

Annual Report of Bethune College 2018-19

We take great pleasure in presenting before the august assembly a brief report of activities and achievements of the College during the session 2018-19. As the First Women's College in Asia, this institution began its journey in 1879 with only one student Kadambini Ganguly (nee Basu), who subsequently went ahead to become the first female physician in South Asia. Today the College leads innumerable girl students from different social strata to being a generation of Indian women who, inspired by their glorious heritage would combine dignity with forthrightness, have minds that are truly illuminated, and can become dynamic, mature and large hearted citizens of the world in the truest sense of the term. It is our goal that the pupils of this College should not only have a deep human commitment but be able to create a space for themselves in the global scenario.

Reaccredited in 2015 with the 'A' grade again, Bethune College celebrates years of quality enhancement and sustenance. It has been our eternal endeavour to adopt novel initiatives and strategies keeping in mind the recommendations of the NAAC Peer Team. The college has applied for assessment by National Institutional Ranking Framework (MHRD) in the current session. With generous help and encouragement of the Governing Body, administrative and financial assistance from the Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal and constant cooperation from all the stakeholders, Bethune College has played a major role in contributing to the cause of women in the country, producing empowered and enlightened individuals.

SAMPRITI SAPTAHA

The highlight of this year was the week-long observance of Sampriti Saptaha. Bethune College, Kolkata, was selected by the Government of West Bengal as Nodal College (Kolkata Zone) for the observance of "Sampriti Saptaha" to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Chicago Address delivered by Swami Vivekananda. The programme was held from 11-17 September 2018 **in collaboration with the neighbouring Ramakrishna Mission establishment.** As directed by the Government of West Bengal, the college organized various competitions in which students from almost 25 colleges participated. The celebrations began with a Inaugural address delivered by Swami Purnatmananda, the then Secretary of the **Ramakrishna Mission**

Swami Vivekananda's Ancestral House and Cultural Centre. The Valedictory address was delivered by the Honourable Minister of State for Women and Child Welfare and Social Welfare, Dr. Shashi Panja. The programme was a grand success and the college gratefully acknowledges the financial support received from the Government of West Bengal for the same. Bethune College has always maintained a balance between tradition and modernity providing to its students the best of both the worlds. We are happy to mention that a programme like Sampriti Saptaha reminded our students of our rich cultural past and its relevance in the present times.

STUDENTS

Our efforts in offering quality education is perhaps most visible in the continued academic excellence exhibited by our most important stakeholders, i.e., our students. For the session 2018-19, our student strength combining the undergraduate and postgraduate streams is close to 1500. In keeping with the norms advocated by the Government of West Bengal, online verification of forms with the candidates not required to be physically present in the college campus. The college maintains reservation of seats according to Government norms. The college admission committee makes every effort to fill up vacant seats in some subjects to the maximum possible extent in a most transparent manner. No cash is collected at college during admission. Admission Fee was collected online through State Bank of India.

As directed by the University of Calcutta, from the session 2018-19, the college introduced the Semester-wise Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) at the undergraduate and postgraduate level.

Bethune College is proud of its students who excel in every sphere. The college encourages the students to participate in co-curricular as well as extra-curricular activities in order to provide holistic education. The college has 16 undergraduate departments and offers postgraduate studies in 6 departments.

UG Results: The students of this college have performed commendably in the University Examinations. The results of the 7 undergraduate Arts departments of the college offering honours course during the session 2018-19 was consistently good with as many as **24 students**

obtaining first class in B.A. Part III Honours examination. In the 8 undergraduate science departments, 102 students were placed in the first class in the B.Sc. Part III Honours examination. We take special pleasure in mentioning that **thirty four** of our students have secured **ranks at the university level in the B.A. / B. Sc Honours Final Examination 2018**. Special mention must be made of the students from **Computer Science** who secured four ranks, namely, **First, Fourth, Sixth and Seventh**. Also praiseworthy are students of the **English** department who have secured the **First, Third and Seventh** ranks. A student from the Statistics department stood **First** and one from the Physics department ranked **2nd** in the university examination.

It is a matter of great joy for us that thirteen students from the Physics and Chemistry departments have won the **Inspire Scholarship** and five students have secured the prestigious **JBNSTS scholarship** and *Bigyani Kanya Medhabritti* in 2018. Two students of the Physics department have been awarded Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics Undergraduate Associateship in 2018.

