

Prof. Deepali Singhee, Ph.D
Principal, J.D. Birla Institute (Since 2006)

ACHIEVEMENTS

Prof. Deepali Singhee is currently the Principal of the highly reputed J.D. Birla Institute (Departments of Science, Commerce & Management) affiliated to Jadavpur University, Kolkata **since in 2006**. Under her guidance and administration the Institute received an ‘A’ Grade during NAAC re-accreditation in 2010 and **Autonomy from UGC in 2013**.

Her able and skilled leadership for the last 13 years has **led the Institute to be known today among the highly reputed colleges not only in the city, but even at the national level**. The college has been declared as one of the **Emerging College in this Century by India Today in its June 2019 issue**.

Starting with merely three departments, she took the initiative and **introduced four new PG and four UG programmes in the last 8 years**. Also as a good practice the **syllabus for every course has been ungraded twice during her tenure**. The **college campus is one of the most beautiful and well maintained campus**; something that Prof. Singhee personally takes care for. She has encouraged **several co and extra-curricular activities in the college**. Her vision for the future has **enabled the college to adopt several good practices**.

An **alumnus of the same Institute**, she completed her Ph.D from Faculty Council of Science, Jadavpur University after doing Master’s from Nirmala Niketan College of Home Science, Mumbai. She has a number of published research papers and has participated in several conferences and seminars at the national and international level. She has received the ‘Best Research Poster’ award several times at various forums. She also has several awards at the regional and national level to her credit. She is a member of several Professional Bodies and/or Societies

Prof. Singhee has over **25 years of teaching experience in field of Textiles & Clothing** and has organized the several Educational Excursions in the interior parts of India to enable students to study and appreciate the various traditional and heritage textiles of India.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENT

Academic Growth

During the last 10 years (since Prof. Singhee took over as the Principal of the College), the college has grown both with respect to the number of courses and the number of students and staff in addition to the infrastructure.

| | In 2006 | As on Date | Increase |
|---------------------|----------------|---|-----------------|
| Number of Courses | UG - 3 | UG - 6 (one old course was discontinued and four new were added) | 4 |
| | PG - 3 | PG - 4 (one old course was discontinued and two new ones were added) | 3 |
| Number of Students | 869 | 1304 (Main Campus) | 435 |
| Number of Faculties | 36 (2008) | 51 | 15 |
| Number of Library | 2 | 4 | 2 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Staff | | | |
| Number of Non-teaching Staff | 28 | 44 | 16 |

Infrastructure Improvement

After assuming Office as the Principal of the College, Prof. Singhee left no stone unturned to ensure that an outstanding teaching and learning environment is offered to staff and students. **The built-up area of the college was increased by adding two more floors in the last 10 years.**

All **classrooms were converted to smart rooms** with projectors, internet connectivity through WiFi and PA system. Teachers were given personal desktops and laptops for the same. **A 250-seater state-of-the-art Convention centre** and another Audio Visual Room were set up. The LRC (Library) was **augmented from a mere 8000 books to over 18000** in just a span of 10 years. Several **journals were added and subscription to INFLIBNET** initiated. Apart from this the LRC was **automated with KOHA software and RFID.**

The **old laboratories at the Institute (10 in number) were revamped** and converted to state-of the art centers with modern facilities. The **following six new laboratories were set-up** under her headship:

1. Instrumentation & Testing Centre
2. 2nd Computer Laboratory
3. CAD Studio
4. Draping Studio
5. Weaving Studio
6. Montessori & Councelling Laboratory

A newly furbished **canteen and student’s recreational zone** have also been set-up. **All faculty rooms and officers have been revamped** with new furniture.

The College also believes in aesthetic appearance and has been **beautified with posters and quotes.** Being a green campus with **23% (of the total land area) of greenery**, it has about 51 number of different plant species. The **garden made from recycled waste** is a work of art and is maintained by the students of the Interior Design students, who have also set up **vertical gardens** from recycled products; while the kitchen garden is maintained by the students of the Food Science & Nutrition Management Department. The college has a **solar power generation plant** of 30 kw capacity and has prepared a **green audit report** and will be soon getting the audit done.

