

9. Achievements of the Department

The Department of Philosophy is one of the most accomplished places of learning among the different departments of North Bengal University and a centre for excellence among Philosophy departments in India. Our achievements may be highlighted as follows:

Special Assistance Programme: We were among the first few departments at NBU to have been awarded the UGC-SAP in 2002. We have been successfully running the programme since then. Our good work has been acknowledged by the UGC and we have been rewarded through extension of the SAP from DRS-I to DRS II and now DRS III. Moreover, in DRS III we have received a grant of Rs. 1.20 crore, one of the highest funding given to any Arts and Humanities department under SAP in India.

Publications: During the period 2006-16 we have published sixteen books highlighting the relation of language with morality, ontology, value, culture, aesthetics, thought, phenomenology, truth, grammar, interpretation, and reality. Nine books are in press at different stages. One of the tasks under this project was to translate Sanskrit texts into regional languages. We have four books which are based on the translation or reinterpretation of Sanskrit texts written in a regional language i.e., Bengali after following the UGC's guideline to publish a few Sanskrit texts interpreted in regional languages. We believe that our work on various aspects of language, on which a total of thirty books have been published or are in press, has opened a vista in research in the field of Philosophy of Language.

Epoch making Thinkers: Our department has also been awarded two Centres of study namely, Centre of Buddhist Studies and Centre of Ambedkar Studies approved by UGC under a scheme to open study centres commemorating Epoch Making Thinkers of India. These centres focus on various interdisciplinary aspects of Buddhism and Ambedkar's thought and their relevance to contemporary Indian Society and Culture. Distinguished scholars from different parts of India and abroad have visited the center. Two books entitled: '*Language and Truth in Buddhism*' and '*Socio-Political Philosophy of Ambedkar*' have been published.

Faculty achievements: All the faculty members have visited several Indian Universities and Colleges to attend seminars and given special invited lectures. Those who have also gone abroad for academic engagement are

- Professor Kantilal Das attended International Society for Universal Dialogue (ISUD): The Seventh World-Congress in Hiroshima and International Society for Universal Dialogue (ISUD): The 9th World Congress in Ancient Olympia and Elide in Greece.
- Professor Debika Saha has visited the centre of Value and Philosophy, Washington D.C., U.S., Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Athens University and Purdue University, Lafayette.
- Dr. Koushik Joardar has visited University of Bergen and Catholic University of Sacred Heart.
- Dr. Anirban Mukherjee went to University of Reading for PhD with Felix Scholarship. He also attended seminars in University of Utrecht, University of Geneva, and Manchester University.

Faculty publications:

The faculty members have published several articles in journals and edited volumes, written manuscripts and edited collections of articles.

	Papers in journals and edited volumes	Monograph	Edited Volume
Prof. Kantilal Das	45	9	7
Prof. Jyotish Chandra Basak	30	2	5
Prof. Debika Saha	26	1	7

Dr. Koushik Joardar	20	2	6
Dr. Nirmal Kumar Roy	21	1	7
Dr. Anirban Mukherjee	26	-	2
Dr. Laxmikanta Padhi	31	1	7
Dr. Ngaleknao Ramthing	12	-	3
Ms. Swagata Ghosh	11	-	
Smt. Anureema Bhattacharyya	6	-	
Dr. Mayank Bhora	7	-	

Research Projects:

Name of the Teacher	Title of the Project	Funding body	Grant amount
Prof. Kantilal Das	Untouchability: A Crisis of Humanism	Ambedkar Study Centre	Rs. 50,000 (2006)
Prof. Kantilal Das	Buddhism and Deep Ecology:A Comparative Study	Buddhist Study Centre	Rs. 50,000 (2006)
Prof. Kantilal Das	Ambedkar's Conversion to Buddhism and its impact	Ambedkar Study Centre	Rs. 50,000 (2011-12)
Prof. Kantilal Das	Amartya Sen on the Idea of Justice: An Alternative Approach to Rawls' Theory of Justice	ICPR	Rs. 2,00,000 (2013-14)
Prof. Kantilal Das	Wittgenstein on Religious language and Religious Experience",	ICPR	Rs. 2,00,000 2016-2018
Prof. Kantilal Das	Wittgenstein on Religious Inexpressibility, Continuity and Change	North Bengal University,	(Rs. 50,000/ (2017-2018)
Prof. Jyotish Chandra Basak	Ethical Issues in Human Genetics	UGC-Major Research Project	Rs. 3,16,000 (2005-07)
Dr. Anirban Mukherjee	Philosophical explorations into the legacy of Satyajit Ray	ICPR	Rs. 1,50,000 (2012-13)
Dr. Anirban Mukherjee	Escaping the constraint of extremes: A new theory of the middle way following <i>Mādhyamaka</i> Philosophy	North Bengal University supported UGC project	Rs. 50,000 (2014-15)
Dr. Anirban Mukherjee	Kalidas Bhattacharyya and his Alternating Reals (Project cost: Rs. 50,000)	North Bengal University supported UGC project	Rs. 50,000 (2017-2018)
Dr. Laxmikanta Padhi	Environmental Ethics and Sustainable Development	University Grants Commission	Rs. 80,000 (2007-09)
Dr. Laxmikanta Padhi	Moral Status of Animals: A Critical Exploration	University Grants Commission	Rs. 1,20,000 (2012-14)
Dr. Laxmikanta Padhi	Religious Conflicts and Philosophy of Religion	University of North Bengal	Rs. 50,000 (2015-16)
Dr. Laxmikanta Padhi	A Comparative Study between 'Why I am not a Christian' by Bertrand Russell and 'Why I am an Atheist' by Bhagat Singh	University of North Bengal	Rs. 1,00,000 (2020-21)
Smt Anureema Bhattacharyay	Status of Fact-Value Dichotomy in Putnam's Neo-Naturalism'	University of North Bengal	Rs. 1,00,000 (2019-20)
Dr. Mayank Bora	Fregean Identity without Fregean Content, Agency	University of North Bengal	Rs. 1,00,000 (2019-20)