Like our UG students, postgraduate students have also excelled in their academic performance with as many **77 securing first class marks** in the Final Semester. We are proud to mention here that many of our students have successfully cleared competitive examinations like **NET, JAM, GATE, JRF CSIR NET, JRF IIT-ISM Entrance test** and a good number of them are pursuing PhD at prestigious institutes in India and abroad. Many of them have joined prestigious educational institutions, IITs and corporate offices in various capacities.

Academic Activities of Students:

The Institution takes several steps to nurture critical thought, creativity and scientific approach among the students. The students of all departments are encouraged to participate in various academic activities to facilitate learning beyond textbooks. Two students of Chemistry have secured the first position in the category of **Scientific Model** at the event “Cultvision 2018”, organised by Research Scholars Association at Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Jadavpur on 24th March, 2018. Garima Rajguru a student of the Physics department was ranked first in **Poster Competition** in a Conference named “Precision-2018 Presidency Physics Summit” organized by Presidency University. Sayani Pal from the Physics department has

participated in an **International Conference** on “XXII conference on Liquid Crystals” organized by Jastrzebia Gora, Poland during 17th to 21st September, 2018 and presented poster entitled “Measurement of optical birefringence using a high resolution Temperature scanning technique”. Swarnali Sarkar of Chemistry Dept participated in an International Seminar on Chemistry in Modern Day Cancer Research CMCR 2019 organised by Dept of Chemistry, St Xavier’s College.

Our students have also participated in **Astronomy Camp and Training on Sky Observation** organized by JBNSTS and Sky Watchers’ Association Kolkata in March, 2018. Our students have attended various workshops on ‘**Artificial Intelligence**’ and ‘**Robotics**’organised by Vidyavilla Foundation on 24th & 25th March, 2018. Some students of Chemistry have participated in a Workshop on ‘**Scintillation**’ at Calcutta University on 16-17thMarch, 2018. UG and PG students of the English department attended a **workshop on American Literature** at the American Library, Kolkata.

A team of four students from the **Economics** department won the second prize in Exposition, a **paper presentation** event at Confluence XIII, 2018, organised by the Department of Economics, St. Xavier’s College, Kolkata. A third year student of Economics, Medha Chakraborty was selected as a **participant in the Simulation of IMF Committee** as the representative of Vietnam at Policy Forum model, United Nations, at Presidency University. PG students of Botany also presented a **poster in the National Symposium** on "Facets of chemistry in materials and biology", 16th- 17th February, 2018 at St. Xavier's College, Kolkata.

Third year students of Sanskrit went to Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture for A 7-day **Preliminary workshop on Functional Sanskrit**, held from 28th August to 5th September, 2018. Students of the **Hindi** department presented papers at a students’ seminar organised to celebrate **Premchand Jayanti** on 31st July 2018.

Co Curricular Activities:

The college duly encourages, informs, motivates and helps students to participate in various events and competitions outside college and contribute to social causes. 113 students from our college have participated in ‘**Swapnabhor**’, **an interactive session with the chief minister** on

3rd August 2018. As part of the institutional social responsibility, students collected funds for the **flood victims in Kerala**, sent to the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund.

In the field of students' achievements, we are glad that Swarnali Sarkar of Chemistry has won the prestigious **Damodarshree National award for Academic Excellence 2018** in an All India Essay Competition on the topic 'Technolohgy and Human Mind' organised by The Saraswat Khatri Pathshala Society and S.S. Khanna Girls' Degree College, Allahabad. Shuvaswapna Mukhopadhyay, a student of the Hindi department has won the highest award ('Shikhar Samman') in the **Annual Hindi Literary Fest (Hindi Mela)**, 2018 in the field of Poem Recitation. Ritobrata De of Chemistry department stood first in the **All India Essay Writing Competition 2018** organised by Shri Ram Chandra Mission on 04.02.18 on the topic 'The Greatest Enemy of Knowledge is not Ignorance but the Illusion of Knowledge'. Ahendrila Goswami from the English department stood first in inter-college essay writing competition (English) called 'Agami Nirman' conducted by the Ramakrishna Mission. Besides, eighteen students were selected from the state level in the **All India Essay Writing Competition 2018** organised by United Nations.

