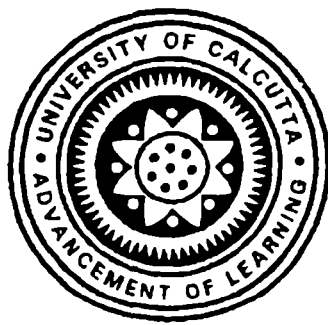


UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA



BUDGET ADDRESS

BY

PROFESSOR (DR.) SONALI CHAKRAVARTI BANERJEE

Pro -Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs & Finance

27 NOVEMBER, 2015

His Excellency the Hon'ble Chancellor, Hon'ble Vice – Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Registrar and Distinguished Members of Senate,

I place before you the proposed Budget Estimates for the year 2016-17 along with the Revised Estimates for the year 2015-16 for your kind information and approval. The Budget Estimates have been approved by the Finance Committee in its meeting held on 23.11.2015 and the same have also been accepted by the Syndicate in its meeting today.

1. Income/Receipts

1.1 Fund flow from UGC to the University

During the Financial Year 2014-15 the University has received a sum of Rs. 31.71 Cr. (approx) from the UGC for various purposes. These are as follows:

Purpose of Grant	Amount (in Rs.)
Grant for 150 years celebration	20,00,00,000
Bilateral cooperation project between India and USA	75,00,000
Academic Staff College – XII Plan	52,00,000
Grant for fellowships/scholarships	6,76,04,392
BSR research start-up Grant	18,00,000
E-PG Pathshala	21,00,000
Special Assistance Programme	1,88,27,997
Research Project	55,04,250
Net Examination	54,99,019
Area Study Centre	30,68,727

1.2 Funds from the State Government

University of Calcutta receives grants from the Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal. A total sum of Rs. 211.36 Cr. has been received during the Financial Year 2014-15. This included maintenance and additional maintenance grants of Rs.199.87Cr. The total sum includes amounts received for adhoc bonus and pay arrears of the teachers also.

1.3 Funds from Other Agencies

Distinguished faculty members of the University have been fruitfully engaged in different research works. Funding Agencies such as CSIR, DBT, DST, DAE, ICPR, ICMR, ICSSR, ICAR, ICHR, INSA, AICTE etc. have come forward to assist these research works. In the year 2014-15, the University has received Rs.18.49 Cr. from these agencies.

1.4 University's Own Initiatives

University's own resource generation efforts are broadly classified in two sub-heads. One consists of various fees, sale proceeds and miscellaneous receipts and another consists of service charges evolving from Endowment Funds. Our own resource generation during the year 2014-15 was Rs. 26.57 Cr. In 2015-16, own resource generation is expected to be Rs. 34.49 Cr., while in 2016-17 we expect to earn roughly Rs. 36.38 Cr. from own sources.

2. Use of Resources: Expenditure, Activities and Performances of Different Administrative Departments

I proceed to provide an outline of the highlights of the activities and performances of the different administrative departments, which could justify our allocation of resources and our expenditures.

2.1 Audit & Accounts Department

In last one year, the Audit & Accounts Department of the University has taken certain initiatives for several fundamental and structural

reforms. The basic objective behind all these initiatives has been to restore financial discipline and to establish financial integrity. The cornerstones of these initiatives are :

- Framing of transparent norms
- Compliance of these norms in a responsible manner
- Institution of joint responsibility in signing cheques
- Elimination of all malpractices

Some of the highlights of the financial reforms are :

- I. All available Fixed Deposit Certificates of the University have been physically verified. Computerized lists of all available FDs have been prepared. Available FD certificates are kept in a separate Iron Chest with double locking system. To retrieve FD related details easily, software has already been installed. A comprehensive ledger has been introduced and is being maintained systematically. A reputed firm has been engaged through tender to reconcile the FDs in a proper manner.
- II. A formal and approved structure of delegation of power has been instituted, specifying who will issue pay orders and sign cheques in which cases and up to which limit.
- III. To ensure proper utilization of the Maintenance Grants released by the State Government, the Utilization Certificates in respect of the grants received are being submitted after auditing by the Internal Auditor of the University. In this way, we have been able to stop the practice of submitting false Utilization Certificates.
- IV. In order to appropriately address the issue of accumulation of huge unadjusted advances, a “Standard Operating Procedure” in the form of a memorandum has been devised to streamline the practices with regard to such advances. List of unadjusted advances has been prepared through computerized system. Letters have been sent to those recipients of advances who have not submitted their adjustments.

