

*Projects undertaken by department/individual faculty member*

UGC has recommended the Department of Physics for upgradation from SAP DRS-I to DRS phase II with a grant-in-aid of Rupees 112.5 lakhs for the session 2014-19. UGC has also sanctioned Rs. 122 L through DRS Phase-II programme to the Department of Chemistry & Chemical Technology. Dr. Maidul Hossain, Department of Chemistry, received Rs. 25 Lakh for a new project, sanctioned by DST, Govt. of India. Dr. Sumita Roy of the same department has received Rs. 20 lakh from CSIR, Govt. of India, for her newly sanctioned project. Professor Mihir K. Pal, Dr. Sebak K. Jana and Dr. Pinaki Das of the Department of Economics have received UGC-Major Research projects. Dr. Sebak Kumar Jana, Department of Economics, served as Consultant of a project sponsored by International Water Management Institute (IWMI), amounting Rs. 1.0 Lakh. Mr. Kaushik Ghosh, Department of Geography, served as consultant of two projects, sponsored by IUCN and SANDEE, amounting Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 10,000, respectively. Apart from the projects acquired by department or individual faculty members of the University, An Indian Patent has been filed on a recent invention on Arjunolic acid from the Department of Chemistry.

*Directorate of Distance Education (DDE)*

The DDE of the Vidyasagar University has increased the number of study centres in West Bengal. Thirteen (13) new study centres have been opened in Kolkata and Malda Districts, and thus, the total number of study centres becomes 44. Online admission system has been started by the DDE for the students under Science stream this year and from the next year the same will be started for the students of Arts and Commerce.

*Achievement of students*  
Academic

Dr. Rakhi Majumdar, former Research Scholar of the Department of Chemistry has been awarded Post-Doctoral fellowship from Culalongkorn University, Bangkok (2013-2014). Shri Krishna Dayal Pandey has qualified the UGC-NET JRF in Management during June 2013



The sports department of the University has become versatile. The University Sports Committee organized tournaments for different types of sports e.g. football, cricket, volleyball, kho-kho, kabaddi, athletics, chess and yoga.

The University came out as champion in the PCM Memorial Football Tournament organized by the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata. The University won laurels at the Inter-College Table Tennis Tournament organized by K.D. College of Commerce and General Studies.



The University cultural team was invited by the A.I.U. New Delhi to participate in the 7th South Asian University Youth Festival (SAUFST), held at Jalandhar on March 11-15, 2014. Shri Subhankar Das participated in the light vocal (solo) competition.

The University organized the 16th Inter Collegiate Cultural Meet on 17th and 18th September 2014. 22 events were held and 650 students from 30 UG colleges and 16 PG Departments participated.

The cultural team of the University participated in the 29th East Zone Inter Varsity Youth Festival at the L. N. Mithila University, Darbhanga on 22nd and 23rd November 2013. The team secured 12 prizes in the competition, with Shri Tanuman Dhara securing the 1st position in light vocal; Shri Subhadip Dutta Chowdhury secured 1st position in quiz.

The University participated in the 29th All India National Youth Festival, 2013-2014 in 4 events at Kurukshetra University on 18-22 February 2014.



**MEMBERS OF THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

**Convenor :** Professor Ujjayan Bhattacharya

**Members :** Professor Subrata Kumar De  
Dr. Jayanta Kishore Nandi  
Dr. Indranil Acharya  
Dr. Asmita Bhattacharyya  
Dr. Debjani Das  
Dr. Sovanjan Sarkar

# VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY



## NEWSLETTER

NL No. 2, pp. 1-4 (2014)



*Dr. Partha Chatterjee has taken over as the Hon'ble Minister - In - Charge of the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of West Bengal on 27th May, 2014*

*From the Honourable Vice-Chancellor's desk*

A year has gone by since the last Newsletter of the University was published. Within this time the University has made significant achievements and taken rapid strides to emerge as a model University of the State and attain leadership position in academics of South-West Bengal.

It is a matter of considerable pride for the University community that some of the Departments hosted International Conferences inviting many guests from abroad and also from within the country. The Departments of Chemistry, Aquaculture and Physiology had taken the lead in this respect.

The University has gone a long way in adding to its infrastructure and facilities. Transportation facilities have improved. A new additional bus, sponsored by the UCO Bank, has been commissioned to facilitate the movement of students and the staff of the University. To specially enable and help the movement of the differently abled persons, among the visitors, student and staff of the University, we have procured a battery operated green vehicle. Infrastructure in terms of space is increasing rapidly. New buildings are being constructed for adding spaces to the academic faculties, administrative machinery, library and canteen. These will be commissioned soon. The auditorium of the University is nearing completion, while the Wi-Fi enabled Rangamati Guest House has become operational and is hosting many guests from far and near. It is also pertinent to mention that Vidyasagar Bhawan, the main Administrative

Building of the University has been enabled with Wi-Fi facility. State-of-the-art switching devices have been installed to provide high speed and uninterrupted Internet services to the members of our University community. Professor Anil Gayen Memorial Lecture has also been initiated and the 1st Lecture was delivered by Professor Syed Samsul Alam, Former Vice-Chancellor, Aliah University on October 28, 2014.

