



DISMISSAL SERVICE AND PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY 2015-16

10am on Saturday, 23 April 2016 in the College Hall

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Bishop Warris Masih Chairman of the Governing Body of St. Stephen's College, Mr. S.K Verma, the Chief Guest of the day, members of the College Governing Body, Senior and Junior Members, alumni of the College, parents of outgoing Junior Members, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Today we bid farewell to the batch of 2013-16. Given what St. Stephen's College is, we do not bid goodbye, except in the etymological sense of that expression, "God be with you". After three years of life in College, imprinted forever with the stamp of Stephania, young men and women enter the wider world beyond the precincts of the College. Days and months in St. Stephen's colour their personality

On this auspicious occasion, I wish to introduce to you the Chief Guest of the day.

Guest Introduction

It is an honour for me to present the Annual Report on the activities and achievements of our College during 2015-16. It must be acknowledged that despite three academic systems simultaneously running in the University, my colleagues and junior members have managed to maintain the richness and variety of our academic and extracurricular activities in the academic



session 2015-16. The College also owes to the exemplary leadership given by its 12th Principal, Rev. Dr. Valson Thampu, who retired on 29 February 2016. I wish to place on record my appreciation for Rev. Dr. Thampu, who headed the institution during a period of rapid and radical change which put the stature and character of the institution to test. I acknowledge with no reluctance that St. Stephen's has emerged from this stiff test stronger which is testified by the achievements of the year 2015-16:

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Stephen's has always been singularly blessed on account of its distinguished Senior Members whose achievements bring honour and acclaim to this institution. It is with great pride and pleasure that I report the achievements of my colleagues during the current academic year in their chosen fields of research, interests and concerns:

Dr. Shamim Ahmed, Department of Urdu & Persian

- Edited and published a book *Iqbal Aur Asrar - e- Hyat* consisting of papers presented in national seminar held in College.
- Completed UGC funded minor research project on the topic **Research Methodology and Editing in Urdu.**

Dr. C B Jha, Department of Sanskrit

- Awards –
 - (1) " **VIDWAD BHUSHAN** " award was conferred by the Hon'ble Home Minister Mr. Raj Nath Singh in an Investiture Ceremony, organised by Akhil Bharatiya Vidwat Parishat , Kashi at Varanasi .



(2) " **SANSKRIT BHUSHAN** " award was conferred by the Hon'ble Minister for Food and Supplies in the Govt. of Jharkhand at Jamshedpur .

- **Special Lectures**

(1) Delivery of 24th **WAIKER MEMORIAL LECTURE** at **Nagpur**

(2) Delivery of a **Special Lecture** on " **Sanskrit Journalism** " at Kavi Kulguru Kalidasa Sanskrit University ,**Ramtek** , Maharashtra .

(3) Delivery of a Special Lecture at 5th National Conference of Bharatiya Sanskrit Patrakar Sangh .

(4) Delivery of **Keynote Address** as the Chief Guest at the Inaugural Session of 3 day All India Bhavabhuti Festival at **Gwalior** .

(5) Delivery of a talk on " Trends and Roadmap of new publications in Sanskrit " at **World Book Fair** , organised by National Book Trust at Pragati Maidan , New Delhi

(6) Delivery of a Special Lecture on " Perception of Nation in Kalidasa's Literature " in a 3 day National Seminar at **Tatanagar** .

(7) Delivery of a series of six lectures on " Vedic Literature " at Delhi Sanskrit Akademi, Delhi .

- **Research Paper presentation**

(1) " A critical appraisal of **GERMANY KAVYAM** " , at 16th World Sanskrit Conference at **Bangkok** , Thailand .

(2) " **GERMANY KAVYAM** ka Parichay aur Vaishishtya " , at an All India Conference, organised at Vigyan Bhavan , **N. Delhi** by Delhi Sanskrit Akademi.



- **Membership of Academic Body - (1) Re-elected as Sectional President of Modern Sanskrit section for the forthcoming session of All India Oriental Conference, to be organised at Haridwar .**
- **Poem recitations in National & International Sanskrit Poets' Meet**
 - (1) At All India Radio , N. Delhi on the eve of Independence Day .
 - (2) At Delhi Sanskrit Akademi , Delhi on Republic Day .
 - (3) At Kalidasa Sanskrit Akademi, Ujjain during annual Kalidasa Festival .
 - (4) At Jiwaji University , Gwalior during annual Bhavabhuti Festival
 - (5) At Sahitya Akademi , N. Delhi during its annual Festival of Letters
 - (6) At Tatanagar during a 3 day National Seminar .
- **Examinership of Doctoral Thesis - Nine (9)**

Dr. Renish Geevarghese Abraham, Department of English

- Awarded PhD in English Studies by the University of Delhi in December 2015 on the topic, **Missionary Literature and Community Formation in Nineteenth-Century Kerala.**
- Conducted a Curriculum Enrichment Programme at the Department of English, Union Christian College, Shillong Meghalaya from 21-23 September 2015.

Dr. Prashanto Chatterjee, Department of Mathematics



- Awarded PhD degree in Mathematics by the University of Delhi in May 2015 on the topic “**Stability and Well-posedness in Vector Optimization.**”

Dr. Natasha W.Vashisht, Department of English

She presented the following **Papers at International Conferences/Symposiums:**

- Research Paper for the panel ‘Still Laughing: Ancient Comedy and its Descendants’ titled “From *attic* to *commedia*: Dissident Humour Traditions in the Popular Theatre of Dario Fo” at the **NeMLA Convention at Hartford, Connecticut, USA from 17-20 March 2016.**
- Research paper titled Dario Fo’s Proletarian feast: A Study of Satire, Farce and the *Carnavalesque* in *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*” at the **Fourth International BAKEA Symposium: Humour**, held on **7-8-9 October 2015** by the Departments of American Culture and Literature, English Language and Literature, French Language and Literature and German Language Literature in the Faculty of Science and Letters, **Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey.**
- Research Paper titled “ Unmasking Cultural Imperialism: Proletarian Arrogation in Dario Fo’s *Can’t Pay? Won’t Pay!*” at the **MELUS-MELOW International Conference** held at Indraprastha University, Delhi from **19-21 February 2016.**

Dr. Rakhi Tareja, Department of Chemistry

- Got an Innovation Project (SSC-301) titled “Insilico and Invitro studies of economically important Begomoviruses in Indian Fruits and



Vegetables under the Innovation Project Scheme 2015-16 along with co-investigators: Dr. Rashmi Sachdeva, HOD, Department of Chemistry and Dr. Veena Beri (Faculty, Biology).

- **The Best Oral Presentation award (III)** for the paper entitled "Homology Modeling and Docking Studies of Indian Cassava Mosaic Virus" (Rakhi Thareja, Hemani Chhabra, Aman Chauhan) at the *National Conference on Emerging Trends & Future Challenges in Chemical Sciences (ETFC-2016)*.
- **First Prize** for the Paper presented in the form of a Poster entitled "Computational Studies of Indian Cassava Mosaic Virus (ICMV) and docking of ICMV with Gold and Silver nanoparticles" (Rakhi Thareja, Veena Beri, Eva Lance, Nidhi sharma) at the *National Conference on Nanoscience-Opportunities and Challenges (Feb-2016)*.
- **Oral Presentation** on "Insilico Evaluation of Nanoclusters for antiviral action" (Rakhi Thareja, Rashmi Sachdeva, Surabhi Agrawal) at the *International Conference on Material Science and Technology – 2016*.
- **Best Poster Prize** for the project titled "Homology Modeling of Replication Association Protein of Tomato Leaf Curl Bangalore Virus" (Rakhi Thareja, Aman Chauhan, Irene, Pulkit Joshi) at the *National Seminar on Role of Analytical Sciences in Sustainable Development, 2016*.
- **Oral Presentation** on "Theoretical Modeling of Replication Association Protein of Indian Cassava Mosaic Virus and its docking with N-Acetyl Glucosamine" (Rakhi Thareja, Monika Rao, Sukrita



Deb, Alice Paskin) at the *National Seminar on Role of Analytical Sciences in Sustainable Development, 2016*.

- **Best Oral Presentation Award (III)** on “DFT Studies of oxygen doped charged quantum dots of zinc chalcogenides” and presented a Poster titled “Theoretical Modeling and Docking Studies of Replication Association Protein of Chilli infected by Begomovirus in India” (Rakhi Thareja, Irene Abraham, Monika Rao, Hemani Chhabra” in National Seminar on “*Emerging Economics and Challenges to Sustainability towards Developing Nation*”, 2016.
- **Published a paper** titled “Interaction of CdSe quantum dots with some aliphatic and aromatic diamines” *Journal of Integrated Science and Technology* **Vol 4**, No. 2 (2016) 51-58: Authors: Rakhi Thareja, Jyoti Singh, Rita Kakkar.
- **Published a paper** titled “Theoretical Modeling Replication Association Protein of Indian Cassava Mosaic Virus” *Journal of Integrated Science and Technology* **Vol 4**, No. 2 (2016) 81-86 : Authors: Rakhi Thareja, Monika Rao, Sukrita Deb, Alice Paskin.
- **Communicated a paper** titled “Insilico evaluation of nanoclusters for antiviral action” *Advanced Materials Letters* (**in communication**) March (2016): Authors: Rakhi Thareja, Rashmi Sachdeva, Surabhi Agrawal.
- **Oral Presentation** on the Paper “Theoretical Studies of charged Cadmium Chalcogenides quantum dots doped with an isovalent impurity” at National Conference in Chemistry on Environment and Harmonious Development (NCC-2016)

Dr. Veena Beri, Department of Biology



- Organized a workshop: *Insight to Cella with* the aim to bring diverse ranges of scientific and non-scientific backgrounds with stimulating environment together for the cross hatching of the multidisciplinary ideas. The workshop involved isolation, spooling, estimation and purity check of DNA. Overall 99 students got registered but finally 39 participated actively.

SCHOLARS

One of the great strengths of the College is the rich diversity of scholars in geographical, social, religious and economic terms. The consequent resonance brings out the best in the Junior as well as Senior Members. In the 2015 university examinations the results in all the subjects were very satisfactory.

Out of _____ students who took the B.A./B.Sc. and M.A./M.Sc University examinations, _____ were placed in First Division, and _____ in the Second. **(will be given by Mrs. Alka Jain)**

Postgraduate Results

RESULT 2014-2015						
	TOTAL APPEARED	I ST DIV.	II DIV.	III DIV.	ER	FAILED
M.A. English						
M.A. (Prev) English	13	6	6	1	Nil	Nil
M.A. (Final) English	8	7	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.A. History						
M.A. (Prev) History	13	Nil	11	2	Nil	Nil
M.A. (Final) History	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



M.A. Philosophy						
M.A. (Prev) Philosophy	4	1	1	Nil	2	Nil
M.A. (Final) Philosophy	7	Nil	Nil	3	Nil	Nil
M.A. Sanskrit						
M.A. (Prev) Sanskrit	2	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.A. (Final) Sanskrit	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.Sc. Mathematics						
M.Sc. (Prev) Maths	6	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
M.Sc. (Final) Maths	8	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.Sc. Op. Research						
M.Sc. (Prev) Op. Research	3	1	Nil	1	Nil	1
M.Sc. (Final) Op. Research	7	7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.Sc. PHYSICS						
M.Sc. (Prev) Physics	6	3	2	1	Nil	Nil
M.Sc. (Final) Physics	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
CHEMISTRY						
M.Sc. (Prev) Chemistry	7	6	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
M.Sc. (Final) Chemistry	10	10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Undergraduate Results



RESULT 2014-2015						
	TOTAL APPEARED	I ST DIV.	II DIV.	III DIV.	ER	FAILED
B.A.PROGRAMME						
I YEAR	56	38	15	2	Nil	1
II YEAR	Not in Course					
III YEAR	60	44	13	2	Nil	1
ECCONOMICS						
I YEAR	52	43	5	2	Nil	2
II YEAR	102	92	5	2	Nil	3
III YEAR	56	46	7	1	Nil	2
ENGLISH						
I YEAR	28	17	6	3	Nil	2
II YEAR	59	52	5	Nil	Nil	2
III YEAR	26	19	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
HISTORY						
I YEAR	67	43	13	6	Nil	5
II YEAR	67	54	11	1	Nil	1
III YEAR	64	63	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
PHILOSOPHY						
I YEAR	12	7	3	1	Nil	1
II YEAR	10	9	Nil Nil		Nil	1
III YEAR	14	9	3	Nil	1	1



MATHEMATICS						
I YEAR	51	44	3	2	Nil	2
II YEAR	40	30	7	1	Nil	2
III YEAR	45	32	1	Nil	12	Nil
SANSKRIT						
I YEAR	9	7	1	Nil	Nil	1
II YEAR	8	7	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
III YEAR	7	6	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
PHYSICS						
I YEAR	47	45	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
II YEAR	46	45	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
III YEAR	50	40	Nil	Nil	10	Nil
CHEMISTRY						
I YEAR	46	41	3	Nil	Nil	2
II YEAR	51	51	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
III YEAR	50	40	Nil	Nil	10	Nil
B.SC. PHYSICAL SC.						
I YEAR	28	26	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
II YEAR	Not in Course					



III YEAR	51	48	Nil	Nil	3	Nil

44 students have been awarded Science Meritorious Award by the University of Delhi for the year 2015-16.

