

TARAK NATH DAS RESEARCH CENTRE, JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

Tarak Nath Das Research Centre, established in 1957, and located in the Ground Floor of P.G. (Arts) Building, is the only one of its kind in the eastern region of India. Named after the famous revolutionary of India who actively participated in India's freedom struggle and had an emotional attachment to Jadavpur University, this Centre prepares preserves and maintains newspaper clippings on various national and international issues. The main purpose of this Centre, which is attached to the Department of International Relations, is to provide compiled primary and secondary materials to the researchers to work on their projects effectively and efficiently. Since 1957, the Centre has been able to compile and create a huge data bank of resources on selected and relevant news, articles and editorials related to several branches of social science research. At present one can find indices of one hundred and sixty seven subjects on various topics, compiled and collected from different English and Bengali dailies. Issues like external and internal affairs of almost all countries of the world include human rights, racism, religion, environment, refugees and ethnic problems, poverty, globalization, gender, health, media, economic institutions as well as different regional alliances are compiled on a regular basis. Documentation work of these clippings includes newspaper names, topic, page number and year.

Till date, over four lakhs clippings on different subjects over a period of fifty years (1957 – 2006) have been digitized. Users have access to both hard and soft copies of relevant subject files. Since 1999, the Centre has been subscribing to *The Economist*. Besides, the Centre has a collection of more than nineteen hundred rare books and journals. These materials – known as Dr. Tarak Nath Das Collection -- can be found at the Central Library of Jadavpur University. The Centre continues to receive an annual grant from the Tarak Nath Das Foundation, Columbia University, New York ever since its establishment in 1957.