Seven students participated in a Letter Writing Competition, 'Dhai Akhsar: A Letter to the Motherland'. Trisrota Datta of English made it to the Final Four poetry performers, in **Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival**. She is also one of the coordinators of the Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival, 2018. A team of students from the Physics department were ranked third in Inter college **quiz competition SciPhy 2018** at RKM Residential College, Narendrapur. Seven students participated in **Short Story Competition** to commemorate the birth anniversary of Narayan Gangopadhyay. 56 students have participated in 'A Systemic Voter's Education and Electoral Participation Programme' on 1st October, 2018. Students of the department of Computer Science have brought out the inaugural edition of their wall magazine '**Tech-tonic**'.

Extra Curricular Activities of the Students

Our students have made us proud by their extra-curricular achievements. Students of various departments have to their credit prizes in inter-college competitions in Music, Creative Writing, Drama, Debate, Dance, Quiz, Recitation, Rabindrasangeet, Spot Acting and Fashion Show. By the invitation of 'Surer Dhara', an institute of Rejwana Vanya Chowdhuri at Dhaka, Arkapriya Chakraborty a student of Sanskrit Honours has performed in an **International musical**

programme on behalf of the organisation named 'Jalpaiguri Imon'. Poushali Bhowmick of English won Second Prize in Eastern Vocals Competition at Nehru Children's Museum.

Subarna Mustari a student of Political Science got the **Best Speaker Award** at ECOLORE 2018: Words above swords, organised by Loreto College. She also secured the first position in 'Once Upon a Time Storytelling' in "Ground Zero" organised by Rotaract Club, 2018. Sayantani Adhikary, a student of the English department is a photographer and her start-up **Photo_Scene_Thesis** dealing with photography, content creation, event management, corporate branding and advertisement was also featured by the *New Indian Express*.

Our students have also made us proud with their achievements in the field of **Sports**. Especially worth mentioning is **Priyadarshini Das** of Philosophy Department, a **national table tennis** player with world ranking 331 and aspiring to represent India at the international level. **As per rankings of Table Tennis Federation of India**, she has been ranked **sixth among young women table tennis players of India**. She has been consistently winning championships at the state, zonal and national level and has won a Gold Medal and two silver medals at the national level.

NSS

- The importance of community service is impressed upon our students as it is our mission to impart holistic education, creating women who can contribute to the well-being of society. The NSS wing of the college involves the students in varied social activities.
- NSS orientation programme was organized by the NSS unit of Bethune College for the first year students. Campus cleaning activity was organized by the NSS Unit on 27.09.2018.
- NSS volunteers also participated in a dengue awareness programme on 28.09.2018. Dr. Sumi Mukhopadhyay, Research Scientist, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine spoke on "Dengue and Chikungunya and its vector in Rural and Urban surroundings".
- **"A Public awareness programme on women's health"** was organized by the NSS Unit Bethune College in collaboration with **the Bengal Obstetric and Gynecological Society, Kolkata on 01.10.2018** in which **Dr. Abinash Chandra Ray, eminent Gynecologist and social activist in Kolkata spoke about women's health**. Other

eminent Gynecologists Dr. Saktirupa Chakraborty, Dr. Nirmola Pipara, Dr. Bulbul Roychowdhury, Dr. Suranjan Chakraborty also delivered lectures on the same topic. Teaching and non-teaching staffs and students participated in the programme. The doctors answered different gynecological questions raised by teachers and students of this institute.

- NSS volunteers participated in garden maintenance on 20.12.2018 in Bethune College Campus. NSS volunteers also participated in a slum visit programme on 20.12.2018 at Goabagan slum area, Kolkata.

STUDENT SUPPORT

The college is actively promoting the outstanding schemes of Kanyashree and Swami Vivekananda Merit cum Means Scholarship designed by the Honourable Chief Minister of West Bengal and funded by the Government of West Bengal. The total number of applications processed by the college during the session 2018-19 is 254. These also include applications for the Indira Gandhi Scholarship for the Single Girl Child, Minority Scholarships (SC/ST/OBC/Muslim), Nabanna scholarship and National Scholarship. We are thankful to the State Government for extending Kanyashree support to all girl students irrespective of family income. This will take women's education to a new horizon.

