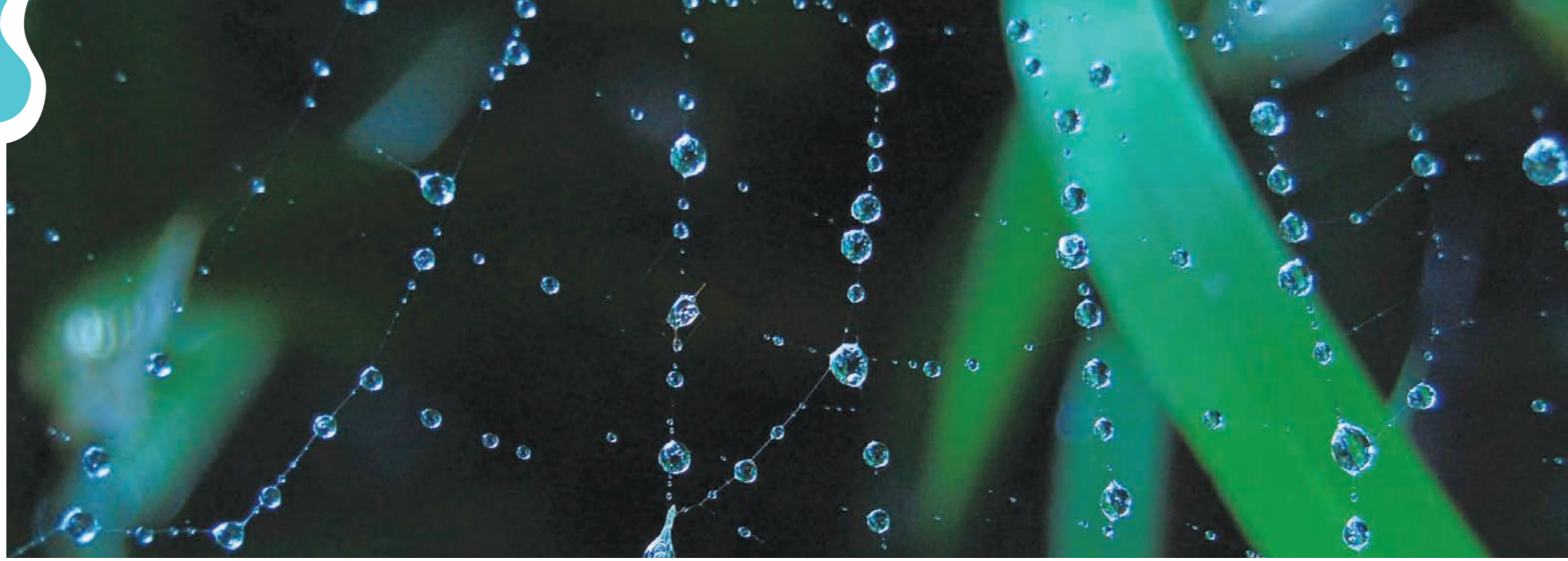
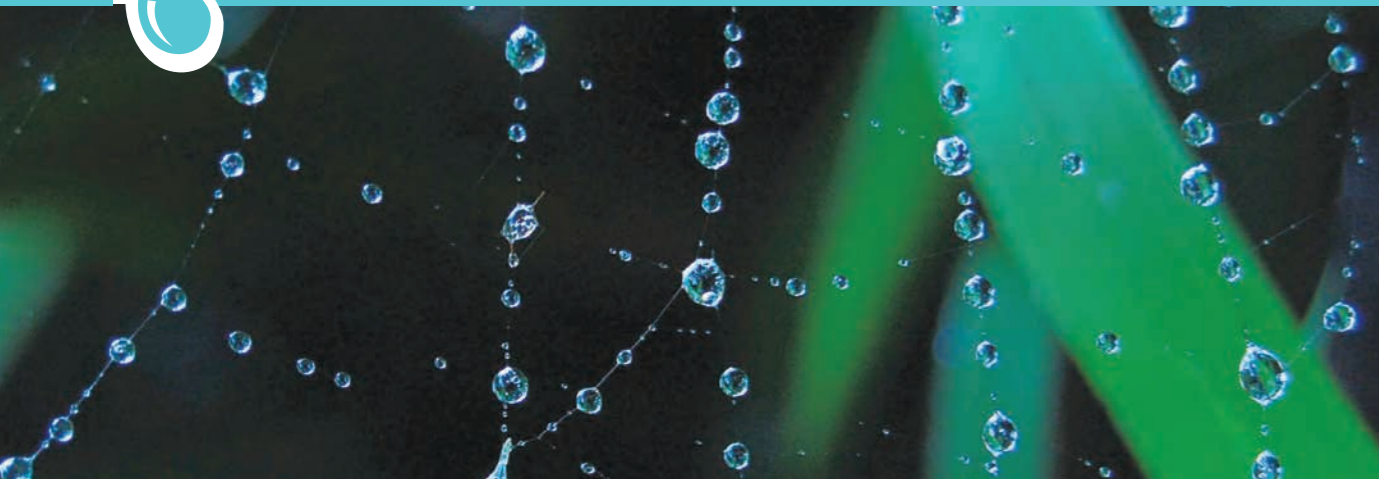


STELLA MARIS COLLEGE



2011-12





TRUTH

CHARITY

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE
(AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI - INDIA





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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Patron, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy

O Divine Master,
Grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born
To eternal life.

EDITORIAL

The year 2011-2012 has been a very special one for Stella Maris, for the college sought to make a concerted effort towards understanding and addressing the issue of food and water security. As an extension of this worthy effort, the college magazine has chosen WATER as its theme to highlight the significance of this life-giving, life-sustaining element.



Literature down the ages has spoken of the greatness of this element . In our own Tamil country, Thiruvalluvar extols the greatness of the rains, immediately after singing the praises of the divine spirit; Andal too likens the grace of God to benevolent rains. All prosperity and auspiciousness is associated with water.

Sadly, water has also become the most contested resource with various states staking their claim over it to suit their own purposes. Rivers are dammed, lakes polluted and ponds are reclaimed as construction sites. Where will this greed, this lack of vision, this loss of sense lead us? What ought to be freely available to all has now become a tradable commodity; what needs to be pure and unsullied is tainted by the greed and avarice of man.

With a resolution to celebrate this life-giving elixir, the college magazine has woven the theme of water through its pages, both in terms of design as well as content.

This year has been a fruitful one – knowledge shared, young minds nourished, excellence in fields acknowledged and fostered. The college magazine bears witness to all these moments of significance. The achievements of committed students and teachers lies enshrined within its pages.

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THE COLLEGE

Stella Maris College, a catholic institution of higher education for women is under the management of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary. Begun in a small one storey building on August 15, 1947, with an enrolment of 32 students, the college has at present over 3600 students in its magnificent campus “The Cloisters”, on Cathedral Road, Chennai.

The college became autonomous in 1987 and has 14 undergraduate and 12 postgraduate programmes. M.Phil, Ph D and postgraduate diplomas also form a part of the academic programmes.

Truth and Charity is the motto of the college. ‘Stella Maris’ in Latin means ‘Star of the Sea’. The college emblem is a ship sailing on stormy waters, led on by a star.

VISION AND MISSION

The Vision of the college is to build a vibrant and inclusive learning community in a culture of excellence sustained by a sound value system that promotes responsible citizenship and affects social change.

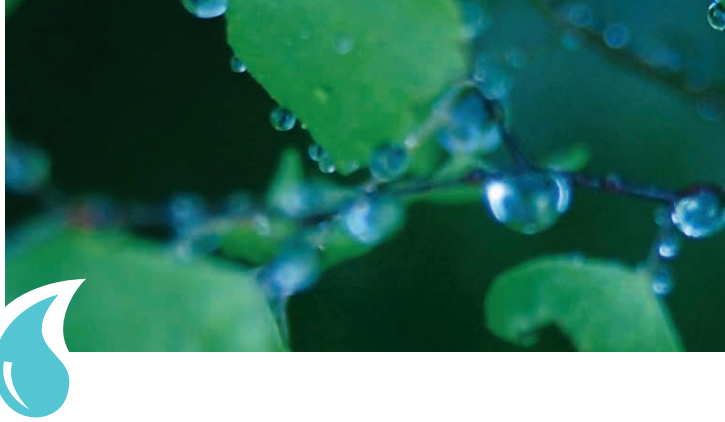
The mission of the college is to empower young



women to face the challenges of life with courage and commitment, to be builders of a humane and just society and to promote a learning community in which all, especially those from less-privileged backgrounds, feel part of the collaborative high-quality educational process which is value-based and leads to holistic growth.

In 2000, the college accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council was awarded Five Star status.

In 2008, the college applied for reaccreditation and has been awarded A grade with the CGPA of 3.57 on a 4 point scale.



“If the institute was my work,
it would perish with me.
But it is God’s work, and it will live.”

BLESSED MARY OF THE PASSION
Helene de Chappotin (1839 – 1904)
Foundress, Franciscan missionaries of Mary
(Beatified on October 20, 2002)



ANNUAL REPORT

by the Principal on College Day

It is with a sense of pride that I present this report of our activities for the academic year 2011-2012. It would be appropriate to begin with a line attributed to Christopher Columbus – “You can never cross the ocean unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.” In our ceaseless quest for expanding our horizons, in reaching for the stars, we have ventured into many uncharted territories. The voyage has been exciting and fulfilling, but in the limited space that I have, I can recount only a few of our many achievements.

Over the several decades of its existence, Stella Maris College has forged ahead in the sphere of higher education in India and has maintained quality in academics while ensuring access, equity and opportunity for all sections of society, particularly those from socially marginalized and economically deprived sections. As an institution animated and driven by the vision and charisma of the Foundress of the fmm congregation, Blessed Mary of the Passion, we have worked towards ensuring the empowerment of women, and have helped them face the ever growing challenges of an increasingly globalised society.

We are aware that the educational scenario is on a path of rapid change and transition as a result of advances in technology, increasing migration, and interconnectedness. This necessitates constant review of our strategic plans for the institution and we have, this year, embarked on a major initiative to revision, rework and fine-tune our strategic plans. With this in mind, we organised a seven day in-house Certificate Programme in Management in collaboration with the Loyola Institute of Business Administration and Knowledge Xchange, Chennai. The programme aimed at enhancing managerial effectiveness in higher education institutions and the participants



Principal Dr Sr. Jasintha Quadras, fmm.

included members of the faculty, administrative departments, IQAC and the Management committee of the college. The outcome of the sessions has been very encouraging. We have worked out a draft action plan based on the inputs we received and additional responses and suggestions given by various departments.

Our success as an institution is due, in no small measure to the faculty members, who have collaborated in many ways in the growth and development of the college. This year, nine of our faculty members and two non-teaching staff have retired after several decades of committed, dedicated and unstinting service to the College. They are: Dr Ashrafi Bhagat Associate Professor and former Head, Department of Fine Arts, and Dr Geetha Sridharan, Associate Professor, Former Head, Department of Economics and former Vice Principal, retired after 35 years. Dr Rukmani Srinivasan, Associate Professor and former Head, Dept of Chemistry and Dr Susan Oommen, Associate Professor and former Head, Dept. of English after 34 years, Dr Jesurietta Sathian, Associate Professor and former Head, Department of Chemistry after 33 years, Dr Sujatha Ramanathan, Associate Professor and former Head, Department of Sociology, after 31 years. Dr Jacinta Fenelon Associate Professor and former Head, Department of French, after 30 years, Dr Prema Jaganathan Associate Professor and former UG Head, Department of English & Academic Dean,

after 23 years and Dr P. Vijayalakshmi, Associate Professor Department of Tamil after 12 years. Two of our non-teaching staff have also retired this year— Ms Anthoniammal and Ms Theresa after 35 years of service.

The college thanks them for their selfless, untiring and dedicated services over so many years and prays for their good health, well being and happiness in the years ahead.

This is also a time to remember those who have been a significant part of the Stella Maris family but have passed on and have left behind a void that can never be filled. It is with a deep sense of sorrow that we record the passing away of five members of the college community—

Dr Vijaya Asir, retired Professor and former Head, Department of Tamil on April 2, 2011. Ms Anne Shanthi, Assistant Professor, Department of History, on November 27, 2011 and Dr Ramani, retired Professor and former Head, Department of Economics, on February 12, 2012. Two of our students, Kristina Roxanne D'Costa of III BA History and Derena Morais of I B Com passed away tragically during the academic year. We pray for the repose of their souls and that the Almighty may comfort the bereaved families.

A look at this past year, fills me justifiably with a sense of fulfillment at our many achievements and a

sense of immense gratitude to the Almighty for the abundant blessings we have received.

Our annual Graduation Day was held on January 28, 2012 and 1045 graduates proudly received their certificates on that day. The Chief Guest was Dr R. Kannan, IAS, former Principal Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu. The overall pass percentage for the undergraduates was 87 and for the postgraduates 89.

We congratulate the five faculty members who have been awarded their doctoral degrees Dr Regi Manimegalai of the Department of Economics, Dr Miruna George of the Department of English, Dr Margaret Thomas and Dr Sumitra Dawson of the Department of Fine Arts and Dr Shrabani Battachariya of the Department of Hindi. A few more faculty members are in the process of qualifying for their doctoral degrees and are awaiting their viva voce Examinations.

The pursuit of excellence is an integral part of our ideal as an institution of higher education. In keeping with this objective, faculty members explore every avenue available to update their knowledge and skills. They have attended and presented papers at International, National and Regional Conferences and Seminars. Many have also published research papers in peer-reviewed journals and essays in catalogues; they have edited books, delivered lectures, been resource persons at important academic conferences and seminars, and have been elected or nominated to prestigious academic bodies and committees.

Dr Sr. Jasintha Quadras was invited to be the Member-Coordinator of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council Peer Team to assess four colleges in Karnataka as part of their reaccreditation process – National Degree College, Bangalore, Vidyodaya Arts & Commerce First Grade College, Mysore, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bangalore and Jyoti Nivas college (Autonomous), Bangalore.

Dr Ashrafi S. Bhagat of the Department of Fine Arts was invited by Concordia College, New York to be an Art Historian-in-Residence at an International Artist Camp, held in June 2011. She was also

invited in January 2012 by Kala Bhavan, Vishva Bharathi University, Shantiniketan, to be a Visiting Fellow on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of Ernest Binfield Havell who served the Madras School of Arts as Superintendent for a decade from 1884.

Dr Razia Tony delivered the Keynote Address at the National Workshop on Women's Higher Education Institutions: Impacts, Influences and Challenges, organized by Sacred Heart College, Challakudy, Kerala, in March 2012.

Dr Geetha Swaminathan of the Department of Chemistry has been appointed member of the National Expert Advisory Committee on Entrepreneurship Education, DST, Govt. of India for a period of three years from 2011. The faculty are members of Boards of Studies of various colleges and of faculty selection committees and college inspection committees as University representatives and nominees of the Vice Chancellor, University of Madras.

Faculty members have earned accolades for their achievements. Dr Sundari Krishnamurthy of the Public Relations Department was presented an award in October 2011 at Washington D.C for making, "all the difference in the world to the economic empowerment of women" by The International Alliance for Women (TIAW). Dr Nirmala Alex of the Department of Social Work was awarded the Best Teacher Award in September 2011 in appreciation and recognition of outstanding services to the student community by the Lions Club International – Kanchipuram District. Dr Ulaganayaki Palani of the Tamil Department received the Rashtriya Gaurav Award from India International Friendship Society, New Delhi for outstanding services, achievements and contribution in 2011; she was also awarded the title 'Muthamizh Nayaki' by the Kuwait Tamil Sangam in January 2012. Dr Shrabani Battachariya of the Hindi Department received the Special Translation Award from the Pondicherry Governor at a National Seminar organized by the Pondicherry University in Dec 2011.


Continuing the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary's congregational theme of 'Care of Mother Earth,' Stella Maris has carried forward additional 'Green 11

Initiatives' on campus such as setting up a grey water recycling plant and a vermi-composting pit. As a response to the national mission to ensure access to food and water by all sections of society, the college launched, a major project revolving around Food, Water and Livelihood Security. The seed for the project was sown on 10 December 2010 when Dr Suresh, National Secretary of the People's Union for Civil Liberties, who was the Chief Guest at our Human Rights Day celebrations, spoke on the importance of food security and the ways in which various departments of the college could become involved in this critical area of national significance. Later, during his subsequent visits to the college and on College Day 2011, at which he was the Chief Guest, the topic of food security was again brought to the forefront, focusing on awareness creation and outreach programmes in this area.

In keeping with this project, several programmes were organized round the year. At the beginning of the academic year, sessions on Food Security were organized for the faculty and student body. On 26 August 2011, the college celebrated Food and Nutrition Day, bringing in a new dimension to our community outreach activities, and reaffirming our commitment to work for social change. All departments of the college participated in this event, putting up exhibits, mini projects and holding performances focusing on the core theme of Food and Water Security. Reports of the activities held on this day have been compiled into a booklet which will be released today. The awareness created through these activities, we hope, will be carried forward to the community and society at large. Ensuring food and water security for all is ultimately about promoting social justice and more equitable access to resources. It is about building and revitalizing local communities and economies and about empowering people to become self-sufficient and to work together for positive change.

In continuation of quality enhancement measures, seminars, workshops and conferences, as well as endowment lectures have been conducted by almost all the departments. The Departments of Mathematics, Commerce and Computer Science organized a two-day International Conference on Mathematics in Engineering and Business





Management (ICMEB 2012) in collaboration with Loyola Institute of Business Administration (LIBA) on 9 and 10 March, 2012. The Department of Tamil organized an International Seminar on 25 November 2011 titled 'Ilakkiyangal Kaatum Unavu Murai'. The Department of Hindi, in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Hindi Sahitya Academy, Chennai, organized a National Seminar on the life and works of the Chennai-based Hindi writer Dr Gulabchand Kotadia on 20 August 2011.

On 1 and 2 December 2011, the Department of English conducted a two-day National Seminar titled 'Badal Sircar: Changing Theatrescapes', which included two performances of Badal Sircar's plays by Tamil and Bengali groups.

A National Workshop on 'Development of an Alternative Laboratory Curriculum in Zoology to replace Animal Dissections and Experiments with Humane Techniques' was organized by the Department of Zoology in November 2011, in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi Center for Alternatives to Use of Animals in Life Science Education, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli. A blueprint of the proposed practical curriculum without animal dissection was created during the workshop and the first draft of the revised curriculum was released during the valedictory session of the workshop.

'*Kriya 2011*' organized by the students of the Department of International Studies on the subject of 'The future of Indo-US Relations' was inaugurated by Mr. Max Hamilton, Political and Economic Officer, of the US Consulate, Chennai.

PRSI Chennai Chapter and the Department of Public Relations jointly conducted 'Best Practices in PR- A Memorial Lecture, in honor of Mr. Gyan Haksar and Mr. M. Gopalakrishnan'. Mr. Anuj Dayal, Chief P.R.O, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, delivered the lecture.

A three-day Regional Workshop on 'Application of Bioinformatics in Studying Sciences' was conducted in March 2012 for the undergraduate Science students. In the same month, the Department of Fine Arts conducted a seminar titled 'The Artist with a Vision' in commemoration of the birth centenary of

K.C.S.Panicker of the Madras Art Movement as a tribute to his art and the causes he championed.

The departments of History, Sociology, Economics, Fine Arts, Mathematics, Chemistry, Zoology, International Studies and Social Work held their annual endowment lectures for which eminent scholars were invited. The departments of Economics, Public Relations and International Studies also invited noted academicians for their Scholar-in-Residence Programme.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Department of Mathematics was celebrated with several events showcasing the achievements of the department and culminating in the International Conference. A UGC minor research grant was awarded to Dr Razia Tony of the Fine Arts Department, and Dr Mary George, Ms Avila Josephine and Ms Mary Teresita of the Chemistry Department have also been sanctioned a project for three years by the UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research. The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India has sanctioned a project titled 'Role of Chemistry in Food Safety' for conducting training programmes.

The UGC sponsored Certificate Course in Herbal Therapy and Beauty Care continued this year. The college also conducted a one-year Certificate Course in Documentation and Multimedia.

In an effort to enhance interest and involvement in Pure Sciences among students, a project consisting of a series of lecture demonstrations for popularisation of Science, supported by the Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, was coordinated by Dr Geetha Swaminathan, and assisted by Dr Mary George both from the Department of Chemistry. Students from twenty schools from various districts of Tamil Nadu attended these lecture demonstrations.

The United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia has extended its sponsorship for the project 'Eco-initiatives for Environmental Conservation and Health Management' for the second year. As part of this project, awareness programmes and door to door campaigns were conducted in eighteen localities and twenty schools in the neighbourhood on issues relating to environment and health, mosquito control

measures, automobile emission and its mitigation, waste disposal, vermi-composting and including mushroom in the diet as an alternate source of nutrition. A rural outreach programme on Mushroom Cultivation was also organized. The programmes were coordinated by Dr Geetha Swaminathan of the Chemistry Department and Dr Priscilla Jebakumari of the Botany Department.

Two workshops were organised for the faculty of English as part of the on-going UBCHEA – sponsored translation project, in September 2011 and January 2012. The translated Tamil plays will be published later this year. This four year long project is being carried out by Ms K. Latha, Ms Tanya Lawrence and Dr Padma Alistair of the Department of English.

The college continues its partnership with several institutions and universities at national and international levels. Three students from IESEG, France are attending two semesters of study in the Commerce department, and three students of ICES, France have joined the Department of International Studies this year. In its 5th consecutive year of partnering with the Liverpool Hope University UK, students of the Department of Social Work, Liverpool Hope University were placed for their field work with the Sangamam extension project of our college.

This year IBM India partnered with the college in offering soft skills Training for the postgraduate students and faculty development programmes on managerial effectiveness, capacity building and Soft Skills. The IQAC of the college organized sessions for the administrative staff and the faculty of the college. The Students' Cell of the IQAC was also inaugurated this year.

Stella Maris College continues its ties with the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU). Dr. Catherine Joseph of the Social Work Department is coordinating the survey on 'Youth Cultures in the Catholic Universities- Challenges to Pedagogical Practices'. Dr Sandra Joseph of the same department is conducting a 3 year cross cultural research study on 'Policies and Practices in the Field of Drugs Use/ Abuse'-The Catholic University in Dialogue with Political and Social Actors. Dr. Sr.

Jasinth Quadras, Principal, will be attending an action-oriented programme organized by IFCU, titled 'Leading Catholic Universities in the 21st Century', in Bangkok, later this year.

The Department of Social Work is working in collaboration with East West Centre for Counselling, Chennai for the 2nd consecutive year and offers a Certificate Course on Counselling Skills for Social Workers' for the students of final year MSW. The Department is also involved in a Research Project in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, on 'The Socio-Economic Household Survey of the Resettled Families'. The faculty and students of Anna Maria College, Paxton, Boston, USA visited the Department of Social Work and interacted with faculty and students.

Sangamam the Extension Project of Stella Maris College continues to partner with Caritas India working among the coastal communities of Kasimode. Creating integrated communities has been the focus for this year. Community leaders were given training in various negotiating skills and also in working towards creating peace and harmony in the community. The project reaches out to about 8000 families in the area. Sangamam has forged a new partnership with Aid et Action International

– an organization that seeks to empower youth with computer skills. 'Child Rights' – a training manual on empowering children was brought out by Sangamam. Using this manual, more than 800 school going children have been trained in self protection techniques.

The Centre for Women's Studies organized several seminars and programmes to sensitise the student community on issues relating to women. A programme on Activism against Gender Violence was observed through a series of sessions on Legal Rights of Women. Around 1000 students participated in these sessions. A seminar on Women and Law was organized in September 2011 and one on Education and the Emerging Indian Woman in March 2012. A workshop on Effective Work Place Relations was organized by the Centre for Women's Studies and IQAC for the administrative staff of the college.

Hollaback Campaign – a Global Movement against Street Sexual Harassment was launched in Stella Maris in collaboration with Prajnya in December 2011, in which over 160 students participated.

As an outcome of the MoU that the college has signed with the Multimedia Institute 'Pivot



Dr.N.R.Madhavan Menon - Dr. S.Radhakrishnan chair on Parliamentary studies - Rajya sabha



Animation' for the academic year 2011-12, various Certificate courses on Designing were offered for students of the college from November 2011 to February 2012.

Departmental festivals are a source of both enjoyment and learning for students. Several departments organised their festivals this year, inviting college students from the city to participate. These festivals served as a platform for students to showcase their talents, hone their organizational skills and to establish bonds of friendship with diverse student communities.

Experiential learning is an integral part of the teaching-learning process. Postgraduate students are required to undertake a Summer Internship Programme to complete their graduation. In addition, students are encouraged to put their theoretical knowledge to practical use. Eleven students of II BA Economics interned at Goldman Sachs this year and the same number of students of Fine Arts interned at the India Art Fair held in New Delhi. Ten undergraduate students of Chemistry underwent summer training at Diet Aqua in analyzing the quality of water samples.

A growing number of students have been broadening their horizons and winning awards for their excellence in various fields. Students have been awarded research fellowships in institutions of high repute. Many have represented the college in academic and cultural events, participated in seminars and done the institution proud by winning prizes and awards.

Amritha of I MA Economics won the First Prize at a National level Essay Writing and Elocution Contest organized by LIBA, Chennai and University of Dayton, Ohio, on the topic 'Eco-innovation – Time to wake up'. The prize includes a fully paid trip to the US to participate in the Business, Engineering, Science and Technology Programme, a Gold Medal, Cash Prize of Rs.10,000, a Certificate and a Nokia mobile phone. Mijin Lim of III BA Economics participated in the Global Model United Nations conducted and organized by the UN in the Republic of Korea in August 2011. Vaishnavi Chella of III BA Economics won the first prize of Rs. 5000 in

the 'Know Your Economy Test 2012' conducted by Scientific Research Association for Economics and Finance.

Ann Joseph, of II BA Economics attended an international conference in Spain in August and presented a paper on Mentoring. Swarna Chander of I MA Economics presented a paper at the National Seminar on Impact of Economic Meltdown on World Economics titled 'Impact of Food Inflation on the Urban Poor'. Gargi Saripalli of I MA Economics presented a paper entitled Consumer Friendly Food Labels and Eco friendly Packing at IBS 8th International Conference on 'Economics and Finance: Governance and Well being' in January 2012. Amrutha Varkey of II MA Economics was judged the winner for the best summary of the lecture on 'Demystifying the Budget', conducted by the Scientific Research Association for Economics & Finance, Chennai. Anju Sebastian of III BSc Physics attended a Summer Research Fellowship programme offered by Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research Bangalore.

Divya V. Rajan of II BSc Chemistry was selected for the national Project Oriented Chemical Education Programme at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore. She was also selected for the Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana scholarship offered by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Monisha M of IV year BVA has won the Dr V.S. Wakankar Gold Medal in the 'Kalavart National Art Contest 2011' held in Ujjain. The paintings by Madonna Joy Poruthookaran, Isaiarasi A, Monisha M and Chetana Bohra all of IV year BVA have been selected to be displayed at the Art Fair to be held in New Delhi for the national project of Art Next, Mumbai. If their works are further shortlisted, they will be displayed in the United States and Europe.

The students of III BSc Advanced Zoology won the overall trophy at the Madras University Cultural Programme – Artemis 2012.

Anuthama Ragavan of III BCA, ranked first in the Talent Search Exam conducted by 'Image' was awarded a full scholarship for a multimedia course.

The Computer Science students won the Overall Winners Trophy in the intercollegiate technical fest conducted by the Department of Computer Science, MOP Vaishnav College, Chennai.

In sports and athletics, our students have excelled at inter-collegiate, state, inter-state and national levels, claiming prizes in almost every event. Our college Lawn Tennis team won the title at the All India Intercollegiate Tournament conducted by SSN Engineering College in August 2011. They also won the VIT National Level Inter Collegiate Tournament in February 2012, as well as at the State Level Inter collegiate Tournament conducted by JBAS College and Ethiraj College. The Team comprised Preethi Srinivasan of III BA English, Neena Reddy of II BVA, K. Pavithra of III BVA, and Nivetha Srinivasan of I BA Economics. Preethi Srinivasan also won the Second Malaysian-Indian Tamil Nadu Youth Games held in Malaysia in Aug 2011.

Our College Table Tennis Team emerged winners in the VIT National Level Inter Collegiate Tournament and the State Level Inter Collegiate Tournament conducted by D.G Vaishnav College. K. K.Narmadha of III BCom, Harshitha Ravi of II BCom, N.Vidya of I BCom. were the team players. K.K. Narmadha and N.Vidya were also selected to represent India in the India-Sri Lanka Test Match held in February 2012 in Sri Lanka.

In basketball our college team won the Madras University Inter collegiate Tournament after 10 years. At the Sports Fest 2011 conducted by IIT Madras, our team emerged victorious.

In shuttle badminton, our college team won the first place in both the Madras University Inter collegiate and the Inter Zone Tournament. We note with pride that we won the zonal title after 10 years.

In hockey and volleyball, our college teams were the runners-up in the Madras University B Zone Inter collegiate Tournament.

The National Cadet Corps of Stella Maris College has always done the college proud. This year too, our NCC cadets excelled in their activities and have kept the college flag flying high. At the combined Annual

Training Camp held at Vel-Tech, Avadi, five cadets participated. Cdt. Anna Rony of the Department of Economics won the Silver medal in the Best Cadet competition.

Lance-Corporal Divya E of II BCA was selected for the Thal Sainik Camp held at New Delhi and she won the Gold medal in Tent-pitching, and Bronze medal in Health and Hygiene.

In the pre-IGC II camp Cadet /Sergeant G. Thaatcher of the History Department won the gold medal in firing. Cadet Sergeant Preyanka of II BSc Chemistry was selected for the All India Vayu Sainik Camp held at Jakkur Airfield, Bangalore and won the Bronze medal for flying. Seven first year cadets and three second year cadets participated in the Chennai Republic Day Parade 2012 held at Marina. Senior Under-Officer Roslin Nanci of the Sociology department was selected for the Army Attachment Camp held at Gwalior.

‘Cadostar’, the Inter-Collegiate NCC competition was held on 3 March, 2012. About 15 colleges participated in the competitions which tested the cadets’ physical and mental strength.

The NSS Unit of the college has worked with commitment to uphold its objectives of service to the community and the nation. Student volunteers are involved in a variety of service activities and avail of every opportunity to serve the less privileged. The Stella Maris NSS Unit has been in the forefront of Blood Donation and this year, our Unit received the Dr K. M. Radhakrishnan Rolling Trophy for mobilising maximum blood donors among women colleges. Our college NSS Unit was also awarded the Rolling Trophy for the year 2010-2011 by the Indian Red Cross for arranging the maximum number of voluntary blood donors among women’s colleges in Tamil Nadu. We are proud to say that we have received both the awards for the second consecutive year.

Five NSS Volunteers participated in different National NSS Camps organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs, Government of India at Pune, Shimla and Kanyakumari. Bhuvanawari of III BSc Mathematics was selected as the Best NSS volunteer at the Mega Camp 2011, at Pune. Vincent

Femilaa, II BSc Physics, represented Tamil Nadu at the Republic Day Parade 2012 at New Delhi.

