

Principal's Annual Report (July 2023- June 2024)

A very good morning to all! Respected Chief Guest, Dr Debashis Dutta, Jesuit Superior, Fr. John Kennedy, three Vice Principal (Administration & Academics), Vice Principal, Siliguri Campus, Dean of Students, IQAC coordinator, TCS, Head of depts, teaching and non-teaching/Support staff, parents and guardians of our awardees and my dear students, a hearty welcome to all of you on the 17th Excellence Day! On this occasion we are honoured to have as the Chief Guest Dr. Debashis Dutta, who besides being the Controller of Examinations of the university also wears two additional hats- as the Registrar (officiating) and Inspector of Colleges (Officiating) of North Bengal University- all three of the most high profile posts after Vice Chancellor. And so, we profusely thank you sir for sparing your precious time in order to be with us today. Your presence will certainly encourage and motivate our students to further excel in their academic as well as non-academic fields and certainly in their lives. And so, I invite all of you to put your hands together to welcome our distinguished guest in our midst.

I also take this opportunity to heartily welcome all the parents and guardians who have come from near and far to witness their wards being felicitated for their excellent performances.

Indeed, we are here today because we have with us our students present and some past who have done exceedingly well in academic or non-academic fields. And hence, at the outset let me congratulate the toppers and achievers in studies and outstanding performers in non-academic fields.

In view of keeping tab of the rising quality of education in some top institutions and enhance academic standards of our institution from independent auditors and assessors we enlisted ourselves for the ISO: 9001 certification which was granted last year 2023. Likewise, in 2023-24 our college received certificates in Green Audit, Energy Audit, environment Audit Gender Audits. A heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to the IAQC coordinator, and coordinators of Nature Club and Women's Club for their sincere hard works.

Now, on this wonderful day, I will try to present before you all some landmark achievements by our students and staff during the academic session 2023-24 and also various activities/programs that were conducted at college and departmental levels.

I. Academic Performance of our Students

Our students have been excelling in academic field and performances of many of them have been outstanding. Although the university convocation has not taken place, I take liberty to announce (based on the dept verification) that these students of ours have topped the university:

1. **Christmine Khati** (Dept of Botany)- 1st Position in the University
2. **Namrata das** (Dept of Microbiology)- 1st Position in the University
3. **Nikita Singh** (Dept of Microbiology)- 2nd Position in the University



Below are the results of Graduating Batch 2023 (Rajganj Campus):

Course	Appeared for Exams	Pass	O (91%>)	A+ (81-90%)	A (71-80%)	B+/B (56-70%)	F (SNC)	XX	Total
B.A (Hons)	163	132	0	11	85	36	27	04	163
B.Sc (Hons)	81	68	8	28	28	04	13	0	64
B.Com (Hons)	43	24	0	05	18	01	19	0	33
TOTAL	287	224	08	44	131	41	03	04	287

Graduating Batch 2023 (Siliguri Campus)

Course	Appeared for Exams	O	A+	A	B+/B	F	Total
B.Com (Hons)	19	0	08	11	0	0	19
B.Com (P)	03	0	0	0	03	0	03
B.B.A (Hons)	15	0	01	08	01	05	15
TOTAL	37	0	09	19	04	05	37

1.a. Students achievements in Sports Field

- **Pritam Basak** (Dept of English- 3rd Yr) was placed 2nd& 3rd positions in the National Powerlifting Championship in two different category in Aug 2023.
- **Samiyajeet Bose** (Dept of Geography- 3rd Yr) has represented the University at Inter-University Cricket Tournament played this year (2024).
- **Lazeem Anee Lepcha** (dept of Political Sc- 3rd Yr) was selected to participate for the Adventure Camp organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs.

II. Achievements by Teaching Faculty

a. Completion of Doctoral Studies

Every year some of our teaching faculties are obtaining Doctoral Degrees. In the academic session 2023-24, one faculty member received the **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D)** after successfully completing and defending his doctoral thesis. He is:

Dr. Subrata Roy (Dept of Geography) with the Ph.D title, *A Geographical Study of Potentials, Problems and Planning of Rural Tourism for Sustainable future in the Dooars Region, West Bengal, India.* from Tilka Manjhi Bhagalpur University, Bihar, in 2023.