Financially weaker students who fulfil the criterion for free studentship set by the Government of West Bengal Higher education Department receive financial aid from the **Student-Aid Fund** run exclusively by the teachers and different **Endowment Funds**. This year, **a total of 63 students have benefitted from the Students' Aid Fund.**

We take great pleasure to inform that one of our outstanding students with severe mobility impairment has been provided with conveyance support by the Aid Fund.

Apart from motivation to perform well academically, the college also looks into the psychological well-being of the students. The teachers of the Psychology department provide **psychological counselling** to the students in times of need.

The College **Library** that has a rich collection of about 1,10,000 books and journals. These include some rare and priceless books and journals thereby making the library a veritable

learning resource for our students. In this session, the Library purchased books and journals worth Rs. 4,20,000/- and Rs. 11,05,350/- was spent for purchasing equipments for library automation. The library software has been upgraded with RUSA grant. The Library also provides access to various scholarly journals through a subscription to Inflibnet.

SEMINARS

To enhance the teaching learning process, the college has encouraged all departments to organize seminars, invites lectures and workshops in various disciplines.

To acquaint the teachers with the new teaching-learning system, the college organized a CBCS workshop in May 2018 in which Prof Amitava Raychaudhuri, Emeritus Professor, Department of Physics, University of Calcutta and Dr. Debashish Biswas, Inspector of Colleges, University of Calcutta, delivered two very illuminating lectures on the modalities of the CBCS system.

We would like to mention with great pride and joy that that our alumna **Dr Aditi Sen De**, student of the 1995 batch of Mathematics department has received the prestigious **Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize** for her research in Physical Sciences. The college felicitated Dr De on 21.1.2019 for her exceptional contribution to the field of science. She was also the resource person along with Dr. Rukmini De of the International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bangalore in a seminar organised by **Mathematics** department last week.

The **Botany** Department organized a **National Seminar** on ‘**Urban Diversity: Documentation and Conservation**’ funded by the **West Bengal Biodiversity Board** on 6th & 7th March, 2018. Among the speakers were eminent scientists like Prof. N.D. Paria (Professor of Botany, Netaji Subhas Open University, Formerly Vice Chancellor, Vidyasagar University and Ex Professor and Head, Department of Botany, University of Calcutta), Dr. Kanad Das (Botanical Survey of India, Shibpur, Howrah) and Dr. Rajib Gogoi (Botanical Survey of India, Shibpur, Howrah). Another **Seminar on ‘A journey from nothing to everything’** was organised on 7th May, 2018 where Dr. Pratip Kumar Palit ,Former Principal Scientist, CRIJAF was the speaker.

Prof. Dipesh Chakraborty of the University of Chicago delivered an invited lecture on ‘Perspectives of Indian History’ in April 2018.

The first Sanghamitra Sanyal Memorial Lecture on "Science and Entrepreneurship as a tool to ensure Global Sustainability’ was delivered by Dr. Deborshi De, CEO Smart Management Consultancy and founder Director of Vedantic Organic Research Foundation & Vedant Agrobiotech Ltd. West Bengal on 13th February, 2018.

Departments of **Computer Science and Physics** jointly organised a two-day Workshop on ‘**Innovative Computational Experiments for UG Teachers**’ in collaboration with **UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research, Kolkata Centre** with Dr.Sandeep S Ghugre, UGC DAE CSR, Kolkata as the resource person. From an endowment fund created by Dr. Annapurna Sarkar, former reader of this college, the 4th Anantakumar Sarkar and Snehalata Sarkar Memorial Seminar was organised in the **Physics** department. The speakers were Prof. Parthasarathi Majumder, Senior Professor, RKM Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute, Belur and Prof. Guruprasad Kar, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute. Like every year the Chameli Basu Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Saswati Dasgupta, retired Associate Professor of Rammohan College on the topic : ‘**Measurement, its Beauty in Physics**’.

The department of **Economics** organised a talk on ‘**Career Prospects in Economics**’ delivered by Sri Abhishek Hore, Assistant Professor, ITM Business School, Kolkata. **Presidency MUN 2018 Workshop** was organised in department of Political Science ,Bethune College in Nov 2018. A series of Lectures on Veda were organised by the Sanskrit department. The **Philosophy** department organised a seminar on ‘*Philosophy of Immanuel Kant*’ on 18.0 9.18 with Prof. Subir Ranjan Bhattacharya, Former Professor, Department of Philosophy , University of Calcutta as the resource person.

