

**Extension Department**  
**SHEPHERD**  
**St. Joseph's College**  
**(Autonomous)**  
Tiruchirappalli - 620002



**2023-24**

**ANNUAL REPORT**



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**Serving to Learn**

**Learning to Serve**

## INTRODUCTION

The Extension Department-SHEPHERD is happy to submit its 38<sup>th</sup> annual report, highlighting its outreach initiatives to the local urban poor and rural populations through the student community. These initiatives have been carried out using standard operating procedures such as one-day initiation visits, three-day live-in camps and weekend visits. The department has fostered a dynamic partnership between the college students and the community, with the Director, Coordinators, and the responsible faculty in each department contributing to its improvement. The students have worked in 22 local urban poor areas in Tiruchirappalli city Corporation, 96 villages in 5 blocks of Tiruchirappalli, Karur and Pudukottai Districts. The outreach activities have focused on community-based organisations (CBOs), science popularization, education, environment, health and sanitation. Additionally, the department has emphasized the importance of bridging the gap between the laboratory and the field through initiatives like Lab to Land and Land to Lab.

### I. ORIENTATION, VISITS AND CLUSTER LEVEL CAMPS

- *One-day Field Visits*

To provide a comprehensive insight into the current conditions of rural and urban areas, the Extension Department-SHEPHERD has arranged a one-day introductory visit for beginner students (undergraduate and postgraduate) in their assigned villages. These visits helped the students acquaint themselves with the community, enabling them to plan future engagement activities effectively. A total of thirty-one (31) villages and urban poor areas have been visited, with one-thousand three-hundred and ninety-seven (1397) students participating in the initiative.

S.No	Date	Class	Village	No. of Students
1.	06.07.2023	II BSc Bot	Komangalam	
2.	14.07.2023	II BCA B	Kunnathur	58
3.	18.07.2023	II BCA A	Alampatti	63
4.	19.07.2023	II BCom CA	Soorakkudipatti	62
5.	19.07.2023	II BScPhy B	Goundampatti	40
6.	19.07.2023	II BCom A S-II	E. Mettupatti	58
7.	21.07.2023	II BCom B S-II	Idayapatti	60
8.	26.07.2023	II BSC Phy A	Posampatti	39
9.	03.08.2023	IIBSc CS	Vellivadi	59

10.	05.08.2023	II BBA B S-II	Kumbakurichi	59
11.	30.08.2023	II BCom C S-II	Kottapattu	54
12.	30.08.2023	II BBA A S-II	Erangudi	59
13.	09.09.2023	II BA Eng S-II	Melapanchapur	49
14.	14.09.2023	II BA Eng S-II	Sooravallipatti	43
15.	15.09.2023	II BA Eng	A.Pallapatti	51
16.	28.09.2023	II BSc Maths & II BSc Vis Com	Velapudaiyanpatti	52
17.	02.10.2023	II BSc Maths S-II	South Paganur	41
18.	03.10.2023	II BSc CS S-II	West Paganur	63
19.	27.02.2024	II BSC Elec	Karnampatti	30
20.	30.11.2024	II MSc CS A S-II	Devarayaneri	42
21.	30.11.2024	I MSc Chem	Nadukondayapettai	28
22.	02.12.2024	I MSc Data Science	Melakodaiyampettai	65
23.	05.12.2024	I MCA	Pathuvainagar	58
24.	06.12.2024	I MSc Chem S-II	Keelakodayampettai	26
25.	06.12.2024	I MSc CS B S-II	Kempstown	44
26.	12.12.2024	I MCom	Keeraithottam	39
27.	19.12.2024	I MA Eng S-II	Pillaimanagar	33
28.	19.12.2024	I MSc Maths S-II	Tagore Street	29
29.	18.01.2024	I MSc Phy	Ambethkar Nagar	29
30.	22.01.2024	I MSc Phy S-II	Anna Nagar, Srirangam	28
31.	15.02.2024	I MA Eco & I M.Sc Elec	Thimarayasamuthiram	36
				<b>1397</b>

- *Two-day Camp*

To provide a comprehensive insight into the current conditions of rural and urban areas, the Extension Department-SHEPHERD has arranged a one-day introductory visit for beginner students (II UG and I PG) in their designated villages. These visits enabled students to connect with the community, paving the way for the development of subsequent activities. Thirty-nine

(39) visits were conducted, reaching out to one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven (1897) students.

S.No	Date	Class	Village	No. of Students
1.	01-02.07.2023	II BCom Hon	Porasampatti Colony	40
2.	01-02.07.2023	II BCom B	Poongudi	62
3.	07-08.07.2023	II BA Eco	Kalkulathu Patti	62
4.	08-09.07.2023	II BSc Stat	Keerikalmedu	35
5.	13-14.07.2023	II BA Tamil	Kullampatti	57
6.	22-23.07.2023	II BCom A	Alathur	60
7.	12-13.07.2023	II BA His	Kalimangalam	55
8.	26-27.08.2023	II BSc Phy S-II	MGR & Rajiv Nagar	33
9.	02-03.09.2023	II BCom A S-II	E. Mettupatti	58
10.	09-09.09.2023	II BCom B S-II	Idayapatti	60
11.	09-09.09.2023	II BSc Chem A	Uppukatchipatti	42
12.	01-02.09.2023	II BBA B S-II	Kumbarkurichi	60
13.	14-15.09.2023	II BBA A S-II	Erangudi	60
14.	14-15.09.2023	II BSc CS B	Ayyakowndanpatti	63
15.	23-24.09.2023	II BCom C S-II	Kottapattu	51
16.	22-23.09.2023	II BSc CS A S-II	Plutheri	59
17.	23-24.09.2023	II BSc Bat	Komangalam	42
18.	23-24.09.2023	II BSc Phy A	Posampatti	35
19.	22-23.09.2023	II BCA B S-II	Kunnathur	54
20.	23-24.09.2023	II BA Eng S-II	A.Pallapatti	50
21.	07-08.10.2023	II BCA A S-II	Alampatti	63
22.	07-08.10.2023	II BSc Maths	South Paganur	41
23.	25-26.11.2023	II BSc CS S-II	West Paganur	63
24.	02-03.12.2023	II BSc Elec	Navalnayakkanpatti	30
25.	02-03.12.2023	II BSc Vis. Com & II BSc Maths	Velapudaiyanpatti	58
26.	08-09.12.2023	II BSc Maths & CS	Gowthanayakkanpatti	45
27.	17-18.02.2024	II BA Eng S-II	Sooravalpatty	43
28.	24-25.02.2024	II BSc CS	Vellivadi	59
29.	25-26.02.2024	II BCom CA	Soorakkudipatti	61
30.	01-02.03.2024	II BA Eng B S-II	Melapanjapur	46
31.	01-02.07.2023	II MSc CS B S-II	Kempstown	44
32.	03-14.07.2023	II MSc Bio-tech S-II II MSc Bio-chem S-II	Panjapur	45
33.	27-28.07.2023	II MA Eng	Melur, Srirangam	39
34.	27-28.07.2023	II MSc Bot	Devathanam	17
35.	27-28.07.2023	II MA HRM	Venis Street	39
36.	16-17.01.2024	I MSc CS A S-II	Devarayaneri	42

37.	24-25.02.2024	I MCom	Keeraithottam	39
38.	01-02.03.2024	I MSc Phy S-II& I MSc Phy S-II	Ambethkar Nagar & Anna Nagar	57
39.	02-03.03.2024	I MSc Maths S-II	Tagore Street	28
				<b>1897</b>

## II. COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES (EDU., ENVIR., HEALTH, etc...)

### 1. Education

- **School Teaching**

The respective coordinators send the students to the school for academic coaching at the school administration's request. Totally 145 students benefited.

S. No	Class	School	Village/ Place	Beneficiaries
1.	II MCA	Little Flower Primary School	Pathuvainagar	25
2.	II MSc Data Science S-II	Nehruji Memorial Primary School	Melakondayampettai	45
3.	II MSc Chem S-II	Bharathi Primary School,	Keelakondayampettai	75

- **Weekend Coaching Classes**

The following classes facilitated weekend trainings for children in the service villages. Students competed in subject-based challenges, and classes were held either in public spaces or in the classrooms. Functional teams from various departments visited various outlying locations throughout the year. In total, 93 school pupils benefited from this programme. The following classes were included in the programme.