Today the college can boast of a **beautiful and well-maintained campus** where each space of the **built-up area is well utilized** with all modern facilities.

Achievements & Rankings

In acknowledgement of its continuous quest for excellence and the exemplary standards it has set and maintained through the decade, in 2010. The Institute was awarded the highest possible **“A” Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** in 2010. Currently the college is preparing for its 3rd cycle of accreditation. The Institute was also conferred with the **Autonomous status** by the affiliating University in concurrence with the UGC in 2013. The Institute is a part of the **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).**

Awards Won by the College

- a) The Economic Times Best Education Brand Award 2020.
- b) Gurukul Award for the Most Promising College from Lions Club of Kolkata in 2019.
- c) Education Ratna Award 2019 for India's Outstanding & Innovative High Quality Educational Institute Award from RULA accredited by the World Research Council in 2019
- d) Most Friendly College by Bengal Rowing Club in 2020.
- e) Best Dressed Girls College and Most Friendly College awards from Bengal Rowing Club awards in 2019.
- f) Best Dressed College award from Bengal Rowing Club in 2018.
- g) Best Discipline College award from Bengal Rowing Club in 2017.
- h) Gurukul Award for the Best Upcoming College from Lions Club of Kolkata in 2010
- i) Gurukul Award for the Best Maintained College from Lions Club of Kolkata in 2008.
- j) Gurukul Award for the College to Look For from Lions Club of Kolkata in 2007

Rankings

Under her able guidance, the Collegee has been ranked high amongst Institutes of higher learning in the country by several rating agencies including India Today, Career 360 and Times Magazine.

ALL-INDIA RANKINGS

| Year | Department | By Nielsons for India Today | By Hansa Research Survey for The Week | By ICARE Profession for Outlook |
|-------------|----------------------|---|--|---|
| 2020 | Management | 10 th out of 120 Colleges | | 8 th out of 124 Colleges |
| | Commerce | 33 nd out of 160 Colleges | | 34 th out of 150 Colleges |
| | | Selected among top 10 colleges as the 'Emerging College in this Century' | | |
| | As a Science College | 63 rd out of 120 Colleges | | 45 th out of 100 Colleges |
| | Textiles Department | | | 13 th out of 17 Private Colleges |
| 2019 | Management | 10 th out of 120 Colleges | | |
| | Commerce | 31 st out of 145 top colleges | -- | |
| | | Selected among top 10 colleges as the 'Emerging College in this Century' | | |
| 2018 | Management | 9 th out of 50 Colleges | | |
| | Commerce | 29 th out of 100 top colleges | 35 th out of 50 top colleges | |
| 2017 | Management | 4 th out of 50 Colleges | | |
| | Commerce | 20 th out of 40 top colleges | 32 nd out of 50 top | |

| | | | | |
|------|----------|---|---|--|
| | | | colleges | |
| | TCFS | 15 th out of 15 top colleges | -- | |
| 2016 | Commerce | 35 th out of 40 top colleges | 34 th out of 50 top colleges | |
| 2015 | Commerce | 33 rd out of 40 top colleges | -- | |
| | TCFS | 10 th out of 10 top colleges | -- | |

CITY BASED RANKINGS

| Year | Department | By Nielsons for India Today | By Hansa for The Week | Career 360 | By ICARE Profession for Outlook |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 2020 | Management | | | | 1 st |
| | Commerce | 2 nd | 3 rd | | 2 nd |
| | As a Science College | 2 nd | | | 2 nd |
| | Textiles Department | | | | 1 st |
| 2019 | Commerce | 2 nd | -- | -- | |
| 2018 | Commerce | 2 nd | 3 rd | -- | |
| 2017 | Commerce | 2 nd | 3 rd | -- | |
| | TCFS | 2 nd | -- | -- | |
| 2016 | Commerce | 2 nd | 3 rd | -- | |
| | Arts, Science & Commerce | -- | -- | 6 th with AAAA+ out of 50 top colleges in East Zone | |
| 2015 | Commerce | 2 nd | -- | -- | |
| | TCFS | 1 st | -- | | |

CHANGES IN PEDAGOGIES

Prof. Singhee ensured that the learning process remains student centric with a scope of flipped classrooms and for this **student's seminars, projects and term paper presentations were introduced in the curriculum as sessional subjects during syllabus revisions.** Teachers are encouraged to adopt a diverse set of technological tools and resources to communicate with students and make minimal use of chalk & board. Now most teachers at the Institute deliver knowledge through PowerPoint presentations.

