

Key Indicator - 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness (20)

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Shri Shikshayatan College is a girl's college situated in the heart of the city of Kolkata. Founded on 8th July, 1955, it is established by the Marwaris, a linguistic minority community and is administered and managed by Shikshayatan Foundation (formerly known as Marwari Balika Vidyalaya Society) registered under the Societies Registration Act. As a linguistic minority institution, the College enjoys protection under Article 30(1) of the Constitution of India.

The College was conceived by its Founding Father, Late Sitaram Seksaria, as an extension of Gandhiji's nationwide Constructive Programme, embracing the freedom and welfare of the Indian Woman.

In keeping with our Founding Father's vision and mission of empowering our students with a holistic education in an environment of multiculturalism and egalitarianism, we have traversed nearly seven decades of our journey.

Shri Shikshayatan College, initially a liberal arts under-graduate College, has diversified to offer a variety of courses in a bid to create greater academic flexibility. In addition to different subjects in Humanities, Science and Commerce, the College offers career oriented courses like Marketing and Accounting and Finance under Commerce, BBA, B.Ed. and Journalism and Mass Communications in three sections – Morning, Day and Evening. It is one of the few colleges in the city to offer three vernacular languages – Bengali, Hindi, Urdu – alongside English which adds a unique dimension as a multilingual College.

Our students have consistently excelled at the University examinations and we have over 100 rank holders in the last six years. Our students are fairly well placed in all walks of life, with most opting to pursue higher education of their choice.

Besides academic excellence, our objective has been to uphold social responsibility and inculcate good citizenry amongst our students. Reaching out to society at large, our students have consistently participated in social service platforms in College like NSS, LTS, SWC and COSU. Organising regular NSS special camps have enabled students to connect with the marginalised sections of our society and contribute to their well being in a rewarding manner.

LTS and SWC are other avenues through which our students touch many lives in a spirit of mutual exchange of values of kindness, compassion and grit.

In our relentless commitment to make our students self-reliant, independent entrepreneurial ventures are encouraged and facilitated through Shri-Vriddhi, our College Entrepreneurial Cell, which is a collaboration with the National Entrepreneurship Network. Shri Shikshayatan College is a trailblazer in this, as it is the only girl's undergraduate College in the city to have an entrepreneurial cell that conducts selected entrepreneurship courses to enhance their entrepreneurial abilities and hone their entrepreneurial aptitude.

In our efforts to provide all-round education, we have organised different sporting activities and the Annual Sports Day of our College is a much awaited event every winter.

To ensure that the learner centric academic process is fulfilling and meaningful, our College Calendar is dotted with a variety of programmes, mirroring the myriad cultural, linguistic and social events organised by our students and faculty. Cultural activities are an intrinsic part of our collective life, such as the Foundation Day and Annual Prize Distribution Function.

A unique Art and Cuisine fair is one of our most attractive and innovative function, showcasing our students culinary and creative talents every year before the celebration of our biggest festival –Durga Puja. The proceeds of the sale of the items are donated to charity.

‘Srijan’ and ‘Podium’, the annual student fests are testimony to our students’ exemplary team work, organisation, coordination leadership skills.

The vision of our Founding Fathers for our students has been our constant roadmap to reinvent our policies and processes towards the goal of their empowerment.

We believe our graduate students are not only excellent human resources but also admirable human beings contributing to a better tomorrow.