

Annual Report of Bethune College 2017-18

We take great pleasure in presenting before the august assembly a brief report of activities and achievements of the College during the session 2017-18. 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. 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.

STUDENTS

We begin with our most important stakeholders, i.e., our students. For the session 2017-18, our student strength combining the undergraduate and postgraduate streams is close to 1380 (UG: 1277, PG: 99). In keeping with the norms of the Calcutta University, our admission procedure is conducted online. The college maintains reservation of seats according to Government norms. For the second consecutive year, admission tests for Honours in English and Bengali were conducted. This year admission tests were conducted in all subjects for admission to the postgraduate courses. The college admission committee made every effort to fill up vacant seats in some subjects. No cash was collected at college during admission in this session. Admission Fee was collected online through State Bank of India.

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 2017-18 was consistently good with as many as 17 students obtaining first class in B.A. Part III Honours examination. In the 8 undergraduate science departments, 124 students were placed in the first class in the B.Sc. Part III Honours examination. We take special pleasure in mentioning that a great number of our students have secured **ranks at the university level in the B.A. / B. Sc Honours Final Examination 2017**. Students from Computer Science and Botany have secured the second position. Students from the Philosophy department ranked 5th and 7th. Students from Mathematics and Zoology were placed in the 3rd and 5th positions respectively. The topper from Economics also secured a rank in the university examination.

It is a matter of great joy for us that six students from the Chemistry department have won the **Inspire Scholarship** and two students of Chemistry and one student of Physics have secured **JBNSTS scholarship** in 2017.

We are also happy to put on record that this year our students worked in eight groups for their **ENVS** project and all the reports submitted by the outgoing students were evaluated with 'A' grade.

To turn from undergraduate to postgraduate activities, worth mentioning is the provision for **RTI** and **transcripts** for students applying abroad that have been introduced from this session. Like our UG students, postgraduate students have also excelled in their academic performance with as many **69 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. 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 and teachers of all departments are encouraged to participate

in various academic activities to facilitate learning beyond textbooks. Three 1st year Chemistry students participated in the **Poster Competition** of UBCHEA Sponsored Awareness Programme on “Global Water Crisis and Conservation” at Scottish Church College, Kolkata. Very recently, our students of the chemistry department won the second position in Science Model competition at the Acharya Satyendranath Basu Smarak, ‘Bigyan O Projukti Mela – 2018’ in January, 2018. A student from the Physics department presented a poster ion 24th National Conference on “Liquid Crystals” organised by department of Chemical Sciences, IISER, Mohali.

Students’ Seminars are conducted to inculcate independent critical thinking as well as collaborative learning among the students. In the 2017-18 session, two Students' Seminars have been organized by the Postgraduate Department of English titled ‘**Wordsworth and Romanticism**’ and ‘**Interrogating Orientalism**’.

SEMINARS

To enhance the teaching learning process, the college has encouraged all departments to organize seminars, invites lectures and workshops in various disciplines. The department of Chemistry organised a Science Academies’ Lecture Workshop entitled ‘**Fundamentals of Chemistry**’ on November 17-18, 2017.

The **English** Department organized a seminar lecture on **Partition** on 8th March 2017, delivered by Dr. Tista Das and Dr Anvesha Sengupta of Burdwan University and Institute of Development Studies respectively. Also Prof. Manosij Majumder of Sri Chaitanya College delivered a lecture on ‘**Renaissance Art and Mona Lisa**’ on December 11, 2017.

The department of **Hindi** organised two seminar lectures on ‘**Bhaktikaal Ke Pragatisheel Kabi : Aadhayatmwad, Samyawad Aur Manawtabad**’ delivered by Dr. Rewa Jajodiya, Associate Professor & Head of Hindi Department, Bangbasi Evening College, Kolkata and ‘**Chhayawadottar Hindi Kawita : Badelte Paridrish**’ delivered by Dr. Satyaprakash Tiwari, Associate Professor & Head of Hindi Department, Deshbandhu College, Howrah.