We congratulate him for achieving this feat!

b. Our Teaching Faculties in Board of Studies (BOS)

Board of Studies (BOS) is a very important forum that prepares, rectifies or improvises curriculum and syllabi of a particular department across the university. It is indeed a big honour for the individuals and pride for the institution that some faculty members of our college have been incorporated in the Board of Studies and have been appointed as the members of BOS in their respective departments for academic session 2023-24: They are:

1. Dr. Biprakash Kr. Tiwary (UG, BoS, Dept of Microbiology) for 2nd Term
2. Dr. Chandrani Choudhury (Undergraduate, BoS, Dept of Botany)
3. Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Undergraduate BoS, Dept of Sociology)
4. Dr. Aparna Chatterjee (Directorate of Distance Education, Sociology, NBU)
5. Mr. Tushar Das (Undergraduate BoS, in the Dept of Statistics)
6. Ms Anuja Tamang (Undergraduate BoS, in the Dept of Psychology)

c. Awards and Recognitions for Faculty Members

The following faculty members of our college received awards/recognitions in different fields:

- In July 2023, Dr. Aparna Chatterjee was selected by **University of Geneva, Switzerland**, to attend 90 study hrs Semi-sponsored Program/Exchange session and Deliberation to students of the University.
- In 2023, Dr. Chandrani Choudhury received the **best oral presentation awards** in the International conference on advance in Plant, Microbes and Agricultural science,.
- On Jan. 2024, Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, was felicitated by the **Bharat-Bangladesh Yuva Maitri Sangha** at Dinabandhu Mancha for her research on Historical roots and socio-cultural identity of Bengali Buddhist migrating and settling in North Bengal.
- Dr. Biprakash Kr. Tiwary received **Young Scientist Award** at the 2nd International Conference on "Innovations in Biotechnology Research for Sustainable Bio resources and Bio economy: Challenges and Practices" at Sanjivani Arts, Commerce and Science College, Kopargaon held on 15th-16th February 2024

III. Faculty Publication in Journals/ Books/Book Chapters

In the academic session 2023-24 the total number of publications were as follows: books (2), book chapters (11), journals (11) in UGC CARE and reputed international journals. The following faculty members published their research works:

Book Publication

- Dr. Biprakash Kr. Tiwary co-authored two books with Tilak Saha, & Manab Deb Adhikari:
- a. *Recent Trends and the Future of Antimicrobial Agents - Part I* (2023), ISBN: 978-981-5079-61-6 (Print) also available (Online) by Bentham Science Publishers).

b. *Recent Trends and The Future of Antimicrobial Agents-Part 2 (2023)*, ISBN: 978-981-5123-97-5 also (Online), by Bentham Science Publishers.

- Dr. Deepika Mazumdar co-authored a book chapter, titled: *Agro-waste to Microbe Assisted Value Added Product: Challenges and Future Prospects*-Recent Developments in Agro-waste Valorization Research (ISSN 1863-5520), in Springer.
- Rajarshi Bagchi, book edited, *Amar Jiban (My Life): A Critical Compendium of Critical Essays*, Kolkata.

Book Chapters

- Dr. Biprakash Kumar Tiwary Co-authored the following Book Chapters:
 - a. *Natural Quorum Sensing Inhibitors: Potent Weapon to Control Bacterial Infections*, (2023) ISBN: 978-981-5079-61-6 (Print) ISBN: 978-981-5079-60-9 (Online) Pp. 1-35 (35)
 - b. *Extremophiles: An Overview 2022*, ISBN: 978-981-5080-36-0 (Print), ISBN: 978-981-5080-35-3 (Online), Pp. 1-23 (23).
 - c. *Quorum Quenching Enzymes: A Potent Alternative to Conventional Antibiotics*, Springer Nature, ISBN- 978-981-19-1853-7, Page no- 57-82
 - d. With Nitya Rai, *Oligotrophs: Microbes at Low Nutrient Levels*, 2022, ISBN: 978-981-5080-35-3 (Online), Pp. 1-23 (23). Pp. 333-355 (23)
- Dr. Soumya Mitra authored a book chapter "From Plains to Mountains: The Predicament of Informed Migrant Workers in Sikkim", in *Mountain Mosaic: Diversity in Sikkim-Darjeeling Himalaya*(Ed) M. Choudhury, published by DK Agencies Ltd. 2023.
- Dr. Sourish Dasgupta, co-authored, *Redefining the relevance and efficacy of microbial biocontrol agents against phytopathogens* ' in Balwant Singh et al (Eds) *Research in Mycology*, Vol. 2, Published by Blue Duck Publications, Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir.
- Dr. Chandrani Choudhuri authored a book chapter titled, *Plant microb interaction and their role in mitigation of heat stress*, pp 127-147, ISSN 2523-8442, in *Microbial symbionts and plant health: Trends and application for changing climate*, published by Springer Nature, in 2024.
- Dr. Chandrani Choudhury authored a book chapter titled, 'Implication of Nanotechnology for the management of Seed-Borne Pathogens in cereal crops', pp 263-272, ISSN 2522-8714. in : *Food, Production, Diversity and Safety under climatic change*, published by Springer Nature, 2024.
- Sagar Sharma published a book chapter titled, "The Paradigm shift from Traditional Shopping to Online Shopping in India", in the edited book *Advances in Strategies & Management*, Feb 2024.

