

## ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Re-accredited with A - grade by NAAC



## ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

## Principal's Report 2018-2019

It gives me immense pleasure to present the report of the activities of the past year. The year 2018-2019 has been a momentous one in the history of the state of Kerala. We witnessed devastating floods that ravaged parts of the state and caused incalculable damage to our assets but not to our spirits. We all rallied together and joined hands in the relief missions. Our college helped out with all the resources at its disposal and worked tirelessly to ensure it fulfilled its deep rooted moral and social commitment to society. The college served as a relief camp to provide shelter to those affected by the floods. It was wonderful to see our management, faculty and young students serving as volunteers at the various relief camps day and night and networking and coordinating relief missions across the state. Here are glimpses from the time. (Voice Over)

The floods are behind us and what is ahead of us is a time to rebuild and rejuvenate. It is the age of a new ethos of Renaissance, of new values and ideas. This is what All Saints' College, Trivandrum, has made its destiny too. As part of these efforts, we all got together and helped a student by constructing a house for her. Ms. Abhirami A B of DC III History was the beneficiary. There was yet another initiative whereby we helped a needy person in our locality as a goodwill gesture and a way to directly aid and assist the local residents.

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the college is committed to improving the quality of the educational services provided. It has in this past year, funded a number of initiatives to help the students maximise the benefits of their educational experience. The Cell coordinated an interactive session between Dr.Piers Bursill Hall, Department of Pure Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics, Cambridge University, UK and the department of mathematics of our college. The Cell has facilitated the planning and organisation of a number of seminars and workshops. The Cell funded and coordinated a one day foundational course on Capital Market with the Department of commerce and Hedge School of Applied Economics.

The IQAC has taken steps and enrolled the college as a Local chapter of the National Programme for Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) and SWAYAM- the online

learning portals managed by the MHRD. Over fifty students have enrolled in the various courses and the initiative is set to become more widespread in the coming year. The Cell coordinated with stakeholders and the various departments to offer add on courses. To help students become self-sufficient and empowered, we have been providing more vocational training courses on an Add-On basis. The departments of Commerce, Physics and English have add on courses in collaboration with prestigious institutions. The department of Physics offered an ISO Certified course in Web Development in association with Networkz Systems, while the department of English offered a course in Film Production in association with LV Prasad Film and Television Academy. The department of Commerce has collaborated with the Hedge School of Applied Economics to offer an add on course on Capital Market. They also joined hands with the Kalvi Higher Education and Research Institute to offer an add on course in Tally ACE. The department of Environmental Sciences has enrolled its students in a value added course on Disaster Management with IGNOU in order to help them optimise their educational experience. The department of Environmental Sciences is carrying out an online outreach programme for Geospatial inputs- in association with Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun as part of their off campus initiatives. The IIRS also had an online training course on Remote Sensing and Digital Image Analysis and another one on Hyper spectral Remote sensing and its applications. Both were conducted as part of its off campus certificate programme and the courses were conducted by Dr. Smitha Asok. To help enhance the learning and retention experience of the students, the IQAC has converted four more classrooms into digitally enabled classrooms and therefore this translates into 85 percent of our classrooms becoming smart classrooms. The Audio Visual hall has been equipped with a smart television that facilitates live classroom and lecture streaming.

The Walk With a Scholar and Student Support Programme have taken off and the students have really benefitted through the various initiatives that these programmes entail. WWS students were taken on institutional visits, and given sessions on communication skills, handling competitive exams, mock interviews. There were very engaging sessions that encouraged the students to try and excel. They conducted exhibitions, brought out handwritten magazines and carried out awareness drives. The

students attended motivational camps at the district and state level and distinguished themselves. Ms. Safwana Sajid Ahmed of Dc II Botany won the Second prize at the Quiz competition conducted by the WWS at the State Motivational camp.

The SSP was a great success too, with 40 students benefitting from the programme. Apart from the internal mentoring sessions, the additional sessions to augment their life skills, employability and their IT skills made a great difference in the profile of the students. The motivational camp for the SSP students was greatly appreciated.

All Saints' has always been firm in its commitment to the environment. This year, there have been a number of initiatives in this direction. The Bhoomitra Sena Club and the Kuruvi Nature club are dedicated ventures for this. The Bhoomitra Sena Club functions to promote and maintain environmentally relevant activities in the campus. As part of the World Environment Day, they had a regional seminar on "Beat Plastic". To mark the World Ozone day celebrations, they conducted a Two Day National Seminar. Alongside this, they also held a slogan writing contest as well as an intercollegiate poster designing competition and a PowerPoint presentation competition for students. The Kuruvi Nature Club has organised talks and competitions for the students in order to enable the students to commit to the greater task of preserving the biodiversity of the region. The department of Zoology has also conducted a one day workshop on the theme Beat Plastic Pollution in association with the World Wide Fund for Nature-India. The department of Botany joined hands with NSS to plant trees in our campus. They also organised a number of green awareness initiatives in the form of exhibitions. The Department of history organised a poster exhibition to celebrate World Tiger Day. The campus is implementing the green protocol by making the canteen plastic free and reducing non biodegradable materials used during conferences and seminars. As part of our efforts at encouraging recycling and reuse, the students are being trained to make paper bags and paper pens.