The **Bengali** department organised a Seminar on “**Chhoto Loker Rabindranath**” where Shubhashis Gangopadhyay, an eminent dramatist spoke on his experiments with Rabindranath’s theatre. Dr. Nandini Bhattacharya , Head, Department of English, Burdwan University was the resource person for another seminar titled “**Rabindranather Swadesh Bhabna : Gora aar Ghare Baire**” organised by the Bengali department.

The **Philosophy** department organised two seminars on “**Modern Logic**” and “**Samkhya Darsana**” on 13th December 2017 and 10th of January, 2018 respectively. Shri Abhik Banerjee, Former Associate Professor, Scottish Church College and Dr. Sarbani Banerjee, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy , Rabindra Bharati University were the speakers.

The Department of **Computer Science** organised a seminar on “Remote Health-Care Scenario: Challenges and Opportunities” and “Social Network Analysis on 22nd February, 2017 with Dr. Nabendu Chaki (Remote Health-Care Scenario: Challenges and Opportunities) & Dr. Sarbani Roy (Social Network Analysis) as resource persons.

A seminar on “GST: An Economic Evaluation” was organised by **Economics** department where Dr. Kumarjit Mandal, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Calcutta University delivered a lecture.

The department of **History** organised two invited lectures on “Segmentary State” and “Second Urbanisation” delivered by Dr. Shouvik Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor and Dr. Rajat Sanyal, Assistant Professor of the department of History, Calcutta University. **Biplab Tirtha Chattagram Smriti Sanghstha** and Department of History, Bethune College organized a Seminar where Prof Chittabrata Palit , Retired Professor, Department of History, Jadavpur University presented a paper on The Revolutionary Terrorism in Bengal.

From an endowment fund created by Dr. Annapurna Sarkar, former reader of this college, the 3rd Anantakumar Sarkar and Snehalata Sarkar Memorial Seminar was organised in the department

of **Physics**. The speakers were Dr. Sudipta Sasmal, Head, Department of Ionospheric Science, Indian Centre for Space Physics and Prof. Nabakumar Mondal, DAE Raja Ramanna Fellow, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics. Like every year, the 12th Chameli Basu Memorial Lecture was held. The department of Physics also organised an invited lecture on “Physics of Sports” delivered by Dr. Shubhankar Ghosh, Associate Professor, St. Xavier’s College. **Statistics** department organised two seminars on “(Non) Normal Multivariate Distribution” and “Introduction to Markov Chain”. The speakers were Dr. Subhjit Dutta from IIT Kanpur and Dr. Satyaki Majumder of IISER, Kolkata. A seminar on “Veda and Alamkara” was organised by the **Sanskrit** department in the last week of February. The speakers were Dr. Sakti Roychowdhury, Associate professor, South Calcutta Girls’ College and Dr. Kakali Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Jadavpur University.

Student Support: Facilities available to students

With a futuristic view of nurturing quality students, Bethune College provides the best possible infrastructural support to our stakeholders. The college has continually worked towards imparting holistic, empowering education that would promote excellent vertical progression as per the legacy of the college. For this purpose the grants received from the Government of West Bengal, RUSA and DST-Fist have been extremely conducive to the vision of the institution. The college utilized the full amount of the first instalment of **RUSA grant** – a total amount of Rs. 1,45,83,334/- for creation of new facilities, renovation and upgradation, and procurement of new equipments/facilities. The most remarkable work under the head creation of new facilities is the building of Nivedita Prayer Hall cum classroom. Another is the construction of lift at Kadambini Bhavan and the upgradation of two classrooms into a State of Art Seminar Room.

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. DST-FIST has been revived in the current financial year and a new proposal has been communicated at the meeting held in New Delhi.

The College received funds from the Government (Rs. 61,51,677/- +44,05,177/-) towards completion of **the civil and electrical work** of the Auditorium. The work has been completed and the Auditorium will be handed over to the College authorities by the end of this month. A

light weight vertical extension of the Kadambini Bhavan is being constructed to increase the academic space. It will accommodate 7 classrooms, 2 laboratories, one teacher's room and washrooms. The work will be completed by March, 2018. The Government has also sanctioned grants for the electrical work pertaining to the project.

