, *Gurgaon societies have demonstrated how strict entry protocols help.*
- 2 Local police to verify all domestic employees at the RWA's invitation,
- 3 Offices within the colony to be discouraged-designated office spaces can be in the community centre,
- 4 RWA/Security agency/residents to provide guards/staff training, particularly in relation to women,
- 5 Residents to become citizen reporters and post potential risk situations on Whatsapp,
- 6 Install nets around designated play areas in parks to prevent ball injuries
- 7 Better lighting and more guards in the DDA park, and
- 8 Designating a quick response team for women in distress.

Implementing these will help towards making Sarvodaya a model colony



*We are thankful to*