

St Joseph's College, Darjeeling

The 98th Annual Report: 2024-25

The Annual Report for the academic session 2024–25, highlights a comprehensive overview of achievements in academics, co-curricular activities, and sports. This year has been marked by significant achievements in academics, co-curricular activities, and sports, reflecting our commitment to holistic education. Our students have demonstrated excellence, resilience, and creativity, supported by dedicated staff and encouraging parents

Academic Performance of the Students

The results B.A., B.Com. & B. Sc. [Three Years (Honours & General)] University Examinations - 2024 for the Academic Session 2021-2024 declared on 3rd September 2024 are:

Department	Regular Students		
	Appeared	Passed	Pass Percent
Economics	10	8	80%
English	66	64	97%
Geography	44	36	82%
History	74	66	89%
Mass com. & Journalism	32	23	72%
Nepali	17	15	88%
Political Science	72	60	83%
Sociology	58	50	86%
Botany	28	24	86%
Chemistry	21	15	71%
Computer Science	4	4	100%
Mathematics	30	6	20%
Microbiology	28	24	86%
Physics	24	6	25%
Zoology	31	24	77%
B.Com (Honours)	60	33	55%
BBA	29	16	55%

BCA	28	21	75%
B. A (Program)	106	47	30%
B. Sc (Program)	2	0	0%
B.Com (Program)	22	10	45%
M.A.	13	13	100%
TOTAL	799	565	71%

Admission 2024-25

The process of admission for the session 2024-25 under Four Year Undergraduate Program (FYUGP)

The form-filling process for admission to the Four-Year Undergraduate Program at St. Joseph's College commenced on June 20 and concluded on July 9. Prospective students were required to submit their applications online in adherence to the provided guidelines. It has been observed that there is a notable decline in the number of students opting for the Pure Science stream, a trend that is evident not only at St. Joseph's College but also across the region. Thanks to the Admission Committee coordinated by Fr Binay Xavier Kandulna for the smooth conduct of the entire admission process.

Admission 2024-25

Sl No	Hons / Prog Subject	Seats	Present
1	Botany	40	21
2	Chemistry	35	11
3	Commerce	75	75
4	Computer Science	29	14
5	Economics	62	4
6	English	80	80
7	Geography	50	30
8	History	80	81
9	Mass Comm	80	37
10	Mathematics	50	13

11	Microbiology	40	19
12	Nepali	70	13
13	Physics	35	14
14	Political Science	80	83
15	Sociology	70	71
16	Zoology	40	39
17	BBA (Multi-Disciplinary)	65	42
18	BCA (Multi-Disciplinary)	48	47
19	BA (Multi-Disciplinary)	216	39
20	B COM (Multi-Disciplinary)	75	18
21	BSC (Multi-Disciplinary)	40	1
	TOTAL	1360	752

Induction Programme

On August 22nd, the college organised Induction Program for the incoming first-semester students, designed to introduce them to the institution's unique ethos and culture. The program featured a series of informative sessions led by various coordinators from different committees and clubs. Each coordinator provided insights into their respective organizations, highlighting opportunities for involvement and personal growth. Students were invited to explore diverse clubs and committees, ranging from academic societies and cultural groups to sports teams and volunteer organizations. The coordinators encouraged students to participate actively in extracurricular activities, which offer valuable experiences and contribute to a well-rounded education ([Plate 1](#)).

Academic and Non-Academic Activities

Co-curricular Activities

- The college observed the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola with a special Eucharistic celebration in the college chapel ([Plate 2](#)). The event commenced with a carefully planned Eucharist by Fr. K.L. George, which brought together members of the college community and students from both hostels. The Eucharist, celebrated on July 31, 2024, was presided over by Fr. Donatus Kujur, SJ, who delivered an inspiring homily to the college students. During his sermon, Fr. Kujur shared insights into Jesuit values and spirituality, emphasizing the importance of intellectual and moral growth. He highlighted that, like St. Ignatius, they should strive for excellence not only in their academic endeavors but also in their service to humanity.

- On August 12, 2024, six students from the Department of Zoology, accompanied by two teachers, participated in two events at Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy in Siliguri ([Plate 3](#)). The events included a poster presentation and an extempore competition, both focused on the theme of Human-Elephant Conflict and mitigation approaches. These activities were organized in collaboration with the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- On August 15, 2024, the 78th Independence Day was commemorated with a flag hoisting ceremony at 6:15 a.m. in the college campus ([Plate 4](#)). The flag was raised with dignity by an NCC cadet, surrounded by staff, teachers, and students who gathered to honor the significance of the day. The college's NCC, comprising both boys and girls, participated in a grand event organized by the GTA at Gorkha Stadium in Lebung. Among the many participants, the Girls' NCC wing stood out for their exceptional performance, securing the First Prize in the march past.
- On August 20, the Department of Nepali observed *Bhanu* and *Bhasa Smriti Diwas* with a lively array of events that showcased the region's cultural richness and linguistic heritage ([Plate 5](#)). The celebrations featured vibrant traditional dances and an inter-departmental recitation of the Ramayana, with participants from different departments coming together to perform this revered epic.
- Teachers Day celebrated in the respective Department from 2. 00 pm on 5th September.
- On 24 September, the National Service Scheme (NSS) unit at St. Joseph's College celebrated its foundation day with an induction program for new members, highlighting the significance of NSS and its activities ([Plate 6](#)). The event featured a cultural program presented by students, showcasing their talents and fostering community spirit and engagement within the organization, making it a memorable occasion for all involved.
- On August 28, 2024, the Department of English, in collaboration with the Scholar Society, hosted an event themed "Meraki," which embodies channeling emotional energy in a creative, soulful, and loving manner ([Plate 7](#)). The event featured a cultural dances and evocative poetry, celebrating artistic expression and emotional depth. Participants and audiences alike were immersed in a rich performance that highlighted the passion and creativity.
- St. Joseph's College excelled at INSCAPE 2024, an inter-college event organized by Salesian College (Autonomous) Siliguri from September 27 to 28, 2024. The college achieved 14 wins across 12 events, making the entire institution proud. A total of 51 students from St. Joseph's College participated in INSCAPE. Dr. Shristi Kala Chettri, Assistant Professor of Sociology, served as the coordinator and teacher in charge for the two-day event. The events that St. Joseph's college won are as follows:

Date	Events	Position		
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd
27/9/2024	Nukkad Natak			3 rd
	DSLR photography	1 st	2 nd	3 rd

	Short film	1 st		
	Reels on wheels		2 nd	
	<i>Ouiz</i> Itihas Namah – The Echoes of Past		2 nd	
	Out of the book	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
28/9/2024	Mindset Galaxy		2 nd	
	Geo-hunt			3 rd
	Press-conference	1 st		
	Trash to Treasure	1 st		
	Clash of ideas (Debate)	1 st		
	Total	06	05	04

- On October 25, 2024, the college hosted the Rupnarayan Sinha Inter-College Debate Competition, centered on the topic “One Nation, One Vote is Good for the Nation” ([Plate 8](#)). Eight colleges participated in this event, with participants from Kurseong College emerging as the best debaters, exhibiting exceptional arguments and presentation skills. Bijanbari Degree College secured the runner-up position, and the jury awarded Ms Sanjana Rai of Bijanbari Degree College the title of Best Debater for her outstanding debating skills.
- 25 Nov. Meghanjali Pradhan from the Political Science Department won First Prize in the Inter-College Extempore Competition at the Darjeeling Book Fair on the 25th, organized by Gorkhaland Territorial Administration and the Office Darjeeling District Library ([Plate 9](#)).
- On January 22, 2025, a group of 25 students from St. Joseph's College actively participated in *Technokrat-2025*, a prestigious inter-college event organized by Salesian College, Siliguri ([Plate 10](#)).

Among the highlights of their performance was their victory in the Gaming category, where they secured first prizes in two popular games: *Battlegrounds Mobile India (BGMI)* and *Mobile Legends*.

