



## **DEBATES AND DRAMATICS ACTIVITIES 2017-2023**

### **SESSION 2017-18**

#### **INTER AND INTRA COLLEGE COMPETITIONS**

From 13<sup>th</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017, the students of the Debates and Dramatics Society actively participated in a range of inter and intra college competitions, showcasing their talents. They participated in intership plays, debates, and declamations held on significant occasions such as Hindi Diwas, International Women's Day, AIDS Day, and Science Day. Their dedication and performances were commendable, earning them recognition and prizes in prestigious events like 'RHAPSODY 2017' and 'ENVISION 2017,' both organized under the flagship of Himachal Pradesh University.

The society's students demonstrated exceptional skills and creativity in their performances, captivating the audience and leaving a lasting impact. Their plays, debates, and declamations reflected their understanding of important social issues and their ability to effectively communicate their perspectives.

One noteworthy event was the performance of an AIDS-related awareness play at the renowned Gaiety Theatre. This performance showcased the society's commitment to raising awareness about important health issues and promoting social responsibility. Through their powerful portrayal, the students aimed to educate the audience about the impact of AIDS and the importance of prevention and support for those affected by the disease.

Participating in competitions like 'RHAPSODY 2017' and 'ENVISION 2017' provided the students with a platform to showcase their talents at a larger scale. Their success in these events not only reflects their dedication and hard work but also highlights the college's emphasis on nurturing artistic and communicative skills.

### **SESSION-2018-2019**

#### **FILM REVIEW**

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018, the Debates and Dramatics Society collaborated with the Department of English to present a film review on either "Pinjar," a heart-rending picture by Amrita Pritam, or "Manto," a biopic by Nandita Das. The chosen films offered unique perspectives and narratives, making them intriguing subjects for analysis and discussion.

The film "Pinjar," based on Amrita Pritam's novel of the same name, delves into the heart-wrenching realities of the Partition of India. Directed by Chandra Prakash Dwivedi, the film depicts the struggles and resilience of its characters amidst the chaos and violence of the



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partition. It presents a poignant portrayal of love, loss, and the indomitable human spirit in the face of adversity.

The task of presenting a film review on either "Pinjar" or "Manto" allowed the members of the Debates and Dramatics Society to analyse various aspects of the films, including their storytelling techniques, character development, cinematography, and social relevance. They delved into the themes, messages, and impact of the films, offering their own interpretations and critical analysis.

The collaboration between the Debates and Dramatics Society and the Department of English provided a platform for students to explore the art of film analysis and critique. Through their review, they shared their insights, observations, and personal interpretations, fostering intellectual dialogue and enhancing their analytical and communication skills.

### **SESSION-2019-2020**

#### **NUKKAD NATAK**

On September 22, 2019, the Debates and Dramatics Society, in collaboration with the NSS Unit of the college, organized a captivating Nukkad Natak performance on the famous Mall Road in Shimla.

The purpose of the Nukkad Natak was to raise awareness and address pertinent social issues in an engaging and impactful manner. The performers used the open-air setting of the Mall Road to effectively connect with a diverse audience and convey their messages through powerful dialogues, expressive gestures, and vibrant performances.

The Nukkad Natak touched upon various social issues, such as gender equality, environmental conservation, education, and the importance of community engagement. Each scene of the performance was carefully crafted to engage and provoke the audience, encouraging them to reflect on these pressing issues and take action for positive change.

The vibrant energy of the performers and their ability to captivate the attention of passersby created an immersive experience for the audience. The Mall Road, bustling with locals and tourists, became a temporary stage for the Nukkad Natak, allowing for wider outreach and impact.

Through the collaboration between the Debates and Dramatics Society and the NSS Unit, the Nukkad Natak not only served as a means of entertainment but also as a powerful tool for social awareness and mobilization.

#### **ELOCUTION COMPETITION**

On November 25, 2019, the society organized an exciting and competitive Elocution Competition in collaboration with Amul India. The event aimed to provide a platform for



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students to showcase their eloquence and public speaking skills while also promoting the renowned brand, Amul India.

Participants from various colleges and institutes gathered to compete in this inter-ship Elocution Competition. The competition was designed to challenge the participants to deliver persuasive speeches on a given topic related to social, cultural, or current affairs. The participants were encouraged to express their thoughts, opinions, and ideas effectively in a compelling and engaging manner.

