

SPARC TRANSLATION WORKSHOP

A three-day translation workshop on 'Academic Social Responsibility and the Humanities in India: Translating Bodo and Nepali literatures' was organized by the Centre for Translation of Indian Literatures (CENTIL), Department of Comparative Literature, Jadavpur University, in Kolkata from 12 to 14 June, 2024.

The workshop was organized as part of a SPARC project on 'Academic Social Responsibility and the Humanities in India: Researching, Archiving and Translating Indigenous and Marginalised Languages of West Bengal' awarded to CENTIL and India Dialogue, University of East Anglia, UK.

The workshop saw the participation of Professor Daniel Rycroft, Chair, India Dialogue, and Professor Jonathan Cook, Emeritus Professor, University of East Anglia. The first day of the programme was hosted by Adamas University, Kolkata.

Day 1 saw discussions on the idea of Academic Social Responsibility in the morning sessions. The idea of University Social Responsibility (USR) as opposed to ASR was also discussed.

The later sessions saw collaborative translations in which a series of texts were translated simultaneously into English and Bengali. Translators sat in groups and discussed the Source Language texts together, trying to arrive at consensus translation. Folk tales and folk songs from the Bodo community and the Nepali-speaking community of West Bengal were translated at the workshop. The workshop was led by Professor Sujata Rani Rai, Professor Bhawana Theeng Tamang, Professor Janki Singh, Professor Shradhanjali Tamang, Mr Jnanjit Narjinary, Mr Arun Brahma and Mr Nitai Karji, and was mentored by Professor Aweek Majumdar and Professor Suchorita Chattopadhyay. A number of texts were translated by the close of the workshop.