SNo	Class	Village/ Place	Beneficiaries
1.	II MSC Chem	Nadukondayampettai	15
2.	II MSC Chem S-II	Keelakondayampettai	12
3.	III BSc Chem A	Archampatti	16
4.	III BSc Chem B	Thalinji	25
5.	III BCom A	Keelaputhupatti	10
6.	III BSc CS A	T Melapatti	15
7.			<b>93</b>

- **Fun English**

Fun English programme was organised on 22 July 2023 by III B.Com CA Students for the rural children who are facing difficulties in learning English language. The students helped them in

identifying, spelling, and collective learning of English and so on. The children were delighted. In total, nine college students participated in this programme and 10 children benefitted from it. The college students also gave notebooks and encouraged them.

- **Scientific Experiments demonstration for Children**

On September 1, 2023, II M.Sc Chemistry students conducted scientific experiments for school children at Nadukondayampettai. The students introduced children to science concepts, such as water density and oxygen burning. The students motivated them to study science and that they developed skills like organizing, communication, teamwork, and coordinating. The experience helped develop confidence and personal growth, enhancing critical thinking, practical knowledge, and environmental awareness. A sum of fifteen children benefitted.

- **Donated Learning Equipment and an Electrical Appliances**

On 26.08.2023, III B.Sc CS students provided learning equipment, stationery and electric fan to Panchayat Union Primary School, Melapchakkudi at Pudukottai District. Mrs. Sudha, Headmistress presided. Mr. Pazhanivel, Mrs. Valli, Teachers and Mr. Muthuraman, village leader participated and congratulated the college students' efforts. Participated students Selvan. Manikandan, Selvan Hilarys Jasvin Justin Rogan Gerald Jeffrey, Selvan Karan Marshall hosted by Edwin Christopher college students organised the entire programme.

On 31<sup>st</sup> September 2023 II MA English, II MCom and II MSc Maths S-II students donated four (4) ceiling fans to Ayyanar High School at Melur, Srirangam. Dr. A. Sahaya Alexander, Dept. of Commerce, SJC participated as guest of this programme.

- **Carrier Guidance**

The career guidance program was held in two villages with a focus on students in standard ten through twelve. The program highlighted the different opportunities offered by higher education institutions and discussed various academic career paths. The students asked many questions and received advice from college students. 131 students benefitted by this programme.

S.No.	Date	Class	Village	No. of beneficiaries
1.	20.02.2024	III BSc Stat	Adi-diravidar Hr. Sec. School, Indhra Gandhi Nagar	12 students
2.	11.02.2024	III BCom Hon.	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Alathur	119 students

- **Donation of Computer**

The Extension Department - SHEPHERD graciously donated a computer to the Panchayat Union Middle School in Purasampatti. The computer donation ceremony took place on July 14th, with Director Rev. Fr. T. Sahahyaraj SJ presided the event. The students of II BCom Honours skillfully organized the ceremony, with the presence of Mr. P. Vijayakumar, Senior Coordinator. Among the attendees was Mrs. Mary Clara, the Head Master of Panchayat Union Middle School, Mrs. Revathi

from the School Management Committee, Mrs. S. Anjalai Sekar, the Vice President of Thalinji Panchayat, Mr. Selvam, the President of the Parent Teacher Association, Mr. Sekar and other school staff members, as well as Mrs. D. Bindhuja Dayalan, the Ward Member. 70 individuals, who included students, teachers, Panchayat members, PTA members, and villagers, benefited from this impactful program.

- **PTA meeting at School**

III B.Sc Physics students conducted PTA meeting on 17.02.2024 at Sivanthanagar. 19 parents and 25 students participated in the meeting. Mr. Shankar, ward member attended the meeting and distributed prizes for the winners those who participated in the competitions. Mrs. Alakkiyammal, a School Teacher, emphasized the importance of communication between parents and teachers to ensure that they collaborate effectively in supporting the child's learning and development.

- **Computer Literacy Program**

A computer literacy program was conducted for tribal schoolchildren by MSc CS A SII students at Thiruvalluvar Guru Kula Palli and Devearayaneri Narikuravar Colony. The initiative was requested by Head Mistress Mrs. Dharani and approved by college management authorities including Rev. Fr. Amal SJ, Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ and Rev. Fr. Santhiyago. New computer system was provided to the students, aiming to enhance their basic understanding of computers and improve their documentation skills. A total of 30 students and 2 teachers benefited from this initiative.

### **3. *Environment***

- **Awareness on Usage of Plastic**

On 02.07.2023, at Pathuvainagar, II MCA students held an awareness session. They raised people's awareness of how plastic pollution harms the environment and the Earth. How individuals should be free of plastic in various situations. They recommended educating people on reusable or biodegradable plastic and limiting the use of plastic in home tasks. They also instructed them to grab a cotton bag from the house so they could buy food, vegetables, and other items. 20 people participated in this programme.

- **Raising Awareness and Overcoming E-Waste Challenges**

II M.Sc Data Science students organized a campaign to raise awareness and overcome challenges related to electronic waste, a growing environmental issue on 10.08.2023. They provided guidance on effective e-waste management, promoting durable products, repair and refurbishment, and extended producer responsibility laws. The campaign raised public awareness of the environmental impact of electronic waste and the importance of recycling. Proper disposal involves identifying local collection centers, separating waste from regular trash, protecting sensitive data, and adhering to recycling guidelines. 15 people benefitted from this campaign.

- **Rally on Say No to Plastics**

On 05.08.2023, the II MSc Chemistry students organized a rally in Nadukondayampettai with the theme "Say no to Plastics." During the rally, approximately 15 children actively participated and raised slogans advocating against the use of plastics. Specifically, they emphasized the importance of using cotton and jute bags instead. The college students also distributed around 10 awareness posters to raise awareness and encouraged people to carry jute or cloth bags when they go shopping. This initiative by the college students aimed to educate young minds and the community in Nadukondayampettai about the detrimental effects of using plastics in daily life. Overall, 15 kids actively participated in the rally.

- **Inauguration of Green Club**

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of August 2023, III B Com CA students started a Green Club and mass tree plantation on the campus of Panchayat Union Primary School, Kozhukattikudi. 80 Tree saplings were planted. As resource person, Prof J. Arputha Sahayaraj, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, CA, took part in the program. In total, 10 college students and 30 school students participated in the program.

- **Raising Kitchen Garden**

Organic farming is good healthy practices of agricultural field so that our college students want to boost up our village people to encourage organic farming through the Kitchen garden project. The Environment groups of III BSc Mathematics students were distributing seed to village people for kitchen garden Project initiative. Totally, 10 interested women were identified and distributed seed for kitchen Project on 07.07.2023. Totally six students involved in this Project.

- **My Favourite Tree**

The kids wanted to plant their favorite fruit bearing trees in their own backyard. Based on this, college students distributed their preferred saplings programmes on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2023 in the Village of Thirumalaisammuram. In total, 50 trees were planted and children benefited from this programme.

- **Toys and Chat for Preschool Kids**

III BCom CA students gave educational materials to Anganwad children on 27 August 2023 at the village of Kozhukattikudi. They gave coloring balls to the children, picture charts to the children, playing materials to the children, Sylvester toys to the children. 15 children benefitted from this Programme. Mr. Arun, Vice-President and 8 college students took part in this Programme.

- **World Water Day**

In commemoration of World Water Day, II MSc Physics S-II Students organised an Exhibition and Hands-on Water Purification technique on 15&16.07.23 at the Annanagar, Srirangam. Utilizing the available equipment from the Physics Department, the students chose to demonstrate six educational models, each using a variety of purification and filtration

methods, such as UV Filtration; Carbon Filtration; Layer Filtration; Sedimentation; Chlorination; Iodine; and Bromine; Filtration. Additionally, they organized a Rally, Display Charts, PPT Presentation, and conducted a quiz for children and the public. The students were able to address their concerns and receive feedback from the recipients.

