

Institutional Distinctiveness 2018- 19

Housed at the pristine location of Vidyasagar Smriti Mandir (VSM), 36, Vidyasagar Street, Kolkata 700009, Vidyasagar Research Centre is an emerging space for advanced research on Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. The centre aims to provide facility through which teachers and students of our college may strengthen their scholarly output on this luminary of Renaissance Bengal.

Although the centre harbours a special obligation to support Vidyasagar Research in 21st century India, it will also encourage the participation of scholars from all over India to contribute to the cause. As a consequence, an open door policy to all researchers with academic interests in 19th century

Renaissance Bengal is to be maintained. Due to VSM's advantageous position as a heritage building of great historical significance, research interests of the Centre shall be directed towards Vidyasagar research with an emphasis on promoting a global perspective with an aim to excel in innovative research that shall celebrate the value of Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. Covering a rich range of themes, the Centre shall investigate the formation and dissemination of beliefs and ideologies, the lived experience of individuals, cultural discourses, texts and their meanings, and the significance of 19th century Bengal in shaping the present. It should also provide a strong platform for collaborative and interdisciplinary research. At the Centre, research shall be historically wideranging and thematically diverse, we share a commitment to keep alive the importance of humanitarian values propagated by our founder. To disseminate our research widely through scholarly and popular channels we are on the verge of creating a research body to be supervised by a research committee formed by the governing body of the college. The research body we strongly believe will strive to achieve diversity and inclusivity through collaborative research. Research at the Centre is to be conducted by individuals and groups within departments and also more widely in collaboration with colleagues and colleges across India. The objective is to enable researchers to conduct small scale research activities of the highest quality, that enable them to bid successfully for large scale funding, and/or to generate publications, and/or to contribute substantially in other ways towards the research objectives of the Centre.