

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22 (25.03.2022).**

“In essence, if we want to direct our lives, we must take control of our consistent actions. It’s not what we do occasionally that shapes our lives, but what we do consistently”. This is a quote by Tony Robbins, a coach, speaker, and philanthropist.

A warm welcome to our Distinguished chief guest, parents, staff, and students.

On this momentous day in the annals of St. Bede’s Degree and P.G. college, I proudly present the annual report of 2021-22. In retrospect I can confidently say that despite the challenges thrown at us in the form of Covid Pandemic, we have done enough to feel proud of in the accomplishment of our goals. Lots more can be done, and we strive towards it and carry on the baton of higher education which our Foundress St. Claudine Thevenet passed on to us.

I am pleased to present a record of the achievements in the academic, co-curricular and extracurricular activities for the year 2021-22.

### **Faculty Particulars**

On June 1, the college got its regular principal. I, Sr. Prof. Molly, took charge from the officiating principal, Ms. Nandini Pathania. The college was still working under Covid instructions and protocols.

After a lot of struggle and patience, the college finally got approval for 18 new permanent faculty posts. The interviews for the same were held in August 2021 as per the guidelines of the directorate and the University. The college welcomed the new staff members with an Induction and Orientation programme where they interacted with the senior faculty and were acquainted with the Values and work ethics of St. Bede’s.

## **Academic Calendar**

**On June 11**, a meeting of the prospectus committee was convened, and procedures related to Online admissions were discussed. It was decided that admissions and related notices would be updated regularly on the website ensuring transparency in the admission procedures.

The teaching faculty was called to join duty physically with all covid protocols in place. A staff meeting was convened in the auditorium to discuss the academic calendar regarding online teaching, webinars, student activities, celebration of important national days and activities of the departments related to Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav. The college calendar was finalised and updated on the website by July 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **Webinars and Workshops**

**June 30<sup>th</sup>**, the dept. of Computer Science organised a webinar for the students on Digitalization during Covid- 19 Pandemic- with regard to Cyber Security.

**July 15<sup>th</sup>**, the dept. of English organised a webinar on Social Media, Quality Education and Mental Health. The alumni of St. Bede,s participated as resource persons. Astha Singhanian joined us from London, Puneet Grewal from Delhi and Taruna Kaushal from Shimla. This webinar was live on you Tube as well.

## **1**

**August 4<sup>th</sup>**, the faculty and students participated in the webinar on Effects of NEP – Youth Employment and Sports development organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.

**August 10<sup>th</sup>**, the Dept. of Commerce & Management in collaboration with college IQAC conducted a webinar on GST-Basics and Issues on Google platform and You Tube.

In between, teaching resumed Online for Second and Final years from August 16<sup>th</sup>, as per Govt. orders.

From September 2021, as per Govt. guidelines, Offline teaching resumed with alternate days of student presence. It was decided that the first three days of the week, Science, Commerce and Computer Science students will come in and the last three days i.e Thursday to Saturday, the Humanities students would come for their Offline classes.

**September 9<sup>th</sup>**, The Dept. of English conducted another webinar on “Literature as a Great Healer in the Times of the Pandemic. The resource persons were, Dr. Anupama Jaidev, Delhi University, Dr. Praveen Kumar, Retd. Principal, Govt. College Nahan. The webinar was streamed live on You Tube and was attended by participants from other colleges of Himachal as well.

Amid the chain of academic activity, we did not forget our traditions and celebrated the ‘**Opening Mass**’ on September 24<sup>th</sup>, invoking God’s blessings on the students, staff and parents.

Under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, a webinar on SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY: INDIA @75 was conducted in collaboration with ISCA- Indian Science Congress Association

The BSE Broker’s Forum in collaboration with dept. of Commerce and Management of St. Bede’s college conducted a 5-day Student Development Programme for Final year students.

**September 16<sup>th</sup>**, The IQAC organized an Online lecture on NEP- 2020 and the Directions of Change in Higher education. The resource person was Prof. N.V.Vergheese, Vice-Chancellor NIEPA, New Delhi.

**September 28<sup>th</sup>**, A talk was organised by the Physics dept. on Tracking Software.

A weeklong workshop was organised on October 25<sup>th</sup> on Research Methodology and Data Analysis using JAMOVI Software. This was organised by the dept. of Commerce and Management.

