

Youth Services



The Department of Youth Services is, one of the most vibrant and dynamic wing of the Government of West Bengal for implementation of the Welfare Plans of the State. On formation of the new Government robust changes has been made since June, 2011, a glimpse of which are as follows :

Financial Expenditure (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
8.86	5.52	18.04

Expenditure on Students Youth Festival (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
3.00	3.50	10.10

Expenditure on Rural Sports & Development of Play field (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
.52	.54	5.00

Expenditure on In Jangalmahal area (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
0.00	.20	1.59

Expenditure on Gymnasium (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
1.18	0.27	1.51

Expenditure on Mini Indoor Games (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
0.18	0.07	0.71

Expenditure on Socio Economic Activities (Rs. in Cr.)

2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
0.11	0.06	0.16

1. Introducing the 'e-tendering' process

To bring about transparency in the day to day functioning of the Department, any work worth more than Rs.2,00,000 (Rupees Two Lakh) will be processed under e-tendering only.

2. Launching of the Official Website

The formal launching of the official website is on the anvil to cater to the services en masse.

3. Upliftment of Golden Indian Culture and Heritage by Remembering Luminous and Great Personalities

Besides holding the Student-Youth Festival, this Department has also organized the 'Vivek Mela' throughout the State in commemoration of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. Two awards namely 'Vivek Sahosikata Puraskar' and 'Vivek Medha Puraskar' of Rs.10,000 each.

4. Improvement of Sports and Games in Real Sense

- The present govt. is very much interested in the development and promotion of rural sports.
- To ensure quality of sports goods distributed to block level schools, colleges, clubs & organizations, it has been decided that the stipulated amount for purchasing the sports equipments will be allotted to the District Magistrates in case of districts and to the Commissioners in case of Municipal Corporations. They will make necessary

arrangement for purchasing the sports goods centrally at their end according to the requirement of the Schools, Colleges, Clubs and Organizations of their respective areas and then the same will be distributed to them by Block level and Borough level officers. Special emphasis given for the development of rural sports in the Junglemahal.

- Initiatives have been taken up for development of playgrounds under various schools, colleges, clubs, organizations and different local bodies.

5. Youth Hostels

- The Department sets up Youth Hostels in order to facilitate low-cost accommodation of students, youths and other people who have to travel for educational, recreational and other purposes.
- All the twenty three Youth Hostels are not in running condition. Reservation facilities are available in 8 nos. of Youth Hostels out of the above mentioned 22 Youth Hostels. These 8 Youth Hostels are: Purulia, Ramkinkar Youth Hostel --- Bankura, State Youth Centre Youth Hostel --- Moulali, Kolkata, Digha, Bolpur, Gangasagar, Lalbagh and Massanjore. Moreover, the condition of these 8 Youth Hostels is also unhealthy.
- Decision has been taken for setting up of another 10 (Ten) new Youth Hostels at various attractive tourist spots and online booking system will also be introduced very soon. Programmes have been taken up for thorough renovation of the running youth hostels across the state. All out efforts are being made, so that the commoners along with the students and youths get proper services and a pleasant, hygienic menu at these youth hostels.
- It has been decided that the number of seats at the Youth Hostel at State Youth Centre, Moulali will be increased.

6. District Youth Centre

- Newly built District Youth Centre in the District of Paschim Medinipur has started functioning in 2011-12.

7. Development in the Area of Junglemahal

Focus has been given on the following areas:

- Construction of Recreation Complex/Mini Indoor Complex.

- Construction of Gymnasium and distribution of Gymnastic Equipment.
- Setting up of Vocational Training Centre.
- Imparting Motor Driving Training.
- Distribution of Solar Lanterns among the indigent tribal youth.
- Development of Playfields.
- Extending Financial Assistance to the Clubs/NGO's associations, Organizations etc. for their activities towards improvement of Socio-Economic and Cultural condition of this particular area.
- Holding the Student-Youth Festival especially for Junglemahal as part of the State student-Youth Festival in order to promote the culture and heritage of the Junglemahal area.

8. State Youth Centre, Moulali

It has been decided to modernize-

- The auditorium of the State Youth Centre.
- The Dinesh Majumder State Youth Library will be renamed as 'Vivek Library' paying tribute to Swami Vivekananda to mark his 150th Birth Anniversary. In order to cater to the demand and necessity of the students and youths, this library will be transformed into a text and reference book library, where a rich collection of text books for the students of class XI to post graduates will be available.
- A Career Information Centre will also be set up at the State Youth Centre.
- A Conference Hall and an A.T.M Counter of any nationalized bank will also be set up inside the building premises.
- The office of the District Youth Officer, Kolkata will also be shifted from its present location at Maniktala to this building premises.

9. Mountaineering and Adventure Sports

- An organization named 'West Bengal Mountaineering and Adventure Sports Foundation' (WBMAF) is run under the control and supervision of the Youth Services Department in order to promote Mountaineering and Adventure Sports in our state.
- 'Radhanath Sikdar Memorial Lecture' was organized by the Youth Services Department to commemorate the bi-centenary of Radhanath Sikdar, the eminent mathematician and the first

man to measure the height of Mount-Everest. The memorial lecture was organized at the 'Bhasha Bhavan' at the National Library, Kolkata.