- **Wealth from Waste**

The II MSc Chemistry Students organized a program on creating wealth from waste for children at Nadukondayamettai. During the program, the students displayed videos of clay and wood works to inspire the participants and encourage them to develop their own ideas. The students purchased newspapers and Origami materials to support the creative projects. They demonstrated several pre-prepared models to the participants, who showed great enthusiasm and eagerness to participate. The participants were provided with necessary supplies and received guidance throughout the process. They were also given the freedom to create their own works based on their individual ideas. As a result, the participants exceeded expectations by producing a larger number of figurines and replicas of objects. Fifteen (15) children took part in the program.

- **Rally on Plastic Pollution**

On 05.08.2023, II MSc Chemistry students conducted a rally on plastic pollution at Nadukondayampettai. They said that plastic pollution is causing many problems in the world and in our health. Plastic should not be used in such a way as to harm our environment and our health. They said that better ways should be found to use plastic. Fifteen (15) children participated.

- **Rainwater Harvesting**

The environment group students of III BCom A S-II conducted an awareness programme on rainwater harvesting on 26.08. 2023 at Akkalanayakkanpatti. The aim of the programme was to promote rainwater-harvesting practices in the community level in their villages. Twenty (20) village people participated.

- **Seed balls made by Kids**

On 14.09.2023, 100 seed balls made by students and local children will be planted along the watercourse region in Poonkudi village. Ten students from the II BCom B class, including ten rural children, participated in the activity. Before that, they had the clay and tree sapling seeds ready to make seed balls.

- **Dustbin donated to urban poor**

On 24.09.2023, II MCom students donated one-hundred and fifty (150) biodegradable and non-degradable dustbins to the seventy-five (75) residents at Keeraithottam. Mr. Savariraj, Slum Leader, Mr. S. Amirtham, Secretary, Mr. Selvenderan, Vice leader, Mr. Sahayaraj, Former Leader participated.

- **Solid Waste Management Awareness**

On 16<sup>th</sup>Feb 2024, The Students of III BSc Mathematics organized Solid Waste Management Programme at Mekkudi Village. Mr. A. Lawarance , Panchyat President, Mr. Elumalai , Youth Club leader & ward member and Mr. S.Lenin , Junior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD participated as a persons. The college students & Staff Inaugurated dustbin for encourage clean environment. The Village Children collected waste from Home and community and teach them segregation idea's, recycling, Awareness Movies and prize distribution to Waste Segregation Winners these are activities of this programme. A total of 40 children and people participated.

- **Tree Plantation in rural area**

The extension department - SHEPHERD has taken effort to planted various tree seedling in eight villages for generating the green cover. As many as 2088 seedling planted.

S.No	Date	Class	Village	No. of saplings
1.	08.08.2023	III BSc Chem A	Archampatti	750
2.	15.08.2023	III BSc Chem B	Thalinji	200
3.	26.02.2023	III BCom A	Keelaputhupatti	25
4.	09.09.2023	II BSc Chem A	Uppukachipatti	50
5.	02.09.2023	II BSc Chem B	Chinnaputhur	50
6.	22.07.2023	II BCom A	Alathur	50
7.	06.08.2023	III BSc Phy S-II	Sivanthanagar Colony	29
8.	10.02.2024	BCom Honors	Samathuvapuram	112
9.	05.10.2023	III BSc Phy B	Pothavur	500
10.	30.10.2023	III BSC CS A S-II	T. Melapatti	60
11.	26.11.2023	II MSc Phy S-II	Annanagar, Srirangam	10
12.	09.12.2023	II BSc Stat	Keerikalmedu	173
13.	10.12.2023	III BSc Phy	Pothavur	41
14.	08.10.2023	BCom Hon	Samathuvapuram	38
				2088

#### 4. Health

- **Breastfeeding week Celebration (First week of August)**

On August 3, 2023, the II MSc Chemistry students organized a program to commemorate Breastfeeding Week. The objective of the program was to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding for women's health. The event was graced by Dr. S. Padmapriya, M.D., a Pediatrician and Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Government Hospital in Tiruchirappalli, who served as the Chief Guest. Dr. Padmapriya highlighted the significance of breastfeeding in newborn care, emphasizing that it provides essential nutrients and contributes to overall development and well-being. It is crucial to note that incorrect breastfeeding practices can have severe consequences for the baby's health. The program successfully benefited 20 women. The students would like to express their sincere gratitude to Dr. Padmapriya, Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ Director, and Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator from the Extension Department-SHEPHERD for their invaluable support in executing the program effectively.

- **Awareness about hand wash and prevent from related illness.**

On 01.07.2023, II MCA students organized an awareness-raising campaign in Pathuvainagar. The campaign focused on promoting hand wash practices and preventing related illnesses. The main objective was to educate people about the significance of hand hygiene in reducing bacteria on hands and preventing the transmission of infections, particularly between patients and healthcare professionals. The campaign successfully engaged a total of 15 children in this initiative.

- **International Year of Millets (IYM) Awareness**

The World Food Programme and UN have declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM), with the Indian Government also proposing to celebrate. Millets, a plant with low water usage and high nutritional value, have been consumed by humans for 7000 years, have contributed to multi-crops agriculture, and settled societies. The postgraduate students organised Year of Millet programs in three places. A sum of one-hundred and sixty-five (165) children participated.

Date	Class	Place	Resource Person	Beneficiaries
14.07.2023	II MSc Chem	Nehruji Memorial Middle School, Melakonayampettai	Dr M. Sathiyasheelan, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Botany Mrs. Sivakumari, HM	85 Children
22.07.2023	II MSc Maths	Kondayampettai	Mr. A. Natrajan, President, Kondaampettai	40 Children
23.07.2023	II MSc Phy	Ambedkarnagar & Gokhale Nagar.	Prof. A. Beno Susai Vijayakumar, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biochemistry & Rev Fr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director,	40 Children

			Extension Department- SHEPHERD	
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- **Nutrition with Educational Indoor Activities**

The majority of the children from Anganwadi were from families with traditional occupations such as daily wage earners, farmers, and manual laborers. As a result, they required educational and nutritional assistance; III BA History students took action to provide educational indoor activities with games for children on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023. This initiative has had a significant impact on the twelve-anganwadi kids. Additionally, the college students independently provided nutrition food.

- **Health and Hygiene for Adolescent Girls**

On 28.06.2023, III BA Economics of St. Joseph's College conducted an awareness programme Health and Hygiene Adolescent Girls students of St. Patrick's High School at Alundur Panchayat. Rev. Br. John Stuart Mill, Correspondent presided over the function. Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ Director was the special guest. Mr. Joseph Selvaraj, Headmaster felicitated. Dr. Georgia, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce Department gave the opening speech. Mrs. J. Josephine Hilda, Family Counselor, Family Commission, Trichy Diocese felicitated. The speaker provided a comprehensive overview of personal hygiene and menstrual cycles, and the students were able to gain a better understanding of the importance of these topics. Additionally, the speaker answered a number of questions and doubts posed by the students. 187 girl students attended the event from Higher Secondary classes, and the feedback from the students was that it provided a wealth of new information that they had never heard of before. Selvan. Dhanush and Ms. Jennifer Rose, College student welcome the gathering and gave vote of thanks.

- **Breast feeding awareness programme**

The Breast feeding awareness programme was organised for the parents by the III BCom B students on August 6th 2023. The programme was held at Anganwadi center at Aruvakudi of Manikandam block. Mrs. Chitra, Anganwadi Worker spoke on the topic of breastfeeding. The purpose of this programme is to empower and provide support to the breastfeeding mothers. Dr. Selvan, Jebaraj Simson and Edward Joshua College students welcomed the gathering and expressed their thanks. Twenty-five (25) lactating women attended the event. The event was organized by Selvan. Jebaraj simson and Selvan. Edward Joshua college students welcome the gathering and gave vote of thanks and hosted by college student Dhanush. The programme concluded with the distribution of healthy food to the 25 lactating women.