With its goal ‘Pathways to Opportunities’, the Pathway programme aims at fostering the Institution’s mission of inclusive education by conducting a series of programmes over the year to equip students from less privileged backgrounds with a range of skills aimed at increasing their self-confidence and language competence. This year, IBM India has partnered with the college and training sessions have been conducted for the I and II year students. The programme is coordinated by Dr Thilagavathi Joseph of the English Department.

The Language Partnership Programme is aimed at enhancing the Spoken English skills of I year undergraduate students. Students who need to improve their proficiency in English work along with their peers in order to improve their skills in spoken English. Dr S Sujitha and Dr Padma Alistair of the English Department co-ordinate this year long programme.

‘Sahayatha – lend a helping hand - is a business initiative of the students of Commerce, based on a policy of buy, sell and buy back text books at affordable prices. The profits earned were added to the scholarship fund for first generation learners.

Entrepreneurial development is recognized globally as the key to rapid economic development. The Entrepreneurship Development Cell under the guidance of Dr Geetha Swaminathan, Project Advisor and Ms Mary Teresita, Project Leader coordinated the Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme, supported by NSTEDB, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, from 4 January to 3 February 2012. The programme was attended by 35 women from different walks of life. The Cell conducted Six Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps of three days each for the I year undergraduate students. About 500 students participated.

Value Education and Catholic Doctrine are part of the curriculum and emphasis is laid on the spiritual development of the students. Annual Retreats were organized for the Catholic students and workshops for the students of Value Education. The first year

students were introduced to classes on yoga and meditation. An inaugural mass and a Thanksgiving mass were held at the beginning and end of the academic year.

This year, a one day seminar on ‘Spirituality and Capacity Building’ was held for the Christian staff, in collaboration with the Xavier Board of Higher Education. Faculty from several Catholic colleges in Tamil Nadu also participated.

The IAS coaching classes in collaboration with Manidhaneyam Civil Services Coaching Academy, continued successfully this academic year, thanks to the keen interest of Mr. Saidai Duraisamy who is the Chairperson of the Academy. A large number of first year students registered this year. Classes were conducted for the Junior Section i.e. I year students, and the Seniors separately, twice a week through the year. There are approximately 45 students in each section.



Spring Board for Leadership, a joint endeavour of Stella Maris College and Loyola College conducted monthly programmes for approximately 50 students from each college. Resource persons from both industry and academia were invited for interactive and input sessions on a range of topics. The Programmes are coordinated by Rev. Fr. Joe Anthony, Director, Culture and Communication, Loyola College and Sr. Colleen North, Vice Principal, Stella Maris College.

The Career Guidance Cell under the able leadership of our alumnae, organized two workshops on employability skills for our students in order to prepare them for campus recruitment. Some prominent companies which have recruited our students include CTS, Wipro, Deloitte, Accenture, Tata Capital and Sutherland. Twenty five firms have visited the college for recruitment and 380 students have registered at the CGC for this year. So far 160 students have been recruited and the recruitment will continue until next month when more students will receive their appointment letters. Students attended interviews at five companies off campus, all arranged by the CGC of Stella Maris College.

The Alumnae Association of the college, under the leadership of Sr. Flavia, launched a Youth Wing of the Association with junior faculty members as coordinators. The Association has seen an increase in the number of Life Members. The Student Support Fund of the Association continues to be a source of financial assistance for the education needs of economically weak students.

The library continues to uphold its tradition of excellence. A new programme 'Meet the Author' was initiated this year. Students and faculty were

invited from every quarter to have an interactive session with authors and discuss their books. Four authors were invited, Ms Nirupama Subramaniam, Ms Tulsi Badrinath, Ms Srilata all alumnae of Stella Maris College, and Mr David Barun Thomas. The Chief Librarian Ms Gita Balachandran attended a five day national level workshop on 'Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts' organized by the Government Museum, Chennai. The College archives have been sanctioned a grant from the National Archives of India, the only college in Tamil Nadu to be selected for such financial assistance.

Care for the disadvantaged sections of society remains a central focus in our strategic plans for the institution. We have instituted many financial scholarships and offer fee concessions for deserving students. A total of 1342 students benefited from the college-instituted scholarships, various fee concessions, as well as from government scholarships, and private scholarships, amounting to almost Rs. 26 lakhs this academic year.

The Students' Union has contributed to the vibrant campus culture by organising several programmes through the year. The Union of 2011 chose 'Make your Mark' as their motto and they have indeed left their mark on all their activities this year.

The National level Model United Nations held over three days was hosted by our college in August 2011. The Councils in Session were simulations of the General Assembly, the WTO, the Security Council and the Human Rights Committee.

In September 2011, the Union organized an inter-departmental cultural competition instead of the inter-years, and there was a notable increase in



participation. The TedX SMC was also held in September with eminent speakers from India and abroad.

A recycle week was conducted on campus in collaboration with 'Paperman', a movement that promotes the idea of recycling of paper as an environmental initiative. One hundred and fifty five kilos of paper were collected for recycling. The proceeds were used for the scholarship fund for first generation learners.

The college also held, for the first time a carol concert, 'Christmas Melodies.' More than 17 prominent choirs from across the city participated in this programme held on 16 December 2011.

Aquilae, the annual inter-collegiate cultural competitions attracted over a thousand participants from 15 colleges. The annual College Play, an adaptation of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* was a huge success and was completely a student initiative. The play received much media coverage with excellent reviews. Besides these events, the Union celebrated theme days and other important days on campus to bring alive the spirit of youth and to live up to their motto 'Make Your Mark.'

Over the years the college has continually endeavoured to upgrade the services, facilities and infrastructure in every possible way. Our long-felt need for a covered space large enough to accommodate our ever-growing campus community has been met by this structure in which we are all seated at this moment. In an effort to upgrade teaching-learning aids, we have set up five Smart Classrooms equipped with 5 Line Interactive Projectors. In addition to this, computer and lab facilities are also upgraded periodically in order to keep up with rapidly changing technology.

At the conclusion this report, I would like to quote the American author, educator and clergyman Henry Van Dyke who said, "Gratitude is the inward feeling of kindness received. Thankfulness is the natural impulse to express that feeling. Thanksgiving is the following of that impulse."

In this spirit, I bring to mind the many blessings we have received, and thank the Almighty for His

infinite wisdom that has guided us and for the gift of persons who have enriched our lives. I place on record the many organisations especially the UGC, DBT and DST, Government of India, The National Assessment and Accreditation Council, the Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, the University of Madras, the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, the International Federation of Catholic Universities, and IBM for supporting us in our mission.

To the several public sector undertakings and the generous benefactors who have continued to support us we extend our gratitude.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all those who with their support, guidance and commitment have made these achievements possible.

My sincere thanks go to Sr. Cecilia Joachim, former Provincial of the Chennai Province, Sr. Leena D'Souza, Provincial, and all my Sisters from the Community of Stella Maris whose support has been invaluable to the growth of this institution.

To every member of the faculty and to those who hold additional responsibilities – the Vice-Principals, Director of Shift II, Controller of Examinations, Deans of Academic Affairs, Deans of Student Affairs, Heads of Departments – I owe a deep debt of gratitude. I value deeply the investment of time and effort in every aspect of your jobs on campus and recognise that our strength as an institution is due in very large measure to your collaborative work.

My thanks go to every member of the administrative and non-teaching staff for their contribution to the smooth functioning of the institution. My deep gratitude goes to the hostel wardens Sr. Hilda, Sr. Leonie, Sr. Christine, Ms Alice and Ms Rani for their committed and dedicated work with the hundreds of residents on campus.

A special word of thanks to our parents, for their collaboration in the formation of our young students.

As we voyage on, beyond far horizons, may Stella Maris, the Star of the Sea guide us through stormy waters. Thank You and God Bless.



INDEPENDENCE DAY & STELLA MARIS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



*DIG G.Singh T.M.Chief of Staff, Regional Head Quarters (East). Indian Coast Guard -
Hoisting the Flag*



Ceremonial Drill NCC Cadets





GRADUATION DAY



Dr R. Kannan, IAS, delivers the Graduation Day Address





Dr Sr. Jasintha Quadras, f.m.m., Principal, addresses the graduates





VALEDICTORY DAY



The outgoing students plant trees symbolising their strong roots in Stella Maris College



Ms.Hema Ravichandar, HR Consultant, delivering the Valedictory day address





FELICITATIONS



Dr Ashrafi S. Bhagat

It is difficult to bid farewell to stalwarts who have intricately woven their colourful personalities into the fabric of this great institution, giving it its outstanding and unique colour and texture. Not all the achievements of these persons could be put into a few words. What we are expressing today are just highlights of their achievements.

Dr Ashrafi Bhagat has contributed enormously to the college, but even more so to the Department of Fine Arts during her 35 years of service to this institution. She completed her Ph D from the Department of Art History and Aesthetics, Faculty of Fine Arts, M.S. University of Baroda. Her thesis was titled, 'A Critical Study of Modernity in the Art of South India with special reference to The Madras School.'

She introduced the course on Textile Design and Printing in the MA Degree which today has developed into a specialization.

It can be said to her credit that she took the initiative of redesigning the three years Fine Arts Course into

the four years Bachelors of Visual Arts BVA that was introduced in 2008 in the college, and in so doing has put the department on par with National and International standards.

Dr Ashrafi is essentially an academician. She is Assistant Professor and was Former Head of the Department of Fine Arts, Stella Maris College. She has been teaching Art History and the Fine Arts Course in Design and Painting for more than three decades. She is the recipient of the Merit Scholarship from University of Madras for obtaining the 2nd rank in BA Fine Arts, 1975. She won the Proficiency Prize in the MA and the Best Outgoing student of the department of Fine Arts in 1977. She has lectured extensively on Art History and Modern and Contemporary Art in places like Karachi (Pakistan), Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lucknow, Cochin, Trivandrum, Baroda, Mangalore, Bangalore and Santiniketan.

She was invited as Art historian in Residence by Concordia College, Bronxville, New York for an International Artists Residency Programme in 2011.

She has written over 150 exhibition catalogues for artists, more than 400 articles that include exhibition reviews, issues on modern and contemporary art in newspaper, art journals and art magazines. She assisted Dr Sr Edith Tomory Founder of the Fine Arts Department, in writing a Text Book on the History of Fine Arts in India and the West.

As a teacher, Dr Ashrafi is a strict disciplinarian, an exacting teacher at the same time warm, kind - hearted, considerate and extremely generous. Her creativity and love for art are expressed not just through her academics but in her person. She exudes aesthetics in her style and in her creative temperament.



For an artist such as Dr Ashrafi Bhagat there is no question of retirement. Her creativity will continue to find expression in myriad ways all through her life.

We wish Dr Ashrafi peace and joy in her creative living in the future and God's abundant love as she continues life's journey.

Dr Sr Colleen North fmm
Vice Principal



Dr Geetha Sridharan

Outspoken, direct and insightful Dr Geetha Sridharan's presence could never be missed at General Staff Meetings, Department Meetings or for that matter even in the Economics Department staff room. Cheerful and enthusiastic, wherever Geetha is, there is life and animation. All through her 35 years of teaching and administration in the college Geetha has been fully involved in college activities, always concerned about maintaining the best and the highest standards of the institution. She is determined and ready to take on challenges and resilient in moments of stress.

As a researcher, Dr Geetha's area of interest is Health Economics. At the M.Phil level she did a study on the 'Impact of Urbanization – a case study of Taramani Village'. Her area of Research for the Ph D was 'Demands for Health Care' – a case study of Tamil Nadu.

Even though she enjoys research, Dr Geetha's strength is in teaching and administration. She is a committed teacher, well informed, positive and youthful; qualities that make her share a vibe with the youth.

As an administrator, she has shown complete commitment to every administrative post that she held. She was the Head of the Undergraduate Department of Economics from 1993 to 1999 and Head of Postgraduate Department from 2000 to 2005. She was Academic Dean from 2000 to 2002 and Vice Principal of the college from 2004 to 2006. Dr Geetha Sridharan was the elected member of the Academic Council, University of Madras from 2006 – 2009. She was a member of the Board of Studies, Pondicherry University and member, Doctoral Committee, Humanities Department, IIT Madras and Madras School of Economics. She was chosen for the Scholar in Residence Programme by the UBCHEA at Davidson College, USA from 1999 -2000.

In Geetha's retirement, the college will surely miss a faculty member who was generous and kind, who stood up for people, stood up for what is right, and always stood up for a just cause.

Small in stature, but great in her ideals, Dr Geetha Sridharan was a stalwart who spared no efforts to

carry forward the Vision and Mission of the College. Geetha's positive attitude, resilience and cheerfulness in all circumstances will carry her through life, as God walks hand in hand with her into the future.

Dr Sr Colleen North fmm
Vice Principal



Dr Rukmani Srinivasan

Dr Rukmani Srinivasan, Associate Professor and former Head, Department of Chemistry, retired after serving the college for 34 long and fruitful years.

Dr. Rukmini obtained her Master's degree in Chemistry from IIT Madras and her Doctoral degree in the area of Liquid Crystalline Polyesters from CLRI – both highly reputed institutions. With this sound academic background and after brief teaching stints in WCC and Auxilium College, Katpadi, she joined Stella Maris College in 1977.

Apart from teaching UG and PG courses in her parent department, she has also shared her expertise in Biophysical Chemistry for the M Sc Bioinformatics programme. The 'Best Teacher Award' given by the Chemical Research Society of India in 2003 stands testimony to her excellent record as a teacher. Actively involved in research, Dr Rukmini has been organizing and participating in seminars and conferences, has published research papers in reputed journals and has been regularly invited to deliver special lectures at other institutions. She was also responsible for signing several MOUs with eminent institutions.

Dr Rukmini has always taken up administrative responsibilities enthusiastically and has discharged her duties efficiently. She headed the Department of Chemistry from 2003 to 2009. During her tenure as Head, she organized a 28-day Intensive Orientation program for newly recruited 48 Government College teachers at Stella Maris College. She was the Dean of Academic Affairs and Dean of Student affairs. Her most important contribution to the college, perhaps, is the key role she played in the introduction of the Credit System. Her role in the introduction of two new post graduate programs in our institution is commendable.

Dr Rukmini has conducted several training sessions, workshops and seminars for our students and for the teachers and students of other schools and colleges and has been invited to be a member of the Academic Audit Team by other colleges.

She has also enjoyed being an office-bearer in the Staff Club. Her dream project would be the production of an ideal chemistry syllabus and a book. She has always attempted to link science and reasoning with religion, rituals and astrology. Apart from her involvement in her own subject, she has passion for Tamil language and literature and loves to read and write poetry in Tamil and English.

We thank Dr Rukmani Srinivasan for her valuable service to this esteemed institution. Being a person with varied interests, we are sure you will have a productive and exciting retired life and we invoke God's abundant blessings on you and your family.

Dr Juliana Joe
Vice Principal



Dr Susan Oommen

Dr Susan Oommen, Associate Professor and former head Department of English has served in this institution in varied capacity since 1975.

Her immeasurable passion for teaching and research made her a teacher par excellence. She has always considered the classroom a space that offers scope for experimenting with strategies to develop independent stances and new ideas. At the same time, she has ensured that this is done with a respect for interaction and mutual learning. As the Head of the English Department between 2005 and 2010, Dr Susan has been responsible for introducing innovative courses in the curriculum.

She has been a keen researcher with several international and national publications to her credit.

She has published deeply insightful articles on contemporary writers such as Salman Rushdie, Mahesh Dattani and Daisy Hassan. She has also guided several research scholars both for the M Phil degree and doctoral degree. Some of our own faculty have been her research scholars. Guiding research work is something that she has enjoyed doing.

Dr Susan Oommen has also held administrative positions in the college. Apart from heading the department. She was the Dean of Academic Affairs between 2003 and 2005. She has always been willing to contribute to various reports produced by the college and has served on several committees. She directed the college play for many years, and has edited the college magazine and the Literary Journal of the Department of English.

Dr Susan has always been respected, by both colleagues and students, for her sound scholarship, commitment, open-mindedness and individuality. A whole generation of students has benefitted from her thought-provoking lectures, and conversations outside class. We thank Dr Susan for all that she has been and done for the college. We wish her well in all that she takes up post-retirement and we are sure that she will have much more to contribute to the academic world. We beseech God's abundant blessings and His Guidance in all her endeavors.

Dr Juliana Joe
Vice Principal





Dr Jesurietta Sathian

Dr Jesurietta Sathian, former head Department of Chemistry, has been with us for over three decades. After serving in Lady Doak College, Madurai for 2 years and Sarah Tucker College for a year, Dr Jesurietta joined the Department of Chemistry in 1978.

Dr Jesurietta earned a doctorate degree from CLRI for her work on Polymeric Bone Substitutes. She has four research papers at international and national levels to her credit. After training with TTTI, she had also designed the compact Kipp's apparatus – an inevitable in SM Qualitative analysis lab. Several colleges and scientific companies are using this design.

In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she shouldered many administrative positions: she

headed the Chemistry department for three years, served as the Dean of Academic Affairs for two years, and as NSS Programme Officer for three years. She has made valuable contributions to the Fund-raising Committee and Games Committee and has also been an office-bearer of the Staff Club.

Her enthusiasm for her subject is reflected in her teaching methodology, especially the Laboratory Curriculum. She did not believe in just completing routine procedures, but emphasized on the theory or reason behind each step of the experiment conducted. This rich experience resulted in the compilation of two lab manuals and a question bank for practical work.

Her close interaction with students and the personal touch she brought to her teaching have always been appreciated. It has been her constant endeavor to bring out the best in each student.

Dr Jesurietta has always believed that God's power and hard work could make dreams a reality and that has been the source of her inner strength.

We thank Dr Jesurietta Sathian for all the contributions she has made to the college and wish her a very happy, healthy and relaxed retired life with joyous and peaceful times spent with her family.

Dr Juliana Joe
Vice Principal



Dr Sujata Ramanathan

Dr Sujata Ramanathan has left behind a legacy as a great academician, excellent teacher, a spirited outgoing person and a wonderful soul.

An alumnus of the Department of Sociology, Dr Sujata began her career as a lecturer in 1978 in the same department and retired as its head after 33 years of committed service to Stella Maris College. In her own gentle way she has touched the lives of generations of students. Her very personality built around her an aura of awe and gentleness that endeared her to her peers and students alike.

Her empathy and zeal are remarkable. Based on her rich experience and sharp focus in her field, she was invited to be a guest faculty for 3 years in Collegium for Advanced Study in Social Sciences at the Center for Social Initiative and Management from 1998. Dr Sujata was also a University nominee in the Board of Studies of Madras University.

After her 33 untiring years of yeomen service in Stella Maris College, she continues to be an active

educationist as a “Documentation Consultant” to UNICEF, Chennai. We would like to thank Dr Sujata for the selfless and meaningful service to the institution and for her role in shaping the minds of young persons to be sensitive to social issues. We wish her good health, happy times with her family and God’s blessings in abundance.

Ms Leema Francis
Vice Principal



Dr Jacinta Fenelon

Dr Jacinta Fenelon retired after 32 years of service in the college; 24 years of which she held the post of Head of the Department of French.

She secured her doctoral degree from Loyola College on ‘The Religious Perspective in the Literary Works of Christian Bobin;’ she has also received a Diploma in Advanced French Studies from the Alliance Franciase, Chennai. Dr Jacinta has a number of prestigious memberships to her credit – she is a member in several professional bodies in city colleges and in Pondicherry and the Vice President of the Tamil Nadu Women’s Writer’s Association. She has also published a Multilingual Lexicon (English – Hindi – French – Tamil) – ‘The Link’ compiled jointly with Dr Madhu Dhawan, former Head of the Hindi Department of Stella Maris College in 2001. She was also appointed on a 3-member committee by the Government of Tamil Nadu, Text Book Society to review French syllabi for schools.

In the college, while being Head of the French Department, she also held other important administrative positions such as the Dean Curriculum

Development (1997-99), Dean of Student Affairs (1992-95); she was also Chief Superintendent of Examinations thrice, in 2010, 2005 and 1992.

She has attended and participated in several International and National Conferences and workshops related to French studies. To name a few, she presented a paper on ‘La créativité religieuse dans l’oeuvre de Christian Bobin’ at the Regional Congress organized jointly by the IATF and the French Embassy; she also attended a regional workshop on “French Culture and Civilisation” organized by CLAIM and Department of French , University of Madras. She was also the recipient of an award from the French Government to do research in the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Provence.

Reserved, a woman of few words, dignified and soft-spoken yet always friendly, Dr Jacinta Fenelon has made her mark in developing and maintaining the best and highest standards in the department of French. It is difficult to sustain and maintain a foreign languages department yet, Dr. Jacinta Fenelon with her deep spirit of faith in God has seen the department through its ups and downs. It will be difficult to replace her, but the wheel of life moves on and so does the Department of French.

Jacinta’s absence will create a vacuum in the department that will take a long time to fill. Yet with that same trust that she has in God, we move on. We pray that the Lord bless her in abundance. With her flair for languages she will surely see places and we pray that the Lord journey with her.

Dr Sr Colleen North fmm
Vice Principal



Dr Prema Jagannathan

Dr Prema Jagannathan, Academic dean and Associate Professor of English retired after 23 years of dedicated service to Stella Maris College.

Dr Prema's varied interests have always been a source of enthrallment to her students and colleagues. An ardent lover of literature in both English and Tamil, Dr Prema's classes are a joy for her students. She was also called upon to teach 'Teaching Functional English' (a UGC-Aided vocational course) since 1997. She was also actively involved in coaching for various entrance exams like GRE, GMAT, TOEFL & IELTS at Vidyasthaan Chennai. She has helped many students gain confidence in communication skills.

Dr Prema has been a very adept translator and has translated many NGO Project reports. She has contributed substantially to the BBC film on Tsunami and was also engaged as a translator for NFDC films and documentaries. Very active in research, she has a number of research publications to her credit. Her Ph D thesis on the use of Mahabharatha in modern Indian Fiction was also published as a book by Prestige Publications.

A deeply religious and spiritual person, Dr Prema is particularly fond of Bhakti literature, music, classics and Shakespeare, apart from her longstanding love for linguistics.

The college has witnessed her passion for Tamil language and literature in her active participation and involvement in the programmes organised by the Tamil department.

A firm but understanding and humane teacher and a really helpful and perceptive colleague and friend, Dr Prema has always been there for her colleagues and students who needed her help.

We thank Dr Prema for her dedicated service; as she moves to the next phase of her life, may the Lord bless her with good health and peace of mind to enjoy a happy and refreshing retired life.

Ms Leema Francis
Vice Principal



Dr Vijayalakshmi Ramasamy

We would like to acknowledge with gratitude the services of Dr Vijayalakshmi Ramasamy as a lecturer in the Department of Tamil for 10 years.

Dr Vijayalakshmi has been an active participant in World Tamil Congress and she has made a mark for herself in International and National Tamil circles. She has attended Tamil World Congress in Sydney, Washington, Malaysia, Colombo and Mauritius. She has many publications to her credit and is a visiting professor in Jafna University, Colombo. She is also an active member of Tamil Nadu Writers' Association, Tamil Valarchikkalagam and Kamban Kalagam to name only a few.

Dr Vijayalakshmi has also received the Best Teacher Award in 2009 from the Tamil Nadu Teachers Association, the Bharathi Panichelvar from the All

India Writers' Association and Muthamil Vithangi from the Dr Kannappan Arakkattalai.

We wish Dr Vijayalakshmi the very best in her life and pray for God's Blessings as she begins a new phase of active life.

Ms Leema Francis
Vice Principal



Ms Theresa

Ms A Theresa retired after 36 years of dedicated service as a Lab Assistant in the Chemistry department of our college. When she was appointed in May 1976, she was the only lady among the other more experienced male attenders. Not letting this intimidate her, she diligently learned the work and became a responsible and highly competent lab assistant, appreciated by both faculty and students. All the faculty of the department know the quality of her work, confident that any solution she prepares will be perfect and need not be checked again.

She has maintained a record of all her work and was also the store keeper of the department. In this capacity she always ensured that there was sufficient stock of the necessary materials needed, whether it be chemicals or apparatus.

Some sodium once burst into flames in the Chemistry Lab causing her face and hair to be burnt. But God protected her and she was miraculously saved. This did not deter her; for even after this, she returned to the same lab and continued her work in the department, always making sure the equipment were kept clean and ready. She was always loyal to the college and grateful for the opportunity to work here.

As a person she is very simple, friendly, reliable and helpful.

She is very observant, intelligent and quickly grasps whatever is explained to her. She is a silent, dedicated, sincere, and systematic worker, who is extremely committed to her job. She is very punctual and has generously given her time to the college. With her long experience, she is also a mentor to her colleagues. Young-looking with an ever ready smile, she has good interpersonal relationships with the faculty and students. She is an asset to the department of Chemistry and to the college. The college is ever grateful to her for her services and wishes her a happy and contented retired life.

Sr Susan, f.m.m.
Secretatry



Ms Anthoniammal

Ms Anthoniammal retired after serving the college for three decades. Anthoniammal is a very prayerful and religious person and many a times she has prayed for both the students and faculty. Anthoniammal has gone through lot of hardships but that did not deter or dampen her spirit. She was extremely hospitable to people who walked into the offices where she worked. We wish her a healthy, peaceful retired life.

Sr Susan, f.m.m.
Secretatry

ACTIVITIES OF THE COLLEGE



STUDENTS' UNION



Leaving an impression, making a mark

The most effective team is one in which each and every member has a unique role to play, and plays it to perfection. The Students' Union 2011-2012, strived to achieve precisely that during this academic year. With this theory in mind, the logo we chose was that of a red and orange finger print. The finger print is the one unique mark of identification for any individual. It symbolises individuality and the importance of every single person in the grand scheme. The colours signifies the metaphorical fire igniting a passion for excellence within each member of the student body. The motto 'Make Your Mark' was a way to inspire individuals to come forth to create memories and be part of something memorable. A memorable year it was!

Our foremost aim was to ensure that our fellow students felt stimulated enough to shed all inhibitions and bring to the fore their capabilities. The first years, being new to the environment, were given a forum to showcase their talent in the form of the Freshers' Talent Hunt – 'Viverra 2011' in July. As though to foreground a bridge between their childhood in school and maturity in college, the theme of the event was Cartoons – something one can enjoy at all ages. A month after this, the second edition of the Stella Maris College Model United Nations (SMC MUN 2011) took place. This three - day conference was attended by Delegates and Executive Board members from colleges all over the country, including a couple of international representations as well. The four councils of the MUN were the General Assembly, World Trade Organisation, Human Rights Council and the Historic Security Council. The entire event was put together with the help of the Quiz, Debate and Current Affairs Club of Stella Maris College.

The theme the college had chosen for the year was 'Food Security'. Being one of the many crises faced by our country, we thought it appropriate to create awareness and interest on this issue amongst the student body. 26 August was declared 'Food and Nutrition Day' at Stella Maris College. Dr Sultan Ismail of New College was the Chief Guest and enamoured the student body with his session on plastic and environment-friendly practices. The cherry on the cake was when our Guest of Honour, actor Dr Vikram symbolically dropped a bundle of plastic waste into a dust bin. The entire college was bustling with exhibits and activities put up by every department and club. On the whole, it was one of the most memorable days of the academic year.

MAKE
YOUR
MARK

Students' Union 2011-2012



As a means to increase the number of participants and encourage people who do not usually ascend the stage, we decided to break away from tradition and conduct an Inter-Department Cultural, as opposed to the usual Inter-Years. This two-day event was a smashing success, as a majority of the student body voted it better than Inter-Years and thought it must be taken forward in the years to come. Comparing it to the previous years, we realised that this event had increased student participation by hundreds. For us, there was no bigger sense of satisfaction.

Another brand new event this year was TedX Stella Maris College, which brought several renowned and inspirational speakers to the college. Participants came in from various institutions from around the city.

Christmas is no doubt the season of joy. We wanted to celebrate this festival in a unique manner this year. 'Christmas Melodies,' a carol concert was hosted under the newly constructed dome structure in the big open air theatre. Over eleven choirs from around the city participated in the festivity, including our very own college choir.

The inter-collegiate cultural 'Aquilae' was hosted in January 2012, with participation over 15 colleges from across the city participating in it. This day-long event was festive, full of competitions as well as seminars and workshops on drama, Food Security, etc. The trophy was finally taken home by Loyola College's team from Shift II.

Being sensitive towards the environment and providing quality education to the underprivileged have always been priorities at Stella Maris. We found a great balance between the two with the Paperman NGO. Collaborating with them, we conducted the Recycle Week (which in fact went on for months), where we collected old papers and contributed them for recycling. The money made out of this process went towards educating a girl child, with the help of Paperman. This was truly one of the most fulfilling activities of the year.

The last major event was the grand finale; the annual college play. In collaboration with the Dramatics Club, Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* was re-written with a Stellar Players



Student's Union 2011-2012 (from left to right): Amanda Doggett (Cultural Secretary, Shift II), Kyathi Shah (Treasurer), Radhika Menon (Vice-President), Bhavya Balantrapur (President), Debrah Martina (Cultural Secretary, Shift I), Florence Suganya (General Secretary)



The prize winning dance at IIT Sarang, being performed at the opening ceremony of Aquilae

twist. The entire production was a complete student venture, right from scripting to directing. The play received rave reviews from several local newspapers.

Apart from the seven major events, we celebrated Friendship Day, Ethnic Day, Language Week (each day dedicated to a language department), etc. Each of these minor events was also celebrated with gusto as an attempt to add an extra shade of colour to student life at Stella Maris. One change we are most proud of was the redesigning of the election procedure, which was unanimously supported by the entire student council during the second meeting of the year. The change we declared is with relation to the nomination procedure, wherein students can apply to be nominated. This was done to avoid the confusion when it came to election time. If the next student council also approves of it, then the new procedure will be put to test and hopefully succeed.

The year ended with the celebration of Union Day, which we used as a platform to embrace all those who supported us through the year. Without them, we would just be six individuals.



Workers' Day Celebrations

For the six of us, it was the most fulfilling year we have had yet. We created memories together, made the best of friends and raised over three lakh rupees for the scholarship fund for first generation women learners in our college. Being a member of the Students' Union makes you realise how special it feels to be a part of the large student body. The academic year 2011-2012 is a landmark in our lives and we hope that we have made our mark.

FOOD & NUTRITION DAY

Introductory remarks by the Principal

On 26 August 2011, when the college celebrated Food and Nutrition Day, we brought in a new dimension to our community outreach activities, and reaffirmed our commitment to work for social change. The seed, for the project on Food and Water Security, the commencement of which was marked by celebrating Food and Nutrition Day, was sown on 10 December 2010 when Dr Suresh, the Chief Guest at our Human Rights Day celebrations, spoke on the importance of food security, and the ways in which various departments of the college could become involved in this critical area of national significance. Later, during his subsequent visits to the college and on College Day, the topic of food security was again brought to the forefront, focusing on awareness creation and outreach programmes in this area.