Following the usual practice of our college, **Orientation Programme** for the First years was duly held on 9th July, 2018. Professor Swagata Sen, Pro- Vice Chancellor (Academic) of Calcutta University and Inspector of Colleges Shri Debashis Biswas graced the occasion and inspired the students.

Ethics and Value Education: In continuation of the tradition and convention of the college we offer a certificate course in Ethics and Value Education for all round development of our

students and to create awareness and commitment to moral values. During the last session, two lectures were delivered by Dr. Kumkum Chattopadhyay, Former Head, Department of Political Science, Bethune College and Hon'ble Swami Vedaswarupanandaji Maharaj of Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Golpark.

Excursions and Academic Tours: The teaching learning experience in the college is not confined to the four walls of the classroom. During this session, the dissemination of knowledge continued in the form of excursions and field trips organised by departments of Botany (The students participated in the excursions to Dooars, Jaldapara, Rishop, Taki and Rajarhat and a field trip to Indian Botanical Garden, Shibpur, Howrah), Zoology (Digha and Zoological Garden, Alipore), Bengali (Santiniketan and Bishnupur) and Sanskrit (Naihati).

To acquaint the students with various job prospects, the **Career Counselling Cell** of the college is constantly engaged in guiding the students towards a fruitful career and is also involved in off and on-campus recruitment of the students. In the academic session 2018-19, 11 (eleven) and 36 (thirty six) students of the UG outgoing batch have appeared for online **aptitude test of Tata Consultancy Services** for the IT and BPS categories respectively. Three students got selected by **Netscribes India Pvt. Ltd.** through a recruitment drive organised by the Career Counselling Cell. Twelve students were selected by the IDBI Federal Life Company Ltd. for a two month **internship programme**.

The cell also organized three (03) **career counselling Seminars/workshops** in this session. A seminar on 'Social Science: The Future of Rewarding Careers' was held on 29.08.2018, conducted by Catalyst Learning Services. The second was on 'Issues and Prospects in Management Studies after Graduation' on 5.12.18 conducted by Calcutta Business School. A Workshop on 'How to Succeed in Aptitude Test in Competitive Examination' was conducted by Globsyn Business School on 12.12.18

Cultural Activities: In keeping with the multifaceted spirit of the institution, various cultural activities were conducted throughout the year with enthusiastic participation from the students. Like every year, drill and march past by students on the **Republic Day** and **Independence Day** was conducted. Along with this, on these two days, as well as on the Fest days the different clubs in the college, like Photography Club, Art & Craft Club, and Literary Club

exhibited their work in the college premises. In both the occasions exhibitions were also displayed by the members of Painting and Handicraft Club, Literary Club and Photography Club.

The **Annual Intra-college Competition**, organized by the Students' Activity Cell, was held in two phases in the months of September and November 2018. The competition organised in fifteen (15) categories were judged by the teachers. Students participated in great numbers in the competitions.

Fest – The Annual Fest AALAP 2018 was held on 24th December, 2018 where students from different colleges participated making it a grand success. Apart from the usual events like Eastern Vocals, Debate, Quiz, this year a new addition to Aalap was **Upcycling**, i.e. creative use of recycled and waste materials. Celebrity judges like Amrita Dutta and Chitra Sen judged the participants. 4 Books of **Bakchakra Publishing House** were inaugurated by the Officer in Charge and senior teachers of the college.

Sports – The Annual Sports was held on the 16th and 17th of January, 2019. Smt Sreerupa Banerjee (Chatterjee), eminent sports personality, who had represented India in Asian Games in 1974 (Athletics) at Teheran and a Former Sports Officer of Eastern Railways was the Chief Guest for the occasion. Usha Das of the Philosophy department was declared individual Champion and Philosophy department was the Champion department in the Annual Sports.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Amongst various other activities of the college, some are worth mentioning here. **The Prize Distribution Ceremony of the 2017-18** session was held on 24th February 2018. Eminent literary personality Smt Bani Basu, Prof Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Amity University and Prof Dipak Kar, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Calcutta University were the Guests of Honour.

Bhasha Dibas: The College organized a cultural programme to commemorate International Mother Language Day or Bhasha Dibas on 21st February 2018. Prof. Ujjal Chattopadhyay, eminent theatre personality spoke on the occasion.