**November 15**, a webinar for students was conducted by an Alumni of the college Preeti kansal based in Australia. She did a workshop on Life Vision and Goals, Enhancing Mental well- being and Self Realization.

**November 17<sup>th</sup>**, the faculty of St. Bede's participated in a webinar conducted by NAAC for all the higher education institutions of Himachal Pradesh. The webinar focussed on areas like Multi-disciplinary/Inter-disciplinary approach, Academic Bank of Credit, Skill Development, Appropriate integration of Indian languages, Outcome Based Education and Distance Education.

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**, St. Bede's was a part of a workshop on HIMACHAL PRADESH INITIATIVES FOR UP-SKILLING & JOB PLACEMENT DRIVE for students and Colleges The moderator for the event was Maj. Dr. Gulshan Sharma, DG, ICSI- International Chamber for Service Industry.

**January 27 to 29, 2022** an Online workshop for students on Digital Marketing was organised in collaboration with Skill Labs.

**February 25<sup>th</sup>**, 2022, A joined webinar was organised by the Physical Education Dept. and the NSS wing of St. Bede's on Academic Excellence through Physical Activity.

**February 26<sup>th</sup>**, Online workshop for students was organised by the Physics dept. in collaboration with Homi Bhaba Center for Science and Education on ASPIRING WOMEN SCIENTISTS.

**March 14<sup>th</sup>**, a Webinar was organised by the Commerce and Management Dept. on How to plan personal Aspirations. The Resource person was Dr. Fateema Abbas HoD, Dept. of Communicative skills, PIBM, PUNE.

A talk on SOCIAL JUSTICE was organised for the students by the Political Science Dept. Prof. Harish Rawat from HPU was the Resource person.

The college, regularly encourages and provides financial assistance to the faculty members for participation in important webinars and workshops like NIRF India Ranking 2022, organised by The Institute of Academic Excellence, Hyderabad; Workshop on NAAC organised by the NAAC Head office at Bangalore; Workshop on NEP, organised by the Institute of Academic Excellence in collaboration with Technical Education Dept., Govt. of Telangana. This is done to promote the know-how of the latest changes in the field of Higher Education and an effective implementation of them in the college for the benefit of its stakeholders.

### **Faculty Development Programmes**

The need of the hour is to constantly update our knowledge, hence FDPs are essential to keep abreast with the 21<sup>st</sup> century approach to education.

**October 7**, the Placement Cell under the aegis of the IQAC organised a Faculty Awareness Programme on Activities and benefits of financial lab-cum-Incubation Centre at Campus, and how academic curriculum has been aligned to meet skills of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Resource persons were Dr. Padmakumar Nair, Dean-School of Liberal Arts & Sciences - Thappar School of Management and Dr. Himesh Sharma, CEO Skill labs.

**November 8-12<sup>th</sup>**, The faculty of the English dept. attended a 5-day FDP on SOFT SKILLS FOR CAPACITY BUILDING, organised by St. Josephs College, Tamil Nadu.

During the winter break, an Online FDP was organised under the IQAC, from January 1 -5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, on DESIGN and DEVELOPMENT of MOOCs. The resource person was Dr. Tejinderpal Singh, Punjab University. It was a new

learning experience for the staff to know how to make lessons on video, and later share the same on the SWAYAM PORTAL.

February 7, 2022, College reopened after the winter vacation. Classes commenced online. From the 21st regular offline classes started.

From March 3-7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, an FDP on REVAMPING EMOTIONAL& PROFESSIONAL PARADIGMS for an INCLUSIVE APPROACH to HOLISTIC EDUCATION was organised in collaboration with Chitkara University Chandigarh.

### **Commemoration of National Days**

To Strengthen values and give respect to all the significant National Days, the college regularly celebrates the important events.

On the World Environment Day, June 5<sup>th</sup>, various competitions were held under the theme KHAKI AND PRAKRITI, organised by the NCC wing.

The International Yoga Day on June 22 too was celebrated through online videos of YOG AASANs.

The History dept. commemorated the 76<sup>th</sup> Hiroshima Day on August 6<sup>th</sup>, through Slogan and Poster making competitions.

August 12<sup>th</sup> saw the celebration of International Youth Day with Miraasa- the Heritage Club, organising a competition on Healthy Body – Healthy Planet.

August 13<sup>th</sup>, the NCC Cadets participated in the RASTRGAN.IN launched by the Ministry of Culture on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> year of India's independence. The students recorded the national Anthem on the given site and were awarded certificates for the same.