It has been decided that-

- a few programmes in connection with Parasailing and Gliding will be organized,
- a memorial award in the names of Tenzing Norgy and Radhanath Sikdar will also be introduced,
- a few new equipment essentially required for mountaineering worth Rs.47.40 lakh will be purchased.
- There is a plan to scale a virgin and unnamed peak. If the expedition becomes successful, then efforts will be given to name the peak after Swami Vivekananda.
- There is a plan to organize a 'Cycle Expedition' keeping Swami Vivekananda's 'Bharat Parikrama' in mind;
- Another plan to organize a 'Cycle Expedition' from Gangasagar to Darjeeling via Belur Math is there.
- A plan is also there to organize a Kayaking Competition from the Hazarduari of Murshidabad to the Bagbazar Ghat, Kolkata.
- Water Sports will also be given special importance.
- Apart from these the Artificial Rock at the Yuva Bharati Krirangan, Salt Lake will be named after Radhanath Sikdar and
- there are plans to develop necessary infrastructure required for organizing Artificial Rock Climbing and Boulder Climbing.
- The office of the WBMAF at the Yuva Bharati Krirangan will also be renovated in order to make it usable by the mountaineers.

10. Science Based Programmes

- a) To eradicate various superstitions and prejudices prevailing in our society, development of scientific aptitude and temper is very much necessary. Keeping this in view, the Department has regularly been implementing two annual programmes jointly with the Birla Industrial & Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata namely (1) Student's Science Seminar and (2) Science Fair.

b) Financial Assistance to the Science Clubs:

Financial assistance is given by the Youth Services Department to the Science Clubs working for promotion of scientific attitude amongst the people of our society. Initiative was taken up by the department to provide financial assistance amounting to a total of Rs. 19.98 Lakhs to 124 nos. of science clubs, schools, colleges and organizations in connection with the observance of 150th Birth Anniversary of Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy.

11. Youth Computer Training Centre

The Youth Computer Training Centers run by the Department of Youth Services in collaboration with different private organizations play an important role in providing low cost computer training to the student-youth across the state and in enabling them to survive in the competitive job market successfully. The computer training is catered to in six monthly (Certificate Course) and Yearly (Diploma Course) mode.

12. Assistance in Setting up Multigym

The mental development of youth is not possible without the development of their physique also. That is why; an one-time financial assistance of a maximum of Rs.2 Lakh only will be given by my department to different institutions, schools, colleges, clubs, organizations and local bodies for setting up of multigym and purchase of accessories.

13. Pension to Ex-Olympians

A plan has been drawn to enhance the amount of the pension to the Ex-Olympians from 2 (Two) Thousand per month to 5 (Five) Thousand per month.

14. Chinese Youth Delegation

The year 2011 was marked as the year of exchange between India and China. As a part of this programme, an Indian delegation comprising of 500 members visited China. In response, the Govt. of China has also sent a Chinese Youth Delegation to our country on friendship visit. One of the groups visited Kolkata on and from the 28th February, 2012 to 2nd March, 2012. The 70 member delegation visited many places of interest in and around Kolkata.

15. Activities of the Clubs

Survey on Socio-Economic and Cultural Activities, Research on Youth Life and Science Club Activities have been given special preference since June, 2011 after formation of the new Government.

16. Student-Youth Festival

The State Student-Youth Festival of the year 2011 was organized with the help and active co-operation of the Bidhannagar Municipality at the Yuva Bharati Krirangan, Salt Lake, Kolkata on and from the 2nd January, 2012 to 6th January, 2012 wherein about 2500 nos. of students and youths across the state participated. Cultural Competitions in 41 events were organized with great enthusiasm in Bidhannagar College Campus, State Youth Centre, Moulali along with the Yuva Bharati Krirangan. Every evening enlivened with the melodies of reputed and budding talents.

This year the National Youth Festival was organized in Mangalore, the Port City of the state of Karnataka. The successful competitors of the West Bengal State Student-Youth Festival represented our state and their achievements are laudable. In the National Youth Festival of this year, two Gold Medals in Flute and Tabla, one Silver Medal in Manipuri Dance and two Bronze Medals in Kathak and Bharatnatyam were bagged by the participants from West Bengal. Overall, for the first time, our state stood 3rd among all other states of India in terms of rate of success which has obviously added a new feather to the glory of the state. The Govt. of India offered them cash awards apart from the medals. They will also be felicitated by the Government of West Bengal shortly.

It may be worth mentioning here that apart from the mainstream Student-Youth Festival, three separate festivals were organized as part of the State Student-Youth Festival in order to focus attention on their own cultural heritage viz. Hill, Coastal & Junglemahal.

The Youth Festival of the hill area was organized at Malbazar in Jalpaiguri district. The Festival of the coastal area was organized at the seashore of Digha in the district of Purba Medinipur. The Festival in the backward areas of Junglemahal was organized at Jhargram of Paschim Medinipur district and the Festival was graced with the august presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and she was kind enough to inaugurate the Festival. The Festival was able to create great enthusiasm amongst the people of Junglemahal. In order to organize the Junglemahal Youth Festival smoothly.

It must be admitted, despite all such euphoria the Student-Youth Festival in yesteryears could not reach out to all student-youth of West Bengal due to lack of proper publicity. This year, special efforts will be taken by this Department to reach out to every nook and corner with the message of Student-Youth Festival which is a major platform for displaying their potentiality. It is expected that this year the Student-Youth Festival will get a different dimension on the national platform through proper talent search.

