



**JANUARY, 2025**

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## 208TH FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION

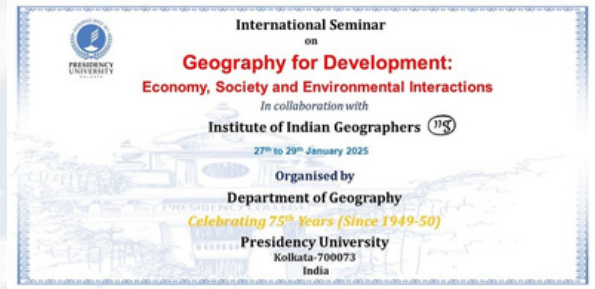
Presidency University celebrated its 208th Founders' Day on 20th January, 2025. The program was initiated with the traditional lamp lighting at the Arts library, followed by garlanding of the statues in the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, the Registrar, President of alumni Association and other members of Executive council of Alumni Association. A cultural program was organised by the present students of Department of Performing Arts. Prof Prasanta Ray, an eminent sociologist was given the Atul Chandra Gupta Distinguished Alumnus Award 2025 and he also delivered the Founder's day lecture. Felicitation & Life Time Contribution Award was received by Shri Dilip Roy (Dilip da)





## GEOGRAPHY FOR DEVELOPMENT: ECONOMY, SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS

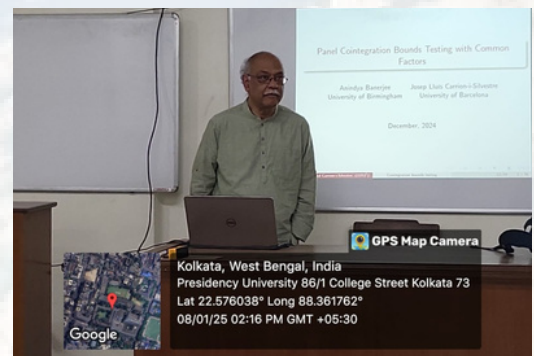
The Department of Geography, Presidency University celebrated its 75 years journey from 1950-2025 by organising a Three Day International Seminar. In this seminar, two keynote lectures were delivered by Prof. Nikita Sud, University of Oxford, entitled on "Interrogating justice in the 'just' energy transition" and Prof. Diganta Das, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, entitled "Smart Urbanism in Asia". The seminar was also featured by 10 plenary lectures and 17 lead lectures by the distinguished scholars and academicians from across India and abroad. These lectures were primarily based on the cutting edge research findings with both theoretical and empirical implications of different dimensions of geographical knowledge and understanding in fostering social, economic and environmental development. The seminar had 22 technical sessions in which 127 research papers were presented. The conference had one brainstorming panel discussion on "Labour Geographies in Transition" in a hybrid mode in which a half-a-dozen of distinguished scholars participated from the leading universities across the world. The event also hosted a 'young geographers' award competition- participated by the research scholars across the country.





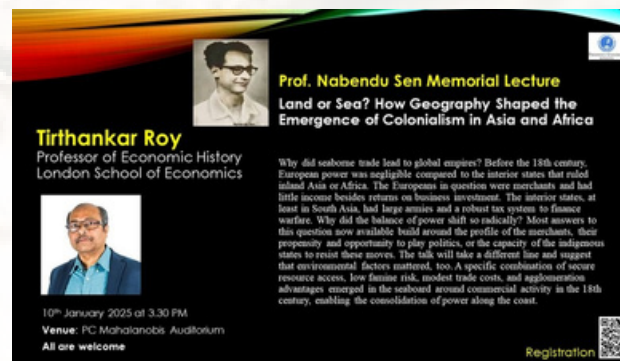
## TALK BY PROF. ANINDYA BANERJEE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM, UK

Prof. Anindya Banerjee from the University of Birmingham, UK, delivered a lecture on "Panel Cointegration Bounds Testing with Common Factors." His talk focused on a panel data unit root statistic that accounts for cross-section dependence driven by unobserved common factors, using the common correlated effects estimation method (Pesaran, 2006). The analysis incorporated different types of common factors— $I(1)$  non-stationary,  $I(0)$  stationary, or a mix of both—extending existing literature. The session was attended by UG, PG students, and scholars, providing valuable insights into statistical inference using a bounds-based testing strategy.



