



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE REPORT (2023-24)

Dr. Samir Sharma, *Head of Department*

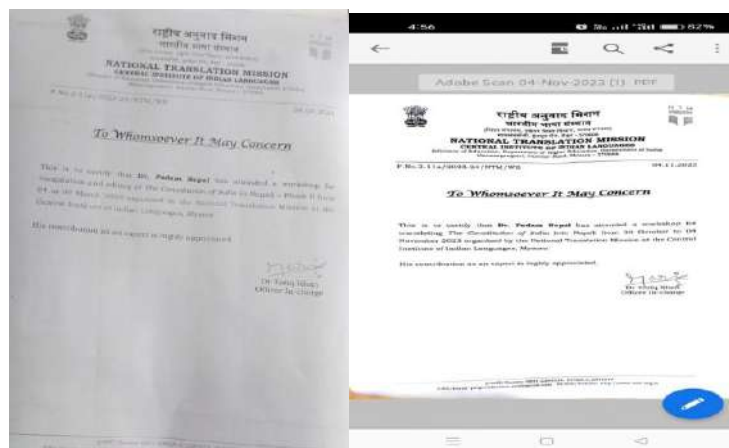
The Department of Political Science is one of the largest Social Science departments in the College. For the academic year of 2023-2024 the Department has focused on the balance between its academic and co-curricular commitments for the Undergraduate students. The Department is also committed to implementing the NEP for the 1st Year students as well as to successfully complete the existing CBCS system for 2nd and 3rd Year students.

In the course of the academic year, the Department bid farewell to Ms. Sharddha Shah (Part-Time Asst. Professor) who left the College to join Manjushree Public School as a PGT in Namchi, Sikkim. In her place, Ms. Nooreena Khan, a former student of the Department has joined from March, 2024. The details of the academic and co-curricular activities are as follows:

ACTIVITIES OF FACULTY

Dr Padam Nepal, *Associate Professor*

Dr Padam Nepal, Associate Professor, attended a Workshop organized by the National Translation Mission for compiling and editing the Constitution of India into Nepali (Phase II) from 4-9 March, 2024 at CIIL Mysore.



Dr Padam Nepal, Associate Professor attended a Workshop as an **Expert** organized by the **Commission on Scientific and Technical Terminology**, Government of India) during 04th November to 09th November, 2023, for the preparation of **Fundamental Glossary of Political Science in Nepali**, held at Darjeeling Government College, Darjeeling.



Dr Padam Nepal, Associate Professor attended a **10 Days Workshop on Methodology for the Social Sciences** organized by the **Department of Political Science in Collaboration with IQAC, Sonada Degree College, Darjeeling** during 18th to 28th March, 2024 as a **Resource Person** and delivered a Lecture on **Understanding Social Research and Research Process: An Outline**.



Dr Padam Nepal, Associate Professor attended a **Webinar** on Exploring Gender Inequality in Climate Change Policy and Practice organized by the **Department of Political Science in Collaboration with IQAC, Raniganj Girls College, Bardhaman, West Bengal** on March 21, 2024 as a **Resource Person** and delivered a Lecture on **All We Can Save: Revisiting Katherine Wilkinson as a Gender and Climate Change Activist**.



Dr Padam Nepal, Associate Professor delivered an ***Invited Special Lecture*** on **Folk Art and the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR): Some Reflections in the Indian Context** at Kullu Government College, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh organized by the IQAC, Kullu Government College, on May 24, 2024.

3. Dr Samir Sharma, Assistant Professor & Head

Dr Samir Sharma was invited by Southfield College (formerly Loreto College, Darjeeling) and its Department of Political Science to deliver a two-part Lecture on "***India's Foreign Policy in a Globalised World***" to the 6th Semester students on 19th March and 2nd April, 2024.



Dr. Samir Sharma, was invited to be a Resource Person and Chair of Technical Session 4 at the **International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research (ICMR 3.0)** organised jointly by Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University (Chennai) and Shree Ramakrishna BT College (SRBTC) Darjeeling on 29-30 May, 2023 at SRBTC, Darjeeling.



Dr Samir Sharma, was invited along with the Principal of our college Fr Dr Donatus Kujur SJ and Mr. Bishal Rai (Dept. of Economics) on 14th March, 2024 to Mirik College, Darjeeling as part of the Resource Persons for the Special Lecture titled "**SSR Compilation & NAAC**".



