SUMMARY OF QUALITY INITIATIVES UNDERTAKEN BY IQAC
Session 2025–26
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), St. Bede's College, Shimla

1. Introduction

During the academic session 2025–26, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of St. Bede's College, Shimla, undertook a range of structured initiatives aimed at strengthening the institution's quality culture and promoting continuous improvement in teaching-learning, faculty development, student support, employability, digital literacy, experiential learning, community engagement, sustainability and institutional governance.

The initiatives were implemented through departments, cells, clubs and collaborative partners, thereby promoting a participatory and decentralized approach to quality enhancement. Particular emphasis was placed on providing students and faculty with opportunities for practical learning, professional development, technological competence, social responsibility and leadership.

2. Major Quality Initiatives

S. No.	Quality Dimension	Major Initiatives Undertaken	Key Quality Outcomes
1	**Academic and Pedagogical Quality Enhancement**	Faculty Development Programme on *Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Outcome-Based Education (OBE) Strategies*; training on AI-assisted teaching, Bloom's Taxonomy, CO–PO/PSO mapping and attainment analysis	Strengthened OBE practices, technology-enabled pedagogy, outcome assessment and evidence-based academic planning
2	**Faculty Capacity Building**	FDP on *Service Rules for Grant-in-Aid Colleges*; professional development programmes and training on contemporary academic and administrative practices	Enhanced professional, administrative, regulatory and institutional competencies of staff
3	**Digital Transformation and Cybersecurity**	Workshop on *Digital Safety & the DPDP Act*; IT training and digital skill-development initiatives	Improved awareness of cybersecurity, data protection, digital governance and responsible use of technology
4	**Skill Development and Employability**	IT training, Web Development training, Digital Literacy and Accounting training, Resume	Strengthened students' digital, professional, communication and

		Building session and career-oriented programmes	workplace-readiness skills
5	**Career Guidance and Placement**	Career counselling, UPSC/HPAS guidance and campus placement drive with Arvind Fashions	Enhanced career awareness, employability preparedness and industry exposure; one student was selected through the placement drive
6	**Experiential and Community-Based Learning**	Water-quality assessment visit to HP Pollution Control Board; school-based technology training; Balika Ashram outreach	Bridged classroom learning with real-world applications and strengthened social responsibility
7	**Inclusive and Student-Centric Education**	Identification and support of advanced and slow learners through remedial classes, peer mentoring, additional assignments, tests and enrichment activities	Promoted differentiated learning, academic support and inclusive learning opportunities
8	**Gender Equity and Women Empowerment**	*Rise Up!* workshop on gender equity, leadership, mental well-being, SRHR, personal branding and entrepreneurship	Developed leadership, confidence, awareness of rights, well-being and economic empowerment among young women
9	**Environmental Sustainability**	Awareness programme on carbon sequestration and carbon-footprint reduction; plantation drive; environmental themes incorporated into student activities	Strengthened environmental awareness, sustainability consciousness and student participation in green initiatives
10	**Indian Knowledge System and Heritage**	*Aarambh: Roots of Indian Knowledge System*; Heritage Week; heritage pledge and documentary screening	Promoted appreciation of indigenous knowledge, cultural heritage, sustainability and cultural identity
11	**Innovation and Interdisciplinary Learning**	Innovation models, data analysis and visualization, technical competitions and interdisciplinary activities under Symphoria 2025	Encouraged creativity, problem-solving, analytical thinking, technological application and interdisciplinary learning
12	**Community Outreach and Social Responsibility**	Technology awareness programmes in schools; Balika Ashram programme; social awareness activities	Strengthened institutional-community linkages and encouraged

			students to contribute to social development
13	**Cultural and Holistic Development**	*Symphoria 2025*, cultural, literary, technical and creative competitions	Promoted creativity, leadership, teamwork, cultural exchange and holistic student development
14	**National Values and Citizenship**	Hiroshima Day, National Unity Day, Unity Pledge and awareness programmes	Promoted peace, national integration, responsible citizenship and social awareness
15	**Institutional Governance and Administrative Quality**	FDP on service rules, file and record management, RTI, procurement, GeM, pay and leave rules, EPF and pension provisions	Strengthened administrative efficiency, compliance, documentation and governance practices

3. Academic Quality Enhancement and Outcome-Based Education

IQAC promoted the adoption of contemporary, learner-centred and outcome-oriented teaching practices. A major initiative was the **One-Week Faculty Development Programme on "Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Outcome-Based Education (OBE) Strategies"**, organised from 12–18 May 2026. The programme covered Generative AI, Prompt Engineering, Bloom's Taxonomy, AI-assisted teaching tools, CO–PO/PSO mapping, attainment analysis, AI ethics and innovative assessment practices.