- The *Department of the Year* event began on 7th March with an electrifying opening performance by the Dance Club, which set the stage for an exciting day of cultural festivities. Departments across the college, including Commerce, Geography, Political Science, Nepali, Botany, Chemistry, History, English, Zoology, Physics, Computer Science, Sociology, and Microbiology, showcased their diverse cultural talents through vibrant performances ([Plate 11](#)).

International women day observed by Dept of Botany through Poster

The Department of Botany observed International Women's Day with an engaging awareness campaign on March 8, 2025 ([Plate 12](#)). The posters featured artwork and messages celebrating the contributions of women in science, society, and various fields. Written slogans emphasized empowerment, equality, and respect for women's rights.

The Inter-Departmental Photography Competition, titled *Beyond Colours*, was held at St. Joseph's College on 15th March 2025, celebrating the art of photography and creative expression. The event featured stunning photographs that captured various themes, from nature and human emotions to innovative interpretations of colours and light. The exhibition was graced by Brihat Rai, a renowned photographer, who served as the chief guest and appreciated the talent and passion displayed by the participants. The winners of the competition were recognized for their exceptional work: Priyasha Lama from the Department of BBA secured first place with a striking photograph that beautifully portrayed the play of light and shadow. Muhammad Nafees from the Department of Political Science earned second place with a thought-provoking image that captured the essence of human expression. Third place went to Abhiyan Pradhan from the Department of Mass Communication, whose photograph skilfully depicted vibrant and dynamic colours

Board Work Competition by Yet Club

The Board Work Competition, organized by the YAT Club and Student Council, showcased remarkable talent and teamwork on March 15 ([Plate 13](#)). In a highly competitive event, Political Science secured the 1st position with an impressive 261 points. Sociology followed closely, clinching the 2nd position with 258 points. Chemistry rounded off the top three, earning 232 points to claim the 3rd position. Congratulations to all the participants for their dedication and hard work in making the event a success.

Art Competition on feature sketching, painting and heritage strokes

- The Inter-Department Art Competition held on 15th March was a vibrant celebration of creativity and talent, bringing together students from various departments to showcase their artistic abilities. The competition featured three categories: Sketching, Painting, and Heritage Strokes ([Plate 14](#)).
- In the **Sketching** category, Aman Sharma from BCA 4th Semester clinched the 1st position with 161 points, demonstrating exceptional skill and attention to detail. Preetam Tamang from History 4th Semester secured the 2nd position with 158 points, while Ashmita Sharma from Chemistry 6th Semester took home the 3rd position with 157 points.
- In **Painting**, Abhimanyu Rai from Physics 6th Semester emerged as the winner, earning 158 points for his captivating work. Bijay Thami from Political Science 6th Semester earned the 2nd position with 150 points, followed closely by Nitika Gurung from Botany 6th Semester, who secured the 3rd position with 149 points.
- The **Heritage Strokes** category, which focused on capturing cultural heritage, was equally competitive. Ayush Rai from BBA 2nd Semester claimed the 1st position with 157 points,

impressing the judges with his intricate design. Umang Lohangan from Political Science 4th Semester secured the 2nd position with 156 points, and Mahak Gupta from MCJ 1st Semester earned the 3rd position with 154 points.

Inter Department Extempore Competition by AICUF

The Inter-Department Extempore Competition, organized by AICUF, was held on the 15th of March in the Campion Hall ([Plate 15](#)). The Commerce Department emerged as the winner, demonstrating excellent oratory and coherence. The BCA Department secured the second position, while the Zoology Department claimed the third spot.

Commerce Club

The “Inter-Departmental Mock Placement Pursuit Coopetition”, organized by the Commerce Club on 22nd March, was aimed to provide students with a realistic experience of placement processes, encouraging them to showcase their skills while also fostering inter-departmental collaboration ([Plate 16](#)).



Following several intense rounds, the winners were: Timila Shakya from the Department of Sociology emerged in first place, impressing the judges with her exceptional performance. Rehan D Bhattarai from the Department of Computer Science secured the second position, Phuntso Dondu from the Department of English claimed third place.

Inter Dept MIC competition

The Art Club, successfully organized the *Inter-Department Open MIC “Stand-Up Comedy Competition”* on 22nd March 2025 ([Plate 17](#)). The competition saw participation from 11 departments, each presenting humorous performances that covered topics such as student life, current events, and general observations. The winners of the competition were:

- First Place: Joy. Xalxo, Department of English
- Second Place: Ayush Rai, Department of Mathematics
- Third Place: Adithya Rodrick Chettri, Department of Microbiology

Inter department Elocution competition

On March 22, the Scholar Society organized an inter-departmental elocution competition ([Plate 18](#)). The first position was secured by Pemba Tshering from the English Department, followed by Nancy Christina Lakra, also from the English Department, who claimed second place. Neha Gurung from the Physics Department earned the third position.

AURORA, an Inter-Departmental Quiz Competition, was organized by the **Science and Research Club** on March 5 ([Plate 19](#)). After several intense rounds, the **Political Science Department** secured the **1st Position**, followed by the **Botany Department** in **2nd Place**, and the **Mathematics Department** in **3rd Place**.

Poster presentation

The **Department of Microbiology** organized a **Poster Presentation** on April 5 ([Plate 20](#)). A number of departments participated enthusiastically, showcasing original and thought-provoking posters. After careful evaluation, the **Department of BBA** was awarded the **1st Position**, followed by the **Department of Political Science** in **2nd Place**, and the **Department of BCA** in **3rd Place**.

Best with Waste Materials

The **Students' Council** organized a creative competition titled "**Best Out of Waste**" to promote the recycling of waste materials and raise awareness about environmental sustainability ([Plate 21](#)). Participants showcased impressive and eco-friendly creations using discarded items, demonstrating both creativity and a strong sense of environmental responsibility. After thoughtful evaluation, the **Political Science Department** secured the **1st Position**, followed by the **Commerce Department** in **2nd Place**, and the **BBA Department** in **3rd Place**.

Treasure hunt

A **Treasure Hunt** event was organized by the **Geographical Society** as a fun and engaging activity for students ([Plate 22](#)). After a thrilling and competitive hunt, the **Department of Microbiology** emerged victorious, securing the **first prize**. Their excellent teamwork, strategy, and quick thinking set them apart.

The **Art Club** organized an inspiring **Art Exhibition** from April 10-11 ([Plate 23](#)). The event featured a diverse collection of artworks, including paintings, sketches, and mixed media, reflecting various themes and artistic styles. Visitors, including faculty, students, and guests, appreciated the originality and effort displayed in each piece.

Insvaganza 2025

The students of St. Joseph's College actively participated in Invaganza 2025, an inter-college fest organized by Inspiria College on 11th and 12th April 2025 ([Plate 24](#)). The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from various institutions, and our students performed exceptionally well across multiple categories.

Winners:

1. BGMI (Esports)
2. Photography

3. Solo Singing – Indian (Female)

Runners-up:

1. Face Painting (2nd Position)
2. Solo Singing – Western (Male)
3. Film Quiz
4. Pakwan (Culinary Event) (2nd Position)
5. Taste the Ingredients (Culinary Challenge)

The Department of English, in collaboration with the Scholar Society, organized *Muktodhara*, a heartfelt tribute to the legendary Rabindranath Tagore on May 9. Students and faculty came together to present performances that reflected Tagore's vision of harmony, freedom, and creativity. The atmosphere resonated with his soulful melodies and expressive choreography, offering a unique homage that honoured his contribution to art and culture.

Field trip

A field trip to Zuluk, East Sikkim was organized for the 4th-semester students of the Department of Geography from 11th to 14th April ([Plate 25](#)). A total of 41 students, accompanied by Ms. Riyankit Lepcha and Ms. Parvati Rai, participated in the trip. The primary objective of the visit was to conduct a socio-economic survey of the region, providing students with hands-on experience in field research and data collection. The students engaged with local communities, gathering valuable insights into their socio-economic conditions, agricultural practices, and lifestyle.

