

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-25

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Shri. Bishal Rai
Head of the Department

St. Joseph's College was established in 1927 and the Department of Economics started its journey at St. Joseph's college from 1970. Shri. Bishal Rai succeeded Dr. Sujoy Kanti Ghoshal as the Head of the Department. Shri Bishal Rai took charge as the Head w.e.f. July 2024. The department has four sanctioned posts. Dr. Panchali Sengupta who was on lien having joined Cooch Behar Panchana Barma University resigned on March 2025. Hence, currently the department has three permanent faculty. Fr. Dr. Sanjiv Lakra also joined the department w.e.f. February 2025 to assist the department amidst his other responsibilities in the institution. Fr. Dr. Sanjiv Lakra. In the first half of the academic session 2024-24, Ms. Anugraha Kalikote served the department as part-time faculty. Furthermore, students also participated in various other co-curricular activities like sports, NSSO, NCC etc. in the academic session 2024-2025. On the whole, the Department of Economics has been functioning with the objective of creating productive youths for the society.

Departmental Activities

- The academic session 2024-25 commenced on 29th July 2024. The orientation for first semester was organized on 29th July the in the department from 11:00 a.m. onwards. All the four faculty members (with then part-timer faculty) attended the Orientation Programme. All the faculty members briefed the students about the required information. The students were briefed about the department, past records, the routine, the expectations from the students and the most important thing about the NEP, 2020 and accordingly the new curriculum.



- On 01st August 2024, from 11:00 a.m. onwards the dissertation viva-voce for 6th semester students (Honours) was conducted by the department. The total number of students that appeared for viva-voce was 10. The external examiner for viva- voce was Dr. Amlan Majumder (3rd from left in the first row), Associate Professor, University of North Bengal. In total 10 students attended the viva-voce. Along with the students and the external examiner all the faculty members of the department were also present on the viva-voce.



- The students of the department (Sem I and III) participated in the Bhanu Bhasa Smriti Diwas on 20.08.2024 organized by the Department of Nepali in collaboration with IQAC, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling. The program was followed by Ramayana Path Competition and the students from the Dept. of Economics were declared 2nd Position in the competition.



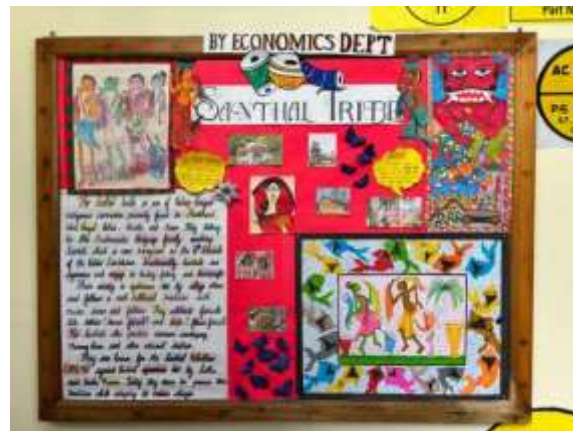
- The Department students celebrated Teachers' Day on 05th Sept. 2024 (Thursday). All the departmental faculties (04) were present on the day. The students presented dance, songs, delivered speeches on the occasion.



- The Department of Economics conducted Parents-teachers Meeting on 07.09.2024 (Saturday) from 10:30 a.m. onwards. The meeting included parents of I, III and Vth semester students. The meeting ended at 12:00 noon. In the meeting the parents were apprised about the students' academic performance so far, their attendance, their involvement in other co-curricular activities, etc. The parents also requested to create a Whatsapp Group of Parents and Teachers Group so that they can monitor their children and at the same time remain updated about their wards in terms of class hours, examination, results, attendance, internals, etc.



- Students took part in Inter-Departmental Board Work Competition on 15.03.2025. The students presented the description of Santhal Tribe along with pictorial presentation. Apart from it, the departmental students have been participating in various co-curricular activities organized by the college in the academic session 2024-2025.



- The students also presented various topics (in line with the syllabus) across the semester during their class hours. The objective was to built confidence in the students, research on the topics, prepare power point presentations, and so on.



Students with their respective presentations

Student(s) Achievement

Manisha Rasaily, (6th semester Economics Honours) student successfully completed the NCC journey of 3 years. In the due course of her NCC journey she also attended the Prestigious ‘All India Thal Sainik Camp’. Furthermore, she attended the ‘SSB Capsule Camp’ held in Kolkata from 18 Nov. 2024 to 30 Nov. 2024. She also received the Medal from the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) for her achievements on 15th August 2024.



N.B.U. Undergraduate Results

The performance of the students in the last two semester examination conducted in the academic session 2024-25 is presented below in the table. In the last result published for the examination conducted on Dec. 2024, the **highest SGPA** in the **first semester** was **7.79** (Anushka Pradhan), in the **third semester** was **7.86** (Evelyn Tamang) and in the **fifth semester** was **8.25** (Manisha Rasaily).

II, IV and VI SEMESTER RESULTS, JULY 2024				I, III AND V SEMESTER RESULTS, DEC 2024			
			Pass Percent				Pass Percent
Semester	Appeared	Passed	(%)	Semester	Appeared	Passed	(%)
II	14	10	71.00	I	5	2	40.00
IV	17	9	53.00	III	13	5	36.46
VI	10	10	100.00	V	17	17	100.00

Departmental Research Activities

Shri. Bishal Rai

Book Chapter

Rai. B. (2024). Digital Finance and Digital Payments Interface in India: A Reality Check. In D. Sinha, & S. Sharma (Eds.), Digital Governance and Digital Politics in South Asia (pp. 27-43). Bloomsbury, November 2024, ISBN 978-93-56407-06-0.

Workshops Attended

Participated in NEP-2020 Orientation and Sensitization Programme organized by the UGC, Malviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, University of North Bengal from 22 July 2024 to 30 July 2024.

Participated in the Two-day workshop on Research Methodology & Training in Economics organized by the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal from 20 February 2025 to 21 February 2025.

Participated and completed the Three-day Training of Trainers Program on Ai Tools for Higher Education/HEIs organized by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph's College, North Point, Darjeeling, Under the North Zone Colleges, Conference of the Jesuit Higher Education Association of South Asia (JHEASA) from 25-27 November 2024.

Seminar Presentation

Mr. Bishal Rai presented a paper 'Human Capital in the Himalayan Region: A Study of Darjeeling and Kalimpong Hills' at the Two-day Bilingual Internal Conference, 'Dynamics of Cultures, Languages & Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region', organized by Department of Political Science and Department of Nepali, St. Joseph's College, from 22-23 November 2024.

Dr. Sujoy Kanti Ghoshal

Participated and completed the Three-day Training of Trainers Program on Ai Tools for Higher Education/HEIs organized by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph's

College, North Point, Darjeeling, Under the North Zone Colleges, Conference of the Jesuit Higher Education Association of South Asia (JHEASA) from 25-27 November 2024.

Ms. Anugraha Kalikote

Participated and completed the Three-day Training of Trainers Program on Ai Tools for Higher Education/HEIs organized by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph's College, North Point, Darjeeling, Under the North Zone Colleges, Conference of the Jesuit Higher Education Association of South Asia (JHEASA) from 25-27 November 2024.

Challenges

The declining number of students opting for Economics as a Major subject is one of the challenges faced by the department. However, this is also due to the fact that students in their +2 level have not opted Mathematics as one subject which would have allowed the students to opt for Economics. Furthermore, the progressive movement of students from one semester to another semester has also to some extent affected the performance of the students in the department.