On behalf of the St. Stephen's academic family I congratulate these Junior Members, and several others who have enriched the total life of the College, through their invaluable contributions.

SPORTS AND GAMES

SPECIAL AWARDEES 2015-2016

S.No	NAME	YEAR	COURSE	SPORT	PARTICIPATION
1	ANKUR DHAMA	III	B.A (History)	Para Sport	International
2	SHRIYANKA SADANGI	I	M.A (History)	Shooting	International
3	ADITI SINGH	II	B.A (History)	Shooting	International
4	SANYA MADAN	III	B.A (Philosophy)	Lawn Tennis	International
5	RISHABH PAWAR	III	B.A (History)	Swimming	International
6	SIDDHANT SEJWAL	I	B.A (Prog)	Swimming	International
7	BIRDIE BORO	I	B.A (Philosophy)	Table Tennis	International
8	ANUSHTHA	II	B.Sc (Physics)	Shooting	National
9	SAURABH	III	B.A (History)	Shooting	National
10	VISHAL	III	B.A (History)	Shooting	National
11	JASCHARAN SINGH NARULA	II	B.A (Economics)	Shooting	National
12	KAAMAASHI	I	B.Sc Mathematics	Shooting	National
13	NIYATI	I	B.A (English)	Shooting	National



	KHANNA				
14	MANVIKA KUMARI	I	B.A (Prog)	Shooting	National
15	AASHITA JAIN	I	M.A (English)	Table Tennis	National
16	MOCHAK SONI	III	B.A (History)	Table Tennis	National
17	MAYANK AHUJA	II	B.Sc Mathematics	Table Tennis	National
18	SHWETA KATARIA	I	B.A (English)	Table Tennis	National
19	PRATYUSH SINGH	III	B.A (History)	Cricket	National
20	KARAN MAHAJAN	I	B.A (Economics)	Cricket	National
21	SUKRITI BHARADWAJ	III	B.A (English)	Badminton	National
22	AAKRITI BHARADWAJ	III	B.A (Economics)	Badminton	National
23	SALONI GUPTA	II	B.A (Economics)	Badminton	National
24	ANKUR DHAMA	III	B.A (History)	Para Football	National
25	SURYA PRAKASH	II	B.A (Sanskrit)	Para Judoka	National
26	VICKEY	II	B.A (Sanskrit)	Para Kabbadi	National
27	MAYANK YADAV	I	B.A (Prog)	Lawn Tennis	National
28	RAJAT SHARMA	III	B.A (English)	Squash Rackets Men	All India Inter Varsity Champions (Captain)
29	UTKARSH KUMAR	II	M.A (Economics)	Squash Rackets Men	All India Inter Varsity Champions
30	KUNJ BANSAL	II	B.A	Squash	All India Inter



			(Economics)	Rackets Men	Varsity Champions
31	SHIVENDER SINGH	I	M.A (Philosophy)	Basketball	All India Inter Varsity
32	DILSHER SINGH SANDHU	II	B.A (Prog)	Football	North Zone Inter Varsity

CITIZENSHIP AND CULTURAL RICHNESS COURSE

One important highlight of this year was the Citizenship and Cultural Richness Course introduced by rev. Dr. Valson Thampu, the Principal. The Course ran from March 2015 to February 2016. It was a part of the vision of the founding fathers of St. Stephen's College to mould good citizens and thereby contribute to the nation-building process.

Citizen is the building block of a society and democratic polity. The best investment we can make into creating a healthy and wholesome society is enriching citizens and refining public taste. Social decay happens by default. The antidote to this widely lamented state of affairs is the cultivation or propagation of higher interests and tastes. Education can be a remedial intervention is wholesome social engineering.

The journalistic fraternity holds exciting educational resources. Media is a sentinel of the health of our culture and society. The partnership between educational institutions and media fraternity is an exciting prospect that holds out immense benefit for the country.

For long we have talked about lifelong learning. The time has come to make a lived reality. Learning is not only for a livelihood. It is also for life. Such learning cannot end before life does. This initiative seeks to popularize lifelong learning.



We often think of money or budget when it comes to launching an initiative. A great deal can be done with existing resources. All educational institutions hold considerable intellectual assets, which are currently under-utilized. It is possible to link available resources to neglected needs, without money.

Educational institutions and media establishments share a sense of social responsibility. Neither can live as ends-in-themselves. The more an institution opens itself to its life-world and shares its resources with those who wish to benefit therefrom, the more dynamic it becomes. Let us call this outreach Institutional Social Responsibility or ISR (on the analogy of CSR). In CSR the focus is only on money. In ISR the focus is on human and intellectual resources, the scope of which is much greater than that of CSR.

Finally, every institution has a rich network of alumni who will be happy to share their resources with citizens under the umbrella of their alma mater. This is a win-win situation for the alumni and the institution.

The goals of this course included:

- (a) To promote the discipline of lifelong learning
- (b) To enrich the cultural and intellectual life of the city
- (c) To promote a sense of belonging together as learners and seekers towards becoming responsible citizens

ACADEMIC CONCLAVE

One of the major highlights of this year is the Academic Conclave held on 11,12& 13.02.2016 with the aim to discuss and understand ideas, learn and master academic skills and debate varied issues. The main purpose was to strengthen the culture of interdisciplinary academic exchange around three core themes of “Science and Society, What makes a Good Society? and



Cultural Explorations in the World Today.” The College has a number of Societies responsible for extra-curricular academic activities and however, most of these societies activities remain focused on one subject but the Academic Conclave broke through such boundaries and created a college wide academic environment in which students and faculty from all departments participated in diverse events. Students got a chance to attend and learn from workshops on Gazal Writing, Robotics, DNA extraction, Critical Reading and Writing and Dramaturgy.

REPORT OF CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Ladies and Gentlemen, somewhere down the line, Education is all about space – not just physical or intellectual space – both of which are vital to wholesome education -- but more importantly about communicative, expressive, emotive, interactive space: space to discover and explore ones own niche and forte. Clubs and Societies in College make available this space to all Junior Members.

Our Societies and Clubs help foster close bonding between Senior and Junior Members and between the Junior Members and the College day after day, which they have done all through 2015-2016.

BAZM-E-ADAB

Bazm-e-Adab is one of the oldest societies of St. Stephen’s College which works for the promotion of Urdu language at different forums in various manifestations and acquaint all with the delicacies and the following are the list of events, activities and the achievements of this society, inside and outside the college during 2015-16.



1. Annual Inter-College Ghazal Recitation and Bait Bazi Competition for the GHALIB RUNNING TROPHY, where Zakir Hussain College won the trophy and Stephens secured 3rd position.
2. Eid Milan Lunch: is one of the most awaited occasion for Stephenians during the whole year, in which the amazingly delicious served cuisines win the heart of each and every person.
3. Tamseeli Mushaira, staged in college hall and The Red Fort, in the form of a play where two abstract characters, “Time” and “Imagination” bring poets of 16th and 21st c. together on the same platform.
4. SONTH: SPRING FESTIVAL OF KASHMIR brought out the distinctive kashmiri kahwa, kulcha, pheron, Rouf in Stephen's along with Spic Macay Society.
5. GHAZAL WRITING WORKSHOP: As part of academic conclave, Bazm-e- Adab organized a workshop on Ghazal with Prof. Ibn-e-Kanwal & Shehpar Rasool to acquaint the students with the genre of ghazals.

The Society also participated in events outside the college and won trophies, medals, accolades and Our students participated and were recorded in large number on ALL INDIA RADIO (AIR) under the programme “Nai Nasl, Nai Roshini” a programme for the youth to bring out and shape the creativity and innovation of young children. The programmes were broadcasted into different countries on online AIR URDU Radio Service. Following is the list of Participating Students with their different activities: □ A discussion on “Fashion: Hobby or Desire or Necessity” by Simrah Mehmood, Hishma Nazir and Mushkan Bhat. The debate was moderated by Tauheed Haqanni.

- A discussion on “The growing role of Social Media and Our Future” by Mutahhir Amin, Tamjeed Khan and Mohd. Rahil.



- A 10-minute long essay reading on Maulana Abul kalam Azad's book 'Ghubar-e-khatir (Sullies of Mind)
- A 10-min essay reading on Diwali and the Indian festivals by Musharrab Noor.
- A 10-min essay reading on Urdu adab in Tareekh by Tauheed Haqqani.
- Self -Poetry reading by Tauheed Haqqani.
- Tauheed, Tamjeed and Musharrab participated in the Rekhta Bait Bazi Competition during the annual urdu fest organized by Rekhta.
- Tauheed, Tamjeed and Simrah Mehmood participated in Miraas, the annual fest of Jamia Millia Islamia. They also made into semi-finals during a bait- bazi competition as part of Historica, Jamia History dept. fest.

BA PROGRAMME SOCIETY

Amongst the few Departmental Societies in college, the BA Programme Society aims to be the source of representation for the 120 odd students enrolled in BA Programme (The course was abandoned during the erstwhile FYUP system, thus, the Department currently has no 3rd year junior members). The Society takes pride in its responsibility to provide an apt platform for the junior members to blossom into mature individuals; replete with intellect, public awareness and a morally strong character.

With the academic year (2015-16) soon approaching its end, the BA Programme Society has witnessed a truly magnificent and an eventful journey. The versatile nature of the events, put up as a collective effort of the society members, speaks for itself. From intellectual talks, insightful



documentary screenings, fun-filled trips to heritage walks, a wide array of events have been covered.

We kick-started our journey in September with a talk titled, 'Speaking of Red' by Mr. Sitaram Yechury, CPI(M) General Secretary and an alumnus of the College. The remainder of the odd semester was spent in screening documentaries, such as the thought provoking Nero's Guests, by P. Sainath, which depicted the agrarian crisis in India in a heart wrenching manner. We also screened the award winning documentary, Anand Patwardhan's Ram ke Naam, enlightening us on the Ayodhya issue. Of course, we didn't let the academic engagements overpower the fun element of the society and organized a trip to Mashobra (Himachal Pradesh), which indeed brought us all together and recharged the students for the upcoming semester! We as a society, believe in growing together, and as an embodiment of that, our mentorship programmes and interaction with notable Alumni like Ms Pooja Lalwani weren't left far behind. The Society has also spearheaded the 'Musaafir-e-Dehli', a travel series visiting places of historical and eminent importance in Delhi. Purana Qila and Bengali Market was conquered with the enthusiasm of the society members in this series, and new places are set to be explored. We also had an academic talk with Dr Achin Vanaik, who interacted with us on the varied aspects of India's nuclear policy; and the turmoil in JNU.