Field Survey on Disaster Management

- ✓ A 7-day field trip from April 13 to 18 was conducted by 31 students, guided by two faculty members, on the Bicholim River in Goa, a tributary that plays a vital role in shaping the local geography and livelihoods. Surveys were carried out across 100 households of varying economic backgrounds ([Plate 26](#)). Data was collected through interviews and observations, focusing on disaster experiences, infrastructure, and community resilience.
- ✓ The Department of Zoology organized an Educational visit for 5th semester students on 23rd October 2024 to Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park. Thirty four students under the guidance of Mrs Albina Subba and Mr Shuvam Sharma participated in the study tour. Students were able to observe animal behavior, understand their needs, and ask questions about what they see, fostering a more analytical approach to learning.
- ✓ The Department of Zoology organized an Educational visit for 2nd semester students on 10th April 2025 to Sericulture Farm, Bijanbari. Thirty four students under the guidance of Dr. Ratul Datta Chaudhuri and Mr. Shuvam Sharma participated in the study tour. They were able to experience hands-on-learning about the process of silk production, from silkworm rearing to cocoon harvesting, and to understand the economic and biological importance of sericulture
- ✓ On 16th May 2025, the 6th Semester students from Department of Botany visited 27th Mile, Kalimpong District, for vegetation survey and dominant species study, as part of the academic curriculum at 27th Mile, Kalimpong District. The students were accompanied by Dr. Upakar Rai.
- ✓ On 16th November 2024, the 1st Semester students Department of Botany visited an organic farm in Rajbari, Darjeeling to learn the techniques in organic farming.

- ✓ On 27th May 2025, the 4th Semester student Department of Botany visited Rampuria forest under Senchal Wildlife Sanctuary and Takdah-Tinchuley for study of flora ([Plate 27](#)). The students took photographs of angiospermic plants and pteridophytes. All 13 students participated in the field study accompanied by Dr. Upakar Rai and Dr. Anirudra Gurung.

Students Seminar

Eighteen students, accompanied by two teachers from the Department of Microbiology, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, participated in a three-day International Workshop cum Seminar on the theme "Molecular Biology and Immunology" held at St. Xavier's College, Rajgunj, in collaboration with DNA Labs CRIS, Dehradun from March 20-21 ([Plate 28](#)). In a significant achievement, the students of the department secured First Prize in the Poster Presentation, outperforming 18 other entries from various colleges in and around Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri.

On March 22, 2025, nine 6th Semester students, escorted by Prashanti Chettri from the Physics Department, attended the seminar "Perspective of Scientific Research: Past, Present, and Future" at DHU, Mungpoo. The participants included Abhimanyu, Saideep, Sushana, Bhawadivya, Wangdima, Norah, Rohit, Samit, and Sanjana.

A group of five students **Roma Saincy Kispotta, Melbin Miktan, Isha Kerketta, Arti Horo, and Angel Lakra** participated in a two-day workshop titled "*Leadership Development for Social Change - IGNITE, Inspire, Lead*", held at St. Xavier's University from 29th to 30th March 2025. As part of the workshop, a *Social Change Project Competition* was organized, where participants from seven colleges presented their innovative ideas and action plans for community betterment. Representing their institution with distinction, **Roma, Melbin, Isha, Arti, and Angel** secured **First Place**, showcasing a well-researched and impactful project that stood out among the entries.

Games and Sports

Inter-departmental badminton tournaments: From September 10 to 12, 2024, the college hosted inter-departmental badminton tournaments featuring both singles and doubles knockout formats for boys and girls ([Plate 29](#)). The top performers from each category earned the opportunity to represent the college in the upcoming University Badminton Tournament, scheduled later in September.

The badminton team from St. Joseph's College participated in the Dr. Gour Ch. Kundu Memorial Inter-College Badminton Tournament 2024-25, organized by the Sports Board of the University of North Bengal from 19 to 21 September ([Plate 30](#)). Out of 28 participating teams, and after a series of intense matches, they emerged as the runner-up, showcasing their determination and commitment to the sport.

A Kho Kho team of 12 girls from St. Joseph's College participated in the Panu Dutta Majumdar Memorial Inter-College Tournament 2024-25 on September 25, 2025, organized by the Sports Board at the University of North Bengal ([Plate 31](#)). The event was held at St. Xavier's College in Jalpaiguri.

Mr. Rohan Thapa, a first-semester Mass Communication student, had the honor of being India's sole representative at the first-ever Urban Downhill Mountain Biking Championship in South Asia, known as "Red Bull Tlang Ruam" ([Plate 32](#)). The event took place in Aizawl, Mizoram, from October 23 to 26. Urban downhill mountain biking is an extreme sport that combines thrilling descents through city landscapes with the need for exceptional skill and precision.

A team of students from St. Joseph's College enthusiastically participated in the Open Athletics Meet organized by Darjeeling Dist Athletic Association- Dristy Khel Kud Dristy on 3rd and 4th May 2025 at Gorkha Stadium, Lebong ([Plate 33](#)). Deepa Biswakarma secured First Place in the Open Girls Long Jump category, displaying outstanding skill and determination. Joy Xalxo earned Second Place in Shot Put and Third Place in Discus Throw in the Open Girls category. Sarbashi Surnali demonstrated commendable endurance by finishing Third in the Open Girls 1500m race. In the Open Boys category, Shobam Chettri achieved Third Place in High Jump.

The National Service Scheme (NSS)

December 21 to 26: The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of St. Joseph's College organized its annual camp from December 21 to 26, 2024, at Subash Primary School, Pattabong, Darjeeling ([Plate 34](#)).

Over the six days, the volunteers participated in various activities aimed at improving the well-being of the local community and creating a positive impact. The volunteers undertook a systematic cleaning drive, ensuring the surrounding areas of the school and nearby community were free from litter and waste. Besides, the volunteers were provided with guidance on conducting surveys effectively, enabling them to interact with the residents and understand the socio-economic challenges faced by the community. A cricket match with the youth was also organized, serving as a fun and interactive way to promote health awareness among the community. The evenings were often filled with informal discussions, cultural exchanges, and storytelling sessions, enriching the experience for both the volunteers and the community members. The camp exemplified the true spirit of the NSS motto, "Not Me, But You," emphasizing the importance of selfless service and collective effort in building a better society.

Blood Donation Camp was held at St. Joseph's College on 11th April 2025, organized by the NSS Unit in association with the Indian Red Cross, Darjeeling District Branch, and the District Hospital Blood Bank Unit ([Plate 35](#)). The camp aimed to encourage voluntary blood donation and raise awareness about the importance of blood in saving lives. The event saw enthusiastic participation, resulting in the collection of 73 units of blood, which will go a long way in helping those in need.

The camp was meticulously organized and operated smoothly, thanks to the tireless efforts of the **NSS Unit** students, whose hard work and dedication played a crucial role in ensuring its success. They helped in setting up, guiding donors, and managing the flow of the event. The collective effort highlighted the significance of blood donation in saving lives and promoting a culture of giving. The college community is proud of the success of this noble initiative.

Red Ribbon and anti-substance abuse awareness Program

On August 24th, the National Service Scheme (NSS) organized a vital awareness program focusing on anti-substance abuse and the Red Ribbon initiative. The event featured two distinguished speakers: Mr. Premus and Mr. Rajen Banerjee. Mr. Premus, a renowned advocate for substance abuse prevention, delivered a compelling talk on the dangers of drug and alcohol misuse ([Plate 36](#)). He emphasized the severe impacts of substance abuse on individuals and communities, including health risks, social issues, and the potential for addiction. Following Mr. Premus, Mr. Rajen Banerjee discussed the Red Ribbon campaign, which promotes awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS. Mr. Banerjee highlighted the significance of the Red Ribbon as a symbol of solidarity and support for those affected by HIV/AIDS. He provided insights into the importance of education, safe practices, and community support in combating the epidemic.

