

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
Sivanath Sastri College

Action Taken Report 2018-19

- The IQAC was reconstituted and Ms. Jayanti Datta was approved as the IQAC Coordinator by the Governing Body in its meeting dated 28.01.2019.
- As per the suggestions of the Principal, Departments convened meetings in which they met the new IQAC Coordinator and extended their suggestions to her.
- The semesterised Choice Based Credit system was introduced in the B.A./B.Sc. Honours and General Programmes from the Academic Session 2018-19 as per CU notification.
- **Teaching-Learning:**
 - The IQAC Coordinator held meetings with the Heads of Departments on ideal teaching learning methods. The Departments of Commerce, History, Education, Geography, Political Science, Economics and English regularly use ICT for their classes. However, it was also pointed out that these techniques were used far more frequently by the Junior Members of the Faculties. Senior Members promised to develop more and more expertise in these areas. The Department of Political Science reported that students were regularly given small research projects, and made to analyze content on syllabus oriented topics for better understanding of the Subject. The Department also identifies weak students and Remedial Classes have been taken. The Department of Economics reported that every year, the Third and Second Year students of the Department hold a Farewell Function for the outgoing Third Years which includes Quizzes and Poster Exhibitions. Further, this is a means of fostering a sense of integration within the Department. The students of the History Department make small Class Presentations on their Tutorial Research Projects for the benefit of the other students.
 - Interdisciplinary lectures, debates, surveys
 - Sukhendu Sarkar of the Department of Economics was invited by the Political Science Department of the college to give a talk on *Mao Tse Tung's Thought*.
 - Professor Dipankar Bhattacharyya of the Department of Political Science gave a talk on *Feudalism* to the students of the History Department.
 - The Department of Geography organized a Class Debate by Semester 2 students titled *Sustainable Development is a Myth* on 5 May 2019.
 - The department also conducted a survey on *Preparation of Biodiversity Register* by Semester 2 students (General) at Rabindra Sarovar Lake on 18 April 2019.
 - The Department of Education organized class presentations by Semester I students on *Structure of Education Recommended by Kothari Commission* on September 14, 2018 and on *Concept and Aims of Education as recommended by Dalors Commission* on September 21, 2018.
 - Another class presentation by Second year students of the Department of Education was on *Class and Culture as determinant of Society* on November 24, 2018.
 - As per the Principal's suggestion that students should be engaged in conducting small surveys among other students, the IQAC Coordinator discussed the matter with Professor Dola Chattopadhyay, Member, IQAC, and requested her to take the responsibility for organizing this through the various Departments of the college.

- **Faculty Development Workshop**
 - A workshop was held on 7th of May, 2019 for faculty members of the Commerce Department by Professor Bidisha Datta Sarkar. It was attended by 20 professors. The topic was “**Identifying the Credibility of a Journal Publication**”. Professor Datta Sarkar gave very useful information on the indexation and impact factor of journals and warned against predator publishers. She pointed out the differences between open access and closed access journals and also emphasized the importance of citations for research scholars. The workshop was much appreciated.
- **Seminar**
 - After obtaining the necessary approval and funds from the college administration the proposed one day state level seminar titled *Sister Nivedita and Revitalization of Indian Culture* was held on September 12, 2018 at the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture. The seminar was organised by the Departments of Bengali, education, Philosophy and Sanskrit. The proceedings of the seminar was published on March 2019, with ISSN: 2454-5318
- **Research activities:**
 - Primary data collection and fieldwork of the college funded Student Research Project conducted by the Departments of Botany, Philosophy and Sanskrit entitled *The Revolutionary Journey of Medicinal Plants from Ancient Days to the Present* was completed. The report was being written and a seminar presentation was to be held soon.
- **Career counseling and campus placement**
 - The Commerce Department received a fresh proposal from the TCS on 4 December, 2018. In its letter the TCS thanked the college for its continuous support in helping the organization to identify quality talent. The proposal this year focuses on hiring the brightest minds from the batch of 2019 to explore Future Forward Career in the Cognitive Business Operations (CBO) division in Mumbai. TCS CBO is an integration of Business Process Services and IT Infrastructure Services. The TCS PAN India Online Aptitude Test was conducted on 6 January 2019. A total of 190 students of Sivanath Sastri College cleared the Online Test conducted by TCS Ltd. The interview process would begin after this. The interview process was completed and finally a total of 86 students of Sivanath Sastri College were placed at TCS
 - 12 students of the college were recruited by PWC SDC under the MOU between Sivanath Sastri College and Price Waterhouse.
- **Proposals for training courses for students**
 - In line with the suggestion regarding training courses for students, the IQAC Coordinator was in touch with Cubix Educational Institute Pvt. Ltd. Kolkata. Cubix has formally submitted a Proposal to Sivanath Sastri College for launching a Training Wing for CAT and other MBA Entrance Exams. Cubix has a team consisting of the best Faculty members from prestigious institutes like IIT Kharagpur and IIM Ahmedabad, as well as vast corporate experience spanning across organizations like Reliance Group and Goenka Group. The college is currently negotiating this Proposal. Further, Professors Soumya Banerjee, Sreetama Ghosh and Madhumanti Bagchi of the Department of Commerce were given the responsibility of running Incubation Centers. As a part of this effort, Sivanath Sastri College is also in talks with Ilead, which provides training to students for entry into the West Bengal Civil Services and into the Banking Services.
- **Progress in RUSA 2.0 Grant Utilization –**
 - A Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) as well as a Tender Committee was set up as per instructions of the Department of Higher Education, State Government.