The academic space for research and teaching in the University has also been widened. A Centre for the Study of Adivasi Societies and Tribal Museum has been established to function as a unit affiliated to the Department of Santali. The library is providing remote access facility to the members of the University community accelerating the pace of studies and research.

I am happy to inform the readers that Professor Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor History, Harvard University and Member of Parliament, visited Vidyasagar University and delivered the 8th Vidyasagar Memorial Lecture on March 24, 2014.

I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to each and every member of the University community for their active contribution to ongoing development of the University.

I hope the pace of progress and development will continue in the next year. In fact we are committed to it.

Wishing all the members of the University in all their endeavours the very best.

**Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti**

Vice-Chancellor  
Vidyasagar University





***Eighth Vidyasagar Memorial Lecture***

Professor Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of History, Harvard University, U.S.A. and an eminent historian delivered the 8th Vidyasagar Memorial Lecture at Birendra Nath Sasmal Hall of our University. The event was held on March 24, 2014. Prof. Bose lectured on "An Ocean of learning: Asia in Bengal, Bengal in Asia" to an audience of scholars and students of the University.



***First Professor Anil Kumar Gayen Memorial Lecture***

To pay homage to the founder of the University, Professor Anil Kumar Gayen, our University has formed a committee named "Professor Anil Kumar Gayen Memorial Committee" and the committee organized the First Memorial Lecture in October, 2014. The lecture was delivered by the former Vice-Chancellor of Aliah University, Professor S. S. Alam.

#### ***University Lecture Series***

Our University has started the "University Lecture Series" by the faculty members of various academic departments. Since its inception in February, 2014, six lectures have been delivered by six faculty members. The first lecture was delivered by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor himself to encourage other members of faculty to carry the baton.

#### ***From the Convenor, Newsletter Committee***

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the second Newsletter of the year 2014 is ready for circulation. I congratulate the entire team of the Newsletter committee for successfully bringing out the issues this year. I should especially thank Dr. Sovanjan Sarkar for his tireless effort in bringing out the Newsletter issue.

Our esteemed colleagues had made many valuable and concrete suggestions on the occasion of the publication of the previous issue. We have those advise in mind but cannot vouch that we have been able to effectively implement

all the suggestion. Our effort, however, will always be to work as sincerely as possible to reflect the wishes of the University Community. The Newsletter, in this sense, is the mirror of the University Community.

Academic progress is the yardstick by which any educational institution is judged. The theme of our Newsletter, if any, is academic advancement, and the purpose is to circulate as much news about that as possible. We wish that the instances and examples of academic advancement will guide future generations of academics, scholars and students, as more new faces enter the portals of the University, and the older ones ride into sunset.

Wishing all the members of the University Community all the best and a happy new year.



***Visit of Shri Bratya Basu, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, Department of Higher Education, Government of West Bengal.***



The Honourable Minister-In-Charge of Higher Education, West Bengal, Shri Bratya Basu, and, the Honourable Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Shri Suvendu Adhikari visited the campus on 1st February 2014.

During the visit by the honourable guests a number of infrastructural facilities of the University were inaugurated. The Benjamin Franklin Bhavan along with the new transformers and Diesel Generator set were inaugurated. Prof. Abhijit Chakrabarti, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University and Prof. R.L. Hangloo, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Kalyani University were present.

The honourable guests inaugurated the Post-Graduate Hostel Building, named Sido-Kanhu-Birsa Chhatrabas. A book store cum stationery facility store named Granthaguchchha was opened by them.

The honourable guests in the presence of Swami Suparnanandaji Maharaj, Secretary, the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture unveiled the statue of Swami Vivekananda.



#### ***Foreign visits by the faculty members***

Professor Ranjan Chakrabarti, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Vidyasagar University was invited to attend Second World Congress of Environmental History, held at University of Minho, Guimaraes, Portugal between July 8-12, 2014. He presented a Paper titled The Beginnings

of South Asian Environmental History in the Roundtable on Present at the Creation: The Beginnings of Environmental History Studies around the Globe. He was also invited to Chair the Panel on Urban Nature II in the same Conference. Professor Chakrabarti was also invited to give a Lecture on How to map Environmental concerns and disasters (climate, sea level, resource depletion etc.) at the 5th Summer School in Environmental History at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Porto during July 4- 8, 2014.

