

## RUSA REPORT

Beginning its singularly pioneering journey towards women's edification and emancipation in 1879, Bethune College holds the distinctive honour of being the First Women's college in Asia. The college has been twice assessed and accredited with Grade A by NAAC. It has also been recognised by the UGC as a College with Potential for Excellence. The Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India, has extended substantial financial support to most of the science departments under its prestigious FIST programme. The college has continually worked towards imparting holistic, empowering education that would promote excellent vertical progression as per the legacy of the college. This has been enabled, to a large extent, by the grant received from RUSA.

The financial assistance received from RUSA, the first installment of which was obtained in 2015, helped the college in its vision of making higher education not only accessible to more students but also to make it holistic.

- The college has successfully utilised the first installment of grant received under the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Aviyan (RUSA).
- Foremost in the utilization of the first installment is the **upgradation of power capacity from 50 kVA to 200 kVA**. Owing to academic expansion in the form of new postgraduate departments, the existing power capacity was found to be a deterrent in the interest of the students and teachers alike. Upgradation of the power capacity ensured a smooth teaching learning process not only for today but for many more years to come.
- Also included in the utilization of the first installment is the **procurement of new equipments** like computers, networking devices and licensed software for further development of the IT infrastructure of the college. To provide the necessary impetus to the teaching learning process, several books, journals and e-resources were added to the library.
- A considerable sum from the first phase of the RUSA grant was utilized towards **upgradation of the college website**. Post upgradation, the college website uses a responsive web design which ensures that the website's content displays correctly and uniformly on a variety of internet enabled devices.

In the second phase of the RUSA grant which was received in 2016-17, the focus has primarily been on infrastructural development that would entail creation of new facilities in the form of classrooms and seminar rooms for the enhancement of the teaching learning process.

- Under the Head 'Creation of New Facilities', the deposit work for Meditation & Prayer Hall cum classroom and also a pathway with lighting and landscaping has been submitted to PWD, Government of West Bengal.
- Under the Head 'Renovation/Upgradation of Existing Facilities', deposit work for the construction of a lift well and its electrical set up has been submitted to PWD,

Government of West Bengal. For better accessibility and mobility, this was identified as necessary.

- Included under the Head ‘Renovation/Upgradation of Existing Facilities,’ is the composite work in the first floor of the Administrative Building, including furniture, lighting & other electrical work to transform classrooms into state of the art Seminar Halls.
- There is a recurring need for books and journals to keep up with the recent advances in every subject, so funds have also been utilized under the head ‘Procurement of New Equipments/Facilities’ to add to the list of recent publications to the library for the benefit of our students.
- A significant development due to the RUSA grant has been procurement of gym equipment for the Sports Room of the college. Keeping in mind the need for physical exercise, the college encourages the students to actively participate in sports and games. Part of the RUSA grant in the second phase was utilized for buying a jogger and a treadmill for our students.

To sum up, the RUSA grant enabled the college to move closer towards its vision of providing quality education to all which is so evident in the feedback received from our students.

Bethune College is known for its academic excellence owing to our students who emerge as university toppers every year. To our immense pride and joy, we have observed that in the past couple of years, after the RUSA grant, our students have performed even better at the university examinations securing more ranks than earlier. Thus the RUSA grants are offering multiple benefits to both the teachers and the students of this college. The college is grateful for the financial assistance offered by RUSA and commends its vision of improving the overall quality of educational institutions and introducing transformative reforms in the higher education system.