

## **Annual Report - The Hiking Club**

The Hiking Club established in 1949 has always strived to explore new avenues of adventure and test the limits of each of its members. Through its 70 year old legacy, The Hiking Club has been a part of many firsts in adventure sports and turned out great pioneers in the same.

The following were the activities undertaken by the club in the academic year of 2021-2022.

### **Orientation 05/01/2022**

The year was kickstarted with the Hiking Club orientation that saw many enthusiastic first years. Members and alumni of the club spoke about their experiences, shared stories and talked about the kind of work the club does throughout the year. The orientation was conducted on Zoom Meetings and attended by almost 100 first year junior members, where they were introduced to the club's activities and annual events.

### **Documentary Screening: The Mountain Within 25/01/2022**

This screening was in collaboration with the Cine Club of our college and was held online on Discord. All the students gathered together to watch the documentary of Noida-based mountaineer Arjun Vajpai. The documentary film explores Arjun's journey over almost a decade from 2010 to 2019. In 2010, Arjun became the youngest Indian to summit Mt Everest at the age of 16, now he attempts to ascend 14 of the world's over-8000m peaks and six of these are already done. After the screening was over, the students, especially the third years shared their experiences of climbing, what all challenges they used to face plus the hiking treks they went to.

### **Regular Climbing sessions starting from 23/02/2022**

The College Artificial Rock Climbing wall was reopened after almost a year on 23rd of February 2022. The major aim of these sessions was to introduce the college junior members to rock climbing and to explain to them the intricacies of the sport, including knots, ropes, and other safety equipment. All the students practiced regular climbing every single day. The training usually began with different warm up exercises and the members of the hiking club discussed the safety measures required to start climbing the wall. Mostly there were students from all across the courses and the climbing used to begin at 3pm. While some of them were climbing, the other students cheered on for their friends and took a keen liking towards the sport. After the climbing was completed, we then used to pack up at around 6pm in the evening. The climbing team has the best climbers of our college.

### **National Climbing Competition 22/04/2022 - 24/02/2022**

The National Climbing Competition is the flagship event of The Hiking Club. The competition was conducted in two parts, speed and lead climbing for the under 16 and open category for both men and women. The weekend was filled with climbers and lovers of the sport from around the country. The climbing team of St. Stephen's also gave tough competition to the professional athletes and pulled off a good show.