## **Institutional Distinctiveness**

Though situated in a remote locale, Jhargram Raj College has been catering to the budding minds of mostly under-privileged section of the socity and their needs since its inception. A nationally pervaded educational dilemma is inequity between rapid quantitative expansion and quality enhancement. How to maintain an equilibrium between growing opportunities and better quality in the academic arena has been the biggest concern of this era and we have been successfully maintaining this equilibrium. Jhargram district encompasses a vast tribal area where most of the students belong to reserved category. Following the Indian Constitution which mandates elementary education for all, we zero in on providing apposite education to all those socio-economically downtrodden pupils. Education is no longer a distant dream to these impoverished sections. Besides education, health is our additional priority. As a vast adjacent area of Jhargram is marked as 'thalassemia belt', we organized a thalassemia awareness and detention camp which made people aware of the cause and curative medicines of the disease. Jhargram and its adjacent areas beam with a rich heritage of biodiversity. These areas are manned by tribal men who know and practice the traditional use of phyto medicines. In order to preserve this vast biodiversity, substantial field surveys are conducted. As an offshoot of these surveys, ethno-botanical value of several unknown plants came to light. We organized awareness cum orientation camps and programmes like conservation of medical plants in areas populated by the tribals, their Ex-situ conservation, hand holding training on mushroom cultivation etc. Such honest endeavours helped the tribal farmers and accelerated them towards a healthier life.