We have many more exciting events lined up till the end of even semester, including our Annual fest 'Confluence' where one can witness the true essence of the society. The discussions, deliberations and the cultural performances shall be on various issues under the sun, ranging from politics



to sciences and performing arts. Our journal, 'Mélange', will surely make you think, laugh and cry. So do look out for it!

Lastly, we would like to thank all the junior members and the faculty for their active support in the Society's events because this comeback and vibrant presence in the College wouldn't have been possible without them!

CHEMISTRY SOCIETY

“Chemists must unite in order to force upon the reluctant world the power of their discoveries.” – Sir William Jackson Pope

The Chemistry Society, much like the alchemists of days gone by, seeks to make gold. Not material, yellow, shiny gold, but metaphorical gold as the standard in our pursuit of pure knowledge and our striving towards excellence. To that end, the society began another year of (re)activity, under the able tutelage of Dr. Rakhi Thareja and our dear HOD Dr. Rashmi Sachdeva. This year also saw the *first ever female president* of the society, Ludhiya Johnson. The events conducted were as follows:

- **The Freshers' Party** (10th August, 2015)

As has been a longstanding tradition of the college, the newly admitted junior members were officially welcomed into the department, with a programme in their honour, the 'Fresher's Party,' on the 10th of August, 2015. The programme commenced with the special entrances by the freshers in their sophisticated attires, the theme of which was “*Mark your Name.*” The students were then treated to two very special stories by Dr. Shabnam Johry and Dr. Rashmi Sachdeva, that entertained as well as taught and, most importantly, inspired all present.

- **Teachers' Day Celebration and Movie Screening** (4th September, 2015)



On the eve of Teachers' Day, the society organized a celebration for the senior members of the department, along with the screening of movie '**Interstellar.**' It commenced with short video meant to express the students' immense gratitude and respect for their teachers. This was followed by the screening of the movie, *Interstellar*.

- **The Inaugural** (29th September, 2015)

The real activity for the year began on the 29th of September, with a beautiful couple of innovative and interactive events; an **Environmental Poster Exhibition** followed by a special **Talk on Spectroscopy** by **Dr. S. Senthil Kumar** from *AIIMS, Delhi*.

The Principal of the College, **Rev. Dr. Valson Thampu** inaugurated the exhibition named 'The use and abuse of Environment' and was invited to take a look at the brilliant efforts put in by the first year members of the college. Various horizons of creativity were displayed as an array of posters explaining how the environment gets affected and degraded by human interference and exploitation. The contest was won poster with the theme: "Don't be mean, be green." The first time initiative of organizing this event received a special word of appreciation in the Morning assembly by the Principal who urged other societies to bring up such innovative activities for the awakening of the masses towards the issues which are of prime concern to the development of a green society. The Poster exhibition was followed by the Talk on Spectroscopy by Dr. Kumar who explained the basics to the *Nuclear Magnetic Radiations (NMR) and Magnetic Radiation Imaging (MRI)* in a delightful and insightful presentation to the audience. The concepts were easy to grasp



and showed new directions in medical sciences involving the principles of Chemistry, Physics and Biotechnology.

- **The Intra-College Paper Presentation** 28th January, 2016

The even semester began with the students showcasing their research and presentation abilities in the intra-college paper presentation event, judged by Dr. MS Frank and Dr. Shabnam Johry. The competition was fierce, owing to the sheer brilliance of the presenters, but Riya George and Shreya Sinha won with their aptly intriguing: ‘*The Chemistry of Love.*’ Hemani Chhabra was placed second for her presentation on ‘*Curcumin nanoparticles*’.

- **Treasure Hunt** (18th February, 2016)

This was an event which brought out the fun side of chemistry – a Treasure Hunt. It was a contest to test both the mind and the body, as participants were required to decode clues and then outrun the competitors to reach the next clue. The clues included puzzles, wordplay, puns and code to boggle, yet guide minds. This edition of the event was one of the most successful, as it saw participation from 26 teams of upto 3 members each from all disciplines in college.

- **Symphoria – The Annual Chemistry Fest** (10th - 12th March, 2015)

The Chemistry Society held its annual chemistry fest *Symphoria* from March 10 to 12, 2016. The fest, in all aspects was a euphoric and memorable one. From talks to talent shows, this year’s fest was a true potpourri of chemically imbued events and saw a never-seen-before level of participation, from both inside and outside college.



The fest was inaugurated by our new principal, **Dr. John Varghese**, who expressed his appreciation for academic festivals such as ours and promised us his full support. A **documentary film** based on ‘environmental awareness’ created by the students of first year BA programme was screened at the inaugural ceremony which witnessed a huge foot fall. The **Inaugural Lecture** was delivered by **Dr. VC Kalia**, *Chief Scientist, CSIR-IGIB* on the ‘*Biofactories of Green Fuels and Polymers.*’ This year’s fest also hosted an **online photography competition** – ‘**Spectra**’, with the themes: ‘*Chirality*’ and ‘*Equilibrium.*’ The competition saw a healthy participation, with participants from even outside of India sending in their exquisite entries for the competition (making our fest one of the few international ones held in the year).

The second day of the fest witnessed the **Inter-College Paper Presentation Competition**. The competition had a total of 14 teams with a variety of interesting topics, including ‘*The chemistry of wine*’ and ‘*Aging as a disease.*’ The chemistry society, dedicated to the celebration of creativity and pursuit of excellence, organized a chemistry quiz and a talent show on the final day of Symphoria.

The **chemistry quiz – Curious Chloride**, which attracted participants from all over Delhi University and proved to be one of the most successful events of the fest. The first two positions were grabbed by students of AIIMS, Delhi. Another event, ‘**Chemistry’s Got Talent**’ witnessed a plethora of talent from students of chemistry within and outside of college. Students showcased performances, ranging from music and dance to even art and comedy, once again proving the adage that ‘*Other than titrations, chemists do not have end points.*’



COMPUTER SCIENCE SOCIETY

The Computer Science Society, also popularly known as The CompSoc, was founded in 1990 and revived in 2012.

We are a group of individuals from varying academic background unified by keen love for computer science. The objective of our society is to influx knowledge related to computers and technology in the minds of students. Computers are a huge part of our lives and using them efficiently is a skill highly in demand and hence our society's participation becomes extremely essential.

The year 2015-16 has been an amazing academic session for us. In the first half of the academic session, with our goal to develop interest and increase college participation in technology trends, we focused organized and conducted workshops on Photoshop, Web Development and organize events like Tech Hunt, which are a part of few things that kick started this academic session.

The Photoshop workshop happened on 19th September 2015, where elementary level of Photoshop was taught to fellow junior members of the college. After this session, many informal learning sessions were organized in small groups who wanted to learn it at an intermediate level. Next CompSoc organized a Tech- Treasure Hunt on 10th October 2015 which was an on campus on the spot treasure hunt where the clues are tech related. The outreach within the college was good with 20 participating teams. This was organized at intra-college level.

On the list of events for 2016 included Gameface – A gaming competition on various platforms, The Annual Tech-Fest which took place on 27th and



28th February 2016. Gameface is a gaming competition on Play Station4 on platform. Games like Fifa' 15, God of War, Mortal Combat, WWE and many more were part of the gaming competition .

The Computer Science Society organized its Annual Tech Fest Cybercept' 16 on 17th and 18th March 2016. It includes one of our best online events Orfik- The Online Tech- Treasure Hunt, Online Logo Making Competition. The fest was initiated by its Inaugural talk by Mr. Anup Kalbalia, from Codechef addressed the audience to create awareness on competitive programming. The various offline events of the Tech Fest included Cryptactic – A platform to code/de-code, Programming – A programming competition where one can code in any language, Tech Hunt – On Campus Treasure Hunt, X-centricity: The Tech Quiz.

With its strenuous hard work and devotion in past years, the society has surpassed all the hurdles and has emerged as one of the most active student's society of St. Stephen's College.

DEBATING SOCIETY

The Debating Society is one of the oldest societies in St. Stephen's College. We believe that public speaking is a skill that can be developed and that critical thinking abilities required for debating can be nurtured by everyone. In consonance with this view, in 2012, the society was reorganized as an "open society" which allowed anyone to enlist as a member. As a result, the Debating Society is currently the largest Debating Society, by membership and participation in the Debating Circuit and welcomes hundreds of Junior



members into its fold every year. The unique value of the society lies in its ability to capture the discussions that surround us today. Debating is no longer about flowery rhetoric but about principled argumentation.

We lay emphasis on free thinking, creativity, and well informed discourse encouraging students to voice their opinion on a range of issues. We aim to continue to support the tradition of intellectual curiosity and socially-conscious discussion that is central to the evolving future of our great nation. The following is a list of events organised under the aegis of the Debating Society:

- **The 68th Mukarji Memorial Debate:** The flagship event of the Debating Society,

The Mukarji Memorial Debate is organised every year in January/February. For the past 68 years, The Mukarji Memorial Debate has held its position as the oldest collegiate tournament in the country and has been the centrepiece of India's debating calendar. It is as old as the country itself and has been seen over the years as one of the most anticipated events in the debating circuit, and is considered to be the most prestigious trophy that a college debater can claim to have bagged. Like the country, the tournament has grown and changed with each passing year. MukMem is held in the Parliamentary Debate format and has



witnessed participation from many prestigious Indian and international institutions including Trinity College, Dublin; Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; University College, Lahore; various IITs, IIMs and National Law Schools among others. This year, The 68th Mukarji Memorial Debate was held from 4th to 7th February, 2016 and saw participation from 250 students from all across India and abroad. National Law University, Delhi emerged as champions of MukMem and Shri Ram College of Commerce were the runners-up.

- **3rd Mukarji Memorial ProAm Debate:** The first of its kind in the Indian University debating circuit, the Mukarji Memorial Pro Am Debate, is a pioneer initiative of the Debating Society of St. Stephen's College and was first held in 2013. The ProAm Debate encourages professional debaters to team up with amateurs facilitating the exchange of ideas and opinions within the teams and making the entire debating experience more enriching. Past editions of the debate saw a variety of unconventional and intellectually stimulating motions covering a range of topics from politics, society, literature and history to economics, science, medicine and law. ProAm debate continues the process of transforming today's amateurs into the pros of tomorrow. The 3rd Mukarji Memorial ProAm Debate was held from 10th to 13th



September and 150 students from all over the country participated in the debate. Ramjas College emerged as the winners while Hansraj College were the runners-up.

- **Training Workshops:** Members of the Debating Society have also conducted a variety of workshops, training modules and demonstrations in the college on the kinds of issues that inform public discourse today; like international relations, economics, gender and sexuality, morality, ethics, politics, climate change, law and justice, scientific ethics etc. Members of the society also take interest in introducing school students to the parliamentary form of debating and has conducted extensive workshops in Vasant Valley School, Nirja Modi School, Jaipur among others. The society members were also involved in the organisation of the India Today Debate for school students.
- **Conventional Debates:** The society has organised various conventional debates in the past. As part of Vigilance Week, the society organised a conventional debate in collaboration with ONGC. The theme was “Punitive Vigilance as a tool of Good Governance” and students from different colleges debated upon the motion “Preventive Vigilance is better than Punitive Vigilance”. The society



also spearheaded the organisation of the KK Birla Conventional Debate.

- **Performance in competitive tournaments:** The society has also been extremely successful over the last year, winning prestigious tournaments in colleges across the country.