As a first step, faculty members of the college participated in a three-day orientation programme on the topic of Food and Water Security at the beginning of the academic year, just before the reopening of the college. They received invaluable inputs from some of India's best known experts on the subject – Dr V. Suresh, Supreme Court Appointed Advisor for Tamil Nadu on Food Security, Dr Veena Shatrugna, National Advisor on Nutrition to the Supreme Court Commissioner on Food Security, Prof. Pradeep Prabhu, Director, School of Rural Studies – Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Mr Ramasubramaniam, and Ms Sangeetha Sriram from Safe Food Alliance, Mr TV Ananthanarayan, Convenor, Sumedhas Academy of OD Professionals, Mr K Saravanan and Mr S Nandakumar, Centre of Law, Policy and Human Rights Studies. The sessions generated dynamic interactions that served to clarify concepts, and open up possibilities of aligning dreams and reality with justice and pragmatism. At the end of the programme the faculty members drew up plans for departmental projects centering on this topic.



In order to involve the student community, the executive members of the Students' Union also underwent an orientation on the same topic. As soon as the college reopened in June both faculty and students began planning various activities that would highlight and foreground the importance and significance of food and water security for all sections of society. The nutritional value of food was an added area of focus, as nutritionally adequate and healthy food is necessary for a healthy life.

The formal commencement of the project was the celebration of Food and Nutrition Day. Our Chief Guest of the day was Dr Sultan Ismail, Director, Eco Science Research Foundation & Head, PG Department of Biotechnology, New College. He has been associated with the college for several years and has been our consultant and guide for several projects and programmes. He has collaborated with us on many undertakings relating to environment protection, ecology and sustainable development. The setting up of the grey water recycling unit

and compost pit linked to the college hostel has been overseen by Dr Ismail. This is a major step of the college in the area of water conservation and sustainable development. The Guest of Honour for the day was Dr Vikram, well known actor and philanthropist, who has promoted various social and humanitarian causes and is associated with several charitable organisations. Food and Nutrition Day marked a milestone in our efforts towards awareness creation and involvement in the Food and Water Security project of the college. Ensuring food and water security for all is ultimately about promoting social justice and more equitable access to resources. It is about building and revitalizing local communities and economies. It is about empowering people to become self-sufficient and to work together for positive change.

Many programmes and activities focusing on awareness creation in this key area of both local and national significance have been held on campus between June and August. The programmes included lectures, workshops and viewing of documentaries pertaining to the topic. Several activities directed towards putting the learning into action were carried out on campus, under the leadership of the Students' Union and coordinated by the College Committee for Food and Water Security. The entire conceptualization, planning and logistics of this enterprise were undertaken by the Committee for Food and Water Security, the students, and the Deans of Students' Affairs.

All these activities have been an uplifting and encouraging experience for all of us here. This

college project, involving every constituency in the institution has helped us grow closer as a college community, united in working for a common purpose. As members of the college community, we can, through this project, honor and celebrate diverse cultures and traditions, help build people's capacity, and create change through education and empowerment which is in essence, the mission of our college.

Food and Nutrition Day has set the stage for an action-based approach to the college project on Food and Water Security. I congratulate the Students' Union for having worked with such dedication over the past few weeks, organising programmes and activities to educate the student body on various aspects of the topic. The reports compiled in this publication are proof of the efforts that every department, every student of the college has put into the project to ensure its success. The reports indicate their deep involvement and commitment to the goals of the project. Let us, henceforth, every day, put into action something positive that we have learned from this event – it could be in our reduced use of non recyclable plastics, reduced wastage of food, conserving water anything that adds value to life on campus, and helps us remember that access to food and water is a basic right, and that we as citizens must do our bit to ensure that every member of the community in which we live has access to food and water at all times. Let us continue to forge ahead in our work with the same levels of commitment and enthusiasm.

May the Star of the Sea lead us to greater achievements in all that we do.



Dr Sr Jasintha Quadras, f.m.m., addressing the gathering.

Students' Union

Statistics prove that hunger causes the largest number of deaths in the world. In our own country, 7000 people die of hunger everyday and 25 lakh every year. Almost half the Indian population cannot afford even one meal a day. As an initiative towards ensuring food security to every citizen of the country, Stella Maris College has planned a year-long awareness programme during the academic year 2011-12. 'Food and Nutrition Day', held on campus on 26 August 2011, was an important step in creating awareness among students regarding the growing crisis of food insecurity, the importance of eating nutritious food, and the need for environmental safety.

The day began with the Inaugural Function at which Dr Sultan Ismail, the Chief Guest, addressed the student body on nutrition and environmental concerns. He truly ignited concern in the hearts of over 3000 students present there. He displayed different grades of plastic and explained the difference between the food-grade and the non-

food-grade varieties, instructed the students to look for the number at the bottom of the plastic bottle to check the quality, and to avoid the use of colourful cheap plastics, polythene bags and the 'white coffin' styrofoam. He demonstrated the acidity levels of popular cola drinks. For nutritional value, he recommended that we follow the national flag colours saffron for papaya and carrot, white for calcium, green for green vegetables and the blue chakra for water. Dr Sultan Ismail, who has been associated with us in the setting up of the vermicompost project and grey water recycling plant on campus, presented as a symbolic gesture, two pots of organic manure produced in the college compost pit to Dr Sr Jasintha Quadras, the Principal and to Sr. Susan, Secretary of the College. The Students' Union President, Bhavya Balantrapu then led the college in taking an oath to protect the environment, eat right and help to empower the less fortunate.

The 'Say No to Plastic' campaign was launched by the Guest of Honour Dr Vikram, who honoured persons who had been working for the cause of food security, nutrition and environmental safety both



Students pledge their support

in college and in association with college. On the Honour Roll were the following persons: Sr. Hilda, Mr Alex and Ms Leela for their assistance in putting into practice environment-friendly measures, Mr Jeyaprakash and Mr Vincent for rendering services towards betterment of the environment and helping the college set up the compost pit, and Ms Amudhavalli and Ms Yamuna for their involvement in the Sangamam Project.

Dr Vikram also presented prizes to the winners of the various competitions that had been conducted on the theme of Food and Water Security over the previous two weeks. Ten competitions were held and over 200 entries were received.

This was followed by an impressive performance by the Classical Dance Club foregrounding the element water. The NSS volunteers underscored Food and Water Security issues through mime. The inauguration was followed by movie screenings of the “Story of Stuff” and the “Story of Water” and a workshop on vermicomposting for students from neighbouring schools and schools under the NSS wing. Stalls and exhibits were put up by various departments, with a focus on creating and spreading awareness on issues related to food and water. These included a wide variety of creative and innovative

activities such as skits, movie screenings, displays of models and charts, installations, sale of nutritious food, fitness workshops and puppet shows. The exhibits were evaluated by Professor Ismail, Mr Nirmal, Founder, Exnora, and Dr Dharini, Consultant Dietician.

The collective efforts of the various departments contributed significantly towards raising awareness levels in the area of Food and Water Security. It was interesting to note the care with which faculty and students used their particular disciplines to highlight ideas that would help us to move as a nation towards equitable sharing of food and water resources. There were exhibits and demonstrations and experiments using both tested and creative and innovative tools.

Stella Maris College is home to students from various socio-economic backgrounds and endeavours to give equal opportunity to all. While believing that duty begins at home, we also hope to reach out to neighbourhood communities and spread our initiatives through the city. So far responses have been good and the learning experiences meaningful and fulfilling. At the end of the day, the college stood united as a body in its commitment to Food and Water Security.





Dr Sultan Ismail - creating awareness on plastic



Dr Vikram's address



Launch of 'Say No to Plastic' campaign



A mime



Awareness through art



Prize winning entries of 'The Food and Water Security' competition



Mr. M.B.Nirmal inaugurating the exhibition.

CHRISTMAS MELODIES









ANNUAL SPORTS REPORT

Our college has always been in the forefront of sports and games in the city. Thanks to the active support of the Management this year too we have excelled in various sport and in fact surpassed our previous performances.

The Table Tennis team of our college continued its winning streak by winning the first position in almost all tournaments in which they participated, be it at state or the national level. The team players were K K Narmadha, III B Com, V Malavika, II BA Economics, N Vidya, I B Com and Harshitha Ravi, II B Com. K K Narmadha and N Vidya won international recognition when they were selected to represent India in the India-Srilanka test match held on 9-11 February 2012 at Sri Lanka. Their team emerged the winners. The college team won the Runners-up position in the National Level Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by Christian Medical College, Vellore from 21-23 July 2011. In the State Level Inter-Collegiate tournament conducted by DG Vaishnav College on 8 August 2011, the team secured the Winners title and N Vidya won the best player award. At the Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by Madras University B Zone on 10 August 2011, our college team secured the first place. In the Inter-zone Tournament conducted on 12 August 2011 at KRMMC too, our team secured the first place. In the national ranking held at West Bengal on 23-28 August 2011, K.K. Narmadha secured the second position. Harshitha Ravi, K K Narmadha and N Vidya were selected to represent

the Madras University and their team emerged as the winners in the South Zone Tournament held at Amirtha University, Coimbatore. They participated in the All India Inter University Tournament and again secured the winners title. They were also selected to represent the Tamilnadu State. At the National Level Inter-Collegiate tournament conducted by VIT University in February 2012, our college team won the first place and received a cash award of Rs 7000.

In Lawn Tennis too, we made our presence felt in the international level when Preethi Srinivasan of III BA English participated in the Second Malaysian-Indian Tamilnadu Youth Games held in Malaysia in August 2011. She won the winners title in this Tournament.

The Lawn Tennis team consisting of Preethi Srinivasan, Neena Reddy, R Pavithra and Nivedita Srinivasan, participated at the CMC Vellore National Level Inter-Collegiate Tournament held in July 2011 and secured the second place. At the All India Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by SSN College in August 2011 our team won the winners title and a cash award of Rs 5000. The team members were Preethi Srinivasan, Nivedita and Neena Reddy. Preethi Srinivasan also received the Best Player award. At the Madras University B Zone Tennis Inter-Collegiate Tournament held on 15 September 2011, as well as at the Inter Zone Tournament held on 16 September 2011 held at Stella Maris College, our college team won the first place. Preethi Srinivasan





Chief Guest Dr J Sukumar, Registrar, TamilNadu Physical Education And Sports University.

and Neena Reddy were selected to represent the Madras University for the South Zone held at Belgaum and their team secured the second place. At the State Level Inter- Collegiate Tournament conducted by JBAS College in December 2011 the college team were the winners. Again, at the State Level Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by Ethiraj College in January 2012 the college team emerged winners. At the National Level Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by VIT, Vellore in February 2012, our team won the first prize and received Rs 7000 as cash award.

In Basketball, we have done extremely well this year. At the Madras University B Zone inter-collegiate Tournament held on 14 September 2011, the college team secured the winners title after ten years and all the twelve players of the team were selected to represent the Madras University Inter-zone. At 'Sportsfest 2011' conducted by IIT Madras in September 2011 the college team were the winners. In the National Level Inter-collegiate Tournament conducted by Sree Raghavendra Basket ball Club in September 2011, we were the runners-up title, and A Karthika of II M Com secured the best player award. At the State Level Basketball Tournament conducted by JBAS College in December 2011 the college team were the runners-up.

Our dominance in the game of Shuttle Badminton was demonstrated this year too. Our college team won the first place at the Madras University B Zone Inter Collegiate Tournament held on 23 August 2011. Our team won the Inter Zone Tournament held on 22 September 2011 which too we won after 10 years. Maithily Madhusudhanan of II BCom and Pradishita of I BCom were selected to represent the Madras University. In the Inter-collegiate Tournament conducted by IIT Madras on 23rd to 28th September our college team emerged winners. At the National

Level Inter-Collegiate Tournament conducted by VIT University in February 2012 our college team won the first place.

In Hockey too, our performance was impressive. At the B Zone Inter-collegiate Hockey Tournament conducted by Madras University at Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium on 13 September 2011, our college team won the second place. Eight players from our team were selected to participate at the Madras University Inter-Zone Tournament and this team won the Runners-up position. Four players were selected to represent Madras University. They are M Menaka, II MCom, Gurbani Simran Bedi, I BA Economics, V Gayathri I B Sc Maths and S Aruna Devi, I B Com. In the ESPO 2012 hockey tournament conducted by Ethiraj College on 19 January 2012 the team secured the runners-up title.

In Cricket, our college team secured the third place at the Madras University Inter-collegiate Tournament held in September 2011. Five players, GJ Jennifer of III B Sc Physics, K Vishnupriya of II B Com, J Lilly

Agnus Devonna of III BA Sociology, V Nandhini of III B Com and Maithily Madhusudhanan of II B Com were selected to represent the Madras University B Zone. Maithily Madhusudhanan was selected to represent the Madras University.

In Volley Ball, the college team secured the runners-up title in the Madras University B Zone inter-collegiate tournament held on 7 Septemebr 2011 at Anna Adarsh College. S Monica, A Saranya, and Regina Edward were selected to represent the Madras University B Zone and S Monica was selected to represent the Madras University.

In the State Level Inter-Collegiate Swimming competition conducted by JBAS College, S Sukanya of I B Com secured the first place in 100 m individual medley, second place in 50m backstroke, second place in 50m free style and second place in 50m butterfly stroke event.

We have introduced a Ball Badminton team this year and in the Madras University B Zone Inter-



Stella Maris College Table Tennis And Tennis Winners & III Place in Shuttle Badminton at VIT National Level Inter Collegiate Tournament



Stella Maris College Basketball Team



collegiate Tournament the team secured the third place. G E Philomina of II MSc Maths, M Vanitha of I B Sc Zoology, S Vishali of I BCA and R Priyanka of I BCA were selected to represent the Madras University B Zone.

In Athletics, Christina Ann of I B Com was selected to represent the Tamilnadu State in the 25th Junior Nationals Meet held at Hyderabad and she won the silver medal in medley relay and bronze in 200m.

It is note worthy that she holds the state record in 400 meters. In the Madras University B Zone Inter Collegiate Tournament, V Nandhini of III B Com secured the first place in Javeline Throw and D Monica of II B Com secured second place in Triple Jump. In the same tournament, T R Abarna of I BA English secured the second place in Short Put.

To sum up, we had a remarkable year. We hope to scale new heights in the coming years.



NATIONAL CADET CORPS

The National Cadet Corps plays a vital role in moulding the character of young women with qualities of leadership, discipline and courage. The NCC at Stella Maris College has always been in the forefront of the many activities. As in the previous years, this year too, our cadets have done our college proud.

First year cadets were enrolled in June and the parades for the year started in July. The cadets of all three years were put into four companies – Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta – under the leadership of a Cadet Under Officer and Sergeant. The first year cadets were trained right from the first parade to face the competitions held in our college within Companies.

The first year cadets participated in Cado-Florenzia, the Inter-Collegiate Competition conducted by Vel-Tech College, Avadi in July. Cdt. Akshaya of the Mathematics Department won the silver medal in solo dance, Cdt. Grace Hannah of Computer Science Department bronze medal in Solo song and L/Cpl. J S Bhavani the gold medal in Extempore. The college teams won the gold medal in both Group Song and Group Dance.

The training for the second years began in June and was conducted by the third year cadets on campus.

At the combined Annual Training Camp held at Vel-Tech, Avadi, five of our cadets participated. Cdt. Anna Rony of Economics Department won the silver medal in the Best Cadet competition and the silver medal in Extempore; she was also the parade commander for ceremonial drill. Cdt. Anju Mathew of the English Department won the silver medal in Cross-country. Cdt. C. Divya and Cdt. Swetha M. attended the Nav Sainik Camp IGC held at Puducherry, in September.



Chief Guest Brig. V S Saini with the dignitaries on NCC Day



The Chief Guest inspecting the parade



Guest of honour

The second year cadets usually compete for the State and National level competitions leading to the Thal Sainik Camp at New Delhi, the Republic Day Camp at New Delhi and the Vayu Sainik Camp at Bangalore. The training for the Delhi Camp involved rigorous coaching in weapons, obstacles, map-reading, judging distance, field signals. L/Cpl. Divya E of second year Computer Science was selected for the camp held at New Delhi and she won Gold medal in Tent-pitching, and Bronze medal in Health and Hygiene.

Three cadets from our college participated in the Inter-Group Camp held at Madurai in October for the Republic Day Selection Camp. Cdt. Anna Rony took part in Group Song and secured first place.

During August, an Inaugural Camp was held at Besant Theosophical Society for the first year to motivate them with regard to the camp life and to help them get a feel of working together in a group with team spirit. Various competitions such as Solo Song, Solo Dance, Group Song, Group Dance, National Integration Awareness programme, Quiz, Line Area and Flag Area were held in the camp. The Delta Company won the over all cultural banner.

C/Sgt. G. Thaatcher of the History Department, C/Sgt. Preyanka of Chemistry Department and C/Sgt. Sanjana of the Economics Department attended the CATC Camp held at Sathyabama University. The cadets won the gold medal for Drill, Health and Hygiene and secured first place in Culturals. In the pre-IGC II camp, C/Sgt. G Thaatcher of the History Department won gold medal in firing. She was also selected for the IGC camp held at Madurai in which she participated in the Best Cadet competition and they secured first place in Flag area and National Integration Awareness programme. C/Sgt. Preyanka of Chemistry Department won the Silver medal for flying in the Inter-Group Competitions held at Air-force Station, Tambaram. She was also selected for the All India Vayu Sainik Camp held at Jakkur Airfield, Bangalore where she won bronze medal for flying.

Two annual training camps were held in December for first year cadets. Nineteen first-year cadets attended the camp, which gave training for the Best



Cadet and Thal Sainik Cadet. Cdt. Edel Ancy Queen of the Mathematics department won medal for firing and our college won medal for Group Dance.

Apart from the Cultural Competition held at Besant Theosophical Society, other competitions like Best Cadet, Thal Sainik Cadet, Contigent Drill, Individual Drill, Cross country, General Knowledge and General Service Knowledge were also conducted in December. These competitions were conducted between companies to test the physical and mental strength of our cadets.

Seven first year cadets (Cdt. Padmaroopa, Cdt. Akshaya, Cdt. Mary Steffi, Cdt. Oliver Drishilla, Cdt. Sherlin of Mathematics department, Cdt. Mathleen of English department, Cdt. Nirmala P R of the Computer Science department) and three second year cadets (C/Sgt. Preyanka of Chemistry department, C/Sgt. G. Thaatcher of History department, Cdt. Swetha M. of the Commerce Department) took part in the Chennai Republic day parade 2012 held at Marina. The National Integration Camp brings together the youth of the nation and helps establish lasting friendships that cut across region, language and colour. Cdt. Reeta, Cdt. Akshaya and Cdt. Padmaroopa of first year Mathematics, Cdt. Anju Mathew of second year English and L/Cpl. Suguna Maria X of second year History were selected for this camp in the month of October held at Tanjavore. Cdt. Padmaroopa won the Best Master of Ceremony

award in the Camp. L/Cpl. Anna Rony of II BA Economics, L/Cpl. Anju Mathew of II BA English and L/Cpl. Divya A of the Mathematics department attended the National Integration Camp held at New Delhi in November. Our cadets participated in the Essay writing Competition, Quiz and Group Dance.

L/Cpl. Angeline Archana of Zoology Department attended the Rock Climbing Camp held at Gwalior during November. Senior Under Officer Roslin Nanci of the Sociology Department was selected for the Army Attachment Camp held at Gwalior; this camp is the stepping stone for a career in the Armed Forces.

Sensitising cadets to social issues is an important objective of NCC and to this end, the cadets took part in various activities. Five cadets participated in the International Coastal Cleanup day held on 3 September 2011. Cadets attended the cancer awareness programme which was held at Ethiraj College. Posters were designed with regard to rain water harvesting in order to create an awareness among the cadets and the locality.

NCC Day was celebrated on 17 February 2012 which is the grand finale of the whole year's activities. Brigadier V S Saini, of the Officer's Training Academy was the Chief Guest for the NCC Day. The first year Thal Sainik cadets conducted a live demonstration of tent-pitching, pyramids display;



Tent Pitching by first year Thal Sainik Cadets



The completed tent

they also organized a cultural drama depicting the heritage and culture of our people. The Overall Best company for the year was won by Charlie company. CUO Y. Gracy Angel Mary won the Best Under Officer Award, Sergeant R Janani the Best Sergeant Award, SUO A Roslin Nanci the Best Cado-leader Award and SUO Preethi R the Best Outgoing NCC Cadet of the Year Award.

The B-certificate examination was held on 18 and 19 February 2012 and 17 first year cadets have attended the examination. The C-certificate examination was held on 25 and 26 of February 2012 and 6 cadets attended the examination.

Cadostar inter-collegiate NCC competition was conducted on 3 March 2012. About 15 companies from various colleges and Units participated enthusiastically. The competition started with cross country at 5:30 a.m. and ended with cultural at 5:00 p.m. Various competitions such as Best Cadet, Thal Sainik Cadet, Best Company were held. Lt. Col. Zacharia, Commanding Officer, 1 (TN) Girls Bn NCC presided over the Valedictory function to give away the prizes for the deserving cadets. Madras Christian College won the overall banner of Cadostar 2012.

There has always been a tradition of our cadets joining the Defence force. This year, Ex-SUO Mini of the Zoology department who was the All India Reserve Best Cadet in the Republic Day Camp held at New Delhi during the year 2010, had gone to Singapore for the Youth Exchange Programme and joined the SSB training in Officer's Training Academy, Chennai.

As in the previous years, the NCC cadets from Stella Maris have proved themselves in all fields.



Obstacle Course Demo



Inaugural Camp – Group Song



Pyramids Display during NCC Day

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

The NSS office started functioning this year with a team of three Programme Officers comprising of Dr Millie Nihila, Dr Nanthamil Nangai and Dr Nirmala Alex.

The year started with registration of third year volunteers as senior volunteers. Twelve NSS volunteers from Shift I and three from Shift II were selected as senior volunteers. This was followed by orientation for the second year volunteers. The second year students were allotted agencies they would work with along with their work schedule for the year. Each volunteer is expected to work four hours a week in their respective agencies.

As soon as the first year students came in, a general orientation was given to all students and initially around 230 volunteers registered. A special orientation programme about NSS activities was conducted for the first year students in batches to enable them not only to understand the concept of service but also to know more about themselves to help them reach out to people in a professional way. Finally, 150 registered as NSS volunteers and agency work was allotted to them according to their choice.

Our college has three NSS units with 310 students enrolled as NSS volunteers. This year, NSS volunteers worked at the Teynampet Slum, Helping Hands, Gandhi Peace Foundation, St. Louis School for Blind, Takkar Baba, Lotus Blind School, Cathedral School, Opportunity Centre, Beatitudes, Goodwill, etc.

The NSS Unit has adopted a slum in the neighbourhood and the volunteers will be working in this slum for another five years. They will concentrate on issues related to women's empowerment, school dropouts, hygiene and sanitation and identifying and working with youth talented in sport and cultural activities.

A group of forty NSS Volunteers who were working with Gandhi Peace Foundation are placed in five corporation schools and their assignment was to teach Peace Education.

The Stella Maris NSS Unit organised two blood camps on the campus in July and January in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Blood Association. Around 320 units of blood was donated



by our students, of which 260 units of blood was given to Indian Red Cross Society and another 100 units of blood was donated to Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children at Egmore. Twenty-three student volunteers assisted the Income Tax Department, Government of India to help the income tax payers to file their tax on the last four days. Their assistance was appreciated by the Department of Income Tax and all students were honoured by the Income Tax Commissioner.

NSS volunteers working with Gandhi Peace Foundation mobilised 30 students from five schools to participate in the Food and Water Security Day organised by the students union in the college in August.

One of the major programmes for the NSS volunteers is the Annual camp. This was organized in the last week of December at Athivakkam village in Thiruvallur District. 150 NSS Volunteers registered and participated in the camp. In the camp, input session for NSS volunteers were given every day on issues related to personality development. As per the request of the Athivakkam Panchayat leader and Block Development Officer of Thiruvallur District the main focus of the camp was to create awareness among the Athivakkam villagers regarding the use of toilets. Folk artists Dr Kumaravel, Mr Vinayagam

and Mr Vinod trained our students in the camp on Thappattam, Oyilattam, Kollattam and folk songs. Our student performed for the villagers during the camp. Around 50 posters were made by our NSS volunteers in the camp for the primary school children of at Hivakkam and these were displayed in their classrooms as teaching aids.

A medical camp was organised for the Athivakkam villagers during the camp. Most of the time was spent in empowering the women, youth and children of this village. Children's Day, Youth Day and Women's Day were organised for the villagers and the community participated and benefited a lot from our NSS annual camp. Gifts were distributed to all children and youth who participated in various activities organised by our volunteers and prizes were distributed to winners of different competition. This is the second time the annual camp is organized at Athivakaam as a follow-up of the programmes initiated by our NSS volunteers in the previous camps.

This academic year, five students participated in the National NSS Camp. S Stella of the Chemistry Department participated in the National Integration Camp at Kanyakumari in June 2011. K Pavitra and S. Bhuvaneshwari from the Maths Department participated in the ten days summer camp at Pune in June 2011. S Bhuvaneshwari won the Best NSS



Volunteer award in the camp. I. Sagaya Rose of Chemistry Department and A Elayarani of History Department participated in the Summer Adventure Camp at Simla in July 2011. R Vincent Familaa of Physics Department represented University of Madras at the Republic Day parade this year. She also participated in the cultural activities in the RDC camp.

Our NSS volunteers performed cultural programmes at Divinity, St. Thomas Baby Home, Assumption School, Beatitudes, and also during Pongal celebration in our college.

The NSS students regularly scribe for the visually challenged inmates of Lotus Blind, Thakar Baba, Good Will Foundation and Queen Mary's College. The Stella Maris NSS Unit did a pioneering project of voice recording books for the visually challenged persons. These records were converted as MP3 and left in libraries for the visually challenged. Our volunteers participated in the Leadership Training Programme at Loyola College, Seminar on Redefining Media to Foster Cultural Harmony and World Peace at Auxilium College, Vellore, Mass Tree planting on ECR road, Workshop on Pedagogy for Peace-building and Interreligious Understanding in Higher Education at Asian Centre for Cross - cultural

Studies at Panayur, Inter - collegiate Personality Development Programme at New College, and Workshop on the Peace Education on Gandhian Attitudes and Action for Empowering Children at the Gandhi Peace Foundation. This year our students accompanied the differently - challenged children to the circus and the Zoological Park.

The NSS unit received two awards for blood donations and a trophy for collecting the most number of books for the public library. NSS students also participated in the Inter collegiate cultural Servotsav and won the winners trophy.

Dr Millie Nihila was nominated as a member of the Advisory Committee of National Service Scheme for the academic year 2011-12.

Our students also participated in a number of rallies held to mark significant days and causes such as World Heart Day, Diabetes-free Chennai, Smoke-free Chennai, Violence Against Women, AIDS Awareness, etc.

Our motivated and committed NSS volunteers have been part of many service and empowerment oriented programmes throughout the year, developing as individuals and being a source of change to many.



INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL

The primary aim of the IQAC of Stella Maris College is to develop a system for conscious, consistent and catalytic action to improve the academic and administrative performance of the institution. The IQAC is responsible for the development and application of quality benchmarks/parameters for the various academic and administrative activities of the college and for the dissemination of information on the various quality parameters of higher education. This cell functions as a core quality-enhancing system, fostering a sense of belonging through a participatory approach towards sustaining and enhancing quality within the institution. It also prepares the Annual Quality Assurance Report, the annual report submitted to the University of Madras and other reports highlighting the activities of the college, based on the data submitted by the departments and the offices in the college.

The IQAC team is chaired by the Principal, Dr Sr. Jasintha Quadras, fmm, and comprises members among the teaching staff who hold senior administrative positions, representatives from the teaching staff and the management as well as nominees from the local society. The activities of the IQAC are co-ordinated by Dr Geetha



Swaminathan, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry.

Drawing from its experiences of the previous years and taking into consideration recommendations made at the Advisory Committee meeting, several initiatives were taken to enhance quality in the functioning of the college during the year 2011-2012. The college web page has been redesigned, highlighting the activities of the college and faculty profiles have been uploaded, to give better visibility to the college.

All through the year, several training and development programmes were conducted for the teaching, administrative and supportive staff – to name a few, a session for the teaching faculty on ‘Ensuring Food and Water Security’, a Faculty Development Programme on ‘Achieving and Sustaining Excellence in Centres of Higher Learning,’ an orientation session on ‘Teacher Effectiveness’ for junior faculty, sessions on ‘Professional Accountability of Teachers,’ workshops on ‘Effective Workplace Relations’ for the administrative staff and training on ‘Use of Smart Board’ to make the teaching-learning process more effective. A review of the functioning of the IQAC and brainstorming for future course of action was made possible through a session on ‘Enhancing the Activities of the IQAC’ for the department representatives of the cell.

A six-day training programme was conducted in January 2012 in collaboration with Knowledge Xchange and LIBA – an in-house Management Development Programme on ‘Enhancing Managerial Effectiveness of Centres of Higher Learning,’ designed to initiate discussion on strategies to identify and deal with challenges faced by institutions of higher education in maintaining

and enhancing quality. The participants were senior members of the faculty who are involved in the administration, IQAC members and the members of the management. This comprehensive programme addressed various aspects involved in managing and running an institution of higher learning. It initiated interesting discussions that assessed existing conditions. There were also brainstorming sessions on drawing up a road map for the future. These sessions resulted in a follow-up session in which participants identified core issues related to academics, administration, human resources and finance to be taken up for immediate action over the next academic year. The list of issues identified by the group was then passed on to the departments for discussion to ensure inclusion of every faculty in the process of achieving and sustaining quality in the institution.

The IQAC also played an active role in publishing the second edition of the booklet ‘Green Initiatives’ which highlights the eco-friendly practices of the college and the booklet on Food Security Initiatives, a publication of the report of the activities conducted by the various departments as a part of the Food and Water Security Project of the college.

Students Wing of the IQAC:

Realising the importance of the role of students in enhancing the quality assurance in the campus, the IQAC launched its Students Wing this year with 43 student-members who would serve to liaise between the IQAC and the student community. It was decided that the student members would participate in meetings to discuss various issues related to quality enhancement and would work towards ensuring student involvement in all college activities. They would also be responsible for documenting achievements of students and would disseminate this information to the student community at large. The students wing of the IQAC will assist in Pathway Programme, English communication coaching classes and other programmes for the juniors and will be mentors in guiding them and monitoring their progress.

The college is also conducting a number of programmes to enhance the skills of the students – the Civil Services Coaching classes, Spring Board for Leadership Programmes and the Language Partnership Programmes have seen good student participation.

With the complete involvement and participation of all stakeholders, the college hopes to continue its quest for excellence.

Dr Geetha Swaminathan
IQAC Coordinator



In-house Management Development Programme



Session for Department Representatives



Session for Administrative Staff

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT CELL

Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme
4th January, 2012 – 3rd February, 2012

“The economic growth of a country is fuelled by the strength and vitality of its Entrepreneurs - Women form the key in the upliftment of the family and country”

The Entrepreneurship Development Cell of Stella Maris College, supported by NSTEDB, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India, conducted a four-week Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme from 4 January 2012 to 3 February 2012 at Stella Maris College.

The programme was coordinated by Dr Geetha Swaminathan, Project Advisor EDC and Ms Mary Teresita, Project Leader, EDC. It was attended by 35 women from different walks of life who were budding entrepreneurs/home makers with varied educational backgrounds such as B Sc, M Sc, BA, MBA and diploma holders. The entire programme was focused on exposing the trainees to different dimensions of entrepreneurship, imparting skill development training, equipping them to become successful and confident entrepreneurs and motivating them to start their own enterprises.

