



DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

M. SC BOTANY

SESSION- 2021-2022

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION

World Environment Day serves as a global platform to promote environmental awareness and action. On June 5, 2021, the department celebrated this important day with a series of activities, including an online guest lecture, student-led initiatives, and participation in an online inter-college environment quiz competition. These activities aimed to raise awareness about environmental issues, inspire conservation efforts, and enrich students' knowledge about the environment.

Activities and Highlights:

1. Online Guest Lecture by Dr. Vaneet Jishtu:

- The department organized an online guest lecture on MS Teams, featuring Dr. Vaneet Jishtu, a scientist from the Himalayan Forest Research Institute, Shimla, as the resource person.
- Dr. Jishtu delivered a presentation titled "Ecosystem and Their Restoration: A Frantic Push to Reverse the Decline of Our Natural World." The lecture highlighted the importance of ecosystem restoration in addressing the decline of the natural world.
- The lecture attracted a total of 130 participants, including faculty members from the Botany department, facilitating a valuable exchange of ideas and insights.

2. Students' Activities on World Environment Day:

- Students from the 2nd and 4th semesters of the M.Sc. Botany program actively participated in World Environment Day celebrations through a range of activities.
- **M.Sc. 4th Semester Students:** These students showcased various species of fruit-bearing, timber-yielding plants, and ornamental flowering plants grown at their homes. This display highlighted the diversity of plant life and its significance in environmental conservation.
- **M.Sc. 2nd Semester Students:** Students in this group engaged in tree planting, collected and managed garbage, and focused on responsible waste disposal and utilization in their homes. These activities promoted hands-on environmental stewardship.

3. Participation in Online Inter-College Environment Quiz:

- Students from the M.Sc. 2nd Semester participated in an online inter-college environment quiz competition organized by the Department of Botany at RKMV (Rajkiya Kanya Maha Vidyalaya), Shimla.



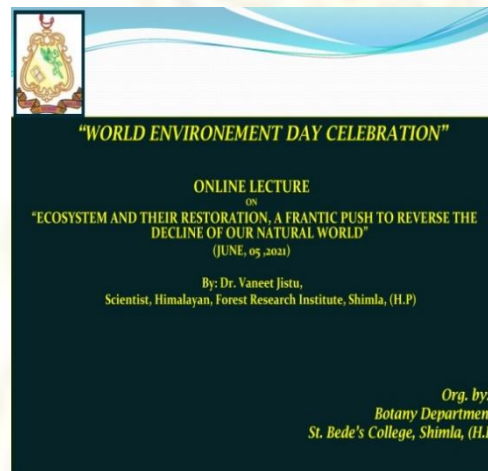
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- The students performed exceptionally well in the quiz competition, earning various prizes. Their participation enhanced their knowledge of environmental facts and emphasized the importance of environmental awareness and conservation.

Outcome:

The World Environment Day activities organized by the department yielded several noteworthy outcomes:

1. **Increased Awareness:** The activities, including the guest lecture, raised awareness about environmental issues and the need for ecosystem restoration.
2. **Hands-On Engagement:** Students actively participated in activities like tree planting and waste management, fostering a sense of personal responsibility for the environment.
3. **Academic Enrichment:** Participation in the inter-college environment quiz competition enhanced students' environmental knowledge and academic achievements.
4. **Environmental Consciousness:** Students gained a deeper understanding of the environment's importance and the role they can play in its conservation.
5. **Interdisciplinary Learning:** The activities promoted interdisciplinary learning, emphasizing the connection between botany and environmental science.





WEBINAR ON 'SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: INDIA@ 75' UNDER AZADI KA AMRUT MAHOTSAV

On September 23, 2021, St. Bede's College, in collaboration with the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA) Shimla Chapter, organized a webinar titled "Science and Technology: India@ 75" as part of the Azadika Amrut Mahotsav celebrations. The primary aim of the program was to provide insights into India's progress in science and technology over the past 75 years and to cultivate scientific aptitude and innovation among young minds. Following the webinar, an offline science quiz competition was held by the Faculty of Science, in which students from M.Sc. Botany participated.

Webinar Highlights:

1. Welcome and Introduction:

- Prof. Sr. Molly Abraham extended a warm welcome to all dignitaries and participants. Prof. Neeraj Sharma, the convener of ISCA Shimla Chapter, introduced the webinar, setting the stage for the discussions.

2. Inaugural Address by Prof. Sikander Kumar:

- The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sikander Kumar, delivered the inaugural address, emphasizing the crucial role of science and technology in society and reflecting on its growth during India's 75 years of independence.

3. Contribution of Eminent Scientists:

- Prof. K.S. Rangappa delivered a presentation on the significant contributions of eminent scientists to the growth and development of Scientific India, recognizing their remarkable achievements.