- **Health Awareness Programme**

On 23 July 2323, the students of III BCom Honours held a health awareness programme at Samathuvakuram. Mrs. V. Vimala Velayutham, President, Neithalur Panchayat and Mrs. P. Selvam, Ward Member Participated. The chief guest, Dr. R. Ragavi, a government physician in Kodumbalur, Pudukkottai district, commended the students for their effort in organising the

women's awareness programme in the hamlet. During the program, Dr. Ragavi highlighted the importance of consuming healthy food, such as vegetables, sprouts, and seasonal fruits, as well as the dangers of consuming packaged items such as biscuits and snacks. Additionally, he advised women over the age of 40 to take sugar and blood pressure tests at least once every six months. Furthermore, he stressed the importance of physical activity, such as walking, play, and exercising, and advised against taking any tablets or painkillers without the advice of a doctor, as this could lead to serious health problems. Ms. S. Puranthasri and Ms. J. Joycy of III BCom Honours students welcome the gathering and gave vote of thanks.

- **Body Mass Index Test**

On 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024, The Students of III BSc Computer Science S-II organized BMI (Body Mass Index) Test at V. Pallapatti Village. The Students did BMI Test and analysis report given to people, propose the Healthy food through the chat, and demonstrate exercises. Totally 26 people benefited and 9 college students participated in this Programme.

- **Polio Immunization Program**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024, I M.Com students gave the awareness about the “POLIO DROPS” and its importance to their parents to know better about the polio drops and the welfare of their children’s at Keeraihattam. A total of 102 Children were taken the Polio drops.

- **Free Medical Camp**

The MSc Botany students organized a free medical camp on February 25, 2024, in the impoverished urban area of Devadhanam. Teaming up with Trichy Child Jesus Hospital, the doctors Dr. Sr. Vijila Paulraj, Dr. Sr. Jakulin, and Dr. Sr. Paulin provided diagnoses and medicines to the patients. The camp included health checkups for BMI, blood pressure, and overall blood health. Reverend Dr. T. Sahayaraj, SJ, who gave the opening speech, graced the event. The coordination of the program was handled by Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator, Mr. Karthik, and the team of MSc Botany students. The program was presided over by Mrs. C. Thangalakshmi, Councilor, Mr. Kamaraj, Village President, and Mr. James, Urban Area Development Committee Member. In total, 220 patients were able to benefit from the medical camp.

- **Free Eye Checkup Camp**

Eye screening camps and general medical camps were organized in rural villages and urban poor areas. The main goal of these camps was to detect individuals with various eye issues such as conjunctivitis, age-related macular degeneration, cataract, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma. Optometrists played a crucial role during these camps in preventing visual impairments by providing discounted glasses from reputable optical companies. A total of 436 patients tested in the camp, with 16 of them being recommended for eye surgery.

Date	Class	Place	Resource Persons	Beneficiaries
10.10.2023	III BSc Chem A	Archampatti	<b>Mr. Suryapakash</b> Asst. Manager Vasan Eye Hospital, Trichy <b>Dr. C. Rajarathinam</b>	93 People

			Dept. of Chemistry, SJC <b>Dr. A. Ezhugnayiru</b> Dept. of English, SJC <b>Dr. J. Benjamin Aron Titus</b> , Dept. of Tamil, <b>Mr. N. Govintharaj</b> , Teacher	
08.10.2023	III BSc Phy	Neithalur	<b>Rev Fr. T. Sahayaraj SJ</b> , Director, Extension Department- SHEPHERD <b>Dr. A. Philip Arockiadoss</b> Dept. of Stat., SJC	94 People
10.12.2023	III BSc Phy.	Pothavur	<b>Rev Fr. T. Sahayaraj SJ</b> , Director, Extension Department- SHEPHERD	153 People
25.02.2024	MSc Physics S-I& S-II	Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Srirangam	<b>Mr. P. Vijayakumar</b> , Senior Coordinator and a team of Mahathma EYE Hospital, Trichy	96 People

- **Herbal Awareness**

II M.Sc Physics students arranged an event to raise awareness about herbal plants and conduct a tree plantation program on 08.10.2023 in Ambedkar Nagar. The event was led by Mr. P. Vijayakumar, a Senior Coordinator from the Extension department -SHEPHERD. The students managed to gather 40 herbal saplings including Thiruneetrupachalai, Tulasi, Omavalli, Adathoda, Pirandai, and Nochi, which were then distributed to the attendees. A total of 16 individuals took part in the program.

- **Health Awareness Programme**

On the 11<sup>th</sup>February, 2024, III BA English S-II students arranged a health awareness event for children in Melanagamangalam. Mrs. Shakila, an ANM Nurse from Trichy, was invited as a guest speaker. She discussed topics such as first aid, managing injuries, mother and child healthcare, and the importance of nutritious food for children. Mrs. Yasodai, Junior Coordinator, provided guidance to the students in organizing the program. A total of 50 children and parents enthusiastically took part in the event.

- **Community Herbal Garden**

The main goal of the community herbal garden is to promote the use of herbal species and to safeguard rare, endangered, extinct, and essential health care herbs in rural areas. Additionally, it

aims to preserve and share indigenous knowledge of traditional practices related to herbal medicine within the community. In line with this concept, a community herbal garden has been established, featuring a minimum of 15 species such as poonai meesai, ranakalli, merugutti, thiruneetru pachilai, thandrikaai, thavasikeerai, adathoda, maruthani, sembaruthi, and iyampanai. The following classes have been set up community herbal garden in each of the service villages for the residents. 85 species planted.

S.No	Class	Name of the village	No of the species
1	II MSc Bio tech	Panchapur	15
2	III BA Eng B SII	Inammathur	20
3	III BBA A SII	Tjhopu[patti	15
4	III BBA B SII	Boothakudu	15
5	III BSc Bot	Keelapatti	20
			<b>85</b>

The promotion of medicinal plants through the establishment of a community herbal garden in a rural area was successfully carried out by a group of II MSc Bio-technology students. This initiative took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024 in Panjapur village. The students selected 15 varieties of rare and valuable herbs to create a communal herbal garden in the village. With the assistance of Farmer Mr. Premkumar, around 30 rare herbal plants were distributed and planted in the homes of 20 selected farmers. The students also provided information on the uses and benefits of each plant, such as Poonai Meesai, Thavasikeerai, Merukutti, Thandrikai, Ranakalli, Thiruneetrapacilai, and adathoda. A total of 21 farmers were able to benefit from this project.

## 5. Community Based Organisation

- **Guest Lecture on Purpose of getting Loan**

On 29.06.2023, a guest lecture for urban slum residents was organized by a group of MCA students at Pathuvainagar. The objective of the visit was to facilitate the application for a loan. The main speaker of the event was Prof. S. Aruputharaj, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous). He provided guidance on the steps to launching and running a business, as well as outlined some business proposals. Subsequently, he outlined the government's business lending programs. 15 participants attended the event.

- **Field Publicity Department Program**

On 05.12.2023, III BCom A students organized an informative event about Government Schemes in Keelaputhupatti village. Mr. K. Devi Padmanathan, Field Publicity Officer from the Central Bureau of Communication, Government of India, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. During his speech, the guest shed light on the different central and state government initiatives being

rolled out across India. The local community was encouraged to take advantage of these schemes for the betterment of their development. A total of 35 people participated.

## 6. Other Activities

- **International Yoga Day**

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, the II MSc Chemistry organised an International Yoga Day at Government Adiravidar Welfare Middle School, Nadukondampettai. Mr. Karthick, Assistant Director, New Hostel, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) participated as a Chief Guest. The students were individually prepared for the event, with topics such as Head rotation, Eye rotation, Face expression, Finger movement, Diving Swimming, Shoulder Lift, Hand Rotation, Hip Rotation, Knee Rotation, Football Kick, Ankle Rotation and Standing on Toes and Knees. The Asana was Guru Namaskari, Kakalopathy and Anuloma Vilema. They have learnt to organise a program, the importance of preparation, working in groups, and distributing work among themselves. Information about the program was also shared with the students. In total, twenty (20) children attended the event.

