



EXTENSION ACTIVITIES 2017-2023

SESSION 2017-18

EXCURSION TO THE DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE

On 1st March 2018, the Department of Botany organized an excursion to the Directorate of Horticulture Navbahar for the students of B.Sc. IV semester.

Objective: The main objective of the excursion to the Directorate of Horticulture Navbahar was to provide the students with hands-on experience and reinforce their experimental and contextual learning.

The students were made aware of various techniques employed in floriculture. By observing and learning about the methods used for the successful cultivation and management of flowers, they gained practical knowledge and understanding of the processes involved.

Outcome: The excursion provided the students with insights into the methods required for successful plantation in the field of floriculture. They learned about factors such as soil preparation, selection of appropriate plant varieties, watering techniques, and pest management. This understanding equipped them with the necessary knowledge to undertake successful plantations in the future.





EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO RENUKA JI

On 28th-29th March 2018, an educational trip was organized to Renuka Ji in the Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh.

Objective: The main objective of the educational trip to Renuka Ji was to enhance the students' understanding of the flora and fauna in a more interactive and immersive way. The specific objective was to provide practical knowledge of the subject through hands-on experiences and observation.

The trip included visits to Solan Brewery, Directorate of Mushroom Research in Chambaghat, and the Renuka Sanctuary and Mini Zoo. These visits provided valuable insights into beer making, edible mushroom cultivation, and an opportunity to observe various animals and local flora.

Places Visited:

1. **Solan Brewery (Mohan Meakin Ltd.):** The students had the opportunity to gain insights into the beer making process during their visit to Solan Brewery. This demonstration provided them with a practical understanding of the brewing techniques and processes involved.
2. **Directorate of Mushroom Research, Chambaghat, Distt Solan:** The students were introduced to the process of edible mushroom cultivation at the Directorate of Mushroom Research. They learned about the techniques and practices involved in cultivating mushrooms, enhancing their understanding of this aspect of flora.
3. **Renuka Sanctuary and Mini Zoo:** The students visited the Renuka Sanctuary and Mini Zoo, where they had the chance to see various animals such as panthers, black bears, stags, and a wide variety of birds. This firsthand experience allowed the students to observe and learn about the diverse fauna present in the area. They were also acquainted with the local flora, further expanding their knowledge of the natural environment.

Outcome: The trip provided students with a heightened level of practical knowledge through hands-on experiences and observation. They gained insights into the beer making process, edible mushroom cultivation, and had the opportunity to observe various animals and local flora. The students had the opportunity to engage with experts, interact with their peers, and explore various aspects of flora and fauna together. This promoted collaboration, exchange of ideas, and enhanced their overall learning experience.



INTERCOLLEGE INTERACTION

On 1st August 2017, the students of B.Sc. Vth Semester had an opportunity to interact with the students of Badrinarayan Barwale Mahavidyala in Jalna, Maharashtra.

Objective: The main objective of the intercollege interaction was to extend knowledge about the biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh beyond its state borders. Additionally, the interaction aimed to provide an interactive platform for students to exchange ideas and perspectives.

The activities included:

Presentation on Biodiversity of H.P.: The students delivered presentations on the biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh. They shared information about the unique flora and fauna found in the state, highlighting its ecological significance and conservation efforts.

Visit to Arboretum at Potter's Hill and IAS, Shimla: The students had the opportunity to visit the Arboretum at Potter's Hill, which showcases a diverse range of plant species. They also visited the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IAS) in Shimla, where they could explore the beautiful campus and learn about its historical significance.

Exploration of historical monuments and tourist spots in Shimla: The students visited various historical monuments and popular tourist spots in and around Shimla. This allowed them to experience the cultural heritage and architectural marvels of the city.

Outcome: The intercollege interaction between the students of B.Sc. Vth Semester and Badrinarayan Barwale Mahavidyala helped generate interest among non-native students in the biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh. Through the presentations and visits, the students gained a



*Department of Botany
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

deeper appreciation for the unique ecological features of the state. The visit to historical monuments, tourist spots, and educational institutions in Shimla broadened the students' cultural and educational horizons. They had the chance to experience the rich heritage of Shimla and explore different aspects of the city's history and natural beauty. This interaction created an interactive platform for students to learn from each other and broaden their understanding of different regions' biodiversity and conservation efforts.



SESSION 2019-2020

VISIT TO CENTRAL POTATO RESEARCH INSTITUTE

On September 25th, 2019, an enriching visit to the Central Potato Research Institute (CPRI) was organized for the students of B.Sc.III (Medical). The purpose of this visit was to provide the students with exposure to the field of potato science, cultivation techniques, and research and development activities. It aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, promote scientific inquiry, and inspire students to explore potential career opportunities in potato research, agronomy, or agriculture-related fields. During the visit, the students had the opportunity to explore the museum showcasing different potato varieties, associated diseases, and various edible products. They also received valuable insights from scientists regarding techniques and instruments used in biotechnology and had a chance to visit the tissue culture lab.