The programme specifically strengthened faculty competence in formulation of measurable learning outcomes, AI-enabled teaching, outcome attainment analysis and evidence-based academic decision-making.

Quality impact:

- Promotion of Outcome-Based Education.
- Strengthening of CO–PO/PSO mapping and attainment analysis.
- Greater use of technology in teaching and assessment.
- Encouragement of learner-centred and innovative pedagogies.
- Development of a culture of continuous academic improvement.





One-Week Faculty Development Programme on "Integration of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Outcome-Based Education (OBE) Strategies", May 12-18, 2026

4. Faculty Development and Professional Competence

IQAC facilitated professional development beyond classroom pedagogy. The **seven-day FDP on "Service Rules for Grant-in-Aid Colleges"**, held from 16–23 March 2026, addressed file and record management, procurement procedures, GeM, RTI, ACR/API, pay and leave rules, conduct rules, EPF and pension provisions. The programme attracted **73 participants** through offline and online modes.

The programme also recommended strengthening documentation and establishing robust internal audit and compliance mechanisms, thereby linking professional development with institutional quality assurance.





Seven-day FDP on "Service Rules for Grant-in-Aid Colleges", held from March 16-23, 2026

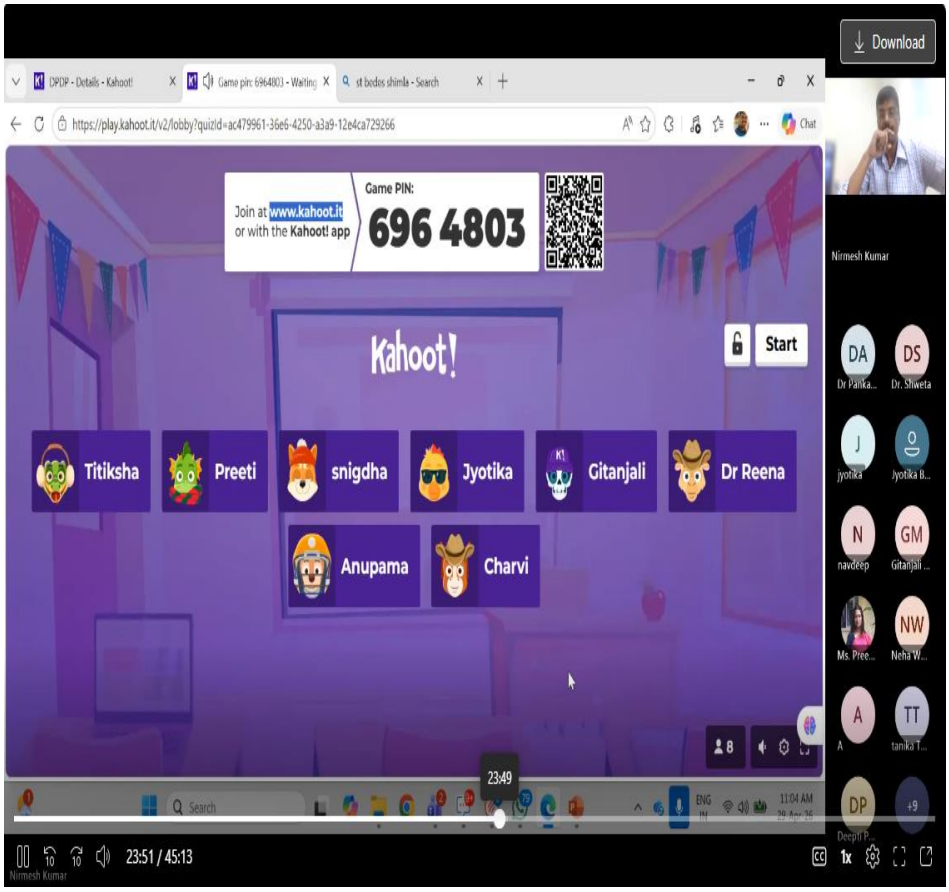
5. Digital Transformation, Data Protection and Cybersecurity

Recognising the increasing dependence of higher education on digital systems, IQAC supported initiatives for developing digital competencies and strengthening cybersecurity awareness.

