

**ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**
RE-ACCREDITED WITH **A+** GRADE BY NAAC

Annual Report



2022-2023

College Day Report 2022- 2023

Good morning,

Honourable Chief Guest, Shri Rishiraj Singh IPS, Retired Director General of Police, Ms. Amrita Ananthakrishnan, Delivery Centre Learning Head, Infosys, Alumna, All Saints' College, dear sisters, teachers, parents, stakeholders and my dear students. Welcome to the 59th college day celebrations of All Saints' College, Thiruvananthapuram. This year is a crucial one as it stands as a marker for the numerically significant 60th year of inception of this institution. It is on this cusp that we must reflect on our ethos as an institution- the ethos which formed the foundation upon which our beloved foundress, Mother Mary Veronica established the Congregation of the Carmelite Religious. As the world changes rapidly around us, we must, as an educational institution, learn to adapt to the challenges and be ready ever more now, than before to send forth confident, financially and legally literate, socially responsible and globally accountable young people. Thus, this year is one of introspection and most importantly, one of action.

Hence, Respected dignitaries and stakeholders, it is with a great sense of gratitude and pride that I, stand before you to present the report of the activities of the college during the academic year.

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) visited the college as part of its fourth cycle of assessment and awarded the college A+ grade with a grade point of 3.38, making it only the seventh college in the State to get this grade. The student support initiatives, teaching-learning process and the methodology followed in the assessment of pedagogy - were some of the strong points that the Peer Team visiting the college pointed out in its report. The college was felicitated by the University of Kerala and by the Honorable Government of Kerala for the grade it received. The college extends a sincere and hearty thanks to all the stakeholders who made this institution, what it is.

The college did not rest on its laurels, but we resumed our activities – both academic and co-curricular in full swing.

The Academic excellence of the college was underscored by the ranks that we secured at the University level. Departments of Commerce, English, History and Environmental Sciences secured University ranks.

Msc. Environmental Sciences

1st Rank: Manusha LE

2nd Rank: Kavya Mohan U

3rd Rank: Anjana B S Krishna

BSc Botany

2nd Rank: Safna S

3rd Rank: Alina Eric

4th Rank: Aparna Chandran

MSc Physics with Space Physics Specialisation

2nd Rank Aparna P

BA English Literature

2nd Rank: Unnimaya Parakkattu

BA English & Communicative English

4th Rank: Aavani Vinod

5th Rank: Preetha SB

BA History

2nd Rank: Anisha Sarmila Anilkumar

6th Rank: Fathima Sithara JS

BSc Zoology

2nd Rank: Archa Shaji

8th Rank: Nanditha R

A learner centric approach has always been one of the core values of the institution and in keeping with that, we have ensured that the students receive a complete education. The first – year students were given a week-long orientation – Deeksharambh, that covered basic aspects of life in college, the intricacies of the semester system, etiquette, mental conditioning, bridging the attitudinal and approach – based gaps between school and college academic practices.

The current year saw the institution place a great emphasis on upskilling students. A number of add-on and certificate courses were introduced by all the departments either independently or in association with reputed agencies. A 36-hour certificate course on Employability Skills was offered to all the final year students in association with the Mahindra Pride Classroom. This greatly boosted their chances at the

various campus recruitments that the college conducted. The placement cell organized recruitment drives by VirtuEdge Management Services and CareRevenue for final-year students which saw 46 of our students securing jobs with multinational concerns.

The departments have introduced courses ranging from Python Programming in association with Network Systems, Jmol Applications in association with the Spoken Tutorial Programme of IIT Bombay, Content Writing with Keltron and National Skill Development Corporation, Indian Constitution and Governance with the Indian Institute of Public Administration. There are more such certificate courses underway. The aim is to ensure that the students have an option to upgrade their skill set and gain additional qualifications that can pave the way for research or employment.