Objective: The primary objective of the visit to CPRI was to provide the students of BSc.III (Medical) with exposure to the world of potato science, cultivation techniques, and research and development activities. The specific objectives included:

1. **Bridging the gap between theory and practical application:** The visit aimed to provide students with hands-on experience and practical exposure to the concepts and techniques they had learned in their academic curriculum. By witnessing the practical applications of potato science, the students could better understand and appreciate the relevance and significance of their classroom knowledge.
2. **Promoting scientific inquiry:** The visit aimed to stimulate the students' curiosity and promote scientific inquiry. By interacting with scientists and researchers at CPRI, the students had the opportunity to ask questions, gain deeper insights into potato research, and develop a more inquisitive approach towards scientific exploration.
3. **Inspiring exploration of career opportunities:** Another objective was to inspire the students to consider career opportunities in potato research, agronomy, or agriculture-related fields. By providing a firsthand experience of the work conducted at CPRI and highlighting the diverse opportunities available in these domains, the visit aimed to broaden the students' career perspectives and encourage them to explore these fields further.

During the visit to CPRI, the students of B.Sc.III (Medical) had a chance to explore the museum, which showcased a wide range of potato varieties, associated diseases, and various edible products derived from potatoes. This interactive experience allowed the students to visually appreciate the diversity and importance of potato cultivation.

Furthermore, the students had the privilege of interacting with scientists and researchers at CPRI, who provided them with valuable insights into various techniques and instruments used in biotechnology. This interaction served as a platform for the students to learn about the practical applications of biotechnology in potato research and cultivation.

Additionally, the students had the opportunity to visit the tissue culture lab, where they witnessed firsthand the processes involved in the micropropagation of potato plants. This exposure to tissue culture techniques provided the students with a deeper understanding of the importance of plant propagation in potato research and cultivation.

Outcomes: The visit to CPRI yielded several positive outcomes for the students of B.Sc.III (Medical):

1. **Enriched knowledge and practical exposure:** The students gained valuable knowledge and practical exposure to the field of potato science and research. Witnessing the various aspects of potato cultivation, exploring the museum, and interacting with scientists broadened their understanding of the subject beyond theoretical textbooks, making their learning experience more holistic and comprehensive.
2. **Networking opportunities:** The visit offered students the chance to interact with scientists and researchers working in the field of potato research. This networking



opportunity allowed the students to establish connections, learn from experts in the field, and potentially explore future academic or professional collaborations.

3. **Inspiration for future academic and professional growth:** The visit to CPRI inspired the students and opened their eyes to the vast array of possibilities in the fields of botany, agriculture, and research. It sparked their interest in pursuing further studies or careers in potato research, agronomy, or agriculture-related fields, thereby paving the way for their future academic and professional growth.
4. **Broadened perspectives:** The visit broadened the students' perspectives on the applications of botany and agriculture in real-world scenarios. Witnessing the practical aspects of potato cultivation, understanding the techniques used in biotechnology, and exploring the diverse uses of potatoes in different products expanded their understanding of the potential of these fields beyond the classroom.



SESSION 2021-2022

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

On June 5th, 2021, the students of the 2nd and 4th semester M.Sc. Botany came together to celebrate World Environment Day through a series of activities focused on tree plantation, garbage collection, and the proper disposal and utilization of waste materials.

Objective: The primary objective of the activities conducted on World Environment Day was to create awareness among the students about the importance of the environment. Specifically, the objectives were as follows:

The activities aimed to make students aware of the significance of the environment and its preservation. By actively participating in tree plantation and garbage collection, the students could witness firsthand the impact of their actions on the environment and understand the need for responsible environmental practices.



*Department of Botany
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

Outcome:

The students gained a deeper understanding of the environment and its importance in their lives. By actively participating in tree plantation and garbage collection, they developed a sense of responsibility towards their surroundings.



PARTICIPATION IN ONLINE QUIZ

On June 5th, 2021, the students of B.Sc. II, B.Sc. III (Medical), and M.Sc. IInd Semester enthusiastically participated in an online Inter-College Environment Quiz competition organized by the Department of Botany, RKMV, Shimla. The quiz competition was held under



the banner of Swachh Bharat Mission, a national campaign in India aimed at promoting cleanliness and sanitation.

Objective: The competition aimed to disseminate information about the Swachh Bharat Mission, which is a government-led initiative focused on promoting cleanliness and sanitation in India. By organizing the quiz competition, the objective was to educate the participants and the wider audience about the programs and initiatives undertaken by the government to achieve a clean and hygienic environment.