A One-Day Online Workshop on **"Understanding Digital Safety & the DPDP Act for Faculty: Cybersecurity Awareness Initiative"** was conducted on 29 April 2026. The programme addressed the DPDP Act, responsible handling of personal data, consent management, cybersecurity threats and institutional responsibilities relating to digital data governance.

The initiative contributed to creating a culture of **digital responsibility, cybersecurity awareness and secure institutional data practices**.





Understanding Digital Safety & the DPDP Act for Faculty: Cybersecurity Awareness Initiative" on April 29, 2026

6. Skill Development and Employability Enhancement

IQAC supported skill-oriented programmes designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and workplace requirements. These included:

- IT training and awareness on C-DAC programmes.
- Web Development training for school students.
- Digital Literacy and Accounting training.
- Resume Building Techniques.
- Career counselling and professional guidance.
- Exposure to recruitment processes and industry expectations.

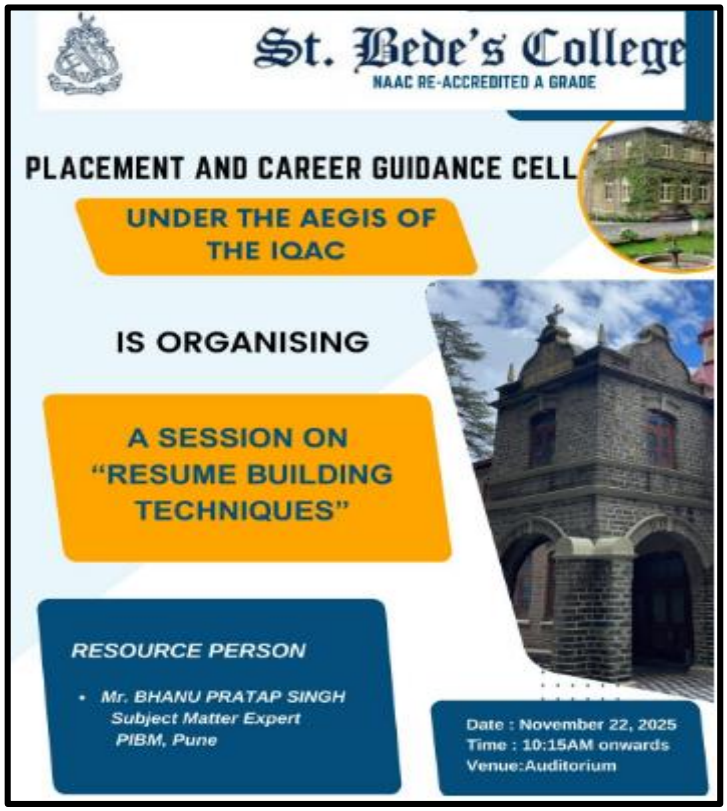
The IT training session specifically focused on career-oriented digital skills and government-supported training opportunities.

The six-day Web Development programme provided hands-on exposure to HTML, CSS, web development, coding and cybersecurity, while also enabling BCA students to strengthen their teaching, presentation, teamwork and coordination skills.





IT training and awareness on C-DAC programmes





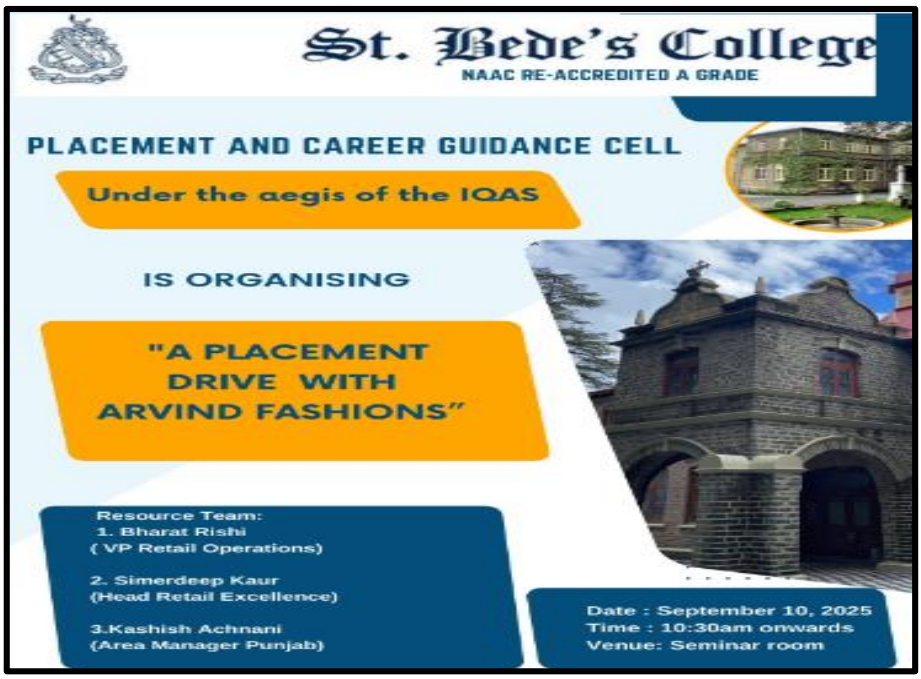
Resume Building Techniques November 22, 2025