From September 6 to 10, 2024, the Youth Against Trafficking Club organized a powerful poster display highlighting various themes related to women and violence ([Plate 37](#)). The exhibition, held in response to the tragic murder of a Dr. student from RG Hospital Kolkata on August 8, 2024, aimed to raise awareness and foster discussion about the critical issue of violence against women. Each poster depicted harrowing realities and advocated for change, reflecting the club's commitment to combating violence and supporting victims. The campaign not only served as a poignant reminder of the urgent need for societal change but also as a call to action for the community to stand against all forms of gender-based violence.

The Department of Commerce organized a "Consumer Awareness Programme" on 13th September to educate students about the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, and to promote consumer rights and responsibilities while advocating for sustainable practices ([Plate 38](#)). The event was attended by various officials, faculty members, and enthusiastic club members, enhancing its significance. Notable speakers included Mr. Samden Lepcha, Deputy Assistant Director of Consumer Affairs in Darjeeling, along with Consumer Welfare Officers Mr. Yugen Lama and Mr. Suman Limbu, who provided valuable insights on consumer rights. Their contributions helped illuminate important topics, fostering greater awareness among students about their roles as informed consumers.

On April 4, a seminar on **Spreading Awareness on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs)** was organized by the **Department of Microbiology** with the aim of educating students about the risks, consequences, and prevention of STDs and related health issues ([Plate 39](#)). The session was led by **Ms. Rubina Pradhan**, Counsellor at **District Hospital, Darjeeling**, who provided valuable insights into the medical, psychological, and social impacts of STDs. The interactive seminar encouraged open dialogue and addressed common myths and misconceptions. The event was attended by **100 participants**, who actively engaged in discussions, making the seminar both informative and impactful for the student community.

The Placement and Career Guidance Cell, in collaboration with the Darjeeling Police and the Department of Computer Science and Application, organized an Awareness Programme on Cyber Security for students on May 6. The event aimed to educate participants about the growing threats in the digital world and promote safe online practices. Experts from the police department shared valuable insights on cybercrime prevention, responsible internet usage, and digital privacy. The

programme emphasized the importance of vigilance and knowledge in ensuring a secure digital environment for all.

National Cadet Corps

On 23 September, Seventy-four cadets from St. Joseph's College organized a rally under the aegis of the 5 Bengal Battalion NCC, aligned with the national theme of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, aimed at fostering a cleaner and greener India ([Plate 40](#)). The rally began with an inspiring address by the NCC leaders, who emphasized the importance of cleanliness in our daily lives and its impact on public health and the environment. The cadets, clad in their uniforms, marched through the streets, holding banners and placards that conveyed messages about sanitation, waste management, and the need for community participation in maintaining cleanliness.

Cdt Pratima Rai from the Dept of Political Science successfully scaled Mt Abi Gamin in Uttarakhand, reaching a height of 7,355 meters under the organization of the Director General of NCC, Delhi ([Plate 41](#)). This peak is recognized as the 10th tallest in Uttarakhand.

Mr. Kunga Sonam Sherpa from the Department of Geography participated in a Youth Exchange Program in Singapore from November 10 to 17, 2024, organized by NCC Delhi, which focused on cultural exchange, global connections, leadership development, and provided valuable insights into international collaboration and youth empowerment ([Plate 42](#)).

On 22nd November 2024, St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, hosted an engaging Infantry Weapon Display organized by the 5 Bengal Battalion NCC and 12 Mahar Regiment ([Plate 43](#)). The event aimed to inspire and encourage students to join the National Cadet Corps (NCC) by offering them a unique opportunity to experience firsthand the weapons used by the Indian Armed Forces.

Integration of 5 Bengal and 4 Bengal (G) into 5 Bengal Battalion

In a letter with Ref. No. 501/50/G dated 13 December 2024, it was communicated that 4 Bengal (G) Battalion NCC has been withdrawn and transferred to 5 Bengal Battalion at St Joseph's College. Under the new arrangement, a company comprising cadets from 5 Bengal Battalion and 4 Bengal (G) Battalion has been integrated into 5 Bengal Battalion to operate at St. Joseph's College. This restructuring is designed to enhance operational efficiency, ensure smooth functioning, and maintain high standards of NCC training. The adjustment also seeks to improve coordination and optimize training effectiveness while aligning with the geographical proximity of 5 Bengal Battalion's headquarters in Darjeeling.

St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, has proudly announced that one of its students, Pratima Rai, currently in the 4th semester of the Department of Political Science, has successfully summited Mount Everest (8,849m) at 3:00 AM on May 20, 2025 ([Plate 44](#)). A committed NCC cadet of the college, Pratima's accomplishment marks a significant milestone in the institution's history.

The college administration has lauded her achievement, calling it a moment of immense pride for the entire academic community. They noted that her successful ascent reflects the values of discipline, resilience, and excellence fostered at the institution. St. Joseph's College believes

Pratima Rai's remarkable journey will serve as an enduring source of inspiration for students across the region.

The **NCC Pledge Day Celebration** was held on 9th April, at 12:00 noon in front of Arrupe House, graced by Colonel Jagdish Almia, CO 5bn battalion NCC as the Chief Guest, along with the Principal and staff members [\(Plate 45\)](#). The event marked a significant moment for first-year cadets, who were formally initiated into NCC by taking the oath of commitment and service. The solemn ceremony was followed by a vibrant showcase of cultural programmes, reflecting the spirit, discipline, and unity of the NCC. The celebration served as a proud and inspiring moment, reinforcing the values of dedication, patriotism, and teamwork among the young cadets.



Students Council Oath taking ceremony took place in the MR hall:

On September 10, 2024, the MR Hall was filled with a sense of anticipation and excitement as the Principal administered the oath to the newly elected Student Council members. This ceremony marked the official commencement of their term, symbolizing a new chapter of leadership and responsibility within the college community [\(Plate 46\)](#).

Exchange Programme

As part of the Faculty Exchange Program at St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, Nepal, Dr. Shristy Kala Chettri and Fr. Donatus Kujur, SJ, participated in the 2nd International Conference held from November 14-15, 2024. The conference, themed **“Advancing Ethical Knowledge and Wisdom: Interdisciplinary Practices and Research,”** was organized by St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu [\(Plate 47\)](#).

Dr. Chettri presented her research on **“The Shift in Ethical Values and Its Impact on Identity Among Tibetan Refugees in the Indian Himalayas,”** examining the evolving ethical landscape and its implications on identity formation within refugee communities. Fr. Kujur, SJ, contributed with a paper titled **“Ethical Leadership and the Politics of Knowledge Production in Higher Education Institutions in India: Some Reflections,”** offering insights into leadership ethics and the challenges of knowledge production in Higher Education Institutions.

Award/Recognition

Heartiest congratulations to Lt Dr Diraj Brahmin, Dept of Chemistry and Mr Kunga Sonam Sherpa student from the Department of Geography who were honored with a plaque and medallion by Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, DGNCC, for their dedication, professionalism, and exemplary conduct on December 26 ([Plate 48](#)). The felicitation took place during his visit to the Group HQ Darjeeling today. Well done, and continue to uphold the Battalion's pride!

Ms. Ismrity Katwal, a student from the Department of History at St. Joseph's College, has been crowned 'Miss North East India Supermodel 2025' by beating 26 competitors in the prestigious competition held at the Mayfair Resort in Gangtok on March 9, 2025 ([Plate 49](#)).

Book Release

- On August 17, 2024, St. Joseph's College held a special event in the Conference Hall to mark the release of "Mismass," a new book authored by Dr. Radha Sharma from the Department of Nepali ([Plate 50](#)). The occasion was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Anuradha Rai and Fr. Donatus Kujur, SJ who officiated the book launch. The ceremony was attended by a gathering of staff and students, creating a vibrant atmosphere of academic and cultural celebration
- The book *Digital Governance and Digital Politics in South Asia*, edited by Dr. Samir Sharma and Prof. Dipankar Sinha, which explores digital transformation in governance and politics across the region, was officially released on 22 November ([Plate 51](#)).