Publications in Journals

- Dr. Tamal Mazumdar et al, co-authored and published an article titled, *Anti-inflammatory*

property of Ethanol extract of Cleome spinosa leaves in an in vivo model of delayed type hypersensitivity, in the Indian Journal of Pharmacology (yr 2024)

- Dr. Tamal Mazumdar et al, co-authored a chapter titled, *Efficacy of Ethno-Herbal Medicines in Anti-inflammatory and Wound Healing Potentiality: A Case of West Bengal*, In “in Izah MC Akram (eds) Herbal Medicine Phytochemistry, Publishers, Springer.
- Rajarshi Bagchi, published a paper titled, *Ethics of the Feminine self/s in Helene Cixous’s ‘The laugh of the Medusa: In consortium: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Literary and Cultural Studies (a Double-Blind Peer-reviewed Journal, Vol. 3. No. June 2023.*
- Kamal Prasad published an article titled, “A critical Review on Challenges & Threats and ways for securing Wireless Network” in International Journal of Advanced & Applied Research, in Vole. 4, Issue-43, Nov-Dec, 2023.
- Kamal Prasad published an article titled, “A Novel Mobile agent-based intrusion detection Framework for Network Security Using SL-GAT and PP-FQCC” in Educational Administration: Theory & Practices, in May, 2024.
- Shreya Mazumdar published a paper titled, *Study of compact objects: A new analytical stellar model*, in The European Physics Journal C, Springer Publication, May, 2024.
- Dr Jackson Gurung of Chemistry has co-authored the following research papers:

i) “Molecular interactions of cationic/anionic surfactants in presence of anionic antibiotic drug Cloxacillin sodium at different temperatures: Micellization and thermodynamics studies, in *Journal of Molecular Liquids*, 2024, 395,123807. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molliq.2023.123807> .

2. J. “Exploring the interactions of anionic dye tartrazine with cationic surfactants in aqueous solution: Insights into micellization and interfacial properties, in the *Inorganic Chemistry Communications*, 2024, 159, 111740. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.inoche.2023.1117403> (Impact factor = 3.8)

3.J.”Conductometric, tensiometric and spectroscopic studies on the interaction of congo red with dodecyltrimethylammonium bromide: Effects of electrolyte and non-electrolyte” in the *Journal of Molecular Liquids*, 2023, 390, 123094. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molliq.2023.123094>.

- Dr. Chandrani Choudhury published the paper, “Iron- Manganese nanocomposites doped grapheme dots as growth promoter of wheat and its biometric activity, Journal name :Biologia, 2023.
- Dr. Chndrani Choudhury published the paper, Manganese nanocomposites doped grapheme dots alleviate salt stress of *Triticum astivum* through osmolite accumulation and antioxidant defence , Journal name :Scientific Reports, 2023.