7. Career Guidance, Industry Interface and Placement

IQAC facilitated initiatives to strengthen students' transition from higher education to employment and further studies.

A campus placement drive with **Arvind Fashions** exposed students to aptitude tests, interviews, group discussions and corporate recruitment practices. One student was successfully selected, while the programme also strengthened industry interaction.

Career counselling programmes further supported students in identifying their strengths, understanding career opportunities and planning short- and long-term academic and professional goals.





8. Experiential, Applied and Community-Based Learning

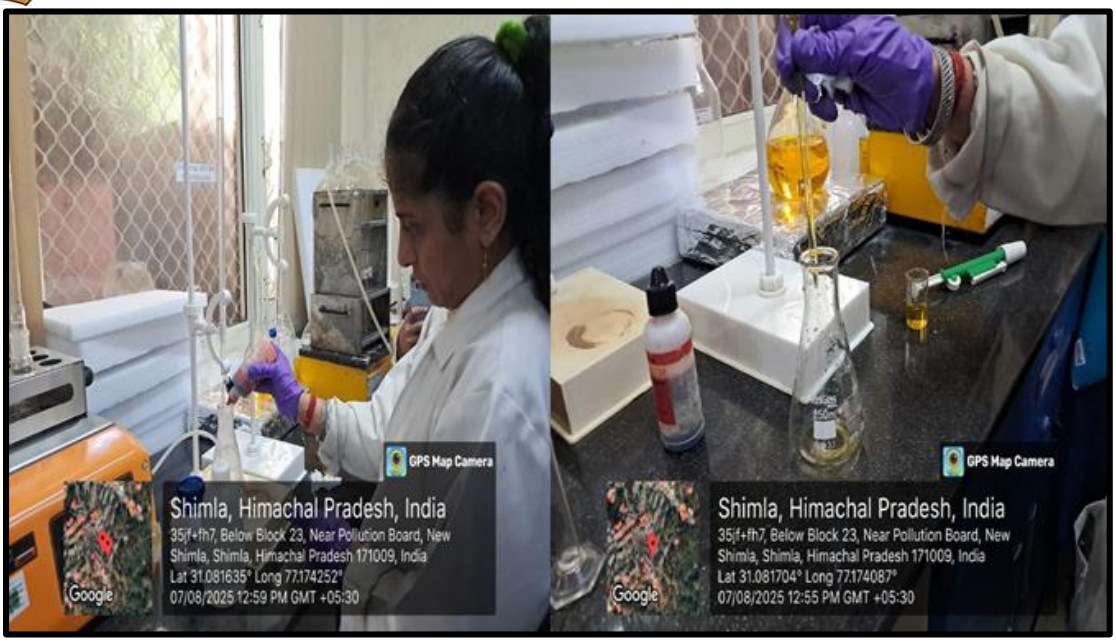
IQAC encouraged learning beyond the classroom through field visits, demonstrations, practical training and outreach programmes.

The visit to the **Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board** provided students with hands-on exposure to water-quality assessment, including pH, turbidity, COD and BOD analysis. Seven water samples from different locations were examined, allowing students to connect theoretical environmental science with laboratory and field applications.

Such initiatives strengthened:

- Practical and laboratory skills.
- Scientific observation and interpretation.
- Application of theoretical knowledge.
- Environmental awareness.
- Problem-solving and analytical abilities.