Training Program for AICUF

On August 26th, an informative introduction to AICUF (All India Catholic University Federation) was organized by Dr. Chiranjilal Kujur and Fr. Dr. James Anthony ([Plate 52](#)). During the session, Fr. Dennis Soosai highlighted the crucial role students play in AICUF activities, emphasizing the importance of community service and social responsibility. He encouraged students to actively participate in AICUF's initiatives, which aim to foster a spirit of service and solidarity. The event provided valuable insights into how engaging with AICUF can enhance personal growth and contribute to the broader community, setting the stage for meaningful involvement and leadership.

From February 12th to 16th, 2025, Ms Ariti Horo, Ms Annei Mongrati, Mr Nicholas Tamang Accompanied by Ms Evelyn Lepcha from St. Joseph's attended a three-day Leadership Development Program organized for the institutions of JHEASA North Zone at Godavari Ashram in Kathmandu, Nepal, by Fr. Augustine, Principal of St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu. The program aimed to enhance the leadership skills of young minds, equipping them with tools to lead with purpose, integrity, and emotional intelligence.

One of the initial sessions, *Journey into the Self*, encouraged participants to reflect on their personal strengths, weaknesses, and areas for growth, promoting self-awareness as a key trait for effective leadership. *Ignatius as a Leader* explored the teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, highlighting

servant leadership, humility, and values-driven leadership as critical components of modern leadership. *Heroic Style of Leadership* emphasized resilience, courage, and the importance of leading by example, particularly in challenging situations. The session encouraged students to face adversity with integrity and passion.

Seminar/Workshop

On 8th March, 2025, a one-day state-level seminar titled “*Sustainable Future: The Role of Technology in Environmental Conservation*” was conducted at St. Joseph’s College. The event was jointly organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and the Geographical Society, Department of Geography, St. Joseph’s College. The seminar aimed to bring together academicians, students, and professionals to deliberate on the intersection of technological advancement and environmental sustainability

A two day The **Bilingual International Conference on “Dynamics of Culture, Language, and Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Regions”** was successfully organized by the **Departments of Political Science and Nepali** ([Plate 53](#)), bringing together scholars, researchers, and thought leaders from across India and Nepal from September 22-23. The conference featured **72 paper presentations** by academicians and research scholars from various institutions in India and Nepal. The presentations were organized into thematic sessions, each focusing on different aspects of culture, language, and literature in the Eastern Himalayas.

The **Department of Chemistry** successfully organized a two-day international conference titled “**Emerging Trends in Science: Challenges and Opportunities**”, which took place in **hybrid mode**, allowing both in-person and virtual participation from April 7-8 ([Plate 54](#)). The conference featured a diverse array of research paper presentations covering cutting-edge developments and pressing challenges in various scientific disciplines. Participants shared innovative ideas, discussed recent scientific breakthroughs, and explored interdisciplinary approaches to address global issues through science.

Faculty Development Program (FDP)

A three-day **Faculty Development Program (FDP) on Artificial Intelligence Tools for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education** was organized by the **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)** of St. Joseph’s College in collaboration with St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur, from **November 25 to 27, 2024** ([Plate 55](#)). The program aimed to equip faculty members with the knowledge and skills to integrate AI tools effectively in their teaching and research practices.

The sessions were led by two distinguished resource persons: **Mr. John Philip Xavier** and **Ms. Sangrita Acharya**, who provided an in-depth overview of AI’s role in transforming higher education. The program commenced with an introduction to AI applications in educational settings, highlighting its potential to enhance learning outcomes, personalize instruction, and streamline administrative tasks.

The collaborative workshop between St. Joseph's College, North Point, Darjeeling, and DLR Prerna, titled *Mental Health, Ethics and the Darjeeling Himalaya: Emerging Issues and Research Pathways*, was held on March 11, 2025, at St. Joseph's College Conference Hall ([Plate 56](#)). The event addressed the growing concerns about mental health in the Darjeeling region, highlighting the limited care, support, and research available. The workshop focused on ethical research practices and practical solutions for improving mental health care. Eminent global panelists, including Dr. Amar Jessani, Dr. Sunita Sheel Bandewar, Ms. Jasmine Kalha, Dr. Christina Cruz, Dr. Dipanjan Bandyopadhyay, and Mr. Saptak Halder, contributed valuable insights.

An invited talk titled "*Voicing the Silences: Jacinta Kerketta and Contemporary Tribal Jharkhand*" was organized by the Department of English on 11th March 2025. The talk was delivered by Dr. Shreya Bhattacharji, Professor in the Department of English Studies and Dean of the School of Language, Central University of Jharkhand ([Plate 57](#)).

On the 12th of June 2025, the Department of Physics at St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), successfully hosted a **One Day Seminar on "Frontiers in Astrophysics and Cosmology"**, a scholarly initiative aimed at delving into the evolving boundaries of modern astrophysical research and cosmological exploration. The seminar brought together esteemed scientists, academicians, research scholars, and enthusiastic students in an engaging intellectual dialogue on the mysteries of the universe.

An invited lecture on "Frontiers in Relativistic Astrophysics and Mathematical Exploration (FRAME)" by Prof. Meghandhren Govender from the Department of Mathematics, Durban University of Technology, was held on 27th June 2025. The event, organized by the Department of Physics, showcased cutting-edge developments in astrophysics and mathematical physics.

Farewell/Adieu

The college bid a heartfelt farewell to **Dr. Dorjay Lama**, honoring his exceptional service and commitment over an illustrious 38-year career on March 29, 2025 ([Plate 58](#)). Joining as a faculty member in the Department of Life Science in 1987, Dr. Lama held various key roles, including Head of the Department of Botany, Member of the Governing Body, and a pivotal contributor to the founding of the Department of Microbiology in 2004–2005. He also served as Vice Principal (Administration) from 2015 to 2022. Dr. Lama's leadership and dedication have left a lasting legacy. The college community expresses its heartfelt gratitude and wishes him health, happiness, and fulfillment in the years ahead.

A farewell programme was held on 30 April to mark the retirement of Fr. K. J. Joseph, who rendered 35 long years of dedicated service to the institution ([Plate 59](#)). He contributed as a committed teacher, librarian, Vice Principal, coordinator of AICUF and NSS and Superior of the House.

Graduation Day

Graduation Day Faculty members, parents, and students came together on the 22nd of May to celebrate Graduation Day 2025 with great pride and joy, marking a significant milestone in the academic journey of the students of St. Joseph's College, Darjeeling ([Plate 60](#)). The event was a memorable occasion where meritorious students from various departments were honoured with certificates and medals in recognition of their academic excellence, dedication, and hard work.

The ceremony was graced by the esteemed presence of the Chief Guest, Rector Prof. ThLic. Mgr. Miloš Lichner SJ, D.Th., from Trnava University (TRUNI), Slovakia. In his Commencement Speech, Prof. Lichner commended the students for their achievements and encouraged them to continue striving for excellence in their future endeavours. He emphasized the importance of education in shaping not only careers but also character and societal values. The event ended on a note of pride and hope, as the graduates prepared to embark on the next chapter of their lives, guided by the values and knowledge they had gained from the institution.

Orientation/RC

Soumik Dutta

- Attended the NEP 2020 Orientation & sensitization Programme organised by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, University of North Bengal from 22-30 July, 2024.

Dr Debarghya Goswami

- Attended **RC** on Advanced Molecules and Materials for Sustainable Chemistry (Subject area: Chemistry, Physics, Botany, Pharmaceutical Technology and allied subjects) organised by UGC- Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, University of North Bengal from August 28 to September 10, 2024.

Mrs. Barkha Rai

- Participated in the NEP 2020 Orientation and Sensitization on Program under Malaviya Mission teachers training programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission organised by the University of North Bengal from 22 July to 30 July 2024.