At this juncture, it would be relevant to mention the contributions of the PTA of the college. The PTA has been at the forefront, funding many of the academic and non academic requirements of the college. This year, the PTA funded two Seminars for the departments of Botany and Malayalam. The PTA has taken upon itself to fund the upkeep of the railway gate and the payment of the salary of the railway gatekeeper. This year, the amount has come to a huge 7

lakhs 22 thousand rupees. The PTA funded the purchase of a computer as per university specifications and a high speed, double side enabled printer for the printing of the online University question papers. Apart from this, the PTA also provided two printers for the departments of History and Second language. The PTA has funded the stationary requirements of the departments. It also purchased a cupboard for stocking documents. The PTA arranged for the distribution of treats for students for Onam and Christmas. The PTA has also taken upon itself, the task of providing funds for training the students for the upcoming Kerala University Youth Festival.

The college has as its mission, the task of shaping our girls into women of substance. For this, it is essential to enable them to be financially independent and socially secure. As part of our efforts to help our students become entrepreneurs in their own right, the college has a functioning Entrepreneurship Development Club that is registered with the District Industries Centre, Government of Kerala. This year the Cell conducted numerous workshops on jewellery making, fabric painting and fashion designing. As a further step, the college has started a vocational training centre in association with Weaver's Village in order to produce cloth bags. The idea is to help students generate revenue and provide sustainable sources of income for them. Some of the proceeds of the bag making unit are being donated by Weaver's Village to the rebuilding efforts for the flood affected. Thus we continue the relief work we started at the time of the floods.

For those of our students who wish to take up jobs after their degree, the career guidance cell of the college has been actively working to facilitate an interface between them and prospective employers. Apart from organising various talks for the students to help them prepare resumes and job portfolios, the Cell has provided a platform for many organisations to come and make the students aware of the opportunities they present. This includes opportunities in the higher education sector too. This year saw 19 students getting shortlisted by Allianz Technologies. Six of our students qualified for the NET JRF exam. Three students of the Department of Mathematics have been selected by Wipro to work and pursue their MS at the prestigious BITS, Pilani. In an attempt at knowledge sharing and garnering better academic resources, the college has been offering internship programmes for students. This year, we had two students who were interns

with us, and at the same time, the PG students of the Department of commerce, served as interns in various organisations.

Apart from securing the educational and economic future of the students, we have also tried to ensure that the students are conditioned to face any threats to their physical well being. We have collaborated with the Swasthi Charitable Foundation to offer classes in Self-Defence for the students. The students have been trained in the basic techniques of self defence. This has greatly boosted their self confidence too. To cope with the stress of the modern life style, the college has been providing the regular services of a counsellor with the assistance of the alumni. As part of world yoga day, the students were taught stress management exercises. The alumni also awards scholarships to two deserving students of the college. Most importantly, the college is committed to inculcating good values in our students so as to help them become proactive citizens. As part of this, the students were offered a three day value enrichment programme. The Anti-Narcotic Cell of the college works with the Kerala State Mission - VIMUKTHI, and Anti Narcotic Cell under the City Police Anti Drugs Commissioner of Trivandrum. The cell organised a talk on the dangers of drug abuse. It was made mandatory for all the students to attend this. The Cell also organised a poster making contest in connection with United Nations' (UN) International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. Our students also participated in the poster making competition conducted by the police station in our jurisdiction. Ms. Gopi krishna of DC 1 Zoology secured First prize and All Saints' College got the best performance award in this competition.

The Anti Ragging Cell functions effectively to ensure a seamless transition of the students from school to college. The cell organises annual talks and issues directives to prevent any unseemly incident.

This is done along with the Annual Orientation and Bridge Course that is provided for the newly admitted first year students. The students are helped to settle into their college life by enabling lively sessions that transformed the college into a safe and cherished zone for the young entrants. The students were given assessments at the end in order to track their progress.

The students were further enlightened by talks that were given under the aegis of the Gender Equality Club and the Human Rights Club. The human rights club carried out

marches and competitions to mark the world human rights day. They also tried to instill humane feelings in the students by encouraging distribution of food packets to the underprivileged. The importance of being participants in the nation building process was driven home through initiatives such as National Integration Day celebrated by the Department of History, Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations. All occasions of national importance such as Gandhi Jayanthi are observed in all their gravity.

