



## The West Bengal University of Teachers' Training, Education Planning and Administration

25/2 & 25/3, Ballygunge Circular Road, Kolkata – 700019

The National Youth Day 2021 as observed on the 158<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the youth icon Swami Vivekananda was celebrated in a grand manner in The West Bengal University of Teachers' Training, Education Planning and Administration yesterday on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020 through online mode associated with a webinar on the relevance of the thoughts of Swamiji in the gracious presence of Prof. Soma Bandyopadhyay, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of the University. The occasion was also graced with the presence of all the respected professors, officers, and the members of the staff of the University, Almost all the students of the University also not only attended the celebration but also participated in the webinar.

Following the Indian tradition the programme was inaugurated with a song from one of the faculty members of the University. The Registrar Mr. Abhijit Biswas hosted the programme with an impressive piece of introduction of Swamiji and his thoughts. He quoted Swamiji several times to enlighten all the participants with the philosophical basis of this great man. Honourable Vice Chancellor Prof. Soma Bandyopadhyay who is also a renowned Professor and a literary author graced the occasion with as usual enriching speech regarding the thoughts of Swamiji on the basis of Vedanta philosophy and explained how Swamiji adapted the Vedantic philosophical thought to inspire the youths of the contemporary India as well as, with conformity and coherence, the youths till today. She also mentioned in her speech that we should not only celebrate the birthday of Swamiji just as an occasion but we should contemplate and realize Swamiji's teaching to make his man-making philosophy a truth even in the contemporary period of crisis of value and peace. Mentioning several famous lines of Swami Vivekananda, Prof. Bandyopadhyay tried to inspire all the present to practice Swamiji's thoughts everyday in life in the affordable way. Prof. Amit Bhattacharjee, the Controller of Examinations and a renowned scholar in Sanskrit and Indian philosophy focused on the awakening of the conscience in everyone to make Vivekananda's dream a reality. Some of the faculty members, Dr. Rajib Saha, Dr. Biswajit Bala, Dr. Sumana Naskar, Dr. Abantika Mandal of the University also mentioned in their speech how Vivekananda had been a 'modern' even at the end of 19<sup>th</sup> century and how his thoughts regarding society, education and life is still very much contextual. It was also mentioned that the youth may learn to awake his/her soul from the preaching of Swamiji. Other officers of the University also paid homages to Swamiji in their speech and enriched the audience with enlightening discussions. Some of our students also participated in the discussion to mention how Swamiji's preaching they feel very effective and inspirational in their life even at the moment of greater crisis.

Between the discussions and worthy speeches, the tune was made more effective with the song of one of our worthy guests Miss Anwesha Chakraborty. The celebration reached the zenith of grandeur as the famous Chicago Speech of Swamiji was chanted by Honourable Vice Chancellor of the University. The occasion was ended with vote of thanks but, it is affirmed that the end of yesterday's celebration has initiated a fresh wave in the heart of all the present to concentrate and contemplate on Swamiji's thoughts to realize the 'divine perfection already within man (us)'.