Each participant presented their arguments, anecdotes, and perspectives with confidence and clarity, captivating the audience and impressing the judges. The topics covered a wide range of subjects, including social justice, environmental conservation, gender equality, and sustainable development, among others. The participants showcased their research, critical thinking, and public speaking skills, leaving a lasting impact on the audience.

### **MATRI BHASHA DIWAS**

On February 20, 2020, we enthusiastically celebrated Matri Bhasha Diwas, also known as International Mother Language Day, by organizing two inter-ship competitions. The event aimed to promote linguistic diversity, celebrate the rich heritage of languages, and foster cultural exchange.

The first competition was a Speech Contest, where participants were given the opportunity to express themselves in their mother tongue or any language they felt connected to.

The second competition was a Poetry Recitation Contest, where participants recited poems in their mother tongue or a language close to their heart.

Both competitions witnessed enthusiastic participation and showcased the talent and passion of the students. The participants captivated the audience with their eloquence, authenticity, and heartfelt expressions.

To culminate the event on a high note, a vibrant and captivating dance performance was presented. The dance depicted the diversity in the cultures of India, with dancers showcasing different dance forms and attire representing various regions of the country. The event served as a reminder of the importance of preserving and promoting our languages and cultural traditions.

### **SESSION 2020-21**

#### **COMMENT ON YOUR FAVOURITE DRAMATIST**

On September 29, 2020, the Drama and Debates Society of the college organized an online competition for students. The competition revolved around the topic "Who is your favorite



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dramatist and why?" Students were invited to submit their entries, expressing their thoughts and reasons behind their choice of favorite dramatist.

The competition received numerous brilliant entries from the participants, showcasing their knowledge and appreciation for the field of drama. The entries were evaluated by Dr. Deepti Pajni, who served as the judge for the competition.

After careful consideration, Gati Singh, a student of B.Com. I, was declared the winner of the competition, securing the 1st position. Arshya Roach, a student of BA I, was awarded the 2nd position.

The competition provided students with a platform to express their admiration and understanding of renowned dramatists and their contributions to the field of drama. It allowed participants to delve into the works and impact of their favorite dramatists and articulate their reasons for choosing them.



## **ONLINE INTER COLLEGE DEBATE COMPETITION**

On December 8, 2020, the Drama and Debates Society of the college organized an online Inter College Debate Competition. The competition witnessed the participation of 22 students from various institutes. The topic for the debate was "Media has played a responsible role during the global pandemic, Covid 2019."

The event was graced by the presence of Prof. Mita Biswas as the esteemed chief guest. The competition was judged by a panel of experienced individuals including Dr. Anjali Dewan, Mrs. Anita Pandey, and Mrs. Sushila Prabhudas. All the participants showcased their enthusiasm and preparedness as they presented their views on the given topic.



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The winners of the competition were announced in both the team and individual categories. In the team category, the winners were:

Sankalp Thakur and Shivansh Sharma from the Institute of Legal Studies, Shimla.

Jyoti and Anjali Chandel from Govt. College Theog, and Aastha Sharma and Gati Singh from St. Bede's College, Shimla.

In the individual category, the winners were:

Maanika Sethi from St. Bede's College, Shimla.

Shivansh from the Institute of Legal Studies, Shimla.

Ebaani Mittan from the Institute of Legal Studies, Shimla, and Urvi Khanna from HPNLU.

The participants showcased their exceptional debating skills and ability to present well-reasoned arguments on the given topic. The competition provided a platform for students to engage in intellectual discussions and foster their critical thinking abilities.



### **POETRY RECITATION AND SPEECH PRESENTATION**

On February 22, 2021, the Debates and Drama Society of the college, in collaboration with the Department of Hindi, organized an online event to celebrate "International Mother Language Day." The event consisted of poetry recitation and speech presentations, showcasing the students' talents and love for their respective mother languages.

The students of the college participated in the event with great enthusiasm, reflecting their deep connection to their mother tongues. They recited poems and delivered speeches that celebrated



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the beauty, significance, and cultural richness of their respective languages. The event provided a platform for students to express their emotions, thoughts, and experiences through the medium of language.

By organizing this event, the Debates and Drama Society and the Department of Hindi aimed to promote linguistic diversity, cultural understanding, and the importance of preserving and cherishing one's mother language. The participants showcased their linguistic skills and deep-rooted appreciation for their languages, creating an atmosphere of pride and celebration.



### **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE**

The Parliamentary Debate event, held on March 23, 2021, witnessed the active participation of students from St. Bede's College. The debate, organized by IIT Varanasi, brought together prestigious institutions from across the nation, adding to the grandeur of the event.

