



## **DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES**

### **M. SC BOTANY**

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

#### **FIELD VISIT TO DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE**

In pursuit of academic enrichment and practical exposure, students from the Department of Botany in the first and third semesters of their M.Sc. program embarked on a field visit to the Department of Horticulture, Navbahar, Shimla on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**Objectives:** The field visit to the Department of Horticulture, Navbahar, Shimla, was designed with the following objectives:

**Exposure to Cultivated Plants:** To expose students to a variety of cultivated plant species, including ornamental plants known for their aesthetic appeal, medicinal plants with therapeutic properties, and plants of religious significance in various cultures.

**Identification and Classification:** To enable students to identify and classify the diverse plant species found in the glass houses, fostering skills in plant taxonomy and botanical identification.

1. **Understanding Cultivation Practices:** To provide insights into the horticultural practices employed for the successful cultivation and maintenance of different plant types, including soil management, irrigation, and pest control.
2. **Learning from Experts:** To facilitate interaction with floriculturists and experts in the field of horticulture, allowing students to learn from their knowledge and practical experience.
3. **Enhancing Botanical Knowledge:** To broaden students' botanical knowledge by exploring plant diversity and understanding the roles these plants play in various aspects of human life, from aesthetics to healthcare and spirituality.

**Outcome:** The field visit to the Department of Horticulture, Navbahar, Shimla, yielded several positive outcomes:

1. **Enhanced Plant Identification Skills:** Students gained practical experience in identifying and classifying a wide range of plant species, which is invaluable for their academic and future professional endeavors.
2. **Appreciation for Horticulture:** The visit deepened students' appreciation for horticultural practices and the effort required to cultivate and maintain various plant types, whether for ornamental, medicinal, or religious purposes.
3. **Interaction with Experts:** Interacting with floriculturists and experts in horticulture enriched students' understanding and provided them with valuable insights into the field.



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

4. **Diverse Learning Experience:** Students were exposed to the multifaceted roles that plants play in human life, from enhancing aesthetics to contributing to well-being and spiritual practices.
5. **Application of Academic Knowledge:** The visit allowed students to apply their academic knowledge in a real-world context, bridging the gap between theory and practice.





## **ONE-DAY PROGRAM ON NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY: "WOMEN IN SCIENCE"**

On February 28, 2020, a one-day program was organized to commemorate National Science Day, with a specific focus on the theme "Women in Science." The event was tailored for both B.Sc. and M.Sc. Botany students and aimed to celebrate the contributions of women in the field of science. The program included a play performance and presentations by students, providing valuable insights into various theories of evolution and the application of bio-fertilizers in agriculture.

### **Program Highlights:**

#### **1. Play on "Various Theories of Evolution" by B.Sc. IInd Students:**

- B.Sc. IInd-year students showcased their talents by performing a play that explored "Various Theories of Evolution." The play delved into concepts such as Darwinian evolution, Lamarckism, and other evolutionary theories, illustrating the historical development of our understanding of the evolution of life on Earth.

#### **2. Presentation on "Bio-fertilizers - A Boon To Agriculture" by B.Sc. IInd (SEC) Students:**

- B.Sc. IInd-year (Special Education Cell) students delivered informative presentations on the topic of "Bio-fertilizers - A Boon To Agriculture." These presentations covered the role of bio-fertilizers in enhancing soil fertility, promoting sustainable agriculture, and increasing crop yields. The students discussed the environmental benefits of bio-fertilizers in reducing the reliance on chemical fertilizers.

**Outcomes:** The program had several noteworthy outcomes:

1. **Celebration of Women in Science:** The program effectively highlighted the achievements and contributions of women scientists, inspiring students to consider careers in science and research.
2. **Educational Enrichment:** Students gained valuable knowledge about the various theories of evolution, enriching their understanding of one of biology's fundamental concepts.
3. **Awareness of Bio-fertilizers:** The presentations on bio-fertilizers raised awareness about sustainable agricultural practices and the role of bio-fertilizers in improving soil health and crop productivity.
4. **Promotion of Scientific Inquiry:** The program encouraged students to explore scientific concepts actively, whether through play performances or presentations, fostering critical thinking and communication skills.
5. **Interdisciplinary Learning:** The diverse topics covered in the program allowed for interdisciplinary learning, where students could connect concepts from biology, history, and agriculture.
6. **Inspiration for Future Scientists:** By showcasing the achievements of women in science and discussing innovative agricultural practices, the program have inspired students to pursue careers in these fields.



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