An overview of the programme was highlighted and carried as news in the leading newspapers. Details of the programme were also communicated to leading organizations such as the KVIC. It was heartening to see that more than 400 women had enthusiastically responded to the initiative. The people were then called in person and thirty-five women were chosen based on their individual interest and commitment. Also, a conscious effort was made to ensure that the group included people from varied educational backgrounds and socio-economic status. Most of the participants were housewives who wanted to start a business, while some were running small time business and wanted to learn the technicalities of the same.



Mr P Muralidhran, Assistant Director, MSME-DI, delivering the inaugural address, stressed on the importance of Women Entrepreneurs and spoke about their potential in running a business. He highlighted the abilities of women such as time management, determination, managerial abilities, patience and quick thinking which will enable them to become successful entrepreneurs. Given this type of structured training to harness their energy, he was sure that the participants would reach great heights in starting micro as well as medium enterprises. Ms Vasundhara, Managing Director, Visible Difference, who is a very successful woman entrepreneur, is a role model to many women. Delivering the special address, she shared her experience in overcoming the initial barriers of becoming a successful entrepreneur. It was heartening to observe that more than 60% of the women who have undergone this kind of training earlier, have all become successful entrepreneurs. To name a few, Ms Salai Mayilkodi and Ms Sasi have started food products business and have been putting up food stalls in exhibitions.

The one month training programme was conducted daily from 10.00 a.m to 4.30 p.m with four sessions everyday followed by discussion and interaction. The sessions helped in educating the participants to become successful entrepreneurs as they were given theoretical inputs on qualities of an entrepreneur, planning and processing a business enterprise, role of banks in assisting women entrepreneurs and so on. The officials from industries, banks and SISI helped the trainees in formulating the financial aspects and assisted them in identifying the various schemes available for women entrepreneurs to start a micro enterprise. The different techniques of marketing and the importance of market analysis were dealt with in detail.

The trainees were also given hands-on-skill development training on preparation of herbal products like herbal shampoo, pain balm, axe oil,

foot care cream, face wash, fairness cream which also highlighted on the importance of science and technology in the preparation of herbal products. The importance of herbal products and their ingredients were discussed in detail. The participants were given training on scientific processing of fruits/vegetables and effective packaging. They were taught the preparation of jams, pickles, juices and squashes. They were also trained on preparation of paper bags which are eco-friendly and many of them have started preparing paper conversion products and marketing them.

The trainees were also taught to design jewels such as necklaces, earrings, bracelets and anklets which have a very high market potential these days. Also, the technology involved in screen printing was showcased to them.

On a practical note, the participants were taken for field visits to Diet Aqua Packaged Drinking Water Unit, an industry run by Ms Anitha, alumnus of the college to gain first hand experience in running an industry. The trainees also visited MBI Kits International Ltd, run by Ms Shanthalakshmi, where iodine analyses are carried out in salt samples. These visits and interactions motivated the participants to start their own business. The trainees also submitted and presented Business Project proposal and the best projects were presented with awards.

The feedback from the participants indicated that the trainees had benefited a lot from the Women Entrepreneurship Development Programme. All the trainees felt that their self confidence had been boosted up through this training programme and they had learnt both theoretical and practical aspects involved in starting an industry. This training and the course material supplied during the training has motivated them to take up entrepreneurship as a career option.



Participants exhibiting their products



Hands on training for herbal products preparation



Entrepreneurship awareness camp

PATHWAYS, LANGUAGE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME & BRIDGE COURSE

Building Confidence, Building Vibrancy

With a growing number of students from regional medium schools joining Stella Maris, the college has recognized the need to ease the transition of a large group of students from school to college and from regional medium to English medium. To this end, the college has introduced a number of innovative programmes involving the entire student community.

The Stella Maris Pathway Programme, running for two years, conducts a series of programmes in English communication skills, computer skills and life skills for students. Trainers from different departments and experts from outside are involved in this process that includes more than two hundred students. The programme makes intensive use of the

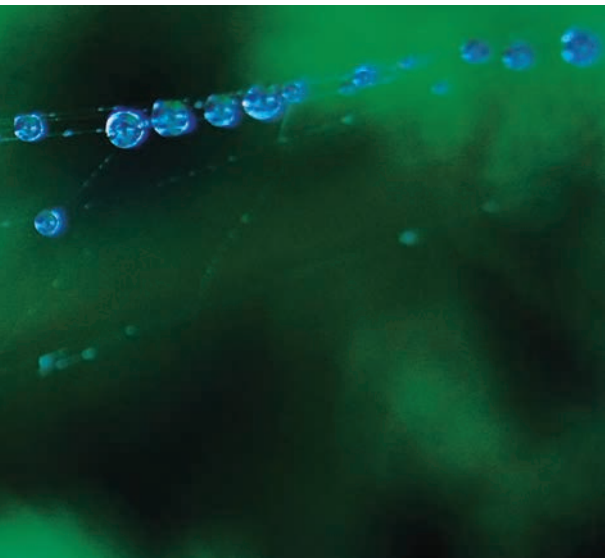
technology – especially the software in the language lab – for its purposes. The involvement of IBM in this programme (as part of its CSR) has only added to the quality. The two-year intensive programme is followed up in the third year by the Career Guidance Cell that ensures that the students who have registered for the Pathway Programme are on par with the other students in employability.

The Language Partnership Programme is yet another programme – exclusively for the first years – that aims to enhance the English speaking skills in students who have studied in regional language medium schools. This programme works on the principle of peer teaching – one or two ‘seekers’ are



paired with one 'helper' who together form language partners. The helpers train the speakers in various aspects of situational and functional English. The English Language and Life Skills programme caters to students before they become part of the Stella Maris family. This intensive one-year programme prepares students who have finished their schooling to face the challenges of college life.

The aim to impart a holistic education and to prepare young women to face the challenges of life is an onerous one. It is in fulfillment of this, that the college has begun programmes that would build confidence in students and ensure a vibrant learning community in the college.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LIFE SKILLS 2011 - 2012





CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

The first Advisory Committee Meeting of the Centre for Women's Studies, chaired by the Principal Dr Sr. Jasintha Quadras on 14 September 2011 marked the commencement of the activities for the academic year 2011-2012. The experts Dr V Vasanthidevi, Chairperson, Institute of Human Rights Education, Ms Eugenie Pinto, Member, Tamilnadu State Commission for Women and Dr Fatima Vasanth, Principal, Madras School of Social Work & Syndicate Member, University of Madras were present. It was an opportunity to present the goals of the centre, its programmes till date and its plans for the current year, inviting valuable suggestions from the experts.

A seminar on 'Women and Law' was inaugurated by Dr Sr. Helen Vincent, former Principal and Secretary, Stella Maris College and Director, English Language and Life Skills on 16 September 2012. Committed to the cause of women, she has the distinction of having introduced Women's Studies as a course for the first time in Stella Maris in 1984. Eminent lawyers and resource persons addressed the students on marriage and property laws, domestic violence, legal issues of women in bonded labour and sexual harassment at work place.

The 16 days 'Activism against Gender Violence' was observed for the second year through a series of sessions in collaboration with the Department of Value Education from 25 November – 10 December 2012. The sessions on Legal Rights of Women were an opportunity to reach out to all III year students of both Day and Evening College.

The UN theme for International Women's Day 2011 was 'Equal access to education, training and science and technology – Pathways to decent work for women'. To highlight the significance of this theme effectively the Centre planned to address socio-economically disadvantaged children

in urban schools. Awareness on Science and technology, educational and career opportunities for women in science and technology was given through an impressive power point presentation and demonstration by the team headed by Dr Mary Terry, Director, Centre for Research in Science and Technology, Department of Chemistry, Stella Maris College. More than 300 girls were motivated through this programme.

A lively *pattimandram* (Debate in Tamil) was held for the first time in Stella Maris on the theme 'Empowerment of women is based on an individual's potential or society's influence'. Faculty from the college and outside debated vociferously with Dr Ulaganayaki Palani as the able moderator. This programme was organized in collaboration with the Bharathi Mandram of the Department of Tamil. The Chennai chapter of Hollaback – Global Movement Against Street Sexual Harassment was launched in Stella Maris College with Prajnya, an NGO, on 11–12 December 2011, with two interactive workshops on how women can address their safety concerns.



Recognizing the significance of education in a women's college, a two - day Seminar on 'Education and the Emerging Indian Woman' was organised on 1-2 March 2012. Dr Sundari Krishnamurthy, Head of the Department of Public Relations, Stella Maris College, Advisory Committee Member of SCWEC (SAARC Chamber Women Entrepreneur Council) delivered the inaugural address on 'Education and the Emerging Indian Woman'. The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr Rama Kashyap, Head, Corporate Social Responsibility, India Cements Ltd. The seminar drew much appreciation from the participants.

A workshop on 'Effective Work Place Relations' for all the administrative staff of the college was a refreshing programme that drew them out of their usual official routine to participate effectively. This programme was the second in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the college. With the rising concerns on the girl child,

the theme for the essay, oratorical, poetry and poster competitions for International Women's Day was 'Connecting Girls – Inspiring Futures'. The International Women's Day was celebrated with an open air assembly. The students of the department of Social Work presented cultural programmes during the event.

The Disability Access Audit report was presented to the Principal by the audit team. Sr. Principal appreciated the pioneering initiative by the Centre for Women's Studies and requested the members of the Centre to link with the college in implementing the report to facilitate access for the disabled on campus. Looking back, the Centre for Women's Studies is happy to have journeyed this far, through its numerous programmes for the enhancement of the status of women and hopes to break new ground with deeper commitment as it steps into its fourth year with its many possibilities.



ACTIVITIES OF 'CENTER FOR RESEARCH IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY' (CRIST Lab)

The Center for Research in Science and Technology inaugurated its activities for the academic year on the 21st. August 2011 with a lecture by Dr. K S Viswanathan, Senior Scientist, IGCAR, Kalpakkam, on 'Role of Hydrogen bonding in Chemistry & Biology' for the post graduate students for the department of Chemistry, Biotechnology and Bioinformatics. This was followed by a lecturer on 'Research on HIV disease' by Dr. N Kumaraswamy, Chief Medical Officer, YRGCARE Medical Center, Voluntary Health Services, Tharamani, Chennai on 6th. September 2011.

The CRIST lab offered, in collaboration with Department of Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology, a Certificate course in Medical Biotechnology and a diploma course in Medical Laboratory Technology for the undergraduate students of Zoology, Botany, Chemistry and Physics, as add-on self financing courses.

Between December 2011 and February 2012, a coaching program was organized for third year Chemistry students. Eminent professors such as Dr. Nagaraja, Dr. D P Shankaran and Prof. Santhanam provided the students with necessary skills to tackle the entrance test in various institutions of higher learning.

More than 30 FT-IR spectra were recorded for the chemical samples synthesized by the post graduate students of Chemistry and the faculty of Physics. Between November 2011 and March 2012, as a part of their dissertation work, 4 MSc. students studied the antibacterial and antifungal activities of the chemicals compounds synthesized by them under the guidance of Prof. Raja Sidamaram.

The workshop funded by the dept. of biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, under the star college scheme on 'Instrumentation Techniques' was organized for the undergraduate students of Chemistry, Physics, Botany and Zoology,

between 13th. and 18th. February 2012. All the participants received the participation certificate. On 20th. February 2012, Dr. K S Viswanathan, delivered a lecturer on 'Principles of Spectroscopy' for UG and PG students. On the same day, a lecture on the 'Role of Quantum Mechanics' in IR spectroscopy was delivered by him. This was attended by faculty from other city colleges and research scholars from Central Leather Institute. The lecture was followed by a demonstration of FT-IR spectrophotometer.





Workshop on "Instrumentation Techniques" for UG students of Chemistry, Physics, Botany & Zoology.

CAREER GUIDANCE CELL

The academic year started with a six-day workshop titled 'Employability Skills'. This programme was specially designed for the III year students who had registered for campus recruitment. The trainers were Ms Usha Soman, Ms Vijayanthi, Ms Sarah Kuchwala, Ms Pavithra, Ms Jerima and Mr Ganesh. About 270 students attended the workshop held in June 2011.

Campus recruitment started mid-September with Google, Facebook, McKinsey, Goldman Sachs and World Bank. Other prominent companies who recruited our students were CTS, Wipro, HCL, Infosys, Deloitte, Accenture, Tata Capital, Sutherland, etc. About 160 UG students and 12 PG students from various departments were recruited in this year's campus drive.

In November, a second workshop was conducted to enhance skills in Resume Writing, Group Discussion, Interview Skills, Aptitude Test and Presentation Skills. Trainers from Zeal, Pragati Foundation conducted the workshop in November 2011. Around 200 students attended this workshop to prepare for the campus recruitment drive.



THE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

The most awaited festival of the year, Christmas, was celebrated with a lot of zest and enthusiasm at the alumnae association. The evening included prayers to the Lord, followed by choral singing which included the Stella Maris Choir as well a choir from the Patrician College, dance, snacks and of course, loads of good wishes. Santa made an entry at the right time and gave out little gifts to those present at the celebration. The holy festival was celebrated before the college closed for Christmas vacation. The celebrations for the executive committee took place in early January. The faculty and sisters of the college thanked the executive committee on this occasion for all their support throughout the year.

The Kalanjiyam Meet this year took a rather humorous but healthy turn. Dr G Kailash gave an

immensely entertaining talk on how we can take care of our health by following small tips and left the audience in peals of laughter. 'How not to go to the doctor' was his topic and he certainly was a delight to listen to.

Dr Usha Sriram, one of India's leading endocrinologists and an alumna of Stella Maris College came in to give a talk on diabetes awareness. She spoke on the increasing incidence of diabetes and how the younger generation should understand the importance of diabetes tests, diet and medication.

The year ended on a healthy note and the alumnae are gearing up for the next elections as well as the annual reunion in September 2012.



LIBRARY



“A good library is a palace where the lofty spirits of all nations and generations meet.”

-Samuel Niger (1883-1956)

The year 2011 began with Ms Mahalakshmi taking over as the librarian of this college from Ms Gita Balachandran who had served the college as librarian for more than 34 years. The library this year initiated the ‘Meet the Author’ programme. The authors were mostly ex-Stella Marians who participated in an interactive session with the students as they discussed their books. The following authors were invited to be a part of this programme:

Ms Nirupama Subramaniam on 27 June 2011
Mr David Barun Thomas on 6 September 2011
Ms Tulsi Badrinath on 22 November 2011
Dr Srilata on 14 March 2012

The Corporate Secretaryship commission paid a visit to our Library on 9 May 2011.

The Chief Librarian Ms Gita Balachandran conducted a one day workshop for Teachers Recruitment Board organised by Loyola College on 17 May 2011.

A one year certificate course in ‘Documentation & Multimedia’ was started on 15 July 2011 by the Library Department for which the resource persons were Ms.Gita Balachandran and Ms.Mahalakshmi. Ms.Mahalakshmi attended an one-day workshop on Recent trends in Information Resource Management organised by Science City, Chennai on 5 August



Dr Srilata



Ms Tulsi Badrinath



2011. Ms Gita Balachandran and Ms Mahalakshmi attended the six-day 'Certificate course in Management' organized by LIBA from 5-12 January 2012.

The Library Week was celebrated from 6-9 September, 2011. On 6 September the second session of Meet the Author was organized for which Mr David Barun Thomas was invited to discuss his book *Rear Entrance*. On 7 September the American Library organised a workshop in our campus whereby movies were screened at three venues and their Library Membership were offered at 50 % discount. On 8 September there was an exhibition and sale by different publishers. The Library Week culminated with a quiz which was open to all and the winner was Ms Sushmitha of History Department.

The Government Museum, Chennai, organised a five-day National-level workshop on 'Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts' from 9-13 September 2011 which was attended by Ms Gita Balachandran. She also visited the Hindu Archives on 20 October 2011. Xavier Centre of Historical Research had invited her to Goa from 2-4 November 2011 to give her expert opinion on the conservation of manuscripts.

The government of India had sanctioned Rs 159000, for the digitalization of the archival materials to our college. Our college is one of the few

institutions which has been awarded the grant by the government.

Accessioning of the BCNN of the books of the Commerce Department and the Bioinformatics Departmental has been completed.

The following online resources were added to the library this year namely

- JSTOR (for Literature consisting of 247 titles)
- eLibraryUSA.

The visitors to the college never leave the campus without paying a visit to our library. In this regard, Ms Linda Parker, Information Resource Officer, US Embassy visited our library on 24 January 2012 and said "One of the best libraries in India. In some ways better than the National Library". International students of the World Youth Programme also paid a visit to our library on 12 February 2012. Delegates from United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia had visited our library and archives on 16 February 2012.

This year culminated with the Chief Librarian and the Librarian visiting the World Book Fair from 25 February to 4 March 2012, at New Delhi where all foreign and Indian publishers came under one roof. They visited many stalls and had procured books catering to the needs of all departments.

COLLEGE PLAY

Lights,Cameras...Vadas?

Oscar Wilde's classic *The Importance of Being Ernest* is about a lot of things; friends that don't exist, imaginary brothers that get conveniently killed off, and the tangled webs we weave. Throw in a couple of vadas, an auto driver, the bus stop and the Stellar Players and we get '*The Importance of Being Thiruchendil Jaigopalanathan Sivasingh D'Souza*'. Following the tradition of original scripts, this year's annual Stella Maris College play was an adaptation of Oscar Wilde's much beloved classic, with a unique classic Stellar twist. All that the eponymous Thiruchendil Jaigopalanathan Sivasingh D'Souza, played by Nayantara Nayar, wanted to do was come down to Chennai for the weekend, propose to the girl of his dreams, try not to let his best friend Hopesh Hemdev, played by Tanvi Patel, drive him insane, and enjoy a little peace and quiet. Instead, he got stuck with a tax collector, an annoying aunt, all dreams of a happily married life set to be ruined by the antics of the aforementioned best friend.

The cast played their parts convincingly; right from the leads who pulled off their roles as men perfectly, to their lovely ladies, Mrinali Fernandez as Chandini Wilson, and Priyanka Kumar as Gitanjali, to the much vexed Ms. Patel, the cheated autodriver, Raj Badsha, the overbearing aunt Rani Hemdev, and the charming couple that the pastor Fernandez and

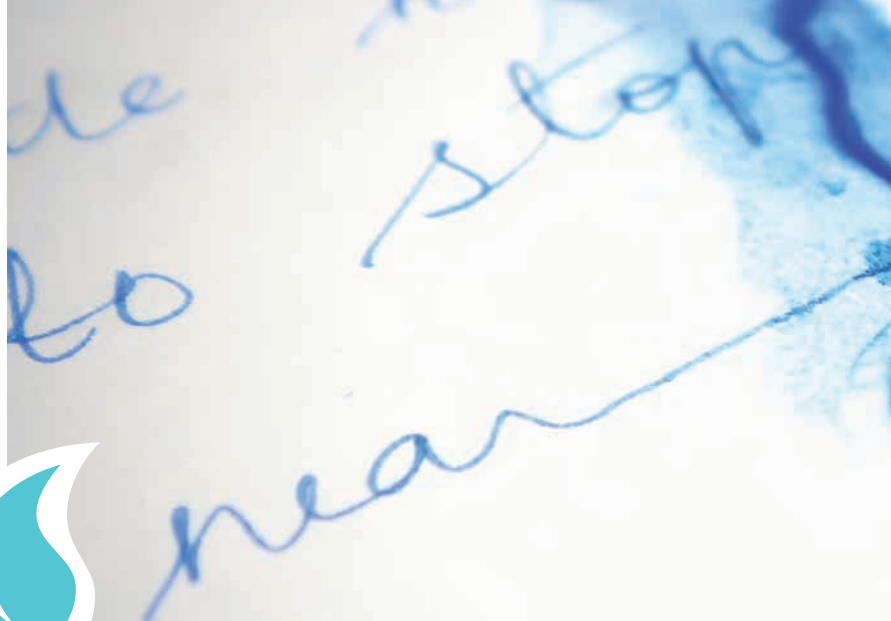
the governess Joyamma made played by Sneha Sethupathy, Siddhi Raj, Zayn Marie Khan, Aneesha Vijaykumar and Shilpa Sajeew respectively. But the show was well and truly stolen by Hopesh's lungi and vest wearing butler, Theru. With big dreams of hosting a reality show, killer lines, and an accent to die for, Irene Lal Mechery was nothing short of absolute and complete brilliance.

The script stayed true to the original in plot, but was tweaked by Nayar and Patel to give it a more modern, obviously Indian and relatable feel. Full of pop culture references, dry wit and the occasional burst into song, it kept the audience laughing till the very end. The makeup department did an excellent job with every single character looking her part. The set was simple, but elegant, and the lighting and props well handled. The publicity team, that had spent weeks tirelessly promoting the play, was responsible for the five sold out shows. And of course, there was the exhaustive work and effort put in by director Bhavya Balantrapu and assistant director Bhargav that made the show a riveting success.

Once again, the Stellar Players managed to produce another extraordinary show, pleasing one delighted audience after another.



The cast... the crew...



Department of HISTORY

Preserving our heritage for posterity

Why should we study the past? Because it's interesting! Also, our ideas about our past are a strong and important part of our identity.

At the Department of History and Tourism, Stella Maris College, we do our bit to help our students become responsible custodians of our heritage. They learn the major aspects of Indian and world history – Ancient, Medieval, and Modern India, International Relations, Modern Europe, China and Japan, and the United States. They also learn how this is put to use in one practical way – in the tourism industry, as half of the curriculum deals with Tourism – Tourism Management, Marketing, Global Tourism, Hospitality Management, Airport Customer Services, etc.

One of the most practical parts of the curriculum is the Social Awareness Programme or SAP. The Social Awareness Programme of the Department of History and Tourism has 'Heritage Awareness' as its theme.

As part of this, students get to work with institutions like the Government Museum at Egmore, and organizations like the Archaeological Survey of India, which are at the forefront of the movement



for conservation of, and awareness about, our country's heritage.

Last year, students from the department were introduced to the course by lectures from experts talking about the practical aspects of conservation. This is necessary because the curriculum otherwise tends to be theoretical (a problem most Departments of History have to deal with).

After this, they get to visit places and meet people doing real work in conservation. Students went to the St. George's Fort Museum, where the curator talked to them on techniques necessary for preserving valuable paper and paintings.

At the Government Museum in Egmore, the staff showed them the condition in which archaeological remains like coins are usually found – crusted over with earth and rust – and the techniques they use to remove the grime without damaging whatever is underneath. Students got to see and handle coins and palm-leaf manuscripts, and did some of the work themselves.

The Archaeological Survey of India and the Department of Archaeology of the Tamil Nadu Government have always been very supportive.

The Archaeological Survey of India sent its staff to show our students the actual work they are doing to

preserve the temples of Mamallapuram. The temple's sculptures are heavily eroded especially on the seaward side because of the salty sea breeze, and the ASI uses purified paper pulp to remove the salt that seeps into and damages the stone.

The ASI also took students to megalithic burial sites from before the Sangam Age, and showed them how to identify stone age tools and beads. Our students got to see temples carved into the faces of rocks, more than a thousand years old.

The staff from the Department of Archaeology took our students to an ancient Jain temple in Kanchipuram, and showed how they have restored paintings on the temple ceiling, and how they protect the structure from other dangers. At the Jain Thiruparathikundram Temple, more than a thousand years old, these dangers are from the natural world (bird droppings which lead to growth of trees and plants on the structure itself) as well as from the ignorant human world (careless use of oil lamps, for example).

Besides these, the students themselves do work connected with conservation. At the Government Museum, they have helped clean up ancient stone and bronze sculptures and treat old manuscripts. Quite easily, the Social Awareness Programme on Heritage Conservation is one of the most popular courses the department offers!



Department of ECONOMICS

Food and Nutrition – The Economics connect

Food and nutrition seems to be the most important issue today and so on 9 August 2011, the Department of Economics invited Dr Veena Shatrugna, an eminent researcher, former director, National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad, as part of the Scholar in Residence Program. It was truly an exercise of learning beyond the classroom.

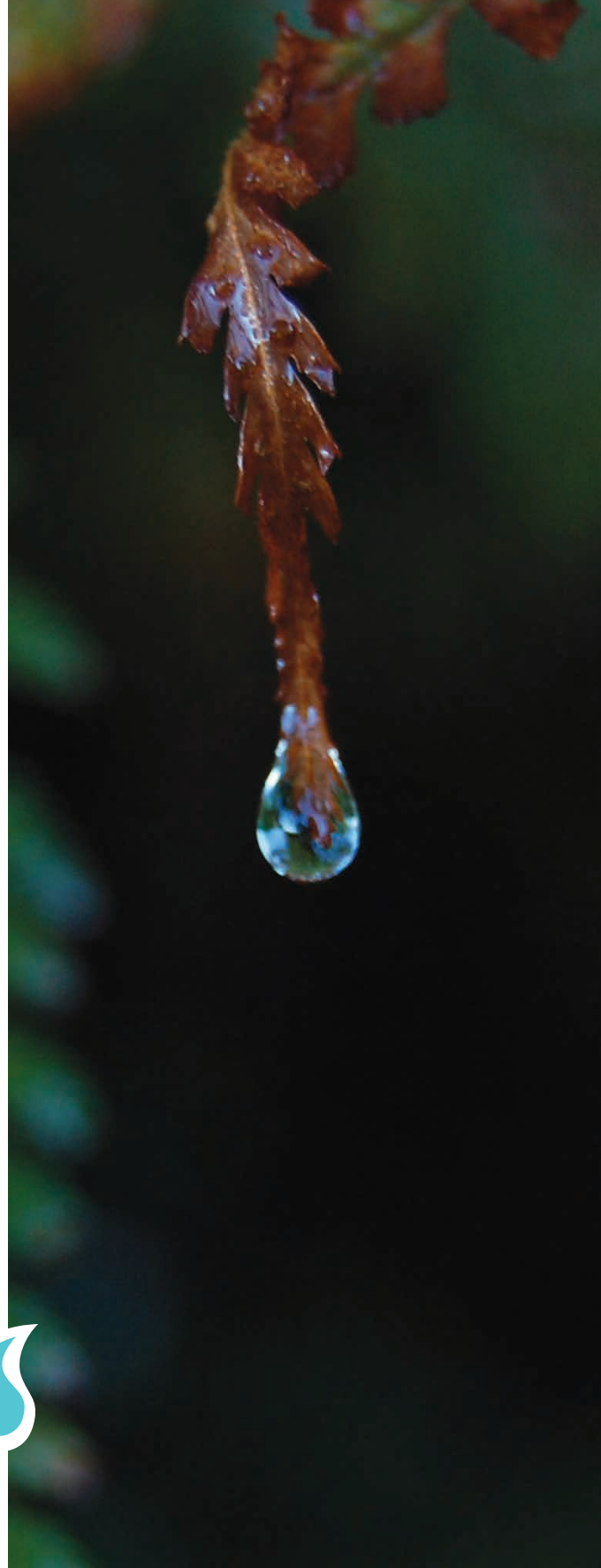
Dr Veena explained the importance of having a balanced diet with the right mix of proteins, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, calcium and iron. This helped us realize how we hardly paid any attention towards our diet. We were able to comprehend as to how in reality, the poor did not have access to such a balanced diet and how all the free and subsidized food that was provided by the government only helped in filling the poor's stomachs. They do not add any value to their lives which in turn would lead to an unhealthy population since they had access only to cereals that are rich in energy but had very minimal amounts of other vital nutrients. This was of prime importance especially because we were able to connect this problem with economics and the major impact that it would have on the productivity of the country.

We, in the department felt that it was essential for policy makers to take this aspect into consideration while addressing problems of food security for the poor and also understand the role that we as economists play in the area of nutrition. Ms Veena also helped us comprehend that it was not only weight that mattered for a person to be considered healthy, but also the biological composition – the proportion of fat concentration that existed in an individual. She trained us to measure the nutrient



levels in our diet and to realize the nuances involved in conducting a survey in poor households.

The Economics department put up stalls as part of the 'Food and Water Security Day' celebrations in Stella Maris College on 26 August 2011. They drove home the fact of how vital nutritious food is. One of the activities of the Economics department was to put up calorie metre counters. The main aim behind this activity was to give a fairly accurate value of calories consumed by each individual based on their previous day's consumption of food. We were quite successful in implementing what Dr Veena Shatrugna taught us while calculating the calories consumed for almost 100 people. The knowledge gained from the experience is immense. While this material could be used for further research, this initiative did give us the much valued and sought after hands-on experience.



Department of FINE ARTS

The year 2011-12 witnessed some 'low key but high results' activities in the Department of Fine Arts.

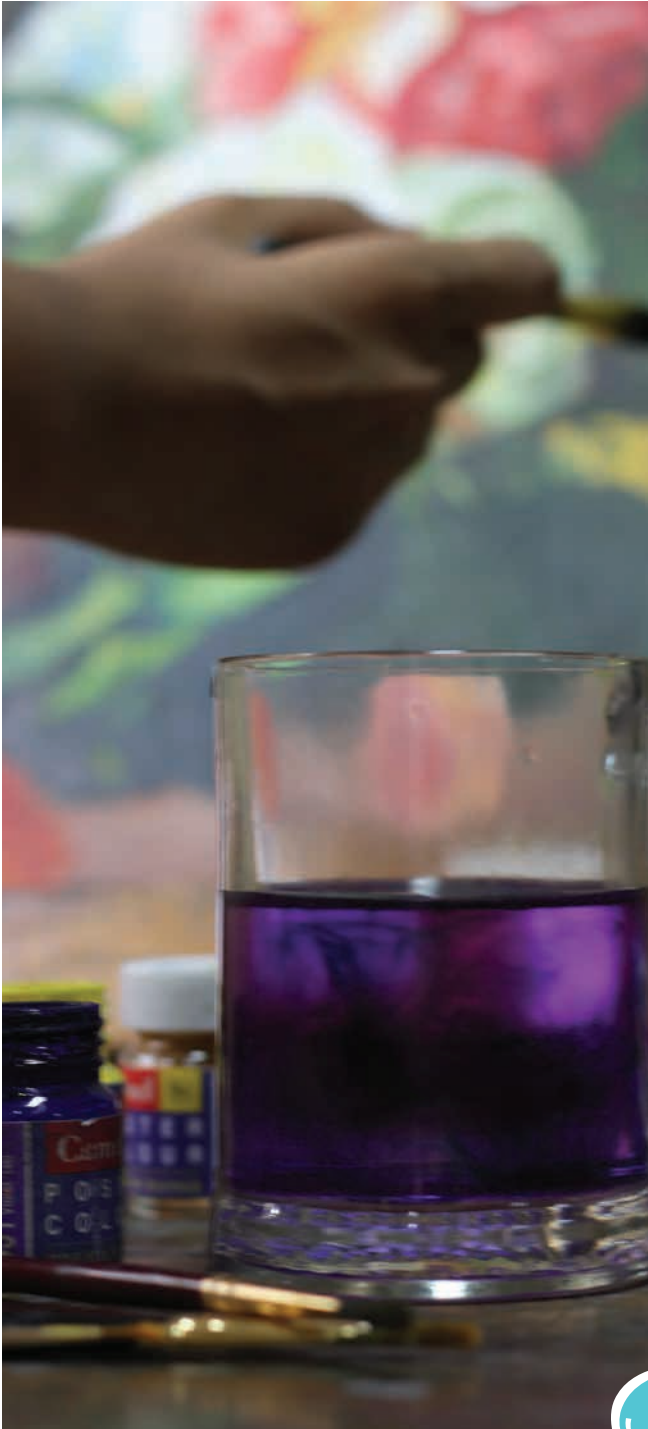
The learning experience of the BVA Painting Specialization students expanded to give them more hands on training. Eleven students from the III and IV BVA served as interns in the prestigious India Art Fair in New Delhi in January 2012. They managed art projects in art galleries or served in art book stores besides interfacing with many Indian and international artists of repute, art gallerists, art buyers and art viewers. This helped them obtain a real world experience of the various processes at work in the field of art. Besides this, the III BVA students specializing in Painting travelled to New Delhi to visit the prestigious International Art Fair to see contemporary national and international art.

