



INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS 2016-2017

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

1. Visva-Bharati has dedicated this academic year as the 'Year of Student Friendliness'. Our founding father Rabindranath Tagore has prioritised this institute for the needy and poor sections of people. Keeping his vision in mind, the institute has promoted different student-friendly initiatives to help students of this institute.

2. The university has extended its 'Vidyarthi Mediclaim Insurance' to all students who have been admitted and are on the rolls of all departments, centres and schools: they are covered against a host of diseases and accidental losses under this Mediclaim policy-scheme. During this year, a sum of Rs. 7,60,270/- has been spent to insure newly admitted students to the institute.

3. Besides Vidyarthi Mediclaim Insurance, there is 'Special Aid Fund for Students' which attempted to cover maximum number of students through the offer to support them by taking care of their monthly hostel fee payments, purchase of books and other academic needs. A total of 315 students were given direct financial support under this scheme. The total sum of Rs. 12,65,500/- has been spent for the current academic year. It is also decided that the number would be increased in the next and subsequent academic year/s.

4. These efforts were not limited to financial aid only: a series of students' personality development programme were also taken up to ensure their overall physical and mental growth. The Psychological Counselling Programme covered 200 students this year. Likewise, the Yoga and Meditation programmes for students has enriched more than 100 students with positive health awareness for better living and learning.

5. Academically, remedial classes were organized by the institute through Directorate of PSNS of Visva-Bharati. As usual, the coaching for NET for

ST/ST/OBC as well as all other students were conducted to help students qualify for the NET/SET/SLET examination.

6. In one of the highest pro-students effort to keep students away from stress related factors due to academic pressure, the University authority has declared that neither can any student be marked as 'absent' nor awarded a 'zero' score at the continuous internal examination system of the university. The student would be given a convenient time at a later date so that s/he can complete his internal examination without any difficulty. (http://www.visvabharati.ac.in/files/902190416_GLIntAss190416.pdf).

These initiatives have shown a great positive impact in regular attendance as well as students' academic performances. These were just a leap towards the vision that Tagore dreamed to make this institute unique, distinct and integrated in society.