## TALK BY PROF. TIRTHANKAR ROY, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics and its alumni organized the Nabendu Sen Memorial Lecture on 10th January, 2025. Prof. Tirthankar Roy of London School of Economics delivered the talk titled "Land or Sea: How Geography shaped the emergence of colonialism in Asia and Africa". The lecture was attended by the students, researchers and faculty of department. Our noted alumni also attended the event.



## TALK BY PROF. SUBHASIS MODAK CHOWDHURY, SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY

Prof. Subhasis Modak Chowdhury delivered a lecture on "The Lifecycle of Affirmative Action Policies and Its Effect on Effort and Sabotage Behavior" on 15th January, 2025. The talk was attended by the students, researchers and faculty of the department.



## COLLOQUIUMS AT THE SCHOOL OF ASTROPHYSICS

### *LDMX: A Hunt for Light Dark Matter*

On January 8, 2024, Dr. Pritam Palit from Carnegie Mellon University delivered a talk on the Light Dark Matter Experiment (LDMX) at the School of Astrophysics, Presidency University. He emphasized the significance of exploring sub-GeV dark matter, a largely uncharted domain. LDMX employs a fixed-target electron-beam technique to detect dark matter signatures by measuring missing momentum. Dr. Palit discussed experimental challenges, including high-intensity beams and advanced tracking methods, and highlighted LDMX's unprecedented sensitivity. The session sparked engaging discussions, deepening interest in this frontier of physics beyond the Standard Model.

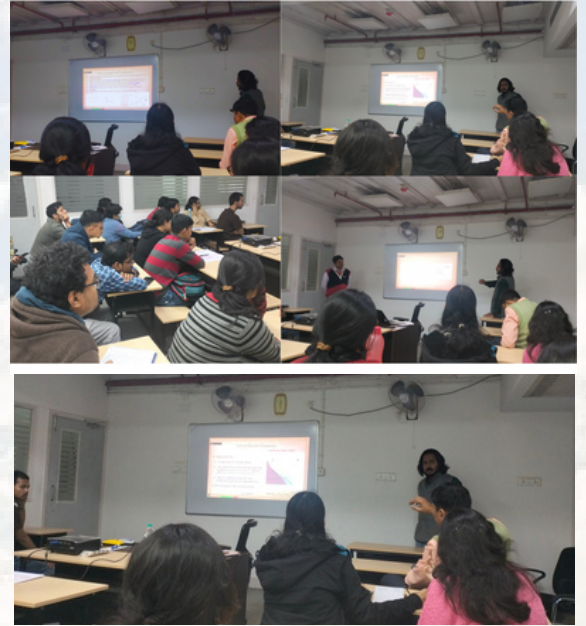
### *Exploring the Universe with Gravitational Waves: How Do Binary Black Holes Form?*

Dr. Anarya Ray, Northwestern University, USA, delivered a talk on 22nd January, 2025. Gravitational waves (GWs) from compact binary mergers provide a revolutionary tool for exploring astrophysical phenomena. In this talk, the scientific potential of growing GW catalogs and multi-messenger observations was highlighted, addressing key mysteries in compact binary formation, cosmological expansion, and fundamental interactions. The focus then shifted to the formation of merging stellar-mass binary black holes (BBHs), where data-driven population analysis methods offer insights into their astrophysical origins. New findings from the third GW transient catalog and future prospects, including the role of machine learning in BBH studies, were discussed, offering exciting opportunities for early-career scientists.

### *"Learning Science and the Science of Learning" – A Talk by Prof. S. Raj Chaudhury*

Prof. S. Raj Chaudhury from the University of South Alabama, USA, delivered an insightful talk on how learning sciences can enhance teaching practices. He explored the nature of expertise, its role in academia, and the significance of active learning, drawing inspiration from renowned educators. The session provided valuable perspectives for faculty, students, and staff across disciplines, encouraging innovative approaches to education.

