

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES 2017-2023

SESSION 2017-18

SAVE THE BEE CAMPAIGN

On August 22, 2017, in celebration of World Honeybee Day, Zoology Major students from St. Bede's College Shimla organized an Environment Awareness Programme. The theme of the programme was "Conservation of Honeybees and their Role in Pollination."

Objective: The objective of the programme was to create awareness among students about the importance of bees in our environment, food system, and overall survival. Additionally, the students aimed to educate people about the role of neonicotinoid pesticides in bee deaths and raise awareness about the significance of pollinators and their contribution to sustainable development.

The students took the initiative to spread awareness about the silent threat faced by honeybees due to their endangerment. They visited several schools and colleges, including Government Girls Senior Secondary School Portmore, Government Senior Secondary School Phagli, Government Middle High School Theog, Government Degree College Theog, and Mahila Mandal Committee Theog. Accompanied by teachers, the students organized interactive sessions to explain the importance of honeybees to society and the need for their conservation. The audience filled out a questionnaire to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign, and the department planned to publish a research paper based on the data obtained.

Outcome: The students gained a deep understanding of the crucial role bees play in our food systems and the importance of protecting them for the sustainability of agricultural systems. They also learned about the role of bees in combating climate change and how they contribute to the pollination of wild plants, supporting healthy ecosystems. The awareness among students extended to the role of pests and pesticides as causative agents in the decline of bee populations.













STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

On September 25, 2017, a student exchange program took place between the Zoology department of St. Bede's College and the students of Badrinarayan Barewale Mahavidyalaya Jalna. The program facilitated an interactive session among the students, where various topics were discussed and presented, including vermicomposting, Deoli fish farm, "Honey Bee: A Selfless Creature," and the biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh.

The **objectives** of the program were as follows:

- 1. Waste Management and Environmental Impact: The program aimed to educate students about the importance of waste management and the environmental impact of organic waste. Students were introduced to the concept of vermicomposting as an effective method of waste management and its benefits in reducing environmental pollution.
- 2. Aquaculture and Fish Farming: The exchange program provided learning opportunities for students to understand the concept of aquaculture and fish farming as sustainable means of food production. They learned about different techniques and processes involved in fish farming, emphasizing responsible practices and environmental considerations.
- 3. Honey Bees and their Role as Pollinators: The program aimed to educate students about the ecological significance of honey bees as essential pollinators. Students were made aware of the importance of honey bees in maintaining biodiversity and the role they play in supporting agricultural productivity and natural ecosystems. They also discussed the threats and challenges faced by honey bees, such as habitat loss and pesticide use.



4. Biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh: The program aimed to introduce students to the rich biodiversity of Himachal Pradesh, emphasizing the unique ecosystems and diverse flora and fauna found in the region. Students were encouraged to observe and appreciate the natural diversity of plants, animals, and habitats in their surroundings.

The **outcomes** of the student exchange program were as follows:

- 1. Increased Awareness of Waste Management: Students gained awareness and understanding of the importance of waste management and the environmental impact of organic waste. They learned about effective methods such as vermicomposting and the potential benefits in mitigating environmental pollution.
- 2. Environmental Impacts of Fish Farming: Students developed an understanding of the environmental impacts associated with fish farming and the significance of responsible practices in minimizing negative effects. They explored potential career opportunities in aquaculture and related fields.
- 3. Understanding the Ecological Importance of Honeybees: Students gained knowledge about the ecological importance of honeybees as pollinators and their critical role in maintaining biodiversity. They became aware of the threats and challenges faced by honeybees and the need for their conservation.
- 4. Appreciation of Himachal Pradesh's Biodiversity: Students developed an appreciation and understanding of the rich biodiversity in Himachal Pradesh. They learned about the unique ecosystems, diverse plant and animal species, and the importance of preserving and protecting the natural heritage of the region.





PLAY ON AWARENESS OF AIDS

On International Youth Day, August 12, 2017, a group of students from St. Bede's College organized a play at Gaiety Theatre in Shimla to raise awareness about AIDS and its prevention. Varsha Thakur, a Zoology major student, played a key role in the play. The students' efforts were acknowledged by Shri Kaul Singh Thakur, the former Health and Welfare Minister, who awarded them with a token of appreciation.