When 'Art Chennai' took place in March 2012, the students of the Painting Specialization again had an opportunity to organize and witness art projects of major artists from all over India who were exhibiting in Chennai. Five students interned for a month in this fair too. They had ample opportunities to interact with senior artists of the region and the country.

Five students had donated a number of their paintings to the Art Exhibition organized by the popular magazine 'Ananda Vikatan'. Quite a number of the works priced over Rs. 10,000 each were sold, the proceeds of which were given to help the victims of the 'Thane' cyclone.

Michico Yagi, Professor, University of Japan and the famous Chennai based artist Mr Illayaraja, conducted a workshop on Portrait Studies for I and II BVA students in January and February 2012.

The students of the Department of Fine Arts are encouraged to venture out of the confines of the classrooms to push their experience of art and design to larger levels through study tours. As part of this, the IV BVA students went on a study trip to New



Delhi, Lothal, Ahmedabad and Mt. Abu in November 2011. The postgraduate students specializing in Graphic Design travelled to Goa for the prestigious annual Design Yatra Seminar in September 2011 while in August 2011, the students specializing in Textile Design travelled to Ahmedabad and Jaipur to explore the textile traditions there.

The department also organized a number of lectures and seminars to enhance the learning experience of the faculty and students. Dr Sumathi Ramaswamy, Professor of History, Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, USA, delivered the annual Dr Sr. Edith T. M. Endowment lecture on 'The Raj Paints Back – Maqbool Fida Husain's Reflection on India's Colonial History' in July 2011. She gave a witty and insightful account of the Colonial period as viewed through the paintings of senior artist M F Husain.

On 6 March 2012, the department commemorated the Birth Centenary of renowned painter K C S Paniker of the Madras Art Movement by conducting a seminar titled 'The Artist with a Vision;' the seminar focused on the artist's contribution to art and the causes he championed. The experts who came to speak on the occasion threw light on the artist, teacher and person that K C S Paniker was in his times. This was followed by a panel discussion on the artist.

'In the Realm of the Visual,' a documentary film by Iffat Fatima on the works of artist and designer Dashrath Patel and 'The Open Frame' a film by Chetan Shah on artist S G Vasudev were screened for the students of the department in January and March 2012.

For its postgraduate Service Learning programme, the Department of Fine Arts tied up with The World Crafts Council and The Crafts Council of India and gave the students an opportunity to be part of an effort in the revival of the 'sungadi', a south Indian textile dyeing and printing tradition. The idea was to sensitize younger people to the value of a heritage craft with the hope that they would help in its revival by using 'sungadi' in their design ventures in a more attractive and creative manner and diversifying its applications.

As part of the Undergraduate Service Learning the department co-ordinated with the NGO Ekam, Youth for Seva and Ma Foi for funding and support and III BVA Students painted the Cardiac ward of the Government Children's Hospital at Egmore with the guidance of eminent local artists.

The last year witnessed an interesting round of academic and experiential activities with an inclusive and socially responsible conscience in place. The students had upped their professional stakes while retaining their sensitivity for things and people.



Interactive session with artists during the regional seminar on artist K.C.S. Paniker



'Sungadi' Workshop



Student's interacting with artist S G Vasudev after the movie screening



Students at the Delhi Art Summit



Students painting the Cardiac ward of the Government Children's Hospital at Egmore as part of the service learning programme



IV BVA 2008 batch study trip

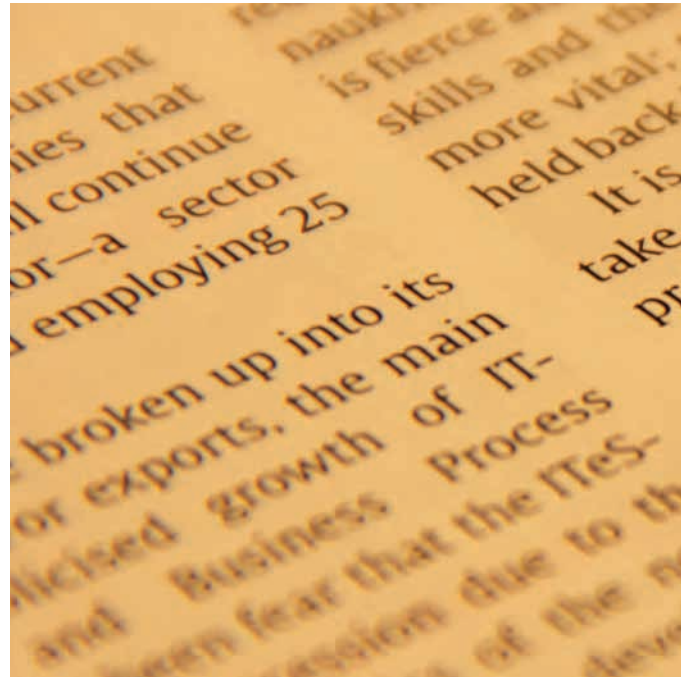
Department of ENGLISH

The academic year 2011-2012 was an eventful one for the English Department. The activities of the department were planned keeping in mind the department's focus on theatre as well as the theme of Food, Water and Livelihood Security of the college at large.

As part of the Food Security Day observed on 26 August 2011, the department put up an exhibition-cum-stall that sought to foreground traditional methods of cooking. The exhibits included traditional cooking apparatuses like the *ammi* and the *aattukkal*, home remedies for common ailments and a list of places in Chennai where organic food was available. The stall also sold traditional, healthy food items such as the Paanagam, Aampanna and Sundal, all of which were served in eco-friendly matkas.

This year, the English Department conducted, for the first time in several years, its interdepartmental cultural competition '*Novella 2011*'. The programme, held on 23 November 2011, was well attended and the competitions were designed to encourage creative, critical and academic thinking among the participants. Madras Christian College won the overall trophy.

The highlight of the year was the two-day National Seminar titled



'Badal Sircar: Changing Theatrescapes' conducted on 1 & 2 December 2011. The seminar was a move towards celebrating and recognising the Bangla playwright Badal Sircar's contribution to modern Indian theatre.

Known best for plays like '*Evam Indrajit*', '*Bhoma*' and '*Michil*', Badal Sircar is usually associated with 'Third Theatre' – a kind of people's theatre that incorporates elements of folk theatre and epic theatre, and deals with important cultural and social themes. For Tamil theatre especially, Badal da, as Sircar was fondly called, is very significant. The theatre workshops that he conducted in cities here helped shape modern tamil theatre to a great extent. Badal Sircar passed away on 13 May 2011 at the age of 86. The seminar conducted by the English department sought to remember and celebrate this eminent theatre personality. The seminar began with a Third Theatre competition among various city colleges on 1 December 2011. The participants were to perform any excerpt from a play by sircar or improvise on a theme of their choice. The plays could be



performed in any language with minimal props and no electronic devices. Five teams participated and the team from Women's Christian College (who performed *Bhoma* in Tamil) won the first place followed by Stella Maris college (who performed the same play in English) and Loyola College (who performed a thematic play on the importance of being an agent of social change).

The Tamil theatre group '*Moonram Arangu*' performed Badal Sircar's *Spartacus* on the afternoon of the same day. Directed by Na. Muthiswamy, the play was an intense experience for the audience.

The inaugural of the seminar was held on 2 December 2011 and Thiru Prasanna, theatre activist from Karnataka who has trained under Badal da delivered the Keynote Address. Dwelling on Sircar's contribution to Indian Theatre, he explained in simple words what Third Theatre was all about. In a talk that was highly engaging, informative and enjoyable, he highlighted the fact that Sircar sought to create a theatre-space that was close to the

common people of India. Emphasizing the use of the body as a major mode of articulation, Siracr had tried to counter the mechanization of the modern world' Prasanna too appealed to the present generation to focus on the body.

Prasanna's talk was followed by a performance of *Michil* (Procession) by the Bengal theatre group from Kolkatta, '*Satabdi*'. The group was founded by Badal da and the play itself was performed in Bangla. It is a testimony to the effectiveness of the play and of theatre in general that despite the language barrier, the audience understood many of the nuances of the play and the final call to the audience to 'join in' was met with a tremendous response.

The finale of the two-day seminar was the panel discussion on Badal Sircar and his Third Theatre. The panelists were two members from *Satabdi*, Mr. Gnani of the Tamil theatre group Pareeksha and Mr Pralayan of *Chennai Kalai Kuzhu*. The discussion was moderated by the art critic Mr Sadanand Menon. Among the things discussed were the actual

‘doing’ of theatre in India today, Badal Sircar and Tamil theatre and of course, various aspects of the performance of Michil.

The two-day seminar, as Mr Sadanand Menon mentioned when introducing the panel discussion, was a historic one – for it brought theatre personalities and groups from two different states together. For the participants – the faculty and students of Stella Maris and of other city colleges the two days were memorable and dramatic ones.

A number of other academic activities were also organized by the department this year. Two workshops were organised for the faculty as part of the UBCHEA-sponsored translation project. Mr Kalyanaraman, the expert who reviewed the translation of Na. Muthuswamy’s play *Kattiyakaran* conducted a workshop on 27 September 2011. Mr. Balasubramaniam of Theatre Nisha did a reading of the translation on 27 and 30 January 2012.

The department also arranged a number of guest lectures and panel discussions through the year. Dr Ganesh, Associate Professor in English, MCC spoke to the M. Phil students on ‘A Postmodernist study of Bahavadajjukkam’ on 13 Sept 2011. Dr. Ganesh also spoke to the II MA students on ‘Metatheatre with reference to Hamlet’ on 14 February 2012. Dr V T Usha, Prof. and Head, Dept. of Women’s Studies, Pondicherry University gave a guest lecture to the III year students on Gender and Media on 12 August 2011. On 23 August 2011, there was a Meet the Author programme with Living Smile Vidya. Ms V Geetha, freelance researcher spoke to the III year students on Dalit Epistemology on 20 January 2012. A panel discussion on Dalit poetry was organised for the students of III BA on 13 December 2011; and a panel of Gujarati poets met the same class on 16 December 2011 in association with Prakriti Foundation. Dr Mridula Jose, former faculty member of the English Department delivered a lecture to the III UG students on Postmodernism and Metafiction on 27 January 2012. The III Year UG students, on 9 February 2012, had an interactive session with Ms Sandhya Prabhat, a film-maker and animation artist, on Metafiction and Film.



The stall of English Department on Food and Nutrition Day



WCC performs ‘Bhoma’

Department of MATHEMATICS

The Department of Mathematics celebrated its diamond jubilee this academic year. Since its inception in 1951, the department of Mathematics has grown to great heights with various activities conducted all through the year.

This year, the department conducted Math Zoom 2011, an inter-collegiate Competition for the students of Arts & Science and Engineering Colleges in and around Chennai on 14 September 2011. Dr Usha, Professor, Department of Mathematics, IIT Madras, Chennai delivered the Inaugural Lecture on the Topic: 'Hey Root! Where are you?' Twenty nine colleges participated in various events such as Mathematical Quiz, Collage, Olympiad, Brigantino, Face Painting, Adzap and Paper Presentation. The Students of Loyola College-Shift I won the overall Trophy.

'Integra' – a Mathematics forum of the department conducts various events for the Undergraduate and Postgraduate students of the department all through the year. Points were given for the events conducted throughout the year as well as for the events during Math-O-Match (conducted by the M. Phil students along with the faculty members) which is the culmination of the activities of



Integra. The overall winners are awarded the rolling Trophy. This year the Final year undergraduate students of Shift I emerged the overall winners.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Department of Mathematics was celebrated on 13 February 2012. During the programme, the retired faculty were felicitated and a presentation was made about the history of the department. The chief guest Dr Parvatham, retired Professor from Ramanujan Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics, delivered a lecture on Complex Analysis. A cultural programme by the students made the day colourful and enriching.

The Diamond Jubilee celebration was followed by the Dr J. Thangamani Endowment Lecture on 'Mathematical Modeling A case studies approach' by Professor Reinhard Illner, University of Victoria, Canada. The postgraduate students, M. Phil students and the faculty of the department attended the lecture.

A workshop on UNESCO-HP Brain Gain Initiative was held on 8 March 2012 for which Dr Paul D. Manuel, Kuwait University, Kuwait was the resource person. The postgraduate students, M. Phil and Research Scholars and Faculty attended the workshop.

As a part of Diamond Jubilee celebrations, the Department of Mathematics along with the Departments of Commerce and Computer Science, collaborated with Loyola Institute of Business Administration and organized International Conference on Mathematics in Engineering and Business Management (ICMEB 2012) on 9 and 10 March 2012. The Inaugural of the conference was held at Stella Maris College and Mr A.C. Muthiah was the chief guest.

During the conference, there were a number of talks by the experts from various universities across the globe such as Bentley University, University of Illinois, USA, McMaster University, Canada, University of West Bohemia, Czech Republic, Kuwait University, Kuwait; eminent specialists from across India also gave talks on their areas of specialization. About 250 research papers were presented in the conference. Exhibition and poster competitions were also held for the students of Arts & Science and Engineering Colleges. The exhibits and posters were displayed during the conference and prizes were given for the first two places. A cultural program was organized on 9 March 2012 to entertain the scholars and researchers. The valedictory function was held on 10 March 2012, bringing the diamond jubilee celebrations of the department to a close.



Department of
SOCIOLOGY



The Department of Sociology organized its programmes for the year 2011-2012 in keeping with the theme "Go Green."

Mr. M.G. Devasahayam, a former I.A.S officer presented a talk on Governance for Eco2 cities on 19 July 2011. He stressed that there would be no use of development that does not consider its costs to the environment. He also pointed out that the real debate should be 'corruption vs. development' as it was corruption on a massive scale that has India poor. He also pointed out that while as individuals we cannot do much in solving macro problems like global warming, ozone layer depletion and the like, we can and must look at local and micro level issues.

Ms. Hamsini, a communication specialist with The South Asia Consortium for Integrated Water Resources conducted a workshop on "Community and Media" for the third years.

The Department of Sociology was also actively involved in the Food and Nutrition Day celebration on 26 August 2011. In keeping with the theme chosen by the College, that of Food, Water and Livelihood Security, the students of the I BA chose

"Food Wastage" as their theme for the year.

The II BA class organized an exhibition on 'Hunger and Water Scarcity.' Students visited different areas of Chennai and interacted with them regarding water scarcity; they took also photographs which depicted the problems of the residents. Two slide shows were created using images from popular newspapers, magazines and internet. The images were deliberately chosen because many had been dubbed the "most disturbing" photographs of the last thirty years. The students also conducted a survey aimed at identifying differences in the amount of water, water purity, and ability to conserve water across different economic levels.

The Third year students undertook a quantitative study on eating habits; they took the I and II year Sociology students as their sample for data collection. The study was useful in dispelling various myths about the causes for food insecurity or poor nutritious diet. The students also made a documentary to explain food security or insecurity; the documentary was meant for students, faculty, and non-teaching staffs of our college.

Sr. Christine's endowment lecture was held on 8

December 2011 on 'Impact of Virtual Reality on Communities.' The lecture was delivered by Dr N. Raghavendra Rao, Advisor, FINAIT Consultancy Services. Dr. Rao spoke about the how community members can come together based on shared common interests and engage in joint activities and discussions, and share a repository of resources such as experience to deal with problems.

The intra departmental fest 'Mead's Meet Lineage begins 2012' was organized on 16 December 2012.

The name of the event could not have been more apt as it happened to be the 100th birth anniversary of the inspirational and Cultural Anthropologist, Margret Mead. The event helped students to showcase their talents, with both on-stage and off-stage events like quiz, debate, shipwreck, dance, ethnic show, photography, poster making and essay writing.



Department of PHYSICS

The Department of Physics conducted a one-day inter-collegiate lecture series titled 'Popular Lectures in Physics' on 27 January 2012. These lectures are an annual event and are aimed at inspiring interested students to continue in the field of physics.

The event was inaugurated by Dr T.R. Govindarajan, Professor, Department of Physics, IMSc, Chennai. On the same day, the department magazine was released, edited by our own students under the guidance of Ms A. Suganthi Lark and Dr C. S. Ramya.

Dr Govindarajan's lecture was on 'Braids, Knots and Physics,' linking the three concepts. Dr Sriramkumar L, Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics, IIT Madras, spoke on 'Distant Supernovae and the Accelerating Universe' which, as the name suggests, was about the stars and the universe with a little number-crunching thrown in. Dr Varkey Sebastian, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Kannur University spoke on 'Nanomagnetism.' He explained the interiors of magnetism and the usage of nano techniques in the new society. Dr C.K. Subramaniam, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, VIT, Vellore gave a lecture-demonstration on 'Solar Photo Voltic.'

The department organized a workshop on 'Learning Electronics through Mini-Projects' on 28 September 2011 for the First Year Physics students. The resource person for this workshop was Dr Kumar Sathian, currently Proprietor, Floranix and retired Professor and Head, Department of Physics, Madras Christian College. The main objective of this one-day event was to make the students appreciate the working of simple electronic circuits which can be used as everyday home appliances.

A one day workshop was conducted on 'Analytical Instruments' for the Second Year Physics students on 27 February 2012, with Dr Jayakumar, Professor, Vivekananda College, Chennai as the resource



person. This was a very interactive workshop and students, faculty and the lab assistants Mr Nathan and Ms Victoria enthusiastically participated in it. The workshop aimed at enhancing the experimental skills of students while inculcating scientific temper among them.

A workshop on 'Microprocessors and Microcontrollers' was held on 15 March 2012 for Third Year students of the department. It was conducted under the guidance of Dr Kumar Sathiyam. The applications of microprocessors like Stepper Motor, Traffic Light Regulator and interfacing with 8255 I/O were dealt with in the workshop

Electra 2011, the annual Physics Fest for the academic year 2011-12, took place on 19 September 2011. Sr. Colleen North, Vice Principal for Shift II inaugurated the event at which Mr Pattabiraman, Asst. Professor, IIT Madras, gave an enthralling talk on Quantum Physics. Students from various colleges around the city participated with great enthusiasm. Mr Radhakrishnan, Senior Faculty member, TREC STEP Academy, Chennai gave a lecture and practical demonstration on 'Home Electrical Appliances'.





Department of CHEMISTRY

The Department of Chemistry organized a felicitation function to honor the dedicated services of three pillars of the department who retired after more than three decades. Dr Rukmani Srinivasan and Dr Jesurietta Sathian, Associate Professors & Former Heads of the Department were honoured on 25 July 2011 and Ms A. Theresa, Lab Assistant-Special Grade on 1 February 2012. The function was attended by alumnae, serving and retired faculty, people from other institutions, industries and present students. Their love, dedication, wisdom, dynamism and generosity was touchingly evident.

This academic year was very an enthralling one, with a myriad activities filling the calendar. Keeping the theme Food and Water Security in mind, the Department of Chemistry worked with an objective to creating awareness towards safe food and water. To this end, it organized a series of events which included training programs, demonstrations, exhibits and Powerpoint presentations.

A number of training programmes were organised through the academic year

A Skill Development Training on fruits and vegetable processing was organised from 22 August 2011 to 26 August 2011. 22 students participated in the programme at which they were given scientific training on preparation and packaging of jams and pickles. Skill development training programs such as this have motivated students to take up fruit and vegetable processing as a potential entrepreneurial venture.

Between 22 August 2011 and 24 August 2011, 20 students were given training on methods of analysing the potability of water. Various parameters like TDS, chloride content, hardness, dissolved oxygen, color, ammonia and sulphide content were detected for different water samples taken from various parts of the city ranging from Neelaangarai to Stella Maris Hostels. The results were tabulated and exhibited. The students were given intense training in detecting adulterants in food items like coffee powder, tea, dhal, oils, ghee, turmeric powder etc. Following the training, about 30 food samples were collected from various places from different shops, to test if any adulterant was present. The samples were collected from Ambattur, Adyar, Mylapore, Avadi

and Central. The results were communicated to the students who brought the samples for analysis. A training programme on the analysis of Phytochemicals was conducted for 20 students from 24 August 2011 to 26 August 2011. The students were trained in the estimation of Vitamin A and presence of ascorbic acid i.e. Vitamin C in citrus fruits – lemon. The programme helped promote awareness about good, natural, and nutritious food through food items like carrot, broccoli, natural honey and extracts of plants such as abutilon indicum (thuthi) and Phyllanthus niruri (keezha) nelli.

20 students were given training on water analysis and functioning of reverse osmosis plant between 23 August 2011 and 26 August 11. Mr. Hemant Kumar of Diet Aqua demonstrated and explained the functioning of the reverse osmosis plant that was installed in our college and showed various experiments regarding the determination of impurities in water.

The Department of Chemistry actively participated in the Food and Nutrition Day Exhibition held observed in the college on 26 August 2011. Charts, exhibits, demonstrations and powerpoint presentations highlighted the need for safe food and water, detection of adulterants in food and their health hazards, food laws to ensure food safety, malnutrition, analysis of various parameters to check quality of water, comparison of quality of Reverse Osmosis (RO) water and distilled water, model process flow diagram for the RO plant at Stella Maris College, phytochemicals present in different fruits and vegetables and their beneficial aspects to health, processed food items – onion pickle and mixed fruit jam – prepared fruit salad and beetroot juice – purple delight, nutritional aspects of carrot, broccoli and natural honey, medicinal aspects of natural products extracted from plants – pirandai, keezha nelli, thuthi.

A number of visits were organised during the academic year. A group of ten II UG students underwent summer training, on analysis of the quality of water samples at Diet Aqua. IIT-Madras, CLRI and the electroplating industry at Ambattur were some of the industry visits that allowed for an experiential learning for our undergraduate and postgraduate students. The students also visited Leo Matriculation School at Anna Nagar, Assumption

School, Nungambakkam and Ganapathy Iyer School, Gopalapuram to sensitise the students there to the dangers of consuming adulterated food and unsafe food and water. The school children were also given special programmes on the causes of mosquito borne diseases and automobile pollution.

A training in micro scale experiments in ‘Inorganic and Organic Chemistry’ was organised for UG and PG students and faculty 11 February 2012 with Dr S. Murugan, S.T. Hindu College, Nagercoil, as the resource person. He highlighted the importance of cost effective way of conducting practicals, saving time, energy, chemicals and thus a means of eco – friendly practices.

A one week training on ‘Analytical Instrumentation Techniques: An Interdisciplinary Approach’ was conducted for undergraduate students between the 13 and 17 February 2012. The programme was organized by CRIST Lab and the resource persons were the faculty from science departments.

A number of guest lectures were delivered by external experts as a part of the International Year of Chemistry – Prof.K.S.Viswanathan spoke on ‘The Art of Doing Science and The Basics of Spectroscopy and the Principles of NMR’ on 20 July 2011. He also spoke on ‘Principles and Applications of spectroscopy’ on 20 February 2012.

Dr Sr. Annamma Philip Endowment Lecture on ‘The Role of Chemistry in Food and Agriculture & Atropisomerism’ was delivered by Prof. K.K.Balasubramanian, visiting professor, B.S. Abdhur Rahman University on 19 August 2011.

The intercollegiate cultural festival of the Chemistry department ‘Chemfest – Reactions’ took place on 29 Nov 2011. Dr K.S.Nagarajan, Senior Scientist, Loyola Institute of Frontier Energy, Loyola College delivered the inaugural address on ‘The Relevance of Chemistry in Food and Agriculture’ and released the annual compilation of M Sc projects.

The faculty and students of the department won a number of awards and presented papers at national and international conferences while many students from the department also won a number of prizes at intercollegiate competitions.

Department of PLANT BIOLOGY & PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY

As 2011 – 2020 was declared by UN as the decade of Biodiversity, the Department of Botany organised a number of activities associated with the same.

The Tree Census Program was launched on 12 August 2011 at Stella Maris College. The Director of Environment and Forests Dr Srinivasa Murthy, IFS, was the chief guest. Census of trees of Stella Maris College was carried out by the Third Year students. The Third Year students also participated in the Tree Census Programme held on 21 January 2012 at Sacred Heart School, Annasalai and Census of 85 trees in the campus were taken by our students which was published in Dhinathanthi on 23 January 2012.

The First Year Botany students were given hands on training on Mushroom Cultivation. The Department of Botany is maintaining a mushroom shed for the cultivation of mushrooms. In addition, during the month of November the supportive staff were provided an entrepreneurial training on mushroom cultivation supported by UBCHEA.

Fungi constitute a group of living organisms which do not have chlorophyll. Most fungi are microscopic but fruiting bodies of higher fungi form. Conspicuously visible structures like Mushrooms without them mankind would not have heard anything about alcoholic beverages, the famous champagne would be non existent, there would have been no bakeries and perhaps there would be dead organic matter all around for there would not be any saprophytic fungi to decompose them, there would not be that great potent drug penicillin – the Cinderella of antibiotics, and we would not have had delicacies like mushrooms and morels. Without fungi, of course, we would also not have had deadly plant and animal diseases and we need not have bothered about moulds.

In order to sensitise students that fungi are both friends and foe to mankind, and to gain experiential knowledge, a training programme on Mycological Techniques was organised for the First Year students from 10 to 13 January 2012. A manual was compiled by Dr. Priscilla Jebakumari and Dr Bhuvaneshwari



which was funded by Star College Scheme, Department of Biotechnology and was released by Dr Sanjay Mehendale, Director, National Institute of Epidemiology.

A hands on training programme in Molecular Biology Advances in the field of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, provided new insight into the structure and function of genomics. The new developments in the field of molecular biology have given rise to genomic sequencing. These developments have made research in the frontier areas of biology quite exciting and challenging.

A hands on training programme in Molecular Biology was organised for the third year students from 3 to 5 February 2012. The students were exposed to hands on training in Molecular Biology Techniques which was funded by Star College Scheme, Department of Biotechnology. A manual was compiled by Dr Nirmala Kanagaraj and Ms M.L.S. Sridevi. This training programme in techniques in Molecular Biology will provide opportunities to students who wish to pursue research in the emerging areas of Biotechnology.

An Eco-Industrial visit was organised for our final year students to reputed institutions of higher learning like Centre for Environmental Studies, Anna University, Guindy; Dept. of Biotechnology, Sathyabama Deemed University; Dept. of Environmental Health Engineering, Sri Ramachandra University and to the Larsen & Toubro, Green Building, Manapakkam. The students were exposed to the latest innovations in the field.



Hands-on training programme in molecular biology



Release of the manual at the training in Mycological Techniques

Department of ADVANCED ZOOLOGY & BIOTECHNOLOGY

“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”

– Francis of Assisi



Compassion for animals

Animals are not very different from us. It is unfair to assume that an animal is incapable of feeling pain just because it is unable to express it. Animals love, experience fear, joy and pain, just as we do. Then why cannot our compassion extend to them as well? Animals are not ours to wear, experiment on or use for our entertainment. It is our duty to protect and promote their well being. As Gandhiji once said, “the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated;” this was the same idea expressed Ridhi Chandarana of III B.Sc Zoology as a part of her address during the inaugural session of the Compassion for Animals program. This program, an initiative of the Department of Zoology, was held over a period of three days, from 14 -16 September 2011.

On these three days the students were given lectures sensitizing them to various aspects relating to animal welfare such as pet care and first aid for pets. The lectures were delivered by Dr Priyadarshini Govind,

the eminent veterinarian. The Honorary Secretary of the Blue Cross, Mr Sathya Radhakrishnan spoke on the work being done by animal welfare organizations. A well attended pet show and an adoption drive, in coordination with the Chennai Adoption Drive were also held on 16 September on the college premises.

The Department of Zoology has for several years been advocating ‘Ahimsa in Life Science Education.’ This year, it took the initiative to redesign the Zoology practical curriculum in keeping with the UGC guidelines. A National Workshop on Development of an Alternative Laboratory Curriculum in Zoology to Replace Animal Dissections and Experiments with Humane Techniques was organized on 25 and 26 November 2011, in collaboration with the Mahatma Gandhi Center for Alternatives to use of Animals in Life Science Education, Bharatidasan University, Tiruchirapalli.

The workshop was inaugurated by the renowned wild life film maker Shekar Dattatri. In his address, Mr Dattatri emphasized the need for students to appreciate and conserve nature and highlighted the fact that digital technology can be very exciting and an effective mode to study animal anatomy. Faculty from several colleges in Chennai as well as from across the country participated in the workshop. A blueprint of the proposed practical curriculum sans dissection was worked out during the workshop and the first draft of the revised curriculum was released by Dr M. Ponnaivaiko, Vice Chancellor of S.R.M University during the valedictory session of the workshop.

Like elsewhere in the modern world, many species of wildlife are disappearing from India too and conservation measures are needed to prevent animals and plants from vanishing. The student body could play an important role in protecting our wildlife. This is possible by making them aware of the beauty and value of biodiversity and making them a part of conservation programme. Keeping this in mind, the Department of Zoology organized a number of lectures and seminars on the need for preserving and conserving wildlife. 'How to save a Dragon: Conserving our Crocodiles' was the subject matter of the Dr Meera Paul and Dr Hannah John Endowment

Lecture that was delivered by Mr Colin Stevenson, Director, Madras Crocodile Bank Trust/ Center for Herpetology, Mamallapuram, on 10 October 2011.

The I B Sc Zoology students participated in a Nature Walk at Guindy National Park where they learnt about the richness of plant species that grow in the park and were able to observe the black buck, an endangered species of deer that are conserved in the park.

Students of all three years participated in a turtle walk organized with the Students' Sea Turtle Conservation Network (SSTCN) on 18 February 2012.

Mr Arun of the Sea Turtle Conservation Network, highlighted the causes for the dwindling numbers of the Oliver Ridley turtles to the students. The walk that started at midnight and extended to the early hours of the next morning was unique and was made all the more exciting as the students, with the help of the SSTCN, were able to rescue two clutches of turtle eggs from being destroyed. They also learnt to locate the eggs on the beach by observing the beach sands for the paddle marks made by the mother turtle. The turtle walk gave the students an opportunity to be a part of the turtle conservation efforts.





Rescued Olive ridley eggs



Exzooobition 2011



*Inaugural of National Workshop on
Development of Alternative
Laboratory
Curriculum in Zoology to Replace
Animal
Dissection and Experiments
with Human Techniques.*

‘EXZOOBITION’ – The exhibition on the various facets of Zoology is an annual event in the Department and an experiential learning process. This year too, the exhibition attracted students from all other departments and was highly appreciated for the information imparted through the creative and colorful models. The exhibits included models of several species of animals, that included flightless birds, egg-laying mammals and fishes and amphibians

showing parental care. Exhibits on the various threats to biodiversity were also displayed.