The participants from St. Bede's College engaged in two intellectually stimulating debates. The first topic, "Should the policies preserving the dying languages be abandoned," pitted the Government against the Opposition. The students had the opportunity to present their arguments and counterarguments on this significant issue. The second topic, "Strategic Voting should be rejected," further challenged the participants to showcase their critical thinking and persuasive skills.

In the debate format, each team member was given a preparation time of 25 minutes to craft a compelling 7-minute speech, followed by a 4-minute rebuttal. This time constraint added an element of spontaneity and tested the participants' ability to think on their feet. The experience of engaging in intense debates on thought-provoking topics proved to be unique and memorable for the participants.

Participating in the Parliamentary Debate not only provided an opportunity for the students to showcase their communication and analytical skills but also helped them develop a deeper





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understanding of the topics at hand. The event encouraged critical thinking, research, and the ability to articulate arguments effectively. It also fostered a spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie among the participants from different institutions.

 <b>Vasanas Wordfest</b> <b>IIT BHU PD</b> <small>FIFTH EDITION    26TH - 28TH MARCH</small> <b>SCHEDULE: DAY 3</b> 28TH MARCH- SUNDAY (GMT+ 5:30) CHECK-INS DEADLINE: 09:30 QUARTERS /NOVICE-SEMIS*: 10:00 SEMIS / NOVICE FINALE*: 13:00 OPEN GRAND FINALE: 16:00 PRIZE CEREMONY: 18:00	 <b>Vasanas Wordfest</b> <b>IIT BHU PD</b> <small>FIFTH EDITION    26TH - 28TH MARCH</small> <b>SCHEDULE: DAY 2</b> 27TH MARCH- SATURDAY (GMT+ 5:30) CHECK-INS DEADLINE: 08:30 ROUND 3: 09:00 ROUND 4: 12:00 ROUND 5: 15:00 BREAKS: 18:00	 <b>Vasanas Wordfest</b> <b>IIT BHU PD</b> <small>FIFTH EDITION    26TH - 28TH MARCH</small> <b>SCHEDULE: DAY 1</b> 26TH MARCH- FRIDAY (GMT+ 5:30) CHECK-INS DEADLINE: 12:45 BRIEFINGS: 13:00 ROUND 1: 14:00 ROUND 2: 17:00
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## **Session 2021-2022**

### **MODEL UNITED NATIONS**

On June 7th, 2021, an online Model United Nations (MUN) event, specifically the Shimla Model United Nations, was organized with the objective of inculcating leadership skills in the participating students. The students from St. Bede's College actively participated in the United Nations Economic and Financial Affairs Council committee and engaged in discussions on the topic of "Economic recovery of war-torn regions and the need for universal financial access."

The students demonstrated their knowledge, research, and diplomatic skills in representing different countries during the MUN. The following students received appreciation certificates for their outstanding performance:

Muskan Sood: High Commendation, representing BANGLADESH

Maanika Sethi: Special Mention, representing JAPAN

Gati Singh: Special Mention, representing JAPAN

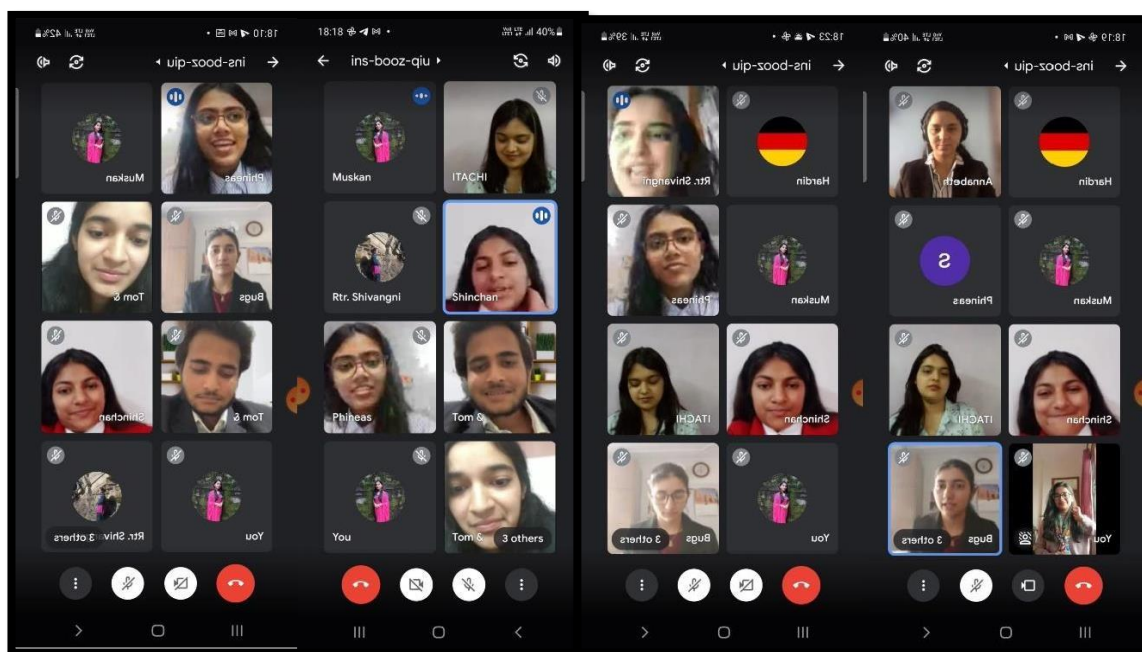
Muskan Pal: Verbal Mention



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Muskan Pal, a student from St. Bede's College, served as the Secretary-General at the SHIMLA MODEL UNITED NATIONS, showcasing exceptional leadership skills and organizational abilities.

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the online platform allowed students to interact with peers from other institutes, providing them with a valuable learning experience. The MUN event facilitated cross-cultural understanding, enhanced research and analytical skills, developed public speaking abilities, and nurtured diplomatic negotiation skills among the students.



### **POETRY WRITING AND MICRO FICTION CHALLENGE**

On August 23rd, 2021, the Debates and Dramatics Society of St. Bede's College organized a Poetry Writing and Micro Fiction Challenge. The competition aimed to provide a platform for students to showcase their creativity and writing skills.

The winners of the competition were announced as follows:

Poetry Writing:

English: 1st position: Divya Thakur (BA. English Hons)

Hindi: 1st position: Gati Singh (B. Com, 2nd year)

Micro Fiction Challenge: 1st position: Arshya Roach (BA. Political Science)

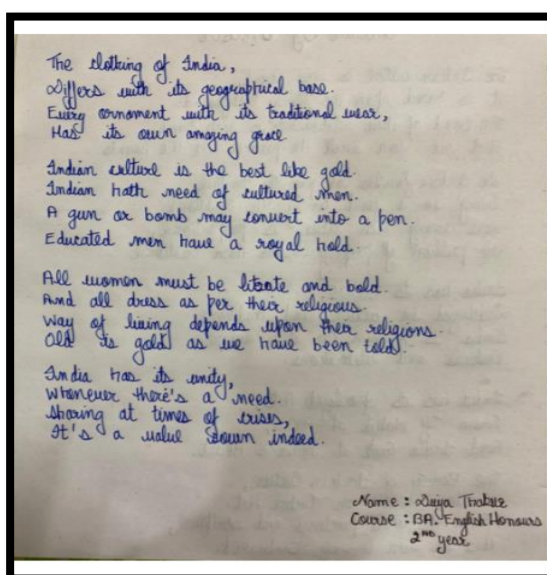
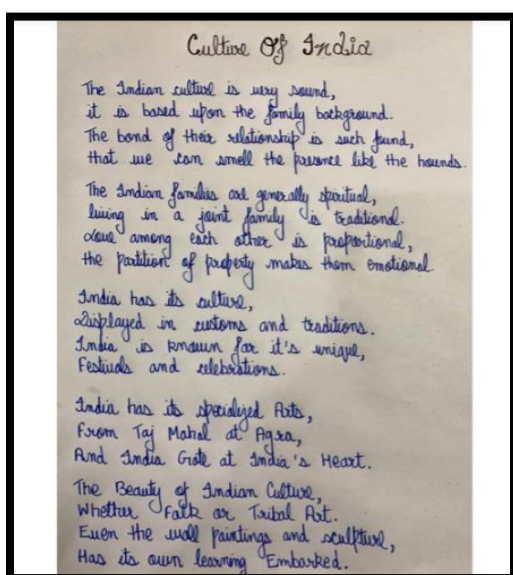
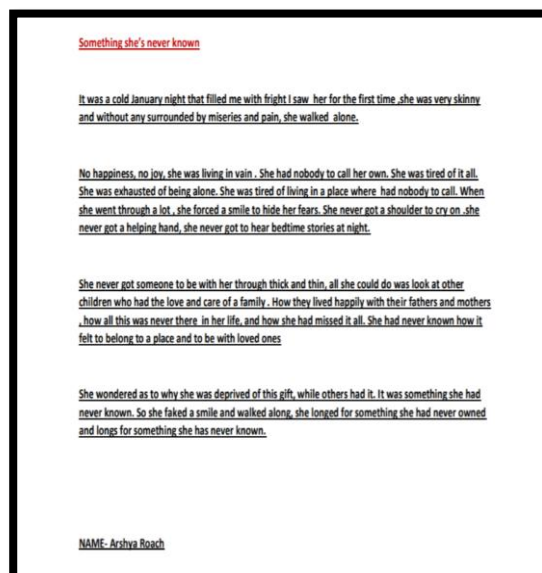
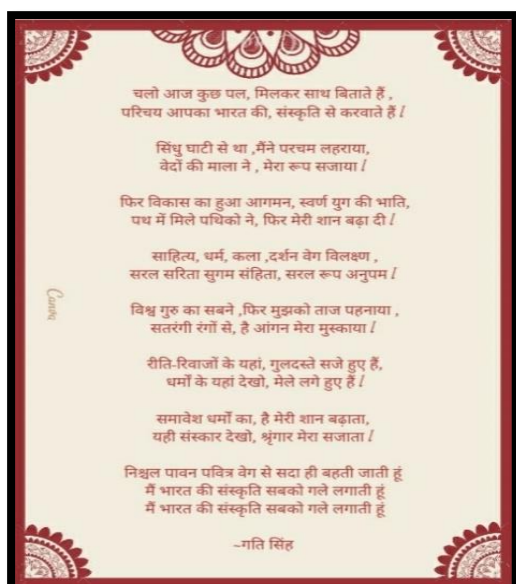