A proposal has been presented to the Government for **upgrading the networking facilities** of the college. The internet connection of the college will be upgraded to optical fibre connection instead of dialup connection for better and faster connectivity with 30mbps speed and 500 GB capacity.

Apart from providing such infrastructural support to the students, for the motivation of our students, the college has a number of welfare schemes. The Government of West Bengal has introduced the **Kanyashree** scheme for improving the status and well-being of the girl child and under this scheme female students are awarded scholarships. The College encourages the students to apply for the scholarship. During the 2016-17 session, out of 79 applications, 31 were upgraded from K1 to K2. Of these 31 candidates, a sanction of Rs. 25,000 has been finalized for 24 candidates. The remaining 7 along with 1 fresh application has been forwarded from the college after processing to the Department of Social Work for final approval. For the current session 2017-18, 66 applications have been processed by the college. 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, **9 (nine)** third year students have received half tuition fees and full exam fees and **24** second year students have received half tuition fees and full exam fees. From the **First year, 14 students have also received half tuition fees and full exam fees. Nine (09)** postgraduate students have also received financial help from the Students' Aid Fund. **Excursion grant** has been given to one Botany P.G student. **Special grants** have been given to 1 student in view of her poor financial condition. **In all a total of 58 students have benefitted from the Students' 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 1,08,000 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 close to 1000 books (898 books and 12 journals). The library software has been upgraded with RUSA grant. The Library also provides access to various scholarly journals through a subscription to Inflibnet.

Multi Facility Centres for Arts and Science were set up to facilitate higher studies and research activities among students. Regular film shows pertaining to the syllabus have been organized in the Multi-facility Centre for Arts. Students of English and Bengali departments have benefited immensely from this initiative.

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 like UV-visible spectrophotometer, High Performance Liquid Chromatogram, Laminar Air flow, Leica microscope, Biochemistry analyser and centrifuge. The Centre offers Bacteria Culture facility maintaining stocks of pure culture collected from National and International stock centers. Separation of molecules is characterized by column chromatography as well as HPLC. Various Research projects are in progress utilizing that facility and post graduate dissertation projects have been completed successfully. Research work related to Nano Biotechnology conducted here has been recognized through publication and funding.

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 Chemistry, Botany (The postgraduate students participated in the excursions to Dooars and Kalimpong and a field trip to Indian Botanical Garden, Shibpur, Howrah. The undergraduate students of Botany department went to Purulia), Psychology (PG Semester I and Semester III students went for industrial visit to Chengmari Tea Garden), Zoology (The postgraduate students of Zoology department went to Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary, East Calcutta Wetlands, Human Genetics Unit, ISI and Zoological Garden, Alipore for their educational trips. The undergraduate students went to the West Bengal Poultry Fair 2017, Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary and Chandipore Coastal Zone). Students of History went for a field trip to Murshidabad.

To acquaint the students with various job prospects, the **Career Counselling Cell** of the college is constantly engaged in guiding the students towards a career and is also involved in

off and on-campus recruitment of the students of Bethune College. In the academic session 2016-17, Nineteen (19) students of the UG outgoing batch 2016-17 got selected (on-campus selection drive) by Tata Consultancy Services, Two (02) of 2016-17 were selected (on-campus selection drive) by COGNIZANT, Four (04) of 2016-17 were selected by NETSCRIBE.

The cell, like every year, organized two (02) **workshops on communicative English** for the outgoing batch of the current academic session, conducted by Smt. Neelanjana Basu of the Post Graduate Department of English, Bethune College.

The cell also organized three (02) **career counselling Seminars/workshops** in this session. A seminar on ‘How to prepare yourself for the Civil Services Examinations’ was held on 06.09.2017, in association with Career Launcher Educate Limited. The second was on Career Opportunities after graduation on 15.11.2017, in association T. I.M.E.

