

## 7.2 Best Practices:

a) College continues to encourage its students to strictly follow the two tenets which have made it the leading educational institution in India. The two qualities are those of excellence and service. Excellence, primarily in studies, and in every other thing that they set their minds to work in. Service, because unless the good that we receive is shared it will be a mere waste of good effort.

Over the 138 years of its existence College has donated generously to India and the world through human capital. The alumni who have gone on to make a positive impact on the world and India through their contributions in the fields of academics, politics, government, administration, social service, corporate governance, startups, and every other field of human endeavour is unparalleled by any other educational institution in India. This has been made possible by the sustained efforts in College to promote these two traits unconditionally.

b) College has started making an effort for continued relevance of its educational efforts through the introduction of new courses, an application for autonomy, and steps to respect the environment policy in small but significant steps like the thrust to make the College paper-free in administration and its concentrated efforts to make a plastic-free environment.

Dealing with Unequal India, short term courses on Public Policy, Sanskrit and a collaborative set of papers, workshops and academic exercises seek to enhance the academic relevance and purpose of a practical education. To this end, the College has also put in an application to the UGC for an autonomous status. The application, after a positive visit, by the UGC team is awaiting clearance.

St Stephen's College is one of the oldest institutions under the University of Delhi, predating the University by almost four decades. One of the enduring qualities that is practiced and which we hope to pass on to every generation is the respect for our environment. This has been ingrained through the consistent practice of simple but effective steps like (i) determined decisions to maintain open and green spaces - we have a built up area of only 28% of our land bank, (ii) continued efforts to make the campus plastic-free and (iii) a policy to help the environment by making our administrative work increasingly paper-free.