

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2025

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SCHOOL OF ASTROPHYSICS

IUCAA-ICARD Present, Telescope making Workshop.

The Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), in collaboration with Presidency University, Kolkata, organized a Hands-on Telescope Making Workshop for educators on 5 December 2025 at the School of Astrophysics. The workshop aimed to equip teachers with practical skills in building and using functional telescopes, along with basic training in astronomy and sky-watching. This free professional development initiative fostered scientific engagement and collaboration among STEM educators.



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Sixth Satadru Sen Memorial Lecture 2025

The Sixth Satadru Sen Memorial Lecture 2025 was delivered by Prof. Ranabir Chakravarti on 22 December 2025 in remembrance of late Prof. Satadru Sen. The lecture explored Indian Ocean trade networks, emphasizing Indian merchants' central role in global commerce through ports in Gujarat, Bengal, and the Tamil coast. Drawing on Cairo Geniza documents, Prof. Chakravarti highlighted trust-based trade, monsoon navigation, shipbuilding techniques, and cross-cultural merchant networks shaping early global economic life.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

QED lecture on “Hearing the Universe Hum with Pulsar Timing Arrays: Primordial Black Holes and Gravitational Waves“

On December 11, 2025, the Department of Mathematics hosted the 91st Q.E.D. lecture at MLT, featuring Dr. Anish Ghoshal from the University of Warsaw. His talk examined the stochastic gravitational wave background detected by NANOGrav, focusing on pulsar timing arrays. He discussed the role of dark matter friction in shaping frequency spectra and explored cosmological sources such as cosmic strings and phase transitions, linking these signals to the formation of primordial black holes.



DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES

Young Scientists Competition Science for Protecting the Climate and Serving Society

A Young Scientists Competition was held on 9 December 2025 at Presidency University, Kolkata, as a pre-event to Humboldt Kolleg 2025, jointly organized with IISER Kolkata. Designed for Classes X-XI students, it encouraged scientific curiosity through lectures, a quiz, and model presentations on climate and society. Fourteen schools participated, showcasing innovative projects. The event featured eminent academicians and concluded with prize distribution and a campus museum tour.



Humboldt Kolleg on 'Recent advances in sustainable environment, chemical synthesis, and clean energy' jointly organized by Presidency University, Kolkata, and Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Kolkata (IISER Kolkata)

A three-day Humboldt Kolleg on "Recent Advances in Sustainable Environment, Chemical Synthesis, and Clean Energy" was jointly organized by Presidency University and IISER Kolkata from 10-13 December, 2025. The event featured 21 invited lectures by Humboldt Fellows and experts from India and abroad, along with oral and poster presentations by junior researchers. Thematic sessions addressed environmental hazards, ecological and social impacts, and sustainable chemical synthesis, fostering vibrant academic exchange and interdisciplinary dialogue.

Delegation visit from University of Birmingham

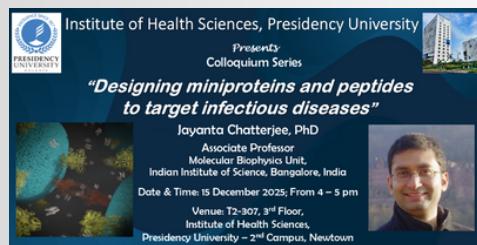
The Department of Life Sciences, Presidency University, hosted a delegation from the University of Birmingham on 17 December 2025. The visiting team included Prof. Chris Tselepis, Director of Education for the College of Medicine and Health; Dr. Sovan Sarkar, Associate Professor; and Mr. Devesh Anand, Regional Director – South Asia and the Middle East. The delegation met with the Head and faculty members of the department to discuss academic strengths and research interests, with the objective of identifying potential areas for meaningful and mutually beneficial collaboration.



INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Monthly Science Colloquium

The Institute of Health Sciences, Presidency University, organized a scientific colloquium on December 15, 2025, featuring Dr. Jayanta Chatterjee, Associate Professor, Molecular Biophysics Unit, IISc Bangalore. His lecture, titled "Designing Miniproteins and Peptides to Target Infectious Diseases," highlighted recent advances in protein design strategies for combating infections. The event fostered active interaction among researchers, experts, and students, with lively discussions on emerging trends and applications in protein and peptide engineering.



DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY



Workshop on - Experimental Structural Geology and Tectonics

A one-day workshop on Experimental Structural Geology and Tectonics was successfully held on 19 December 2025 at the Department of Geology, Presidency University, Kolkata. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from 25 undergraduate students from Presidency University and other nearby colleges. Prof. Sankar Bose inaugurated the workshop, emphasizing the importance of experimental approaches in understanding geological processes. Faculty members, research scholars, and postgraduate students contributed to two technical sessions, fostering active academic interaction and discussion.

The 102nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Geological Institute

The 102nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Geological Institute was held on 23rd December, 2025 and officially welcomed its committee members of 2025-26. The respective students were chosen by the previous committee members and approved by Prof. Sankar Bose, President of the Geological Institute and Head of the Department along with attending faculty, alumni, and Geological Institute members. Followed by, the publication of the 65th edition of 'Bhu-Vidya' magazine was performed on this day. Prof. Pinaki Sar, Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology, IIT Kharagpur, has delivered an invited lecture organized by the Geological Institute on "Enigma of the Deep Life in Continental Crust." on 23rd December, 2025 on occasion of 102nd Annual General Meeting (AGM).



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



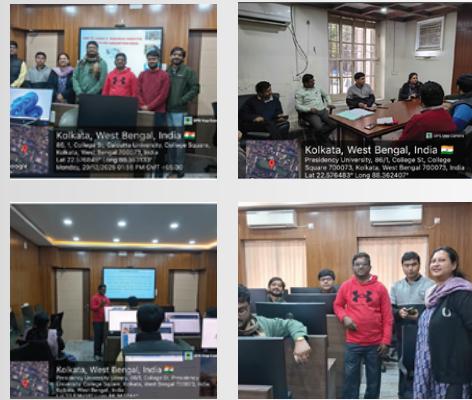
5th International Conference on Issues in Economic Theory & Policy

The fifth biennial International Conference on Issues in Economic Theory & Policy was organised by the Department of Economics on 23-24 December 2025. Prof. Parantap Basu (Durham University, UK), Prof. Arijit Sen (IIM Calcutta), Dr. Trthankar Patnaik (Chief Economist, NSE) and Prof. Maitreesh Ghatak (LSE, UK) were the speakers for the aforementioned programmes. It brought together college teachers, university professors, doctoral scholars, policy experts, banking professionals, and independent researchers. The event provided a dynamic platform for scholarly exchange, encouraging discussion on contemporary issues in economic theory and policy and fostering meaningful academic collaboration.

EVENTS AT LIBRARY

Awareness programme for One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) and Remote access facility

The Presidency University Library organized an awareness programme on the One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) initiative on 29 December 2025 at the Presidency Alumni Computer Centre. The programme aimed to familiarize faculty with electronic resources available under ONOS and procedures for remote access to scholarly content. Faculty members from the Department of Public Administration actively participated. The initiative sought to enhance teaching, learning, and research by improving access to national-level academic resources.



EVENTS OF NSS CELL



Green Maintenance Drive

The NSS Cell (Unit 3) of Presidency University, under the supervision of Programme Officer Dr. Puja Ray, organized a Green Maintenance Drive across the university campus on 29th December, 2025 to promote environmental responsibility. Eleven NSS volunteers participated in watering plants and maintaining green spaces, emphasizing the importance of regular care for sustaining plant life and ecological balance. The initiative highlighted how consistent maintenance supports biodiversity and air quality, reinforcing NSS's commitment to long-term environmental stewardship.

Waste Management Awareness Camp

The NSS Cell (Unit 1) of Presidency University, under the supervision of Programme Officer Dr. Jayeeta Deshmukh, organized a Waste Management Awareness Camp at Bagbazar Sramajibi Samity on 31st December, 2025 to promote environmental responsibility among slum children. Led by Dyuti Biswas and supported by eight NSS volunteers, the session introduced waste segregation through interactive, child-friendly activities. By explaining wet and dry waste disposal and recycling practices, the programme effectively encouraged sustainable habits and grassroots environmental awareness.



Anti-Rabies Vaccination Awareness Camp

The NSS Cell (Unit 2) of Presidency University organized an Anti-Rabies Vaccination Awareness Camp under the guidance of Programme Officer Dr. Mery Biswas on 31 December, 2025 to promote public health awareness. Led by Dyuti Biswas with active support from NSS volunteers, the initiative educated the community about rabies risks, the importance of immediate medical care after animal bites, and timely vaccination. By dispelling myths and encouraging responsible behaviour, the camp reinforced the crucial role of awareness and prompt action in preventing rabies.