Board of Studies

Mr Satyaki Mitra of Department of Commerce served as Board of Studies in Commerce for the academic year 2024-2025.

Staff

Fr Dr Donatus Kujur, SJ

- Conducted a workshop on Outcome Based Education and Binary Accreditation System for Teachers of Christ College, Jagdalpur on July 4-5, 2024
- Orientation on NEP2020 for the Head of the Institution managed by the congregation of St Ann at Jalpiguri on August 18, 2024
- On April 11–12, 2025 gave a talk on the theme '*Shared Vision*', centering on the sub-theme: *An Introduction to Christianity and Catholicism, the Integration of Cultural and Interreligious Traditions in Education, and Ignatian Values and Mantras*, for the faculty of St. Peter's Higher Secondary School, Gayaganga.
- On May 16–17, 2025 , gave a talk on the theme '*Shared Vision*', centering on the sub-theme: *An Introduction to Christianity and Catholicism, the Integration of Cultural and Interreligious Traditions in Education, and Ignatian Values and Mantras*, for the faculty of St Xaviers School, Alipurduar.
- Presented a paper titled “Ethical Leadership and the Politics of Knowledge Production in Higher Education Institutions in India: Some Reflections” at the 2nd International Conference on “Advancing Ethical Knowledge and Wisdom: Interdisciplinary Practices and Research,” organized by St. Xavier’s College, Kathmandu, held from November 14–15, 2024.

Department of English

Mr Ashish Chettri.

Papers published:

- Rooted in Place..., International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews, International Open Access, Peer reviewed Journal February 2025. E-ISSN: 2348-1269.
- Whispers of Ancestors..., Lokaratna, An International Peer Reviewed Journal, Vol. XVIII, December 2024, ISSN: 2347-6427.
- Unpacking the Postcolonial Puzzle..., The Criterion: An International Peer-Reviewed Journal in English, Vol 15, Issue VI, December, 2024, ISSN0976-8165.

Dr. Pathik Roy

- Completed a Certificate Course (Online) on **Documentation and Digitization in Archives** between June 9 – June 29, 2024 conducted by Varahamihara Multidisciplinary Institute, Asiatic Society for Social Science Research.
- Delivered an invited lecture titled, “*Moral Relativism and (De) Centered Masculinity : Modernist Alienation and Nostalgia in “The Blue Mimosa”*” at the Bilingual International Conference on **Dynamics of Cultures, Languages and Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region** on 22nd -23rd November, 2024 organized by St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling.

- Delivered an invited lecture titled, “*Indian Knowledge System, Pedagogical inclusion/exclusion and Ideological Dissemination: Unpacking English Teaching in the Indian Classrooms*” at the ICSSR sponsored Two – Day National Seminar on **Decolonizing Indian Knowledge: Reclaiming Indigenous Epistemologies and Practices** on 7th -8th February, 2025 organized by Department of Sociology, Cluny Women’s College, Kalimpong.
- Delivered the key note address titled, “*Institutionalizing IKS : Texts, Contexts and Perspectives*” at the One Day National Seminar on **Indian/Indigenous Knowledge System: Exploring Darjeeling Knowledge System** on 28th May, 2025 organized by Darjeeling Government College, Darjeeling.
- Chaired the Valedictory Session with eminent author Prajwal Parajuli as the guest speaker at the Bilingual International Conference, Dynamics of Cultures, Languages and Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region on 22nd -23rd November, 2024 organized by St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling.
- Invited as a Resource Person to give a lecture on *Contemporary Issues in IKS : Inter-civilisational Exchanges* at Six-day Capacity Building Programme on Indian Knowledge System (24th February- 1st March 2025) sponsored by University Grants Commission and organized by Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) , Berhampur University, Orissa.

Department of Economics

Shri. Bishal Rai

Book Chapter

- Digital Finance and Digital Payments Interface in India: A Reality Check in Digital Governance and Digital Politics in South Asia, Bloomsbury
- Paper presented on Human Capital in the Himalayan Region: A Study of Darjeeling and Kalimpong Hills in the National seminar on Dynamics of Cultures, Languages, & Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region organized by St. Joseph’s College from 22-23 November, 2024

Department of Nepali

Dr Radha Sharma

Book

- मिसमास 2024: Sajha Pustak Prakasan, Darjeeling 978-81-957340-5-4

Sri Bhupal Chhetri

- Presented a paper on हरिभक्त कटुवालको सुधा खण्डकाव्यको प्रवृत्तिगत अध्ययन in the National seminar on Dynamics of Cultures, Languages, & Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region organized by St. Joseph’s College from 22-23 November, 2024

Sri Balaram Sapkota

- Presented a paper on राजभरि हुरी चल्यो कथामा कथावाचकको वर्चस्वको रणनीति in the National seminar on Dynamics of Cultures, Languages, & Literatures: Exploring the Eastern Himalayan Region organized by St. Joseph's College from 22-23 November, 2024
- Presented a paper on आँगनको घाममा लाटा कथामा कथावाचकको स्थिति in the seminar साहित्य अध्ययनका समकालीन सिद्धान्त : पद्धति अनि प्रयोगorganised by Department of Nepali, NBU from 19-20 December, 2024

Department of Bengali

Dr Mondal, Phani Bhuson

Chapter(s) in Edited Book Volume(s) :

- 'Lokayato Natyarasa : Lokottor NA Lokayato ?', "Rasatirtha – Pather Pathik", Edited by Dr. Subrata Chakraborty, First Published, Anuvuti Prakashan, Paschim Medinipur, July 2024, pp. 241–251 [ISBN NO : 978-93-6102-357-6]

Research Article in Journal(s) :

- Mondal, Phani Bhuson, 'Ramkinkarer Theater Charcha', "Gananatya", Edited by Shyamal Bhattacharya, Vol. 60 No. 5, September-October 2024, pp. 55–68.
- 'Droher Bikalpo Sanskriti O Pathanatoker Natun Itihas', "Gananatya", Edited by Shyamal Bhattacharya, Vol. 60 No. 6, November-December 2024, pp. 8–10.
- 'Lokadhunik Bangla Natya O Tar Talika', "Gananatya", Edited by Shyamal Bhattacharya, Vol. 61 No. 1, January-February 2025, pp. 72–87.
- 'Madhabayan O Tar Natyaparikraman', "Shristir Ekush Shatak", Edited by Arun Kundu, Vol. 20 No. 4, April 2025, pp. 49–50.

Department of Geography

Mr. Prashant Mukhia

- Participated in "Training on Google Earth Engine (Forestry Basics)" during 24th-25th August 2024 at TGIS Online Platform, Ahmedabad Gujarat.
- Has participated in 3days workshop on "Data Analytics – Surveys & Research" from 29th August to 31st August 2024 organized by RCHUB Educational Academy.
- Has successfully completed the "Skillup: Basics & Advanced of GIS" a 15days hands on live training conducted by Ecospatial Lab from 14th September to 29th September 2024.

Workshop Attended

- Miss. Parvati Rai & Mr. Prashant Mukhia participated in a 2 days workshop on Undergraduate FYUGP syllabus in Geography, University of North Bengal on 13th – 14th

November 2024 organized by Undergraduate Board of studies in Geography, University of North Bengal.

Department of History

Research Article Publication

Pariyar, Sumanta and Chettri, Shakher.

- Hindu Artefacts Excavated from North Bengal. (2024). *Heritage Research journal (care)*, 72 (3), 21.

Mr Chettri, Shakher.

- Rise of Education and Christianity in Darjeeling: A Parallel Process (2025).. In Abdul Foyes Md Malik (Ed.), *Ethnicity, Identity, and Cultural Diversity* (pp. 254-257). SUN BEAM.

Ms. Sumanta Pariyar and Mr. Shakher Chettri

- Participated in the Three-Day Training of Trainers Program on AI Tools for Higher Education/ HEIs, organised by St. Xavier's College Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph's College North Point Darjeeling, from 25th to 27th November 2024.

