



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

**BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE**

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL



NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE (2<sup>ND</sup> CYCLE), DST-FIST SPONSORED & ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015, 50001:2018 CERTIFIED

10, K.N.C. Road, Barasat, Kolkata - 700124, West Bengal, India

Phone: (033) 2552 3365, Fax: (033) 2562 5053, Website: [www.bgc.ac.in](http://www.bgc.ac.in), E-Mail: [principal@bgc.ac.in](mailto:principal@bgc.ac.in)

## Criterion III - Research, Innovations and Extension

MoU with  
**Swayam, Kolkata**



## Memorandum of Understanding between Swayam and Barasat Government College

### **About Barasat Government College:**

Barasat Government College was established in 1950 and has since then catered to a wide cross section of urban, suburban and rural students hailing from diverse social, religious and economic backgrounds. At present more than 3000 students are enrolled in the 13 departments of the college (hosting 4 post graduate, 13 undergraduate honors and 3 undergraduate general courses). Large percentages (> 60%) of them are girl students. Barasat Government College is a NAAC accredited 'A' grade college which aims to provide a holistic education to its students so that they develop as a responsible, sensitive youth force who have social commitments for the greater section of the society at large. To this end, the college actively promotes and encourages such bodies as the NSS, Internal Complaints Committee and Gender Sensitization cell which work dedicatedly to create an inclusive, safe and encouraging environment for the students irrespective of their gender, caste or religious identity.

### **About Swayam:**

**Swayam** is a feminist organisation committed to advancing women's rights and ending inequality and violence against women and their children. Swayam, meaning 'oneself', believes in the inherent potential and ability of every woman to overcome obstacles, take control of her life, emerge confident and strong and make meaningful contributions to society. Swayam, was established in 1995 and work at the local, national, regional and global levels.

On the one hand, we facilitate the empowerment of women survivors of violence and provide them with holistic **Direct Support Services**, keeping in mind their psychological, emotional, physical and economic needs, with the ultimate objective of enabling them to become self-confident, self-sufficient and self-reliant. On the other, through our co-ordinated **Initiatives for Social Action and Change**, we influence public opinion and action through public education and awareness; produce and share information and expertise, network and advocate for changes at the socio-legal and policy levels and mobilise women, men and youth in rural and urban communities to prevent violence against women and to claim and access their rights.

### **Objective of this partnership:**

Swayam believes that young people can contribute largely to reducing violence against women and girls by sensitizing their peers and influencing their immediate surroundings. Their energies and enthusiasm can be channelized into strong actions towards challenging the patriarchal mindset and



norms prevailing in the society. Swayam through this partnership can conduct several trainings, workshops, campaigns, and awareness programmes with college students.

ICC of Barasat Govt. College wants to create awareness among the students and employees of the college regarding the pervasive effects of sexism and gender discrimination in the workplace in particular and the society at large. The ICC of the college wants to prevent all forms of gender based harassment within the college campus and provide a safe and inclusive space for the students and employees.

### Principles of Collaboration:

The collaboration between Barasat Government College and Swayam rests upon the following principles:

**Co-ownership and Accountability:** Both the Institutions will work with a sense of ownership and accountability towards the entire investment of time, effort and resources that is required for this programme. They will take collective responsibility and acknowledge the contributions of each other in all relevant communications.

Barasat Government College will provide space and infrastructural support for the various workshops and training programs while Swayam will be responsible for providing the intellectual and material resources and expertise. Barasat Government College will also ensure the participation of the students in order to achieve the objectives of the workshops to be facilitated by Swayam.

### Scope of Work:

- A. Swayam has been raising awareness around gender equality and violence against women and girls through different trainings and awareness programmes. Swayam will facilitate training sessions on gender, patriarchy, masculinity, healthy relationship, mental wellbeing, violence against women and women's rights issues. Training will take place both in an online and offline mode. Swayam will organize awareness programme also on the above mentioned topics and also reach out to students of the college.
- B. During the last 5 years, Swayam have used art as a means of communicating social message as it is meaningful, impactful and non-threatening. There have been several wall art and installations in the recent years in Kolkata and in our community spaces since 2017. This year the theme of our campaign is to generate awareness on 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace', and related law to enable the creation of safe workspace for all women at their workplaces. This wall art will be inaugurated during the **International Campaign to Stop Violence against Women and Girls** which Swayam and many organizations around the world, observe between 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December every year. The wall mural is going to be a part of the college for a longer period of time, helping to generate awareness and raise consciousness of the students and the passer byes.