CENTRAL HIGHLIGHT

COLLOQUIUM BY PROFESSOR JEFFREY DAVIDS SACHS ORGANIZED BY PRESIDENCY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Presidency Alumni Organization conducted a colloquium by Prof. Jeffrey Davids Sachs of Colombia University, USA on 22nd December, 2025. The session started with Dr. Upal Chakrabarti's presentation briefly highlighting the history of Presidency University. Dr. Bibhas Chaudhuri chaired the programme. Prof. Sachs' speech focused on sustainable growth and development. He also emphasized on the challenges faced by the universities. The colloquium was a grand success as it had a huge gathering of students and faculty members alike. The event ended with an interactive session wherein Prof. Sachs engaged the audience in an interactive session.



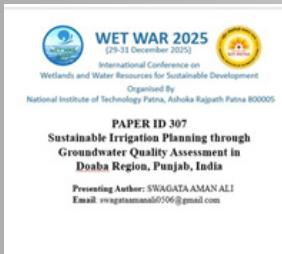
SUCCESS STORIES



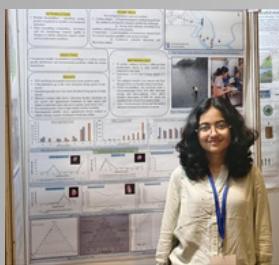
- An article by Sandipan Mitra, a PhD scholar from the Department of Sociology, titled “Room of the Nudes: Indian Museum and the Practice of Anthropology in India”, was published in the Journal, Museum Anthropology.



- An article by Rahul Singh, a PhD scholar from the Department of Sociology, titled “Drainage as a Spectacle: Modernity, Phantasmagoria, and Infrastructural Polity in Nineteenth- to Early Twentieth-Century Calcutta”, was published in the Journal of Urban History.



- Swagata Aman Ali, UG-II student of Department of Geology, won the Best paper award in the session: Groundwater Resources Assessment, Quality Evaluation and Sustainable Management of Wet War 2025 (International conference on Wetlands and water resources for sustainable development) organized by NIT, Patna presenting on the topic: ‘Sustainable Irrigation Planning through Groundwater quality assessment in Doaba Region, Punjab, India’.



- Pranita Debnath, UG-III student of Department of Geology, presented a poster in 19th International Meiofauna Conference organised by -IISER-Kolkata and International association of Meiofauna on the topic : A study on the assemblages of Benthic Foraminifera in the Lothian Island and Sushnichar areas of Sunderbans, India.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS SUCCESS STORIES 2025

The above success stories are only to mention few amongst the many who qualified other national level exams like NET, GATE and JAM and are well placed at several Institutes and Universities across India and abroad. Heartiest congratulations and best wishes from the teachers, stufts and students of the Department to every successful student whose names could not be included in the list.

<p>Imadul SK M. Tech in Computer Science IIT Ropar</p>	<p>Shrabanti Das M. Tech in Cryptology and Cyber Security IIT Kolkata</p>	<p>Souravendu Saha M.Sc. in Quality Management Science IIT Ropar</p>	<p>Prakritiprerna De Integrated PhD, IISER Bhopal</p>	<p>Jit Bhattacharya M.Sc. in Mathematics IIT Madras</p>	<p>Somnath Paine M.Sc. in Mathematics IIT Dhanbad</p>	<p>Dr. Koushik Mohanta Joined as faculty in Mathematics at IIT Guwahati</p>	<p>Dr. Rohit Sarmi Sarkar Postdoc Researcher National Research Center in Catalonia, Spain</p>	<p>Soham Biswas Cybersecurity Associate TIAA Global Capabilities</p>	<p>Adlekhya Mukhopadhyay M. Tech TEK Systems, HP</p>
<p>Srishti Hader M.Sc. in Mathematics IIT Gandhinagar</p>	<p>Arun Bhattacharya M.Sc. in Mathematics and Computing IIT (ISM) Dhanbad</p>	<p>Arun Chhatwal M.Sc. in Mathematics and Computing IIT Guwahati</p>	<p>Debjyoti Roy M.Sc. in Mathematics IIT Jodhpur</p>	<p>Sahil Atul Ali SW/Agile/Cloud Tech Support Associate Accenture</p>	<p>Ananya Bhattacharya Ph.D. in Mathematics The Graduate School New Mexico State University</p>	<p>Sumit Bose Ph.D in Mathematics IISB Bhopal</p>	<p>Samanta Samanta Ph.D in Mathematics and Engineering IIT Bombay</p>	<p>Arindam Ghosh Ph.D in Mathematics (IIT), IIT Kharagpur</p>	