- **Kabadi Tournament**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2024, The Students of BCA B S-II organized kabaddi Tournament for youth club of Thuraikudi village. The village youth are very much interested in Kabaddi and they have own club for kabaddi. The College students encourage their sports and organized tournament. The Panchayat President distributed metal to winners and runners of the tournament. Totally. of 14 youth benefitted and 40 people participated in this programme.

- **Exposure Visit**

The UG and PG students organized a field trip to explore different locations in the city of Trichy, such as religious sites, popular tourist attractions, and parks. The students were filled with anticipation and had a great time during the visit. They gained valuable knowledge about the various tourist destinations in the city. A total of 115 were participated.

S.No.	Date	Class	Name of the School	Place	No. of Students
1.	11.02.2024	III BSc Stat.	Adi-dravidar Higher Secondary School at Neidhalur	Srirangam temple and Butterfly Park	13 boys 13 girls
2.	11.02.2024	BCom Honors	Samathuvapuram	Srirangam temple and Butterfly Park	23 students
3.	25.02.2024	III BSc Phy A	Pothavur village students	Rockfort, Srirangam	30 students

				and SJC Campus	
4.	25.02.2024	III BSc Phy	Sivanthanalagar	Rockfort, Srirangam and SJC Campus	25 students
5.	11.02.2024	II MSc Elec. S-II	Thimmarayasamuthiram	Stem Park and Srirangam Temple	11 Children
					<b>115</b>

### III. SEMINARS, TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS AND LECTURES

- **Report of two-day workshop on Siddha and Ayurveda medicine preparation and treatment for the representatives of member institutions of catholic health association of TamilNadu**

On April 25 and 26, 2023, at St. Joseph's Herbal Garden in Nagamangalam, the Extension Department-SHEPHERD of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) organised a two-day workshop on Siddha and Ayurvedic Medicine Preparation and Treatment for the Representatives of member institutions of Catholic Health Association of Tamilnadu (CHAT). By offering comprehensive healthcare to the underprivileged, the intended to strengthen catholic health centers. Twenty-one (21) selected delegates from ten (10) Congregations participated in the Tamilnadu diocese, which covers the eight districts of Madurai, Dindigul, Thirvannamalai, Thanjavur, Vellore, Kumbakonam, Sivagangai, and Pondy.

**Rev. Sr. Siriyapushpam**, President, Catholic Health Association of Tamilnadu (CHAT) presided the inaugural function. In her presidential address, she said, "you may provide integrated medicines to the patients for curing diseases quickly. While we are carrying out our ministry work, the herbal remedies are very beneficial.

**Mr. M. Francis Xavier**, Programme Manager, Catholic Health Association of Tamilnadu gave introductory talk. "Medicine one day must be changed to become a people's medicine," Che Guara. Similar to that, we may spread herbal remedies to every single person.

**Dr. P. Rajalakshmi**, Siddha Physician, CARISM, Sastra University, Thanjavur participated as Chief Guest. She explained the functions of human body system, disease, causes and symptoms of the diseases and their medicines. She also cleared the participants doubts.

**Mr. C. Jeyachandran**, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD took part as a trainer in the first day. He discussed the significance of the green health movement, historical context of siddha system and herbal garden, value of traditional medicines, distinctions between

herbal medicine and other types of medicines, use of pertinent herbals for diseases, seasonal diseases and the precautionary treatment and the moral obligations of healthcare professionals.

**Mr.S.Lenin**, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD took a stroll to the garden for now some herbs. He provided illustrations for the identification of medicinal plants and their therapeutic applications, the preservation of extinct and threatened species, ex-situ and in-situ conservation.

On the second day, the herbal professionals hands-on practice with antique tools including the Kalvam, Ammi, and pestle and mortar. Two distinct herbal remedies were made by the participants. External remedies included Pindathilam, Mathan thailam, and Minsarathilam, while internal remedies included Kumari Legiyam, Thiripala Sooranam, Thirikadugu Sooranam, Soothagavayu Sooranam, Panjadipakani Sooranam, Nilavarai Chooranam, Amukkara Sooranam, Herbal Tea, and Herbal Cool Drinks.

The participants discussed their personal learning experiences and how they “learned new things” such as: what herbs are used as medicines, how to identify herbal plants, how to prepare herbal medicine, name of ingredient, procedures and procedures of preparatory techniques, how to use herbs, packaging, labeling and manufactured expiry date The participants were given tests and spot at sight. The winners were awarded. At the end, the trainer gave each participant a first aid kit and distributed learning materials. The following spoke at the event: Mr. T. Joseph Christ Raja, Junior Coordinator and Mr. M. Francis Xavier, Programme Manager, CHAT welcome the participants and gave his vote of thanks.

- *Faculty Development Programme: Three-day workshop on Research Methodology and Evaluate study of SHEPHERD*

The Director of Extension Department - SHEPHERD arranged a seminar on research methodology, as faculty development programmes.

The Extension Department-SHEPHERD held a three-day workshop on research methodology from October 11-13, 2023 at the college premises. Rev. Dr. Joseph Xavier SJ, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), served as a resource person for the seminar. During the workshop, seven staff members were provided with the opportunity to gain an understanding of research methodology, including what it means, its types, purpose, and its social implications. Participants were taught how to write objectives and characteristics of research, as well as the concepts of variables and measurable. Additionally, they were presented with a variety of questions and methods to help them think analytically about their research findings. He also made them to consider study findings critically. Seven so-coordinators took part.

Another faculty development programme the staff on 07.11.2023 at the college premises. The topic of the programme was, “an evaluative study of SHEPHERD.” The guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Joseph Xavier, St. Joseph’s College.

**Service Learning Methodologies:**

Director Fr. Sahayaraj, SJ., gave a three days orientation to Service Learning technique and methodology which is the recent development in outreach activities in higher education institutions. We had a video conference with Rev. Sr. Arul from Rome on this topic. This has enriched the team to look forward to a new leap in our Extension Department.

- ***One-day Workshop on Herbal Medicine***

The Extension Department – SHEPHERD, St. Joseph’s College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli organized Four Workshops on Herbal Medicine for the students of second year undergraduate students at College Herbal Garden at Nagamangalam. The prime aim of the training was to create awareness about the herbal medicines, to get holistic health welfare, popularize the herbal plants among the people, conserve the endanger species, know the difference between allopathy and siddha, grow the herbal plants, know the uses and to get income through herbal plants and herbal medicines. The students have practical experienced in two categories of ten varieties of herbal medicines in the afternoon session. The students shared their experiences like learned new things, how the plants used as medicines, knew the preparatory method of Chooranam, Oil, Thailam and Lahiyam, how the tiny plant cure many diseases and consumption of money while use siddha medicines. Circulated the herbal medicine procedures to all. A total of 148 students actively participated.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the Institution</b>	<b>Target Group</b>	<b>Resource Persons</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>
11.01.2024	Servite Arts and Science College for Women, Thogamalai	Selected UG students	<b>Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj, SJ,</b> Director <b>Sr. Roslin,</b> Principal, Servite Arts and Science College for Women, Thogamalai <b>Mr. S. Lenin</b> Senior Coordinator <b>Mr. T. Joseph Christhu raja</b> Junior Coordinator	40
11.01.2024	Servite Arts and Science College for Women, Thogamalai	Selected UG students	<b>Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ</b> Director <b>Sr. Roslin,</b> Principal, Servite Arts and Science College for Women, Thogamalai <b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator <b>Mr. S. Lenin</b> Senior Coordinator Mr. T. Joseph Christhu raja Junior Coordinator	40
24.02.2024	Workshop on Herbal Medicine	III BSc Vis Com Students	<b>Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ,</b> Director, <b>Mr. Vellaisamy</b>	33

			Panchayat President Nagamangalam <b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator <b>Mrs. H. Yasodai</b> Junior Coordinator	
28.02.2024	Workshop on Herbal Medicine	Selected UG Students	<b>Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ</b> , Director, <b>Mr. S. Lenin</b> Senior Coordinator	35
				<b>148</b>

#### IV . ETHNOBOTANICAL ACTIVITIES

- *Herbal Collection visit to Sirumalai*

On 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the staff of extension department-SHEPHERD visited three locations Vanagam Nammalvar ecological foundation in Surumanpatti, Kadavur, Agasthiyar Puram and Poongavanam of Sirumalai hill and Inba seva sangam, Sevapur. Rev Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director, Extension Department-SHEPHERD Mr P. Vijayakumar, Mr S. Lenin, Mr S. Jeyaseelan and Mr T. Joseph Christu raja and Mrs. Yasodai and Mr. Amaleshwaran, Accountant were involved in the visit. A stress-relieving area built by Inba Seva Sangam during the visit. The team collected 32 varieties of herbals, including rare plants.