The Light Dark Matter Experiment (LDMX)





## HATHEKHORI'S' BOOK LAUNCH AND DISCUSSION

Haatekhori's book launch was organized by the Department of Sociology on 31st of January, 2025. Indian historian Tapati Guhathakurta, Archin Chakraborty, Researcher Semonti Ghosh, Scholar Kanad Singha, and Dr. Hia Sen, Assistant Professor, Presidency University were present in the event as the speakers.



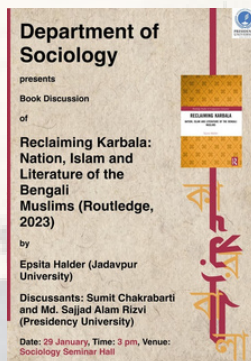
## BOOK DISCUSSION ON “THE TRIAL THAT SHOOK BRITAIN”

This book delves into the INA trials of 1945–46, a pivotal yet often overlooked episode in India's freedom struggle. It explores how the trials of Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Sahgal, and Gurbaksh Dhillon marked a turning point, compelling the Indian National Congress to embrace the INA's military resistance against British rule. The study uncovers fresh insights into this decisive phase, shedding light on its role in accelerating India's independence. Essential for researchers and students of South Asian history, colonialism, military studies, and pre-Partition politics, this work provides a nuanced understanding of the INA's impact on India's decolonization.



## BOOK DISCUSSION OF RECLAIMING KARBALA: NATION, ISLAM AND LITERATURE OF THE BENGALI MUSLIMS (ROUTLEDGE, 2023)

Reclaiming Karbala examines the evolution of Muslim identity in Bengal from the late 19th century to the 1940s through a broad analysis of literary and religious texts. It explores the intersection of religion, language, and modernity, shaping both Bengali and Muslim identities. The book situates this discourse within intra-Islamic reformist conflicts, revealing how various reformist factions rejected Muharram rituals and Shī'ī intercessory practices to establish a pro-Caliphate sensibility in Bengal's Muslim public sphere. Offering a fresh perspective on regional Islam and identity formation, this work is crucial for scholars of Bengali Muslim history, literature, and religious reform movements.





# INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

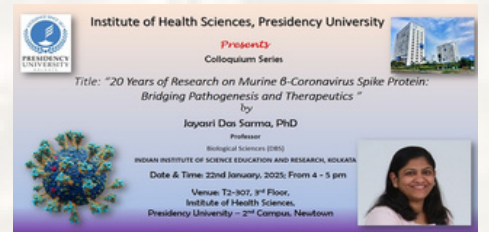
## SCIENCE COLLOQUIUMS

On January 15, 2025, the Institute of Health Sciences (IHS), Presidency University, hosted the first colloquium of the year with Prof. Arijit Mukhopadhyay from Salford University, UK, delivering a talk on "Genes to Screens: Transforming Glaucoma Care through Storytelling." The event encouraged open dialogue and knowledge exchange, with faculty and scholars engaging in a lively discussion on glaucoma research. The session highlighted the need for interdisciplinary collaboration to address scientific challenges and was well-received for keeping participants informed about emerging trends in health sciences.

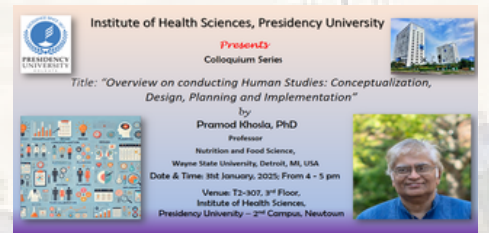


### IHS Colloquium Series: Two Decades of Coronavirus Research

On January 22, 2025, the Institute of Health Sciences (IHS), Presidency University, hosted its second scientific colloquium featuring Prof. Jayasri Das Sarma from IISER Kolkata. She shared insights from her 20-year research journey on coronaviruses, presenting a lecture on "20 Years of Research on Murine B-Coronavirus Spike Protein: Bridging Pathogenesis and Therapeutics." The session facilitated productive discussions on pathogenesis and therapeutics, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration. Attendees engaged in thought-provoking debates, emphasizing the need for further research. The event was well-received, providing scholars and students with valuable updates on advancements in Murine B-Coronavirus Spike Protein research.