The walls which have been mutually agreed upon by Barasat Government College and Swayam for creating wall art for raising public awareness and sensitization are:

- a. Four panels of the outer wall of the college on the Ashutosh Ghosh Road, which is to the left to the main entrance gate.
  - b. The single wall to the left of the main entrance gate.
  - c. Four panels on the left inner wall of the College after entering through the main entrance gate.
  - d. The longitudinal wall of the Main building, to the right of the Iron Gate inside the College premises, which is up to three storeys in height.
  - e. The iron notice board to the right after entering the college, leaving first 8 feet panel, for official usage inside the College premises
- The College is required to smoothen and whitewash the wall for the artists to work upon, by 15<sup>th</sup> October.
  - The wall art is to be inaugurated on 5<sup>th</sup> of December 2023 for public viewing.

### **Time Frame:**

This MOU will be relevant for the period **September 2023 – August 2024**.

### **Expected Outcome:**

- Students will be able to build their understanding on gender and related concepts
- Students will be able to recognise forms of discrimination and violence in their own lives and in larger society
- Students will bring about change in their lives and lives of others around them
- Students will make gender sensitive college campus by organising various activities
- Students will continue to raise awareness and stand up against violence


### Partnership Management:

Internal Complaints Cell along with the Principal, Barasat Govt. College will be responsible for management of this collaboration on behalf of Barasat Government College.

Ms. Amrita Dasgupta, Executive Director of Swayam, Kolkata will be responsible for this collaboration on behalf of Swayam.

Agreed to and Signed By:

Names with addresses of both parties:

**SWAYAM**  
  
Director


Director of Swayam

  
20.09.2023

Member of Internal Complaints Cell  
of Barasat Government College  
Associate Professor  
Barasat Govt. College  
Govt. of West Bengal



Associate Professor  
Barasat Govt. College  
Govt. of West Bengal  
20.9.23.

Countersigned by,  
  
20/9/23

Principal, Barasat Government College

- Principal  
Barasat Government College



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

# BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE



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## Work Against MOU with SWAYAM, a Feminist non-government organization

### 1. ART WORKSHOP ON SAFE WORKPLACE

**THEME:** Everyone Deserves a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

**VENUE:** Seminar Hall, Annex Building, Barasat Govt. College

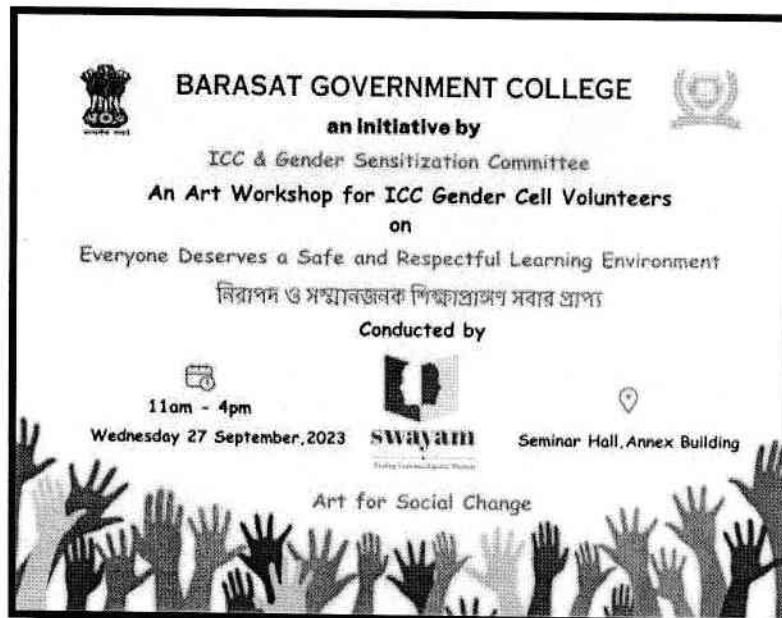
**DATE:** 27, September, 2023 Time: 11am-4.30pm

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:** 91 students

**RESOURCE PERSONS:** 9

**OBJECTIVE:** The art workshop was held with the students keeping in mind two objectives (i) To sensitize the students and raise awareness on gender issues, consent, respecting gender identities and keeping the workplace safe and gender neutral. (ii) A mural painting program is to be held on the boundary walls as well as the inner walls of the college on the theme of safe and gender neutral college premises. The workshop was to yield ideas of art work on this theme from the student community.