IV. Our Faculties as Resource Persons/Invited Speakers

- Dr. Subrata Roy, as Invited Guest Speaker on “Non-Conventional Green Energy Use-facts and figures in the Indian Scenario”, at Karnataka Sangha’s Manjunatha College of Commerce, Mumbai

- Dr. Subrata Roy, as Invited Guest Speaker on “Weather Preparedness: Enhancing Resilience through Accurate Forecasts”, at Karim City College, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand.
 - Dr. Aparna Chatterjee, as Invited Speaker “Development and Diversity Challenges: Dhimal of North Bengal in Discussion” on 19 April, 2024 at St. Xavier’s College, Burdwan, WB.
 - Fr Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey as Invited Speaker on, ‘Changing Educational Landscape in North Bengal Tea Gardens among Adivasi Students and their Higher Educational Aspirations ‘in a National Seminar-cum-workshop ‘*Education of Girl Education towards Gender-Neutral Society: Tribal and Scheduled Community of North Bengal in Perspectives*’, organized by Human Resources Development Centre (HRDC), University of North Bengal in collaboration with Netaji Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata .Feb. 2024.
 - Fr Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey also acted as Resource person and special speaker on, “Re-imagining Teacher Professional Development for making Effective Educators in 21st Century’ at an International Conference on ‘Teacher Professional Development (TDP’ organized by Loyola College of Education, Namchi, Sikkim on 22-23 March, 2024.
- a. Dr Bipranch Kr. Tiwary was an Invited Speaker at 2nd International Conference on "Innovations in Biotechnology Research for Sustainable Bioresources and Bioeconomy: Challenges and Practices" at Sanjivani Arts, Commerce and Science College, Kopargaon held on 15th-16th February 2024
 - b. Was an Invited Speaker at International Conference on Microbiological Research: Current Challenges and Future Perspectives (ICMR: CCFP-2024), Department of Microbiology, Bharathidasan University held on January 09-11, 2024.
 - c. International Seminar on “Microbes and Social Equity” organized by Department of Microbiology & IQAC of Bankura Sammilani College held on December 22-23, 2023.
 - d. Dr Bipranch Kr. Tiwary, Chaired a session and Judged Poster Presentation at International Seminar on “Microbes and Social Equity” organized by Department of Microbiology & IQAC of Bankura Sammilani College held on December 22-23, 2023.
 - e. -----Chaired a technical Session IV at International Conference on Microbiological Research: Current Challenges and Future Perspectives (ICMR: CCFP-2024), Department of Microbiology, Bharathidasan University held on January 09-11, 2024.
 - f. Judged the Oral Presentation at 2nd International Conference on "Innovations in Biotechnology Research for Sustainable Bioresources and Bioeconomy: Challenges and Practices" at Sanjivani Arts, Commerce and Science College, Kopargaon held on 15th-16th February 2024.
 - g. Dr. Chandran Choudhuri, was the Co-Chairperson of one scientific session and evaluator of a poster presentation session of the Women Scientists National conference on, 2023.
 - h. Soumyadip Ghosh was invited to give a series of lectures at the Dept of English, University of Panchan Barman, Coochbihar.

Paper Presentation in Seminar/Conference

- Dr. Soumya Mitra, presented a paper titled, “Small town Urbanisation and Beyond: A case of Sikkim Himalaya”, in ICSSR-ERC Sponsored National Seminar *Urbanization, Urban Environment and Sustainability in Himalayan & sub-Himalayan Region* from 1 & 2 July, 2023.
- Kamal Prasad presented a paper titled, “ A critical review on Challenges & Threats and Ways for securing Wireless Network” in National Seminar on Science Technology & Society: A Global Perspective, organised by Shahajirajee Mahavidyalaya, Maharashtra, in Dec. 2023.
- Sagar Sharma presented a paper titled, “ The growth of Homestays in the Darjeeling Hills” in the National Seminar organised by Coochbehar Panchan Barma University.
- Shreya Majumdar presented a paper titled, “Model for anisotropic compact Stellar object in general relativity: in National Conference on *Relativistic Astrophysics and Cosmology*, Feb. 2024.
- Ambika Chettri&Karma Diki Bhutia jointly presented a paper titled, “Socio-Political Status of Women in Vedic Literature” in International Seminar on Research Methodology in Social Sciences: Relevance of Ancient Indian Discourse in the Contemporary Context, organised by Surya Sen College, 22-23 March, 2024.
- Rajavishek Pradhan presented a paper titled, “The Marital Race Theory and the Gurkhas in the 21st Century: Dynamics and Geo-politics in South Asia”, in ICSSR-ERC sponsored International Conference on Re-imagining South Asia: Geopolitical inquests, organised by Salesian College (Autonomous), Siliguri.
- Dr. Haimanti Barman presented a paper titled, “ *unish shotoker onyoomo somaj sonkskarok sivanth sastir upolobodhite Ramatanu Lahiri*” in the International Seminar, *Unish Shotoker Bangali Monisha: Fire dekha*” organised by the Dept of Bengali, University of North Bengal on 5-6th March, 2024.

