

Action Taken Report on Student Sensitization Program on

“The Evils of Dowry System in Our Society”

Organized by Women’s Cell, NSS Unit & IQAC, Victoria Institution (College)

Date: 2.5.2026

Time: 3pm onwards

The Women’s Cell, NSS Unit, and IQAC of Victoria Institution (College) jointly organized a Student Sensitization Program on “The Evils of Dowry System in Our Society” on 2nd May 2026 at 3:00 p.m. The program was conducted in online mode via Google Meet. This initiative was undertaken in response to the directive of the Higher Education Department, Government of West Bengal, with the objective of sensitizing students towards pressing social issues and encouraging critical awareness.

The program commenced with a welcome address by the Principal, Dr. Maitreyi Ray Kanjilal. She warmly greeted the resource person and participants, and highlighted the relevance of addressing social evils like dowry in contemporary society. She also emphasized the role of educational institutions in fostering values of equality, dignity, and social responsibility among students. The session was graced by Prof. Arijita Dutta, Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Calcutta, as the resource person. Prof. Dutta, an eminent academician with over two decades of teaching and research experience, delivered an insightful and thought-provoking lecture. Her academic background includes a Ph.D. from the University of Calcutta, an M.A. from the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and a B.Sc. from Presidency College, Kolkata. She has previously served at Visva-Bharati University and has held international academic engagements in Japan, Germany, the Netherlands, and France. Her areas of specialization include Gender Economics, Development Economics, Economics of the Social Sector, and Impact Assessment. In her address, drawing particularly on her specialization in Gender Economics, Prof. Dutta highlighted the socio-economic roots and persistence of the dowry system in Indian society. She emphasized how entrenched gender inequalities, economic dependencies, and societal norms contribute to the continuation of this harmful practice. She further explained the far-reaching consequences of dowry, including domestic violence, financial strain on families and the devaluation of women’s agency. In outlining the way forward, Prof. Dutta emphasized the importance of women’s education as a transformative tool to combat social evils. She noted that education can empower women, promote autonomy and contribute to reducing practices such as female infanticide and dowry-related discrimination. The program witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members. An interactive question-and-answer session followed the lecture, where students engaged with the speaker on various aspects of gender justice and social reform.

Overall, the program was highly informative and impactful. It successfully fulfilled its objective of sensitizing students about the evils of the dowry system and fostered a sense of social responsibility. The organizing bodies expressed their commitment to continuing such initiatives in the future to promote awareness about dowry system.

Participation and Technical Details:

Total Number of Participants: 79

Mode of Conduct: Online (Google Meet)

Meeting Link: <https://meet.google.com/nsk-oscx-cfx>

Screenshots of the Program:



Victoria Institution (College)
(Women's Cell , NSS Unit & IQAC)
organises
A Student Sensitization Program
On
The Evils of Dowry System in Our Society
2nd MAY , 2026 | SATURDAY | 3 p.m. Onwards

EVENT PLATFORM

Google Meet

Google Meet

Click here to Join the meeting.

Or SCAN THE QR





Resource Person

Prof. Arijita Dutta
Professor , Department of Economics
University of Calcutta



Patron

Dr. Maitreyi Ray Kanjilal
Principal

adeco Calcutta University (Presenting)



- Dowry is the transfer of money, property, or gifts from the bride's family to the groom's family. Though illegal in many countries, it is still widely practiced. It has become a serious social evil affecting millions.
- Originally meant as gifts for the bride's security. Over time, turned into a demand-based system. Now often linked to greed and social status.

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Contributors

- Dr.Chitra Bhowmik, (You)
- Ashwanta Ray
- adeco Calcutta University
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- Adiba Gosale
- Adija Goswami
- AFIFA PARWEZ

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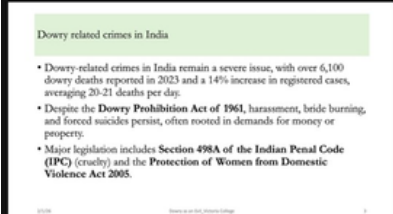
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- Dowry related crimes in India remain a severe issue, with over 6,100 dowry deaths reported in 2023 and a 14% increase in registered cases, averaging 20-21 deaths per day.
- Despite the **Dowry Prohibition Act of 1961**, harassment, bride burning, and forced suicides persist, often rooted in demands for money or property.
- Major legislation includes **Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)** (cruelty) and the **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005**.

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