The All Saints campus is one of the greenest in the city, to add to the aesthetic appeal of the institution, a beautification drive has been carried out. This has provided greater facilities for the students to unwind and enjoy the benefits of reading in the great outdoors. Similarly, the college hostel has undergone renovations, thus providing greater comforts to hostelites.

We have already started to reap the benefits of these efforts as our students have made their presence felt in a big way at various platforms.

Academically, the year has been a fruitful one with the college securing four First Ranks-

Apsara J G – BSc.Botany

Neena P T- M.Sc Environmental Sciences

Linimol – M Com

Gowri S Panicker – BA History

one Second Rank- Arya Unnikrishnan - M.Sc, Environmental Sciences,

N. Akshaya - third rank for BSc. Mathematics

Sandra Satheesh - fourth rank for BSc. Physics.

We congratulate the rank holders. They have made us proud!

The college has been put on the national and international stage in sports with our students performing exceptionally well. Here are some of our outstanding achievers:

Ms. Jwala Jose of DC I Physics, secured the first position at the State Power lifting in Kerala, as well as in the sub junior Championships in Uttar Pradesh. This culminated in her winning the Bronze over at the Asian Classic power Lifting Championship held at Mongolia. She also secured the seventh position at the World Sub Junior Power Lifting Championship at South Africa.

Similarly, Ms. Aswathy of S2 M.A English Language and Literature, won the South Zone Netball Championship.

Ms. Ann Priya Noble won the Third position at the National Level PG Dissertation Awards conducted by Unity College, Manjeri.

An article published by Ms. Samra Fuad of S4 M. A English, has been made part of the syllabus of the PG Programme offered by Christ University Bangalore.

Our students have presented papers at national and international seminars. This year, we had more than 20 papers presented by our students alone.

Apart from this, our students have been actively involved in various programmes on and off campus. They have been participants in various <u>talk shows</u> on national television for matters relating to youth and nation building, National students parliament, volunteering at the matrubhumi International Festival of letters, they also presented programmes on Radio. In fact, this year, the Christmas Programmes broadcast by All India Radio were presented by the students of our college, they also conducted an interactive session with writers at the Mathru Bhumi International Festival of Letters for club FM.

The educators have been constantly on their toes, upgrading their skill set so as to be effective mentors. Five of our teachers are members of the Board of studies of the University of Kerala. Three of our teachers have been awarded PhD degrees and many more are poised to obtain the same. It is a matter of great pride for us that our teachers have been recognised for their hard work and research aptitude.

Dr. Vijaya Kumari of the Department of History Received the **Best Programme Officer Award** from the University of Kerala for the year 2017-18.

Ms. Tinu Antony of the department of Physics was awarded the URSI/In RASS Young Indian Radio Scientist Award by the National Atmospheric Research Laboratory, Tirupati at the 2019- URSI Asia-Pacific Radio Science Conference.

Dr. Shirmila Jose Department of Botany was awarded Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam Young scientist award 2018 instituted by Velu University Chennai.

On the cultural front, Dr. C Udayakala was honoured by the literary organisation Nadam, Kerala. The joint council of public office honoured her for the write ups in various journals on women empowerment on Women's Day.

Ms. Nancy K. Anto Department of English was awarded the Sahithyasree Award at the International writers festival, Indore.

Our teachers have distinguished themselves at various national and international seminars and conferences. A total of 45 papers were presented by our teachers this year. Dr. Smitha Asok won the best poster award at the National Seminar organised by Department of Environmental Sciences University of Kerala. A total of 55 research papers were published by the teachers of the college in various National and Inter National Seminars. We also have two ongoing major projects funded by KSCSTE and space application centre ISRO worth Rs. 14 lakhs and 20- lakhs respectively with Dr. Smitha Asok serving as Principal Investigator. She is also collaborating with the Planning Board, Government of Kerala.

Dr. P. S Anjana of the Department of Physics is the District Coordinator, for "Sastrajalakom", a Government of Kerala Programme for School Children sponsored by General Education Department and State Institute for Educational Technology, Kerala and conducted three programmes in various Colleges in Trivandrum District.

Our teachers have served as resource persons at various prestigious venues and have made a mark at the conferences and symposia that they had been invited to.

The staff has contributed significantly to the functioning of other institutions too by setting question papers and conducting viva voce examinations.

The research centre of the department of English has 16 research scholars and five research guides. There is positive research output from the centre. Two students have submitted their thesis. Apart from this, six of our teachers are serving as research guides

in other institutions. A research student of Dr Deepa M Department of Physics has submitted PhD Thesis. Dr. Veena Suresh Babu Department of Physics and Dr Smitha Ashok of Department of Environmental Sciences have been approved as Research Guides this year.

