



# **INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS 2017-2018**

Visva-Bharati University  
(A central University)  
Santiniketan, West Bengal-731235

1. In its effort to impart high quality and relevant education, the syllabi of a total of thirty-five (35) programmes have been revised with contemporary and updated knowledge at par with the directives of University Grants Commission. Of the programmes revised, 60% are from UG courses and 40% are from PG courses. Besides these revisions, a considerable number of courses have been introduced to make the institute a hub of academic excellence. Of these newly introduced courses/programmes, the Bachelor of Rural Studies and Master of Rural Studies have high impact in re-configuration of social demands for development. The vision to inculcate more social health led the institute to introduce BSc (H) and Post Graduate Diploma in Yoga. The addition of these two programmes in this rural University has fulfilled the dream of Tagore, the founding father of this institute, who devoted his life to the upliftment and sanctity of rural health and environment.

This year all the UG programmes have been revised to minimum course curriculum under the Choice Based Credit System for holistic development of the students.

2. Value based education systems have been offered to students imparting life skills. The majority of value-based courses have been offered by Sangit and Kala Bhavana. These two Bhavanas have been known for their special features in imparting life skills through almost all courses on offer. Besides, a substantial number of courses with employability, life skill and entrepreneurship development have been offered in the curricula that enables student to visualize and plot their career opportunities and self-reliance for livelihood. This also included course based projects of Institute of Agriculture, Institute of Rural Development, Rural Extension Centre, Rathindra Krishi Vigyan Kendra and so on. As a continuum, the rural development projects and different certificate courses offered during this year provide knowledge regarding actual social demand, and life-skill to meet such demands, enabling our students to grow as true makers of change in Rural India.

3. In the field of research, the institute gained a momentum to achieve quality research publications from different fields of research activities. Like the previous year where the institute published 611 research articles in different national and international journals, this year it published a total of 599 research publications. The number of PhDs awarded is 179. A total of Rs. 23,84,11,282.86 has been augmented form different external agencies under research programmes. Two patents have been published, of which one is awarded on 'Process Technology for Preparation of Blended Guava

Leather/Bar'. The Guava, being a common fruit in rural India, the above invention thus present great utility to rural economic sector in India.

4. For inculcating excitement in getting a job while studying, the institute organized career placement programmes for Jharkhand State Livelihood Mission, Smile Foundation, Kolkata, ASSEFA, Piramal Foundation, Srijan Foundation, Piramal Swasthya, Seba Socioeconomic Progress Foundation, Kulick Milk Union, BKS, ACID, Shining Eye, Vikramshila, TATA Tea Garden, CINI, Shining Eye, Sambad, Social Service Centre, Bihar, Amnesty International India, GOONJ, Bitan, NBJK, Jharkhand, DSWS, Sundarban, Kenduadihi Bikash Society, West Bengal. Organizations like Azim Premji Foundation, HCL Technologies, Amazon India Limited and Sports Gurukul Careers and Employment, Mumbai also participated in the Campus placement drives and absorbed students in their organizations.

Although the hardship to achieve global standard is a challenge to this rural University, it has gained an unique distinctiveness in contributing momentum to rural India and emerging as a model institute in promoting education in a rural centric manner.