Visit to Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board, August 6, 2025

9. Inclusive Education and Support for Diverse Learners

Quality enhancement initiatives also addressed the academic needs of different categories of learners. Advanced learners were encouraged to participate in NPTEL/SWAYAM courses, seminars, research projects, competitions, peer mentoring and advanced assignments. Students requiring additional support were provided remedial classes, personalized instruction, peer support, additional assignments, tests and mentoring.

This reflects a student-centric approach aimed at ensuring that academic quality enhancement benefits learners with different abilities and learning requirements.

10. Gender Equity, Student Well-being and Empowerment

The **Rise Up! Workshop on Gender Equity, Empowerment & Future Leadership**, conducted on 11–12 September 2025, addressed gender equity, leadership, public policy, mental health, self-care, sexual and reproductive health, personal branding and entrepreneurship.

The programme strengthened:

- Leadership and decision-making.
- Confidence and self-expression.
- Awareness of gender equity and social justice.
- Mental well-being and self-care.
- Financial literacy and entrepreneurship.
- Advocacy and community engagement.

The initiative therefore contributed to holistic student development and the creation of a more inclusive educational environment.



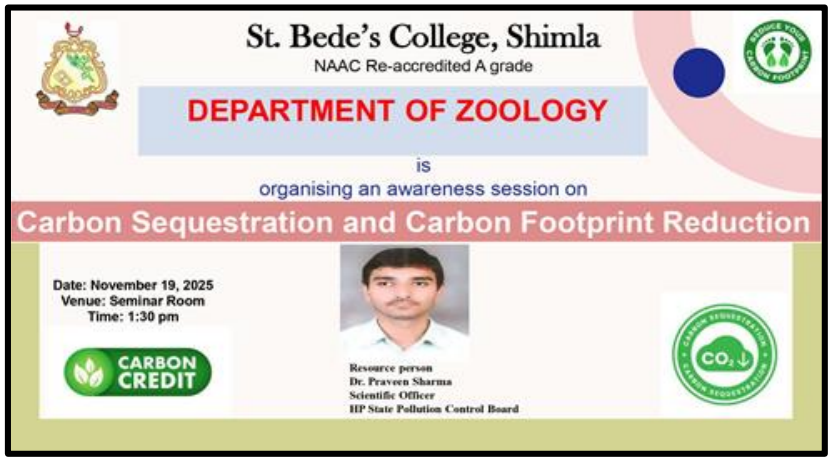
Workshop on Gender Equity, Empowerment & Future Leadership, on September 11-12, 2025

11. Environmental Sustainability and Green Initiatives

Environmental sustainability was integrated into IQAC-supported activities through plantation drives, carbon-footprint awareness and sustainability-oriented competitions.

The **Awareness Session on Carbon Sequestration and Carbon Footprint Reduction** addressed climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, carbon sequestration and practical strategies for reducing carbon footprints. The programme sought to encourage students to adopt environmentally responsible practices and support institutional green initiatives.

The International Youth Day plantation drive further promoted student participation in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and encouraged long-term care of planted saplings.





Awareness Session on Carbon Sequestration and Carbon Footprint Reduction November 19, 2025



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Plantation Drive August 12, 2025

12. Indian Knowledge System, Heritage and Cultural Integration

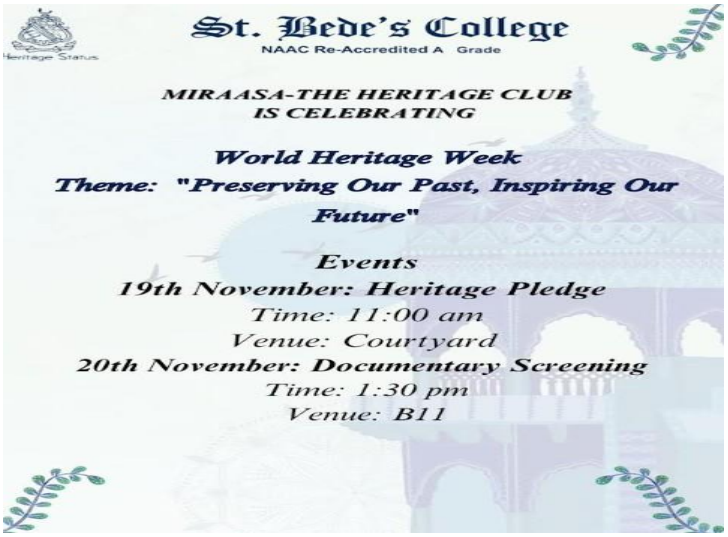
IQAC promoted the integration of Indian Knowledge System and cultural heritage into student activities through **"Aarambh: Roots of Indian Knowledge System"** and Heritage Week.