The final presentation of the month, on 31st January, 2025 had Prof. Pramod Khosla from Wayne University, USA, with us. He elaborated the trajectories of his clinical trials and delivered his lecture on the topic "Overview on conducting Human Studies: Conceptualization, Design, Planning and Implementation". The talk was attended by a packed audience, including masters' students, research scholars, and faculty members of IHS and enthusiastically received by all with lively interactive sessions. The event featured presentations focusing on his key areas with a primary goal of fostering open dialogue and knowledge exchange with the attendees. A lively discussion on the topic engaged the audience with the speaker regarding diverse perspectives on human studies. Faculty members and scholars debated on critical points and explored potential solutions.







DEPARTMENT OF  
BENGALI

## CHARCHAY BAHUJAN MANUSHER SAHITYER BHUBANE NATIKATHAN

On 22nd January 2025, the seminar "Charchay Bahujan Manusher Sahityer Bhubane Natikathan" featured renowned Dalit thinker Manoharmouli Biswas as the keynote speaker. Hosted by Assistant Professor Devarati Jana, the event began with a welcome address by HOD Uttam Kumar Biswas. Biswas discussed the mainstreaming of marginalized voices in literature, sharing insights from his work with Chaturtha Duniya and personal experiences with Mahasweta Devi. His speech sparked an engaging Q&A session with faculty and students. The seminar ended with an address by Assistant Professor Santi Saren, followed by Ritam Mukhopadhyay's recital of Namdeo Dhasal's poem "Kamatipura."

প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, বাংলা বিভাগ আয়োজিত  
**চর্চায় বহুজন মানুষের সাহিত্যের  
ভুবনে নাটিকাতন**  
দুপুর ২:৩০, বুধবার, ২২ জানুয়ারি, ২০২৫  
জীবনানন্দ সভাকক্ষ, বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
আলোচক: মনোহরমৌলি বিশ্বাস  
দলিত-গবেষক, লেখক ও সম্পাদক  
সুপ্রধার: দেবারতি জানা  
সহকারী অধ্যাপক, বাংলা বিভাগ,  
প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
স্বাগত ভাষণ: উত্তমকুমার বিশ্বাস  
বিভাগীয় প্রধান, বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি  
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন: স্বরূপা বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়  
সহযোগী অধ্যাপক, বাংলা বিভাগ,  
প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

## SHATABARSHE BADAL SIRCAR : EPISODE 2

On 29th January 2025, the second episode of the seminar series "Shatabarshe Badal Sircar" featured eminent linguist Professor Prabal Dasgupta as the keynote speaker. Hosted by Assistant Professor Devarati Jana, the event began with a welcome address by HOD Uttam Kumar Biswas. Professor Dasgupta explored the connection between Badal Sircar and the Esperanto language, highlighting Sircar's translation of Sukumar Roy's works into Esperanto and drawing parallels between Third Theatre and Esperanto—both being flexible, portable, and cost-effective. A lively Q&A session followed, with Samanwita Ghosh and Pritilata Kayal posing thought-provoking questions, to which Dasgupta responded with humor and depth. Professor Sandipkumar Mondal delivered the concluding remarks. The session offered fresh insights into Sircar's creative world, inspiring further exploration.

বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
আয়োজিত  
**শতাব্দীর বাদল সিরকার**  
পর্ব - ২  
**এমগেরাজো ও বাদল সিরকার**  
আলোচনাচক্র: আপনাদের সাদর আমন্ত্রণ জানাই  
দুপুর ৩:০০, বুধবার, ২৯ জানুয়ারি ২০২৫  
জীবনানন্দ সভাকক্ষ  
বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
বক্তা: **প্রবাল দাশগুপ্ত**  
বিশিষ্ট ভাষাবিজ্ঞানী  
ও  
প্রাক্তন অধ্যাপক, নিউইয়র্ক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ইন্ডিয়ান স্ট্যাটিস্টিক্যাল ইনস্টিটিউট, কোলকাতা  
স্বাগত ভাষণ: **উত্তমকুমার বিশ্বাস**  
বিভাগীয় প্রধান  
বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়  
সুপ্রধার: **দেবারতি জানা**  
সহকারী অধ্যাপক  
বাংলা বিভাগ, প্রেসিডেন্সি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

DEPARTMENT OF  
MATHEMATICS

## DATA SCIENCE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Department of Mathematics at Presidency University hosted a special lecture on Data Science and Social Justice on January 15, 2025. The guest speaker was Prof. Ron Buckmire, Dean of the School of Computer Science and Mathematics at Marist College, USA. Held in MLT-1 at 12 noon, the lecture lasted for over an hour and was attended by students, researchers, and faculty members. Prof. Buckmire provided insights into Marist University's computer science programs and shared his research on the intersection of data science and social justice, particularly within the American mathematics community.



**DEPARTMENT OF  
PERFORMING ARTS**

**CROSS CULTURAL PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP**

The Department of Performing Arts at Presidency University hosted a Demonstration-Workshop-Performance with the Australian-based band 'Three Seas' on January 16, 2025, at Derozio Auditorium. The event featured musicians like Matt Keegan, Raju Das, Deoashish Mothey, and Gaurab Chatterjee. Dr. Niladri Roy chaired the session, attended by the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, and Australian Consul General Hugh Boylan, highlighting India-Australia cultural ties. Faculty, staff, and students actively participated, with students performing alongside the band in music and dance, making it a truly immersive and enriching cross-cultural experience.



**ART AND RESPONSIBILITY**

The Departments of Performing Arts and Sociology at Presidency University hosted an international talk on January 31, 2025, featuring Dr. Aaron Bryant, Curator at the Smithsonian Museum of African History and Culture. The topic of discussion was "Responsibilities of an Artist." Professor Sreemati Mukherjee introduced the topic, referencing Plato, Aristotle, Toni Morrison, and Alice Walker. Dr. Bryant engaged with students on whether art should convey a message or be appreciated for its essence. Faculty and students actively participated, making it a thought-provoking discussion on the role of art in society.



**DEPARTMENT OF LIFE  
SCIENCES**

**COLLOQUIUM LECTURE**

Prof. Sanjoy Guha Roy, Head of Botany, West Bengal State University, delivered a talk on "Understanding the Dynamics of Late Blight Disease of Potato in India." The disease, caused by *Phytophthora* spp., has re-emerged as a major threat due to climate change, affecting potato production. Prof. Roy emphasized the need for integrated disease management, including resistant varieties, fungicide application, crop rotation, and environmental monitoring. He highlighted the importance of early detection and rapid response to mitigate economic losses and ensure food security. The talk provided valuable insights into tackling this devastating phytopathogen in India.



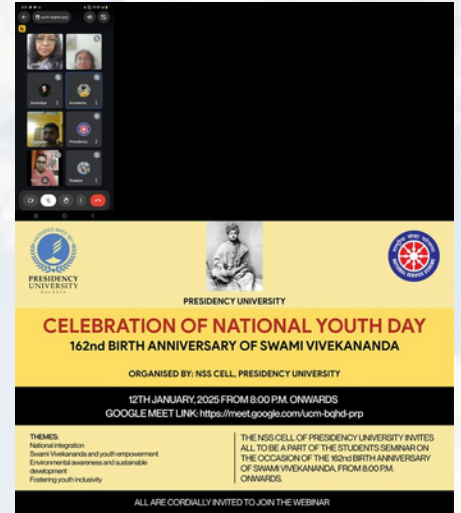




## EVENTS OF NSS CELL

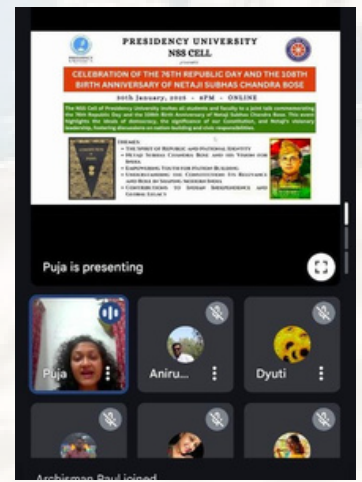
### CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL YOUTH DAY & THE 162ND BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