The Health Club of St. Bede's raised awareness about Diabetes on WORLD Prediabetes Day.

August 15<sup>th</sup> was celebrated with gusto in the college and the national flag was hoisted. A virtual thought- provoking session with Lt. Col. Abhilov Sharma was conducted on the theme “Unsung Heroes”.

September 5<sup>th</sup>, Teachers Day was celebrated with a talk on “The Joys of being a Teacher” by Prof P.K. Ahluwalia, dept. of Physics, HPU. It was followed by a special lunch given to the entire staff by the Management.

September 16<sup>th</sup> was celebrated as the World Ozone Day by the Botany and Geography depts.

Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated with a presentation by the students on “The Struggles of Independence”.

October 9<sup>th</sup> is World Mental Health Day- this was commemorated with a seminar conducted by the dept. of Psychology.

The Disaster Risk Reduction Day saw the performance of a Nukkad Natak by the students of Geography dept and Disaster Management Cell, on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

On WORLD FOOD DAY on October 16<sup>th</sup>, the dept. of Biotechnology and Microbiology organised a special talk by Prof. Nivedita from Dr, Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni.

On October 31<sup>st</sup>, National Unity Day, presentations on Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel were done by the students and the principal administered the Rashtriya Ekta oath to the teachers and students.

The World Aids Day was celebrated on December 1<sup>st</sup>, the students participated in various Art and Slogan writing competitions.

National Pollution Day on December 2, was observed with a talk session by Dr.Pawan Kumar Scientist at the HIRF.

December 6<sup>th</sup> was celebrated as the Wildlife, Biodiversity and Conservation Day by the Dept. of Botany.

On December 8<sup>th</sup>, the NCC unit of the college paid homage to the martyrs of the helicopter crash in which India lost its CDS Bipin Rawat and other 12 brave hearts.

On December 22<sup>nd</sup> the Mathematics dept. organised an activity to commemorate the birth anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan- “The man who knew Infinity.”

The International Day of Women and Girls in Science, on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, was seen on Himachal Doordarshan where a talk show-MANZIL- was hosted by Dr. Vandana Thakur from the English dept and the guest speakers were Dr. Sapna Sharma from the physics dept and Ms .archana Mallik, a student in the Biotechnology dept. of St. Bede’s.

Women’s Day, on Mach 8, was celebrated by a panel discussion on GENDER EQUALITY TODAY for a SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW. The eminent speakers were Dr. Monica Bhatungru, SP Shimla, Dr. Pooja Negi Rajta, Associate Professor, IGMC and Vandana Misra, advocate in HP High Court.

## **PTA**

St.Bede’s has always valued its stake holders and therefore we have established the Parent Teachers Association where the executive body is formed through elections. Five members are from the parent’s community and the principal of the college along with two teachers are also part of this body. Meetings of the PTA are held twice a year. In the session 2021-22, an online meeting of the PTA executive was held on July 8, 2021, at 3.30 p.m., the executive body forwarded the concerns of the parents regarding online teaching, syllabus completion and also reviewed the pandemic session 2020 and gave suggestions for the ‘new normal’ and how to benefit the students. It was also decided to make Whatsapp groups of parents where they will be continuously informed about the happenings



of the college, and they too may voice their concerns regarding the same. One teacher is made a part of the group to give all the information needed. A second, full house meeting of the PTA will be held tomorrow i.e., 26<sup>th</sup> March, where parents will come to elect the new body and also to enquire about their ward's performance from the respective teachers.

**The Alumni Association** is a registered association under the name EBA, Ex-Bedeian association. Recently, on March 12,2022, we had an online meet with our Alumni on MSTEAMS. Our old students joined us from all corners of India and abroad. Ex-students joined in from UK and USA as well. It is with great pride I can say that our students are “assets” to society and nation. Satwant Atwal Trivedi- IPS, Punita Pandit-IPS, Purnima Chauhan-IAS, Harinder Hira- IAS, Chavi Nanta-HAS and many more have done us proud.

### **The NCC unit of the College.**

St.Bede's not only has academic responsibilities but also caters to the holistic growth of its students through a number of societies/cells/clubs to conduct extra-curricular activities. A special mention has to be made of the NCC and the NSS which integrate national values and teach the students to become proud citizens of the nation.

The NCC Unit has grown tremendously since its inception.

On June 11, 2021, the NCC Cadets enrolled as Young Warriors and participated in online forums to share and discuss strategies for providing psychological support, especially to Corona patients.