4. Talk by Prof. P.K. Ahluwalia:

- Prof. P.K. Ahluwalia, a retired professor from the Department of Physics at HPU Shimla, provided insights into the impactful 75 years of Indian science and technology. He discussed key milestones and advancements in these fields.

5. Lecture on "Energy Scenario in India" by Dr. Deepak Tuli:

- Dr. Deepak Tuli delivered a lecture on the "Energy Scenario in India," with a focus on advances in bioenergy. This session covered challenges and opportunities in India's energy landscape.

Science Quiz Competition:

- An offline science quiz competition was organized by the Faculty of Science at the conclusion of the webinar.
- Teams of students from M.Sc. Botany participated in the quiz, each named after a prominent woman scientist: Mary Curie, Rosalind Franklin, Shakuntla Devi, McClintock, Andrea Ghez, and Tu Youyou.
- Team McClintock, comprising Shivani Rangta, Avantika, and Megha Sharma, emerged as the winners of the quiz competition.

Outcome:



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The webinar and science quiz competition had several significant outcomes:

1. **Knowledge Enhancement:** Participants gained valuable insights into the progress of science and technology in India over the past 75 years.
2. **Inspiration for Young Minds:** The program aimed to inspire and cultivate scientific aptitude and innovation among young minds, fostering a passion for scientific exploration.
3. **Recognition of Eminent Scientists:** Eminent scientists who contributed significantly to the field were acknowledged and celebrated, serving as inspirational figures.
4. **Awareness of Energy Challenges:** The lecture on the energy scenario in India raised awareness about energy challenges and potential solutions.
5. **Academic Achievement:** The quiz competition provided an opportunity for students to test their knowledge and apply what they learned during the webinar.
6. **Empowerment of Women in Science:** Naming the quiz teams after prominent women scientists highlighted the contributions of women to the field of science.

St. Bede's College Shimla
in collaboration with
Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA), Shimla Chapter
Organises a Webinar
Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav
Science & Technology: India @ 75
On
23rd September 2021 at 09:30 a.m.

Chief Guest
Prof. Sikander Kumar
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor
H.P. University, Shimla

Guest of Honour
Prof. K.S. Rangappa
Past Gen President
ISCA Kolkata

Patron
Dr. Sr. Molly Abraham
Principal
St. Bede's College

Resource Person
Prof. P.K. Ahluwalia
Professor (Retd.)
Dept. of Physics
H.P. University, Shimla

Resource Person
Dr. Deepak Tuli
Advisor on Mission
Innovation Clean Energy
Programme

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/WAxR3iX8keBlSBN9>

Convener: Prof. Neeraj Sharma
Organizing Secretary: Dr. Sapna Sharma

For any query, please contact at 9459742576 & 7018705334





WILDLIFE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION DAY CELEBRATION

Biodiversity Conservation Day, celebrated on December 6, 2021, marked a significant occasion in the department. Students from the 1st and 3rd semesters of M.Sc. Botany came together to commemorate this day by showcasing presentations on the vital topic of biodiversity conservation.

Highlights of the Celebration:

1. Student Presentations on Biodiversity Conservation:

- The core of the celebration revolved around student presentations. Both 1st and 3rd-semester students participated actively by preparing and delivering presentations on various aspects of biodiversity conservation.
- Each presentation focused on different dimensions of biodiversity conservation, including its importance, threats, conservation methods, and success stories.

2. Diverse Topics Covered:

- The presentations covered a wide range of topics related to biodiversity conservation, reflecting the diversity of the subject. These included discussions on the conservation of endangered species, habitat preservation, reforestation efforts, and the role of local communities in conservation initiatives.

3. Knowledge Sharing and Discussion:

- The event provided a platform for students to share their knowledge and insights on biodiversity conservation. Following each presentation, there were discussions and questions, promoting a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

Outcome:

The celebration of Biodiversity Conservation Day had several important outcomes:

- 1. Awareness Building:** Through their presentations, students contributed to raising awareness about the importance of biodiversity conservation among their peers and faculty members.
- 2. Educational Experience:** Preparing and delivering presentations on biodiversity conservation provided students with a comprehensive educational experience, allowing them to delve into specific conservation topics.
- 3. Promotion of Conservation Ethics:** The event encouraged students to adopt a conservation-oriented mindset, instilling in them a sense of responsibility toward the environment.
- 4. Knowledge Dissemination:** By sharing their research and findings, students disseminated valuable information that can contribute to broader efforts in biodiversity conservation.
- 5. Interdisciplinary Learning:** Biodiversity conservation is an interdisciplinary field, and this celebration highlighted the interconnectedness of biology, ecology, and environmental science.