Objective: The objective of the play was to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, promote prevention measures, combat stigma associated with the disease, and empower students to take action in promoting HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention within their communities.



The outcome of the play was aimed at creating a well-informed, supportive, and responsible student body that actively participates in HIV/AIDS prevention efforts. By challenging stigma and promoting a healthier and more inclusive community, the students aimed to create an environment that encourages open discussions about HIV/AIDS and facilitates the adoption of preventive measures.

Through their play, the students sought to educate their peers and the wider audience about the importance of practicing safe behaviours, such as using protection during sexual activities, getting tested regularly, and providing support and care to individuals living with HIV/AIDS. They also aimed to dispel myths and misconceptions surrounding the disease, promoting accurate information and understanding.



SESSION 2018-2019

EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO CDPO CHANDIGARH AND CHHATBIR ZOO

On August 4, 2018, an educational trip was organized for the students of the Department of Chemistry and Zoology, Semester V. The trip included visits to the Poultry Farm at CDPO Chandigarh and Chhatbir Zoo. The first half of the day was dedicated to the poultry farm visit, while the second half involved exploring the fauna at Chhatbir Zoo.

Objective: The main objective of the educational trip was to familiarize the students with animal behavior and characteristics. By visiting the poultry farm, the students were exposed to the growth and care of chicks for business purposes. The trip to Chhatbir Zoo aimed to enrich their knowledge about different animal species and their behavior.



During the first half of the day, the students visited the poultry farm at CDPO Chandigarh. They were given insights into the growth and care of chicks, focusing on the practices involved in the poultry business. The students observed the environment required for optimal growth, as well as the importance of controlling temperature and providing proper feeding for the chicks' health. This visit provided practical exposure to the students regarding the processes and considerations involved in poultry farming.

In the second half of the day, the students visited Chhatbir Zoo. They had the opportunity to observe various fauna and learn about their behaviour and characteristics. This visit helped the students understand the diverse range of animal species and their adaptations to their natural habitats. The students were filled with excitement and enthusiasm as they explored the zoo and interacted with different animals.

Outcome: The educational trip provided the students with practical knowledge of the growth and care of chicks, particularly in the context of poultry farming. They learned about the importance of maintaining an optimal environment and controlling temperature for chick health. The trip to Chhatbir Zoo allowed the students to observe various fauna and understand their behaviour and characteristics.

The students acquired practical knowledge, gained insights into animal characteristics, and demonstrated enthusiasm and engagement throughout the trip.





VISIT TO SERICULTURE INDUSTRY

On September 15, 2018, the students of the 5th and 3rd semesters of the Zoology Department embarked on a field visit to experience the culture of the sericulture industry. Dr. Baldev Chauhan, their guide, led them to various places of interest throughout the visit.

Objective: The primary objective of this field visit was to demonstrate the life cycle of the silkworm and provide the students with a comprehensive understanding of various aspects related to sericulture. The students were given in-depth knowledge about mulberry cultivation, farm maintenance, seed technology, silkworm rearing, and silk reeling. They had the opportunity to observe the complete life cycle of the Bombyx mori, starting from the laying of hundreds of eggs on mulberry leaves, the caterpillars feeding on the leaves, the collection of cocoons for silk extraction, and the collection of



adult silkworms in jars. They were also shown illustrations of the equipment used in silkworm rearing. Additionally, they learned about cost-effective methods and materials required to establish sericulture and gained insights into the application and economic importance of silk culture.

The visit took place in Naswal village, located in Bilaspur district. The students visited the house of Mrs. Sandesh Kumari, a beneficiary who received subsidies from the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Department of Industries, for silkworm rearing. This visit allowed the students to witness firsthand the practical aspects of sericulture and understand the economic significance of silk production.

Furthermore, the students visited the Office of Silk Seed Production in Ghumarwin, where they had the opportunity to observe various equipment and machinery used in early-age silkworm rearing, as well as different varieties of mulberry trees.

