# Jhargram Raj College

# Institutional Distinctiveness & Best Practices 2022-2023

#### INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Founded on the 1st of July in 1949 as Jhargram Agricultural College at the then sub-division of Jhargram (now a district in itself) in the erstwhile district of Midnapore, Jhargram Raj College grew into a hallowed centre of higher learning, offering to the undergraduate students a whole array of subjects from three disciplines of Arts, Commerce and Science. Initially affiliated to the University of Calcutta, the college came under affiliation of Vidyasagar University in 1985. In 1999, the college celebrated the completion of 50 years of its glorious existence and is now poised for its diamond jubilee celebrations. In 2005, the college introduced its first Postgraduate course in Chemistry. Gradually, Postgraduate courses in Zoology and Bengali also came into being from 2006 and 2008, respectively. Different minor and major research projects funded by different government agencies are carried out by the faculty members of various departments of the college. The institution has made a distinctive mark in the region by catering to the academic needs of a significant student population who hail from financially backward and weaker sections of the society. The thrust lies in providing the students an opportunity to flourish in Higher Education at a minimal cost, and the college being a government college, have been doing so from its very inception. The faculties and the students regularly participate in seminars, workshops etc. and faculty research papers are regularly published in reputed journals and periodicals. These activities lead to involvement of UG and PG students and motivate them, especially those who are pursuing postgraduate courses in this college, to a research career. In its 75 years of existence, the college has witnessed the changes with time and it has been prepared accordingly to cope with the changes and offer better education to its students. Many of the alumni of the college are at the top positions of various government and non-government organisations. Many are reputed academicians. Many have made names in the field of art, music, literature etc. While the college takes pride in them, it busies itself with the duty of grooming the present students and looks forward to a brighter future for the coming generations.

Since its inception, the motto of Jhargram Raj College has been the empowerment of the underprivileged. The college has been serving the districts of Midnapore and the greater portions of Manbhum (comprising of the districts of Purulia and Bankura). Trees, shrubs and bushes and, hills and hillocks amidst a red earth and, the tribes living here are what distinguish this area from other parts of the state. Jhargram Raj College draws inspiration and pays homage to Henry Louis Vivian Derozio as well as to Pandit Raghunath Murmu. Both strived for quest of knowledge and both inspired students to ask questions and look for the truth. Jhargram Raj College welcomes ideas, inventions and, innovations.

Jhargram Raj College being a government college offering quality education programmes at UG as well as a few PG levels takes a special place in the area. Many students of this college come from extremely poor families and under-privileged sections of the society and, are often the first-generation learners. Their requirements are quite different from that of the students belonging to middle class and comparatively well-to-do families. To achieve what is required of it, Jhargram Raj College functions accordingly to impart good and quality education in particular and contribute towards social welfare in general. Classes are arranged in both offline

and online modes, and especially the online classes play a vital role academic enhancement of the students in the days of recess. The college has become a Local Chapter of NPTEL during 2017 and the NPTEL team from IIT Kharagpur has conducted workshop on the nuances of NPTEL courses. In an attempt to inculcate a competitive bent of academic growth, the college has organized the Madhava Mathematics Competition for the first time in 2019.

Jhargram Raj College boasts upon its distinctiveness by not only being a seat of academic but also in its commitment to the society in its periphery. The NSS unit of the college has adopted a few villages and organize Health and Disease Awareness Camps in these adopted villages. As a continuation of the social responsibility and commitment, the college felt the need of harnessing alternative sources of energy to cater the day-to-day needs. In doing so, the college has set up a solar photo-voltaic power plant in 2018, guided by the West Bengal Renewable Energy Development Agency (WBREDA).

Jhargram Raj College fraternity strongly believes that no education is complete without a proper cultural background. Keeping this in view, a Cine Club has been initiated in the college in 2019 with an aim to expose the students to English language. Cinema is a scientifically proven medium to develop language learning abilities. It can impart value-based education also. History and Cultural Heritage of our country as well as across the globe can be better understood via historical movies and documentaries. Movies are helpful tools to convey various issues of the society such as gender equality, caste issues, need of education and many more.

# Best Practice I

Title: Community Service through Pabitra Kumar Sen Memorial Forum

# Objective:

- To escalate awareness among the populace regarding proper nutritional status.
- To enlighten them about the low-cost sources of nutritious food.
- To spread the knowledge on nutritive value of foods, role of minerals & vitamins in our body.
- To create awareness on diseases caused by nutrition deficiency and alternate cost effective nutrition rich foods.
- To raise awareness on female health and its impact on child birth.

### The Context:

- Domain of work being low-income tribal population, aim was to make aware of the available low-cost sources of nutritious food.
- Persisting ignorance regarding the female health status needs alleviation.