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The participants demonstrated their literary talents and ability to express their thoughts and emotions through poetry and micro fiction. The winners showcased their exceptional writing skills, creativity, and ability to engage the readers through their works.

The winners of the competition were recognized for their outstanding contributions and their ability to captivate the audience through their literary pieces. Their success in the competition reflects their dedication, talent, and passion for writing.





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### **INTER COLLEGE DEBATE, DECLAMATION AND QUIZ COMPETITION**

On 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2021, Debates & Dramatics Society, in collaboration with the Environment Awareness Cell, organized an Inter College Debate and Quiz Competition.

**Objective:** The objective of the event was to polish the speaking and competitive skills of the students and provide them with a platform to showcase their talents.

The event commenced at 9 am with the arrival of the participants. The chief guest, Dr. Shri Kant Baldi, delivered the opening speech, and Dr. Shushma Rewal was the guest of honour. The event included cultural performances, such as Nati representing Himachal's culture, Ghazal, and Kathak, adding vibrancy and diversity to the event.

The event witnessed the participation of various colleges, including Himachal Pradesh University Business School, University Institute of Legal Studies, University Institute of Information Technology, Himachal Pradesh University Law Department, Centre of Excellence at Govt Degree College Sanjauli, Rajkiya Kanya Mahavidyalya, and Rajiv Gandhi Government Degree College Kotshera.

The competition featured debates, declamation, and a quiz. The judges for the event were Advocate Poonam Gehlot, practicing in the High Court, and Dr. Arun Goleria, an Associate Professor in ICDEOL HPU.

The winners of the debate competition were as follows:

#### **Best Speaker for Debates:**

1st position: Praneeta Kamal representing St. Bede's College

2nd position: Shivansh Sharma representing University of Legal Studies

#### **Debate Results:**

1st position: Isha Behl representing Himachal Pradesh University Business School, Lakshita representing Himachal Pradesh University Business School

2nd position: Praneeta Kamal representing St. Bede's College, Simriti Mall representing St. Bede's College

#### **Declamation Results:**

1st position: Sargam Sharma representing College of Excellence

2nd position: Sankalp Thakur representing University Institute of Information Technology

#### **Quiz Results:**



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1st position: Aditya Zinta representing Centre of Excellence, Minakshi Sharma representing Centre of Excellence, Diksha Varma representing Centre of Excellence

2nd position: Darmender Kumar representing University Institute of Information Technology, Sauravh Sharma representing University Institute of Information Technology, Archit Sharma representing University Institute of Information Technology

The event provided a great learning experience for the students, allowing them to interact with students from other institutes after a long period of the pandemic. The event also played a significant role in promoting socialization and fostering connections among students from different colleges.