- V. In order to avert submission of doubtful claims and generation of doubtful statistics with resultant avoidable malpractices, COSA software has been implemented for drawing and disbursement of salary.
- VI. In order to institute a transparent policy of procurement in the University :
- (a) A new purchase policy has been framed and duly implemented;
 - (b) A Tender Committee has been formed to monitor all procurements; and
 - (c) E-tender system has also been implemented.
- VII. E-payment system has been implemented for low tension electricity bills, telephone bills, municipal tax bills and gas supply bills through net banking. This has reduced and eliminated payment delays and consequent penal charges.
- VIII. To maintain accepted accounting standards, a good number of bank accounts have been consolidated. In the process, the unmanageable and unwieldy maze of a large number of unnecessary bank accounts has been replaced by a manageable, stable and transparent accounting structure.
- IX. To bring financial integrity, bank operations on behalf of the University through joint signatories have been introduced. We have introduced a defined and structured hierarchy in this joint responsibility system: there shall be no single signatory for any cheque; two signatories will sign a cheque upto Rs.10,00,000/-; and there shall be three signatories above this amount. Formerly, only one signatory signed all cheques irrespective of any amount.
- X. Emphasis has been placed on rigorous internal audit, which was indeed long-overdue. Internal Audit Report up to 31/03/2014 has been prepared and duly submitted to the State Government after getting approval from the Finance Committee and ratification by the Syndicate.

2.2 Estate & Trust Office

The Estate & Trust Department continues to play a vital role like earlier years. In the Financial Year 2014-15, this department has been able to collect Rs. 1,13,79,314/- as donation and Rs. 18,71,340/- as rent from different tenants. The University has collected Rs. 19,52,688/- as service charge from Endowment funds. 73 scholarships were awarded and eight memorial Lectures have been organized during this period.

2.3 Registrar's Office

The office of the Registrar is an office that consistently works behind the scene to establish sound university administration. The department has introduced download facility from the University website for obtaining application forms for registration, migration, academic transcripts etc. To introduce administrative transparency and promote social responsibility, a mechanism for online registration of grievances from the civil society and a system for time-bound responses have been introduced.

2.4 Engineering Department

Presently the University has eight academic campuses, two field stations, seventeen hostels for students, teachers' quarters, residential facilities for non-teaching staff, a medical centre, a heritage building at Raja S C Mullick Square, a rowing club, a maidan tent, guest houses, an Academic Staff College and several other properties at different places in and around Kolkata and other areas. The Engineering department is in charge of maintaining all these properties. During the FY 2014-15, a number of projects were undertaken for execution which included new construction as well as renovation/ repairing of old buildings. The works included annual maintenances of transformers, lifts, drinking water distribution system, water coolers, fire fighting system, pest control, AC plant of centenary auditorium, AC machines, electrical distribution system in Central Library, etc. University Engineering section placed orders for execution of total 235 jobs during the Financial Year 2014-15.

From the list of huge number of works, the following major works are mentioned :

- **New projects completed during the Financial Year 2014-15**

1. Construction of a Girls' Hostel at V L College Campus
2. Construction of a two-storied building called 'Animal House' at Ballygunge Campus.
3. Construction of temporary structure on the roof of 2nd floor (North East side) of the Palit Building for Psychology Dept.
4. Construction of concrete road at Economics Campus.
5. Renovation and painting of entire G+9 storied building at Alipore Campus. This is the second time that a thorough painting of the building has been done after construction.
6. Developing Deans' chambers (for Dean, Technology and Dean, Science) at Rajabazar Campus.
7. Construction of shed, developing ground and beautification in and around the Mukto Mancha in Rajabazar Campus.