Co Curricular Activities:

The college duly encourages, informs, motivates and helps students to participate in various competitions. Eight students were selected from the state level in the **All India Essay Writing Competition 2017** organised by United Nations Information Centre for India and Bhutan and The Heartfulness Institute. Ritobrata De, a 3rd Year student of Chemistry and Shubha Swapana Mukhopadhyaya, 1st year student of Hindi got the **1st position in Bengali and Hindi Essay Writing category at the State Level**. Also, **5th and 10th** positions were secured by students of the Hindi department, Arpita Bhattacharya and Puja Sharma. Our students, Shubha Swapana Mukhopadhyaya of Hindi and Shaline Das of English departments were placed in the first and third positions in an Inter College Debate Competition organized on the occasion of **International Day of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)** organized by **Department of PWD, Ministry of Women and Child Welfare, Govt. of India**. Our students have participated in Essay Competition on the topic “Space based observations for Weather, Environment, Climate and Societal Benefits” on **Ozone Day** organised by **Indian Meteorological Society**. 3rd year students of Chemistry participated in the **22nd All India Chemiquiz competition** organized by Department of Chemistry, Presidency University. An Economics student won the second prize in **Policy Paper Competition 2017** organised by St. Stephen’s College, New Delhi.

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 and Fashion Show. **Ankusha Sarkar** of Bengali won **District Extempore Championship organised by Government of West Bengal in 2017**. She has also performed a drama “Bhalobasar Gotibidhi” in **Academy Theatre and Madhusudan Mancha**. A student from the department of Hindi has participated in **All India Rock Climbing Training Camp for Girls** (2017-2018) whereas another student participated in **Vocal Workshop** organized by **Jatiya Sanskriti Parishad** at Nehru Children’s Museum. A student from Bengali department secured the 4th position in Odissi Dance in **Inter State Dance Competition, 2017** organised by West Bengal State Music Academy. Our student has secured also third position in *Live Reporting* in “Ground Zero’ organised by Rotaract Club, 2017

Our students have also made us proud with their achievements in the field of **Sports**. **Priyadarshini Das of Philosophy Department** has won the Youth Team **Gold Medal** and Youth Girls Doubles **Silver Medal** in the 79th Junior and Youth **National and Inter State Table Tennis Championship** held from January 18-23, 2018 at Durgapur. She has also won the Women’s Team **Silver Medal** and Women’s Doubles **Bronze Medal** at the **Inter State Table Tennis Championship** held at Ranchi, Jharkhand from 25-30 January, 2018. Some of her achievements from the year 2017 include:

- 3rd position in Youth Girls' Singles, Central Zone, Indore, June 2017
- Team Champion, Ultimate Table Tennis Indian League, Chennai, July 2017
- Youth Girls' Team Champion, All India Inter Institution Championships, New Delhi, August 2017.
- 3rd position in Youth Girls' Singles, East Zone, Siliguri, October, 2017
- 3rd position in Youth Girls' Singles and Womens' team, West Bengal State and Inter District T.T. Championships, Nov 2017

Rajasri Saha of the Sanskrit department has represented West Bengal in the category of Rocket Ball and Khokho.

Ethics and Value Education: For all round development of our students and to create awareness and commitment to moral values, Bethune College offers a certificate course in Ethics and Value Education. During the last session, three lectures were delivered by eminent scholars from diverse fields. Three lectures were organised in the 2017-18 session. On September 16, 2017 Smt. Srilekha Kar, Women's Division Zonal Chief -Buddhist Value Creation spoke on "Peace Proposal and Human Revolution." Dr. Mou Dasgupta, Associate Professor, Department of Sanskrit, Calcutta University shared her insights on "Eminent Women Characters in Ancient Indian Texts" on 29th November, 2017. The final lecture was organised on January 17th, 2018, where Dr. Basabi Chakraborty, Head of the Department, Department of Sociology, Rabindra Bharati University spoke about "Women's Rights : Its reflection in Modern Society."

Following the usual practice of our college, **Orientation Programme** for the First years was duly held on 12th July 2017. Professor Swagata Sen, Pro- Vice Chancellor (Academic) of Calcutta University and Inspector of Colleges Shri Debashis Biswas graced the occasion and inspired the students. On this occasion, Prof. Sunanda Ghosh handed over to the college a copy of **a recently discovered photograph of John Elliot Drinkwater Bethune** laid in ivory and preserved at the British Museum.