The NSS Cell of Presidency University organized an online webinar on January 12, 2025, at 8 PM to commemorate National Youth Day and Swami Vivekananda's 162nd birth anniversary. Guided by Dr. Jayeeta Deshmukh (Economics), the event focused on youth empowerment, self-discipline, and national integration. Hosted by Joydeep Chakraborty, the session featured panelists discussing Vivekananda's ideals of self-confidence, education, and service. Key themes included spiritual strength, character-building, and collective progress. With active student engagement and insightful discussions, the webinar successfully reinforced Vivekananda's timeless vision, inspiring participants toward personal and societal growth.



### NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE AND HIS IDEAS

On January 30, 2025, the NSS Cell of Presidency University hosted an online webinar under Dr. Puja Ray (Life Sciences, Programme Officer, Unit III) to commemorate Republic Day and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary. Led by Joydeep Chakraborty, the session featured speakers discussing democracy, Netaji's vision, and youth's role in nation-building. The event emphasized civic responsibilities and the Constitution's impact on modern India. Encouraging reflection on democratic values, the webinar concluded with an inspirational message, reaffirming the NSS Cell's commitment to nation-building and active citizenship.



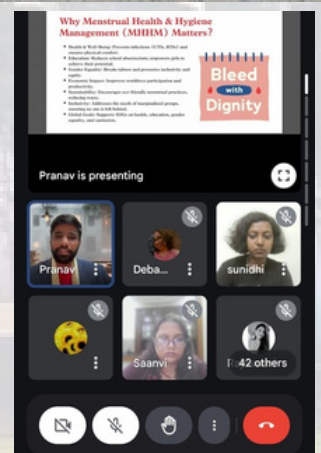
### GENDER SENSITIZATION WORKSHOP

On January 22, 2025, the NSS Cell of Presidency University, in collaboration with Procter & Gamble, organized a Gender Sensitization Workshop under the guidance of Prof. Sumita Saha and NSS Programme Officers. Speaker Disha Mukherjee led discussions on breaking stereotypes, addressing biases, and fostering inclusivity. Over 100 students and faculty engaged in interactive sessions, real-life case studies, and critical discussions. NSS volunteers played a key role in organizing the event, ensuring a meaningful dialogue. The workshop successfully reinforced gender-sensitive practices, empowering students to advocate for equality in their communities.



### MENSTRUAL HEALTH & HYGIENE WORKSHOP

On January 27, 2025, the NSS Cell of Presidency University, in collaboration with The Policy Tank, organized an online workshop on menstrual health. Led by Dr. Puja Ray, the session aimed to raise awareness, challenge stigmas, and promote sustainable menstrual practices. Experts Pranav Sharma, Sunidhi, Shweta, and Nidhi provided insights on hygiene, misconceptions, and inclusive perspectives. Over 50 students actively participated, engaging in discussions. Supported by NSS volunteers, the workshop fostered gender sensitization and social responsibility, reinforcing the NSS Cell's commitment to holistic well-being.





## PRESI HIGHLIGHTS

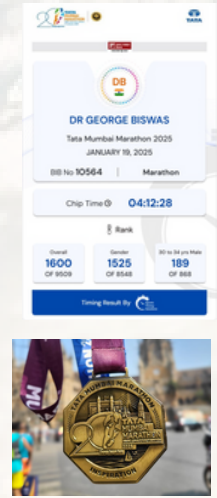
### PROF. SREEMATI MUKHERJEE, HUSNA-TARA PRAKASH AND DEVASIS CHATTOPADHYAY DISCUSS KOLKATA AS A VIBRANT CITY IN THE 19TH CENTURY AT APEEJAY KOLKATA LITERARY FESTIVAL (AKLF) 2025