- **Ongoing projects of the year 2014-15**

1. Projects are going on (partly completed) for development of infrastructural facilities for the 10+2+4 B.Tech courses at Technology Campus.
2. Thorough renovation and painting of the guest house at Ballygunge Campus.
3. Thorough repairing and renovation of damaged floor and painting of entire Ballygunge Campus building.
4. Total renovation, beautification and development of facilities at Swastika Holiday Home at Madhupur in Jharkhand.
5. Construction of road (unfinished part) in the Ballygunge Campus.
6. Installation of four lifts at Rajabazar Campus and at the University Press.

7. Installation of fire hydrant system in Technology Campus.

The total amount spent by the department in the year 2014-15 is Rs. 5.35 Cr.

2.5 University Press

The University Press, one of the oldest of its type in the country, continues to efficiently print scholarly publications and other (particularly examination-) related matters. The revenue earned during the year 2014-15 from sale of University Publications is Rs. 48.16 lac. The expenditure related to the University Press in the Financial Year 2014-15 came to an amount of Rs. 4.20 Cr. (including salary).

2.6 University Library System

During the year 2014-15, bibliographic records of 6000 books have been added to the online catalogue. Bibliographical records of books of all campuses are now available in the University website.

The video conferencing facilities at Alipur Campus Library, Technology Campus Library and Central Library at College Street Campus have so far organized intra- as well as inter-institutional video conferencing. Through this facility, the University Library has probably achieved the unique feat of becoming the sole university library in India, capable of having a set of telecommunication technologies which allow two or more locations to communicate by simultaneous two-way video and audio transmission.

All the academic and administrative departments of the University have been provided access to electronic journals, bibliographic databases and e-books.

The permanent exhibition hall, set up on the ground floor of the central library, continues to hold an exhibition on “Rabindranth Tagore

and the University of Calcutta: An Exhibition” which has earned appreciation from the academia from India and abroad. More than 20,000 visitors have visited the exhibition and nearly 6,000 visitors have put down their comments on this exhibition.

The Braille Section, set up in the second floor of the central library, is expanding its collection of resources for the visually impaired students. Besides textbooks and guidebooks, this section of the library is equipped with reference books, novels, science puzzles, etc. in CDs and cassettes. During the period under review, 285 visually impaired students used above facilities.

The internal painting work, with minor repairing associated to the area of painting, from 9th floor to 4th floor of the central library has been completed. Technology campus library has been set up at the ground floor of the Technology Campus, Salt Lake. The process of infrastructural development work at the Technology Campus Library has been initiated. The Library continues the work of digitization of title and content pages of doctoral dissertations. So far title and content pages of approximately 22,000 theses and medical dissertations have been made accessible through the University website. The achievements of our university library system and our commitment to its excellence need to be underlined.

The expenditure related to the University Central Library in the Financial Year 2014-2015 comes to an amount Rs. 3.55 Cr. (including salary).

2.7 Department of the Controller of Examinations

The consistent efforts of the Department of the Controller of Examinations have enabled the University to hold and publish on-time results of different post-graduate examinations involving more than 31,000 students and different theoretical and practical under-graduate examinations for over 3,50,000 students. Nearly 40 lac answer scripts

were involved in these under-graduate and post-graduate examinations. To cope with the problem of evaluation and scrutiny of answer scripts, teachers of the affiliated colleges are being involved in a decentralized exercise. Most of the diplomas of last year's under-graduate, post-graduate and miscellaneous examinations have been issued. The practice of self-inspection of evaluated answer scripts on payment of a fee has been instituted. During the Financial Year 2014-15 an amount of Rs. 7.92 Cr. has been incurred as Examination Expenses.

2.8 Offices of the Faculty Secretaries

The Offices of the Faculty Secretaries of different faculties have been promoting e-governance. They are always trying to improve communication and coordination within the total faculty and between the faculty and administration of the University. Online admission process for different post-graduate courses has already been introduced.