Members of the society have won 1st College of Business Studies Parliamentary Debate, 4th Rm Manohar Lohia Parliamentary Debate Lucknow, Symbiosis Law School Parliamentary Debate Pune, have been finalists at 1st College of Business Studies Parliamentary Debate, 34th Frank Thakur Das Memorial Parliamentary Debate KMC, 4th Rm Manohar Lohia Parliamentary Debate Lucknow, Polemic Parliamentary Debate Ramjas College, Natasha Ranjit Memorial Parliamentary Debate Miranda House, 9th Annual Shanti Narayan Memorial Parliamentary Debate Hansraj College, Stella Maris College Parliamentary Debate Chennai, have been semifinalists at People's Speak Parliamentary Debate Sri Venkateshwara College, NLIU Debate Bhopal, NUJS Parliamentary Debate Calcutta, Derozio Memorial Debate Presidency University Calcutta, ILNU Parliamentary Debate Nirma University Ahmedabad, Polemic Parliamentary Debate Ramjas College, Natasha Ranjit Memorial Parliamentary Debate Miranda House, 9th Annual Shanti Narayan Memorial Parliamentary Debate Hansraj College, ILS



Parliamentary Debate Pune and 13th Premchand Memorial Parliamentary Debate. Members of the society have won adjudicator prizes at various debates including 1st College of Business Studies Parliamentary Debate, KMC Freshers Parliamentary Debate, Gambit SRCC Freshers Parliamentary Debate, NLIU Debate Bhopal, Professor Ghanshyam Singh Memorial Parliamentary Debate NLU Delhi, NUJS Parliamentary Debate Calcutta, Derozio Memorial Debate Presidency University Calcutta, Natasha Ranjit Memorial Parliamentary Debate Miranda House, 9th Annual Shanti Narayan Memorial Parliamentary Debate Hansraj College, Stella Maris College Parliamentary Debate Chennai.

The St. Stephen's Debating Society has made a name for itself in the debating circuit

and has come to be seen as a force to be reckoned with.

THE ECONOMICS SOCIETY

The Economics Society, with a passionate council, successfully hosted a number of events this academic year including Talks, Lectures, Debates and Committee simulations. The National Economics Fest held in January 2016 saw participation from across the country and is recognised to have been one of the best Economics Fest witnessed by Delhi University.

The activities undertaken by the society can be broadly clubbed under the following heads:



- **Talks and Lectures:** The Society hosted some of the most eminent economists including Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia and the Chief Economic Advisor, Mr Arvind Subramanian. Other speakers included Ms Jayati Ghosh, Dave Ramsden (Economic Advisor, UK) and many others. The lectures provided the students an opportunity to analyse the various aspects of the global Economy and tried to provide solutions to the problems the Indian Economy faces today.
- **Debates:** The society hosted the annual Vinod Chaudhary Memorial Debate which saw large participation from across Delhi and also witnessed an engaging and thought provoking debate on key Economic concerns of India.
- **Committee Simulations:** In an attempt to ignite the minds of the students to come up with possible policy suggestions and solutions to issues pertaining to Economics, the Society periodically organised Committee Simulations like the G20 summit which saw the participants donning the role of world leaders as they worked together to construct and restructure policies.
- **Simulations and Quizzes:** The Society also organised various excel based simulations that enabled participants to taste the flavour of the trading floor including all its complexities. The Society also conducted Quizzes based on Economics.
- **Policy discussions and Paper Presentations:** The Society, in its latest initiative to rethink and critically analyse policies, hosted panel discussions which included experts from the fields as panelists who discussed policy implications. The paper presentation competitions held saw students interpreting and discussing policies in India.



- **Political Summit**: The society hosted a Political summit, where politicians from major political parties of the nation came together on a single platform to debate on the parliamentary system in India and also address questions posed by the moderator and students.

The National Economics Fest 2016 was another feather on the cap for the Economics Society. With the two day event witnessing large participation from across the country and over seven challenging events ranging from simulations to quiz, the fest was one of the biggest and the best hosted by the Society

THE ENABLING UNIT

The Enabling Unit is a body of differently-abled students of the college, working towards the inclusion of theirs in the daily-life of the college on one hand, and sensitizes their normal counterparts about various aspects of their life on the other hand. This unit has been formed according to UGC's guidelines, directing that every college should have a unit like this working in it. To meet with the above stated objects, the unit is committed to organize talks/seminars/discussions, workshops, and events like this.

The unit is also committed to provide platform for differently-abled students to showcase their abilities by organizing different competitions. The body consists of differently-abled students themselves, which is a peculiar characteristic of this society, which exhibits the organizational skills of these students. After being reformed experiencing a revival, the unit commenced working in mid Jan of this year. The unit started with its inaugural event on 3-2-2016. The event had a panel discussion on "on understanding disability", in which they had Dr. Nikhil Jain (a social activist), speaking on 'Divyang and Its Connotations/Implications'; Dr. Tanmoi Bhattacharya (professor in



the department of linguistics, University of Delhi), speaking on ‘Linguistic Constructs In Disability’; and Dr. Jagdeesh Chandra (Professor in the department of Political Science in Hindu College, University of Delhi), speaking on ‘Various Terms/Terminologies In Disabilities’. This panel discussion really proved to be an eye-opener for all in our understanding of disability. Followed this was a musical concert put up by talented singers/musicians students studying in various colleges of Delhi University. It not only exhibited their talent, but also enthralled the audience. An Annual fest is known to be an important feature of any society. Keeping this in mind, the unit organized its annual fest ‘Utkarsh’-2016 on 19-3-2016. The unit organized very different events, which were new in the circuit. These were: quiz-single (in Braille for visually-impaired students), poster-writing (in Braille for visually-challenged students); these competitions were opened for other differently-abled students as well; extempore, stand-up comedy, antakshari competition (in a team of five), and skit-competition (in a team of seven). The unit received a huge number of participants in these events, and these new ideas realized through these competitions were gratefully appreciated. In all, this year proved to be productive in terms of the unit is concerned. The unit is striving towards ensuring a barrier-free, accessible, healthy and sensitized environment for all the differently-abled students of the college. In this connection, the unit is working with the college-administration/authority towards assuring an inclusive and accessible atmosphere for the differently-abled students. The unit will continue to work tirelessly towards ascertaining a healthy ambience for all the differently-abled students of the college and has come to be seen as a force to be reckoned with.



ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY

The English Literary Society began the year with a talk by Mayank Austen Soofi on 19th August 2015. It was an interactive session wherein he shared his experience of working with sex workers of GB Road, for his book *Nobody Can Love You More Than Me* and his blog *The Delhi Wala*. This was followed by a screening of the critically acclaimed movie, *Kill your Darlings* on 28th August 2015. Set in 1940s the movie is based on coming together of the great poets of the Beat Generation: Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac and William Burroughs. The following two events were collaborations with two other societies of the college viz; the Gender Studies Cell and the Poetry Society. The first one was a talk by Dr. Akhil Katyal on ‘The Double Game of Gender or How the Concept Looks in Practice,’ while the second one was a talk by Dr. Ananya Dasgupta on ‘The Forms of Love: Sonnets and *Ghazals* in English.’ We also hosted Padma Shri winner and renowned linguist Dr. Anvita Abbi who delivered a talk on ‘The Last Words: Documenting endangered languages in India.’ It was a session on the languages and culture of Great Andamanese. The society organised its annual conference in October on the topic ‘Rise of the Indian Graphic Novel’. It was a one day conference held on 26th March 2015 with key note address delivered by Vidyun Sabhaney, which was followed by four panels of Student paper presentations and a quiz on Indian Graphic Novels in collaboration with the Quiz Club of the college. We ended the semester with an interactive session with Anna Funder, author of ‘*All that I am*’ and ‘*Stasiland*’.

We began the Second Semester of this academic year by setting up a book stall of pre-owned books on 18th and 19th January 2016. The book stall was organised in association with *Goonj*, a non-profit organisation that collects



usable materials and waste from urban areas and channelizes them as resources for use in rural areas. Our next event was an interactive session with Shyam Bhatia on his book *Bullets and Bylines*. He recounted for us his survival stories as a war reporter. We also held a screening of the award winning documentary *Cities of Sleep* which was followed by a discussion with the assistant director of the film, Aman Mann.

The Annual English Literary Society fest- LOGOS was held on 3rd and 4th March. This year's theme was 'Indian Literary Legacies'. The aim was to explore constant transformation of the literary palette in India that was embedded in social reformation, language debates, gender and caste based politics and Nationalism. The line up for Day One included key note speaker Dr. Syeda Hameed speaking on 'Hali as a Feminist Poet', followed by Dr. Geeta Patel, speaking on the topic 'Lyrical Responsibility: Miraji's Urdu Poetry'. The event included three competitions 'Taboo Not Taboo', 'Caption It' and Student Paper Presentation competition. LOGOS saw paper presentations by students from Lady Shri Ram College, Jesus and Mary College. The winners were Karishma Jayapaul, Sumaira Nawaz, Ashwin Chetry and Uzma Shamim. The second day began with a lecture by Dr M. Asaddudin, who spoke on 'Travelling Genres: Persia, Ingistan and Hindustan' followed by Dr. Premanathan who spoke on 'Tamil Literature in the colonial period'. The event's last speaker was Dr. Mehr Farooqui, who delivered a lecture on 'Ghalib and the Persian Muse'. The fest concluded with a musical event where *ghazals* were performed by students of the college and a quiz on fairytales organised in collaboration with the Quiz club. Our next event was a special two day lecture series on Milton and Chaucer with Harriet Raghunathan. This semester we also started a book club which meets every Monday.



As part of the regular activities of the department, the English Literary Society also organized freshers' welcome.

ENACTUS

Enactus St. Stephen's College has made significant contributions towards its endeavor to transform the lives of the underprivileged, made possible by a talented, dynamic and committed team. In April 2015, we initiated our second social entrepreneurship project, Samhita, which addresses the dire need for the availability and accessibility of clean and safe drinking water to the deprived. Project Samhita tackles this by providing low-cost and low-maintenance bio-sand water filters to the slums in Delhi. About 12 filters were sold in the slums of Jahangirpuri and 2 entrepreneurs were recognized, who manage the installation and marketing of the filter. On the 21st and 22nd of July 2015, our team participated in the Enactus National Competition, wherein Enactus teams from all over the country present their projects and showcase the impact of their outreach efforts. Enactus, St. Stephen's presented Project Kadam and Project Samhita, and made it to the semi-finals. The team won the Unilever Special Competition Grant as well as the Mahindra Rise Special Competition Grant. Project Kadam, our maiden project, which focuses on empowering the differently-abled and treating clubfoot in children, was started in April 2014. In August, we identified one more entrepreneur, Pinkoo, who was employed as a worker at Cure International India, an organization working for the treatment of children afflicted with clubfoot, as As a part of Project Samhita, Enactus collaborated with Bitgiving, a social crowd-funding platform, in September 2015, with the aim of raising funds for social initiatives, which is one of the basic hurdles faced by all Enactus teams. Also held in September were awareness drives in the slums located in Kirti Nagar and Munirka through



which we informed people about the harmful effects of In the month of September 2015, Enactus, SSC participated and won the KPMG Business Ethics Grant Competition, and bagged Rs.25,000. An in-campus session on the functionality of Bio-Sand filters by Mr. Lalit Sharma, Director of Adaptive Technologies, SM Sehgal Foundation, was conducted to familiarize our first years with the filter prototype currently in use in Project Samhita. In October, we held 'Voicing Hands', a sign language workshop in the college, to sensitize students towards the inclusion of the deaf community. In the months of December and January, A Nationwide Clubfoot Awareness Drive was organized by Enactus, SSC, under Project Kadam, with the motive of spreading awareness about the deformity, Clubfoot and its treatment at various government hospitals for free. To mark the conclusion of our Nationwide Clubfoot Awareness Drive, participants from various Enactus teams across India along with the student community, took part in releasing sky lanterns on 27th January, between 6 to 8pm.