The Department has also introduced a new Major Elective course on Conservation Biology and a General Elective course on Pet Care to sensitize the students towards issues relating to biodiversity and reinforce the teaching of Life Sciences that helps and heals.

Department of COMMERCE



COMBAT

The Annual Inter-Collegiate Commerce Culturals 'Combat 2011,' was conducted on 12 September 2011'. This event saw an overwhelming response and participation of ten of the leading city colleges. Various colleges competed in the twelve events such as Battleship, Pandora's Box, Merchant of Venice, Ebony and Ivory, and War of the Vikings. During the valedictory address Ms Padma Ashokan, Director of OMEON encouraged the winners and gave away the trophies to the students of Vivekananda College, Shift II who emerged as the overall winners.

NISHKA

Nishka, The Inter-Class Commerce Conclave was organized on 7 February 2012. This special initiative of the Commerce Department was meant to bring out the talents and potential of the students of the fifteen Under-Graduate and two Post-Graduate classes. 'Emotions' was the theme of Nishka this year. The programme comprised were three On-Stage events namely Corporate Gateway, Ad Mad World and Vendor Off, and five off-stage events such as Product Packaging, Currency Designing, Event Management, Photocept and 100 Rupees Challenge. The overall winners were the II Year B Com students 'B' section. This was a much enjoyed student initiative that gave the participants an opportunity to showcase their talents and organizational skills. It is proposed that this will be made an annual event as it has been greatly appreciated by the Commerce students.





NISHKA 2011



Overall winners of NISHKA

Department of COMPUTER APPLICATIONS



The Department of Computer Science has the formidable task of keeping itself abreast of the kaleidoscopic changes in its field. In keeping with latest trends and development, course content and syllabi were updated to include the practice of theory in all possible ways and new software acquired. The teaching-learning environment was improved with the acquisition of latest technologies and tools. The young and dynamic staff keeps improving teaching methods to include visual aids, seminars and group-discussions.

Discerning the need for the students' active participation in the learning process, various competitions were conducted for the students which included paper presentation, miming, quiz, programming, debugging, logo designing, etc. These events were conducted through the 'Links Club – a Departmental Club' where the organizers and the participants are the students themselves. Various seminars, conferences, guest lectures and a flurry of other academic activities were also organized.

The Department goes hand-in-hand with the leading industries of the field by including industrial visits and projects in academic activities. The department feels a strong need to cater to the diverse interests of the students. Hence, the guest lectures on a number of topics – lectures on topics like artificial intelligence cater to the students interested in

programming while those on topics like fabric designing cater to the students interested in designing. Certificate Courses on animation were also arranged for interested students.

The students of the department are second to none when it comes to employability. The Department is a preferred destination because of its sincere efforts in enhancement of quality.

To make the curriculum relevant to the social needs and to increase the social responsibility of the students, various competitions such as poster Designing, Miming on concepts of global warming, nourishing mother earth and preserving eco-systems were conducted. The department is dedicated to providing wholesome education in keeping with the ultimate purpose of education, that is, service and utility to the society. Our department's projects on Primary Education and Literacy through the Social Awareness Program would stand testimony to this.

The enthusiasm shown both by the staff and students in these projects during the present academic year is worth emulating in the coming years. Showing their talent in art, culture and related fields, the students of the department won numerous prizes in a number of competitions. The department also assisted in college activities such as the development of new website and conduct of E-Polling for college elections.

Department of SOCIAL WORK

Beyond classroom learning – Field Experience

Four students of II MSW this academic year had the privilege to be selected to participate in a unique initiative 'Camp Rainbow' during their block placement this year. A collaborative effort of the Community Health Education Society (CHES), Y.R. Gaitonde Centre for AIDS Research and Education (YRGCARE) and the Serious Fun Children's Network (SFCN), USA through the Global Partnership Program, Camp Rainbow is an opportunity for children living with HIV to participate in HIV education and camp activities aimed at enhancing campers' adherence to treatment and medication. The camp also focusses on providing children with 'Serious Fun.' The activities at the camp are designed to help children live positively and develop hope for their future by fostering resilience, rekindling a sense of joy and curiosity, teaching them how to make informed decisions and by surrounding them in a supportive community

with positive role models. Three core values of love, safety and respect are stressed upon at camp.

The camp, lasting three weeks, has taught the students lessons to treasure for life. The student campers returned from the camp rich in experience and richer as individuals.

Students shared that though exhausting, working with 8-16 year olds living with illnesses was an experience far from the ordinary. Some of the responses were very encouraging: "It was difficult to answer some of the children, as they asked disturbing questions such as. 'when everyone hates us why do you love us?'"hahAs we bid farewell at the end of the camp, some cried not only because they had to leave us but they painfully shared that they did so as they had to get back to their life routine which included facing abuse, discrimination and neglect.



“I am thrilled I contributed to better coping and reassurance that they are beautiful persons and can live a healthy life,” said one of the participants. “It is easy to say HIV does not spread by touching or shaking hands, but is hard to practice as the mind, heart, and body are conditioned to not believing. The camp has made a positive difference in my thinking. I may not be able to make a difference in the lives of millions of children living with illness but have done so with the eighty I interacted with! No words can describe my experience,” said Ms Preenu Ashok, Activity Leader at the Camp. Ms Maria Fathima, Colour Leader at the camp said, “During the course of the camp a child walked up to me and said “I don’t have a mother, she died when I was a child. I don’t know how a mother’s love would be, but coming here I came to know how a mother would love a child, it will be just like the love you shared!” Ms Thivia Jennifer, Activity Leader at the camp shared: “Every minute we spent at the camp was worthwhile! I treasure the memories of the camp as I learnt to appreciate the children and learnt from their lives.” Ms Aarthi S, Group Leader observed “As I worked as a Group Leader, I was able to observe children closely. The schedule included several activities such as discovery, arts and crafts, performing arts, life skills and time in the swimming pool. While in the pool, one of the campers asked me to swim, I told her that I didn’t know swimming. She persisted and her motivation resulted in me learning to swim. By her encouragement other campers also gave up their fears and inhibitions and learnt swimming. I learnt good leaders are also good followers. The concept of DLP – describe, label and praise was amazing. Through this I not only learnt to use DLP for the child campers but have also imbibed personal qualities from them.”

Training and involvement over the course of their study moulds students with the knowledge, skill and attitude for professional commitment. While Camp Rainbow was one such experience for students during the course, throughout the year students have had opportunities to grow through varied experiences in the field.

The structured program at the department provides the student a planned systematic experience under guidance of a faculty member. Field instruction

is integral to the programme and lies at the heart of Social Work education, preparing students for professional practice. Beginning with laboratory sessions and orientation visits to select service-providing organisations, the students’ initiation into the course is gradual giving room for adaptation, application and accommodation. The student not only gets a glimpse of rural reality but also experiences group living through a week-long rural camp. It is only after this long initiation program that the student is ready for placement for concurrent field work and block placement at the end of the academic program.

Field practicum is a laboratory for students to learn, practice, demonstrate; it provides them the opportunity to explore perspectives about people and the myriad of challenges they face. It helps them achieve not only mastery of skills, but also opens out avenues for appreciating the realities of coping with complex problems, especially in the context of specific service-delivery systems.

Field learning provides students with opportunities to understand and intervene in range of human and social problems. A key aspect of the learning process in the fieldwork placement is complementing academic work through integration of theory and practice. The practical experience enriches the students’ critical reflection. Faculty and students are often confronted with situations and lived experiences, which aid as a catalyst to their reflective process. Discovery and understanding of ‘self’ and self-identity is constantly developed through experiences in the field.

In addition to classroom learning and field experiences, throughout the year several workshops, seminars and interactive programs are designed innovatively and organized by the department to facilitate teaching and learning.

Many Social Work students share their experiences in their field training. Ms. Grace Beryl, for example, says, “Having completed and grown through my experiences at the BSW and MSW programmes in the department, ‘acceptance’ – a value emphasised in Social Work education and practice has touched me the most in all my years of training for professional practice. I have learnt the value of

acceptance of the person, life situations and most importantly acceptance of oneself. This by itself has helped me grow personally. The knowledge gained from the classroom has been immense and intriguing while the fruits of the field-based experiences have moulded and instilled within me a confidence to face reality. Education and training in Social Work has helped me emerge as a person of integrity with a high degree of social responsibility. These values have kindled within me a determination to work towards emancipating change.”

As we look back at the end of the semester, the faculty and students feel a sense of satisfaction and happiness. It is a time to celebrate our contribution and growth through lived experiences - truly a calling!



Department of INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



To foster a better understanding of International Studies as a discipline, a blend of theory and practice is essential. The department therefore encouraged students to organize an academic interaction relevant to their field of study among the students across the city. '*Kriya*' was a brilliant effort towards understanding Indo-US relations.

Indo-US relations has been progressively gaining momentum in the last decade and is poised to redefine the world political order in the 21st century. The rationale behind this alliance can be attributed to the common values and principles of democracy and pluralism shared by the two countries. India's phenomenal economic expansion and its growing political experience has sparked enormous interest in the trans-Atlantic community. India's enhanced image as a key player in the volatile region of South Asia has propelled the United States to construct a meaningful alliance with India. The strategic

partnership of 2005 set the stage for the realization of greater possibilities in Indo-US relations. The existing strategic politico-military cooperation also encompasses aspects of counter-terrorism and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. In order to take the bilateral relationship between these two like-minded states to the next level, greater cooperation is required in the realm of trade and commerce, science and technology, society and culture and defense and strategic affairs. Various high level meetings between the two countries have created a bond, which has the potential to usher in stability in the critical region of South Asia. However, despite a congruence of vital national interests and shared political goals, the partnership is yet to reach its zenith.

The seminar on Indo-US relations thus promoted further research and a spirit of inquiry among students so that they may better comprehend the dynamics of this key partnership.

Relevance and Importance of Area Studies

Area studies as a discipline has gained prominence over the past fifty years and was basically spawned as a Cold War phenomenon to focus on areas other than the United States and Soviet Union.

Today's world is the product of diverse global forces that are historical, political, economic, military, and social in nature. There is a need to support both contemporary and historical research on every region of the world. It follows that a systematic understanding of these forces, often summarized by the term 'world politics', must be interdisciplinary in approach

There is a definite need to attain a certain given level of 'global literacy,' which the humanities naturally have a stake in; it has become as commonplace as economies and markets have become more interdependent and immigration patterns shift. The impact of globalization has called into question the relevance of areas especially as regions as units of analysis.

It is in response to such a vacuum that universities globally and within India have established nationwide centers and programmes devoted to the exclusive study of diverse regions such as Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe and Latin America.

The Department of International Studies aspires to establish itself as one such centre of Area Studies and in the process has initiated certain courses which are area specific – Conflict and Cooperation in South Asia, International Order in the Asia Pacific, Politics and Culture of the Middle East.

As students of International Relations, it is imperative to not only have a global perspective but to also delve into a systematic and deeper study of a particular geography and the politics, culture, language and economics of the chosen area. The focus on area studies is the thrust of this year's academic activities of the department as a first step towards the crystallization of our aspirations.



Kriya 2011 inaugurated by Max Hamilton, Political and Economic officer, US Consulate General, Chennai.

Department of PUBLIC RELATIONS

During the academic year 2011-12, the Social Awareness Program (SAP) program commenced with a street theatre workshop in August 2011 to acquaint students with the art of street theatre, a communication tool that is familiar in rural communities to create awareness. Guided by Dr Kumaragurudasan, Mr Balavinayagam (thavil vidhwan) and Mr Subramaniam (folk singer), a skit titled '*Kanavu Bharatham*' was performed by the students of I MA Public Relations on Food and Nutrition day. The skit portrayed the dreams of Tamil poet Subramaniya Bharathi and showed his dreams were shattered after witnessing the present scenario of rural India. As part of SAP, the same skit was performed in the village of Kattrambakkam, Tindivanam District, in September 2011. Speaking of her experience of utilizing street theatre as a communication tool, Ms Deekshita, student of II MA Public Relations said, "Communicating to village people in their own language through storytelling about the livelihood and food security of the people was a good experience to learn about the importance of communicating in vernacular languages." Another student, Ms Mili Martin adds, "The skit broke the

language crisis in the class because the class had a majority of Malayalam students from Kerala." The students learned the importance of adapting messages and strategies to suit the demographics of the local audience as integral to communication effectiveness. While at Kattrambakkam village, the students also conducted a survey to assess the accessibility, availability and affordability of food and water in the village. The findings of this study was released in a report by Mr K. Radhakrishnan , IPS, on 2 March 2012 at the Sahaviryam Memorial Program in honor of Sr. Juliet M. Irene, former Principal (1968-78), Stella Maris College.

The Best Practices in Public Relations Memorial Lecture in honor of Mr Gyan Haksar and Mr M. Gopalakrishnan is an annual event coordinated in collaboration with Public Relations Society of India, Chennai Chapter. In February 2012, Mr Anuj Dayal, Chief PRO, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) delivered the lecture sharing information about his experience at DMRC with the participants. A lecture attendee, Ms Priyanka Karunan student of II MA Public Relations, noted that, "Communication is



the lifeblood of any organization. It is essential to communicate to public during crisis, policy changes, management changes and so on. Knowing the art of application of communication is thus important not only in an organization but also in personal life.” Another student, Raja Sheela Pushpam adds, “The lecture was about what to do and not to do in a crisis situation which is helpful in a professional front.” The exemplary lecture by Mr Dayal revealed the recent and past public relations objectives, strategies and tactics at Delhi Metro Rail Corporation.

In February 2012, the Scholar-in-Residence program featured Mr Raju Arumugam, Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow and Executive Director, InvesT HOPE-Workforce Institute. Through interactive sessions and case study presentations, the three-day seminar titled, ‘Brand You,’ explored the importance of the process of brand image building for individuals and corporate companies, workplace ethics and conflict management. Speaking about the seminar, student of II MA Public Relations, Ms Sumitha said, “It was a new experience. The practical knowledge direct from the corporate world was very informative and unique.” Mr. Raju Arumugam also shared information about his career progression and his experience as a scholar in the United States of America.

Through the various opportunities provided by the Department of Public Relations, students become more knowledgeable about combining communication theory in practical situations. They learn the importance of communication theory in planning and implementing communication programs for corporate companies, government, non-governmental organizations and social causes.

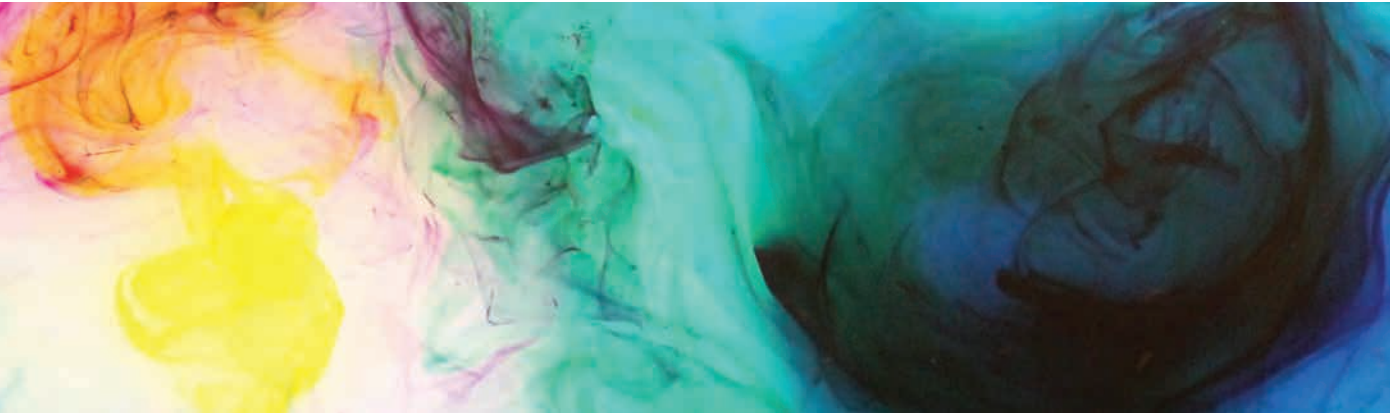


Dr. Sundari.K Head, Public Relations honouring Mr. Anuj Dayal Chief PRO, Delhi Metro at the Memorial Lecture.



Students of I.M.A. Public Relations in conversation with the villagers of Villipuram District during the SAP Programme.

Department of BIOTECHNOLOGY



Biotechnology is a field of applied biology that involves the use of living organisms and bioprocesses in engineering, technology, medicine and other fields requiring bioproducts. The concept encompasses a wide range of procedures for modifying living organisms according to human purposes — going back to domestication of animals, cultivation of plants, and “improvements” to these through breeding programs that employ artificial selection and hybridization. Biotechnology draws on pure biological sciences – genetics, microbiology, animal cell culture, molecular biology, biochemistry, embryology, cell biology and is also dependent on knowledge and methods from outside the sphere of biology – chemical engineering, bioprocess engineering, information technology, biorobotics. In general, it is an integrated approach of fundamental biological sciences and traditional engineering principles.

zThough brewing was an early application of biotechnology, the pioneering achievement was the production of greater genetic varieties of plants and animals through the techniques of Hybridization in 5000BC from which the present day high yielding varieties of plants and animals were evolved. Discovery of restriction enzymes led to the development of the Recombinant DNA Technology. Biotechnology is not limited to medical/health applications but has scope in the fields of Agriculture,

Animal Husbandry, Molecular Medicine, Forensic Science, Microbial Genetics, Environmental Sciences etc. It is often associated with the use of genetically altered microorganisms such as *E. coli* or yeast for the production of substances like synthetic insulin or antibiotics; it can also refer to transgenic animals or transgenic plants, for development of plant-made pharmaceuticals. Biotechnology is associated with landmark breakthroughs in developing new molecular diagnostic devices, medical therapies and also aiding in the manufacturing of medicines relatively cheaper. Animal biotechnology help drive breeding programme by directing selection of superior animals, proteins in foods may be modified to increase their nutritional qualities.

In agriculture, GM-crops are also being produced through genetic engineering like crops containing genes that will enable them to (1) withstand stresses, (2) slow down the process of spoilage (tomato which was transformed to delay its ripening.) etc. *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) is a soil bacterium that produces a protein with insecticidal qualities. In the field of Microbial biodegradation, biotechnology is being used to engineer and adapt organisms especially microorganisms in an effort to find sustainable ways to clean up contaminated environment like oil spillage in aquatic systems, degradation of pesticides, synthesis of plastic which is biodegradable – from lactic acid which is produced at the time of bacterial



fermentation of plant materials. Different types of bacteria are being currently employed in the extraction of different metals like copper.

The applications of biotechnology are so broad, and the advantages so compelling, that virtually every industry is using this technology. As biotechnology has become widely used, questions and concerns have also been raised. One of the main areas of concern is the safety of genetically engineered food. Among the potential ecological risks identified are increased weediness, due to cross-pollination from genetically modified crops spreads to other plants in nearby fields. The risks associated with biotechnology are the same as those associated with plants and microbes developed by conventional methods.

The applications and scope of biotechnology being wide, the Department of Biotechnology has developed research in various fields like plant tissue culture were in vitro callus induction was attempted with success in fenugreek and Ocimum. An insight in to the antibacterial activity of the medicinal plant (Capparis sps.) as well spices (cloves, cardomom, pepper) were studied which gave promising results making these plants extracts a better replacement to the commercially available antibiotics. Nanobiotechnology being the latest development in the field of Biotechnology deals with nanoparticles which find applications in various fields of Biotechnology. An attempt to synthesize silver

nanoparticles with plant extract and evaluation of its antibacterial activity was carried out as a part of research work. In the field of Environmental Biotechnology, degradation of tannin compounds by moderately halophilic bacterial consortium was studied. A comparative study was done on the probiotic activity of microorganisms isolated from natural and artificial sources of milk and milk products. Vermicomposting was carried out using the college hostel kitchen wastes and remediation of BTEX compounds were analysed with the selected bacterial strains.



The capacity building programme organised by the Department of Biotechnology

Department of BIOINFORMATICS



Bioinformatics has emerged as a separate discipline of study in life sciences, incorporating methods of mathematics, statistics and computer science to organize and analyze biological data and to provide a molecular understanding of living systems. The Department is poised to take great strides in higher education, research and extension activities in the coming years.

Bioinformatics is the science of managing, mining, and interpreting information from biological sequences and structures. The past decade has seen an explosive growth in genomics, proteomics, functional genomics and biomedical research. A particular active area of research in bioinformatics is the application and development of data mining techniques to solve biological problems. The Bioinformatics Department is involved in conducting high quality research in areas such as –

Molecular Modeling
Data Mining and R Programming
Clinical Research Management
Phylogenetic Analysis

Biological data mining has become an essential and challenging part of new research in bioinformatics. For this, the computer software R package is ideally suited. It offers a breadth and depth in statistical computing beyond what is available in commercial closed source products. It is one of the most widely used data mining tools in scientific and business applications, among dozens of commercial and open-source data mining software. It is free and expandable with over 3,600 packages, which plays semantic role in statistical computing, data analysis and graphical visualization. R is a programming language and open-source (GPL) statistical environment developed after S and S-Plus.

The bioinformatics department focused research on structure comparison of proteins using the R package.



The identification of geometric relationships between protein structures offers a powerful approach to predicting the structure and function of proteins. Since structures are more conserved than sequences structure comparison can identify more distant homologs than sequence comparison. The research team also focused on identifying the drug target by analyzing chemical compounds using R package. The research team has always continuously kept an eye on the latest development in the field which is about Cloud Computing in Bioinformatics.

Next generation sequencing and other advanced technologies have improved the accessibility of sequencing projects. A major challenge is to effectively utilize these technologies along with large scale computing resources to advance fundamental science discoveries such as those in Life Sciences. The recently developed next-generation sequencers have enabled large-scale genome sequencing in areas such as environmental sample sequencing leading to metagenomic studies of collections of genes.

Metagenomic research is just one of the areas that present a significant computational challenge because of the amount and complexity of data to be processed.

However, the problem now is the bioinformatics analysis of this vast amount to sequence data. The model of Cloud Computing fits perfectly with these new bioinformatics needs, making this analysis possible.

Cloud Computing presents a new approach in the development of dynamic, distributed and highly scalable software. For this purpose, Cloud Computing offers services, software and computing infrastructure independently through the network. To achieve a system that supports these characteristics, Service-Oriented Architectures (SOA) and agent frameworks exist which provide tools for developing distributed and multi-agent systems that can be used for the establishment of Cloud Computing environments.

The data deluge continues throughout science, and practically all scientific areas need analysis pipelines or workflows to propel the data from the instrument through various stages to scientific discovery, often aided by visualization. It is well known that these pipelines typically offer natural data parallelism that can be implemented within many different frameworks.



Cloud Computing has been applied in the analysis of microarray data. It integrates intelligent agents with a service-oriented philosophy that allows analysis of Microarray data through the integration of different services and the expression analysis of different genetic characteristics. An expression analysis consists of three stages – normalization and filtering, clustering and classification; and extraction of knowledge. The context that provides a Cloud Computing-based architecture is ideal for the treatment and analysis of bioinformatics data. It allows the exchange of great quantities of data covers the required computational needs at the execution time of different algorithms on the aforementioned data and provides an adequate software environment for the display and study of the results obtained.

Could the cloud provide a solution?

An unnamed pharmaceutical company found that processing BLAST databases and query jobs was time consuming on its internal grid and approached Cycle Computing about running BLAST and other applications in the Cloud. After the customer had approved Cycle's security model, Cycle built a processing pipeline for BLAST that provides more than 7000 public databases from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), Ensemble, and the Information Sciences Institute of the University of Southern California (ISI) that are updated weekly. The CycleCloud BLAST service is now publicly available to all users.

Pfizer, Eli Lilly, Johnson & Johnson, and Genentech are already experimenting with Cloud Computing. Lilly has demonstrated the viability of cloud

computing by launching a 64-machine cluster computer working on bioinformatics sequence information, completing the work, and shutting down in 20 minutes, using Amazon's EC2, at a cost of only \$6.40, and a saving of 12 weeks' processing. Pfizer's Biotherapeutics & Bioinnovation Center has used Amazon cloud services to develop and refine models in antibody-antigen docking runs, shortening the process to two to three hours from two to three days. CambridgeSoft has recently announced ChemBioOffice Cloud, an integrated informatics suite available over the internet, also allowing customers to focus on the science while Cambridge Soft takes care of the science IT. Cloud Computing is certainly expanding its footprint in the life sciences community. The speed, efficiency and cost effectiveness have made Cloud Computing an indispensable tool for researchers, allowing them to focus on the 'what' of science and not the 'how.' Having the resources to do better research at this phase of the drug development process will also reduce time and expense in the later phases.



Department of SANSKRIT

Kalakriti 2011-12

Stella Maris College dedicated a week towards the celebration of various languages. This festival was inaugurated on a day on which the ancient classical language of Samskrtaam, generally considered to be the Matrbbasha or Devabhasha was celebrated. A source of India's wisdom, 'Samskrtaam' means Samyak krtam, 'refining one's thoughts and deeds'. The 21st of November 2011 was dedicated to honouring this sacred language.

The day began with an address over the Public Address System on the eminence and vivacity of the language. This was followed by a mellifluous rendition of '*Maitrim Bhajatha*', a verse focussing on the necessity of universal brotherhood and peace. The students from the Department of Sanskrit presented Kalakriti, a melange depicting how Samskrtaam has influenced various art forms.

Kalakriti started with a speech by a student on how Samskrtaam as a language integrates India, followed by a rendition of Muthuswamy Deekshithar's Samskrta kritis. The recitation of Purushasuktam depicting life of Sri Krishna was also rendered by students.

A commendable finale to the line of cultural events was a perfect exposition on the beautiful description of the Dasavatara of Lord Vishnu rendered in a Sanskrit song by a group of students.

The event was an astonishing success and received accolades from the members of the audience and other professors in the college.



Department of TAMIL

பன்னாட்டுக் கருத்தரங்கம்

‘இலக்கியங்கள் காட்டும் உணவுமுறை’

“வெற்றியாளர்கள் வித்தியாசமான செயல்களைச் செய்வதில்லை, அவர்கள் தாங்கள் செய்வதையே வித்தியாசமான முறையில் செய்கிறார்கள்” என்பர்.

ஸ்டெல்லா மாரிஸ் கல்லூரி மாணவப் பேரவை 2011-2012 ஆம் கல்வி ஆண்டிற்கான கருவாக “உணவு மற்றும் நீர்ப் பாதுகாப்பு” என்பதைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தது. அக்கருவிற்கு ஏற்ப தமிழ்த்துறை இலக்கியங்கள் காட்டும் உணவுமுறை என்ற தலைப்பில் நவம்பர் மாதம் 25 ஆம் தேதி பன்னாட்டுக் கருத்தரங்கினை நடத்தி உலகம் முழுவதும் குறிப்பாகத் தமிழ்நாட்டின் நகரம், கிராமம் முழுவதும் அறியும்படியான மிகப்பெரிய சாதனையைச் செய்துகாட்டியது.

இக்கருத்தரங்கில் 262 ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகள் அடங்கிய மூன்று தொகுதியும், சிறப்பு மலரும் வெளியிடப்பட்டன. கருத்தரங்கைப் பாராட்டி, Indian Express, தினமணி, பசுமை விகடன், தமிழ் முழக்கம், போன்ற பல இதழ்கள் செய்தி வெளியிட்டன. தொடக்க விழாவில் கல்லூரி முதல்வர் முனைவர் ஜெசிந்தா குவாட்ரஸ், தமிழ்நாடு திறந்தநிலைப் பல்கலைக்கழக துணைவேந்தர் முனைவர் கல்யாணி அன்புச்செல்வன், அருட்செல்வர்.

பொள்ளாச்சி நா மகாலிங்கம், நீதியரசர் டாக்டர் ஏ ஆர் இலட்சுமணன், தொழிலதிபர் பத்மஸ்ரீ டாக்டர் நல்லி குப்புசாமி, தொழிலதிபர் கிருஷ்ணா ஸ்வீட்ஸ் முரளி, திருக்குறள் கிருஷ்ணசந்த் சோர்டியா, மாம்பலம் திரு ஆ சந்திரசேகர், செவாலியர் டாக்டர் வி ஜி சந்தோஷம், தொழிலதிபர் திரு அந்தோணி ஆகிய பேரறிஞர்கள் கருத்தரங்கினைச் சிறப்பித்தனர்.

தொடக்க விழா முடிந்ததும் சிறப்புப் பெற்ற மூன்று மருத்துவர்கள் ‘உணவே மருந்து’ என்ற தலைப்பில் சிறப்புரை ஆற்றினர். மதியம் 11 தமிழ்ப் பேராசிரியர்களின் தலைமையில் அமர்வுகள் நடந்தேறின மாலை நிறைவுவிழா சென்னைப் பல்கலைக்கழகத் துணைவேந்தர் டாக்டர் கர்னல் திரு திருவாசகம் அவர்களின் தலைமையில் இனிதே நிறைவேறியது.

விழாவின் சிறப்பாகக் கருத்தரங்கில் கலந்து கொண்ட அனைவருக்கும் சங்ககால உணவு அன்று முழுவதும் பரிமாறப்பட்டது. கருத்தரங்க ஆய்வுக் கட்டுரைகள் அடங்கிய மூன்று நூல்களையும் சாந்தா பதிப்பகம் சிறப்பாக வெளியிட்டது.



Department of HINDI

The pen of Gulanchand Kotadia: Literary
resonance in the heart of Chennai

*“Full many a gem of purest ray
serene, The dark unfathom’d caves
of ocean bear, Full many a flower is
born to blush unseen, And waste its
sweetness in the desert air.*

Thomas Gray

Dr Gulabchand Kotadia, born in Chennai, showed his literary genius not only in his mother tongue Rajasthani, but also in our national language Hindi. Competent in both prose and poetry, his vast literary repertoire included even children’s literature. He died in 2010, unwept, unhonoured and unsung; he did not receive his due recognition during his lifetime.

The Department of Hindi in collaboration with Tamilnadu Hindi Sahitaya Academy, Chennai, hosted a national seminar on the life and works of this Chennai based Hindi writer on 20 August 2011. The seminar was titled – ‘Karm Aur Kalam Ke Upasak: Gulabchand Kotadia’.

The chief guest for the seminar was the Deputy Director of Central Hindi Directorate, Dr Pradeep Sharma; the special invitees included Dr Arun Hota, Head, Department of Hindi, West Bengal State University, Dr Alope Pandey, Associate Professor, Department. of Hindi, Central University, Hyderabad and Dr Jagganath Reddy, Head, Departmentzhh. of Hindi, Annamalai University. Scholars from across India presented twenty four research papers which were presented in three different sessions at this seminar that ended with a reading of Dr Kotadia’s poems.



The dignitaries at the International Hindi conference

IN MEMORIAM



Dr A Anne Shanthi

A Anne Shanthi, affectionately called Anne Ma'am, was a faculty of the Department of History and Tourism for two terms – first from 2007-2008 and again in 2010 November till her demise in November 2011.