V. Dept Seminars -Workshops/Invited Lectures

- The Department of Political Science organised the following:
 - i) Inter-Institutional Youth Parliament by inviting five schools.
 - ii) Invited Lecture
- The Department of Microbiology in association with MBSI (Microbiologist Society of India) organized 2-day National Seminar
- The Department of English organised an Special Lecture titled, ‘Silence, Academia & Contemporary Indian Diasporic Fiction’, delivered by Prof. Angshuman, dept of English, University of Burdwan, WB on 5 August, 2023.
- Dept of Commerce conducted Special Lectures on “Financial Literacy” by Indranil Dutta, an Alumnus of the college and presently Business Relations Manager, Bank Bazar,Com,

VI. Other Important College Events

- On 22 April, 2024 the college organised its First Alumni/ae Reunion at Matri Bhawan, Matigara, where the College was started attracting about 150 former students.

VII. Activities by clubs, Cells, & Committees

- As in other years, Cultural committee was responsible for conducting Orientation Day followed by Freshers Day at the start of the academic year. In February much awaited event of the college Xtravaganza 2024 was organised while Xhilerate 2024 was organised by the Student Council.
- Cultural committee also organised Language Day on 21st February, 2024 and Cultural Diversity also known as Ethnic Day on 20th May, 2024.
- Sports Committee organised Xuberance Day ie Annual Sports Day by inviting as Chief Guest Ms Swapna Das, a Jalpaiguri born multiple Asian Gold Medallist in Heptathlon.
- NSS, Women's Cell and Social Service Cell of the college in partnership with Lion's Club Siliguri and Maharaja Agrasen Hospital, organised a 'Two-day Health Camp' for the neighbourhood villages on 28 Feb, 2024.
- NSS and Dept of Political Sc in collaboration with BDO office Rajganj jointly conducted Voters Awareness Camp at the college on 3rd March, 2024.
- AICUF & Social Service Cell) jointly organised Social outreach program in the nearby tea gardens
- Social Service Cell also organised Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with the local Eye Centre and Lions Club, Siliguri.

VIII. Celebration of Important Days

- Every year on July 28, World Nature Conservation Day is celebrated to raise awareness about protecting and restoring all the natural resources
- X-istence, the Nature Club of NBSXC, celebrated World Environment Day on the 6th of June, 2022, which was followed by tree plantation by administration staff and students.
- X-istence, the Nature Club of North Bengal St. Xavier's College, celebrated 'World Water Week, 2022' on the 23rd of August and on the 1st of September, 2022. The theme for the year was - "Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water".

IX. Infrastructural Development & Future Plans

Two floors of the 2nd Loyola Block were completed and blessed by Fr. Shajumon SJ, the Darjeeling Jesuit Provincial and President of Founder Body and College Governing Body on 5th January, 2024. Revamped path with interlocking tiles now connect the main college entrance to the main building as well as the 1st and 2nd Loyola Blocks.

Construction of a new Women health centre and Girls' Hostel will soon commence. In the future a new Cafeteria and extension of Library are envisaged.

Way Forward: Looking to the Future

We thank the God Almighty for all the blessings bestowed upon in the last years after Pandemic especially during the academic year 2023-24. Our eyes are now gazing towards the next year when the college enters into 18th years of its existence. With the introduction of new National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 from academic session 2023-24, the education system across India and West Bengal in particular is expected to witness significant changes whether that will bring more challenges or may prove to be a beacon of hope, only time will tell. Be that as it may, in coming days and months, we look forward to embracing those changes and beseech God's blessings upon us for navigating those impending challenges and making decisions with a steady hands in order to pass through troubled waters that may cross our paths. It's all part of our commitment to transform the way education is imparted while bringing innovative ways of teaching and learning. Let us continue our march towards unknown future and achieve the goals set before us.

Thank you and God bless us all!

Rev. Dr. Lalit P. Tirkey, SJ

Principal

