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LIBRARY IS WCC PRINCIPAL'S FAVE SPOT ON CAMPUS

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Dr. Lilian I Jasper

A principal's job is never easy, and Dr Lilian I Jasper, who has just recently taken charge as the principal of Women's Christian College (WCC), has her task cut out. Amidst a hectic schedule, she tells us why she's excited about her new role...

PLANS FOR THE COLLEGE

"I want to focus on improving the skill sets of the students. Earlier, while we were students, skill development was part and parcel of the curriculum and without even our knowledge, we graduated with the required skill sets. Over a period of time, the education system across the country has lost the focus on skill development. I want to change that and make education more holistic," she says.

DIVERSITY ON CAMPUS

Says Lilian, "We've students from across India and some foreign countries. Last year, we had a student from China and this year there's a student from Korea. We are popular among students from countries like Sri Lanka and Nepal. Students from abroad act as a window for our wards to see the world, from a different perspective."

TREE TIME

The campus is known for its rich biodiversity and it has more than 110 varieties of trees. "We have a set of dedicated gardeners and enthusiastic teaching staff who are extremely passionate about the trees and garden on campus," she says.

FAVOURITE SPOT IN THE COLLEGE

Buildings of the colonial era stand tall in the campus. Ask her as to which is her favourite spot in the 20-acre campus, she smiles. "The library. I love sitting and reading there. In addition to subject books, we have a vast collection of fiction," she informs. The college has the tradition of its principal staying in the quarters in the campus and she says that she will also be following the same. "I am looking forward to coming and staying here. Currently, my office and residence are being renovated. The Doveton House which houses my office was built in 1798 and maintaining it without compromising on its heritage is a challenge," she says.

A HUMBLING EXPERIENCE

Being the principal of a prestigious college like the WCC, which is more than 100 years old, is not an easy feat. "It's a huge responsibility, but I'm happy and excited about my new role," says Lilian. However, she is not new to the institution and has been part of the college since 1993. She has been teaching English, and she will continue to teach the subject. Ask her how she finds time to manage the administrative and teaching responsibilities, pat comes the reply, "My predecessor, Ms Ridling Margaret Waller, too used to teach. I consider it important as I get a chance to interact with the students often and understand their perspective."

A 'BROWNIE' POINT?

She says that the college cafeteria is popular for their brownies and chocolate bun. "The chocolate in the bun will just burst in your mouth, and you should experience it," she says before hurriedly heading to a meeting, to discuss a collaboration for a re-greening initiative of the campus, with an NGO.

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Dr. Lilian I Jasper

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