The college also enhanced the experiential learning opportunities of the students by providing them with intelligent and organic modes of learning. Using events such as Wetland Schooling, Mock Parliament, field visits, visits to places of importance, the institution ensured that the curriculum was delivered more effectively. The various departments and clubs organized interactive sessions with people of eminence in order to help the students broaden their perspectives and learn about the developments in their fields. Participative sessions with scientists, educators, authors, poets and social workers helped students enrich their knowledge base. Various national and international seminars were organized by the departments and the students were the direct beneficiaries of the same.

The creative restructuring of assignments and projects have seen students being more involved in problem solving. Projects and assignments that look to assess issues specific to the immediate community, the locality, the state and the world in general have paid rich dividends. Our students are serving as interns in areas of environmental well-being with the Kerala State Remote Sensing and Environment and participating in initiatives by institutions such as IIT Kharagpur and Shri Shivaji Science College, Amaravathi.

These efforts of the college saw the students benefitting immensely as students presented papers at national and International seminars, published papers in Journals and as book chapters and won prestigious scholarships:

Ms. Faseela V S Research Scholar at the Dept of Environmental Sciences, under the guidance of Dr. Smitha Asok, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences was awarded the prestigious Paristhiti Poshini fellowship instituted by the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Ms. Anjali A R and Ms. Meera Hari, both research scholars with Dr. Kavitha N, Assistant professor, Department of English have been awarded the ASPIRE Scholarship instituted by the Government of Kerala. Ms. Devi Krishna D, a student of S4 M.A English Language and Literature won the best paper award at the International Multidisciplinary Students' Seminar conducted by REWA University.

The institution saw the students at their best as they organized exhibitions on topics ranging from Mathematics to holistic living. Fructus Expo and Green Culture were exhibitions of the department of Botany to increase awareness about our fruits and plants. The exhibition of the department of Mathematics – Mathematica saw the participation of schoolchildren- thus ensuring educational outreach.

The campus was a vibrant location this year with co-curricular activities being carried out along with these academic initiatives. Students participated in celebrations such as Onam and Christmas and brought out the festive spirit in all its glory. The PTA sponsored Payasam for Onam and Cake for Christmas. The students truly lent meaning to these festivals by celebrating responsibly. Donations were made by the students in the form of White Gifts for the needy. The celebration of Fresher's Day, Union and Arts Club inauguration, Arts fest, film festival- all conducted by the college union and the Arts Club- brought out the many talents of the students and helped them gain confidence.

The students really shone on the sports field with many of our students gaining selection at University and national levels. Our students have excelled at sports such as football, archery, power lifting, boxing, WUSHU, Roll ball, athletics and so on.

Ms. Shyni L S Dc II History participated in the Asia Karate open championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

There has been appropriate emphasis on the mental well being of the students as well with regular sessions on Yoga, Zumba and motivational sessions. There is a counsellor on campus who is sponsored by the Management of All Saints' College, who carries out appropriate interventions.

The spirit of nationalism is very much a part of the life of the college, with a number of events marking significant days such as Independence day, Republic day, Martyrs day, Army Flag day being celebrated with great enthusiasm. The Freedom Wall painted by the students is a testament to their creativity and patriotism.

The institution is committed to ensuring a quality educational experience and hence works to form meaningful collaborations with institutions of good standing and repute. The college has regular interactions with NGOs such as Sustera, Naandi Foundation, Think Tanks such as Indian Institute of Public Administration, Institute of Parliamentary Affairs, educational institutions such as Christ University, Bangalore. The department of English has a Faculty Exchange Programme with St. Joseph's College, Alappuzha and St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam and media such as All India Radio and Mathrubhumi. The college also has Memorandums of Understanding with industry and other institutions towards providing a meaningful educational experience through certificate courses, training programmes, technical expertise and consultancy and so on.