Rabindra Jayanti: Rabindra Jayanti was duly observed by teachers and students. Eminent physicist and Tagore specialist Dr. Partha Ghose spoke on the blend of science and imagination in Tagore's poetry.

Bethune Day – Bethune Day and Banamahotsav was celebrated on 11th August, 2018 with a grand cultural programme. **Smt Anita Agnihotri**, IAS and Eminent Literary Personality, delivered the Bethune Day Lecture and Smt Tapati Sinha, alumna of Bethune College and Founder Member of Sarada Kalyan Bhandar, a philanthropic institution was felicitated on the occasion. An Exhibition on the theme ‘Water: Creation, Crisis and Conservation’ was also organised by the students in association with the Students’ Activity Cell, Bethune College. Students and teachers of the college paid homage to John Elliot Drinkwater Bethune’s statue at the Bethune school premises and the plaque at the college premises. On his death anniversary, which was the very next day, a representative section of the students accompanied by teachers visited Bethune's tomb and paid their respect to the great visionary.

TEACHERS

Bethune College is proud of its dedicated and erudite team of teachers. Research being one of the priorities of the Institution, the faculty is engaged in a process of continuous research activities by participating in National and International Seminars and Workshops and by conducting research projects. Further, the teachers also act as Resource persons in seminars, workshops, etc. conducted by other colleges/universities. They also regularly attend Orientation Programmes, Refresher Courses and Summer Schools conducted by the various Academic Staff Colleges as part of Faculty Improvement Programme.

Our teachers also travelled within the country and abroad to present papers as invited speakers. Among many others who presented papers in **international conferences, seminars and symposia**, noteworthy are Dr Adrita Chakraborty, Dr. Samata Biswas, Smt Mandira Mitra, Dr. Satarupa Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Debadeepa Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Sharmishtha Niyogi and Dr Anindita Dutta. Dr. Nilanjana Bagchi and Dr. Samata Biswas were invited as **resource persons** in various conferences and seminars.

Several teachers of the college participated in the UGC –CPE sponsored National Workshop on Soft Skill Development and Innovative Teaching Methods organized by the Internal Quality Assessment Cell , Scottish Church College , Kolkata on 23rd and 24th March 2018.

The teachers of this college, untiring in their dedication to their students, simultaneously upgrade their knowledge through research and publications. Several teachers are enrolled as PhD scholars in various universities. **Doctoral degrees** were received by Smt. Debadeepa

Banerjee of the Department of Psychology, Smt Anwasha Khan of the Department of Bengali and Smt. Ishani Chowdhury of History department.

Work is in progress on **UGC-Sponsored Minor and Major Research** projects in the different departments of the college. Among ongoing projects, noteworthy is the project titled : Study of Some Transition Metal Complexes with New Pincer Ligands : Synthesis Characterization and Reactivity sponsored by West Bengal Department of Higher Education Science & Technology and Biotechnology (Sci & Tech) by Dr. Paramita Majumdar of Chemistry Department

Our teachers are also actively **involved in the examinations conducted by the University of Calcutta**. They act as Head Examiners, Examiners and Scrutineers of the examinations all round the year successfully completing their designated duties. This year our teachers were also involved in the online uploading of marks of Internal, Tutorial and Final examinations of Calcutta University as per instructions received from the University.

Teachers from various departments published research articles in celebrated national and international journals and books. Dr. Sourav Ganguly, Dr. Rakhi Paul, Dr. Gopa Bhaumik, Dr. Maitri Ghosh, Dr. Dipyaman Pal, have international publications during this session. Smt Tanwi Mukhopadhyay published an edited volume 'Nirbachito Golpo: Arun Kumar Mukhopadhyay' and Dr Anindita Datta co-authored a book titled 'Sarirer Sakkhatkar' (published by Gangchil).

During this session, six (6) teachers were promoted to the next stage through **Career Advancement Scheme**. Among them, three teachers were promoted to Associate Professorship and three were promoted to the second stage of Assistant Professor. The applications for promotion of some other teachers are also being processed by the CAS Committee.

Not only the present teachers and students, but our former teachers and ex-Bethunites are also actively involved with the institution. The **Alumni Association** of Bethune College, Sammilani, will complete 100 years of its establishment in the session 2020-21. The Mrinalini Emmerson Memorial Lecture organized by *Sammilani* was delivered by Professor Sabujkali Sen, the then Vice Chancellor of Visvabharati University on 4.9.2018. To orient the current students about the rich heritage of the college, members of the Alumni Association of Bethune College, *Sammilani* also meet the first year students for an interactive session.