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. During the session 2017-18, the NSS unit organised a **Campus Cleaning Drive** involving NSS volunteers, members of the NSS sub-committee, teachers, students and Staff of Bethune College. On the same day, Dr. A. K. Hati, former Director, School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata delivered an informative lecture on **Dengue and its vector in Rural and Urban surroundings.** A seven-day **Special Camp** was organized at Pally Sangha Club, Ramdulal Street, near Girish Park Police Station by the NSS Unit from 14.02.17 to 20.02.17 where 50 student volunteers participated. The NSS volunteers escorted by teachers visited the adopted slum to sensitize the slum dwellers regarding mosquito-borne diseases and their prevention and spread awareness regarding domestic violence and sexual harassment. Mr. Uttam Bhattacharya, Secretary Cum Judge, District Legal Service Authority in Kolkata delivered a lecture on **'Domestic Violence**

and Sexual Harassment, Human Trafficking, Property Right and Land Ownership Issues and Execution of acts and Laws' on 16.02.2017. In collaboration with a five-member Medical team from Medical College and Medical Bank, Kolkata, the NSS unit organized a **Free Health Camp** for check-up of blood sugar, body weight, general health and eye. 39 slum dwellers benefited from it. The NSS volunteers and club members also organized 'Sit and Draw', Song and Recitation Competition in the slum area at Pally Sangha Club.

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. On the occasion of Independence Day, the theme of the exhibition was '*The Right to Live: The Green Way*', while on the occasion of the Republic Day, it was '*India Today*'.

This year a **new club dedicated to Cinema** has been introduced in the college. The Club screened the Iranian movie "Offside" directed by Jafar Panahi in December 2017.

The **Annual Intra-college Competition**, organized by the Students' Activity Cell, was held on 15th and 16th of September 2017. The competition organised in eighteen (18) categories were judged by the teachers. Students participated in great numbers in the competitions. Medals and certificates were distributed by The Principal and the members of Bethune College Alumnae Association in a Prize distribution ceremony on 25th November, 2017. This year a **departmental trophy for the best department in Intra-college Competition has been introduced** and Departments of **Chemistry and English** were joint winners of the trophy this year.

Fest – The Annual Fest AALAP 2016 was held on 20th and 21st of December, 2017 where students from different colleges participated making it a grand success. Apart from the usual events like Eastern Vocals, Debate, Quiz, this year **three new events namely Poetry Slam, One Minute to Fame and Theme Walk were introduced.** Celebrity judges like Amrita Dutta

and Chitra Sen judged the participants. 4 Books of **Bakchakra Publishing House** were inaugurated by the Principal. **Bethune College was declared the Champion.**

Sports – The Annual Sports was held on the 15th and 16th of December, 2017. Celebrated Sports personality and Arjuna Awardee Archer Smt Dola Banerjee was the Guest of Honour. **The Department of Sanskrit was declared the Champions.** Rajasri Saha of the department of Sanskrit was selected the Best Player in the Bethune College Annual Sports, 2017.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Amongst various other activities of the college, some are worth mentioning here. **The Prize Distribution Ceremony of the 2016-17** session was held on January 30th 2016. Eminent literary personality Sri Sirshendu Mukhopadhyay, theatre personality and Chairperson of our Governing Body Smt Saoli Mitra 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 2017.

Bethune Day – Bethune Day was celebrated on 12th August, 2017. **Professor Asis Kumar Banerjee**, Former Vice Chancellor, Calcutta University, delivered the Bethune Day Lecture and Dr. Sabita Mishra, Former Reader, Department of Sanskrit, Bethune College and alumna of the college was felicitated on 12th of August, 2017. An Exhibition on environmental issues ‘Right to Live: The Green Way’ 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 this 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. This year **Dr. Abhijeet Bhattacharya** of Hindi department was felicitated by Lion's Club, Behala Greater for contribution in the field of Education. **Dr. Anindita Datta** was honoured with "Bimala Chattopadhyay smarak Gabeshak Sammanana" by **Kolikata Little Magazine Library o Gabeshana Kendra**.