**PRACTICE:** The awareness program included talks, film screening, anecdote sharing etc. and was conducted by Swayam personnel. It was followed by the art workshop where students were encouraged to express their views on their understanding of a safe work place through writings, captions, slogans, paintings etc. The paintings and artworks conceived by the students were later displayed on the college walls.



*Shattijya*  
Principal  
Barasat Government College

POSTER OF THE EVENT

SWAYAM  
*Dasgupta*  
Director





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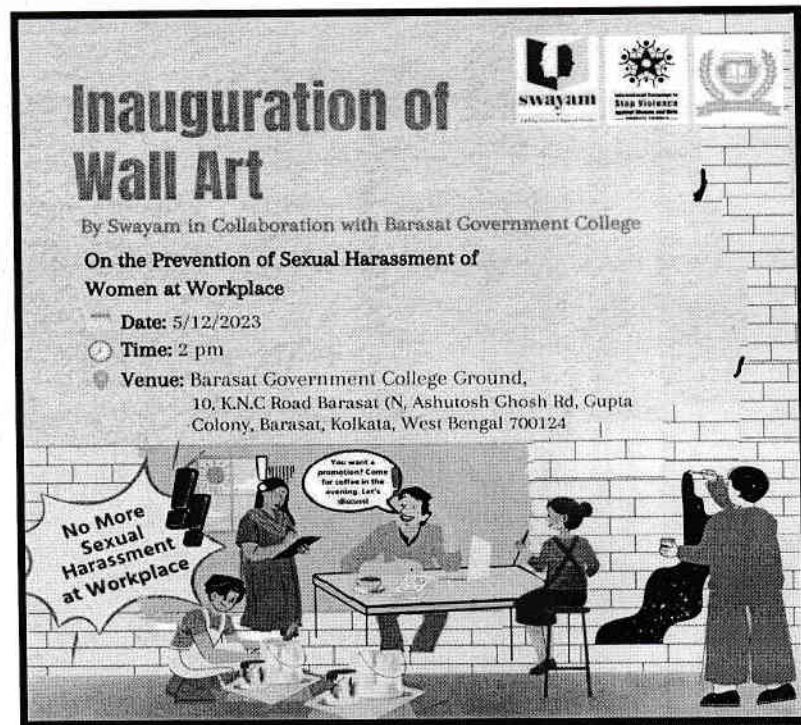
## 2. INAUGURATION OF MURAL PAINTING IN THE COLLEGE CAMPUS

DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

TIME: 2 PM

VENUE: Barasat Government College Ground

OBJECTIVE: To use art as a means of generating social awareness on gender issues.



Poster of the event

### PRACTICE:

1. The artworks, stories, anecdotes, slogans, captions which arose from the art workshop were used as material for the mural paintings on the outside as well as inner walls of the campus.
2. The paintings were done by a professional artist appointed by Swayam and inaugurated on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 through a short function attended by the Principal, Barasat Govt. College, Director, Swayam, Rwitobroto Mukherjee, a popular actor and youth icon and the OCs of the local police stations.
3. The program comprised of a short cultural program by the students and faculties of the college and talks by the visiting dignitaries.
4. The paintings and artworks conceived by the students were also displayed on the college walls.

*Shattiji*  
Principal  
Barasat Government College

SWAYAM  
*Adar Gupta*  
Director



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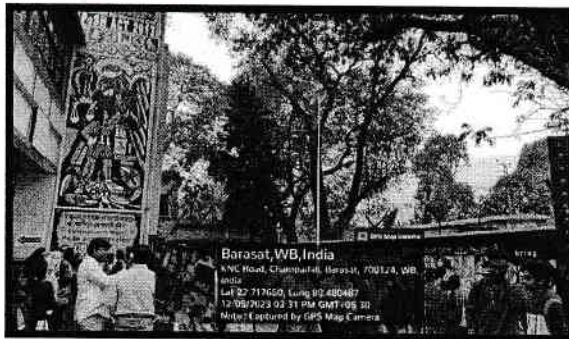
Photographic Evidence:



Talks by visiting dignitaries



Cultural program



Mural painting on inner wall of college



Spectators to the inauguration event

*Abhatyaji*  
Principal  
Barasat Government College

SWAYAM  
*A Dasgupta*  
Director

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**3. Workshop on Gender, Violence on Women & Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace**

DATE: 11.01.2024

VENUE: Seminar Hall, Annexe Building

TIME: 12 noon to 3 pm

RESOURCE PERSON: Dr. Somdatta Neogi, Triparna Nandy, Priyanka Bannerjee from Swayam

PARTICIPANTS: 1<sup>st</sup> Semester students from the department of Geography, English, Economics and Sanskrit

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 88

OBJECTIVE: To raise awareness among newly admitted students of the college on issues of gender identity, empowerment, and legal recourse in case of harassment.