Department of Political Science

Dr. Samir Sharma,

- Deliver a special talk for the program titled "सीमा क्षेत्र बाट" (From the Borderlands) on "India's Neighbourhood Policy" on All India Radio (AIR) at Kurseong on 4th July 2024.
- Deliver a “**Special Lecture**” on the digital futures of South Asia at Salesian College (Autonomous) Siliguri on 23 September 2024.
- Presented a paper on the complex topic of the India-Nepal "open border," highlighting nine critical issues including the 1950 Treaty at the University of Calcutta, Department of Political Science, during the Annual National Seminar titled "Borders of Politics: Challenges and Negotiations,” from 17–18 February 2025;

Publication

- Translation, titled “नेपालमा चीनको सैन्य कूटनीति,” was published by the Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, SNU (Delhi-NCR) as part of the Occasional Paper series (No. 3, February 2024). The original work, “China's Military Diplomacy in Nepal: Soft Balancing Against India and Attendant Complications,” was authored by Dr. Atul Kumar, who is currently an Associate Member at the University of Sydney's China Studies Centre in Sydney, Australia.

- Translated a piece on Sikkim's geopolitics originally authored by CHS Director Dr. Jabin T. Jacob, titled “‘तिब्बत सीमा’ को सन्दर्भमा भूराजनीति,” published by the Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies (CHS), SNU (Delhi-NCR). The original article, “There's more to the ‘Tibet border’ speech than geopolitics,” appeared in the Deccan Herald on 9 August 2024.
- *Digital Governance and Digital Politics in South Asia* (2024). (ed.), Bloomsbury: New Delhi

Workshop

- Participate in the “**Community Archive Workshop**” organized by Darjeeling Government College in collaboration with School of Cultural Texts and Records, Jadavpur University, Kolkata on 30-31 May, 2025

Dr. Padam Nepal

- Attended the workshop for editing and finalizing of the “Constitution of India in Nepali Phase III” from 2-14 December, 2024 at the National Translation Mission at the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore.
- Invited to deliver an online address at the UGC Malaviya Mission Teacher Centre Panjab University on 17th January 2025 for the Refresher Course on “Languages”.
- Delivered a plenary lecture on “Contextualizing Patterns of Gorkha Caste Mobilizations in Assam and Future Possibilities” in the National Seminar titled **Assam After 1980: Politics, Identity and Development**, organized by the Tribal Studies Centre & Department of History, Assam University on 6-7 March, 2025.
- Chaired a session in the National Seminar titled “**Assam After 1980: Politics, Identity and Development**”, organized by the Tribal Studies Centre & Department of History, Assam University on 6-7 March, 2025.

Department of Sociology

Dr. Shristy Kala Chhetri

- Presented her research on “**The Shift in Ethical Values and Its Impact on Identity Among Tibetan Refugees in the Indian Himalayas**” at the 2nd International Conference on “Advancing Ethical Knowledge and Wisdom: Interdisciplinary Practices and Research,” organized by St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, held from November 14–15, 2024.

Mr. Ugen Dukpa,

- Participated and presented paper on the topic “Environment, Tourism and Migrant Labour: A Focus on Darjeeling Hills” in the 49th All India Sociological Conference, held in BML Munjal University, Gurugram, Haryana from 22nd to 24th, December, 2024.

Department of Botany

Dr Upakar Rai,

Publication

- Shreyasi Biswas, Rajeshwari Chatterjee, **Upakar Rai**, Santosh Kumar Jana and Mahuya Mukhopadhyay. 2024 (September). Proclaiming Plant Growth-Promoting and Antifungal Properties of *Pseudomonas lurida* and *Bacillus velezensis* Isolated from Rhododendrons of Darjeeling Hills. *Current Microbiology*, 81: 393. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00284-024-03900-9>

Dr. Anirudra Gurung

- Participated in a three-day IQAC Coordinators' Workshop held from November 29 to December 1, 2024.

Dissertation supervised:

- *Comparative analysis of different types of composts and their effects on plant health for sustainable tea cultivation* (Master's dissertation, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Regional Centre Shillong, Meghalaya, LSC Code: 1800, Enrollment No. 2252044242) 2024.
- *Value addition and product diversification of tea (Camellia sinensis L.)* (Master's dissertation, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Regional Centre Shillong, Meghalaya, LSC Code: 1800, Enrollment No. 2252040669)2024.

Department of Chemistry

Dr. Rajani Dewan

- Mahendra Nath Roy*, Dhruba Jyoti Roy, Maksuda Khatun , Jay Gopal Mondal , **Rajani Dewan** , Dina Bandhu Das , Buban Adhikary , Biswajit Sinha , Sourav Basu Neogi, 'Physico-chemical studies of l-proline and l-leucine in aqueous tetrabutylphosphonium p-toluene sulphonate solutions at different temperatures with the manifestation of solvation consequences', *wjert*, 2024, Vol. 10 Issue 10, 14-28
- Sagarmani Rasaily, Shivanand Chettri, Debesh Sharma, Khanindram Baruah, **Rajani Dewan**, Sudarsan Tamang, Anand Pariyar*, 'MOF-Derived Ni/NiO-C nanocomposites as bifunctional electrocatalysts capable of driving both ORR and OER', <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/acs.inorgchem.4c02856>
- Paper presentation on the title 'Physico-Chemical Studies of L-Proline and l-Leucine' in two days International Conference on Sustainable Development and Research on 23rd March 2025 organised by Department of Chemistry, K.G. Arts and Science College Raigarh(C.G.)

- Attended a three-day training of ‘Trainers Program on AI tools for Higher Education’ organised by St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling and held at St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling from 25th-27th November, 2024

Dr. Dhiraj Brahman

- Munna Mukhia, Sagar Rai, Yachna Rai, Koushik Chakraborty, Sangita Dey, Bipranch Kumar Tiwary, **Dhiraj Brahman**, Anoop Kumarb and Kiran Pradhan, ‘Scalable ultrasound-assisted synthesis of hydroxy imidazole N-oxides and evaluation of their antiproliferative activities; mechanistic insights into the deoximation of dioximes’ RSC Adv., 2025, 15, 938

Dr. Antara Sharma

- Attended a three-day training of ‘Trainers Program on AI tools for Higher Education’ organised by St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling and held at St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling from 25th-27th November, 2024

Dr. Sailesh Chettri

- Invited talk on the title ‘Green approach to the synthesis of nitrogen containing heterocyclic compounds using copper borate as a catalyst’ in two days International Conference on Sustainable Development and Research on 23rd March 2025 organised by Department of Chemistry, K.G. Arts and Science College Raigarh(C.G.).
- Attended a three-day training of ‘Trainers Program on AI tools for Higher Education’ organised by St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling and held at St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling from 25th-27th November, 2024.

Dr. Suman Chettri

- Invited talk on the title ‘Tuned heterostructure of bismuth sulphide/iron sulphide interface for simultaneous overall water splitting, urea oxidation and methanol oxidation’ in two days International Conference on Sustainable Development and Research on 23rd March 2025 organised by Department of Chemistry, K.G. Arts and Science College Raigarh(C.G.)
- Attended a three-day training of ‘Trainers Program on AI tools for Higher Education’ organised by St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur in collaboration with St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling and held at St. Joseph’s College, Darjeeling from 25th-27th November, 2024

Department of Physics

Dr Debarghya Goswami

Project

- Dr. Debarghya Goswami (Dr. Sripada Halder) The effect of different ion beam irradiation on the physical properties of room temperature ferroelectric and anti-ferroelectric liquid crystal mixtures suitable for display applications Sanctioned by UGC on 05/02/2024

Publications

- Characterization of a Fluorinated Ferroelectric Liquid Crystal by Molecular Optimization Electro-Optic Study and SAXS, Journal of Scientific Research, 2070-0237, 2025, 7(2), 417–425, <https://doi.org/10.3329/jsr.v17i2.75460>
- Impact of N⁺ ion beam irradiation on the thermal, dielectric and electro-optical properties of a room temperature smectic ferroelectric liquid crystal mixture, Liquid Crystal, 0267-8292, 2025 (online : vol and page number yet to come) <https://doi.org/10.1080/02678292.2025.2470132>
- Paper presented on Induction of Room Temperature Ferroelectric Phase In a Multi-component Liquid Crystal Mixture Suitable For Display Application, Second international conference on Recent trends in applied Physics and material science, Bikaner technical university Bikaner. Nov 15-11-2024 to 16-11- 2024.
- Paper presented on Advanced Physics for sustainable future: Innovations and solutions , Formulation and characterization of a room temperature ferroelectric liquid crystal mixture with partial de Vries type property, organised by Dept. of basic science and humanities, Institute of Engineering & management Kolkata from 25-10-2024 to 27-10-2024.

