

7.3 - Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust

Asutosh College is one of the most well-known landmarks on the educational landscape of Kolkata, which began its journey as an Intermediate-level college in pre independent India, is today a centre of Postgraduate studies and research, with B. Voc. and Community College schemes reinforcing its reputation as an institution that promotes education for all. It currently runs Undergraduate courses in twenty-eight (28) subjects, including Business Administration, six (6) Postgraduate courses, besides courses under B. Voc. and M. Voc. schemes, and various training courses. As the college has grown in academic and curricular dimensions, it has also inevitably grown in physical and infrastructural dimensions, and in keeping with the demands of an age of information, duly equipped itself with its digital dimension in the form of a website designed and maintained by its own Computer Science and IT departments. The highly appreciable performance of the college students in the university examinations is a testimony to the institution's effective teaching-learning set-up, which incorporates time-tested methods with more modern ICT-enabled teaching methods followed by evaluation. At the same time, a research-friendly atmosphere prevails in the campus with the administration actively encouraging faculty involvement in research projects and in the organizing of seminars, conferences, and workshops for students and staff. To help students in their career prospects the college has an active Placement Cell which arranges campus interviews and recruitment by the industry and also counsels them regarding career options. The College has introduced three courses under the UGC-sponsored Add-on course programmes in Travel and Tourism, Industrial Chemistry, and Hospital Waste Disposal Management. The college also provides support to students in times of mental crises, which may have been triggered off by a variety of reasons, through a Psychotherapy Unit under the aegis of the Psychology department. The College encourages active involvement in sports and related outdoor activities. The lack of grounds on the main campus has been overcome by having its own 'tent' and sports unit in the Kolkata Maidan. It is one of only two colleges in the city with this facility. The college also has its very own Adventure Club which arranges camps involving activities like trekking, rock climbing, birdwatching for its members. In the cultural field too, our students have made the institution proud by consistently performing well and winning in inter-college events organized by other institutions in the city. The college has also in the last few years revived both the NSS and NCC units whose members under the able guidance of the respective teachers-in-charge, are actively engaged in extension activities related to social upliftment and personality development. To promote environmental awareness the college also has an Eco Club. The campus at Bhasa on the semi-rural outskirts of the city has a variety of indigenous flower and fruit-bearing trees planted in its grounds, a water-body devoted to aquaculture and a medicinal herbs garden. The Main Building is partially powered by a solar unit. A solar power generation unit, Biogas plant, rain water harvesting unit, etc., in the Bhasa campus makes it a "Green Campus". To facilitate the multifarious activities of the college, academic and co-curricular, there has also been a continuous infrastructural development—automated central and departmental libraries, INFLIBNET facility, smart ICT-enabled classrooms, computer terminals/ laptops with Internet access, scanner-printer facilities for all departments, Wi-Fi enabled campus, 24 hours uninterrupted power supply, CCTV surveillance, gymnasium facilities, Boys' and Girls' Hostel. Helping to steer all these the Vice-Principal/administrative head is aided by the various bodies of the college, i.e., the Governing Body, the Teachers' Council, Non-teaching Staff Council, the Students' Union, the Alumni Association, and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell, or IQAC. The main objective of the institution is to focus on the all-round development of its students and mould them into sensitive human beings and responsible citizens of the future, instead of purely career-oriented automatons with mere academic credentials