Dr. Debjani Das, Department of History, presented a paper at the 87th Annual Meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, Chicago, USA, 2014; Mr. Gautam Chando Roy, Department of History, presented a paper at the 6th International Conference of the European Society for the History of Science, Lisbon, Portugal, 2014; Dr. Raj Kumar Kothari, Department of Political Science, participated and presented a paper at the International Conference on Social Science 2014, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2014; Dr. Kothari also participated and presented a paper at the 23rd World Congress of Political Science, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 2014. Dr. Kothari has chaired one session each in both the International Conferences. Professor Madhumangal Pal, Department of mathematics, visited London to attend an International Conference in 2013. Professor Subrata Kumar De, Department of Zoology, joined Microscopy and Microanalysis 2014, at Hartford CT, USA, to deliver a lecture; Professor De also joined in Short Training Programme organized by Microscopy Society of America (MSA), Hartford CT, USA, 2014; Dr. Kuntal Chatterjee, Department of Physics, is going to join Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA, as a recipient of RAMAN Post Doctoral Fellowship, UGC; Professor Braja Gopal Bag, Department of Chemistry, visited Germany for delivering lectures at the Ruhr University of Bochum and the international conference Polymer for Advanced Technology PAT 2013 held at Berlin, 2013; Dr. Utpal Roy, Department of Geography, presented a paper at the 2nd World Emerging Industries Summit (WEIS), Wuhan, China, 2014; Dr. Roy and Dr. Nilanjana Das Chatterjee of the same Department, presented one paper each at the International conference on Environment and Development, at Rajshahi, Bangladesh in the same year. Again, Dr. Roy presented another paper at 3rd International Cultural Industrial Summit and the 7th International Cultural Expo at Lanzhou city, Gansu Province, China in 2014; Dr. Das Chatterjee presented another paper at the 2nd International conference on Social Science, ICSS, Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, 2014; Dr. Joydeb Sasmal, Department of Economics, presented a paper at the International

Conference for Academic Disciplines, Boston, Massachusetts, USA, 2014; Mrs. Chandrima Chakraborty, Department of Economics, presented a paper at the 12th International Conference on Data Envelopment Analysis, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2014.

#### ***Book authored by the faculty members***

Professor Arindam Gupta, Department of Commerce, jointly with another author, wrote a Research Publication and Reference Book, titled "Ownership structure and Corporate performance", published by Archers & Elevators Publishing House, Bangalore; Professor Anil Kumar Jana, Department of Political Science, has published his fourth book (edited) from Rawat Publications, New Delhi entitled "Decentralizing Rural Governance and Development"; Dr Ramkrishna Maiti, Department of Geography, published a book entitled "Semi-Quantitative Approaches for landslide assessment and prediction" from Springer; Dr. Sebak Kumar Jana, Department of Economics, published a book entitled "Tank Irrigation in the Dry Zones in India", from Concept Publishing Co., New Delhi; Dr. Jana, together with another author published another edited book, entitled "Financial Sector Liberalization in India Theory and Empirics", Regal Publications, New Delhi; Dr. Jana published his third book of the year entitled, "Arthaniti Samajnit: Rabindra Chintar Abhimukh", which is a Bengali edited book published by Dey Publications, Kolkata. Dr. Abhijit Guha, Professor Falguni Chakraborty and Professor Kaushik Bose jointly edited a book entitled "Panorama of Development: Challenges Ahead", published by Concept Publishing Co., New Delhi. Dr. Debasish Biswas published a book from Abhijeet Publications, New Delhi, entitled "Fundamentals of Financial Management".

#### ***National / International seminars / workshops / conferences by department***

The Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology organized an International Conference FCS in August, 2014. In addition, the same department also organized a workshop pertaining to development of UG syllabus. Department of History has organized a National Seminar sponsored by ICHR in September, 2014. Department of Sociology has organized National Seminar sponsored by ICSSR and UGC, in March, 2014. UGC sponsored National Seminar was also organized by the Department of Economics during January, 2014. Another National workshop was organized by the Department of Physics in March, 2014, which was held in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. Department of Philosophy and the Life-world has organized a one-day seminar in March, 2014, on Acharya Brajendra Nath Seal. Department of Electronics has organized a national conference in March, 2014, sponsored by CSIR and UGC. Department of Business Administration has organized a two day National Seminar in November, 2013. International Conference on Ergonomics and Human Factors, HWWE-2013, organized by Department of Human Physiology with Community Health, in December, 2013. The Department of Physiology also organized International Society for the Advancement of Kinanthropometry, Canada, in May, 2014.