- **Central Herbal Farm, Nagamangalam**

The Central Herbal Farm has been promoting ethno botanical activities since 1994, located in Nagamangalam. The goal of this program is to raise awareness and encourage the use of traditional health practices, while also improving access to essential healthcare services. In the current academic year - 2023-2024, the farm has organized various activities and training programs to further these objectives. The herbal resource centre at the farm consists of 52 plots, featuring a diverse range of 220 medicinal plant species across eight categories.

The farm is meticulously maintained by students and hired labourers, who assist in planting, cultivating, and watering the medicinal plants. The dedicated team led by Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director of Extension Department-SHEPHERD, includes the staff members such as Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Mr. S. Lenin, and Mr. T. Joseph Christhu Raja.

Under the guidance of Mrs. P. Rajalakshmi, a BSMS Siddha doctor from Thanjavur, the team also provides training on herbal medicine preparation. This holistic approach aims to preserve indigenous health traditions and contribute to the overall well-being of the community.

- **Trainings and exposure programme**

The purpose of the training and exposure program at the college herbal garden in Nagamangalam is to educate students and other participants about the importance and benefits of medicinal plants. Through this program, participants will gain awareness of the value of medicinal plants, as

well as learn about the conservation and promotion of indigenous species of herbal plants. The ultimate goal is to promote the use of herbal medicines in our service villages, as well as to raise awareness about personal and community health care. By incorporating herbal remedies into their daily lives, participants will be able to live a healthier lifestyle and prevent common health issues.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Programme</b>	<b>Guest/trainers</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>
14.12.2023	Herbal Medicine preparation workshop	Mr.S. Lenin Senior Coordinator, Mr.S.Jeyaseelan, Junior Coordinator and Mrs.Yasodha, Junior Coordinator	A total of 43 College Students (Girls) and 2 staff from Servite Arts and Science college for women, Thogamalai, Karur Dt.
19.01.2024	Herbal Medicine preparation workshop	Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator, Mr.S.Lenin Senior Coordinator, Mr. T. Joseph Christu raja. Junior coordinator	A total of 39 College Students (Girls) and 2 staff from Servite Arts and Science college for womens, Togaimalai, Karur Dt.
24.02.2024	Herbal Medicine preparation workshop	Mr.C.Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator, Mrs. H. Yasodha, Junior Coordinator,	A total of 37 III BSc Bot students participated
28.02.2024	Herbal Medicine preparation workshop	Mr.S. Lenin Senior Coordinator, Mr.T.Joseph christu raja. Junior coordinator	A Total of 27 college students, St.Joseph's College, form various subjects.
13.09.2023	Herbal farm exposure visit	Mr.S. Lenin Senior Coordinator,	II MSc CS A SII
04.09.2023	Herbal farm exposure visit	Mr.S. Lenin Senior Coordinator,	II MA Eng SII
07.03.2024	Herbal farm exposure visit	Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator, Mr.S.Lenin Senior Coordinator,	I MSc Data Science

- **Introduced organic forming fertilizer production and demonstration unit**

This year, our Department has introduced a new organic fertilizer production unit and is currently in the process of renovating the vermicompost unit. The MSc Bio Tech students have been tasked with introducing and preparing the vermicompost unit.

- **Herbal species plantation in existing plots**

In addition, our college students have recently planted various herbal species in the existing herbal plots within the herbal garden. The main goal of this plantation is to conserve rare and important herbal plants such as oomavalli, insulin, ranakalli, kesavarthini, vetrilai, iyam panai, vellarugu, akara, manjal karisalai, and poduthalai.

- **Introduced and raising herbal and tree species nursery unit**

Furthermore, our students have also introduced and are raising a nursery unit for both herbal and tree species. They are cultivating common and rare species such as sembaruthi, adothoda, notchi, athoda, katalalai, malligai, marul, nagathali, arathai, kesavarthini, thippili, kallurukki, and thulasi. The tree species being grown include pungan, vagai, neem, badham, and more. There are plans to gradually expand the nursery unit to include a variety of fruit-bearing, timber-producing, herbal, shade-giving, and fodder trees. Work is currently underway on a new nursery and green net nursery to further enhance the project.

- *Enhancing the quality of renovation work and upgrading the standard SHEPHERD program.*

**Rev. Dr. T. Sagayaraj SJ**, Director, in collaboration with senior coordinators Mr. C. Jeyachandran and Mr. S. Lenin, crafted a strategy to revamp the herbal garden into a state-of-the-art integrated farming and training center. The primary objective was to elevate the quality of both the staff and the program, with a particular emphasis on the enhancement of the garden located in Nagamangalam.

Numerous initiatives were implemented within the garden, including the refurbishment of the training shed, installation of pipelines, creation of a herbal walk path, upgrade of sanitation facilities, bero, CCTV camera, and procurement of new tools and equipment. In terms of academic resources, investments were made in a laptop, personal computer, two-wheeler, meeting table, Xerox cum printing machine, and video camera to support specific functions.

Furthermore, plans are underway to revamp the shepherd program's methodology starting in the 2024-25 academic year. The process of reconfiguring the program is currently in motion, aimed at enhancing its effectiveness.

The primary objective of the renovation project is to rejuvenate the herbal garden by eliminating weeds, pruning unnecessary shade-providing trees, adding organic manure, and implementing various other tasks such as plowing, canal and bund creation, introduction of wild tree species, mass cultivation, and expansion of existing herbal plots.

In addition, activities such as Moringa cultivation, Sidhar Sulzhli, herbal walk paths, irrigation management planning, new water pipeline installation, water tank refurbishment, motor room

renovation, and reinforcement of the fencing compound wall are all part of the comprehensive development plan.

- **College Campus herbal farm**

The garden development work was overseen by Rev.Dr.T.Sagayaraj SJ, Director, along with coordinators Mr.S.Lenin, Mr.C.Jeyachandran, and Mr.S.Jeyaseelan. Additionally, a nursery unit was established to cultivate 12 tree species and 10 herbal species. The college students played a crucial role in maintaining the nursery, supplying trees and herbs for community tree planting initiatives and herbal awareness programs in SHEPHERD villages.

- **Student's contribution of herbal garden development work**

In the academic year 2023-24, a group of 320 students actively participated in the development of a herbal garden. They engaged in various activities such as training sessions, exposure visits, and manual labor to enhance the garden's growth. The college campus also introduced a herbal farm, managed by the Extension department, where 50 different herbal species were carefully maintained.

- **Nursery unit**

The nursery saplings were sold to various government and non-government organizations, as well as individuals interested in nature conservation programs. The students' dedication to the campus herbal garden development work was evident, with 220 students actively participating in nursery raising, tree pruning, and cleaning tasks throughout the academic year.

- **Student's contribution of campus herbal garden development work**

The renovation work is currently in progress, with a specific focus on enhancing the overall aesthetics and functionality of the herbal garden. Moreover, during the academic year 2023-24, 320 students actively engaged in diverse aspects of the garden development project, participating in training sessions, exposure visits, and manual labor to contribute to the project's success.