Born on 27 July 1958 she had completed her PUC and UG from Stella Maris College and her Masters from the University of Madras. She has also done her M.Ed., had completed her Ph D and was awaiting her viva-voce examination. Before joining Stella Maris in 2007, she had worked as a high school teacher for over 20 years in various schools in Chennai. During her break from Stella Maris between 2008 and 2010, she had worked as a Lecturer in the Department of History in Loyola College.

*When we remember your smile,
It brightens our day,
And thoughts of your warmth and
love, seem to smooth the way
Your gentle spirit is still with us
Though you are gone.
Sunny days, cool breezes
Always for you.*

Anne was a very friendly, loving and an active person who always looked much younger than she really was. Always volunteering to do any work, she was a very efficient teacher and loved by all her students.

The end came all too suddenly on 27 November 2011; a shock to the department and her students. She remained single till the end, dedicating herself for the cause of teaching, cherishing a dream of starting a school of becoming its Principal someday.

She will always be remembered by all of us associated with her, as someone who had a smile for everyone.





Dr Stella Jesudoss

They often say “ The best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book”. And the one teacher who totally fit the bill was Dr Stella.

I remember Dr Stella from my third year class as a student at SMC. She had been on leave for health reasons during my first two years.

The subject was European History and she walked into class in what was Room O-8 in those days. She was helped by two students holding her on two sides. I remember her striking smile as she struggled onto the dais.

And then we heard that distinct voice, full of drama and excitement, loud and clear, so well modulated that we were transported into another world at once.

She had no book in her hand, nor did she write a word on the blackboard. Yet I can still remember all that she explained so clearly in my head.

Such was her knowledge and her passion that she could go on for hours. Her favourite personality was Adolf Hitler. The lawyer that she was, she gave Hitler her own trial in class, she was both the defense and the prosecution. Students saw a different side of

the villain; one moment we hated him and the other we felt sorry for him! Such was her vivid portrayal of history.

Dr Stella never failed to give us valuable bits of advice through every history class. Each topic was not just an account of the past but truly a lesson in life itself, unforgettable and inspiring.

I often wonder, how she managed to keep us all so attentive and focused without all the paraphernalia of audio and visual aids that we use today. Not even a piece of chalk in her hand, just a magnificent voice and her zeal and commitment and a genuine love for the subject!

Today as a Professor myself, I strive to live by the standards she set. If in my academic pursuits I am able to pass on even a portion of that passion, I think that will be my real tribute to this great teacher. She lives on through each and every student whose heart she touched and whose life she inspired!

I will always be thankful to Dr Stella for setting an example to all her students by her positive thinking and her love for life.

Truly she taught us that ‘Life is not about having the best of everything but making the best of what you have’

May her soul rest in peace.

Dr Radhika Laxman

(Professor of History, Department of General Education, American University of the Middle East, Kuwait)





Dr S. Ramani

“No one wants to die. Even people who want to go to heaven don’t want to die to get there. And yet death is the destination we all share. No one has ever escaped it. And that is as it should be, because Death is very likely the single best invitation of life. It is life’s change agent. It clears out the old to make way for the new. Right now the new is you, but someday not too long from now, you will gradually become the old and be cleared away. Sorry to be so dynamic, but it is quite true.”

Steve Jobs

Dr. Mrs S Ramani joined the Department of Economics at Stella Maris College in 1970 and retired in the academic year 1999 – 2000, after serving the institution for 30 long and fruitful years. She was an excellent teacher and an erudite scholar. She was a perfectionist in every way and this in fact highlighted the fact that she was indeed a person with

extraordinary courage and an indomitable spirit to accomplish and succeed – and to do so thoroughly. A warm friendly person she had her students welfare always in mind. In fact it was this that she often told all the others in the department to pursue. Her dedication to duty knew no bounds, and her authenticity and allegiance to the cause of education was truly worth replicating. She struck a wonderful rapport with students, faculty, administrative and supportive staff and this brought out another aspect of her profound personality – viz. humaneness. The bond she so beautifully made and maintained with individuals she worked with was underlined by her generosity and sincerity. Her deep commitment to research made her a source of inspiration to all in the department of Economics.

Her passing away was undeniably a great shock to all of us, and indeed a great loss to her family. We pray to God to grant her eternal rest and may her soul rest in peace.





Mrs. Teresa Madhanraj

In heaven, you are throned as an angel
In our hearts, you still stay as a human being
Who lived to her word and will
And for Thy sake, we bow our heads in prayer
Seeking the almighty to rest thy soul in peace.
Forever.



Mr. Bahadur

Bahadur Dada was never unnoticed in our college campus especially the hostelites whom he fondly called Beti. His sudden demise due to cardiac arrest on his return from his native place was a great shock for most of us. The jovial gentleman had been in our college since 1993, meeting the needs of the hostelites. Be it water, lights or security, Dada was ever ready to serve the hostel.

Our students continue to have fond memories of him. The little conversations in Hindi and his incredible ability to remember every hostelite by name can never be forgotten. It is an immense loss for us and we continue to mourn for you Dada. This *bade* white mustache person will remain imprinted in our hearts

Shruthy
Stella Maris College Hostelite



CREATIVE
WRITING



A Second Chance on the Fourth Planet

We hold our breath as the space ship gently lands. Huddled together, we stand silent, waiting to step onto the planet that will be our new home. Our hearts pounding, we feel an electric anticipation in the cramped enclosure. As the doors open, a collective gasp of wonder escapes our lips. Our eager eyes are greeted by the sight of a small city embraced by gently rolling green hills. A vast expanse of blue water to one side, stretching as far as the eye can see. There are rays of sunlight shining through a gap in the clouds in the blue sky above. We're finally here! We're on Mars!

The earth, they say is almost dead. The brown planet was, centuries ago, known as the blue planet. A time when three-fourth of the surface was covered with water. When rivers and streams ran across the land, and running water was at every household's disposal. Water was not an ultra luxury then, but a given right. For the past few years, the only water on the planet was held by the most esteemed laboratories and a select few of the richest of the rich. In those bygone days greenery was lush and flourished all around. Jungles and forests were teeming with organisms of a multitude of colours, sizes and shapes. I find this hard to believe when the only remnants of these wonders were the samples preserved in museums that we would gaze at, as children. In that era, the sun shone pleasantly through the humid atmosphere on the earth, giving life to everything it touched. But we had to be careful not to stray out from our shaded living enclosures into the sunlight for fear of being scorched alive by the rays that are no longer filtered by the planet's atmospheric blanket. Humans ceased consuming water a little below two centuries ago. Several substitutes for the life giving liquid had since been developed by scientists the world over. But it is impossible for anything to possess the elixir-like qualities of water. The fortunate few who had tasted

water all claim that nothing else could ever quench their thirst.

A century ago, there had been a surprising discovery of vast quantities of frozen underground reservoirs of water on Mars. This discovery sparked the possibility of human habitation on the planet previously assumed as barren. Oxygen of course, could easily be manufactured and released into the atmosphere as had been done on Earth itself to compensate for the loss of oxygen from the photosynthesis of plants. Scientists were immediately sent to work on the frozen water so it could be stored and accessed in its liquid state. Moreover there was a sudden spurt in the already steadily rising atmospheric temperatures on Mars due to a unexpected flare in the sun's size and activity. This proved to be a blessing in aiding the progress on Mars and a curse on Earth which heated up rapidly. This pressure led to a rapid development of living conditions on Mars and ever since fifty years ago, each year, a group of people have journeyed from Earth to Mars to start their new lives.

We are the last ones to leave our home planet and we have been dreaming about the day we leave this desolation. On the promising land of Mars we will live like our forefathers once did. We will breathe in clean, crisp air and drink cool, clear water. We will take our children to the sea side, the forests, the lakes and rivers. We will teach them to love nature and all its beautiful creatures and to be careful not to upset the balance of the planet. Our new home will be treated with better respect and care than Earth, which suffered abuse for numerous years till it finally choked in exhaustion. This time, we will not take any chances.

Ambika Narayanan
I BA Economics

Dam the Government

In first grade, I learnt 'Without water all living things will die'. In my first year of college, I learnt water can be a force between the oppressor and the oppressed in Dhasal's poem 'Water'.

Water constitutes the rivers that run through our country. So how do we bundle up these molecules of hydrogen and oxygen and (to put it metaphorically) 'save for a rainy day'? Dams. India is the third largest builder of dams in the world. Such a fact appears impressive for a developing country. Or is it really? Arundhati Roy's essay 'The Greater Common Good' delves into the statistical facts and the crude reality of India's big dams. The essay focuses on the Sardar Sarovar Projects on the Narmada river in particular but the reality behind the establishment of a dam, renders one numb. You do not need a moral science lesson to feel a deep pathos for the real victims.

According to the Central Water Commission, we have three thousand six hundred dams that qualify as Big Dams, three thousand three hundred of them built after Independence. One thousand more are under construction. Yet one-fifth of our population – 200 million people – do not have safe drinking water and two-thirds – 600 million – lack basic sanitation. (Roy, 13-14)

The best way to understand the impact of the construction of a dam, a little arithmetic must be done – according to a detailed study of 54 large dams done by the Indian Institute of Public Administration, the average number of people displaced by a large dam is 44,182. Admittedly, 54 dams out of 3,300 is not a big enough sample. But since it's all we have, let's try and do some rough arithmetic. A first draft. To err on the side of caution, let's halve the number of people. Or, let's err on the side of abundant caution and take an average of just 10,000 people per large dam. It's an improbably low figure, I know, but never mind. Whip out your calculators. $3,300 \times 10,000 = 33$ million. That's what it works out to.

Thirty-three million people. Displaced by big dams alone in the last fifty years. (Roy, 17)

And please bear in mind India does not have a National Rehabilitation Policy. So where do these displaced people go? Your guess is as good as anyone's. Most of the people displaced by Sardar Sarovar Project are predominantly Dalits and Adivasis, an indigenous people whose livelihood depends on the Narmada. The government has no account of these people after they have been dislocated from their land. The Land Acquisition Act of 1894 says the government is not legally bound to provide a displaced person anything but cash compensation. A measly monetary remuneration for the acres of land they have toiled over, tended crops to feed their families and the nation and all the government does is pay them as little as Rs 250 – Rs 700 an acre to relocate.

These farmers' illiteracy was taken advantage of as they were made to sign a receipt, clueless as to how much the receipt was made out for. How do you expect a person who is accustomed to depending on a forest for almost everything he needed to suddenly depend on an earned pittance to feed his family? He once had a river as his water source but is now reduced to using a shared hand pump. He was once owner of acres of land but now sits in the market as a wage labourer for sale. These people have had the land beneath their feet robbed from them. These villagers haven't been mute; they have fought and fought for their land and their river. There have been violent as well as non-violent confrontations, but they've just been swept under the rug and trampled. Their ethnic 'difference' reduces the guilty smears on the conscience of our 'nation builders'.

When the first proposition to build the dam was made, there was no talk of providing drinking water for the arid villages in Kutch and Saurashtra. When the endeavor encountered political trouble,

quenching the thirst of Kutch and Saurashtra suddenly became the whole motive of the project! Who cares that the rivers closer to Kutch and Saurashtra have been diverted to feed other states? No, let's displace millions of people in order to provide drinking water to another couple of millions and continue to call ourselves a democratic nation.

It's funny how the government keeps changing its mind on how many people will be provided drinking water. The number fluctuates drastically, increasing in proportion to the pressure it receives to stop the work of the dam.

Officially the number of people who will be provided drinking water by the Sardar Sarovar Canal fluctuates from 28 million (1983) to 32.5 million (1989) 'nice touch, the decimal point!' to 40 million (1992) and down to 25 million (1993).

The number of villages that would receive drinking water was zero in 1979, 4719 in the early eighties, 7234 in 1990 and 8215 in 1991. When challenged, the Government admitted that these figures for 1991 included 236 uninhabited villages!(Roy, 33) And if you thought that it's only the people who were affected, think again, the environmental impact to is not pretty.

From the Sardar Sarovar Dam, the Narmada flows through 180 km of rich lowland into the Arabian Sea in Bharuch. What the Wonder Canal does, more or less, is to re-route most of the river, turning it almost 90 degrees northward. It's a pretty drastic thing to do to a river. The Narmada estuary in Bharuch is one of the last known breeding places of the Hilsa, probably the hottest contender for India's favourite fish. The Stanley Dam wiped out Hilsa from the Cauvery River in South India, and Pakistan's Ghulam Mohammed Dam destroyed its spawning area on the Indus. Hilsa, like the salmon, is an anadromous fish - born in freshwater, migrating to the ocean as a smolt and returning to the river to spawn. The drastic reduction in water flow, the change in the chemistry of the water because of all the sediment trapped behind the dam, will radically alter the ecology of the estuary and modify the delicate balance of fresh water and sea water which is bound to affect the spawning. At present, the Narmada estuary produces

13,000 tonnes of Hilsa and freshwater prawn (which also breed in brackish water). Ten thousand fisher families depend on it for a living. (Roy, 66)

The government simply says that it will alleviate the loss of Hilsa fisheries by stocking the reservoir with hatchery-bred fish. (Who'll control the reservoir? Who'll grant the commercial fishing to its favourite paying customers?) The only hitch is that so far, scientists have not managed to breed Hilsa artificially. The rearing of Hilsa depends on getting spawn from wild adults, which will, in all likelihood be eliminated by the dam. Dams have either eliminated or endangered one-fifth of the world's freshwater fish. (Roy, 67)

It's not just the Hilsa, but a lot of wildlife and a whole range of biodiversity that will disappear too. So the government decided to set up the Shoolpaneshwar wildlife sanctuary whose website boasts of 'undulating terrain, ever-pervading greenery' not mentioning what has been submerged already by the presence of the dam.

This article cannot even scratch the surface of the what Arundhati Roy's essay reveals. Sadly it's too late, on 31 December 2011, the Sardar Sarovar Dam was completed. All it awaits is the construction of the gates.

If you're to visit 'Narmada FAQ- Answers to all Critics' section of the Support Narmada Dam website (www.supportnarmadadam.org) and click on any of the topics you wish to gain answers to, you are conveniently told that your computer is at risk of obtaining a virus if you proceed further.

Why can't we just let the river flow? Why must we clamp a dam on it? Development, they say. Certainly development at the cost of a minority of the 'greater common good'.

Candice Rozario
III BA English Literature

Reference

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Reflections

It never fails to surprise me, as to how a dictionary can make even the most complex matters that exist, look so awfully trivial. Allow me my denials! The reason be this – A deceptively simple definition:

‘FOOD SECURITY: The availability of food and one’s access to it.’

Ironic, how two of the most elusive parameters feature here - availability and access.

While suitably making use of facts, statistics reveal that over 2 billion people are intermittently affected by food insecurity, while 852 million suffer from chronic hunger worldwide. Trying to verbally describe the misery and pain these people undergo, might be impossible. But as a result of some serious introspection, coupled with sadness, I write this. The young mother who clutches her severely malnourished child, finding herself incapable of feeding the dying infant; the littlest infants who battle the blistering heat of Africa’s deserts to reach a food camp, the thousands of farmers in India who seek death to liberate them from the shackles of poverty and lack – need an answer.

For now, it is but imperative to note that famine and hunger are rooted in the absence of food security.

While many global and national organizational and governmental policies have been drafted, amended and laid down, their effectiveness, however is questionable.

It does not take very long to realise the fact that , these solutions remain hypothetical and invalid, when it comes to implementation – solely because the gravity of the situation and the whole truth has not reached the many of us, who fortunately, face no such lack.

The hardest thing in life is this – facing reality. Lost in a milieu of political and literary imbroglia, with a preponderance of vain babblings – ‘slogans’ and ‘solutions’, which although are often significant, are rendered useless due to a lack in sincerity and

constancy of purpose. The need then arises, for yet a little more exhortation to implement the solutions, than for a solution itself.

The facts are evident for all to see. The question now is... will I respond?

Now, may I surmise your answer is yes? Then, you’re on the right track. As for an answer to the impending question of ‘What must I do?’ I have this to say “Seek and you shall find”.

Nevertheless, having said this much, I wish to state a few things all of us can do – small things – howbeit, that can still contribute immensely to propagate and ensure ‘access’ and ‘availability’ to those around us.

Five words suffice. REALISE, BE AWARE, STOP, SAVE & SHARE.

Realise the fact that, we have been blessed... so much, as to be assured of the next meal on our platter. Those who have carved a niche for themselves- through reforms and deeds, all began with this one phenomenon; realisation – of the abundance they had; of the lack others faced; of the need to respond, to reach out and to reclaim.

Cognizance of the fact, that not a thing can deprive us of our right to accessing clean, safe and healthy food. Without this awareness, nothing significant can be accomplished, because the truth is, that while many suffer due to lack, there are many others who are limited by an even dangerous foe – ‘Ignorance’. Undeniable is the fact that we all waste food. The next time you saunter into the kitchen with your plate of uneaten food simply because you found it unappetizing, STOP. This action of yours has indirectly deprived a child, somewhere in the world, of a meal that she gets to eat only once in many days; deprived a mother of the nutrition she needs to feed her newly begotten child, or even a young toddler in your own city, who lives on leftovers from the garbage pile.

What goes around comes around. If we have purposed within ourselves to just let things be, the day will soon arrive when we will be sorry. Abundance is now a thing of the past. Resources are running out. Be it electricity, fuel, money or FOOD,

may it be spent carefully. Only requiring some conscious effort, the benefits are indeed tangible!

Finally, learn to SHARE. If words can speak, I am told, actions speak louder. But I believe they can even silence words – because your example of sharing creates a sort of burden in others, to act accordingly, and hence help put the solutions into action and not merely talk of them. This is the point after which, words become redundant. This was

meant to exhort the reader to act. I believe this will not terminate here, as mere literary stasis, but will in a small way, be a tool, to effect that quick and radical change—which is right ahead of us, if not for our own self-imposed barricades .

Christina J
II M Sc Mathematics

The Second Element

500 years ago, an Ojibwa man led his people west, guided by a vision of a floating seashell, to a sacred place called the Miigis, nestled in between Lake Michigan and Lake Huron. To the east, a Nootka sculptor carves out the figure of an orca whale his tribe calls Eah-toop, believing that the universe lay on the back of it. In the north, when the summer comes and the sea begins to melt, an Inuit boy will clutch his unaq and begin to prove his worth as a hunter, but more importantly, a man. And down south, not too long ago, the Quileute people faced the risk of being swallowed by an ocean that was also their livelihood as a tsunami warning swept the coastal areas of the United States.

Water in all its forms, lakes, ponds oceans and seas, and the creatures that live in it have a great part in shaping American and Canadian Indian culture and livelihood. To the tribes that lived in the dusty, scorching plains of the west, it was an extremely precious commodity. To others, like the Hopi, it was used as an integral part of religious and important tribal ceremonies, believing they could be drawn in its ‘life giving powers’. It features heavily in creation stories; with characters like the salmon, the killer whale and even the water serpent all playing a part. The Cowichan have a tale that resembles Noah’s Ark; when the world was young and dreams of a flood troubled a wise man, they built a thousand canoes and joined them together to make a raft to save themselves. The thousands who had refused to pay heed to his words stayed on the land and were drowned, but the ones on raft, few as they were, lived. They went down to the lands beneath Mount Cowichan and settled there, and so mankind began

again. Ironically, other tribes believe it will be a flood that brings the apocalypse, flooding the world until there is nothing left.

The Haida have their own stories to tell about the water, about the creation of the skaana , the whale in particular. Natsaqlane was a young warrior who was lost in a storm while out hunting with the other warriors. He tried searching for them, but all he found was a huge log that he began to carve in the shape of a whale. He carried it to ocean and watched it disappear beneath the waves. Natsaqlane whispered a prayer, over and over, and suddenly, from its depths, emerged a killer whale. Natsaqlane rode home to his people and safety.

In a Cherokee naming ceremony, a new born is passed over a sacred fire and then immersed in water before being blessed. The element of water was held in high esteem; it was believed that it could strengthen and purify an individual’s character.

It’s often said that the tribe believes the Earth was once a giant island surrounded by seawater. A water spider emerged from it, carrying fire to the inhabitants of the island, and then went back down, pushing the soft mud of the ocean bed up towards the surface until it spread out in all directions, creating the earth.

To the first people of America, nature has always been important. Water wasn’t just a part of storytelling, trade or an occupation; it was a symbol of life itself.

Hafsa Badshah
I BA English

Seasons & Environment

Five year old Rubin played football with his friends on the road. There was a gentle breeze which freed the last hanging leaf from the branch of the maple tree. It came floating down and rested on the tar road lying serenely among its counterparts, which had sadly undergone a premature death. The football came rolling and crushed them all. Rubin loved the rustle and the crunch of the autumn leaves and the picturesque sight of the bare trees.

Not far away, in another part of the world, Mary pulled her shawl tighter around her and walked quickly wishing she could hug herself closer. The wintry gust of the season made her face go pink. She broke into a run hoping that it would warm her up.

Ramu, the crow, had lived on the same tree for fifteen years and Oh! He was old and wise too. He just knew when it was time to build a new nest. His wife his fourth - was too young to understand that. He kept pecking her harder to make her build the nest faster. She just did not understand! Soon the flowers would bloom and the smell of fresh grass would

tease the air. She had to lay the eggs before that. Ramu had always wanted more chicks. His previous wives never understood that. They insisted on Ramu following a family planning programme. But Ramu ended up divorcing them instead. He had always wanted more chicks and what better time of the year, than spring to be born in! That was the best time of the year, his old heart insisted. Wasn't that the best environment for a child?

Alan ran on the beach enjoying the summer sun. He hoped he would get a tan. He could show off to his friends at school. He had spent the better part of his summer vacation swimming!

Ramya was searching all over her house for the newspaper. Where could it have gone? The doorbell had rung exactly at seven and Pluto, her dog had ran to collect it. She had not seen it since. And, where was Pluto? Outside, there was gentle rain which was slowly picking up momentum. Ah! The age old days, when she was a kid, how she used to enjoy dancing in the rain! She heard shouts of pleasure go up when there was a loud clap of thunder. Who was outside? The scene outside solved the mystery of the lost newspaper. Her cousins Rose and Ash were making paper boats and sailing them on a stream of rain water while Pluto was chasing them. A contented smile appeared on her face when Ramya saw their happiness.

And that was all ten years ago.

Fifteen year old Rubin is not allowed to play in the streets anymore. He can play only on the fields which are surrounded by compound walls as high as the sky, with a watchman at the gate. His parents feel insecure about him playing on the roads as he could be kidnapped.

Mary could no longer stand the winter. The hurricane-like-winds blew trees over and blocked the roads. Anything she did did not stop her teeth from chattering, due to the cold.

Ramu, twenty five and going strong could no longer find a spouse. They jointly complained against him for wanting so many children. His wives filed for divorce. "How the world has changed!" Ramu shuddered.



Alan could no longer think of the beach. He could get a sun stroke, not just a tan. The Sun was heating up a degree a minute, all thanks to – what is it called? – Global Warming! “I have never heard of something like that when I was young” thought Alan.

Ramya was nine months pregnant, happily married and all, but could never stop worrying! The news was filled with sad details of the devastation the floods had caused. Children were wading through floating objects to reach safer areas. Gone were the days they had made paper boats for fun. Now, they had to make real boats to survive. “What kind of a world is my child going to enter?” pondered Ramya.

The changing seasons have created an environment that makes people insecure about their survival. This has changed people to exploit the environment. Physically and ethically we have down graded from bad to worse to worst. Will we go any farther? Will help come at the right time? I guess we are forgetting that the answer is in our hands.

Pooja R Rayasam
III BSc Zoology

Where Malthus went wrong

As economists, we are all taught the two core concepts on which the entire theory is built on – demand and supply. Yet, it is true that most theorists ignored their combined influences on the subject as they developed their ideologies, giving excess weightage to either supply or demand.

A careful analysis of Malthus’ population doctrine, a model we have all been taught, leads to a similar conclusion.

Hunger, famine and food insecurity have become pressing problems for most developing nations all over the world. The global food crisis revealed that even the developed nations were not entirely insulated from this problem. This is very similar to the theory of impending doom for human survival put forth by Malthus. So why critique it?

When the world population reached the 7 billion

mark in October last year, there was much talk of the revival of Malthusianism. It is no doubt the population is growing much faster than optimal. This would, in fact, indicate many more hungry mouths to feed. This constitutes the demand aspect of this challenge. Famous Neo-Malthusians, like Paul Ehrlich talk of the demand outstripping supply in his famous book, *The Population Bomb*. However, if we were to believe that supply is so minimal, why would there be wastage? Should grains be rotting in warehouses, if they weren’t available in abundance?

It is here that a careful understanding of the population problem is necessary. It is not an issue of demand being in excess of supply, but one of distributional inefficiencies. Amartya Sen clearly articulates this concept in his works on famine, and explains how Condorcet, Malthus’ teacher had a better understanding of the population problem.

Relating these classical economists to the neo-liberal agenda currently being pursued, it is incredible how we have begun to revisit Malthus and agree with his ideologies. From the broad negation of all things Malthusian about half a decade ago, we have



moved towards agreement of his schemes of reduced social security and poor laws. We have begun to hail his rules as the way forward, and followers like Garrett Hardin have used this stage to suggest private property solutions to all problems.

Constantly arguing for the reduced supply, the Malthusian framework has laid the base for large agricultural business corporations mushrooming in different parts of the South advocating unsustainable agriculture that leads to inequality and destruction. Companies like Monsanto and Cargill use this 'excess-demand' debate to introduce genetically modified crops into several nations.

If we really did not have enough, why do nations in the South still continue to export to the North instead of feeding their expanding population? Why do lands meant for cultivating staples go towards production of cash crops? Why aren't measures taken to reduce the price of food to ensure affordability? Why do we still talk of targeting schemes like the Public Distribution System when there should in fact be universality?

Let us consider the case of India. We have all heard the story of how many tonnes of grain went to waste at the several storehouses around the country. At the same time, we also read reports stating how badly off India was on the Global Hunger Index, in comparison to African nations. This discrepancy

shows that there is a lot more to this issue than just demand. Unless national policy works towards ensuring better transportation and reduced prices of grain in markets, there will always be an inadequacy of supply. The changes in policy cannot be ushered in easily due to strong market forces and its proponents deeply entrenched within the system.

The first step involves recognising that there are problems that need management, and working with the market to fix them is only a temporary solution. Food aid and NGO intervention are emergency mechanisms and are not meant for long term nation building. The real requirements involve questioning the current market-dominant system and understanding the totality of issues requiring long-term fixes.

In conclusion, to address the challenges of food security and hunger, concentration should be laid on not just Malthus, but others like Condorcet, who recognised that education, particularly of women and better conservation efforts could help to steer a nation away from this impending crisis. In addition, economists should be taught to question every model, as that alone could lead to alternative development strategies for facing some of the biggest challenges in the world today.

Aparna Ananthakrishnan
Alumna, Department of Economics



Irom Sharmila – The Unheard Soul

The year 2000 was a dreadful one for the people of Manipur. The incident better known as the ‘Malom Massacre’ happened on 2 November that year. On 1 November 2000 the Paramilitary Unit of Assam known as Assam Rifles was attacked by a group of insurgents. In retaliation to this offense, the army shot ten civilians at a bus stand in Malom. They justified this cold blooded barbaric act by claiming that the innocent people were killed when they were in an encounter with the insurgents. This day saw the awakening of a crusader who did not need a sensation-obsessed media to support her solemn fight against the repealing of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958(AFSPA).

The AFSPA gives the army officials the power to arrest or kill anyone whom they ‘suspect’ to be doing an offense. The act, in addition to this, prohibits any legal action taken against army personnel without prior sanction of the central government. This form of dictatorship has led to deprivation of people’s freedom. Thus, the state has become a victim of torture, rape, ‘arbitrary detentions’, etc. Quoting Irom Sharmila, “I was shocked to see the dead bodies. There was no means to stop further violations by the armed forces.....It (fast) is the most effective way because it is based on a spiritual fight...My fast is on behalf of the people of Manipur. This is not a personal battle, it is symbolic. It is a symbol of truth, love and peace.” On 4 November, 2000 she took her mother Shakti Devi’s blessings and initiated the ‘Bhook Hartal’ on the site where the massacre took place.

Eleven years of her sincere efforts goes unrecognised while a 98-hour fast by a 74-year old individual becomes the ‘breaking news’ of every Indian television news channel. Both these individuals with paramount will power had the same objective – to lead the country in the right path. But the former’s voice has gone unheard. The reason is mainly due to the perception of the people as to what is important and what is not. The Indian middle-class can relate more to corruption which is better understood than the fight for the repeal of a martial law. Irom Sharmila has been in and out of the prison for the

past eleven years on grounds of committing suicide. The ‘Iron Lady’ of Manipur has been force-fed through a nasal tube for eleven years. Although the court has asked her to break her fast, her only reply would be – “Fast thodolokai?”(No, I won’t break my fast). Shouldn’t she get the recognition she deserves? The government, in 2004, constituted a committee to review the AFSPA act. However no consensus has been reached on the issue. A civil society organisation said, “She is a common citizen just like every other citizen of India – another face in the crowd. Her struggle is not just to liberate Manipur; it is to restore democracy in this country. So whether it is humanity or patriotism that calls you, support Irom and her struggle. Save this democracy.” Hence it is essential to stand by this pro Gandhian follower and help her get justice.

Depressing Delicious Sight

Late at night
I heard a call, or
Rather a cry from my own stomach.
I’m awake in the infinite cold,
Beside my poor starving little sister,
Without a single crust of bread
To feed the motherless poor being,
Walked we both through the dark
To make her comfort somewhere.