The alumni association organized '**Anandamela**', the annual fete on 08.9.2018. Yesterday, that is, 29th of January 2019, the Alumni Association organized its **Annual Reunion**. The

Alumni Association and the college work in a synergetic manner for the enrichment and advancement of the students.

The College maintains two **Endowment Funds** created by the financial donation from the families of two alumnae. Jyotsnamoyee Dey Endowment Fund supports one full time Professor, three part time Professors and two Fellows in Mathematics and one Fellow in Computer Science for full time teaching. Tarak Sudha Endowment Fund supports three Fellows in Computer Science department for full time teaching.

At the administrative level, **the non-teaching staff members** render devoted service to meet the challenges of new technology. They have implemented all changes in the financial software IFMS. The Students' Section provides efficient support in the digital processing of registration, examination and review related activities along with the various **sub-committees and teachers**. The **implementation of all Government orders** has been made possible with the help and cooperation of the Office and relevant sub committees like **Income Tax, Pay Fixation and Arrear Committees**. We are happy to put on record that the culture of college corporate life is appreciated by all.

In keeping with the service rules, there have been routine transfers from the college and several teachers as well as non-teaching staff have joined the college on transfer.

Infrastructural support

With a futuristic view of nurturing quality students, Bethune College provides the best possible infrastructural support to our stakeholders. We are very thankful to the Honourable MIC for sparing his valuable time to inaugurate the newly created infrastructural facilities in the college, namely,

1. The Nivedita Prayer Hall constructed in commemoration of the yearlong celebrations of 150th year of Sister Nivedita.
2. The first Girls' Common Room and lift of the College
3. The Bethune College auditorium
4. Light weight vertical extension of Kadambini Bhawan with all state of the art modern amenities. Funded completely by the Govt of West Bengal, this new structure will accommodate classrooms for new courses, namely Sociology and Food and Nutrition at the undergraduate level in accordance with NAAC Peer Team's recommendations in 2015. It is our great pleasure to inform everyone that we have received approval from the Government of West Bengal and we await the approval from the University of

Calcutta for creation of required number of posts.

We are extremely grateful to the Govt of WB for addressing the age old demand of the students and also as recommended by the NAAC for the construction of a new hostel at Karunamayee, Salt Lake. We happy inform the MIC that it is nearly completed and PWD has assured that girls can be admitted in the ensuing session. The college has been able to resolve the long standing problem of water scarcity with the full support of KMC to increase the ferrule size.

With the support from **DST FIST** programme, the sponsored departments namely Botany, Zoology, Psychology, Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science and Multi-facility Centre for Science were enriched with the developed infrastructure, which is reflected in research progress as well as enhanced teaching efficacy. Construction of three smart classrooms in Kadambini Bhawan, purchase of books and annual maintenance of all instruments purchased under DST-Fist was enabled by the grant.

Multi Facility Centres for Arts and Science were set up to facilitate higher studies and research activities among students. The **Multi-facility Centre for Science** incorporates cutting edge instrumental facilities for research both at doctoral and post-graduate levels in bioscience. This DST-FIST sponsored centre is equipped with modern sophisticated instruments. Research work related to Nano Biotechnology conducted here has been recognized through publication and funding.

The college utilized the full amount of the first instalment of **RUSA grant** for creation of new facilities, renovation and upgradation, and procurement of new equipments/facilities. From the second instalment, the state of the art Seminar Room has been completed. For the third phase of allotment, the college plans to utilize it for Creation of New facilities in the form of a single storied building with three storied foundation for extension of Chandramukhi Bhawan. The college will scheme to close the RUSA Phase III as soon as PWD completes the archive cum library building with the remaining 54 lakhs of RUSA grant. I request the PWD Executive Engineers to kindly speed up the process.

College Publications:

The annual function gives us the opportunity to formally release our college publications. The fifth volume of the peer reviewed journal of the college, HERITAGE, that publishes scholarly articles will be formally released today. The college magazine, *Adiganta*, celebrating seventy

years of our independence will also be released today. We are extremely happy that in addition to these premier publications of the college, a new edition of the book 'In the Footsteps of Chandramukhi,' much in demand at the international level is being formally released by the Minister in Charge.