## **V. SPECIAL PROGRAM**

### ***1. Save the Constitution of India***

The Extension department and Department of Data Science jointly conducted a meeting on the theme save the constitution of India on 05.06.2023 at Archampatti village of Thogamalai block for the rural populace. Mr. P. Thirugnanam, Zonal Deputy Block Development Officer, Karur presided. Mrs. P Rathika, Headmistress, Panchayat Union Middle School, Archampatti, Prof. M. Kirushanth, Department of Data Science, and Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD participated. Dr. V. Arulkumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Data Science participated a Chief Guest. During the meeting three tier system of government, the distinction between law and schemes, fundamental rights, civil and criminal laws and green India, water management, consequences of plastic usages were taught. A total of one-hundred and

twenty (120) rural populace participated. Mr. N. Govintharaj, Teacher, and Mrs. K. Thamilarasi, Ward Member, Archampatti welcome the gathering and proposed vote of thanks respectively.

## ***2. Fr. Stan Swamy second year commemoration, inauguration of Miyavaki Forest***

The Extension Department-SHEPHERD, St. Joseph's College, is organizing an inaugural function in commemoration of Fr. Stan Swamy's second year. The event, called the Fr. Stan Swamy SJ Miyavaki Forest, will take place close to SHEPHERD on 05.07.2023 at 2.20 pm. The function was presided over by Rev. Dr. Paulraj Micheal, SJ, Rector, who expressed his gratitude for attending and highlighted Fr. Stan Swamy as a model for social workers. He emphasized Fr. Stan Swamy's significant work with scheduled tribes in victimized areas.

**Rev. Dr. K. Amal, SJ**, Secretary, delivered a felicitation speech, expressing gratitude for Fr. Stan Swamy's outstanding contributions to tribe-based work. He also shared his personal connection to the event and reflected on the importance of "Jal Jungle and Jameen" (Water, Forest, and Soil) in relation to biodiversity and the tribes' close relationship with nature.

**Prof. J. Saleth**, Assistant Professor from the Department of Tamil, delivered the keynote address, focusing on Fr. Stan Swamy's biography, his advocacy for tribal rights, the plight of elderly prisoners, and his efforts in organizing people to demand their rights and access to forest resources.

**Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj, SJ**, Director, welcomed the gathering, while Mr. P. Vijayakumar and Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinators, expressed their gratitude and delivered the vote of thanks, respectively. Eighty undergraduate students, including those studying Tamil, history, and economics, participated in the event. The extension department staff played a crucial role in organizing the program.

## ***3. Initiation of Training in Handcraft Skills - Basket Weaving***

The Students of II MCA organised hands on training on Basket Weaving on 22.07.2023 at Pathuvainagar. Ten interested women selected for training on basket weaving in hands-on-experience. The participants actively participated in the training and completed the basket weaving task. They were expressed a new skill developed and also buy the raw materials to produce new basket for their home uses.

## ***4. Installation of an Automatic Electronic Bell in Rural School***

The students of the II MSc Electronics students took part in the installation of an Automatic Electronic Bell on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August, 2023 at R. T. Malai Girls Higher Secondary School. The school management had requested the college to install the Bell for the purpose of time management for each period. The students of the college provided the funds to purchase the Electronic Appliances, and worked together to set up the bell in their Electronics Lab. The circuit and PCB board were finalized and the necessary connections were made to the circuit. The Headmistress, Mrs. Rani, expressed her appreciation for the students' efforts to install the Electronic Appliances to the school. The Senior Coordinator, Mr. P. Vijayakumar, Senior Coordinator welcome the gathering, and the Assistant Headmistress, Mrs. Prokiya Clergyrance Rani, gave vote of thanks. The guest

speaker was Prof. V. M. Mannikam from the Department of Electronics at St. Joseph's College, who shared his knowledge of applications of electronics to the school needs, as well as his various electronics projects to ignite the students' innovative ideas. A sum of four-hundred (400) students from the school participated.

### ***5. Library Awareness Programme***

On 7th August 2023, III BSc Statistics students organized a "Library Awareness Programme" for Adi-diravidar High School students in Indira Gandhi Nagar. The students collected Rs.2100/- to buy fifty-eight books related to children's literature. Ninety students participated, and Dr. R. Vijayakumar, Assistant Professor, Head of the Department of Statistics at St. Joseph's College, spoke about the importance of libraries in life. He highlighted the benefits of reading and studying, quoting a thirukkural, and emphasized the importance of reading for improving behavior and character. Mr. Selvam, Librarian, Kulithalai and Mrs. Pothumponnu, Assistant librarian explained virtual technology devices were brought from the Kulithalai Library to the school, allowing students to experience 3D effects on a 360° view. The students were also educated about the advancements of virtual technology devices. The event was attended by Mr. S. Kalimuthu, Headmaster, Adi-diravidar High School, Mrs. K. Malarkodi, Headmistress, Adi-diravidar Elementary School, Mr. P. Vijayakumar, Senior Coordinator, Mr. P. Chellamuthu, Rtd Teacher and Mr. K. Kannadhasan. Mr. S. Aaron Rex, student and Mr. P. Jeeva, Assistant Headmaster welcome the gathering and gave vote of thanks.

### ***6. Rural Science Exhibition***

The students of the II MSc Physics Department held a "Science Exhibition" on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at the Boys Higher Secondary School in Srirangam. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director Extension Department-SHEPHERD participated as Chief Guest. He delivered an inaugural address in which he discussed the life of a school student who had participated in the exhibition and won a prize for their model based on piezoelectric effect. This inspired the students to work hard and reach their goals. The Assistant Professor, Maggie Dayana, delivered a speech in which she discussed the field of Artificial Intelligence and the future prospects of that field, stimulating the students' curiosity. Mr. P. Vijayakumar, Senior Coordinator, Mr. K. Venkatesh, Headmaster, and Mr. V. Sundharajan, Physics teacher participated. The college students had taken the necessary steps to ensure that the exhibition was successful and over 700 students were able to gain knowledge of the concepts of physics from the exhibits models. The Vote of thanks was delivered by Ms. B. Joselin Nisha.

### ***7. Tailoring Training Inauguration***

II BCom Honours students conducted Tailoring Training program on 13.12.2024 at Purasampatti Colony. Rev. Fr. T. Sahayaraj, SJ, the Director of the Extension Department – SHEPHERD was the chief guest for the ceremony. Mr. P. Vijayakumar, the Senior Coordinator of the Extension Department – SHEPHERD, delivered the opening speech to start the event. Mrs. S. Anjalai Sekar, the Vice President of Thalinni, gave a speech as well. Mrs. N. Amudha Nagaraj, a Ward member of Thalinni Panchayat, and Mrs. Sripriya also gave speeches during the event. They presented a brief demonstration of basic tailoring techniques, showcasing the essential materials and tools needed for the training. A total of 39 women participated.

### ***8. Commemoration of solar lamps in villages***

On September 21, 2023, a commemoration of solar lamps was held at five locations such as Melapchakkudi, Idayapatti, Kumarapatti, Saralapatti, and Kullampatti in Viralimalai block of Pudukottai district. The Extension Department-SHEPHERD, Department of Computer Science, and Department of Commerce organized the event. Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director of Extension Department-SHEEPHERD, discussed the difficulties faced by college students and villagers during evening electricity outages. Solar lamps were installed at five locations to educate future generations about renewable energy sources. A total of one-hundred and thirty (130) people participated, including Mr. Senthilkumar, President, Rotary Club of Srirangam, Mr. Michael Judy, Former President, Dr. B. Augustine Arockiaraj, Deputy Principal, shift-II, Mr. S. Kirubakaran, Coordinator shift-II, Mrs. Jancy Rani, Teacher, Sirumalar Primary School and Mr. T. Joseph Christu Raja, Junior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD.

### ***9. Improve Communication skill for Rural School Students***

The II MA English S-II students organised a programme on Improving Communication in English Language for Rural School Students on 6th October 2023 at the Government Higher Secondary School in Inammathur, presided by the Headmistress, Mrs. Dhanuja. Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator gave inaugural address. Dr. D. Loyola, Assistant Professor, Department of English, who provided a resource person. He emphasized how simple it is to learn English and communicate via play, and he urged the children to practice their regular reading, writing, and listening skills. This included looking up any word in the dictionary every day. selvan S. D. Ashmika, and selvan B. Kowthaman gave the welcome address and vote of thanks respectively.