Outcome: The competition provided a platform to disseminate information about the programs and initiatives related to cleanliness and sanitation run by the government through the Swachh Bharat Mission. The quiz questions and discussions during the competition served as a means to educate the participants and the audience about the various aspects of the mission, including its objectives, achievements, and ongoing campaigns. It motivated the students to actively engage in efforts to maintain a clean and hygienic environment, thereby contributing to the overall goal of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

INTER NATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY

On December 11, 2021, International Mountain Day was celebrated at Potter hills, Shimla, specifically at the Western Himalayan Arboretum.

Objective: The main objective of celebrating International Mountain Day at Potter hills was to educate the participants about the crucial role mountains play in our lives.

The event brought together the teachers and students of M.Sc. Botany from St. Bede's College and the students from the Department of Biosciences at Himachal Pradesh University. The theme for the celebration was "Sustainable Mountain Tourism." The main speaker, IAS Shrinivas Joshi, highlighted the beauty of mountain ranges such as Dhauladhar range, Shali peak, Chansal peak, and Hatu peak. He emphasized the importance of sustainable tourism in mountains for creating alternative livelihood options, social inclusion, and landscape and biodiversity conservation. The event also included a visit to the Arboretum, which houses over 150 plant species.

Outcome: The event successfully created awareness among the participants about the importance of mountains to life. Through the speeches and discussions, the participants gained knowledge about the ecological, cultural, and economic values of mountains, leading to a greater appreciation for their significance. The participants learned about the benefits of sustainable tourism, including the creation of alternative livelihood options and the conservation of landscapes and biodiversity.



EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO ICAR-DIRECTORATE OF MUSHROOM RESEARCH, CHAMBAGHAT, SOLAN

On December 16, 2021, the Department of Botany organized an educational trip for the students of B.Sc. II and III year to the ICAR-Directorate of Mushroom Research located in Chambaghat, Solan.

Objective: The purpose of this trip was to provide the students with practical exposure and knowledge about mushroom cultivation. The trip aimed to introduce the concept of natural farming to the students. By attending the webinar addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

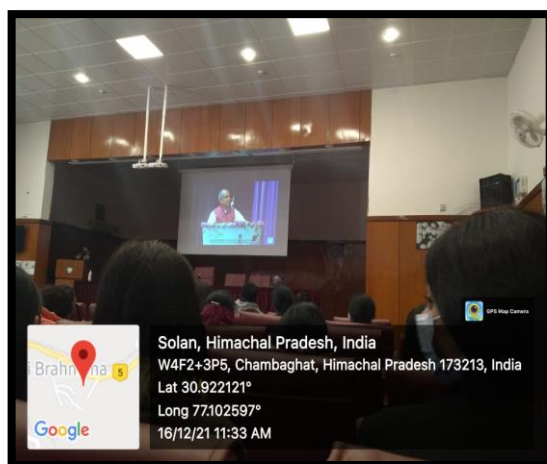


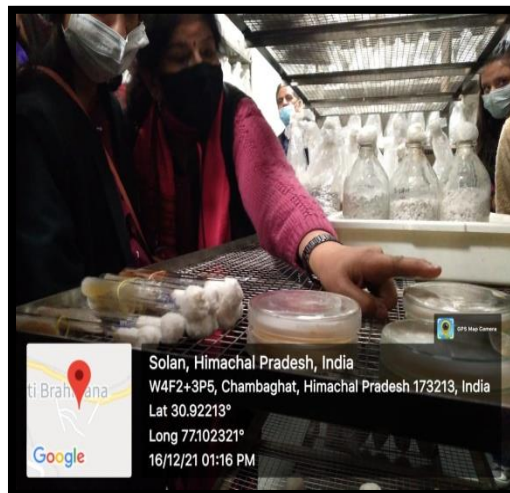
Department of Botany
St. Bede's College, Shimla

the objective was to familiarize the students with the principles, techniques, and benefits of natural farming in agriculture.

Outcome: The educational trip to the ICAR-Directorate of Mushroom Research resulted in the following outcomes:

1. Information about natural farming: The students gained valuable information about natural farming through the webinar addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. They were introduced to the principles and techniques involved in natural farming and learned about its advantages for sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture.
2. Practical exposure to mushroom cultivation: The field visit to the ICAR-Directorate of Mushroom Research provided the students with practical exposure to the step-by-step techniques used in mushroom cultivation. They learned about the preparation of spawn, creation of compost, and the cultivation process itself. This hands-on experience allowed the students to grasp the intricacies of mushroom cultivation and equipped them with practical knowledge for future reference.
3. Comprehensive understanding of the subject: The educational trip enabled the students to investigate various perspectives of mushroom cultivation, including its history, development, types of mushrooms, and health benefits. By interacting with Dr. B.L. Attri, the Principal Scientist, the students gained valuable insights and a comprehensive understanding of the subject, which will enhance their academic and professional growth.