DEPARTMENTAL EVENTS

Departmental Excursion to Sundarbans National Park and Tiger Reserve 2024

6th Semester Honours students along with the Head of Department, Dr Samir Sharma and Ms Pooja Sharma visited the Sundarbans National Park and Tiger Reserve and Bhakkali as a part of their study tour and excursion on 25-30 March, 2024. The names of the 11 students are as follows:

Chodenla Lama	Pragya Chhetri	Muskan Rai	Ridhika Basnet
Aditya Thapa	Salmon A. Lepcha	Sakshi Gupta	Akansha Tamang
Lalit Thapa	Neasi Bhutia	Sewan Pariyar	

The Departmental trip of the Sundarbans covered its geography, biodiversity, and the significance of mangrove ecosystems. The Certified tour guide at the venue introduced students to the ecological and cultural aspects of the Sundarban, ensuring they have a foundational understanding before the trip. Upon arrival, an orientation was conducted to discuss the trip itinerary, safety protocols, and learning objectives.



Guided Tours: The excursion arranged boat tours through the mangrove forests with expert guides to observe and learn about the flora and fauna, emphasizing the ecosystem's role and the interdependencies within it.

Fieldwork: Students engaged in simple fieldwork activities, like water quality testing or observing wildlife behavior (where available), to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical context.



Cultural Immersion and Community Interaction:

Local Interaction: The students visited local communities in the Sundarban islands to understand their lifestyle, traditions, and their symbiotic relationship with the Sundarban.

Cultural Exchange:

The students engaged in cultural exchange activities, to appreciate the region's cultural heritage.

Informal Group Discussions:

Facilitated group discussions to reflect on the learning experiences, allowing students to articulate their observations, insights, and newfound knowledge.

Outcomes:

Hands-On Learning:

Students gained firsthand experience of the Sundarbans' ecosystem, enabling a deeper understanding of ecological concepts and conservation challenges.

Interdisciplinary Approach: The trip integrated various disciplines like biology, environmental science, geography, and sociology, providing a holistic educational experience for our students.

Critical Thinking:

Encountering real-world environmental issues in the Sundarbans fostered critical thinking and problem-solving skills among students.



Awareness and Sensitivity: Direct exposure to conservation efforts and local communities has cultivated environmental and cultural awareness and fostering of responsible citizenship among our students.

Inspiration: Such trips have inspired the students of our Department to pursue careers in environmental science, conservation, or related fields, shaping future stewards of the planet.

Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation 2024

Students and faculty of our Department along with the NSS of our college participated in the SVEEP program (Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation) on 15 March, 2024. This was conducted in collaboration with the office of the District Magistrate (Darjeeling) keeping in view the Lok Sabha Elections 2024. The team from the election office had come with Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) for a hands-on demonstration to the first time voters of the college. Dr. Samir Sharma, Head of the Department and its teachers Ms. Pooja Sharma and Ms Nooreena Khan guided the students and the election office demonstrated the EVM and VVPAT to the students. Dichen Doma, 4th Sem Hons student, gave a speech on the importance of elections in a parliamentary democracy to the gathering.



Participation in Trailblazer Fellowship Graduate Program

Students of our Department participated in the ceremony of the Trailblazer Fellowship Programme was organised by Eastern Himalayan Foundation focusing on how the Trailblazer Fellowship program focuses on addressing pressing issues through projects and mentorship. The

program was organized on 18th May, 2024 at the Gorkha Rangamancha Bhawan (GTA). The 11 students were accompanied by Ms. Nooreena Khan.



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

1. Keshav Subba Limbu (Roll No. 23PS0083), a 2nd Semester student of our Department participated in the “Verghese Memorial Inter College Volleyball Tournament” held on Salesian College Sonada on 24th April 2024. He was part of the “Runner’s Up” team.



2. Payel, Sem 4 NCC student of our Department received the President’s post and overall Senior Under Officer of St. Joseph’s College from her batch.



3. Anmol Thapa, Sem 4 (Roll No. 22PS0061) NCC student of our Department achieved the second position in the army attachment camp of 2024 which was conducted at 25 Grenadiers, Sevoke Road, Army Cantonment in Siliguri during 21 Feb – 3 March 2024.



4. Dipankar Thapa, 4th Sem student of our Department was appointed as Board Member for the Nature Club of St. Joseph's College (2023-24) and participated in events such as seminar, clean-up program, labeling of the campus trees, nature walk and college fete.



5. Rambha Kumari Prasad (WB21SWA205406), 6th Sem student of our Department participated in the camp i.e. AITSC-23 organized by the NCC at New Delhi from 19/9/23 to 30/9/23 as part of the 4 BEN GIRLS BN. She represented West Bengal and Sikkim Directorate at New Delhi and competed in the event “Judging Distance & Field Signal” where she was awarded Bronze Medal in IGC.



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