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN DAY (ANTARRASHTRIYA PARAVAT DIVAS) CELEBRATIONS

International Mountain Day, celebrated on December 11, 2021, was a special occasion marked by a celebration at Potter Hills, Shimla, specifically at the Western Himalayan Arboretum. Teachers and students from the M.Sc. Botany department at St. Bede's College, along with students from the Department of Biosciences at Himachal Pradesh University, gathered to celebrate the day under the theme "Sustainable Mountain Tourism." The event featured a keynote speaker, IAS Shrinivas Joshi, who provided valuable insights into the importance of sustainable tourism in mountain regions.

Highlights of the Celebration:

1. Keynote Address by IAS Shrinivas Joshi:

- The main highlight of the event was the keynote address by IAS Shrinivas Joshi. He discussed the unique beauty of mountain ranges in the region, including the Dhauladhar range, Shali peak, Chansal peak, and Hatu peak.
- Mr. Joshi emphasized the concept of sustainable mountain tourism and its potential to create additional and alternative livelihood options for local communities living in mountain areas. He also addressed the importance of social inclusion and the role of sustainable tourism in landscape and biodiversity conservation.

2. Visit to the Western Himalayan Arboretum:

- Following the keynote address, participants had the opportunity to explore the Western Himalayan Arboretum, which houses more than 150 plant species. The visit provided an informative and educational experience, allowing attendees to learn about the rich plant diversity of the region.

Outcome:

The celebration of International Mountain Day had several noteworthy outcomes:



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1. **Awareness of Sustainable Mountain Tourism:** The event raised awareness about the concept of sustainable mountain tourism and its potential to benefit both local communities and the environment.
2. **Promotion of Alternative Livelihoods:** Participants gained insights into how sustainable tourism can provide alternative livelihood options for people living in mountain regions, contributing to their economic well-being.
3. **Environmental Education:** The visit to the Western Himalayan Arboretum provided an educational opportunity for attendees to learn about the diverse plant species in the region and the importance of biodiversity conservation.
4. **Inspiration for Conservation:** The event inspired participants to take an active interest in preserving the unique landscapes and biodiversity of mountain areas.
5. **Community Engagement:** By emphasizing social inclusion, the event encouraged participants to consider the social and cultural aspects of sustainable tourism, fostering a sense of responsibility toward local communities.





FIELD VISIT TO JAKHU HILLS

The Department of Botany organized an educational excursion to Jakhu Hills on December 16, 2021. This excursion provided students with a unique opportunity to learn about the flora of Shimla and gain insights into the economic importance of various plants in the region.

Highlights of the Excursion:

1. Exploration of Flora:

- The primary focus of the excursion was to explore and study the diverse flora of Jakhu Hills. Students had the opportunity to observe and identify various plant species indigenous to the area.
- Botany students engaged in hands-on learning, including plant identification, classification, and the study of plant characteristics.

2. Economic Importance of Plants:

- During the excursion, students were educated about the economic significance of certain plants found in the Jakhu Hills area.
- They learned about how these plants are utilized in various industries, traditional medicine, or local livelihoods, contributing to their understanding of the practical applications of botanical knowledge.

3. Learning Experience:

- The excursion served as an enriching learning experience, allowing students to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world observations.
- It provided an opportunity for students to appreciate the natural beauty and biodiversity of Shimla.

Outcome:

The excursion to Jakhu Hills on December 16, 2021, yielded several important outcomes:

- 1. Botanical Knowledge:** Students gained practical knowledge of plant identification and classification, enhancing their understanding of botany.
- 2. Economic Awareness:** Learning about the economic importance of certain plants broadened students' perspectives on the practical applications of botany in various industries and local communities.
- 3. Environmental Appreciation:** The excursion encouraged students to appreciate and value the natural environment, fostering a sense of environmental stewardship.
- 4. Hands-on Learning:** Engaging in fieldwork and plant identification provided hands-on experience, complementing classroom-based learning.
- 5. Interdisciplinary Understanding:** Students realized the interdisciplinary nature of botany, as it intersects with fields such as ecology, economics, and conservation.

