## <u>Workshop on Domestic Violence and Mental Health by the West</u> <u>Bengal Commission for Women, organised by IOAC, dated 8.12. 2022</u>

A Workshop on Domestic Violence and Mental Health was conducted by the West Bengal Commission for Women in collaboration with IQAC, Victoria Institution (College) on 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2022, to sensitize students regarding gender related issues. The esteemed Chairperson of the West Bengal Commission for Women, Smt. Leena Gangopadhyay and her team members Dr. Dipanwita Hazari, Smt. Sujata Pakrashi Lahiri, Smt. Debjani Chakraborty spoke on various aspects related to gender discrimination with special emphasis on the grave issue of Domestic Violence and how it is still rampant even within the educated and elite section of the society. Smt. Gangopadhyay cited several cases of domestic abuse handled by her as the Chairperson of WBCW, giving us an insight into the horrid and varied nature of such abuse and malpractices and the current judicial scenario as well. The audience were also made to understand the importance of being self aware , having knowledge of the procedures of filing a complaint , the legal consequences of such matters and the importance and sincerity with which such grievances are handled by the Commission.

The second half of the workshop focused on the issue of Mental health in general and also of the repressed and subjugated lot. T

his session was conducted by Dr. Subrata Bhattacharya and Dr. Chandan Naskar, assisting members of the WBCW Team. They not only discussed various cases but also encouraged and invited questions/ problems from students sitting in the audience, to help them out with their concerns. The response from the students was indeed overwhelming. The workshop was envisioned as a part of a greater drive to spread gender sensitivity amongst students, to promote awareness and encourage them to raise their voice against any kind of injustice or gender biasness.