Hunger made her tiny water-filled eyes close,
Starvation lulled my little princess
To a disturbed slumber

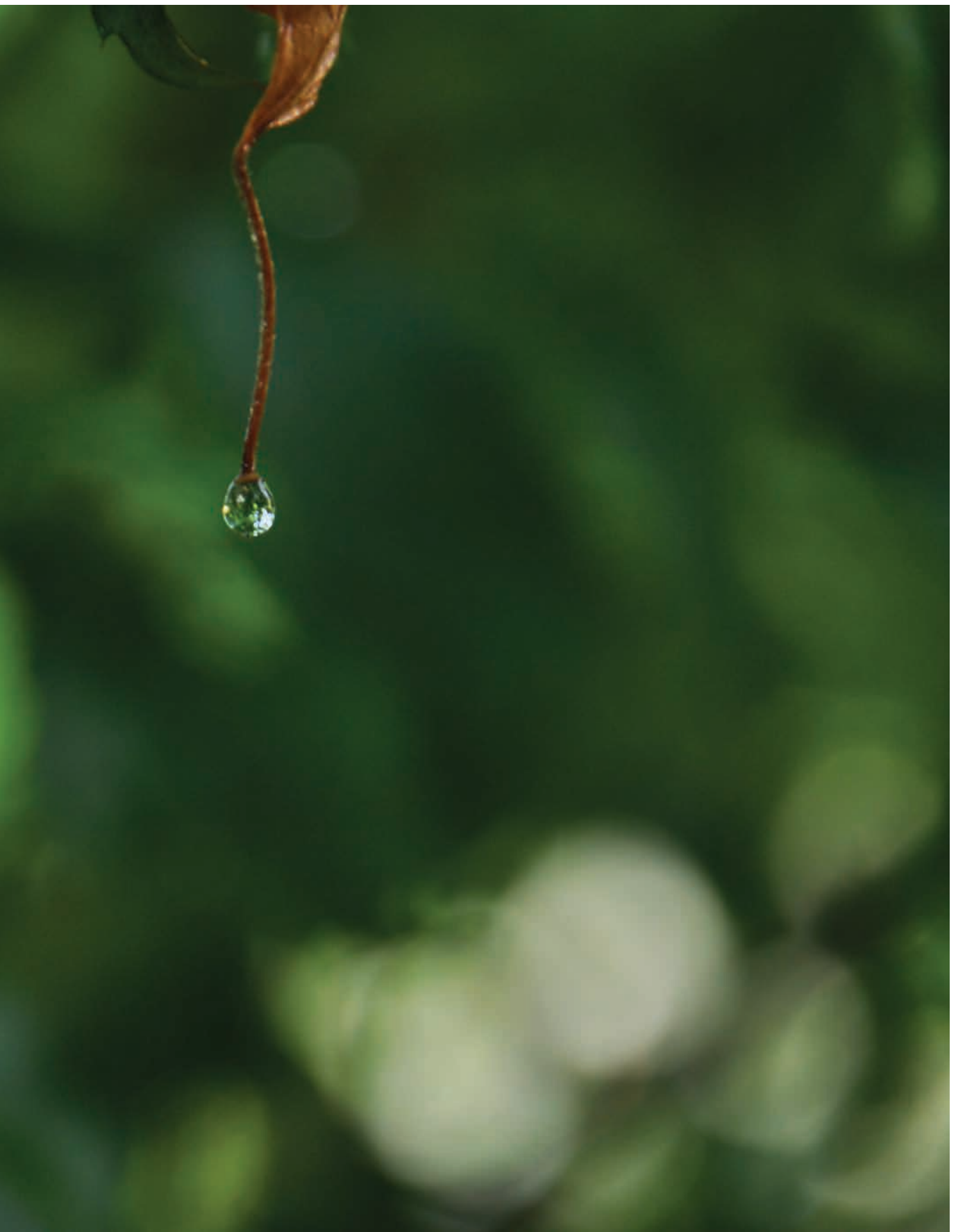
Do you know what made my tears cascade down my face?

T’was the heap of nice flavoured and
Coloured dishes piled up in the street bin!

Who cares about us?
When will our society change?
Will there be a change?

“ I wont cry, because if I cry,
I’ll lose the only water I have.”

Shruthy S Raj
II BA English



Eliot's Influence

In this season of life
I am your new Muse
My brownness, Thirdness, Ignorance
Offered like a sacrifice
At the altar of your white sensitivity

So I submit to your lens
Docile – like a shy Indian bride
A new victim – oh forgive me
A new subject
Bravo! Most sensitive photographer of the year

Sensitive photographers crave better misery
Sensitivity – a Parisian influence
Art.
Leaves of this season
drop and slither
crushed under the boots of frigid winters
charred by burning summers
I will be hidden forever
In the crevices of your shame

Toxic streams of fury
will annihilate your subjectivity
In a novel and a nebulous world
I will be born again
Your films will shrivel up
My identity too large for your frame

Elizabeth Rahel George
III BA English

A journey through time

A journey defined
with shades and phases,
a monotonous repetition of harvest and death;
of blossoms and snow.
A constant creak of the ceaseless cycle –
Of a perceived growth; of his life.

Life journeys through Time
whispering the secret of unity,
Of space and matter, of life and death;
Of solidity and frailty –
Expressed to the orb;
a canvas, an empty mural – encapsulated; suspended;
in the skies.

The world
a silent, silent observer
with a variegated expression
remains conflicted in its endless manifestations.

The environment
a celebration of the temporal;
of the constant flux; of the constant change
translated into landscapes
into a finer, bolder expression.
The expression of the Intelligence,
That chooses to speak

Even to the perception challenged races;
that can only see limited beauty
that which can never perceive the unthinkable, -
the unimaginable
and is left speechless; wordless –
for the incomparable is always
a challenge; a non-equivalent.

And here we are –
Blinded and disconnected
with arrogance; with disillusioned views,
thinking it is possible to restore Nature
when it is all a play, a game
and who would lose?

The player that knows not he is but a player?
And after the game the journey shall go on
with his life passing through Time
with endless peaks and silent valleys
and hungry oceans lapping at the shores.

Apeeta Ravi
II MA English

ख्वाई

अंधेरी रात में एक पुकार सुनाई दी
नहीं, वह और किसी आदमी का नहीं था,
मेरे पेट की भूख की पुकार थी वह।
रात की सर्दी भी भयंकर
और नहीं था कोई सहारा
मैं और मेरी छोटी बहन
एक दूसरे से चिपककर
ठिठुर रहे थे सर्दी के रात में।
रोटी का एक तुकड़ा भी नहीं था,
नहीं थी एक भी कोमल दिल की करुण
छाया,
रात के अंधकार में,
चल रहे थे हम अकेले,
कौन पूछेगा, किसको ख्याल है हमारा?
मेरी आँखों से वह रही है आसूँ,
क्या जानोगे उसकी कहानी ?
जब देखते हैं हम कूड़े में खाना,
जलता है पेट हमारा
जब कोई नहीं आता है उसे बुझाने,
आसूँ बहाते हैं हम,
उसे ठंडा करते हैं हम।
पर मैं आगे रोऊँगी नहीं
क्योंकि बहुत रोना हो गया है
और आसूँ मेरे सूख गए हैं।

-10/UELA/064
SHRUTI S. RAJ

पुकार

भुखमारी मनुष्य की स्वार्थता का परिणाम है
हर जगह सुनायी दे रहा है करुण पुकार
असहाय गरीब बच्चों का
और उनके खाली पेट का।

जब हर जगह मच रहा है शोर,
हे मनुष्य, तुम क्यों अपने कान बंध कर बैठे
हो?

अब समय आ गया है
खुलकर दान करने का
खाली थाली और पेट भराने का।

जरूरत नहीं है सिर्फ भोजन की
पर शांति अहिंसा और समानता की भी।
दो उन्हें, जिन्हें जरूरत है,
एक छोटी सी मुस्कान तो फैलाओ उनके
चेहरे पर
भगवान तुम्हारे ऊपर कृपा करेगा।

-10/UHSA/034
Sr. SINDHU

बर्बादी

बर्बादी,
हर जगह खाना की बर्बादी!

हे भगवान,
लोग समझ क्यों नहीं रहे हैं?
महंगा हो गया है खाना

मुश्किल हो गया है इसे पाना
सबसे बड़ा पाप है
इसे बर्बाद करना।

लोग दिन-रात करते हैं,
खून-पसीना एक करते हैं,
नींद और सपना भूल जाते हैं
सिर्फ दो दाने पाने के लिए।
हमें मिला है एक बड़ा वर्दान
भूल न जाएँ हम इसे
भरे पेट को जो खाली है
और पीड़ित है भुखमारी से।
हँसी फैलाएँ,
खुशी फैलाएँ,
धरती पर
मानवता से।

-10/UELA/028
G. LINDA

गरीबी

जीवन के हैं तीन निशान
रोटी, कपडा, और मकान।
पर जिसे न मिलते ये अनुदान,
वे ही कहलाते हैं गरीब इनसान।
ईश्वर की बनायी इस दुनिया में,
जब सारे जीवन कहलाते हैं समान,
फिर क्यों धन-वैभव असमान?
यदि मनुष्य अपने कर्मों का ही फल पाता है
तो क्यों एक धनी और एक गरीब कहलाता

है?
गरीबी का है यह आलम,
मनुष्य अपराधी बन जाता है।
अपनी भूख मिटाने को वह सभी दुष्कर्म कर
जाता है।
बिलख-बिलख कर रो रहे बच्चे,
माँ आसूँ पी रह जाती है,
यह गरीबी भी उस खुदा का देन
कह वह भी चुप हो जाती है।
मेरे मन में यह प्रश्न उठता है,
है सृष्टिकर्ता।
दुनिया की खूब नसीब बनाई तुमने,
एक अमीर और एक गरीब।

-10/UBTA/040
YASHMIN

उठी और लड़ी न्याय के लिए

चावल खेत में उगता है
किसान खेत में काम करता है
हाय, जो उसे उगाता है
वह खुद उसे खरीद नहीं सकता है।
जिनके पास है, वे उसका महत्व नहीं जानते
हैं
जो उसका महत्व जानते हैं, वे जीवन भर
उसके लिए
तरसते रह जचाते हैं।
हम सब जानते हैं कि यह अन्याय है।
फिर भी झगड़ते नहीं न्याय पाने के लिए।

उठे, अभी तो उठे
और लड़ो न्याय के लिए।
तभी खत्म होगा इन निरपराध लोगों की
पीड़ा
और बनेगा भविष्य भी अच्छा हमारा।

-10/UHSA/001
SHALINI

कुछ करें...

खाना है जीवन-शक्ति का स्रोत
पर कहाँ मिलता है वह आजकल ?
क्या अमीर ही हैं अधिकारी अच्छे जीवन का
और क्या गरीब लोग हैं जानवर ?

क्यों है यह भेदभाव मनुष्यों में?
हज़ारों में लोग भर रहे हैं
दिन-रात भुखमारी से
क्या हम में बचा नहीं है कोई अच्छा
जो भरातवासी हो सच्चा?

हम मैएं भाई-भाई
फिर क्यों है इतनी दुश्मनी?
करें हम कुछ हिम्मत के साथ
मिटाए देश से भुखमारी।

-10/UELBTA/028
RESHAM PAUL

बरबादी

बरबादी
बरबादी !!
हर जगह उसकी बरबादी !!
सिर्फ बरबादी ही बरबादी हो रही है।
हे भगवान !
लोग ऐसा क्यों कर रहे है।
क्या लोगों को पता नहीं है, कि वह कितना
अनमोल है।
जिसके लिए हम सारी जिंदगी काम करते
है...
खून-पसीना एक करते हैं।
जिसके लिए हम पैदा होते है।
दूसरे लोगों के बारे में सोचो,
और नहीं ही अपने,
यह एक छोटी-सी कृपा है मेरी।
क्या रहे है, मैं कहने क्या जा रही हूँ?
और क्या! “खाना मत बरबाद कीजिए”
चाहिए तो भूखे पेट और सूखे गलों को
खाना दीजिए।

-10/UELA/028
G. LINDA

भारत की आवाज

खाना खाना खाते हैं
पानी, पानी पीते हैं,
घर के खाने से पालन-पोषण होता है।
बाहर के खाने से बीमारी का पालन-पोषण
होता है।

पान भगवान का उपहार ह
 पर अभी बूँद-बूँद बिक रही है।
 किसान के पसीने से आया है अनाज
 पर उसका मज़ा उठा रहे हैं, अमीर आज।
 पेट भरने के लिए सुबह-सुबह भागते हैं।
 पर आज के संसार में परिश्रम का फल ही
 नहीं मिल रहा है।
 सब्ज़ी-पानी का दाम भी ज़्यादा सा।
 क्या करेंगे बिचारे लोग?
 छोटा-छोटा मुन्ना माँ के दूध के लिए रोता
 है,
 पर हमारा संसार भारतमाता से होता है।
 खाना नहीं मिल रहा है सुबह-रात में,
 जीवन खत्म हो जाता है, बिना कोई कारण
 के
 ईश्वर से दुआ करें
 करुण्यता से सहाय करें।

-10/UBTA/022
 V.S. LEENA

भूख क्या है?

भूख एक भारी चट्टान है,
 जिसके नीचे पीसता मजबूर है।
 भूख एक ठंडी बर्फ है,
 जिससे काँपता गरीब है।
 भूख एक ज्वालामुखी है।
 जो निगलती है किसानों को।
 भूख एक जहरीली नागिन है,
 जो निगलती है किसानों को।
 भूख एक जहरीली नागिन है,

जा इसत ह दुभाग्या का।
 भूख वह नोकिली तलवार है,
 जो चीरती हर उम्मीद को।
 भूख वह कारण है,
 जो डाकू और चोर बनाती सज्जन को,
 खुश नसीब है वे सभी,
 जिन्होंने देखी न भूख कभी
 दुख तो वो भी नहीं,
 जिसने माना जिन्दगी को समझौता कभी

-10/UECA/053
 NIKITA CHIRIPAL

भूखमरी

एक दस साल का लड़का था
 सूर्योदय पर घर से निकलता
 दाबे पर चाय बनाकर
 बाकी लोगों को खिलाता
 मालिक की बिल्ली दूध पीती
 लड़के पर भूख की पीड़ा बीतती
 रात को शीतल हवा उसे बहलाये
 ठिठुरता लड़का चलता जाये
 रास्ते में रोशनी दिखी
 खड़ा वह दरवाज़े पर
 देखे खिड़की
 अंदर सब मुस्कुराये
 खाना-पानी, गरम पीये
 हँसते-हँसते जीवन बीते
 अनाज का सुख यह लोग लेते
 वह दस साल का लड़का था
 भूखमरी शायद उसके नसीब का हिस्सा था।

-10/UECA/048
 VARSHA THOMAS

हरियाली परै हमला

खेत थे मेरे हरे-भरे
चारों ओर फैली थी हरियाली
दूर-दूर तक उसके बिना
और कुछ नहीं था
खिल उठे थे फूल और अनाज
पर अब उठीं हैं यह बड़ी सी इमारत,
जो दोनों आँख और मन को देती है दर्द
क्या होगा हमारा
कोई हमारी सुनता नहीं है
हम भरते हैं उनका पेट
क्या वह लोग कुछ नहीं कर सकते
हमारा पेट भरने के लिए?
क्या वापस मिलेगी मुझे मेरी धरती
क्या फिर से उगा पाऊँगा, मैं अपना
अनाज?
दया करो
दया करो

-10/UPHA/46
K. ANIKA

अराजकता

अराजकता और भुखमरी
कहानी है यह खरी-खरी।
जहाँ हैं एक, वहीं है दूजा
एक गाँव में एक था चोर
हाथों में थी परिवार की डोर।
हर गोदाम, अन्न का, खाली

खोली थी बैच्चों की थोली।
चोरी करने पे मजबूर
भुखमरी का था कसूर
अन्न के लिये वे था लाचार
सौ बीमार और बस एक अनार?
बूढ़ी माँ को अस्पताल ले जाता
औषधि क्या, अन्न भी न खिला पाता।
चोरी करता था बेचारा
पेट का मारा, मन का हारा।
एक दिन पकड़ा ही गया वो
असहायों का सहारा था जो।
अराजकता का कारण है चोरी
पर क्या नसीब है इन्हें अन्न की बोरी ?
गरीब की यह कहानी खरी-खरी
अराजकता का असली कारण है भुखमरी

-10/UECA/021
SHRAVANI JOSHI

भूख की चीख

सड़क पे चलते हुए
मैंने लड़की को सिसकते हुए देखा।
वह खाने के लिए भीख माँग रही थी,
मेरी नज़र कचड़े में बरबाद खाने पर पड़ी,
और मेरे मन में यह विचार आया—

यह गम्भीर समस्या है।
दाने-दाने के लिये आदमी, औरत और
बच्चा रोता है!
खाने में है खाली थाली,

पेट घूम रहे हैं खाली-खाली।
खेत में हल चलाते हैं,
बाप का बोझ उठाते हैं
यब बच्चे हैं छोटे-छोटे,
पर किस्मत के सिक्रे बड़े खोटे।

वर्षा के इंतजार में,
इस भूख भरे संसार में
इनकी चीखें बढ़ती जाती हैं।
अब, कोई सुनता भी नहीं।

-10/UECA/062
NIYATHA ALEXANDER

निर्जीव

खिड़की के बाहर मेरी नजर गई,
और सूखे, बेजान ज़मीन पर पड़ी।
यह खेत जो अर्से पहले हरे थे,
हमारा पेट भरते थे,
अब पड़े हैं बेजान, मुझाये हुए,
मेरी माँ की तरह।
जो भूख-प्यास से तड़पती रही,
दर्द के भँवर में जूझती रही।
किसी ने उसकी चीख न सुनी,
अब संसार भी करता है भूख की समस्या
को अनसुनी।

-10/UECA/060
AMIE MERIAM MATHEWS

अनाज की तंगी

अनाज भगवान का आशीर्वाद है।
जो गरीब बर्तन में जमा करते हैं।
किसान हर साल बारिश का इंतज़ार करते हैं
जिसके द्वारा वे एक बीज बोते हैं।
अमीर एक भोजन के लिए एक विनम्रता है
और एक के साथ अपने फ्रिज में अंडे स्टोर
करते हैं।

यह एक स्वादिष्ट आइसक्रीम स्कूप
या कुछ स्वस्थ सूप।
अमीर सभी का एक हिस्सा है
अनाज भगवान का आशीर्वाद है।
अगर आप के पास काफी है प्रभु के
आभारी रहो।

-10/UHSA/010
RASHINDA

पापी पेट

हाय यह पापी पेट
राक्षस - सा है यह बैठ
न है दाना, न है खेत
क्या यही है हमारे लिए भगवान का भेंट ?
हम मारते हैं भूख को
न जीव-जन्तू को!
तो किस बात की यह है सजा ?
क्यों है आप हम से खफ़ा ?
जब जेब में न हो आता
तो कहाँ से आएगा खाना ?

सूरज की हर किरण से जागती है उम्मीद
किंतु चंद्रमा की रोशनी में लिपटे है गरीब।।

-10/UECA/058
SANJANA SINGH

भुखमरी

जहाँ मैं देखूँ वहाँ भुखमरी
कई वर्षा से थे हुई गयी है।
जिस लोग को खाना नहीं होती
उसको पहचान भुखमरी का प्रधान।
आज की लोग जितना पैसा कमाया
मगर उससे दूसरे को सहायता नहीं मिलता
अमीर और गरीब
इस संसार में रखता है।
कोई दूरा के गर्व नहीं जूताता
अंत में किसी ने मरते थे।
चार और पाँच मनुष्यों शव को
आग की श्मशान की पहुँचाने के लिए आते
हैं।
भूख और प्यास से
मनुष्य क्यों जिता है।
इस गर्व को पूछने के लिए
इस दुनिया में कोई नहीं है।
छोटा बच्चा रोते-रोते अपनी
माँ से खाना दे, भूख लगी है।
मखर माँ कहती है,
कुछ नहीं है, बस भुखमरी है।

-10/UCHA/002
MARY JANE B.T.M.

भूख

भूख, भूख, भूख।
अकाल और पीड़ा का दुःख।।
किसी को मिलती एक वक्त की रोटी।
और कोई खा रहा है टिक्का-बोटी।।

अमीर के घर है अनाज का भंडार।
और देते हैं वे बड़ी-बड़ी दावतें दमदार।।
गरीब का दिन गुज़रता है करके मेहनत।
और भूखे पेट सोना है उसकी किस्मत।।

हल चला चलाकर होता है अन्न उत्पन्न।
जिसे कुछ लोग खरीद लेते हैं देकर अपना
धन।।
अमीरों का क्या है, खरीद लेते हैं भगवान
को भी।
गरीबों से पूछो, उनका तो भगवान भी है
अन्न ही।।

भूख, भूख, भूख।
अकाल और पीड़ा का दुःख।।

-10/UHSA/018
TSNEEM F.2

क्यामत से पहले

आजकी दुनिया में सब कुछ क्षणभंगुर है।
शायद हम उस सीमा को छोड़ निकले हैं।
जहाँ निदान संभव था।
प्रकृति के ऐश्वर्य पर विलास करने के हमारे

दिन लद गए
क्योंकि हमने संसाधनों को नष्ट कर अपने
विनाश को बुलावा दिया है।

पहले खाद्य और पानी की कमी न थी
क्योंकि प्रकृति हमारी साथी थी।
किंतु आज स्थिति गंभीर है।
शुद्ध खाना और पानी पाना दुःसाध्य है।
अप्राकृतिक तत्व और
वे जान पर खड़ा किया बखेड़ा।

अब भी जागो
प्रकृति को बचाओ, मनुष्यों सुधर जाओ।
नहीं तो कल तुम्हारे लिए होगा दुःसाध्य
पानी होगा और न खाद्य।।

-10/UECA/013
SNEHA SRINIVASAN



बच्चा

पाँच साल का बच्चा,
कूड़े-कचरे के बाजू रहता
उसका न कोई बाप है और न माँ
कई दिनों से उसने न कुछ खाया है न पिया
है

वह खाने के लिए,
न जाने कहाँ कहाँ भटकता
कभी लोगों के घरों के सामने
तो कभी सड़क पर चलते हुए लोगों,
के पीछे-पीछे जाकर
हर एक खाने के दुकान के सामने बैठकर,
खाने को देखकर

आँखों से अपने पेट को पूरा करने की
कोशिश करता है
परंतु वह यह भी करार से नहीं कर सकता
क्योंकि उसे कहाँ से भगाया जाता था।

भूख के मारे वह चिल्ला-चिल्लाकर रोता है
कुछ लोग उस पर तरस करते हैं
तो कुछ लोगों को लगता है कि
वह ढोंग कर रहा है
कुछ लोग उसे मार-मारकर चुप करते हैं।

रास्ते पर खाते हुए लोगों को देखकर
उसका दिल भर आता है
पर वह न कुछ बोल या पूछ सकता है
खाए बिना,
वह इतना थक चुका था की,
वह रास्ते पर बेजान पड़कर,
सो जाता है।

दूसरे दिन
एक थानेदार, रास्ते पर सोते हुए
एक छोटे से बच्चे को
लकड़ी से मार-मारकर
उठाने की कोशिश करता है।

पर वह पाँच साल का बच्चा कैसे उठेगा,
वह उस बदसूरत दुनिया को
हमेशा-हमेशा के लिए
अलविदा बोलकर चला ही गया।

-10/UPHA/050
AYESHA SIDDIQU



रोटी का मूल्य

तीन चीज़ है इंसान की ज़रूरत,
रोटी, कपड़ा और मकान
पर आज इंसान ही रो रहा है,
रोटी के लिए, करके इंतजार।

भटके यहाँ से वहाँ
करे मेहनत रात और दिन
पर जुटा न पाए रोटी वो
रहे भूख न खाए वो दिन भर।

अमीर न जाने खाने का मूल्य,
पर एक गरीब के लिए है,
रोटी सबसे बढ़कर
न करो उसे बरबाद पर,
दे सको दो एक रोटी किसी गरीब को।

-10/UBTA/045
MONICA LOUIS

लेखक संपादक

गरीबी की रेखा के ऊपर बैठे लोग ही
पूरा हिस्सा खा जाते हैं
इसलिए ही नीचे वाले
नहीं उठ पाते ऊपर
कहीं अधिक नीचे दब जाते हैं।

गरीबी रेखा के ऊपर बसता है भारत,
नीचे भारत के दर्शन हो जाते हैं।

शायद इसलिए बुद्धिजीवी अब
इंडिया शब्द का करते हैं इस्तेमाल
भारत कहते हुए शर्माते हैं।

-10/USCA/041
DAYANA V.

मेरी तेरी और उन सबकी बात

सपने देखती थी वो मानो अंधेरा उसकी दुनिया
थी
लेकिन आँखें खुलते ही उसकी वास्तविकता
एक कड़वी सच्चाई थी।
लोग कहते हैं रोशनी है जिंदगी की उमंग,
डोर है इसके हाथ में, लेकिन जीवन उसकी
एक कटी पतंग।
नींद की गोद ही उसके जिन्दगी का अकेला
सहारा था,
क्योंकि सुबह का सूरज उसे उसके भूख की
याद दिलाता था।

उसका परिवार करता खेत में मेहनत, हमारी
भूख मिटाने के लिए,
उनकी भूख मिटाएगी कोई, अगर नहीं तो ये
कैसे जिए?
भूख सिर्फ पेट की नहीं, दया की भूख
सहानुभूति और स्नेह की भूख, आत्मसम्मान
की भूख।
जीवन की चुनौतियों से परिवार हुआ परेशान
इसीलिए मौत को गले लगाना समझा उन्होंने
आसान।

कहने को तो सिर्फ एक लड़की की कहानी है,
लेकिन सच में यह हज़ारों किसानों की
दुखभरी जिंदगानी है।

-10/UECA/052
MAHIMA SASHANK

भूख

हम खाना खाते हैं,
क्योंकि वह अच्छा लगता है,
मगर हम यह भूल जाते हैं,
की वह हमारी भूख मिटाती है,
जब उसकी जरूरत ज्यादा होती है।
तो फिर क्यों उसे खराब जाने दो ?
खाना खाये या नहीं
लेकिन उसे फेंकना हमारा हक नहीं।
आज हर बच्चे की प्रार्थना है,
भूख उनके सहन करने का भार नहीं है।
कोई भोज के लिए खाता है, तो
कोई जीने के लिए खाता है,
भूख किसी का ज्योनार नहीं है,
इसलिए हमें दूसरों को देने को सीखना
चाहिए।
ये याद रहे कि हर निवाले,
एक जान तक बचा सकती है।

-10/UELA/051
PRASANNA

त्रासदी

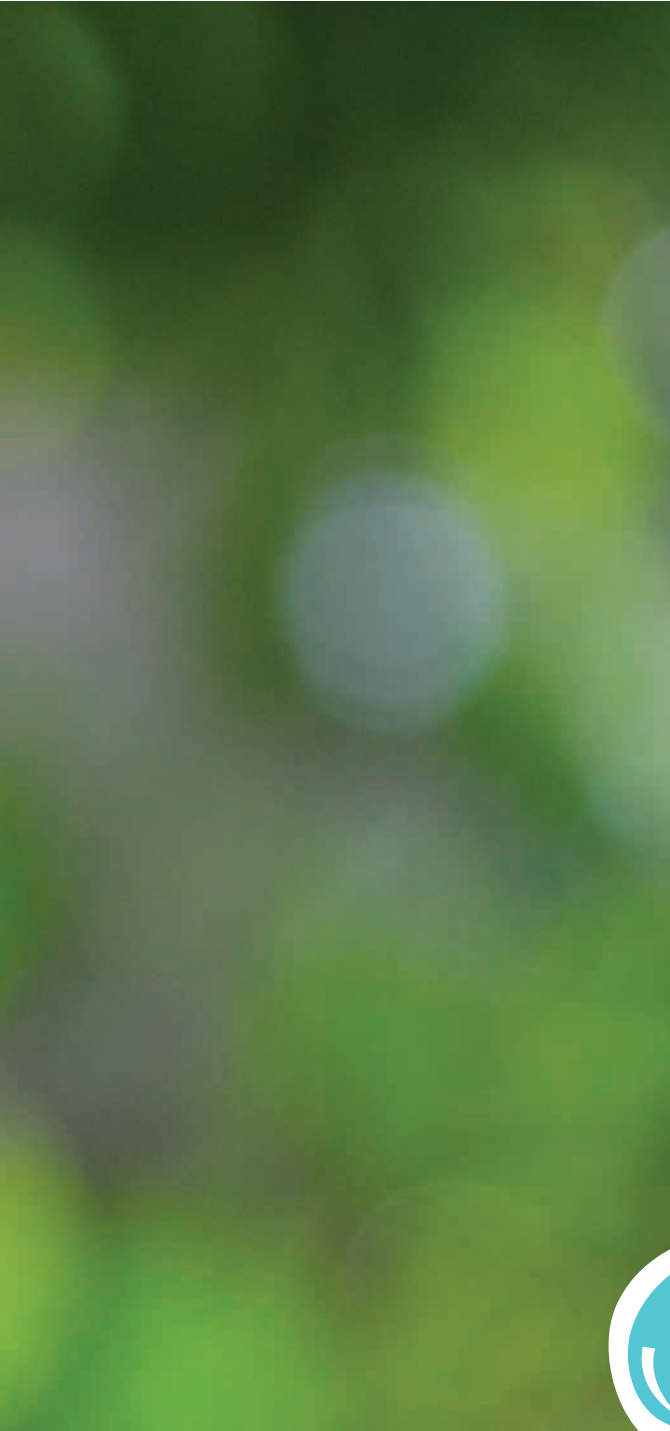
सत्रह वय की एक जवान माँ,
गर्भ पीड़ा के वक्त चीखनी चिल्लाती रही।
एक छोटा लड़का पृथ्वी पर आया,
बिल्कुल छोटा-सा, हड्डियों का कंवाल,
उस पृथ्वी पर
संघर्ष, कलुषता, मलिनता से भरा हुआ।
उसकी माँ के संवेग मिश्रित थे,
समझ न आया कि वह खुश हो या दुःखी
खुशी के पल कम थे,
क्योंकि अंधकारमय भविष्य मुँह बाये खड़ा
था।
कहाँ रहेंगे, कहाँ से आयेगा खाना,
क्या संभव हो पायेगा, इस बच्चे का बच
पाना ?

विश्व में जनमें उन करोड़ों अपोषणयुक्त
हाँड कंकाल बच्चों की तरह
उसकी निरीह बच्चा क्या झेल पायेगा जीवन
के घात प्रतिघात?
खाद्य संरक्षण की समस्या, एक कटु सच्चाई
है,
भूख मरी, अगिनत समस्याओं की खाई है।

कोई आशा नहीं, कोई भविष्य नहीं,
कहीं कोई मुस्कान नहीं,
जीवन की राह में, क्रन्दन के सिवा कोई
पहचान नहीं।

-10/UECA/016
SARAH JYPE





CLASS PHOTOS





M Phil Economics



M Phil English



M Phil Mathematics



II MA Economics



II MA English



II MA Fine Arts



II MA International Studies



II MA Public Relations



II M Com



II MSW



II MSc Bioinformatics



II MSc Biotechnology



II MSc Chemistry



II MSc Mathematics



II MSc IT



III BA Economics



III BA English



III BA History



III BA Sociology



IV BVA



III BCA (Section A)



III BCA (Section B)



III B Com (Shift II-A1)



III B Com (Shift II- A2)



III B Com (Shift II- A3)



III B Com (Shift I)



III BSW



III BSc Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology



III BSc Chemistry



III BSc Mathematics (Shift I)



III BSc Mathematics (Shift II)



III BSc Physics



III BSc Plant Biology and Biotechnology



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CHENNAI - 600 08

LIST OF OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF PASSES
UG - 2009-10 BATCH & 2008 VISUAL ARTS
PG - 2010-11 BATCH
April - 2012

CLASS		APPEARED	PASSED	PASS PERCENTAGE
BA	History	39	22	56.41
	Sociology	63	44	69.84
	Economics	66	45	68.18
	English	58	48	82.76
BVA	Visual Arts	45	35	77.78
BCom	Section - A	63	60	95.24
	Section - B	188	151	80.32
BSc	Mathematics			
	Section - A	67	59	88.06
	Section - B	48	39	81.25
	Physics	45	36	80.00
	Chemistry	43	35	81.40
	Plant Biology & Plant Biotechnology	48	34	70.83
	Advanced Zoology & Biotechnology	52	46	88.46
BCA		93	82	88.17
BSW		47	42	89.36
MA	International Studies	14	12	85.71
	Economics	16	12	75.00
	English	25	22	88.00
	Fine Arts	20	17	85.00
	Public Relations	19	18	94.74
MSW	Social Work	33	30	90.91
MCom		35	31	88.57
MSc	Mathematics	36	33	91.67
	Information Technology	25	22	88.00
	Bioinformatics	13	13	100.00
	Chemistry	18	15	83.33
	Biotechnology	22	17	77.27