As part of their visit, the students attended a lecture on "Entrepreneurship in Sericulture" delivered by Dr. Baldev Chauhan at Swami Vivekananda Govt. College in Ghumarwin. During this lecture, the students were also informed about the CIS course (Certificate in Sericulture), which provided them with insights into the educational opportunities available in the field.

To further enrich their understanding, the students visited the Reeling Unit in Hirapur village, Bilaspur district. This experience provided them with a unique and informative insight into the process of converting silk cocoons into silk threads.

Outcome: The outcome of the field visit was the engagement of students in the sericulture industry, which equipped them with valuable knowledge, skills, and an understanding of the industry's economic, cultural, and environmental aspects. By gaining practical exposure to sericulture, the students were empowered to make informed decisions, explore entrepreneurship opportunities, and contribute to the sustainable development of the sericulture sector













1. Office of Silk Seed Production











2. Swami Vivekananda Govt. College, Ghumarwin, Bilaspur









3. Reeling Unit – Village Hirapur











SESSION 2019-2020

VISIT TO KULLU MANALI

The Zoology students from St. Bede's College embarked on a field trip to Kullu and Manali from 5th to 8th October 2019. The primary objective of this trip was to provide the students with a hands-on learning experience focused on studying insect biodiversity.

Objective: The trip aimed to ignite curiosity, deepen understanding, and cultivate appreciation for insects and their ecological significance. Additionally, it sought to encourage scientific inquiry, raise environmental awareness, and foster the development of skills that could contribute to future conservation efforts and scientific pursuits.

During the field trip, the students were taught basic techniques for collecting and preserving insects. They actively engaged in collecting insect specimens from the fields surrounding Rohtang Pass and Nagar Palace. Subsequently, in the laboratory, they underwent the process of identifying the collected insects and preserving them for future reference in the zoology laboratory's museum box. The students found this experience both rejuvenating and educational, as they were able to directly observe and interact with various insect species.

Outcome: The outcome of the field trip focused on studying insect biodiversity was multifaceted. Firstly, it aimed to enhance the students' knowledge and understanding of insects, their characteristics, and their role within ecosystems. By engaging in hands-on activities, the students developed a deeper appreciation for the diversity and complexity of insect life. Secondly, the trip equipped the students with scientific skills, such as insect collection and preservation techniques, specimen identification, and laboratory procedures. These skills are invaluable for future scientific endeavours and can contribute to the field of entomology.

Moreover, the field trip promoted environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility towards conserving insect biodiversity and the ecosystems they inhabit. By immersing themselves in nature and studying insects in their natural habitats, the students gained a greater understanding of the interdependence between organisms and their environment. This understanding can foster a commitment to environmental stewardship and conservation efforts in the future.







Insect collection through insect nets



SESSION 2020-2021

COVID-19 RELIEF AWARENESS INITIATIVE PROGRAMME

During the COVID-19 pandemic, an awareness campaign was organized from October 1st -31st to spread information and educate people about the virus, its risks, symptoms, and preventive measures.

The **objectives** of this COVID-19 relief awareness initiative program were as follows:

- 1. Educating people about the virus: The primary objective was to provide knowledge about COVID-19, including how it spreads and the preventive measures individuals can take. This involved promoting mask-wearing, hand hygiene, social distancing, and other precautions to prevent infection.
- 2. Encouraging vaccination: Another key objective was to promote COVID-19 vaccination. The campaign aimed to address vaccine hesitancy, provide accurate information about vaccine safety and efficacy, and emphasize the benefits of vaccination in preventing severe illness and reducing transmission.
- 3. Providing resources: The campaign aimed to connect people with resources and support during the pandemic. This included sharing information about financial assistance programs, mental health resources, and access to healthcare services to ensure individuals had the necessary support during these challenging times.
- 4. Raising awareness about the impact of the pandemic: The campaign sought to raise awareness about the wide-ranging impacts of the pandemic on individuals and communities. This included highlighting the economic, social, and psychological effects of the pandemic and fostering empathy and understanding among the public.
- 5. Promoting responsible behaviour: The final objective was to encourage responsible behaviour among individuals and communities. The campaign aimed to promote adherence to public health guidelines, support for healthcare workers, and a collective effort to overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic.