The various clubs of the college have been doing an excellent job of channelizing student energies towards socially and globally relevant initiatives. The Bhoomitra Sena Club has been encouraging planting of saplings and they have also started a vegetable garden on campus. The Green Testimonio was an initiative that saw students observe environmental issues around them and document the same. Clubs of national importance such as the Electoral Literacy Club and Forum for Social Democracy and Justice saw students comprehending the importance of democracy and the ways that one must exercise one's rights. There were sessions on the importance of democracy as well as interactions with government officials on the importance of voting. The Women Cell of the college, instituted in association with the Kerala State Women's Development Corporation organized sessions on women's health, hygiene, well being and on the importance of being legally aware. The Jesus Youth wing of the college focused on lending a sense of stability through good and faith in the lives of the students. The department of Commerce has stressed on the importance of entrepreneurship and financial literacy and hence has started clubs such as the Financial Literacy club, Investment Awareness Club, Entrepreneurship Development Club and Tourism Club. The activities of these clubs are focused towards creating capabilities in students to become entrepreneurs in

their own right and to be able to handle their finances responsibly. Harmony Club, the music club of the college organized interesting competitions such as patriotic song competition at an intercollegiate level, thus, bringing talents from across the state to the campus. Members of the club regularly perform at important functions and thus greatly enhance the enjoyment quotient of the college activities. The Dance Club of the college, Nritya has brought cheer to the students through its various dance related activities that contributed greatly to the creative talents of the students and also saw students paying attention to their physical and mental well-being. The Quiz club of the college, Sixth Sense has been encouraging a quizzing culture on campus and students have been bringing laurels to the college through the various prizes that they have won at the various quiz competitions. Apart from this, there have been regular quiz competitions on campus as well. The Anti-Narcotics Cell of the college has been functioning with vigilance to ensure students are aware of the dangers of addiction. Regular interactive sessions with government agencies and awareness sessions have made students aware of the importance of prevention of addiction in the immediate vicinity as well. The NSS unit of the college has once again performed exceedingly well by carrying out vital outreach. Arranging Blood Donation drives, Beach Clean-ups, Food donation drives, Anti-corruption campaign have been some of the distinguished activities of the NSS this year. The NSS has also done extensive outreach in palliative care and in the Vimukti initiative of the Government of Kerala. The NSS members have closely interacted with agencies such as Palium India to not only train its own volunteers but also to understand the needs of those undergoing palliative care. The NSS undertook a massive campaign against drugs through Flash Mobs, Awareness marches, video campaigns and so on. These commendable activities of the NSS unit of our college have won it accolades in the form of the following awards:

Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of the exemplary services rendered to society during 2021-22 through the Student Palliative Care Units implemented by the University as part of its institutional social responsibility.

Consolation prize in the category of Best Social Initiative for Environment Sustainability at the 'Bhavishya Bharat – National Award Festival for Social Work for Colleges' Conducted on 14th September 2022

Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of the exemplary services rendered to the National Service Scheme during the year 2021-22

Ms. Parvathy A S, the volunteer secretary of NSS (2021-22) won the Best NSS Volunteer Award for the year 2021-22

Dr. Ayona Jayadev, the Program Officer of NSS unit, won the Appreciation Award for NSS Program Officers for the year 2021-22

The college has been at the forefront of a number of socially inspired collaborations. The care it shows in ensuring focused outreach has socially conscious agencies collaborate with us in their consciousness-raising initiatives.

The Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat Club collaborated with Ms. Rajani Rao, Alumna and Honorary member, Junior Chamber International, who is a part of the Clean Plate challenge India- an initiative to reduce food wastage. She is on a mission to raise awareness by travelling to all the state capitals of India and the South India leg of her journey began at All Saints' College.

The College collaborated with Sare Jahan Se Acha Foundation, through a Flash Mob by the Nritya Club- to raise awareness regarding the hazards of spitting in public places. The Women Cell organized flash mobs at Thampanoor and Palayam on 1 November to raise awareness regarding Drug Addiction and with the NGO Thanal to showcase the dangers of single use plastic. The college also collaborated with the Indian Institute of Public Administration to highlight the importance of Coastal clean-up – this was part of the National campaign for cleaner coastlines. The Bhoomitra Sena Club members participated in an event, ON Air in association with NGO - Sustera about air pollution and the future of Electronic Vehicles in Kerala.