Dr Nishal Rai

Publication

- Hydrodynamic nodes of holographic Weyl Semimetals in Physics Letters B, Elsevier Online ISSN: 1873-2445 Linking ISSN: 0370-2693, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2024.139212>
- Paper presented on Applied AdS/CFT correspondence in strongly coupled systems in Two days International Seminar: Emerging Trends in Science, Challenges and Opportunity organized by Department of Chemistry in collaboration with IQAC, St. Joseph's College Darjeeling. 07-04-2025 to 08-04-2025

Dr Pravat Dangal

- Paper presented on Detection of weak secondary cyclotron line in HMXB Cen X-3, IUCAA Weekly talks on High Energy Astrophysics organized by Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Ganeshkhind – Pune 12-02-2025

Department of Mathematics

Dr. Priyam Chakraborty

- Presented a paper titled, “*Generation of self-similarity in metric space*”.in the **Emerging Trends in Science: Challenges and Opportunities** organized by the Department of Chemistry on 8/4/25.

Department of Microbiology

Fr Dr P James Antony

- Presented a paper in an International seminar on “Emerging Trends on Science :Challenges and Oppurtunities” organized by the Department of Chemistry , St .Joseph’s College , Darjeeling
- Gopalsamy, R. G., Antony, P. J., Athesh, K., Hillary, V. E., Montalvão, M. M., Hariharan, G., & Gurgel, R. Q. (2025). Dietary essential oil components: A systematic review of preclinical studies on the management of gastrointestinal diseases. *Phytomedicine*, 156630.

Dr. Abhijit Chhetri

- Subba, A., Sharma, S., Pradhan, G., & Chhetri, A. (2025). First Sight Record of Black Crested Bulbul (*Rubigula flaviventris* Tickell, 1833) in the Temperate Forest of Darjeeling Himalaya, India. *UTTAR PRADESH JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY*, 46(8), 11-14.

Miss Dibyashree Chhetri

- Participated in a National seminar on “Microbial Mystery: Investigating the Unknown and Unseen “organized by the Darjeeling Government College
- Participated in an “International seminar cum Workhsop on Molecular Biology and Immunology” organized by St. Xavier’s College, Rajgunj in collaboration with DNA labs CRIS , Dehradun.
- Participated in an International seminar on “Emerging Trends on Science :Challenges and Opportunities” organized by the Department of Chemistry , St .Joseph’s College , Darjeeling

Miss Sweta Mukhia

- Participated in a National seminar on “Microbial Mystery: Investigating the Unknown and Unseen “organized by the Darjeeling Government College
- Participated and judged the poster competition in an “International seminar cum Workhsop on Molecular Biology and Immunology” organized by St. Xavier’s College , Rajgunj in collaboration with DNA labs CRIS , Dehradun .
- Member of the organising Committee for an International seminar on “Emerging Trends in Science: Challenges and opportunities” organized by the Department of Chemistry, St .Joseph’s College, Darjeeling

Department of Zoology

Dr. Bireshwar Bera

- Participated and successfully completed the NEP 2020 Orientation and Sensitization on Program under Malaviya Mission teachers training programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission organised by the University of North Bengal from 22 July to 30 July 2024.
- Participated in a Three- day Training of Trainers program on AI for Higher Education held from 25th to 27th November 2024 organised by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, India.

Mrs. Barkha Rai

- **Rai, B., and Sharma, S.,** Seasonal Variation in Bird Diversity and Abundance in Darjeeling Hills, of the Eastern Himalaya, India. *Romanian Journal of Biology-Zoology*, 69 (1-2), 3-25 2024.
- Contributed a book chapter “Unveiling the Therapeutic Potency of *Bergenia ciliata* (Haw.) Sternb: Bridging tradition and Modern Pharmacology” Shashwat Publications, 2024.
- Participated in a Three- day Training of Trainers program on AI for Higher Education held from 25th to 27th November 2024 organised by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, India.

Mrs. Albina Subba

- **Sharma, S., Subba, A., Pradhan, G., and Chhetri, A. (2024).** Photographic Evidence of Incidental Sightings of the Vulnerable Asian Small-Clawed Otter (*Aonyx cinereus* Illiger, 1815) in the Mixed Forest of Darjeeling and Kalimpong District as Part of Central Himalaya. *IUCN Otter Spec. Group Bull.* **41** (3): 140 - 153
- **Subba, A.,** Sharma, S., Pradhan, G., & Chhetri, A. (2025). First Sight Record of Black Crested Bulbul (*Rubigula flaviventris* Tickell, 1833) in the Temperate Forest of Darjeeling Himalaya, India. *Uttar Pradesh Journal of Zoology*, 46(8), 11–14. <https://doi.org/10.56557/upjoz/2025/v46i84889>
- Participated in a Three- day Training of Trainers program on AI for Higher Education held from 25th to 27th November 2024 organised by St. Xavier's College, Jaipur, India.

Dr. Ratul Datta Chaudhuri

- Presented a paper titled ‘Cardiac hypertrophy- the yin and yang’ at the International Seminar on Emerging Trends in Science: Challenges and Opportunities jointly organised by the Department of Chemistry and IQAC, St. Joseph's College on April 7-8, 2025.

Mr. Shuvam Sharma:

- Sharma, S., Subba, A., Pradhan, G., and Chhetri, A. (2024). **Photographic** Evidence of Incidental Sightings of the Vulnerable Asian Small-Clawed Otter (*Aonyx cinereus* Illiger,

1815) in the Mixed Forest of Darjeeling and Kalimpong District as Part of Central Himalaya. *IUCN Otter Spec. Group Bull.* **41** (3): 140 – 153

- Rai, B., and Sharma, S., Seasonal Variation in Bird Diversity and Abundance in Darjeeling Hills, of the Eastern Himalaya, India. *Romanian Journal of Biology-Zoology*, 69 (1-2), 3-25 2024.
- Subba, A., Sharma, S., Pradhan, G., & Chhetri, A. (2025). First Sight Record of Black Crested Bulbul (*Rubigula flaviventris* Tickell, 1833) in the Temperate Forest of Darjeeling Himalaya, India. *UTTAR PRADESH JOURNAL OF ZOOLOGY*, 46(8), 11–14. <https://doi.org/10.56557/upjoz/2025/v46i84889>
- Participated in a Three- day Training of Trainers program on AI for Higher Education held from 25th to 27th November 2024 organised by St. Xavier’s College, Jaipur, India.

Department of Computer Science

Mr. Jayanta Loha

- Participated in a three-day IQAC Coordinators’ Workshop held St Xavier’s College, Kolkata from November 29 to December 1, 2024.

Looking Ahead...

1. Introduction and integration of advanced technologies such as smart boards to enrich the teaching-learning experience.
2. Implementation of systems like ERP to streamline administrative and academic processes.
3. Proactive steps to align institutional practices with the revised assessment system.
4. Enhance faculty engagement in high-quality research and peer-reviewed publications.
5. Promote critical thinking and inquiry among students through seminars, fieldwork, and experiential learning

SURSUM CORDA

Fr Dr Donatus Kujur, SJ
Principal