This was organized in collaboration with Enactus India, in an effort to educate people about Enactus, St. Stephen's believes in the power of mass media and has been scripting and recording radio shows, in association with FEBA, that are aired in rural areas of Rajasthan and Haryana. The students voice their opinions on various social issues like child labour, women empowerment, career counseling, etc., with the aim to create awareness and break stereotypes in the villages of Rajasthan and Haryana. Currently, our team is in the conceptualization phase of a new social entrepreneurship project, Ahaar, which focuses on converting waste in the form of cow dung (found in dairy farms) and flowers (used in religious institutions) into manure which in turn could be used to enrich farm production and encourage usage of organic manure in households. This would not only have



a positive environmental impact but also raise the quality of life of the dairy farmers. The Enactus, SSC team plans to officially launch the project by the end of March, 2016.

ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY

1. Scavenger Hunt 24th August was the date- the notice boards were ruffled up in search of various posters, people came to know the scientific name of various plants in college.

The scavenger hunt was a curtain-raiser for the Environmental Society and it turned out to be a huge success. Over 40 teams participated in the hunt, by the end of which, all the participants knew their college campus a great deal more than when they started out. Students from all three years took part, but the winners and the runners up were first year students. The scavenger hunt is a great way for the first years to get familiar with the college campus.

To sum it up, Scavenger hunt has firmly established itself as one of the most engaging and fun curtain raiser, hopefully this trend will continue.

2. Talk by BaharDutt

The Environmental Society had the privilege of having BaharDutt, a conservation biologist and environment journalist, to come and interact with the students. She has worked as environment editor for the news channel CNN-IBN. Her role towards wildlife and environment as a whole is phenomenal. She used to run an animal ambulance for injured primates and helped set up a rescue center for them, she's built rope bridges for the Colobus monkey in East Africa, organized a group of snake charmers for alternate livelihoods and spent the last decade reporting from some of the most threatened biodiversity hotspots on the Planet.

The talk was held on the 25th of August 2015 at 2:30 pm in the seminar room.



The turnout was good with about 50-55 students attending. With her big changes and revamping of the way we tackle environment related issues, BaharDutt got the audience hooked right from the start. During the interactive session, there were many questions raised. There were questions like ‘How can we as a society bring about some impact, be it even at the grassroots level, according to an experienced person such as her’ to which she replied that the composting project which the society is doing is a great venture. She also mentioned the need to go out to National parks or Wildlife sanctuaries and just spend some time in the midst of nature. There were questions on how to help at individual levels ,like helping nurture an injured animal and releasing it back into the wild.

After the talk which was for duration of about 45 minutes, there were refreshments served as well. The Society looks forward to getting more such established speakers to interact with the students and trigger enthusiasm in this field.

3. Green Diwali campaign The Environmental Society, St Stephen's college worked towards creating awareness among the junio members of the college about the alternative ways by which Diwali could be celebrated. From making it to a festival of smoke to a festival of lights .A rangoli was made using bio degradable colours and flowers , signifying the essence of green Diwali. A few people were interviewed and these interviews were made into a video clip and was shared over social media, again to great awareness .

4. Prakriti'16

After a long hibernation, The Environmental Society successfully organized Prakriti'16 from 22nd-24th February. This time with a plethora of events that kept everyone hooked. Inaugural Talk by MrAnadish Pal was about the



machination of the Forest Department in Delhi and his personal encounters on saving trees.

Upcycling Workshop- Where students got creative and learnt how to recreate things out of waste to reduce the carbon footprint on this planet.

The Amazing Race– The most anticipated event, this race takes students all around the beautiful campus of Stephens. To find, collect things and do crazy bits like running jumping and just about anything to win! **Green Matter Quiz**– To all the quiz fanatics this was an area interesting enough to venture into. After 2 hours of hard combat, the participants left feeling accomplished at having learnt a great deal from this.

Green Shutter Photography competition– The online photography competition was open to one and all. The themes were “Where the worlds collide” and “Under the moonlight”. This event saw participation from students all across the nation.

5. Dog Vaccination

As our college has become more inclusive of differently abled students The Environmental Society feels the need to make the atmosphere more safe specially for these students in a dog populated campus. This year we aim to vaccinate more than 15 dogs that live in college through collaborations with NGO’s and other organizations to promote the Anti-Rabies Campaign.

6. Paper Recycling Drive

In collaboration with the NGO, Jaagruti, we conducted a paper recycling drive in the month of October, 2015. Embraced by the senior and junior members of the college with great enthusiasm, it was a success with a shocking total of 1200kg of paper waste collected. The library, the science laboratories and the students took great pains to help make the drive a success. Along with the paper waste collected from college, we took to the



streets that were littered with posters as a result of the DUSU elections. Jaagruti recycled the paper and we received recycled notepads and A-4 sheets in return. After giving away a major portion of the recycled material to the library and the science laboratories, we are in the process of selling the rest at a minimum cost and donating the money to a worthy environmental cause.

7. **Earth Hour** For the annual Earth Hour Campaign that is religiously followed by everyone worldwide, we will be doing our part in college. Like every other year, we plan to switch off all the lights in college from 8:30 to 9:30pm. Along with that we will be having activities like light painting to engage students and create awareness among them regarding Earth hour and its significance.

THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP CELL

The Entrepreneurship Cell encourages students to think like an entrepreneur and come up with innovative business ideas. Our main event is the National B-Plan, wherein potential entrepreneurs present their business ideas. Other events include Rev-it-up (a case study competition), , etc. This academic session, the society organised a talk by Mr. Boman Irani (actor, photographer). He inspired the students to strive for their dreams and make things happen.

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT CELL

The Finance and Investment Cell is a large student body dedicated to spreading knowledge about finance and its applications in an interactive and novel way. Founded in 2007, it has witnessed remarkable growth over time. The society is identified as one of the most active ones in St. Stephen's



College. Over the course of the year, F&IC organizes a number of events and sessions to facilitate learning.

The society recognizes the relevance of case studies in day-to-day to problem solving. As a result of which, two of the biggest events organized by the society are centre around the same. First off, under CCL or the Case Club League, regular case study solving sessions were conducted. It also organized a case study competition wherein people solve real-time cases and guesstimates. Involving the usage of logical and analytical skills, the competition allows students to step into the shoes of business analysts. This year, the final round was in the form of an interview, thereby making participants think on their toes, akin to the real life case interviews conducted by firms. The event has grown over the years to attract huge participation from undergraduate students.

The International DreaMerger is an event which is immensely popular throughout the city, to the point that it has become a buzzword. It follows a case study based pattern centre around Mergers and Acquisitions. The quality of competition at this event continues to unbeatable. Spread over three taxing rounds, DreaMerger puts all financial concepts to test. Preparing for the DreaMerger is a great learning experience for the society, while preparing high quality cases, we learn a lot about mergers and acquisitions and their valuations! DM, as the event is popularly called, was held alongside the CCL, from August to October.

The society takes pride in bringing together the worlds of finance and quizzing under Finatic. An online quiz competition organized by the society that attracts the attention of all quizzing geniuses. Because of the sheer



popularity of this event amongst the quizzing circuit, it is now organized twice a year (September and December); with the winners of the second quiz automatically qualifying for the finals of the offline quiz at Das Capital.

The society has a little something for everybody. For the public speaker, there is the annual public speaking event: Financial Summit. It's an event that sees simulations of important committees that discuss important financial issues plaguing the world. The event attracts students from a multitude of backgrounds for discussion, debate and deliberation. Held in October, Financial Summit 2015 saw a plethora of issues being discussed: from financial inclusion in India to privatization of oil field in the Falkland Islands.

Through the thorough understanding of finance, the society realizes the magic it could unleash if even an element of this knowledge could reach the masses. This revelation led to the development of a fairly young branch: an initiative called the Financial Literacy Campaign, a campaign that aims to empower the financially illiterate, through the dissemination of financial knowledge and real-time practice of the same. It plans to expand its base in the forthcoming months, already having started with the karamchaaris of our college, their children, and collaboration with a few established NGOs, like Teach For India and Make A Difference. We continued the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana from last year, targeting the college karamcharis. This year we will be organizing the second FLC fair to generate awareness about financial inclusion, to be held from 17-19 March.

To enlighten the student body of the intricacies of finance, the crux of the society lies in the Investment Group Sessions and the Excel-modelling



Sessions that are held regularly, where members of the society gladly take it upon themselves to discuss and interact with students regarding the splendor of finance. Innovative methods are employed to make topics ranging from stocks and bonds to derivatives and technical financial economics interesting and fun to learn. The purpose of these sessions is to impart financial knowledge among the student body at large, one of the core objectives of the society. Many a times these are followed up with a set of questions testing the concepts discussed in the session to ensure that the ideas are clearly understood.

Excel Modelling infuses the knowledge of MS Excel which is the base of games like stock exchange simulations. The scope of financial modelling has expanded in the society since the formation of this vertical, leading to the conducting of an annual mock stock game "Financial Knights".

Of course, learning is not limited to the classroom. We have held talks and discussions over the course of the year, as stalwarts from the world of finance and business grace us with their presence, and explain otherwise seemingly abstruse concepts in an easily accessible manner. We have co-hosted the Chief Economic Advisor of India, Dr. Arvind Subramanian; the former Governor of Reserve Bank of India and a nominated member of the Upper House of India's Parliament the Rajya Sabha, Dr. Bimal Jalan and have also played host to Dr. Shamika Ravi, an expert on microfinance and financial literacy from the Brookings Institute. Our inaugural talk was held in July, and exposed undergraduates to the nitty-gritty of the Eurozone crisis.

The research vertical is the newest addition to our Society. We undertook research projects to gain deeper insights into topics such as the Chinese



economic slowdown; thus supplementing our current understanding of the subject. These findings have been published in our annual journal Stephen's Finance Review (SFR), the only finance journal at the undergraduate level. The Editorial Board painstakingly undertakes work around the year for publishing a bi-monthly newsletter With The Fool (WTF) to allow us a fun reading and writing experience.

On 8-9 January, the society organized Das Capital, the annual festival, a true financial extravaganza with a multitude of events. These events cover all the activities that we do all round the year. Students from various colleges in and around Delhi duly enjoy the festival. The events include mock stock exchanges, debates, simulations, quizzes and excel games.

FINE ARTS SOCIETY

The Fine Arts Society of St. Stephen's College attempts to promote art and the understanding of art through involvement. The Society gives a platform and direction to budding Picassos and Leonardos to create their own masterpieces. It helps not only painters, but also cartoonists and lovers of other crafts to showcase their talents. Interactive art and craft sessions, workshops, lectures on art, exhibitions and competitions are conducted on a regular basis by the Society. These help students imbibe ingenuity and creativity in their outlook and approach towards art. The session of 2015-2016 started out with ambitious plans and ardent spirits. We held a moderately successful orientation and amassed around sixty curious artlings. The Society started the year with a face painting competition. The café tree was chock-a-block with enthusiastic participants and the superheroes they created on the faces of willing friends. Then moved on to our trademark event of Community Art, held under the mighty branches of the Café Tree,



where junior members delightedly experienced the power of creation. The individual works of art were put together to create larger masterpieces, that left the proud creators feeling accomplished.

This was followed by our maiden Fine Arts Quiz which saw a huge participation from not only the Quizzing enthusiasts but also from art lovers. January is the month the world lost a jewel-RK Laxman. Our exhibition of some of his most popular cartoons paid a grand tribute to the Common Man in his very own style. Through the year, we have been involved with the Wordsworth Project, providing them with illustrations to informative passages for children, and honing our skills in the process.

Art is not limited to paint and canvas. It is something beyond that. Exploring the further horizons of art we organized a kinetic art workshop, which involved exploiting the art of motion. This was organized in collaboration with the Devi Arts Foudation,

This was followed by our fest ‘Artipelago’ which was organised over a span of three days. Day I witnessed the sketchbook workshop. This was followed by scarf doodling, wherein young and passionate designers recreated fashion. Continuing the similar theme of the second day, we organised the T-shirt designing event followed by pottery workshop aimed at providing art enthusiasts an opportunity to experience art aside of paints and brushes. On day 3, the junior members were exposed to the culturally and emotionally loaded haiga art, which has its roots from Japanese literature. In order to stimulate the competitive instincts of the budding artists we organised ‘Create it Quick’, wherein the participants were given tasks like origami, clay modelling and were expected to produce the maximum copies in the stipulated time.