The food carnival connected traditional culinary practices with IKS, nutrition, sustainability and cultural continuity. Students gained practical understanding of indigenous food traditions and developed greater appreciation for regional knowledge systems.

Heritage Week further promoted cultural and natural heritage conservation through a heritage pledge and documentary screening.



Aarambh: Roots of Indian Knowledge System September 22, 2025





World Heritage Week on November 19-20, 2026

13. Innovation, Creativity and Interdisciplinary Learning

Symphoria 2025, organised as an initiative under the IQAC Action Plan, provided an interdisciplinary platform integrating gender equity, environmental consciousness, IKS, culture and diversity. The two-day event involved participation from **13 higher education institutions** and included cultural, literary, technical, data analysis, innovation and creative competitions.

The innovation component included working models related to disaster management and environmental sustainability, while Data Analysis and Visualization encouraged students to integrate technology with academic inquiry.





Symphoria 2025 on November 7–8, 2025.

14. Community Outreach and Social Responsibility

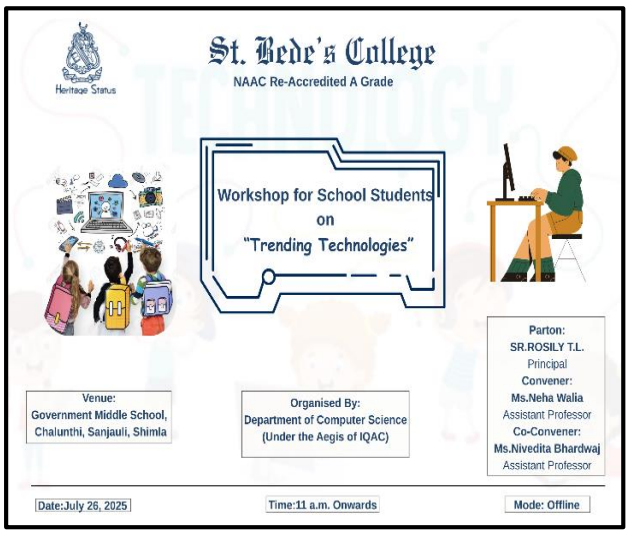
IQAC-supported outreach initiatives extended the institution's academic and social engagement beyond the campus.

Examples included:

- Technology awareness programmes for school students.
- Web Development training for school students.
- "Know Your Rights" awareness programme at Balika Ashram.
- Gender awareness and empowerment initiatives.
- Environmental awareness and plantation activities.

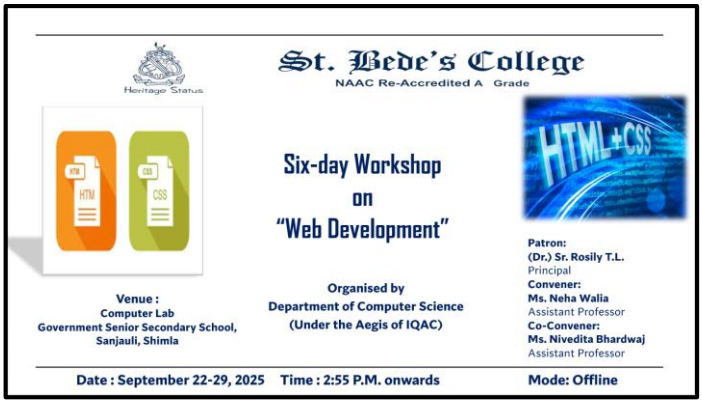
The Balika Ashram initiative used videos, flashcards, short plays and quizzes to develop awareness of Fundamental Rights, Women's Rights and Child Rights among children.

These activities strengthened the connection between **education, community engagement and social responsibility**.



