

3.6.1 Outcomes of extension activities in the neighbourhood community in terms of impact and sensitizing the students to social issues and holistic development, and awards received if any during the last five years

Over the past five years, various departments of the University have taken proactive role in motivating students to realize their social responsibilities and reach out to the fellow human beings with either a deep impact of healing and restoring their lives or to leave lasting influence on people's minds by showing ways to improve their own health and the health of the planet. Thereby creating a better society through pursuit of a curriculum which envisages holistic learning.

Apart from the ongoing practices of restoring the decaying rivers of Bengal Delta by Geography, and the practice of Street Theatre to create neighbourhood awareness about social ills and necessity to discuss social taboos by English departments, four different case studies of extension activities, will prove that altruism and responsible behaviour have become a matter of habit rather an exception for the students:

1. The Aliah University NCC team engaged in the 'Puneet Sagar Abhiyan', a statewide flagship programme, from 4 April 2022 to clean seashores of plastic and other debris and raise awareness of cleanliness. Along with cleaning the premises and surrounding area, cultural and literary competitions were held. Student volunteers were motivated to keep the community clean and plastic-free. When litter went into the public garbage van instead of the streets, observers were interested and affected.

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2. On 16-01-2020, the Nursing Department organised Immunization Camp at Gram Panchayat of Singur, Hooghly, as a part of community health awareness Programme. The camp was a preparatory one, creating sense of real duty in would be nurses, to spread awareness about immunization as a safety valve, to prevent future diseases. The free check-up and immunization immensely benefitted the very poor population of the area and sensitized the parents about the health issues of children.

https://aliah.ac.in/department/gallery.php?key=nursing&page_key=gallery&cat_key=8

3. From 29 April to 4 May 2020, the NSS unit again, distributed food and necessary items in selected villages of the districts of Maldah, Murshidabad, Nadia, Kolkata, North 24

Parganas, South 24 Parganas and Bankura Districts in West Bengal, during Covid-19 and Lockdown. This created a lot of awareness among the student volunteers about issues and problems related to COVID -19 pandemic, coupled with strategies to reach out to others while keeping one safe. This programme had an enormous impact on the beneficiaries during times when few had the courage to socialize and help others to keep alive.

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4. 'Nukkad Natak' or its other form of Community Media Performance has been a regular annual event in the department of Journal of Mass and Communication, where the students conceptualise and perform on issues pertaining to the contemporary times as Social evils, domestic violence, alcoholism, Government policies, Internet addiction, etc. Very recently, Students performed a Community Media Performance on Menstrual Hygiene on 24 May 2023. Students and faculty members of MAJMC along with Dr.Rajesh Das, faculty, University of Burdwan participated in the event.

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