

Loreto College, Kolkata 2017 – 2018

The vision and mission of the college revolves around equity and equal access to as many as possible from different sectors of society, especially first generation learners to higher education. **Scholarships** to economically needy students are awarded and **free meals** provided for these students. **2 students with disability** have been admitted to the 1st year B.A. (2017-2018), bringing the total number studying in college to 8; Loreto College is an **inclusive college** and is **barrier-free** with ramps, an automatic elevator and a washroom for the disabled.

Graduating students completing a period of compulsory community service as part of the **outreach** programme, interact with the under-privileged. The **NSS, AICUF** and **Social Service Societies** organized **two Blood Donation Camps, a five days' Slum Camp and a free health check-up for all the support staff of the Loreto campus**. The value of saving life by sharing the good health that they enjoy is instilled in our pupils who also rally around and donate **whole fresh blood** whenever blood is needed. **Swatch Campus Day** was kept up by the students who with brooms, buckets and swabs cleaned the college. The pupils of all classes were involved in **'Gift a Library' campaign**, the fruit of which was contribution to 2 government school libraries.

The **Women's Cell** conducts classes for **underprivileged young women and school dropouts**. **4** students have cleared the NIOS Class X exam while **7** cleared the XII April 2018 exam. The former have registered for Class XII with the NIOS. There are a total of 35 students studying in the Women's Cell this year. **4 Women's Cell** pupils have been admitted in the **BA 1st year General** course in Loreto College, a total of 5 at the undergraduate level.

Our pupils, after an annual **collection drive**, shared soap as a cleaning agent and warm clothes with the poor. Open Day saw about **15 NGO's run by women** coming to display and sell handmade items in the college. We were happy that the past pupils' reunion was attended by many more former pupils than in previous years. The college shared the auditorium with alumnae who enabled the organization of a seminar **'The City as Refuge: Jewish Calcutta and Refugees from Hitler's Europe'** in collaboration with Max Weber Stiftung.

The Psychology Department of the College hosted an annual 1-day event **'Kalakriti 2017'** for **differently-abled children**. This year there was a workshop on **'Dance-Movement Therapy'**.

Research is an indicator of growth at tertiary level. In keeping with progression, the **Research Cell** prepared **4 presentations** in the year (2 student and 2 staff) with updates on papers presented by staff and students.

An intercollegiate students' meet was organized by the pupils of the Department of Economics, **'Ecolore'**. Intercollegiate **'Historia 2017-2018'**, saw students research and present papers on 'Cities in History' and debating on 'India is ready for Uniform Code'. **Two pupils of the History Department** were awarded prizes at the District level and later at the **State level for essay writing and poster making** on Sr. Nivedita. **2 research projects by the students** of Psychology Department were successfully completed and the reports presented. The annual **Heritage Course completing 10 years** revolved around **Built Heritage, Cultural Heritage and Environmental Heritage** and was offered to students of all departments.

We have been able to motivate our pupils to offer their services in the **'Teach for India'** Programme. Students have obtained employment in Cognizant, Indigo, hospitality receptionists through **Campus Placement. Student development programmes** offered by IP Attorneys, Public Speaking Course for Tribal students from JCI. The college is grateful for 5 newly created teaching posts sanctioned by the Department of Higher Education.

The college acknowledges **RUSA** (Rashtriya Uchchatra Sikshya Abhijan) for a grant received, thus enabling growth in **infrastructure and facilities** offered to students; student facilities were also enhanced. A **Virtual classroom/ conference** room has been set up with funds from the Department of Higher Education.

Our students are **our priority** – recognizing and assisting those who require **extra academic help** is the focus of the college. Students were given the opportunity to use the **facilities of the Library** during study leave. Weak students put in 30 extra hours of Library study followed by a test: the fruit of this has been academically better results. Library facilities are provided to **past students** on request. Regular **interface meetings** are arranged for parents to interact with the teachers. **Spoken Tutorial by IIT Mumbai** was offered to every student in the college. Tests taken were taken and IIT Mumbai awarded certificates to those who passed.