In July the Cadets of the Naval unit participated in SAY NO TO PLASTICS, and performed Nukkad Nataks to create awareness related to the harm of single use

plastics. Cadet Maanika won a cash prize of Rs. 3000/- at a competition at the Directorate level for poetry recitation.

July 26, 2021 the college observed the Kargil Divas organised by the NCC unit. The theme was Goonj

Fit India Campaign under Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav was celebrated on August 12, and the NCC unit also celebrated the glorious 75 years of India's independence.

The month of September was special for NCC, as 5 of its cadets were selected by the DCATC camps for selection and preparation. In October 2021 the NCC cadets participated in the Annual Training Camp organised by 1HP NU NCC Bilaspur.

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, An Awareness rally on Drug Abuse was initiated by the first year cadets of St.Bede's which started from the college campus and ended at the Ridge, Shimla. Which was appreciated by all people present there.

On January 27, 2022, PO Cadet Arundhati Chandel was nominated for ADG'S Commendation Card for outstanding work in the year 2021-22. Rutuja Kulkarni was part of the PM rally and Ayushi Panwar was part of the State Republic Day Parade.

On March 10, 2022, the NCC Raising Day was celebrated in the college with an impressive drill followed by a cultural programme and a carnival organised by the Cadets themselves. Col. D.R.Gargi, Commanding Officer, was the chief guest, who complimented the cadets for their excellent drill march.

**The NSS wing of the college is also actively involved in the all- round development of the students.**

From August 1-15, the NSS unit observed "Swachhta Pakhwada" to create awareness about a clean and green environment. On August 4<sup>th</sup>, the NSS students

attended a webinar on Effect of NEP 2020 on Youth Empowerment and Sports Development, organised by Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs & Sports.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the NSS wing took up a cleanliness campaign under the Clean India Program. Students collected plastic waste from their localities and home and brought it to college to be deposited with the MC.

In November, the student Vice-president of NSS went to Kurukshetra University to participate in the NIC camp. 12 states had participated in the camp.

The NSS also carries out the social responsibilities of the college. It has adopted a village in Mashobra, Dhalli Panchayat. Here our students go and interact with villagers on life and Hygiene. On December 22, the college distributed free ration packets, blankets to 23 BPL families and also shared the celebrations of Christmas with them.

Recently on March 24<sup>th</sup> the NSS celebrated the Shahid Divas under the aegis of Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav

### **Social responsibility through Community outreach**

The college has adopted a middle school in Theog, since 2006. This year as the school was mostly closed due to the pandemic, still a few children were contacted, and Tree plantation was done in July and the Independence Day was also celebrated with them. An online poster competition on Corona Virus was conducted and later certificates were awarded.

### **The Community Outreach Cell now has a tie-up with Portmore Senior Secondary School.**

And organised various programmes in the school, to name a few:

The students of Outreach Cell performed a Nukkar Nattak on 'Disaster Management' on November 12, 2021.

An online lecture on 'Personality Development' was organised, on December 22, 2021. The speakers were Rohita Gharu and Angel Shan the 3<sup>rd</sup> year students of the college, they gave an informative presentation and it was very well appreciated by the students and faculty of the school.

An online Career Counselling session was also organised on March 11, 2022. The speakers were Shruti Chauhan and Sara— BSc- III students of the college. They gave an informative and detailed presentation on the career options that can be explored by the students after class- XII.

The Academic calendar cannot be complete without the mention of **Dept. activities**. It can be safely concluded that the departments add to the strength of the college by contributing not just in academics but also by organising activities that go beyond the class room. To mention a few:

An inter-college Debate competition was organised on November 30, 2021. The competition witnessed a large participation from within the college and from the 6 other local colleges of Shimla. Dr. Shrikant Baldi was the chief guest for the occasion.

Seven students were encouraged to take part in the MUN programme, Shimla. The students participated in a discussion on Economic Recovery of War-Torn Regions and need for Universal Financial Access.

The depts have their own Newsletter which is created, designed, and printed or digitalized by the students themselves under the guidance of their teachers.

The English dept. conducted two Workshops on Creative Writing and invited an upcoming but well - known writer for a Book Talk.

Intercollege Dept. meets are also organised. We recently concluded the Economics dept. Inter-college Literary Meet on March 22, 2022. Students and faculty of four neighbouring colleges participated in the programme.