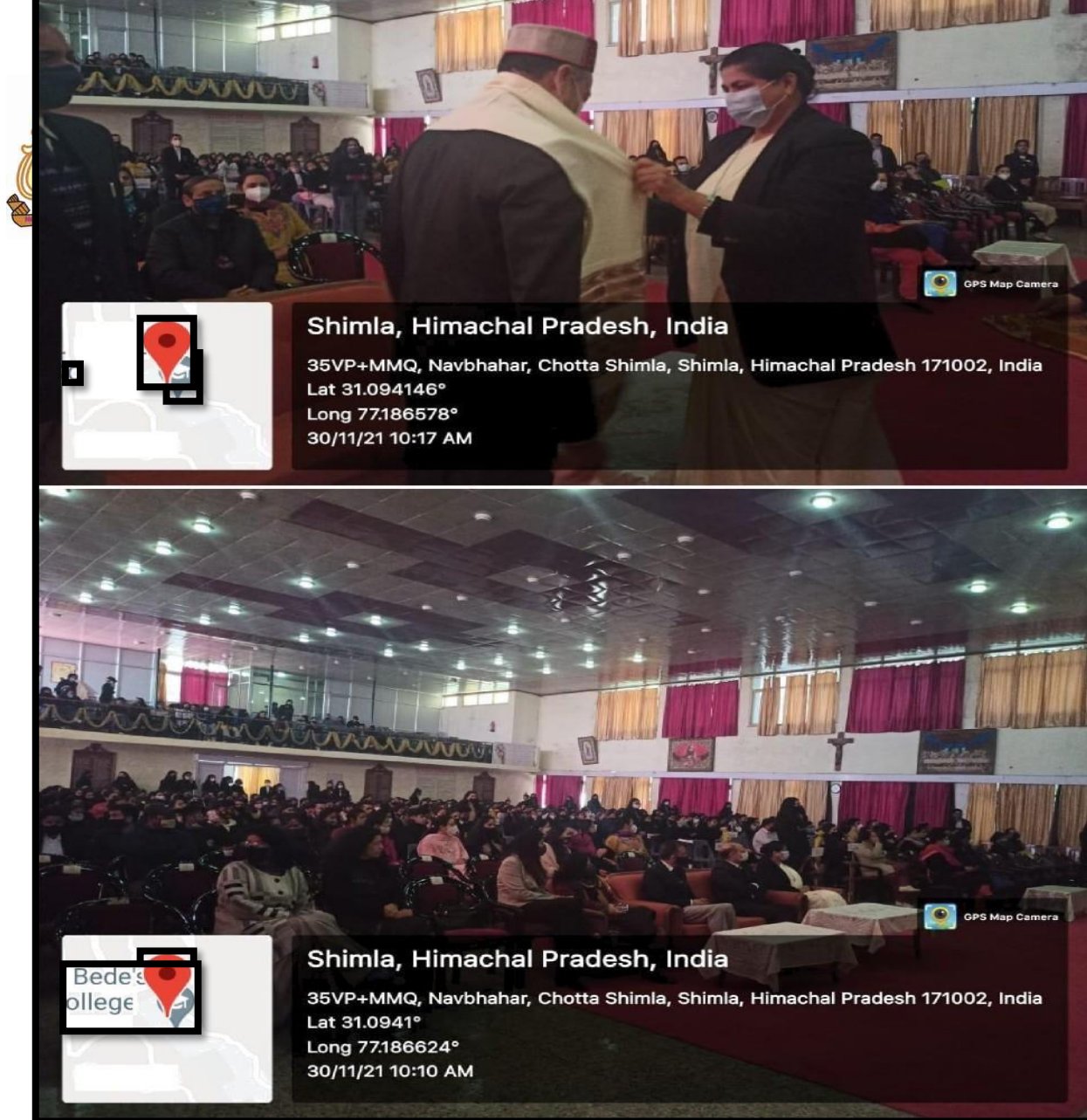






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## SESSION- 2022-2023

### INTERNSHIP DEBATE COMPETITION

On 14th October 2022, the society organized an Internship Debate competition on the topic "Women Attire: Expression or Repression," which witnessed active participation from students and proved to be a resounding success.

Objective: The event was aimed at providing a platform for students to express their opinions and engage in a healthy debate on the subject.