The **outcomes** of the COVID-19 relief awareness initiatives were as follows:

- 1. Increased awareness and understanding of COVID-19: The initiatives resulted in improved knowledge about the virus, its transmission, and preventive measures. This led to changes in behaviour and attitudes, contributing to a reduction in the spread of the virus.
- 2. Improved public health outcomes: The awareness initiatives promoted vaccination and adherence to public health guidelines, leading to improved public health outcomes. This included a decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.
- 3. Economic and social benefits: By providing resources and support, the initiatives helped individuals and communities navigate the economic and social impacts of the pandemic. This included access to financial assistance and mental health resources, as well as initiatives to rebuild local economies.
- 4. Strengthening of community resilience: The awareness initiatives fostered a sense of community cooperation, support, and resilience. By promoting responsible behaviour and encouraging collective action, communities were better equipped to overcome the challenges posed by the pandemic.









SESSION 2021-2022

WORLD FISHERIES DAY 2021

The Departmental Club of Zoology, ZOO QUEST, organized three mass awareness programs over two days to commemorate World Fisheries Day.

Objective: The objective of these programs was to educate students about the importance of Shimla's rivers and water reservoirs, as well as promote the sustainable development of the fish industry. The activities conducted and their outcomes were as follows:

- 1. Rally on the Importance of Shimla's Rivers and Water Reservoirs and the Sustainable Development of the Fish Industry: On 20th November 2022, students from B.Sc. Zoology II and III year organized a rally. They created placards and posters depicting the theme and marched to raise awareness. The rally aimed to highlight the significance of Shimla's rivers and water reservoirs and their role in maintaining a healthy aquatic ecology. It also emphasized the importance of conserving these resources for sustainable development.
- 2. One-on-One Public Interaction: As part of the awareness programs, students engaged in one-on-one interactions with the public at various Shimla River streams, including Ashwani Khad Solan, Pabbar River Rohru, and the Tattapani water reservoir. They discussed the importance



- of these water bodies and the need for their conservation. The students also provided information on Himalayan freshwater trout and carp, raising awareness about the fish species and their ecological significance.
- 3. Online Awareness Campaign: The third activity involved an online awareness campaign in the form of a video representation. The video was uploaded on the Zoology Department's YouTube channel, "Everybody's Zooing it." The video aimed to reach a wider audience and provide information about the importance of Shimla's rivers and water reservoirs, as well as the sustainable development of the fish industry. The link to the video was shared to further spread awareness. The link for the video is https://youtu.be/6MNU3jv7FUc

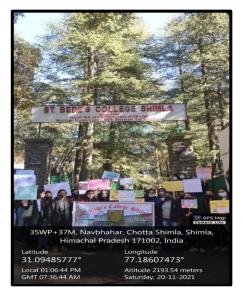
Outcome: The outcome of these activities was to create informed and responsible students who possess knowledge, awareness, and the motivation to contribute to the sustainable development of the fish industry and the conservation of Shimla's rivers and water reservoirs. By raising awareness and promoting understanding of the environmental, economic, and social aspects associated with water resources and fish farming, the initiatives strived to foster a sense of responsibility among students and encourage their active involvement in conservation efforts.











NATIONAL POLLUTION PREVENTION DAY

On December 2, 2021 at St. Bede's College, the Department of Zoology, in collaboration with the NCC Unit, commemorated National Pollution Prevention Day.

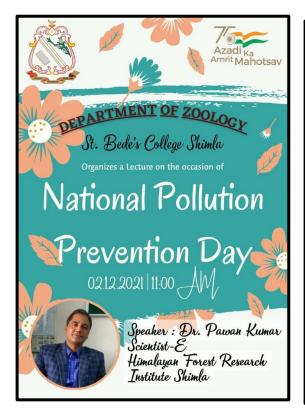
Objective: The objective of observing this day was to raise awareness, promote responsible behaviour, and advocate for pollution prevention measures. The activities and outcomes of the event were as follows:

The ceremony began with a warm welcome from Dr. Pawan Rana, the guest speaker for the day. The students delivered an informative presentation that covered various aspects of pollution, including its types, causes, and preventive measures. Dr. Pawan Rana, a scientist from the Himalayan Forest Research Institute, spoke to the students about insecticide pollution, a topic in which he specializes. His speech provided valuable insights and knowledge on the subject.