Inter-disciplinary dept activities are also done consistently. On March 14, the students from the dept of Political Science and Economics performed a Nukkad Natak on Environment, Gender and Human value and Constitutional Obligations.

The science dept. had an innovative exhibition which was much appreciated by all the faculties.

The Computer Science dept. exhibited the development of computer and mobile technology from its beginnings.

Numerous activities have been conducted under the Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav by all the departments.

Under Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat, the college interacted with St.Xavier college, Kerala and exchanged presentations on Himachali writers and Folk dances and also learnt the same about Kerala.

Organising of Webinars/workshops/ inviting well known Guest Speakers, conducting student presentations is a regular feature in all departments.

**To facilitate and financially aid** our deserving students, the college gives free ships and has recently tied up with Sri Badrika Ashram cum Social Welfare Society. I'm happy to announce that 6 students were selected for scholarship under the Emerging Youth Scholarship Scheme of the Ashram.

Another special mention is regarding the presence of a Counsellor on the college campus to help students with any stress, anxiety that they may be facing.

To further hone the aptitude and learning abilities of our students, the college has introduced a number of certificate courses which are Value Added Courses called Add-on's.

The courses are: French or German language learning; tally Essential levels; Web designing; Core Java; Biodiversity; Physical fitness and Yoga; Communication Skills and personality Development.; Nutrition and Health, and Self Defence.

The report is incomplete without the mention of the **awards and achievements** won by our students and staff.

### **University ranks:**

Anchal Sharma and Gauri Sharma were ranked 2nd and 3rd in Economics Hons, in 2021

Arushi of English Hons. Topped the university

Diviya Rana, B.Sc.III, ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the university.

### **The following students have been selected for National Rifle Shooting:**

Shefali Chambyal, B.A. III year and Praveen Dhiman, B.A II year Psychology Hons.

The Department of Geography St. Bede's College, is fortunate to have the Outreach Certificate Programs for the faculty & students' development from the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (ISRO), Department of Space, Govt. of India. Five of our students passed the online examination and got certificates from IIRS.

Our Institute is now a network institute of IIRS outreach network. The name of our Institute is included in online application form of IIRS Outreach Programme. Today St. Bede's College is a Nodal Centre for the same.

The teaching staff of the college has been equally brilliant in their paper publications and presentations. Many have authored and co-authored books and Chapters in recognised journals under UGC CARE LIST and peer reviewed Journals. The list is too long but may be seen and read on the college website.

The College has its own recognised National Journal-The Bede Athenaeum. It has a print and online version. The online version is available with Indian journals.com.

It is my pleasure and privilege to include my own ISPCK Excellence Award given for my book “A Saga of Tolerance and a Legacy for Posterity: Catholic Visionaries & Women’s Empowerment in North India”. The book is available both in Amazon.com and dote in.

Last but not the least, the college strives towards making international collaborations by signing Memorandums of Understanding.

### **MoU’s**

An MoU was signed on august 7, 2021, between St. Bede’s college and Skill Labs Resource Services Pvt.Ltd.

We have already received the first instalment of 5 lacs from SIDBI. A few students of the outgoing batch of 2021 have got job placements under this MoU.

After a series of talks and meetings with the representative of the State of Pennsylvania, USA, on March 16,2022, we had a presentation by Dr. Prashant Bharadwaj, Professor at IUP , Indiana University of Pennsylvania and things are moving in the right direction and soon we will have the MoU signed with IUP.

Harrisburg University of Science and Technology Pennsylvania too is on the verge of collaboration with St. Bede’s College.

Talks are on with Theil College and Elizabeth Town College, Pennsylvania. After having the MoU with these institutions and many more our students and faculty will have a wide range of choice for their higher studies and career advancement.

The college has maintained a trajectory of steady and sustained growth. New Depts, new courses and programmes, additions in infrastructure are all indicative of a commitment towards progress.

We strive for excellence through regular NAAC accreditation, next year in 2023 we will be going into our 4<sup>th</sup> cycle of NAAC accreditation. Here I would like to make a special mention that St. Bede's is the only college in Himachal accredited with A+ grade. The College has also applied for a ranking with NIRF, the National Institutional Ranking Framework, Govt. of India. NIRF seeks a difficult and demanding data to analyse and ranks colleges annually.

We hope that with God's Grace and the support of our stake holders and the Govt., St. Bede's will continue to make footprints in the field of quality education for the young women of our country.

Thank you