The President of the society warmly welcomed the judges, introduced the contestants, and set the ground rules for the competition through an opening speech. The participants were divided into teams and given the opportunity to present their viewpoints in two rounds. The first round





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allowed each participant to present their arguments and perspectives on whether women's attire is an expression of their freedom and individuality or a form of repression.

In the second round, known as the rebuttal round, participants had the chance to counter and respond to arguments presented by their opponents. This round provided an opportunity for participants to showcase their critical thinking and persuasive skills as they defended their viewpoints.

The competition was marked by the quality of arguments put forth by the participants, their ability to present their ideas effectively, and their overall presentation skills. Judges evaluated the participants based on the clarity of their arguments, logical reasoning, evidence, and their ability to communicate their ideas persuasively.

The results were as follows:

❖ First:- INS Vikas

- For the motion:- Praneeta Kamal ( BA Psychology Honors 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Against the motion:- Priyanveda Thakur ( BCA 2<sup>nd</sup> year)

❖ Second :- INS Himmat

- For the motion:- Deepti Sood ( BA Pass Course 2<sup>nd</sup> year )
- Against the motion:- Himanshi Sahini ( BA Psychology Honors 3<sup>rd</sup> year )

❖ Third:- INS Chirag

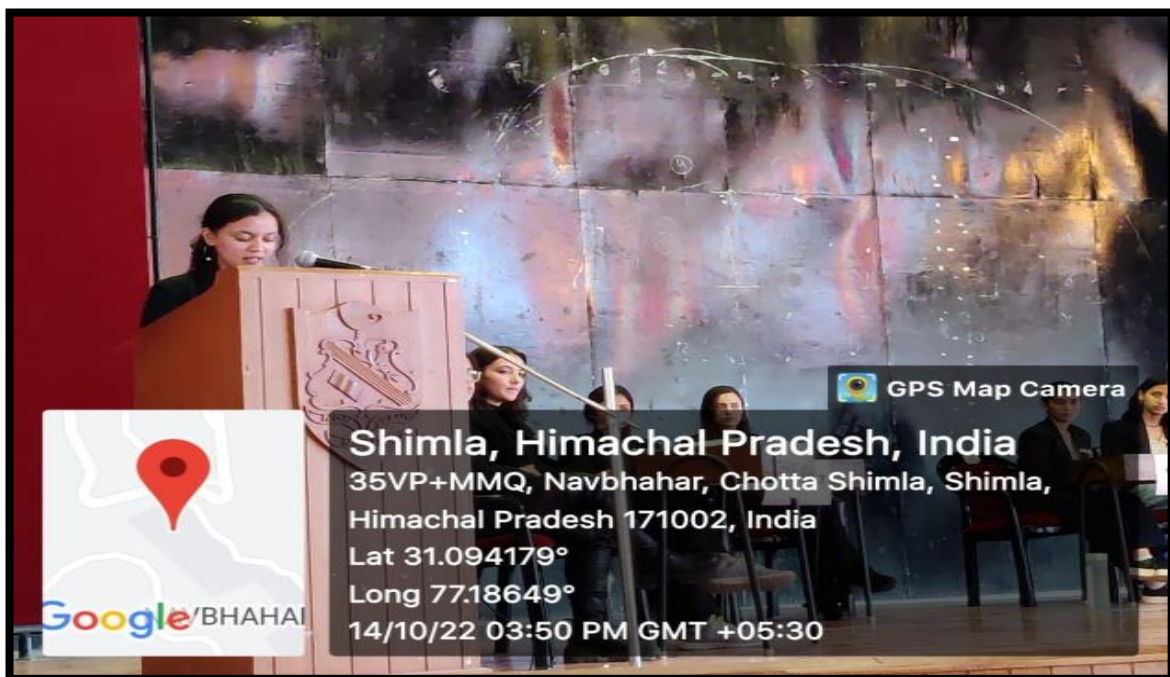
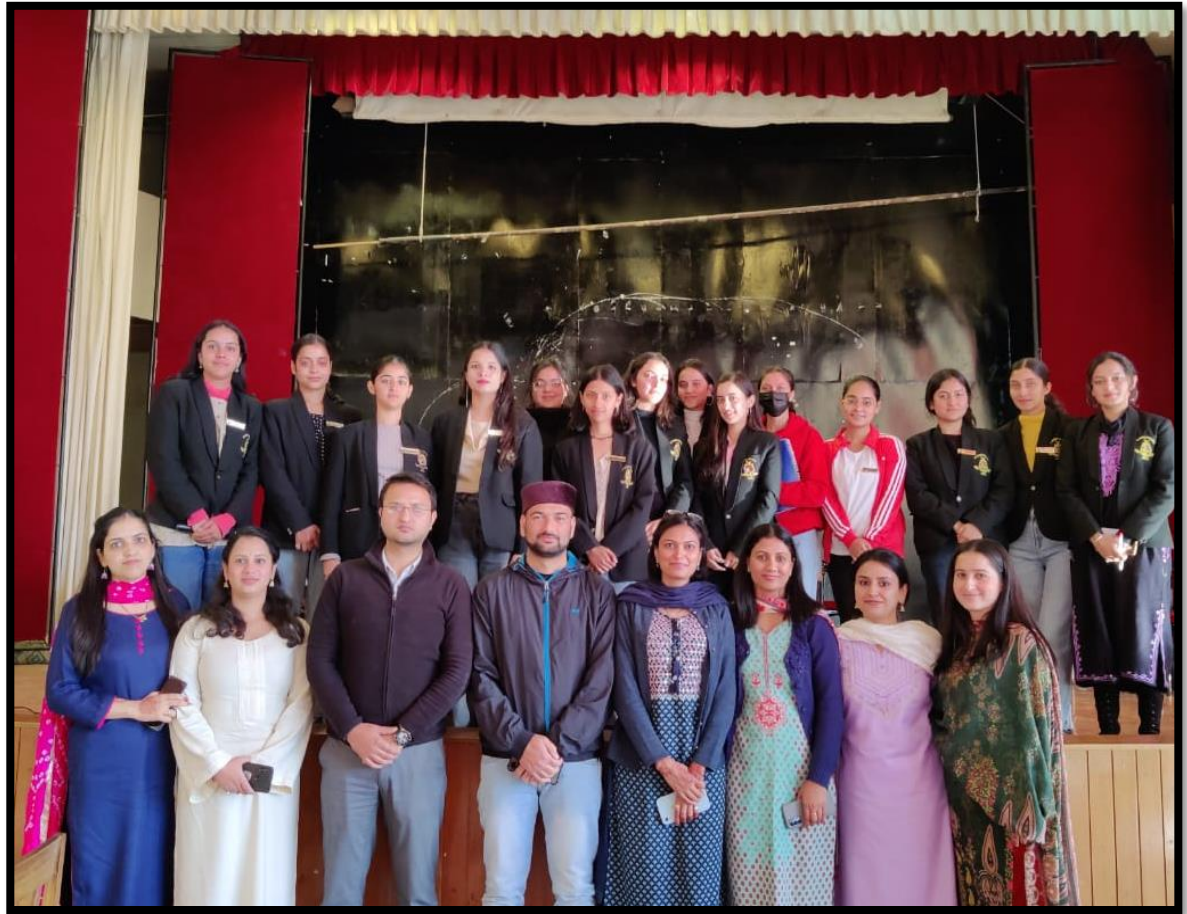
- For the motion:- Muskan Sood ( BBA 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Against the motion:- Rashi Bhardwaj (BA Pass Course 3<sup>rd</sup> year)