All B.Ed. students secured **first class** in the academic session 2016-2017 for the 10th consecutive year. **All B.A. / B.Sc. 3rd year Honours students** 2016-2017 were declared passed in the University exams. Many of

the pupils have **obtained admission** for the **Master's Course** in TISS (Mumbai, Bangaluru and Gawahati), Azim Premji University, Christ University, Montford College, and Symbiosis (Pune and Bangalore), Delhi University, Delhi School of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jadavpur University and in Calcutta University.

The college went through an evaluatory **SWOC analysis, Administrative and Academic Audit (AAA), UGC-CPE Advisory visit** as mid-term reviews, all of which have helped all associated with the college to grow. Loreto College has been **ranked No. 31** by **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** by **Ministry for Human Resource Development (MHRD)**, Delhi. **Human Rights and Empowerment** (Career-Oriented Course) **approved by the UGC** was successfully conducted for the 5th year in succession. **M.A. in English** entered its 2nd year.

Progress, improvement and evolution with the times has been the policy of the college. In order to **empower staff**, the college enabled teachers to concentrate on research. 1 teacher was awarded **Minor Research Project (MRP) by UGC** (2016-2019). 3 teachers received Ph. D degrees during the year.

The annual **Neelu Singhvi Sancheti Memorial Lecture**, on **A Glimpse into the Future of Global Higher Education** was delivered by **Dr. Deepali Singhi** during the academic year 2017-2018. '**Critical Imprints**' **ISSN 2319-4774**, a peer-reviewed journal by the English Department has been **recognized and enlisted by UGC**. The 6th volume (2018) has since been published.

Students' day was kept up through an enlightening programme. **The Christmas Tableau and Carol** evening was presented by the students. **Rahi Foundation** shared a powerful video on Incest. **Jewelery Design** enrichment course for students in collaboration with Sawansukha had its 3rd session batch. Testing for Thalassaemia was done for students by a Doctor from the Thalassaemia Association on **World Thalassaemia Day**. The **importance saving** was brought out by Allahabad Bank.

The teachers of the college put up a scintillating **Rabindra Jayanti** programme to a thundering applause by the students. The students rose to the occasion in performances for Teachers' day and organized **Samagam 2017**, their youth fest.

To promote **sustainable development** in our **Green Campus initiative** Water Day, Earth Day and Environment Day were kept up; seeds of vegetable and flowers were distributed to staff and students of the College. The college was the **first** among Loreto institutions to have **100 Solar Photo-voltaic panels** commissioned on the rooftop of the college with a daily production of **22 KVA** which is shared with CESE through a grid; this has **reduced the electricity bill** due to a rebate granted for the purpose. A workshop on **Vermi-composting** was offered to the staff and students of the entire campus. Vermi-composting will shortly be put into practice and use in the campus.

The **Shiksha Ratna Award** was given to the Principal by the **Chief Minister Km Mamata Banerjee** on September 5, 2017. A surprise and an honour, indeed!

The college was awarded '**Excellence in Education 2018**' at the hands of the **Education Minister, Dr. Partha Chatterjee**, an initiative of Zee 24 Ghanta, an unexpected gesture!

Our students participated at National level events. **A Psychology Honours** student qualified for the **World University Rowing Championship 2018**; **2 students of the 1st year class** were among those chosen from several thousands for the **Good Governance Yatra in December 2017**. They were the youngest of the group.

NAAC accorded **an extension of 2 years to Loreto College** in the 3rd Cycle because of **exceptional performance** in the previous cycles. The college is due for evaluation in 2019-2020. The Principal as a **NAAC Peer Team member**, assesses colleges around India.

We are grateful to God for His intervention in our Mission and Ministry in Higher Education in our role in **nation-building** and **educating** and **empowering youth**.