GENDER STUDIES CELL

The Gender Studies Cell 2015-16 rang in the academic session with an orientation-cum-spoken word event. As part of the Cell's endeavour to bridge the gap between theory and praxis, between personal experience and academic texts, the Cell has envisaged a yearlong project, Taboo Diaries. The motivation behind facilitating events under the umbrella of taboos is to explore the comfortable, uncomfortable and the spaces in between. It is to confront the privileges and complicities we inhabit, as well as the myriad politics and identifications we shape and are shaped by. Taboo Diaries: Chapter 1, was an informal discussion aiming to explore the politics of the hijab, lived experience and its negotiation with feminism and choice, among other things. Chapter 2 involved a discussion on sexual practices, shame and othered bodies, and access to reproductive health care services, contraception, counselling. In an attempt to engage more critically with the possibilities of intertextuality and intersectionality, the Cell also collaborated with the English Literary Society to host a talk by Dr. Akhil Katyal on 'The Double Game of Sexuality'. This was succeeded by a discussion with Ms. Arjumand Ara and Sheeba Aslam Fehmi on translating Atiq Fehmi's 'The Patience Stone', in collaboration with the Centre for Gender, Culture and Social Processes, St. Stephen's College. Other collaborative ventures included one with The Photographic Society on repealing Section 377, and a celebration of queer identity and assertions.

The second semester began with a workshop on gender fluidity, followed by an interactive discussion with activists Ms. Rachel Moran and Ruchira Gupta, founder of Apne Aap Worldwide, on human trafficking and prostitution, the state and legal systems. Other events in the semester included a talk on gender's negotiation with nationalism by Sunalini Kumar,



and a discussion with Fulbright scholar Reina Gattuso on pleasure, power and female sexual agency. The Cell also released the second issue of its highly acclaimed journal- *Kön*, which received thought-provoking entries from across the globe. The Cell also aims to locate performance arts and performativity of gender as critical sites for subversion, contestation and negotiation. In keeping with the same, the Cell collaborated with The Planning Forum, St. Stephen's College, inviting feminist stand-up comedian Radhika Vaz to discuss stereotypes, feminist politics and its negotiation in stand-up comedy. The Cell also hosted the post-punk band The Vinyl Records, comprising four women from Assam and Arunachal Pradesh to discuss the possibilities and challenges that gendered realities in music present. The society screened the films, *Muzaffarnagar Abhi Baqi Hai* and *In The Mood for Love*, to engage with questions of communal violence, queer identities and the politics of friendship, family and love. In collaboration with NGO En Gendered's I View World Film Festival 2016, the Gender Studies Cell proudly hosted film screenings of *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* and *I Am-Omar*, followed by an enriching discussion with Oscar-nominated filmmaker Mira Nair and National Award-winning director Onir on filmmaking as a political act, the possibilities of transnational feminism, and the possibilities and challenges of diasporic film.

To sum up, the Gender Studies Cell's engagement with taboos, attempted to contribute to an inspired and ever-expanding community of thinkers, and its endeavours have been appreciated and supported, with a working committee that has grown from six to sixty in the span of two and a half years. We hope that this is only the beginning of what promises to be a deeply insightful and enriching year for the college community and university campus at large.



HIKING CLUB

- **Dodital Trek – May:** During the summer break of 2015, in the month of May, the Hiking Club organised a trek in Uttarakhand. The trekkers experienced the mystical beauty of the Himalayan state and gained an overall height of 4000m.
- **Cycling Trips to India Gate and Qutub Minar – August.** In August 2015, members of the hiking club went for a cycling trip to India Gate. It was after this that the club organised a cycling trip to Qutub Minar which was open to all junior members in college. The trip was a great experience for everyone who went for it.
- **Talk Denali – August.** On the 21st of August the Hiking Club organised a talk by Prerna Dangi, a club alumnus who has summited Denali, the highest peak in North America. Starting with the preparation required, Prerna talked about all of the challenges which were a part of the climb. Participated in the North Zone of Sport Climbing held at Delhi. The Hiking Club sent a team to participate in the North Zone climbing competition, which took place during September of last year. The competition was held at the Indian Mountaineering Foundation. Although nobody from the club won any prizes, the thrill of participating and cheering on club members made the whole experience a great one.
- **Trek to Chanderkhani Pass (3600 m) – October** During the odd semester break, the Hiking Club organised two treks simultaneously; both in Manali, Himachal Pradesh. The trek was to a pass called Chanderkhani, and went up to a height of 3600 metres. It turned out to be a great experience of trekkers who were left spell bound by the sights that nature had to offer.
- **Trek to Kaliheni Base Camp (4202 m) – October** The other trek



went up to the Kaliheni Base Camp, at the height of 4202 meters. The team was accompanied by Dr. Sanjay Kumar, the Hiking Club's staff advisor. Though the plan included going beyond the base camp but weather conditions limited the ambitions. Teamwork and ghost stories were the highlights of this trek.

- Trek Talk - October

After both the trek groups had returned, an interactive talk was hosted with newbie and veteran trekkers sharing their experiences and the memories they made.

- Participated in the Aquaterra Challenge 2015 - December

The Aquaterra Challenge is a unique competition which has been organised by Aquaterra Adventures since 2013, which combines a range of adventure sports in an exciting race. The competition comprises trekking, mountain biking, and rafting. Last year, the Hiking Club sent a team of 4 to participate in it. The team was extremely successful at the challenge, and secured the third position overall.

- Rock climbing at Ramjas – January

On the 16th of January 2016, members of the Hiking Club went to Ramjas Rocks in West Patel Nagar. Here, they were, for the first time, able to test their climbing skills on real rocks.

The experience was a great one, and those who went learned a lot about the differences between natural rocks and an artificial climbing wall.

11th St. Stephen's Rohan Kanhai Datta and Sunil Chandra Memorial Open Sport

- Climbing Competition – February



The competition was organized at the Eshwaran Bharatan climbing wall near the college gymnasium from 5th to 7th February, 2016. The event saw huge participation of climbers hailing from various parts of the country. Members of the club not only organized the competition effectively but also performed brilliantly in the competition. Spread over three days the competition saw climbers locking horns for prizes to be awarded in 8 different

categories. Rafting Trip to Rishikesh – March. The club organized a rafting trip to Atali, Rishikesh on 5th and 6th, March 2016.

A batch of 52 adventure enthusiasts packed up for facing the mighty waters of Ganga. Whether it was falling off yourself or throwing your raftmates into water or braving the gushing white water rapids or be it the warmth of bonfire on a cold breezy night, the trip turned out to be a fun filled escapade from busy college life.

HINDI SAHITYA SABHA

Hindi Sahitya Sabha is one of the oldest and foremost literary societies of the college. The society has been successful even this year as always in creating an interest for the Hindi literary traditions among the junior members. The academic year began with the orientation for the first year junior members in the month of August. Hindi Mah, the much awaited fest of the society in the odd semester, encompassing a variety of literary and cultural events in the month of September was very well received this year too. Hindi Mah unfurled with a poetry recitation competition in memory of Shri Ravi Shanker Upadhyay in which junior members recited some self composed and adapted poems. Creative writing competition was a big success in terms of providing a platform to students to think and write in a



language not so popularly used for the same in college. The Sabha was pleased to have the Asmita Theatre group perform a theatrical adaptation of Bhishma Sahani's story 'Amritsar aa gaya' in college. The audiences were left mesmerized by the end of the performance.

Given the diverse nature of the college community, the general life students from the non Hindi speaking belt of the country was bit difficult in Delhi. To equip them with basic conversational skills, the Hindi Sahitya Sabha started spoken Hindi classes. This programme was well appreciated by the college community.

The even semester began with a talk by Sh. Vimallesh Kanti Verma on Globalisation of Hindi. The Sabha paid its humble tributes to the great poet Sh. Hativansha Rai Bacchan on his death anniversary by holding a goshti to discuss is poetry. In the month of February the young zealous members of the sabha organized a goshti to discuss the nine rasas of the Hindi literature. The Ras Bahar, as it was called educated the junior members with the nuances of the moods of the Hindi poetry.

'Dharohar', the annual festival of the Sabha was inaugurated by the Principal John Verghese. The inauguration was followed by staging of a theatrical adaptation of Ismat Chughtai's 'Aur Ek Sach' by IPTA. The inter college competitions were well attended by the students from various college. Mukhar the extempore speech competition; Vagdhara the self composed poetry recitation competition; and Anushtup quiz competition was an opportunity for the students to show case their talents. Dharohar concluded with a 'Hasya Kavi Sammelan'. An event of this sort was organized for the first time in college where great Hindi poets presented their pieces on one stage. The Hindi Sahitya Sabha also released its annual magazine 'Dastak'. 2015-16 was filled with great joy and learning. The



wonderful guidance and affection that we receive from our staff advisor Dr. Neelam Saxena has been particularly important for all our endeavours.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP

The Informal Discussion Group is a society which seeks to provide an alternate forum for discussion and debate to the students of the college. It is informal both in its internal working and in the format of its discussions. It takes pride in the democratic nature of its functioning wherein the opinion of each member is equally important in deciding which topics to explore and which guests to invite.

The most common format of its discussions is inviting an individual who is eminent in his or her field of work to introduce a particular topic and elaborate on it, which is followed by an informal and unmoderated round of questions and answers. The topics which are explored are diverse. The guests invited have ranged from Dr Mrinal Satish speaking on myths surrounding rape laws in India, Dr Nivedita Menon on 'gharwapsi' in 2015 and Dr Jaya ti Ghosh explaining the Greek economic crisis, to popular comic Kanan Gill speaking on the comedy scene in India. This academic year apart from Mrinal Satish and Jayati Ghosh, it has hosted prominent Dalit writer Ajay Navaria, academics Achin Vanaik and Novy Kapadia, Right to Information activist Anjali Bhardwaj, and Middle-East studies specialist P.R. Kumaraswamy. In the past, it has also formed reading groups choosing one theme to study through weekly or fortnightly meetings in a semester. The themes have been feminist theory, religion and education. It also conducts discussion forums within the student body on topics of strong current interest such as the intensification of the Israel-Palestine conflict in 2014 and



the ban on pornography in India in 2015. As can be seen from the summary of the events that the IDG conducts, it essentially aims to provide the student body a platform through which to understand and seek new ways of seeing social and political developments, crises, movements and efforts which interest them without the bonds of formality and ceremony which tends to restrict discussion.

MALAYALAM LITERARY SOCIETY

The year began with the orientation session for the first year students on 24 August 2015 which saw a large number of students enthusiastic to join the society.

The first event for the year was Onam, which was coordinated and celebrated in college with the active participation of junior members from diverse backgrounds on 1 and 2 September 2015. The first day was marked by Pulikali (Tiger Dance) around the college premises by the first year male students. Pookalam, Thiruvathira, Vanchipattu, Chendamelam and the traditional OnaSadya were the highlights of the second day. Days and nights were spent working towards the event and a brilliant celebration was put up by the society.

The annual Kerala Trip took place during 11 to 22 December. It was a mesmerizing experience for all those who had joined in. Travelling from the chilly cold Delhi to the green Kerala was memorable. Junior members accompanied by a senior member were taken to touristic spots from Wayanad to Kochi on this 10 days trip covering beaches, lakes, the backwaters, herbal gardens, coir museum, churches, houseboat stays and other shopping destinations. This was an opportunity to experience Kerala and its culture.