During the event, Cpl Gati Singh recited a self-composed poem that added an artistic touch and further engaged the audience. To conclude the program, NCC cadets performed a Nukkad Natak (street play) on the relevant theme. This interactive performance aimed to raise awareness among the attendees and instigate positive change in their behaviour towards pollution prevention.



Outcome: The outcomes of observing National Pollution Prevention Day revolved around creating a collective effort to prevent pollution, promoting sustainable practices, and fostering a cleaner and healthier environment. By raising awareness about the different forms of pollution and their impacts, the activity empowered individuals and communities to take action and contribute to sustainable development.











VOLUNTEER BLOOD GROUP DATA BASE

On May 4th 2022 the Zoology department of St. Bede's College Shimla, in collaboration with the NCC unit, proposed an innovative concept to attract volunteer blood donors to a common platform.

Objective: The objective of this initiative is to build a comprehensive and accessible donor database for blood donation when required by the Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC) in Shimla. The students themselves will actively participate by donating blood, thereby providing a humanitarian service to the community.

The primary objective of creating a volunteer blood group database is to establish a robust record of individuals who are willing to donate blood voluntarily. This database aims to improve blood donation practices, ensure the availability of blood for medical purposes, promote volunteerism, and contribute to the overall well-being of individuals in need of blood transfusions. By collecting and organizing donor information, the database creates a supportive ecosystem that encourages individuals to come forward and willingly donate blood. This, in turn, can save lives and have a positive impact on the healthcare system.

Outcome: The outcomes of establishing a volunteer blood group database are far-reaching. Firstly, it enhances the availability of blood, ensuring that patients in need have timely access to this life-saving resource. The database also improves emergency response by facilitating quick and efficient matching of donors with patients. This can be particularly critical in urgent situations where immediate blood transfusions are required.

Additionally, the initiative aims to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation and the positive impact it can have on the community. By actively engaging volunteers and promoting a culture of blood donation, the initiative seeks to inspire others to come forward and contribute to this noble cause. The database also creates a more efficient and responsive blood transfusion system by streamlining the process of donor identification and blood matching.

Name of theHospitals	No. of volunteers who have donated blood
IGMC Shimla	9
KNH Shimla	2







Certificates

SESSION 2022-2023

HEALTH AND FITNESS WORKSHOP

On September 23, 2022, the Departmental Club of Zoology, "Zoo Quest," organized a workshop on health and fitness with the following events: a presentation on health and fitness, a session on the significance of vitamin D by Dr. R.K. Patial, a nukkad natak (street play) on health and fitness, and an aerobic and flexibility session.

Objective: The workshop aimed to promote holistic well-being, educate students about the importance of maintaining good physical and mental health, and provide practical knowledge and skills for a healthy and active lifestyle.

During the presentation on health and fitness, the students highlighted the importance of a balanced diet, macro- and micronutrients, and an active lifestyle. They emphasized that health encompasses physical, mental, and social well-being, and discussed the need for regular physical activity, adequate rest, a balanced diet, and happiness. The presentation also emphasized the significance of essential nutrients such as water, fats, proteins, vitamins, and minerals for the human body.

Dr. R.K. Patial, a retired Professor and Head of Medicine at IGMC Shimla, delivered a speech on the significance of vitamin D in the human body. He focused on the role of vitamin D as an essential contributor to health, survival, defense, and reproduction. Dr. Patial discussed the importance of feeding the genes appropriately with vitamin D and its association with various diseases. The session concluded with an interactive Q&A segment where the audience had the opportunity to address their queries to the resource person.



A Nukkad Natak titled "Babu Rao Ki Kahani" was performed by the students, addressing the theme of health and fitness. The street play portrayed the value of living a healthy lifestyle and shed light on how people often neglect their health. It emphasized the significance of a balanced diet, regular exercise, practicing yoga, and consuming fruits and vegetables for overall well-being.