Prof. Singhee has ensured that teaching and learning be supplemented with regular guest lectures, seminars, workshops, field visits, etc. **Over 300 special lectures, 20 seminars and 100 workshops have been organized to expose students to burning issues and new age topics in the last 10 years.** Regular field visits to factories, industry and organization are carried out in every semester. As an USP, annual educational excursions within the country are conducted every year to expose the final year B.Sc students to new age learning.

After taking the chair as the Principal of the college, Prof. Singhee ensured that a **host of inter-college and intra-college activities involving extra-curricular and co-curricular events are held to aptly broaden the learning experience of the students.** Some activities include inter-college fests, annual sports meet, annual day celebrations, picnics, rallies & walks, exhibitions, Independence Day and Basant Panchami celebrations. An active NSS wing comprising of over 300 student volunteers was initiated to organize and participate in a number of outreach programmes and social activities. **In the year 2018-2019 alone 51 such activities were conducted that were highly appreciated by the parent Jadavpur**

University. An array of Student's Clubs also allows students to showcase and sharpen their talents.

To cater to such changes, the number of faculties has been raised from 15 (when she joined office as the Principal) to 51, who have been recruited under her headship in the recent years. This shows her zest for major educational reforms at the Institute.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The College was set-up by the late Sushila Devi Birla, wife of eminent industrialist late L. N. Birla in June 1962 and was named Smt. Jawahari Devi Birla Institute of Home Science. It initially filled a much felt gap in the scientific education of young women from Calcutta's conservative families and was **restricted to Home Science only**. A Department of Commerce was added in 1997 and in tune with the shifting zeitgeist; another campus was started in 2002 to house the co-educational Department of Management. Today more job-friendly and dynamic courses have replaced the Home Science course.

Under the able guidance of Prof. Singhee the college **introduced the following new courses** in the last 10 years and increased the number of students from 1200 to 1800:

- B.Sc (Hons) in Food & Nutrition
- B.Sc (Hons) in Textile Science, Clothing in Fashion Studies
- B.Sc (Hons) in Interior Designing
- B.Sc (Hons) in Human Development
- M.Sc in Food & Nutrition
- M.Sc in Textiles & Clothing
- M.Com

All the courses have been revised at least two times (2009 & 2015) during the last 10 years and three options for specialization in the final year (Accounting & Finance, Marketing & Banking & Insurance) were introduced in the B.Com (Hons) course. In the subsequent years, the specialization on Banking & Insurance was discontinued to lack of popularity among students and instead it was replaced by specialization in Human Resource Management.

This year (2019), as mandated by the UGC, **all the six UG courses have been revised into the CBCS (Choice Based Credit System) pattern**. The **updated curriculum of post-graduate Diploma in Dietetics and Applied Nutrition** has also been implemented from this session onwards.

The **following Certificate Courses have been offered:**

- **Short term online course on Spoken Tutorial Project** by IIT-Mumbai as prescribed by the National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT) under the MHRD, Government of India through an MOU.
- **10 hrs Course on Tally** by ICA Edu Skills Pvt. Ltd.
- **10-day Intensive Training on Fabric Production** by Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu through an MOU.
- **30 hours course on Data Analytics with R** in Association with ICFAI Business School (IBS), Kolkata through an MOU.
- **30 hrs Certificate Course in Baking** Academy of Pastry Arts, India (APAI), Bangalore through an MOU
- **40 hours course on Stock Market Analysis** in association with National Stock Exchange Academy through an MOU.
- **10-week course on Personality Development & Soft Skill** by ILead, Kolkata through an MOU.

- **1 year Course in Fashion Designing** by the College.
- **1 year Course in Montessori Training** by the College.