With the dawn of the even semester, the society regained momentum. Movie screenings are conducted once in a month. The highlight of this semester has been the talk by the Sahitya Akademi Award Winner, Smt. K R Meera which was held on February 19, 2016. She gave her listeners an insight into her literary works and on various aspects of the society in Kerala. The journal 'Kairali' consisting of articles and poems in Malayalam, English and other vernaculars will be published soon.

The annual play in English, 'Kanal' was staged on 11th March. The play focused on the stigma faced by women and the society as a whole in the 1970s during the peak of the Communist rule in Kerala. A medley concert is scheduled to be held on 14th March showcasing the talents of the society members. Medleys consisting of songs in Malayalam, English and Hindi will be the highlight of this event.

A host of other informal discussions by various professors and literary figures have been planned for the last week of March. This year, the society has focused upon conducting quality events aimed at building the literary exposure and encouraging the talents of its members.

MATHEMATICS SOCIETY

The Mathematics Society of St. Stephen's College is devoted to pursuing activities aimed at fostering interest in Mathematics. Throughout the year, the Mathematics Society has held talks and discussions by eminent mathematicians. The Society organized the Prof. S.B. Mathur Memorial Lecture Series in September. The guest lecturers discussed topics from fields ranging from optimization to group theory with the students. The society also published a journal, Mathematica which featured articles written by students as well as Professors .



The society started the Professor Nagpaul Fellowship Programme in the year 2014. In this programme, the teacher mentors a group of students to study a topic in Mathematics beyond their curriculum. During the last academic year the students worked under the guidance of Dr. Radha Mohan, Prof. Geetha Venkataraman and Dr. Prashanto Chatterjee

One of the highlights of the Mathematics Society was our National Fest, 'Integration'. From intellectually stimulating events, such as Arithmancy, Pictionary, Treasure Hunt and Quizzes to intense paper presentations, Integration offered a wide variety of grey matter churning activities. Throughout the years, the fest has seen increasing participation from across Delhi and the NCR region. 'Mathsoc Open', a cubing competition, recognized by the World Cube Association (WCA), was also organized this year during February and witnessed participation in large numbers from students.

This year, the society is organizing a National Workshop for the first time. The workshop is on 'Group Theory and its Applications' .

From organizing events and our National Fest, 'Integration', to starting the Mathematics Research Forum, a branch of the society aimed at promoting research in Mathematics.

THE MUSIC SOCIETY

The Launch Concert 2015 kicked off the new academic session with a bang and acted as an informal orientation for the fresh batch of Stephanians, with the College Hall packed with audience members. After this great start, the society organised the **Fresher's Acoustica**, an event exclusively for first years. The college appreciated the new entrants in the society by showing



up in huge numbers. This was followed by the **Senior's Acoustica**, where the second and third student members proved their mettle, as they have been doing in the past.

The year 2016 began on a high note with **Winter Jam**, organized in the Mess Lawns, where students were able to sit back and listen to music performed by fellow Stephanians. The event was a resounding success, with many students appreciating the whole set up. This was followed by the annual festival, **Crosswinds**, the society's crowning jewel and one of the most sought-after music competitions in Delhi University. Colleges from across Delhi gathered for this two-day musical bonanza. The fest had various competitive categories, under the banners of '*Tarannum*', the Indian Music Competition, and '*Cadenza*', the Western Music Competition. The Music Society also collaborated with the SUS to hold **The Battle of Bands**, organized on the second day of "Harmony 2016". It was extremely well received in the Delhi Music circuit and witnessed quality musicians coming up to showcase their talent. The **Annual Concert Production** will be the closing event of the academic year 2015-16. It marks a new beginning in the annual calendar of society's events and this time it will be executed under an over-arching theme: Milestones in Music.

The Music Society, in its history, has participated and won innumerable competitions within Delhi, and all over the country. Carrying forward the legacy this year too, the western music team, **Sound Machine** secured the first position in the Western Music Competition held at Gargi College. **Lina Poumai** won the first place at Gargi College for Western Solo, and **Anirvan Divaker** won the 'Best Instrumentalist' at Hindu College. **Aman Zacharia** placed first in Dyal Singh College's 'Semi-Classical Solo'



Competition. All in all, the Music Society at St. Stephen's College, showcased a series of successful events this year. It continued to strive to maintain its objective of spreading an understanding and love for music. Not only did it endeavour to bring out and nurture the musical talent of the student community, but it also provided a very enriching experience to the listeners and all those who participated and became a part of it. The society will continue to strive towards bigger and better goals in the coming years, spreading the joy of music in a healthy and spirited manner.

NORTH-EAST SOCIETY

The St. Stephen's North-East Society is, as yet, the youngest society of St. Stephen's College, officially formed on the 1st of February, 2016. It is an embodiment of the College's ideal of unity-in-diversity, founded upon the vision of providing a platform to showcase and share the various cultures of the North-East, and discuss and spread awareness of issues pertaining to the North-East. The following are the events organized by the Society since its existence:

1. 'The Inaugural', the official launch event of the Society held on the 18th of February, 2016 in the Mess lawns from 2:30 pm onwards : An evening of cultural extravaganza celebrating the various cultures of the North-East, flaunted with an array of splendid performances like the Bihu dance, Thado dance, Gorkhali dance, etc. On this day, the North-East Society was officially launched with the ringing of a North-Eastern traditional gong by the then Principal, Rev. Dr. Valson Thampu and the grand unfurling of the Society Logo.

2. 'The Feast', the first ever North-Eastern Lunch in college was organized in the Dining Hall on the 19th of February, 2016: It featured all manners of



scrumptious North-Eastern cuisines and foodstuffs.3. A Talk based on the theme ‘Introduction to the North-East’ will be held in the month of April.

4. The annual journal, “Orchid” to be published in April is in the process of editing.

5. A movie screening will be held in the last week of March.

PLANNING FORUM

The Planning Forum was established in 1960 in the spitting image of the Government’s Planning Commission. It is a student run body which in its capacity can mobilize opinion on matters of debate and help bring about relevant change at the grass-root level. The society’s events have always been instrumental in realizing the aforementioned objective of the society.

The Planning Forum’s activities can be clubbed under the following heads:

1) Talks and Discussions: We have hosted renowned speakers from a diverse spectrum of fields such as Economics, Politics, Policy, Journalism, International Relations, Law, Feminism and Literature. Our previous guests include the likes of the Dalai Lama, Dr.Manmohan Singh, Arundhati Roy, Barkha Dutt, Bimal Jalan, Arvind Kejriwal plus a battery of Ambassadors/High Commissioners including the Israeli Ambassador to India, Dr.Alon Ushpiz and the President of the National Bank of Poland, H.E Mr.Marek Belka. This year, we particularly had the honour of interacting with the Chief Economic Advisor of India, Mr. Arvind Subramanian and his counterpart from the UK, Sir Dave Ramsden. We also had Dr. Subir Gokarn (former deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India) and Mr. P. Chidambaram (former Finance and Defence Minister for India)address us on pertinent issues of India’s economic risks and the social unrest in a changing India, respectively.The concept of doing Talks and



Discussions the Planning Forum way germinates from the need to keep the student body abreast with ideas of topical importance and is strengthened by effort we put into knowledge dissemination through this forum means of student panel preparedness and post-talk review sessions.

2) Simulations: The Planning Forum simulates policy making at its best during its flagship event, the St. Stephen's Model United Nations and this year, the event was organized at a scale unwitnessed by the society or college till date. 350 delegates from across the country participated in the MUN this year. The Stephanian legacy and penchant for high academic credentials was on display at this much awaited MUN which had diverse and exciting committees like the Russian Security Cabinet with a classified agenda, The Meeting of the Princely States of India in July 1947, JCC (Axis v/Allied, WW2), the European Central Bank, the United Nations Human Rights Council and the UNGA-DISEC. Considerably one of the most competitive and selective conferences in the north circuit, it was one of the few international and invitational MUNs around. Apart from the MUN, we have also organized numerous internal simulations, a cross college quorum leading up to the MUN as well as Error & Trial (our court-room simulation). All of these seek to give students a well rounded experience of intimidating national and international challenges by allowing them to visualize themselves in the shoes of policymakers and bureaucrats.

3) The Stephanian Forum: Our society manages an online college blog, which encourages students to express opinion on any issue that piques their interest and passion. The blog is entirely student led and is independent as well as neutral in terms of its ideology so as to cater to a wider collegiate audience.



4) Vox Populi: One of our newest ventures, Vox Populi, literally translated as the ‘Voice of the People’, seeks to provide impact-driven student initiatives, non-governmental and otherwise, the platform to outline their projects and call for volunteers.

5) Project Daksh: Conceptualized in July 2015, on the lines of the Prime Minister Modi’s project of ‘Skill India’, Daksh is an English speaking skill development initiative for a select group of 18-25 years of age. The development of the skill is slotted to be followed by connection of the target group with the job market in roles that suit their skill set and more importantly, their aspirations. Every aspect of the course- its conception, the content development, the interactive classes with students- are all internally managed.

PUNJABI LITERARY SOCIETY

VIRSA-The Punjabi Literary Society, St. Stephen's College was founded in 2015 and began its activities officially this semester.

This idea was brought forth so that the culture of native and non-native Punjabis in College can be represented.

The Society is aimed at familiarizing the junior and senior members of the College with the rich literature, colourful culture and tradition of Punjab and Punjabis all over the globe.

The society is not restricted to Punjabis alone and is open to people across cultures and regions which was also proved by the enthusiasm shown by junior members in making the first ever society event, Lohri celebration, a roaring success. The event took place on 13 January 2016 in association with the Students’ Union Society,



St. Stephen's College, The major highlight of the programme was a one-act play, DullaBhatti deeply appreciated by the audience. This was followed by sharing the significance and history of the festival with the audience. The event concluded with the playing of dhol and serving of sweets and Lohri offerings. March saw the organization of the much-awaited first ever Punjabi Lunch in the college.

With a sumptuous menu of makki ki roti-sarson ka saag, kadhai paneer, dal makhni and lassi followed by gajarka halwa and tille wal ikulfi the lunch saw an overwhelming participation with the dining hall filled to capacity. The lunch was preceded by a cultural performance which saw members of the Punjabi Academy, Delhi and some society members showcase gatka (a Sikh martial arts form), bhangra and gidda (folk dance) all of which was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by the student body.

- Seminars by eminent Punjabi professors and authors on the rich literary legacy left behind by Bhai Veer Singh, Sheikh Farid, Bulleh Shah, Amrita Pritam, Prof. Puran Singh, Dhani Ram Chatrik and many others. These also aim to focus on the newer generation of writers in the language.
- Staging plays, discussions and talks on folktales from the region. (Sassi-Punnu, Heer-Ranjha, Mirza-Sahiba, Sohni-Mahiwal and many others).
- Punjabi language classes for interested students.
- Village sports.
- Movie screening.



THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Photographic Society had quite an eventful year, beginning with the orientation for the first years in August, followed by the Fresher's Exhibition soon after. This year saw a series of Photo Walks to Humayun's Tomb, Hauz Khas Village and Lodhi Garden.

The members of the society were successful in covering almost all the events in College, utilizing the tips they learnt from the basic DSLR Workshop which was hosted by Canon in October. A photo booth was also set up by the society during Onam, in collaboration with the Malayalam Literary Society.

The Society also hosted talks by Anshuman Sen and Sohrab Hura, as part of their event 'Breaking Frames' in September. This event also showcased an exhibition of photographs by the members of the society.

The theme for this year's calendar was decided to be "Work in Progress" by the Society members and it mainly focused on role of the people who maintain and take care of the College.

The society was fortunate to have been given the opportunity to collaborate with Campus Diaries for a talk by photographer Bhaskar Krishnamurthy. Campus Diaries also agreed to be the sponsor for the main competitive event for FRAMES 2016-Urban Jungle; Order & Chaos. The Society also witnessed a collaboration with Yooth.me for two photography competitions in honour of the International Women's Month and a phone photography competition called 'Phonography' during FRAMES. There was also a comic strip competition in collaboration with the English Literary Society called, 'The Photo Stripper'.