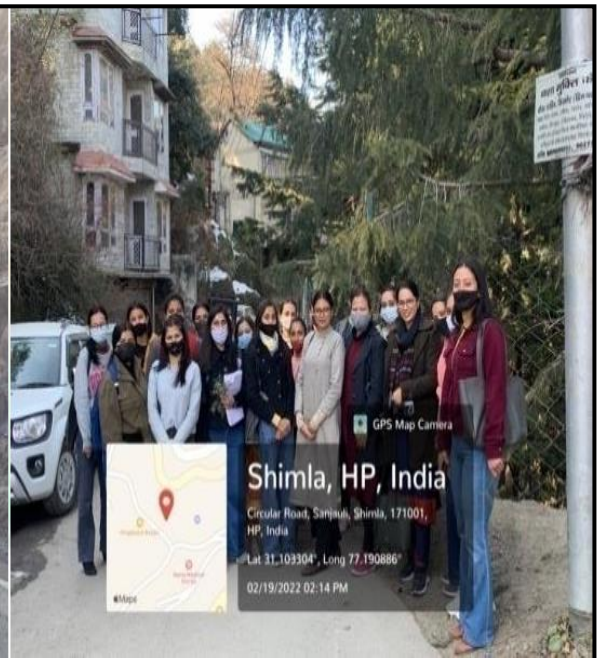
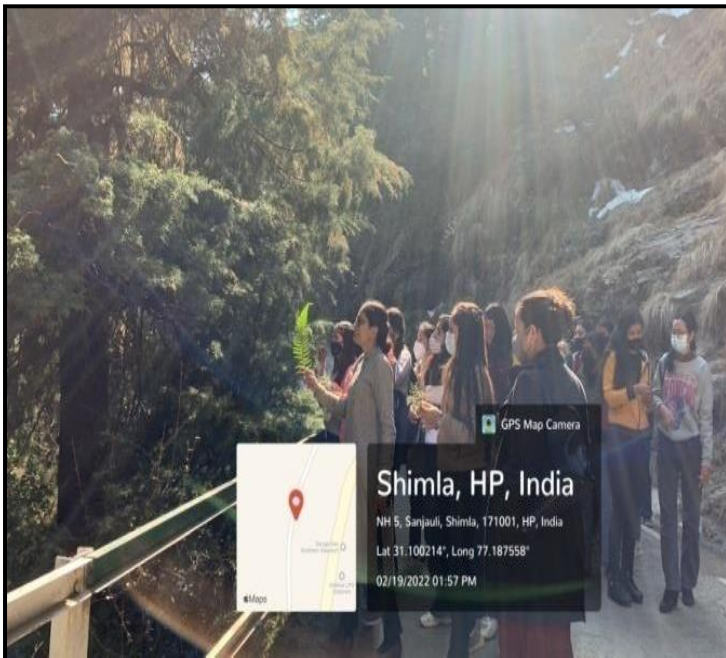


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**“FIELD VISIT TO JAKHU HILLS”
(16th December, 2021)**

**Highlights:
AN EXCERPTION TO MAJOR FLORA OF SHIMLA
(Timings: 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm)**

**Org. by:
Botany Department,
St. Bede's College, Shimla, (H.P)**





LIBRARY ORIENTATION FOR M.SC. STUDENTS

On February 18, 2022, students pursuing M.Sc. were given the opportunity to visit the library. The main objective of this visit was to introduce the students to the research resources, journal collections, and archives available within the library. This orientation aimed to familiarize students with the library's offerings, ensuring they were well-equipped to utilize these resources for their academic and research endeavours.

Highlights of the Library Orientation:

1. Introduction to Library Facilities:

- The library staff commenced the orientation by providing an overview of the library's facilities, layout, and available resources.
- Students were introduced to key sections of the library, such as the reference section, lending section, and research and archive section.

2. Research Resources:

- Students were introduced to the various research resources available within the library, which include books, journals, periodicals, and electronic databases.
- The orientation emphasized the significance of these resources for academic research and encouraged students to explore them.

3. Journal Collections:

- The library orientation included a discussion of the journal collections, both print and digital, accessible to students.
- Students learned how to access and navigate journals, emphasizing the importance of peer-reviewed articles in research.

4. Archives and Special Collections:

- If the library had archives or special collections, students were introduced to them. These include rare manuscripts, historical documents, or unique materials related to specific fields of study.
- Students were encouraged to explore these special collections for research purposes.

5. Library Policies and Procedures:

- The orientation session covered library policies and procedures, including borrowing rules, renewals, and the use of library technology.
- Students were informed about the library's operating hours and contact information for assistance.

Outcome:

The library orientation for M.Sc. students on February 18, 2022, had several important outcomes:

- 1. Familiarity with Resources:** Students became familiar with the wealth of academic resources available within the library, empowering them to use these resources effectively for their studies and research.



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2. **Research Skills:** The orientation improved students' research skills by teaching them how to access and utilize journals and other research materials.
3. **Academic Preparedness:** Students were better prepared academically, knowing where to find information, how to access it, and how to navigate the library effectively.
4. **Enhanced Learning Experience:** Understanding library policies and resources can contribute to an enriched learning experience, supporting academic success.
5. **Promotion of Research:** Encouraging students to explore archives and special collections sparked their interest in conducting research in specialized areas.