In order to encourage research temperament among students, the college observed National Science Day and carried out activities for a week. The departments of Physics and Environmental Sciences held programmes.

EVS conducted a national conference on Science-Feeding the world and Protecting the environment- in association with KSCSTE. They also held an intercollegiate quiz competition towards this goal. The department of Physics held a seminar in association with Kerala Academy of Sciences.

The various departments of the science stream have been using the resources and time at their disposal towards the popularisation of science and ensuring that the spirit of scientific enquiry is aflame in young minds.

The departments saw the inauguration of their respective associations by eminent scientists and resource persons.

The department of Botany had a very concerted plan charted out towards the encouraging awareness about botanical bio diversity. The department brought out a manuscript magazine and organised field visits for the students.

The department of chemistry worked on the enhancement of knowledge base both within and off campus. The students were taken to witness a rocket Launch at ISRO.

The department of Environmental Sciences combined classroom experiences with a more outcome and outreach based approach.

The department of Mathematics worked towards newer aspects of knowledge systems such as Data mining. The department conducted the Prof. Mary VS All Kerala Intercollegiate Quiz in Mathematics. The highlight of the year was the interactive session with Dr. Piers Bursill-Hall.

The department of Physics focused on the contemporary applications of Physics in the world outside.

The Department of Zoology took a very learner centric approach to ensure that students actively participate in the process of the conservation of nature. The field activities of the department were greatly memorable for the students.

This year, the Arts Stream integrated contemporary narratives and a historical perspective so as to facilitate a humanistic understanding of the world around.

The department of economics has ensured that their activities for the year, centred around finding economic implications of social and political occurrences.

The department of English looked to harmonise a sense of legacy with the process of knowledge and resource sharing. The department had an international conference and also initiated a lecture series- Back to Roots, inviting former teachers of the department to address current students.

The Department of History and Political science chose to have a vibrant year with very relevant exhibitions and talks. The teachers participated in a number of academic and non academic ventures that dealt with the consciousness raising in History and the political processes.

The Department of Second Languages sought to inculcate not just knowledge of their respective tongues, but also to provide a sense of history and context as to the evolution of the same. Various Manuscript magazines were released.

The department of commerce, through its activities sought to engage the students in obtaining a practical dimension of their education.

The department of Physical Education encouraged the well being and sporting abilities of the students through organising various activities. At the college level the department has organised competitions from chess to badminton to cricket. The Department organised Yoga Day celebrations and encouraged our students to participate in a number of sporting events at the university, State and national levels. The department has brought great honours to the college.

The clubs and associations of the college enable a more streamlined approach to the activity profile of the college. Apart from the clubs already mentioned, there are other clubs that contribute significantly to our activities.

**The NSS** unit of the college has been performing spectacularly in terms of putting forth excellent service.

Sixth sense -the Quiz Club- of the college has been exemplary in its work. It has effectively helped increase the general knowledge of the students. The club also encouraged students to participate in intercollegiate quizzes.

The Electoral Literacy Club worked to spread awareness among the students about the importance of voting. The work done by the club instilled a seriousness in the students about the relevance of voting in the process of nation building.

The **cell for Gandhian Studies** aims at popularising the ideals of Gandhi amongst the youth. The Cell made vibrant attempts to help keep Gandhian philosophy alive.

**Harmony Club** trains the students in music and serves as a stress buster for the musically inclined. The club sources students for various music oriented competitions especially for the youth festival.

The Literary and Debating Club helped the students sharpen their literary skills and made the students more articulate. The club held intercollegiate competitions and also deputed students for various competitions such as Speak India and similar debating competitions.

**The Arts Club** is the backbone of the cultural activities of the college. The Union members ensured that the year was full of fun filled activities as well as socially relevant and conscious work.

This year, the college bid adieu to some of its former staff.

Sr. Mary Laurentia CCR, former Principal and Faculty, Department of French passed away.

We remember Ms. Seetha who worked in the library with great diligence.

Smt. Mary A, retd. Library Assistant

This is the round up of the most significant activities of the year of All Saints' College. These are material and tangible achievements. They can be seen, the results can be measured and assessed. But there is yet another dimension to these activities- that, which cannot be seen or measured. The intangible camaraderie and fellowship that is fostered through the course of an entire year of working together. Of planning and executing tasks without ego or complaint. Of doing more than what is asked, of sacrificing personal time and being present here when duty calls. Most importantly, of not seeing duty as duty, but as passion, as vocation. This is something that is applicable to students and all our teaching and administrative and support staff alike. This is the spirit of All Saints' and as I said before, this is our destiny. I hope that the coming times will be one of greater progress for the college. We look forward to all your support and efforts. Thankyou and god bless.