## The Practice:

- Three Nutritional Status Assessment programs organized by the Department. of Physiology in Jhargram-based schools and adjoining villages; assessed approximately 100 students using a questionnaire.
- Two Female Health Awareness programs organized; encompassed 87 girl students and a few adults aimed at pointing out the common female health issues.

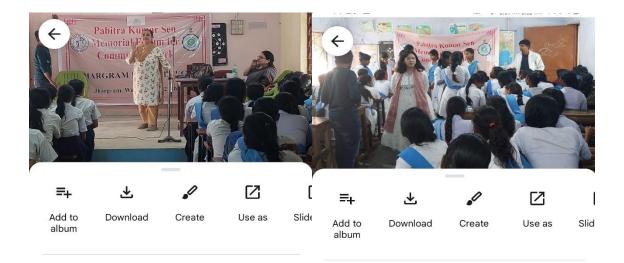
### Evidence of Success:

- Increased participation of students in every program.
- Increased spontaneity observed during question-answer session; increasing trend to overcome the socio-economic barrier.
- The nutritional status assessment and advising them with different nutritional suggestion will eventually make them fulfilled and happy.
- The nutritional status assessment and the advices on nutritional aspects and female health makes the participants content and confident which may again benefit a large section of the community

### Problems encountered and resources required:

- Many of the local students and ladies were initially hesitant to share their problems.
- Paucity of working resources (financial and logistic) makes it difficult to encompass a larger domain.

# Community service through PK SEN Forum



Wed, 21 Sept 2022 • 15:05

#### Location



Luhamandia, Jhargram, West Bengal 22.481, 87.026

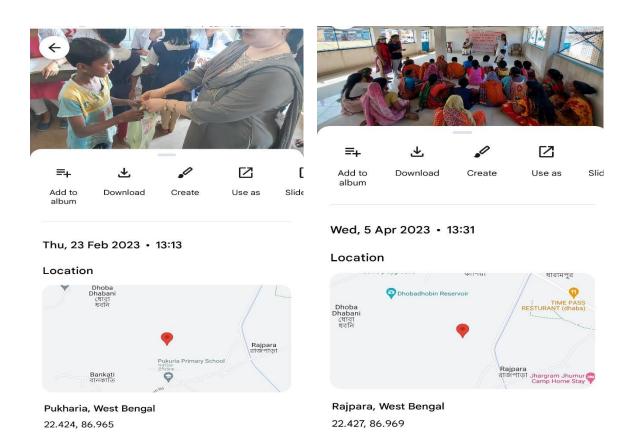
Thu, 24 Nov 2022 • 14:56

#### Location

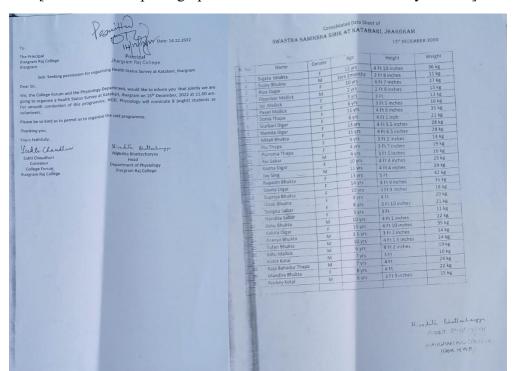


Luhamandia, West Bengal 22.479, 87.024





[Screenshots & photographof extension work & community service]



[Letter & List of Students]

# **Best Practice II**

Title: Entrepreneurship Development Through Mushroom Culture

# Objective of the Practice:

- To provide an alternative income source.
- To highlight the nutritious aspect of mushrooms with the advantage of converting agricultural waste.
- To spread the knowledge of distinguishing edible nutritive mushrooms from other fungi especially from poisonous ones.

### The Context:

- Orienting people towards a nutritious food that can be cultured with the minimum capital.
- Exploiting the conducive climate of Jhargram, mushrooms can be cultured both at domestic and commercial scales.

### The Practice:

Local people, across different age groups and gender, participated in the hands-on training to culture oyster mushroom from the easily available agricultural waste. Programs were organized within the college premises, as well as in nearby villages. Certificates were provided to the participants at the end of each program.

### Evidence of Succes:

- Number of interested participants increased with the program count.
- Educated, but unemployed, youth showed interest in the programs.
- Participants readily volunteered raw material for oyster mushroom culture.
- Interested candidates regularly contact the coordinator to organize more sessions.

## Problems encountered and resources required:

- There is no spawn production unit Jhargram district which can supply spawn throughout the year.
- Paucity of working resources (financial and logistic) makes it difficult to encompass a larger domain.

# Entrepreneurship Development Through Mushroom Culture







