Sci. and Cult. 90 (1-2): 3-13 (2024)

## DR. (MISS) JAMINI SEN (1871-1932):

## A PIONEER WOMAN DOCTOR OF COLONIAL INDIA AND THE FIRST FEMALE FELLOW OF THE ROYAL FACULTY OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS, GLASGOW

## INDRANIL SANYAL\*

Dr. (Miss) Jamini Sen was one of the pioneer women doctors of late 19th and early 20th century India. Born in 1871 in an educated and progressive family from Barishal district of Bengal, Dr. Sen passed out from Calcutta Medical College with a medical license in 1897. During 1899-1909, she worked with the Royal family of Nepal as their family physician. In 1911, she travelled to UK and in 1912, Dr. Sen made history by becoming the first female fellow of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow. Back home, she joined Women's Medical Service for India and worked in Agra, Shimla, Shikarpur, Betiah and Akola. Her presence made a positive impact on female patients as their numbers significantly increased during her tenure. Despite notable contributions, she faced racism and discrimination from authorities and in 1920, she resigned from WMS. In 1921, she again travelled to UK for higher studies. From 1924, she headed the Baldeodas Maternity Home in Kolkata. Dr. Sen died in 1932. In the history of women in medicine, judging by the achievement and contributions, Jamini Sen should be credited for creating an emancipating space for India's womenfolk. This article is a tribute to Dr. Sen.

VOL. 90, NOS. 1–2