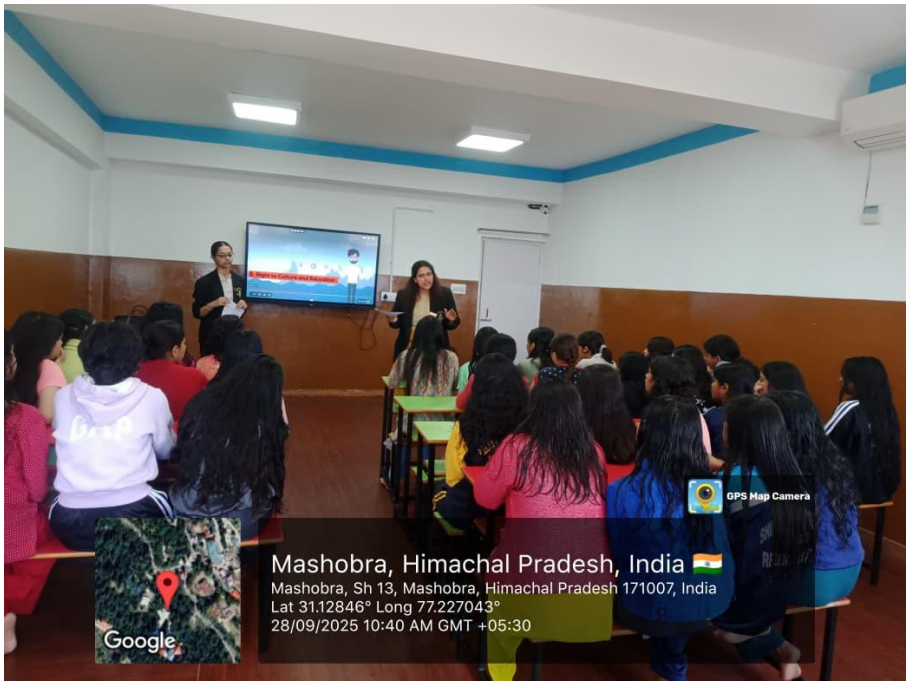


Technology awareness programmes for school students July 26, 2025





Web Development training for school students September 22 - 29, 2025

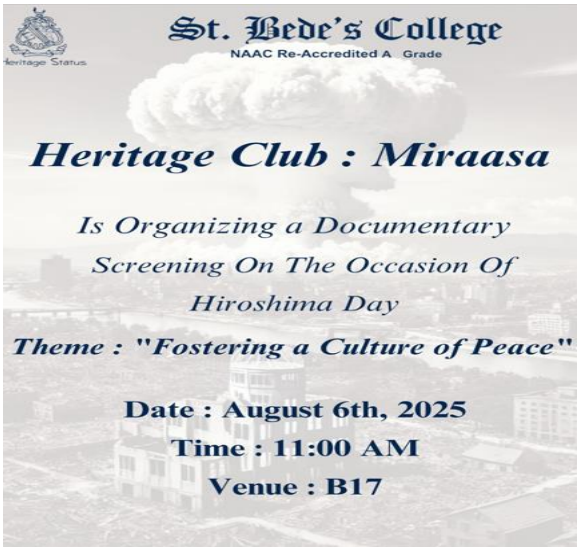


Know Your Rights" awareness programme at Balika Ashram September 28, 2025

15. National Values, Peace and Responsible Citizenship

IQAC-supported activities also promoted constitutional values, national integration and responsible citizenship. Hiroshima Day activities encouraged reflection on peace and the consequences of war, while National Unity Day included an essay competition and Unity Pledge focused on national integration and self-reliance.

These initiatives contributed to students' social awareness, critical thinking, empathy and civic responsibility.



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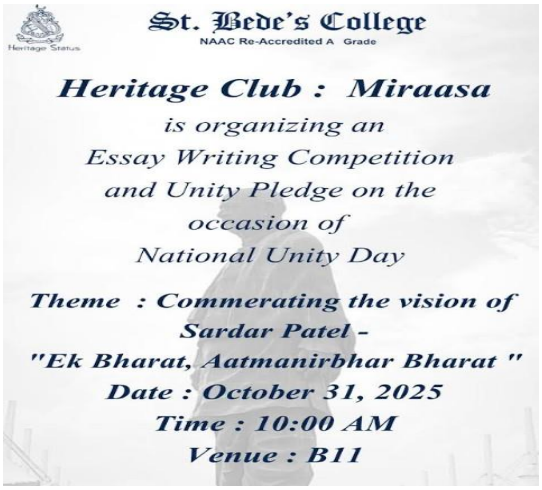
Screening of A Documentary on Hiroshima Day, August 6, 2025



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National Unity Day October 31, 2026