Incidentally, the office of the Secretary, UCSTA also runs the Calcutta University Industry-Institute Partnership Programme (CUIIPP) cell. In the area of University-Industry partnership, the University has recently attained significant breakthroughs. Under this programme, the University has been able to generate revenue of Rs. 10.52 lac. during the Financial Year 2014-15.

2.9 Department of Inspector of College

The Department of Inspector of Colleges has inspected 26 colleges and in several cases introduction of new subjects at UG level has been granted. In response to the initiative of National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT), a demonstration-cum-workshop has been organized in association with Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai. The expenditure incurred by this department during the Financial Year 2014-15 is Rs. 97.53 lac. (including salary)

2.10 Placement Cell

The Placement Cell of the University acts as a bridge between students, alumni and employers. It creates awareness among students regarding available career options and helps them to identify their career objectives. It guides students in developing their skills and job-search strategies which are required to achieve their career goals. It identifies suitable potential employers and help them to achieve their hiring objectives. In 2014-15, 176 students of the University have been recruited by 43 major national and international companies. Expenditure made during the year 2014-15 in this cell is Rs. 8.79 lac.

2.11 Staff Welfare Activities

Staff Welfare Activities constitute a major area of concern for all of us. During the year 2014-15, 38 employees received house building loan, amounting to Rs. 1.19 Cr. 15 applicants are waiting for release of loan and the amount involved in it is Rs. 0.82 Cr. Total loan recovered during this year has been Rs. 1.29 Cr. The total premium paid for the year 2015 under the Group Health Insurance Scheme has been Rs. 71.44 lac. During the year 2014-15 a sum of Rs. 8,20,000/- has been provided to 45 beneficiaries from the Medical Aid Fund created out of regular contributions from the University employees for this purpose.

2.12 Sports Department

Our students have not only excelled in the academic sphere, but they also continue to leave their marks on a whole range of activities outside class rooms and laboratories. The University participated in various international, national, inter-zonal and inter-University tournaments in 2014-15. The highlights of sports achievements are given below :

Sl. No.	Tournaments	Achievements
1	Water Polo (Men)	2 nd Place
2	Diving (Men & Women)	Silver- 01 & Bronze- 01
3	Volleyball East Zone (Men)	4 th Place
4	Table-Tennis East Zone (Men)	2 nd Place
5	Football East Zone (Men)	Champion
6	Lawn Tennis East Zone (Men)	Champion
7	Ajoy Ghosh Cricket Tournament of CAB	Champion
8	Inter-Zone University Chess Tournament	Runner up

The expenditure in the Financial Year 2014-15 came to an amount of Rs. 95.25 lac (including salary). Meanwhile, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India, has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 6.00 Cr. for construction of a multipurpose indoor hall under Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS).

2.13 National Service Scheme (NSS) Cell

NSS Programmes (Regular and Special), with expenses funded by the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of India and Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal proportionately, are also noteworthy. Affiliated college units in NSS have submitted their audited utilization certificates to the NSS cell, University of Calcutta.

3. Summary of the Budget Proposals

Budgetary allocation does not mean availability of funds. Budgets in Universities are prepared on the basis of assumption of revenue generation. Therefore, before incurring any expenditure, appropriate administrative approval and financial sanction has to be taken.

The proposed Budget Estimates for 2016-17 and Revised Estimates for 2015-16 have been prepared on the basis of written submissions and department-wise discussions with Heads of all Academic and Administrative Departments of the University. For facilitating teaching, learning, research and smooth administration, the estimates under various budgetary items have been changed after balancing needs with available resources.

I thank all the authorities as well as all the officers and members of the staff who have helped us in preparation of this Budget. I thank the State Government, the UGC, and all other funding agencies for helping us financially to keep alive the University's quest for excellence.

Thank you

Prof. (Dr.) Sonali Chakravarti Banerjee
Pro Vice Chancellor (B.A. & F.)
University of Calcutta