Our teachers also travelled within the country and abroad to present papers as invited speakers. We may especially mention **Dr. Dipyaman Pal** who presented papers in three international seminars organized by IIFT, Kolkata; SANEM in Bangladesh and Deakin University, Australia. Among many others who presented papers in **international conferences, seminars and symposia**, noteworthy are Dr Smita Ray, Dr. Amrita Bagchi, Smt. Abisa Sinha, Sri Sumanta Mukhopadhyay, Dr.Sharmistha Niyogi, Dr. Samata Biswas, Smt. Neelanjana Basu, Dr. Anindita Datta, Smt. Anwasha Khan, Smt. Sohini Bhattacharya, Smt. Ishani Chowdhury, Dr. Adrita Chakraborti.

Dr. Supriti Paul, Sri Chhandam Chakraborty and Dr. Samata Biswas were invited as **resource persons** in various conferences and seminars.

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. Anindita Dutta of the Department of Bengali and Smt. Madhura Mandal of Statistics department.

Work is in progress on **UGC-Sponsored Minor and Major Research** projects in the different departments of the college. **Seven Minor Research projects were submitted** in the academic session 2017-18. Among ongoing projects, noteworthy is a Fast Track DST Project for Young Scientist entitled "Visible light photoredox catalysis : Towards an environment friendly approach to organic synthesis" in the department of **Chemistry**.

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.

Teachers from various departments published research articles in celebrated national and international journals and books. Among publication of **conference proceedings**, we take this opportunity to mention Smt. Sumita Mukhopadhyay whose article "Narir Apon Bhagya" was published by Gabeshana Sansad, Department of Bengali, Rajshahi University. Dr. Nilanjana

Bagchi, Dr. Maitri Ghosh, Dr. Rupa Pal, Dr Satarupa Bandyopadhyay, Smt Ishani Chowdhury and Dr. Sutapa Datta have international publications during this session. Prof. Pratap Chandra Ray of Mathematics published a **book** titled ‘Mathematical Physics for Engineers’ from New Age International Publishers and Prof. Anasuya Guha’s translation of Virginia Woolf’s *A Room of One’s Own* was reprinted by Dey’s Publishing House. The second edition of Dr Ranjana Sharma's book titled *Lok Sahitya Chintan ke Vividh Aayam* was published from Anand Prakashan. Sumita Mukhopadhyay edited *Sandhan: Bishesh Biswayan Sankhya*, a peer reviewed Research Journal on Society, Culture and Literature, June, 2017.

College Publications:

The fourth volume of the peer reviewed journal of the college, HERITAGE, that publishes scholarly articles not only of in house teachers but of eminent external contributors, was formally released on January 9th, 2018.

The reprint of the book commemorating the 125 years of Bethune College titled, ‘In the Footsteps of Chandramukhi’ is in progress.

Eleven (11) teachers were promoted to the next stage through **Career Advancement Scheme**. Among them, six teachers were promoted to Associate Professorship and five were promoted to the second stage of Assistant Professor. The promotion of 6 other teachers is in the final stage of its processing out of which 3 are for advancement to the post of Associate Professor.

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, established in 1921, is recognized as a registered body under The West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 from 10th of March 2015. The Mrinalini Emmerson Memorial Lecture organized by *Sammilani* was delivered by the Professor (Dr.) Mamata Ray, Principal of Bethune College on 14.9.2017. The Kadambini Ganguli Memorial Award for an illustrious alumna has been introduced from last year. To orient the current students about the rich heritage of the college, members of the Alumni Association of Bethune College, *Sammilani*, met the First Year students on 25.11.2017. The members of the Alumni Association also gave away prizes to the winners of the Intra College Competitions on that day. The current students were enriched by this happy interaction of the past with the present.

The alumni association also organized ‘**Anandamela**’, the annual fete on 19.8.2017. Yesterday, that is, 23rd of February 2018, 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** of the college also extend complete cooperation in the seamless functioning of the college, 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**.

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.

This year we deeply mourn the untimely demise of Dr. Sanghamitra Sanyal, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany who left for her heavenly abode on January 21, 2018. We hope that her soul rests in peace. The college stands by her family in this time of distress.