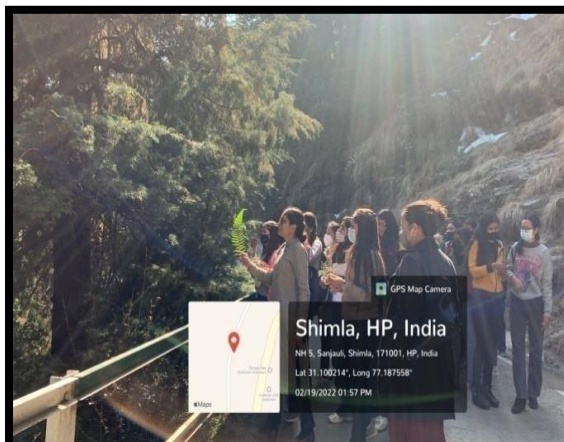
EXCURSION TO JAKHU HILLS

On February 2, 2022, the Department of Botany organized an excursion to Jakhu hills as part of the Youth Awareness Program. The objective of this excursion was to provide students with a unique learning experience focused on the flora of Shimla.

Objective: The main objective of the excursion to Jakhu hills was to explore the local flora and engage the students in field excursions. The specific objectives were as follows:

1. **Exploring plant diversity:** The excursion aimed to expose the students to the rich plant diversity found in the Shimla region. By visiting Jakhu hills, the students had the opportunity to observe and learn about various plant species, their characteristics, and their role in the ecosystem.
2. **Plant identification and classification:** The excursion provided a platform for the students to develop their skills in plant identification and classification. By actively participating in the field excursions and observing different plant species, the students could enhance their knowledge of plant taxonomy and classification.
3. **Understanding economic importance:** The excursion aimed to educate the students about the economic importance of plants. By learning about the various uses of plants, such as medicinal properties, food sources, and commercial value, the students gained a deeper appreciation for the economic significance of plants in our daily lives.

Outcome: The students developed a better understanding of plant diversity through their firsthand experience in the field. By observing and studying various plant species, they expanded their knowledge and appreciation for the wide range of plants found in the Shimla region. They learned about the various ways in which plants contribute to our society, including their medicinal properties, food production, and commercial value. This understanding broadened their perspectives on the significance of plants in our daily lives.



SESSION 2022-2023

ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION

On June 5th, 2022, the students of M.Sc. Botany 4th semester came together to participate in a cleanliness drive at Naldehra Heights.

Objective: The event aimed to raise awareness among the participants and the wider community about the importance of cleanliness and its impact on the environment. By actively participating in the cleanliness drive, the students aimed to inspire others to take responsibility for maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings.

The event was organized under the banner of the Green India mission, with the objective of promoting a cleaner and greener India. The students aimed to raise awareness and encourage everyone to actively contribute to keeping the environment clean.

Outcome: The students played an essential role in spreading awareness about the importance of cleanliness. Through their active participation and involvement in the cleanliness drive, they served as examples and ambassadors for a cleaner environment. Their efforts helped to instill a sense of responsibility and motivate others to actively participate in maintaining cleanliness.

The cleanliness drive received assistance from the municipal corporation, which provided trucks and additional manpower to ensure proper disposal of the collected trash. This collaboration between the students and the municipal corporation exemplified the importance of collective action and the support of local authorities in achieving the goal of a cleaner environment.



WORLD FOOD DAY CELEBRATION

Every year on October 16th, International World Food Day is celebrated globally to honor the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945. To mark this occasion, the students of BSc. II took part in their own unique celebration of World Food Day.

Objective: The main objective of the students' World Food Day celebration was to educate young children about the significance of a healthy and balanced diet.

The event aimed to raise awareness among the young children about the importance of maintaining a healthy diet. By teaching them about the benefits of a balanced diet, the students sought to inspire them to make healthier food choices and develop good eating habits from an early age.

Outcome: The event was successful in imparting valuable information to the young children about the importance of a healthy and balanced diet. Through street plays, rhymes, and games, the students engaged the children in a fun and interactive manner while conveying essential messages about nutrition and good eating habits.

The students educated the children about the importance of not wasting food. They emphasized that wasting food means wasting money and effort, which is not beneficial for anyone.

The young children were educated about the significance of eating a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables that are rich in nutritional value. By emphasizing the benefits of including these foods in their diet, the students encouraged the children to make healthier choices and appreciate the nutritional value of fruits and vegetables.

By organizing this event, the students played an important role in promoting good eating habits and healthy lifestyles among young children.



*Department of Botany
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

