Netaji Mahavidyalaya also maintains exclusive units like:

- Manuscript and Sculpture Museum in the Central Library
- Medicinal Plant Garden,
- Specimen room in Zoology department
- Herbarium in Botany department.

Herbarium of Botany Department:

The department has established HERBARIUM. The herbarium is a pride of the Department of Botany. An herbarium is a critical resource for biodiversity, ecological, and evolutionary research study. An herbarium consisting of plant specimens belonging to a large no. of Angiosperms is present in the department. Besides Angiosperms, there are Pteridophytes and Gymnosperms specimens as well. Each year the students of Botany actively participate in excursion trips and collect various plant species. Some species are kept in the Herbarium after proper treatment.

The herbarium of the Botany Department serves many purposes:

- It gives an idea of the nature of vegetation in a particular area in a season.
- Examination of herbarium sheets gives an idea of the range of distribution of a species, phylogeny, and also the flowering and fruiting time.
- Herbarium sheets are very good study material for the students to understand the different family characters.
- Herbarium sheets become a ready reference for future collectors and research workers in the field of systematics.
- The herbarium preparation may help to check the identity of newly collected plants may aid in teaching and may be of great value as a historical collection.



Manuscript and Sculpture museum in the Central Library

Every place has her heritage and culture. They may be trivial, but aggregation of them makes a national history, heritage and culture. It is the responsibility of all concerned with a locality to save the heritage. From this feeling, our college has initiated a movement towards the preservation of the local heritage. As a part of the social movement, a local history collection museum is established in the Central Library of the college.

Arambagh, a predominantly rural agrarian subdivision of the district Hooghly is famous for three renowned personalities of India as well as the world. It is the birthplace of Raja Rammohan Roy, the pioneer of Indian renaissance. It is also the birthplace of Sri Sri Ramkrishnadeb and Maa Saradamoyee Devi.

Once upon a time, Arambagh was one of the seats of Sanskrit learning. As a result, many manuscripts are lying scattered throughout the subdivision. Many temples and historical monuments are decaying in the face of age.

In the local history collection center, we have taken three pronged action towards preserving the local heritage.

- 1. We try to collect as many as manuscripts from the locality and preserve and digitize them in our center.
- 2. We try to collect information (as well as photographs) of the local historical and decaying monuments and temples.
- 3. We try to collect old documents, coins, freedom movement relics etc from the people of Arambagh.

In the first phase, we have collected about two hundred manuscripts from the locality of Arambagh. Work is going on towards preservation and identification of them. We are highly

grateful to the owners of the manuscripts, who donated them for the betterment of generations to come. We have taken another initiative in this respect. Those, who are not willing to part with the manuscripts, but want to preserve them, our college provide them the steel rack, arrange for necessary pest control measurement.

In the second phase, we have collected legal documents from British period and some coins also.

In the third phase, we have collected the photographs of the old and decaying monuments of the locality and information about them. We keep them in the soft format and willing to host them in college website for the information of the public.

This is a list of coins received from various sources.

- 1. East India Company Coin of 1616. (donated by Mollah Hasanur Jaman from Ghoshpur, Khanakul, Hooghly)
- 2. Coin of British period dated 1907. (Donated by Chandan Samanta from Fatehpur, Midnapur)
- 3. Coin of British period dated 1880. (Donated by Chandan Samanta from Fatehpur, Midnapur)
- 4. Coin of British period dated 1944. (Donated by Chandan Samanta from Fatehpur, Midnapur)
- 5. Coin of Independent India dated 1951. (Donated by Chandan Samanta from Fatehpur, Midnapur)
- 6. East India Company Coin of 1833. (donated by Mrs. Sujata Roy)
- 7. Coin of British period dated 1941. (donated by Mrs. Sujata Roy)
- 8. Coin of British period dated 1939. (donated by Mrs. Sujata Roy)
- 9. A coin of Muslim period dated ----. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 10. A British India coin of 1921. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 11. Coin of British period dated 1909. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 12. Coin of British period dated 1889. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 13. Coin of British period dated 1905. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 14. Three coins of Independent India dated 1951. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 15. One coin of independent India dated 1957. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)
- 16. Two coins totally illegible condition. (Donated by Sri Prafulla Sen of Eklakshmi, Burdwan)

Medicinal Plants Garden

The Medicinal Plants Garden of the college, Netaji Mahavidyalaya was started in the year 2023 with large number of useful medicinal plants. It consists of three parts –

- 1. Some medicinal plants were planted just behind the Department of Botany. It includes *Vitex negundo* (Nisinda), *Dillenia indica* (Chalta), *Atalantia sp* (Kanklas), *Phyllanthus emblica* (Amlaki), *Terminallia bellirica* (Bohera), *Aegle marmelos* (Bael), *Costus sp* (Insulin plant), *Piper longum* (Pipool), *Rauvolfia serpentina* (Sarpagandha), and many other plants.
- 2. Some fruit plants are nurtured in front of the Department of Botany namely, *Mangifera indica* (Aam), *Syzigium cumini* (Jam), *Syzigium samarangense* (Jamrul), *Psidium guajava* (Payera), *Citrus cavaleriei* (Gandharaj Lebu) etc.
- 3. Mango orchard having large number of mango plants and some other fruit as well as medicinal plants are grown behind the Water Analysis Laboratory as well as Students Union Room of the college.

A large number of timber yielding plants such as *Tectona grandis* (Segun) was also planted in the periphery of Medicinal Plants Garden.

Importance of the Garden

- 1. These plants produce fruits and leaves having medicinal and or nutritional values. These fruits are eaten by the birds in nature. It is also used by the students and staffs of the college.
- 2. Bark of some plants is used in the preparation of the folk medicine.
- 3. The students of the college acquire knowledge about the active principles of these plants like vitamins, minerals, alkaloids and other plant metabolites during practical classes or field visit with the teachers.

Specimen Room in Zoology Department

A good collection of specimens of various phyla like Echinodermata, Mollusca, Arthropoda, Annelida, Aschelminthes, Platyhelminthes, Cnidaria, Porifera is maintained in the Zoology department. These are very much helpful to students in identification and enhance their learning.

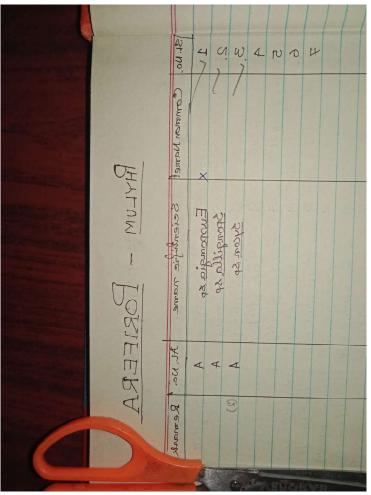
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VICE-PRINCIPAL Netaji Mahavidyalaya Arambagh, Hooghly

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