

Outreach Initiative of Professor Sujay Ghosh for Persons with Down Syndrome

Since 2015, Professor Sujay Ghosh of the University of Calcutta has led a dedicated Down syndrome research unit at the Department of Zoology and simultaneously launched sustained and impactful outreach initiative dedicated to improving the lives of persons with Down syndrome in India by meaningfully integrating scientific research with societal engagement. This approach has made a win-win situation that in one hand accelerated scientific intervention through greater participation of families in research. On the other hand communities particularly from the resource poor section received health service benefits. Through regular “Parents–Researchers” interaction meetings organized at the University of Calcutta in collaboration with social organizations, Professor Ghosh has created an inclusive platform where families, researchers, clinicians, students, and social workers engage in open dialogue. These interactions have strengthened awareness, acceptance, and participation of families in healthcare research, thereby fostering a culture of trust between science and society. Professor Sujay Ghosh has consistently organized international webinar series featuring eminent global experts, ensuring continuous knowledge exchange and capacity building among Indian researchers, clinicians, and families.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Professor Ghosh demonstrated exemplary leadership by coordinating with the Government of West Bengal to organize six dedicated COVID-19 vaccination clinics for persons with Down syndrome at SSKM Hospital, Kolkata—an initiative recognized as the first of its kind in Asia. He also facilitated online cultural programs and clinical consultations to provide emotional and medical support during lockdowns.

Beyond urban centres, Professor Ghosh has organized charitable healthcare camps across West Bengal, including rural and marginalized regions such as Malda and Siliguri, offering free specialized medical services. His advocacy was instrumental in establishing India’s first government-run Down Syndrome Care Clinic at Diamond Harbour Government Medical College and Hospital.

Professor Ghosh actively represents India at major international Down syndrome research forums and engages in global collaborations, including participation in programs hosted by the US National Institutes of Health. Through awareness rallies, academic programs, clinical initiatives, and international leadership, his outreach initiative exemplifies the University of Calcutta’s commitment to socially responsive science and inclusive public engagement.

In recognition of his work for people with Down syndrome through science and societal approach Professor Sujay Ghosh has received State award 2024 for disability research from the Department of Women and Child care and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal.



Science and Society 'Researcher-Family'
Interaction: A Community Building
Exercise - 5th November 2019



Special COVID 19 Vaccination Clinic for
Down syndrome - Six clinics were
organized in six consecutive months from
July 2021 to December 2021



Charitable Healthcare Clinics organized for rural and
marginalized persons with Down syndrome on September
2023 at Malda and Siliguri



NIH Down syndrome Booklet Release
Program at the US Consulate - 7th July 2023



Charitable Eyecare Clinics organized for
persons with Down syndrome from September
2025 at North and South Kolkata (Ongoing)



Down Syndrome Awareness Rally organized every year on 21st March, on the occasion of World Down Syndrome Day



Down syndrome awareness month celebration at the Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta – 29th October 2025

Print Media Coverage of Outreach Activities



Aajkal Patrika – 26th August 2019



Bartaman Patrika - 4th July 2020



Times of India - 16th July 2021