Following the Nukkad Natak, Mr. Sharik, a certified aerobics instructor, conducted an aerobic and flexibility session. He discussed the importance of aerobic exercise for maintaining excellent health. Students and local residents of the Shimla region actively participated in a 30-minute aerobics workout, promoting physical activity and fitness.

The entire health and fitness workshop was recorded, and a video of the workshop has been uploaded on YouTube for wider dissemination of the knowledge and experiences shared. The video serves as a resource for those who could not attend the workshop in person. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWRJyN93Pwk&t=180s

Outcome: By promoting physical fitness, mental well-being, healthy lifestyle habits, and goal setting, the workshop seeked to create a lasting impact on students' health behaviours and overall well-being. It encouraged students to make informed choices and take proactive steps towards maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.











WILDLIFE WEEK CELEBRATION

During the celebration of Wildlife Week from October 2-8, 2022, by the Department of Zoology and Botany under the 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' initiative, various activities were organized to raise awareness about wildlife conservation. These activities included an inter-college poster making competition and a lecture series on "Raising Awareness on Biodiversity Conservation."

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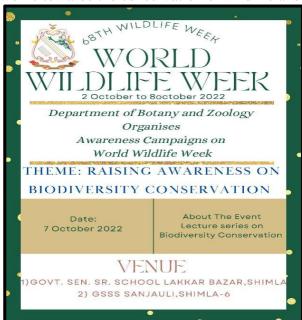
The lecture series was delivered by students at Government Senior Secondary School, Sanjauli, and Government Senior Secondary School, Lakkar Bazar in Shimla.

Objective: The objective of the Wildlife Week celebration was to educate, inspire, and empower students to actively participate in wildlife conservation efforts. By fostering a sense of responsibility and promoting interdisciplinary learning, the event aimed to cultivate environmentally conscious and wildlife-friendly individuals.

On October 7, 2022, the lecture series on "Raising Awareness on Biodiversity Conservation" was conducted at the two schools. The students from the Botany and Zoology departments delivered the lectures. During the presentation, three students named Shaiful Dogra, Tavishi Sharma, and Shivangi gave a PowerPoint presentation on the topic of Biodiversity Conservation. They highlighted the major threats to wildlife, the effects of wildlife depletion, and discussed the wildlife of India in both the past and present. The speakers also mentioned the IUCN Red List, which provides information about endangered species. They emphasized the importance of selecting an animal or bird as an emblem of the state to promote wildlife conservation.

To engage the audience and evaluate the effectiveness of the presentation, an interactive session was conducted at the end. This allowed for discussions and questions to further enhance the students' understanding of biodiversity conservation.

Outcome:Overall, the lecture series aimed to raise awareness among school students about the importance of wildlife conservation and the need to protect biodiversity. By involving students in such educational activities, the Wildlife Week celebration contributed to building a generation that values and actively works towards the conservation of wildlife and its habitats.









Government Senior Secondary School, Sanjauli









Government Senior Secondary School, Lakkar Bazar, Shimla.





Appreciation letter from Govt. Girls Sen. Sec. School Lakkar Bazar Shimla INTER-COLLEGE POSTER MAKING

During the Wildlife Week celebration organized by the Department of Botany and Zoology, an inter-college poster making competition was held. The theme of the competition was "Flagship Species, Indicator Species, and Keystone Species." Students from various colleges participated in the competition, showcasing their creativity and knowledge on the subject.

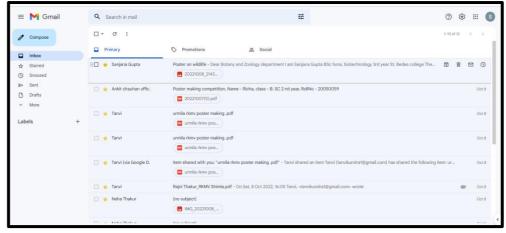
Objective: To empower students to become responsible stewards of the environment, instilling in them a sense of duty towards wildlife conservation. The entire event, including the poster making competition, was recorded, and a video of the event has been uploaded on YouTube for wider dissemination. The video can be accessed through the provided link. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivyucoQRr74&t=22s

Outcome: The outcomes of the Wildlife Week celebration for students focus on creating a lasting impact by increasing awareness about wildlife conservation. By participating in activities like the poster making competition, students develop a deeper understanding of flagship, indicator, and keystone species, and their significance in ecosystems. The celebration aims to foster empathy for wildlife, promote advocacy for their protection, and inspire students to take action in preserving biodiversity and ensuring a sustainable coexistence between humans and wildlife.