This year's FRAMES was a grand success and witnessed the launch of the Society's first ever Coffee Table Book- a photographic tribute to the institution, by Dayanita Singh. This event also saw talks by eminent photographers like Prashanth Viswanathan, Udit Kulshreshta and the Tara Bedi from the India Photo Project. The 3 day festival also hosted many exhibitions like the Photo Essays of the Society members, an online competition called Photo Wars, Momentous Milestones- celebrating the landmarks in photography and Alternate Reality, which dealt with various photographic techniques like forced perception, macro photography, double exposure, anthropomorphism etc. This year's treasure hunt too was a huge success with the participants.

PHYSICS SOCIETY

The new year marked a new beginning for the Physics Society, with highly motivated first and second year students shouldering their new responsibilities with pride and determination, under the helpful guidance of experienced third year students. Feynman Club A wide range of talks were delivered by distinguished lecturers and alumni alike giving the junior members an insight into the realtime developments in Physics and an exposure to happenings beyond the classroom, enriching them with new ideas. The talks held in this academic year include:

- The Sound of Gravity by Dr. Patrick Das Gupta, Department of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Delhi
- Physics, Material Science and OptoElectronic Devices by Dr. Jayant Kumar, University of Massachusetts Lowell, MA, United States
- Qasper, the Quantum Ghost by Mrittunjoy Guha Majumdar, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge



- Gauge Invariance and The Magnetic Monopole by Philip Cherian, Ecole Polytechnique, France
 - We have the Higgs. Now what?! By Anjishnu Bandyopadhyay, University of Bonn, Germany
 - Quantum Information Technologies with Photons & Atoms by Dr. Joyee Ghosh, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
 - Theoretical pathways to predict (meta)stability of gas phase metal oxide clusters: Beyond the static monostructure description by Dr. Saswata Bhattacharya, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
 - Nanoscience and Nanotechnology: What is there for us? By Dr. Subhasis Ghosh, School of Physical Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- 20th Popli Memorial Lecture Series
- The Physics society holds an annual 3 day Popli Memorial Lecture series.

The 20th lecture series was held on 5th, 6th and 7th of October 2015 where we had Prof. Mukund Thattai, from the National Centre of Biological Sciences at Bangalore, delivered the lectures titled Life as Computation: Past, Present and Future. All three days saw a packed lecture hall with curious students and faculty from both Physics and Biology.

The Science Library The Society also took upon itself the task of reviving the Science Library a student run initiative, which involved cataloguing and developing a systematic procedure for issue of books to students. The books range from textbooks, course books and popular science books.

Astronomy Club The society also has its very own Astronomy club which holds regular telescopic night viewing sessions. One important session of the club that was aimed at the viewing of the Perseid Meteor shower was held in October 2015, in the SCR lawns which witnessed huge attendance of people outside the Physics department of the college as well.



Workshop on LiFi The Society also believes in exploring frontiers beyond the regular Physics topics breaking conventional barriers into a regime of innovation and new technology. The society organized a workshop on LiFi, a groundbreaking communication technology that transmits high speed data 100 times faster than traditional WiFi by an industry expert and owner of an Estonia based startup Velmenni. The use of the visible light spectrum instead of radio frequencies enables this highspeed data communication and an internet access with substantially greater security and safety.

Meera Memorial Paper Reading Competition To provide young scientists a platform give voice to their ideas, the Physics Society holds a paper presentation competition each year which is open to all Junior members of the Physics Department. The Society plans to have the Annual Paper Reading competition on 17 th and 18 th of March this year.

Popli Memorial Aptitude Test The Popli Memorial Aptitude Test is an annual test, common to students from all three years, with challenging conceptual problems from Physics. There is a special award for the highest scorer from first year to allow students to hone their problem solving skills, and go b

eyond what the syllabus expects from them. The test is scheduled for April 1 st , 2016.

Problem Solving Club The Problem Solving Club released 5 interesting yet accessible problems and their solutions throughout the year. In addition, two special sessions were held wherein students were encouraged to solve the problems together

THE QUIZ CLUB

The year 2015-16 has unarguably been one of the most active years in the recent history of The Quiz Club, St. Stephen's College. We started the year



with the Annual Intra-College Freshers' General Quiz, "All Things Trivial" in August, 2015, where the first year junior members were initiated into college quizzing. Throughout the month of August, new members were inducted into the society and trained in the art of question-making and question-breaking through several workshops hosted by alumni, including past Presidents and eminent quizzers. This was followed by the Annual Inter-College Freshers' Quiz, in which over 200 students participated from universities in and around Delhi and the NCR, as well as Ireland and Nottingham. The Quiz Club's next event was the 2nd St. Stephen's Annual Quizzing Championship, held on the 5th and 6th of October. This is our flagship event, and involved the participation of over 300 people from both schools and colleges all over Delhi, in multiple rounds of quizzing over two days. The finals were conducted by alumnus and eminent quizmaster, Aryapriya Ganguly. In addition to these events, the St. Stephen's Quizzing League has been active the whole year round, with a variety of quizzes held on different themes. First year students have been given the opportunity to conduct their own quizzes, with the mentorship of senior members of the society. The Inter-Departmental Quiz was held in January 2016, and was conducted by old students of the Club, Akshit Goyal and Debobroto Sensharma. The Quiz Club also collaborated with a number of societies this year, including The Cine Club and The English Literary Society. The final event for the year was the Annual Quizzing Fest - Quizotic '16, held from the 18th to the 21't of February. This event is one of the largest in the North Indian quizzing circuit and featured seven quizzes on various themes. Three of these were Open Quizzes, in which some of the best quizzers in India participated. The Open General Quiz was hosted by the distinguished Major General Chandrakant Nair, who came to St. Stephen's from Calicut to



conduct the quiz. There was enthusiastic participation from teams within and outside the NCR. Members of the Club have done exceedingly well in the quizzes they have participated-in, winning accolades in All India competitions, and have conducted quizzes in other colleges and cities. This academic year has been a busy one for The Quiz Club, and a very enriching one for all its members.

SOCIAL SERVICE LEAGUE

The Social Service League, established in 1912, is one of the largest societies of St.Stephen's College. The main objective of SSL is the overall betterment of the society. Through its events, SSL spreads the message of empathy and compassion.

The Social Service League organised a number of events this academic year. All the events upheld the mantra 'service above self' and set an example of selfless service in various sectors like education and health.

Our year-long projects are:

- Vidyajyoti - An initiative to provide basic education to 40 students of economically backward families in a slum in GTB Nagar. The project includes training in basic Math, English and an array of extracurricular activities organised by the student volunteers.
- Evening classes - The volunteers of SSL give free tuitions to the children of non-teaching staff and other financially backward students living in and near the college campus, every evening.
- Pragyachakshu- A partof SSL that caters to the needs of visually challenged students such as sensitizing them to the college campus, arranging scribes, scanning books, etc.



- Skip A Meal - A venture in which the resident scholars of the college skip their Sunday meal to be distributed to a shelter home, once in a month. Started in TISS, Parivartan -the wing of SSL focussing on novel methods of serving the society- implemented the same in the college in 2014.

Other events held this year include:

- Cancer Awareness Campaign organised on 28th and 29th of August 2015, in association with You We Can and Heyyo Media.
- Blood donation camp organised on 17th September 2015. The camp witnessed great participation and 118 units of blood were collected. The event was sponsored by the Lions Club, Red Cross Society and Blood Connect. Apart from the camp, emergency blood requirements are met by vibrant cooperation of students.
- Visit to Nirmal Hriday, an old age home at Majnu ka Tila on 10th October 2015. Students spent time talking to the residents and shared food with them.
- Medical Camp conducted on 17th October 2015 in collaboration with the Lions Club, by Parivartan. The camp aimed at improving the health conditions of the karamcharis of the college and their families as well as the residents of the slum in GTB Nagar.
- Cloth donation weeks held in December and January. The clothes collected were given to the NGO Goonj.
- New Year party held on January 15th 2016, a celebration involving teaching, non-teaching staff and the student community of the college.
- Drishtikon –the state level annual fest for the visually challenged students held on 9th and 10th February 2016. The two days’



programme facilitated interaction and showcasing of a variety of talents of visually challenged students across Delhi NCR.

- The Rudra Dinner organised on 12th February 2016 to thank the non-teaching staff of the college. Senior and junior members joined hands to prepare the dinner and serve the families of the staff, which was followed by a cultural evening put up by them, in accordance with the tradition of the college.

SPIC MACAY ST. STEPHEN'S CHAPTER

The SPIC MACAY chapter of the college being part of a reater worldwide movement which is working not only to promote Indian classical and folk music among youth but also envisions to 'have every child mystical experience of the Indian culture' by 2020. The Chapter organises various events where members of the College family are exposed to the magic of maestros of Indian classical and folk art forms.

This year the enthusiasts of third and second years organised Savanotsava on 11th August. The programme was partly in association with the music society of the college. The programme began with a repertoire of songs describing the monsoon from various folk and classical traditions of India. A couple of Kathak recitals based on the same theme made the 'utsava' even colourful and rejoicing.

Later, in the first week of October chapter had its annual fest Virasat. It was inaugurated by the famous *qavvals* the Qutbi Brothers. On the second day of the fest the cinema classic Seven Samurai was screened. The college was honoured to have Pt. Rajendra Prassana ji and Guru Singhajit Singh ji for the flute and Manipuri recitals respectively. Junior members of the college were pleased to visit the first citizen's residence, the Rashtrapati Bhawan as part



of the heritage walk series. The fest ended with a talk by Mr. Kanad Sinha, from the dept. of history of the college, on the tradition of *Mahalaya*.

The year 2016 began with *Ashtachhap* a rendition of poetry by Jayadev and Surdas through Odissi and Kathak. *Ashtachhap* was a journey through the mind of a *sadhaka*, deciphering his/her perceptions of the Reality in different octets of the day. Candraneev and Vrinda Chaddha left the audiences elated and mesmerised by the end of the show. The year has been full of learning, fun and discoveries. The society hopes to work in the same fashion in the years to come exploring the depths of our rich heritage.

CONCLUSION

Over-all, the academic year now ending has been of a piece with the continuing saga of St. Stephen's. The College during this period has undergone NAAC accreditation and is placed with A grade. However, there are many challenges. The approved master-plan of the College has to be executed which requires a funding of around 200 crores. The basket of courses has to be increased and the academic stature of the college has to be enhanced to match top-class institutions in the world.

Despite these challenges, it is a matter of immense satisfaction that the image of the College and its standing at the national level are at an all-time high. Today we are rated the best undergraduate institution in the country for humanities and sciences. Academic institutions from around the world are keen to have exchange and collaborative programmes with us. I attribute this institutional renewal first to the mercies of God that abound against all odds. I also owe a debt a gratitude to the Supreme Council and the Governing Body, especially to the Chairman, Rt. Rev. Bishop Warris K Masih. The



Senior and Junior Members of the College have played a key role in supporting and enhancing the academic vitality and corporate sobriety of the College and they deserve our gratitude. I wish to place on record my profound appreciation for the excellent work done by the office bearers of the College, especially the late Mr. K. M. Mathew (Bursar until December 2015) and Dr. Renish Geevarghese Abraham, the present Bursar, Rev. Monodeep Daniel, Dean of Residence and Mr. Sanjay Rao Ayde, Senior Tutor and IQAC Coordinator, staff advisers of various clubs and societies and other members of the faculty discharging various responsibilities in College. The non-teaching staff of the College have played their part in ensuring that the administration of the College proceeded smoothly and the campus has been maintained beautifully. True to tradition, St. Stephen's College has remained, throughout 2015-16, a harmony of many roles, a collage of many responsibilities and a shared pilgrimage in the pursuit of excellence. In all this we acknowledge, humbly and gratefully, the justice, mercy and faithfulness of God.

Ad Dei Gloriam !

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