*Sreemati Mukherjee's Women and the Romance of the Word (2024) explores 19th-century Bengali feminist history through trailblazing women writers like Kailashbashini Devi and Krishnabhabini Das. Highlighting Bethune College's role in women's education, she examines how these writers disrupted cultural narratives, claiming their voices and shaping Bengal's feminist discourse.*



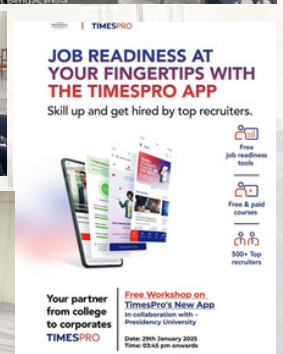
### DR. GEORGE BISWAS, DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY, COMPLETES THE TATA MUMBAI MARATHON

*On January 19, 2025, Dr. George Biswas completed the Tata Mumbai Marathon (42.195 km) in 4 hours, 12 minutes, and 28 seconds, proudly carrying the Indian flag. Battling humidity and tough stretches, he persevered with determination, drawing strength from fellow runners and spectators, finishing with the tricolor held high.*



### SEMINAR ON PLACEMENT AND INTERNSHIP ORGANISED BY TRAINING AND PLACEMENT OFFICE (TPO) OF PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY IN ASSOCIATION WITH TIMESPRO

*On 28th January 2025, the Training and Placement Office (TPO) of Presidency University, in association with TimesPro (Times Group), organized a seminar to guide second-year undergraduate students on internships and placements. Mr. Suvopriyo Ghosh from TimesPro delivered an insightful session on interview skills, CV preparation, and placement strategies. Around 55 students participated, downloading the TimesPro app for free access to placement resources. The seminar effectively equipped students with essential tools to navigate interviews and career opportunities.*



### DEPARTMENTAL VISIT BY STUDENTS OF HINDU SCHOOL AT DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY

*On January 7, 2024, as part of the Geological Institute's outreach program, 48 students and 2 teachers from Hindu School visited the department. Led by Prof. Arijit Ray and Dr. Anirban Chatterjee, they explored geological samples at the Prof. Hem Chandra Dasgupta Museum, fostering curiosity and enthusiasm for Geology.*




















# SUCCESS STORIES

Presidency University congratulates and extends heartfelt greetings to the various students of the Department of Mathematics who have qualified for various national level examinations like NET, GATE and JAM and are well placed at several institutes and universities of international repute across India.

**PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY** **200**  
KOLKATA

**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**  
**SUCCESS STORIES 2024**

 Rakim Debnath M.Math, ISI Kolkata ISER Pune NISER Bhubaneswar	 Akash Naskar M.Math, ISI Kolkata	 Aratrika Gaha M.Sc., ISER Bhopal IIT Ropar	 Sandipan Mondal (JAM-AIR-45) M.Sc. (OR), IIT Bombay	 Shounik Das M.Sc. (OR), IIT Bombay
 Bristi Chakraborty (Student of the VAC Course) PhD., IIT Madras (NBHM) IIT Palakkad ISER Thiruvananthapuram	 Seijan Sarkar M.Sc., IIT Kharagpur ISER Kolkata NISER Bhubaneswar	 Arindam Sarkar PhD., IIT Kharagpur	 Roudra Ghosal Game Economist ARISE (Offer Letter Received)	 Prince Shah Anowar Rahman Systems Engineer, TCS (Offer Letter Received)
 Pabitra Mandal PhD., IISc Bengaluru	 Akaprava Datta Project Associate I IISc Bengaluru	 Shantabrata Saha PhD., ISI Kolkata	 Arunavo Ganguly Research Associate Hamburg University of Technology, Germany	 Joy Saha Graduate Software Engineer, KAL (Offer Letter Received)

Let us congratulate the ex-students enrolled at prestigious institutes/organizations in 2024

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, staffs and students of the Department to every successful student whose names could not be included in the list.