Brochure of Inter-College Poster Making Competition



Entries of Participants on E-mail



Posters on Flagship Species, Indicator Species and Keystone Species

MASS AWARENESS RALLY AGAINST FEMALE FOETICIDE

On December 8, 2022, Zoo Quest, the Department of Zoology at St. Bede's College Shimla, organized a mass awareness program focused on the theme "Female Foeticide in India: A Bitter Truth of Society."

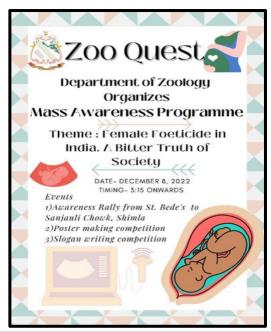
Objective: The program aimed to address the issue of female foeticide, raise awareness about gender equality, and inspire individuals and communities to take a stand against this harmful practice.

A mass awareness rally was conducted from Navbahar Chowk to Sanjauli Chowk, with the participation of students and members of the community. During the rally, students educated the public about the importance of raising a girl child without discrimination. They displayed handmade posters and raised slogans to emphasize that sex determination should not be allowed. In addition, a slogan and poster-making competition was held to further engage students in spreading awareness. The entire rally, including the slogan and poster competitions, was recorded, and the video has been uploaded on YouTube for wider dissemination. The link is: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wN1RBhiJzpA&feature=youtu.be

Outcome: The outcomes of this mass awareness program aim to bring about a positive impact on society. By raising awareness about the issue of female foeticide and promoting gender equality, the program seeks to change attitudes and empower individuals and communities to take action against this practice. The ultimate goal is to inspire advocacy and social activism, challenging societal norms and influencing policies to prevent female foeticide and create a society that values and protects the rights and well-being of girls and women.













WEBINAR ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP

On March 2, 2023, the Department of Zoology at St. Bede's College organized a webinar on entrepreneurship skills in insect farming and livestock management.

Objective-The objective of the webinar was to create a sustainable and profitable business that utilizes insects as a source of animal feed and food. The webinar aimed to provide an in-depth understanding of the opportunities and challenges associated with entrepreneurship in insect farming and livestock management. To achieve this objective, entrepreneurs need to develop innovative products, build a sustainable supply chain, ensure compliance with regulations, create a positive public perception, and develop a profitable business model.

The webinar was attended by approximately 80 participants, including students from various colleges and farmers. Two distinguished resource persons, Prof. V.K. Mattu (Emeritus) from Himachal Pradesh University and Dr. Moneesh Thakur, Veterinary Officer at Veterinary Hospital HarchakianKangra, Himachal Pradesh, were the speakers at the event.

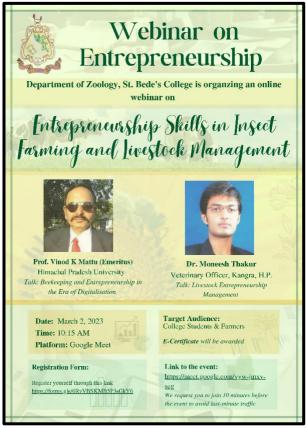
The webinar focused on the various prospects in beekeeping and livestock entrepreneurship as a cottage industry. Prof. V.K. Mattu spoke about beekeeping and entrepreneurship in the era of digitalization, while Dr. Moneesh shared insights on livestock entrepreneurship management. The panelists shared their experiences and insights on the best practices, techniques, and strategies that can be adopted to succeed in this field.