- The Principal, IQAC coordinator and the RUSA Nodal Officer attended the orientation and training workshops organized by the Government on the processes of fund utilization including
 - Training cum PFMS registration on 07.08.2018
 - Training on e-tender management and GeM on 05.02.2019
 - A Review meeting on 13.02.2019
- The concerned departments submitted lists of required lab equipment, books, computer hardware and software and peripherals.
- The librarian prepared the list of requirements for library renovation and up-gradation.
- Requirements of the computer lab were also submitted
- The sports committee submitted a list of sports equipment.
- The tendering process was initiated and e-tenders were invited wherever the amount exceeded 5 lakhs.
- **Student initiatives:**
 - The third issue of the Student Edited Magazine IT'S ME came out in March 2019. It included film reviews and creative writing, as well as in depth reporting on issues such as Youth and mental Health, Cyber bullying and its related Depression, Sexual harassment and the controversies surrounding the ME TOO Movement, The philosophy of Lalan Fakir and the Bauls, Travel accounts of Rajasthan, Kumayun and Manali.
 - In continuance with the Best Practice of the College, the Literary Club has enrolled new members.
- **Career advancement:**
 - In response to action taken by the IQAC, the Education Directorate, Government of West Bengal, has chosen Dr. Partha Roy, Head of the Department of Botany, Maulana Azad College, Kolkata as DPI Nominee towards the processing of CAS Proposal of the two teachers of Sivanath Sastri College- Dr. Hasibur Rahaman Molla, Dept. of Geography (Stage 1 to 2) and Pradip Chandra Patra, Dept. of Geography (Stage 2 to 3). The University nominee was Professor Sunando Bandyopadhyay, Head, Department of Geography, Ballygunge Science College. The Screening Committee meeting was scheduled to be held at the beginning of July 2019.
- **Workshops on alternative career options for students:**
 - The purpose of the workshops was to introduce the ex-students of our college to its present students, so that there could be an interactive session between them on careers to follow in the future. The workshops were held on the 30th of April, 2019 and were as follows:
 - Cooking and Baking was conducted by Sukanya Maity.
 - Jewelry Design was conducted by Monalisa Basu.
 - Graphic Design and Comic Illustration was conducted by Priyanka Sen.
 - They are all ex-students of Sivanath Sastri College, and are exploring alternative entrepreneurial means to become independent.
 - 221 students participated in all. Their feedback was also taken and they evinced a keen interest in the continuation of the workshops.
- **NSS and Extension Activities.**
 - With the focus of the college on continued Extension activities, the NSS organized a Special Camp at the neighbouring slum of Gobordanga from 23 March to 29 March, 2019. The Collector of Excise, Kolkata South visited the slum. There was an Awareness Program on the harmful effect of drugs. There was a Questionnaire Survey by the NSS volunteers, and the Data was analyzed. An Eye Camp was organized by Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital.

- A Wetland Conservation Awareness Program was held on 14 February 2019 jointly by the Departments of Geography, Economics, the IQAC and the NSS. A total of 39 students and 7 teachers visited the Kolkata Wetlands. An extensive survey was made on the existing Wetlands and the economic background of the people involved with Pisciculture. There was a detailed discussion regarding the benefits and conservation methods of the Wetlands.
- **Feedback:** A Feedback System is already in progress for collecting data from the students, and guardians of students during the regular Parent Teacher Meetings that each Department holds.
- **Proposal for publication of a college funded peer reviewed multi-disciplinary journal:**
The IQAC Coordinator held a meeting to discuss the proposed Peered Reviewed Multidisciplinary Journal to be brought out tentatively by July 2020. A budget of rupees 20 thousand has been approved by the Governing Body for the journal. The theme of the first issue of the Journal is “**Interpreting India**”. A concept note was prepared by Aritra Majumdar to this effect. It will be a Bi-lingual annual or 6th monthly journal for the Humanities & Social Sciences.
Professor Ranjita Chakraborty, Head of the Dept. of Political Science, North Bengal University has agreed to be Editor-in-Chief of the Journal. Co Editor-in-Chief is Professor Mousumi Bandopadhyay of Sivanath Sastri College. Members of the editorial board are Jayanti Datta, Dola Chattopadhyay, Bijoy Sinha, Hashibur Rahman Molla, Aritra Majumdar, Soumya Banerjee and Samata Biswas. Eminent scholars have agreed to be part of the Editorial panel for Peer Review. They are:-
 1. Dr. Samir Kumar Das, Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Calcutta University.
 2. Dr. Siddhartha Biswas, Associate Professor, Dept. of English, Calcutta University.
 3. Dr. Kiran Keshava Murthy, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Humanities and Social Science, IIT Guwahati.
 4. Dr. Samapti Guha, Professor & Chairperson, Centre for Social Entrepreneurship, School of Management and Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social science.
 5. Dr. Suparna Ganguly, Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics, Surendranath College For women.
 6. Dr. Debasri Banerjee, Professor, Dept. of Education, Calcutta University.
- **The Republic Day** was celebrated jointly by the teachers and the Students’ Union on 26 January 2019.
- **Acquiring land for a second campus**
The Principal together with a team has begun the process of finding a suitable plot for the Second Campus of the College, and a suitable plot of land has been identified at Kalikapur Mouza under Sonarpur PS. This is not very far from the present campus, but more importantly, it can be accessed more easily by those living on the outskirts of Kolkata. The decision to buy land for a second campus was approved by the Governing Body of the college. This was a significant step in the direction of the long term goals of the college. Since the campus at Gariahat Road is shared by Sivanath Sastri College (Morning Section), together with two sister colleges (Afternoon and Night), the college faces both a time as well as a space crunch since it cannot make any extensions on its own. The proposed Second Campus will give a lot of scope to introduce new courses and take innovative steps.