❖ From INS Vikrant

- For the motion:- Tamana Sharma ( BA English Honors 3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Against the motion:- Muskan Verma ( BA Pass Course 2<sup>nd</sup> year)



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## **SHIKSHIT NARI, SHIKSHIT SAMAJ**

In collaboration with the Department of Hindi, St. Bede's College, the society organized a Nukkad Natak on March 7, 2023, with the objective of spreading awareness about the discrimination faced by women, not only within their homes but also when they are subjected to assault by the society at large.

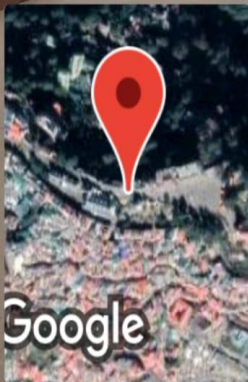
The event took place on Women's Day, and a rally was organized from Sher-e-Punjab to the amphitheater as part of the program. The Nukkad Natak, being the centerpiece of the event, effectively captured the attention of the audience. The play shed light on the various forms of discrimination faced by women and emphasized the need for timely justice for rape victims, urging the authorities to take action.





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The Nukkad Natak successfully achieved its objective of raising awareness about women's issues and generating discussions around the topic. It provided insights into the challenges faced by women and the urgent need for societal change. The audience responded positively to the performance, appreciating its powerful message and thought-provoking content.



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