The webinar helped the participants with a comprehensive understanding of insect farming and livestock management, and the potential benefits of integrating insects into animal feed and food production. Participants learned about the different types of insects used in farming, such as crickets, mealworms, and black soldier flies, and their respective nutritional profiles. They also learned about the production and processing of insects, including the techniques used to rear, harvest, and process insects for use as animal feed and food. Additionally, participants learned

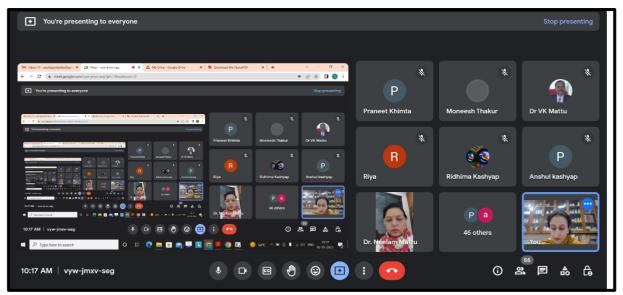


about the market potential of insect farming, the role of insect farming in sustainable agriculture, and the regulatory barriers and public perception challenges associated with insect farming.

Outcome- The webinar successfully provided participants with a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship in insect farming and livestock management, and the potential opportunities and challenges associated with it. It highlighted the importance of developing sustainable and profitable businesses that can contribute to a more sustainable food system while meeting the needs and preferences of consumers.



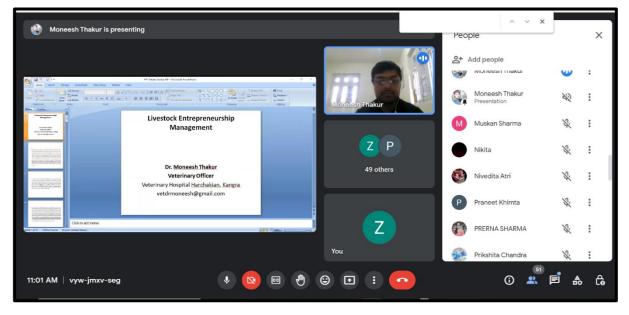
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Welcome Address





Talk on Livestock Entrepreneurship management by Dr. Moneesh Thakur, Veterinary Officer





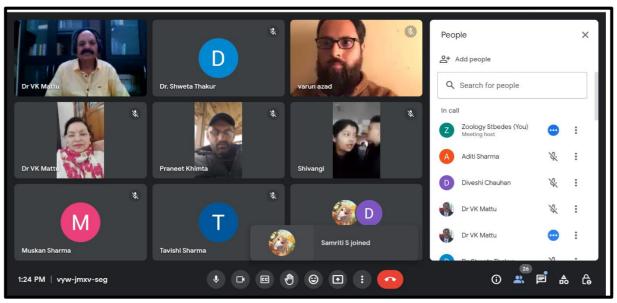


Talk on Beekeeping and Entrepreneurship in the Era of Digitalisation by Prof. V.K. Mattu





Interactive Session with Farmers



Interactive Session with Farmers

Some recommendations and discussions on developing entrepreneurship skills in insect farming and livestock management are:

- 1. Gain industry knowledge: Entrepreneurs should have a thorough understanding of the beekeeping and livestock management industry, including market trends, regulations, competition, and customer demand to identify potential opportunities.
- 2. Develop a business plan: Entrepreneurs should create a solid business plan that outlines their goals, strategies, marketing plans, and financial projections. A well-constructed business plan serves as a roadmap that helps entrepreneurs achieve their objectives.
- 3. Build a strong network: Entrepreneurs should connect with other beekeepers, livestock farmers, suppliers, customers, and industry experts to gain insights, share ideas, and build



partnerships. Having a strong network can help entrepreneurs find new customers, suppliers, and investors.

- 4. Focus on quality: Entrepreneurs should invest in the right equipment, techniques, and practices to ensure their beekeeping and livestock farming operations are efficient, effective, and sustainable. Producing high-quality products that meet customer demand and exceed their expectations is crucial.
- 5. Market your products: Entrepreneurs should develop a marketing plan to reach potential customers and promote their products through social media, word of mouth, farmers' markets, and other channels to reach the target market.
- 6. Stay updated with industry developments: Entrepreneurs should attend workshops, seminars, and industry events to continuously improve their skills and knowledge. Staying updated with the latest trends, techniques, and best practices in beekeeping and livestock management is vital for success.