



Government of West Bengal  
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**JHARGRAM RAJ COLLEGE**

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## **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of Jhargram Raj College**

### ***Message from the Principal, Jhargram Raj College***

The relentless persistence, hard work, and dedication of a handful of kindred spirits led to the establishment of Jhargram Raj College in its earliest form on 8th May 1949. Initially known as the Jhargram College of Agriculture, the first college of its kind in post-independence Bengal, it was shaped by the distinguished Khaira Professor of Agriculture (Calcutta University), Dr. Pabitra Kumar Sen (1906–1997), a part of whose life's mission involved experimenting with the bold agrarian and rural reconstruction principles of Rabindranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi in the remote villages of West Bengal. His visionary efforts were complemented by the generous patronage of Raja Narasingha Malla Ugal Sanda Deb (1907–1976), the last king of Jhargram (the Raja, or king, being the honorific title conferred by the British government on the zamindars who were appointed to the Legislative Council of Bengal), who had similar aspirations for the upliftment of his people. An alumnus of Presidency College, Calcutta, the Raja's reign in Jhargram is marked as a golden era of various people-oriented reform works and the establishment of important institutions of education. It was the Raja's tutor and estate manager, Dewan Rai Bahadur Debendra Mohan Bhattacharya, a luminous and spirited man in his own right, who first came to know Dr. Sen when the latter started on a difficult journey of rural reconstruction work in one of the remote villages of the erstwhile Midnapore called Kapgari (which is now part of Jhargram district). Enthused by the possibilities at hand, Rai Bahadur Debendra Mohan convinced Dr. Sen to be part of Raja Narasingha Malla Deb's mission to establish a college in Jhargram. Subsequently, the Raja wrote directly to the then Vice

Chancellor of Calcutta University, Pramathanath Banerjee, who also happened to be his former teacher.

The Raja's efforts bore fruit as Calcutta University enthusiastically agreed to take the fledgling college under its wing, and Dr. Sen was appointed to the post of its Principal, in addition to continuing as the Khaira Professor of Agriculture. The new college began with three courses: I. Sc. (Agri.), I. Sc., and I. A.; it also continued research in agriculture. But a couple of years later, the institution was hamstrung by financial constraints, which led the university to convince the state government to assume its responsibilities. The government, however, expressed consent on the condition that the courses in agriculture should be scrapped. This led to a disagreement between the university and the erstwhile government, which was further debated in the legislative assembly on 12th February 1953. Finally, the crisis was resolved by the Chief Minister Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, when the university wholeheartedly accepted the state government's conditions on 22nd February 1953. The college was subsequently renamed "Jhargram Raj College" by a government directive within a year of its official takeover.

General undergraduate courses in the humanities first started during the 1957-58 session and were soon followed by both honours and general degree courses in the three main branches of humanities, sciences and commerce. Besides 15 subjects in the undergraduate honours and general sections, the college now offers postgraduate courses in Bengali, Chemistry, and Zoology. Recently, Vidyasagar University granted permission to the Departments of Chemistry and Zoology to pursue PhD programs. In 2023, Jhargram Raj College became part of the prestigious DBT Star College Scheme, initiated by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, and since then, the college has twice earned a B+ grade in NAAC.

As per the date of its foundation, Jhargram Raj College was scheduled to organise its 75th anniversary celebrations from 8th May 2024 to 8th May 2025. However, the University Grants Commission's National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Peer Team's impending visit in November 2024 led to the postponement of the

events. Nonetheless, the celebrations officially began on Sunday, 23rd March 2025, with a morning public rally, followed by cultural events in the evening. We take great pleasure in informing you that the 75th anniversary celebrations will conclude with a 3-day cycle of events, both cultural and otherwise, from 25th to 27th January 2026.

We make an earnest appeal to all the well-wishers, benefactors, and alumni (many of whom are pursuing highly successful careers in their respective fields across the country and abroad) of the college to make the concluding sessions successful and memorable through their soulful presence and cooperation; this request is especially meant for those to whom we would not be able to personally deliver the formal letters of invitation despite our best efforts. May it be noted that, notwithstanding its limitations, this hallowed institution has an unfailing faith in the strength and discernment of its alumni and benefactors and is certain of their active participation in the celebrations ahead.

**Dr. Debnarayan Roy**  
**Principal, Jhargram Raj College**



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ৰাড্ৰাম ৰাজ কলেজৰ  
পঞ্চসপ্ততি বৰ্ষপূতি উদযাপন

পুনৰ্মিলন উৎসব ও সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠান

॥ ২৫, ২৬ ও ২৭ জানুৱাৰি, ২০২৬ ॥

॥ ৰবিবাৰ, সোমবাৰ ও মঙ্গলবাৰ ॥

পঞ্চসপ্ততি বৰ্ষপূতি উৎসব উপলক্ষ্যে আয়োজিত

পুনৰ্মিলন উৎসব ও সাংস্কৃতিক অনুষ্ঠানে

সকল শুভানুধ্যায়ীকে জানাই সাদৰ আমন্ত্ৰণ।