The outreach initiatives of the college extend beyond these agencies as well through its flagship initiative – Communities of Practice – an initiative that looks to actively seek out collaborators and create impactful change locally, regionally, nationally and globally. This year, the Communities of Practice organized a two-day Conference titled *Let Us Dream- Annual Community Conference*. Community collaborations in the Post Pandemic world was the theme of the conference that saw NGOs, activists, climate warriors, social media collaborators and influencers airing their views.

The college has also been creating tangible change through the Unnat Bharath Abhiyan that it is part of. The college has been working closely with vulnerable communities residing in Palode, Kallikad, Alamcode and Azhoor and has been carrying out systematic discussions with the stakeholders regarding the issues of development and health that the people face. The college has taken a hands-on approach and is looking to carry out timely interventions in the areas of health care, employment and income security and social participation.

The staff of the college has been at the forefront of research activities and they have fostered a research culture among the students as well. Five of our teachers have been awarded PhD this year.

PhD's Awarded in the academic year 2022-2023

1. Dr. Anuvindha P – Economics
2. Ar. Aparna Merin Mathew- Commerce
3. Dr. Kukku Xavier – English
4. Dr. Shalini Harilal -English
5. Dr. Vineetha VK – Commerce

Three members of the faculty have been granted the status of research supervisor the University of Kerala. These numbers are only set to rise in the coming days. The research centres of the college are flourishing, with three submissions and one degree being awarded. The college has applied for sanction for more research centres and is to take a quantum leap in the coming years in terms of research. Our teachers have won coveted research grants: Dr. Smitha Asok, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences has been awarded a research grant of nearly 26 lakhs. Our teachers have presented more than 32 papers at various national and international conferences, published papers in reputed journals and have book chapters to their name. Ms. Nimmy Mohan, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry has secured a patent.

Dr Parvathy Menon, Asst. Professor, Dept of History received the Padmasree Prof. Parassala Ponnammal Memorial Sangeetha Shreshta award and Dr Udayakala C. Head, Dept of Malayalam received the Saraswatha Saamskarika Vidyashreshta award, both constituted by Kalanidhi trust.

The college has organized various National and international conferences, Workshops and poster competitions on Avant garde research. The Library of the college has also become a proactive space for research with sessions on Academic integrity and Online database-oriented research. Our teachers are much sought after resource persons and speakers at national and international conferences as well as

coveted guests for keynote lectures at schools and colleges. This is a recognition of the cultural and intellectual capital that the college has garnered on account of its tradition of excellence.

All this translates into a meaningful experience for our students who are also consequently exposed to these knowledge sharing initiatives. This has made the students confident individuals who are sought after in the higher education as well as the employment scenarios. The Placement cell has been working in close association with the Government of Kerala to ensure upskilling and reskilling of students. Tuning camps for students of minority communities, orientation camps for further employment, registration initiatives for empaneled employment have all been carried out. A one-day personality development workshop for meritorious minority students organized by Kerala Minority Development Corporation and a 'placement readiness' program organized by the Kerala university were conducted in association with the placement cell. The placement cell also provided interested students the opportunity to attend the program 'Thozhil Rangathekk' organized by the Kerala Knowledge Economy Mission.

The college has also joined hands with the Centre for Adult and Continuing Education, University of Kerala to conduct university approved certificate courses. The college is a functioning nodal centre of Indira Gandhi Open university.

The challenges of the semester system and disruptions caused by external factors placed an immense amount of pressure on the functioning of an educational institution. But we are in a constant attempt to overcome those challenges and ensure an empathetic, competitive educational experience for the students. The future years will see bigger and bolder initiatives towards outreach, educational upskilling, entrepreneurial and professional capability enhancement. We request your cooperation, blessings and collaborations. I would like to conclude with the words of Martin Luther King Junior- The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character- that is the goal of true education. This is what lies at the heart of the motto of All Saints' College – Lead Kindly Light.

Thankyou