**PRACTICE:**

The session began with a brief introduction elucidating the role of Swayam and their collaboration with ICC, Barasat Govt College. The students were then given a pre-training questionnaire to assess their beliefs of gender and sexuality followed by a detailed interactive discussion on the concepts of gender, sexuality, patriarchy, consent, boundary, legal implications of PoSH Act etc. through power point presentations, discussion on the mural art on the college walls, anecdote sharing etc.

**POSTER OF THE EVENT:**

The poster is a rectangular document with a white background and a thin black border. At the top left is the Barasat Government College logo, and at the top right is the Swayam logo. The text is centered and reads: 'BARASAT GOVERNMENT COLLEGE' followed by the address '10, K. N.C. Road, Barasat, West Bengal 700135'. Below this is 'INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE (ICC)' and 'In association with SWAYAM presents'. The main title is 'GENDER SENSITISATION PROGRAMME'. At the bottom, it lists the date 'Date: 11 January 2024', time 'Time : 12 Noon to 3.00 PM', and venue 'Venue: Seminar Hall'.

*Shatruj*  
**Principal**  
Barasat Government College

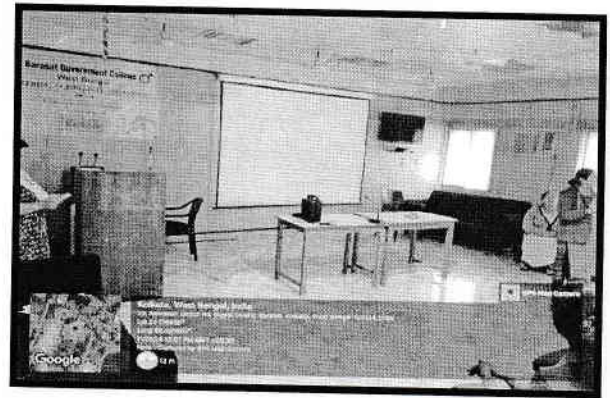
SWAYAM

*A. Dasgupta*  
Director





PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE:



Attendance Record:

Geography Branch of Sec 3  
Date: 11.01.2022

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**Principal**  
Barasat Government College

**SWAYAM**  
**Director**



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**4. CELEBRATION OF 'INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY'**

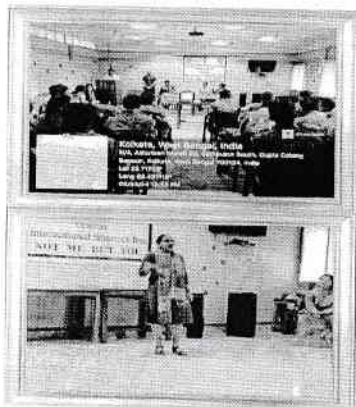
VENUE: Seminar Hall, Annex Building, Barasat Govt. College

DATE: 9.3.2024

TIME: 12 Noon

PRACTICE: Anita Pal, a case worker spoke about SWAYAM's effort to work towards Women's rights. She also spoke about the history of women's movement through a power point presentation. It was followed by a talk by Dr. Somdatta Neogi about the relevance and significance of celebrating Women's Day.

PARTICIPANTS: NSS volunteers



TALK BY SWAYAM



POSTER OF EVENT

*Phattiyi*  
Principal  
Barasat Government College

SWAYAM  
*A Dasgupta*  
Director



Barasat Government College		JSS UNIT		Attendance	
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ATTENDANCE

**5. GENDER AUDIT REPORT**

Swayam, collaborated with the ICC and Gender sensitization committee of Barasat Government college to prepare a gender audit report of the students and staff of the college in order to ascertain their level of gender awareness and perception of the social environment of the campus.

*Ahatterju*

Principal

Barasat Govt. College

Principal  
Barasat Government College

SWAYAM

*A Dasgupta*  
Director

Director

Swayam