### ***10. International Year of Millets and National Nutrition Month Celebrations***

The Extension Department-SHEPHERD, Integrated Child Development Service, Tiruchirappalli and Rotary club of Trichy City jointly organized International Year of Millets and National Nutrition Month celebrations on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at College Community center for the anganwadi workers and college students. The aim of the program was to promote healthy generation in India.

**Rev. Dr. T Sahayaraj SJ**, Director, The Extension Department-SHEPHERD, gave inaugural address. He insisted on the medicinal use of millet, which promotes the physical and mental health of every person Dr. Rajendran, Deputy Principal felicitated. He advised the audience to adopt traditional food instead of the unhealthy fast food culture. ex. Country sugar.

**Mrs. Kowsalya**, Director, Project-II, ICDS, Tiruchirappalli gave key note address. She said, "the role of WHO in public health, promote well-being and prevent diseases in rural and urban communities." Prof. T. Diwakar, Department of Biochemistry, Assistant professor felicitated. He emphasized the internal organs of the human body that are affected by unnatural food. He recommended that millet be taken as a healthy food supplement for humans. Rtn. Manigandan, President, Rotary Club of Trichy city, Rtn. Balaji, past president, Rtn. Ganesh, Mr. Iyappan, Members participated. Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD and Mrs. Monica, Block Level Coordinator, ICDS welcome the gathering and gave vote of thanks. Mr. Jeyaseelan, Junior Coordinator hosted the programme. Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Mr. P. Vijayakumar,

Senior Coordinators, Mr. T. Joseph chiristu raja, and Mrs. Yasodai, Junior Coordinators and Mr. Amalashwaran, Office Assistant participated.

A total of 32 Anganwadi workers from various centres and hundred and forty (140) college students from various discipline participated. Twenty (20) different millet dishes and ranges displayed during this program. Finally, everyone was served traditional food.

### ***11. Planting Palm Seeds along the Banks of Rural Water Reservoirs***

The program of planting palm seeds along the banks of rural water reservoirs program was organized on 25.11.2023 at Archampatti Panchayat by the Department of Business Administration and Extension Department-SHEPHERD, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirapalli.

**Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj**, the Director of the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, participated as the Chief Guest. He highlighted the importance of using natural products and urged the Panchayat President to eradicate unwanted thorny bushes in and around the village.

**Prof. S. Arputharaj**, Department of Business Administration was felicitated during the environmental protection day function for his contributions in the field. He emphasized the significance of tree growth in various religious beliefs. Furthermore, he praised the exceptional program of planting palm seeds along the banks of rural water reservoirs, where students actively participated in tree planting alongside the community.

**Mr. C. Jeyachandran**, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD, gave the inaugural address. Prof. J. Inigo Papu Vinodhan, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration, and Mr. S. Amalashwaran, Office Assistant, also participated in the program. Mr. S. Jeyaseelan, Junior Coordinator, Extension Department-SHEPHERD, and Mr. S. Govindaraj, Teacher, welcome the gathering and expressed gratitude in the vote of thanks. The event saw a participation of 50 villagers and 20 college students, who collectively planted 200 palm seeds along the banks of rural water reservoirs.

### ***12. Food Fest 2024***

II MSc Biochemistry students conducted the Food Fest-2024 event on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in Panjapur village. The main objective of the event was to educate school students and the public about the nutritional value of traditional heritage foods, the significance of incorporating millets into our diet, and the health benefits of consuming heritage foods. Mr. Kalirajan, an officer from the SSA scheme in Manikandam Block, Trichy, Prof. M. Venkateshwari from the Department of Biochemistry, Mrs. Shanthi, the Headmistress of Panchayat Union Primary School in Panjapur, Mr. Muthaiaha, the PTA President, and Mr. Marimuthu and Mr. Arumugam, village leaders, were among the distinguished guests in attendance. During the event, Ms. M. Venkateshwari delivered a special address highlighting the importance of heritage foods, their nutritional value, and the negative impact of fast food and junk food. Various competitions related to heritage foods, such as "Values of Heritage Food," "Types of Millets," and "Favorite Heritage Food," were organized for the school students, with prizes awarded to the winners.

Ms. Naseereen Banu and Mr. Naugul welcomed the guests and expressed their gratitude, while Ms. Pradeepa and Diana managed the proceedings as the masters of ceremony. Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator, and the II MSc Biochemistry students were responsible for coordinating the entire event. A total of 120 students, 6 teachers, and 22 parents actively participated in the Food Fest.

### 13. Tailoring Training Programme

The rural and urban poor women to learn income generation activity it will help and uplift their economical position. It will be helpful of their individual, family and community development especially women empowerment. On this concept out Extension Department - SHEPHERD jointly with Jana Sikshan Shanthan (Makkal Kalvi Niruvanam), Under Ministry of HRD, Trichy and Rotary club of Trichy city given the tailoring training programme for selected women's. Now they were completed 4 months' certificate course.

### 14. National Science Week Celebration

III BSc Chem A student (10) students took the initiative to host an event in Archampatti on 25th February 2024 in celebration of National Science Week. The student, along with a team of peers, conducted a series of engaging and educational experiments for the village children. Mrs. K. Devika Govindaraj, President, Archampatti Panchayat presided the event.

**Dr. A. Iruthaya Jothi**, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, SJC participated in the event as the Chief Guest and highlighted the significance of Science Day. The demonstrations included fascinating experiments such as showcasing electricity in graphics, ink flow techniques, creating stable matches, water-proof matches, star sticks, Pencil-O-pencil trick, creating fire on various surfaces, a cleaner demonstration, writing invisible letters, an auto cooler model, naphthalene dance, and a volcanic eruption simulation. A total of 20 children actively participated in these engaging activities.

## VI. FUNDED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- *Young Students Scientist Programme 2023-24*

### Introduction

The Extension Department - SHEPHERD, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, organized an engaging and immersive Young Students Scientist Programme (YSSP) catalyzed and supported by the Tamilnadu State Council for Science and Technology, Chennai, Government of Tamilnadu. This program took place in the College Campus from December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, till January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and was specifically designed for eighty-one (81) students enrolled in the 9th Standard across forty-one (41) schools in the districts of Tiruchirappalli and Pudukkottai. These students were meticulously chosen based on their exceptional performance in science subjects at rural schools. The primary objective of this initiative was to sensitize and enhance the scientific

knowledge and skills of these aspiring students, ultimately contributing to their overall growth and development.

### **Consultative Meeting**

In order to execute the program, two informative gatherings were held on 11.12.2023 and 21.12.2023, the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, enlisted the assistance and expertise of educators and volunteers specializing in various scientific fields including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Computer Science, and Environmental Sciences. Two consultative gathering was organized by Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director, Extension Department-SHEPHERD. During this meeting, the director shared the program's objectives, goals, and anticipated outcomes. Taking into account the recommendations provided, a comprehensive syllabus was developed, encompassing theoretical concepts, practical applications, project preparation, test administration, and evaluation procedures. During the meeting, the Director, Programme Coordinator - YSSP, Assistant Coordinator -YSSP, Teaching Fraternity, non-teaching staff and Coordinators of Extension Department participated.

### **Inaugural Function**

The inauguration of the Young Students Scientist Programme was held on 26th December, 2023 at 10.30am in SAIL Hall, St. Joseph's College, Tiruchirappalli.

**Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ**, Principal, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, graced the occasion as the presiding authority. In his address, he emphasized the pivotal role that the aspiring students would play as scientists and seekers of scientific knowledge. Encouraging their active involvement, he urged them to enthusiastically engage in the program and take full advantage of the outstanding facilities provided by our esteemed institution, including state-of-the-art Science Labs, a captivating Museum, well-equipped Playgrounds, and comfortable Hostels.

**Dr. A. Rose Venis**, Program Coordinator for YSSP, Dean, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), and an Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry participated as a Guest. He stressed that this program would inspire participants to adopt a fresh scientific mindset. He conveyed, "Although there are numerous students enrolled in rural schools, you have been fortunate to be selected among them. Your teachers, headmasters, and chief educational officers have played a vital role in choosing you. The Tamilnadu government has implemented various initiatives to improve the school education system, particularly the Breakfast and Noon-Meal Schemes. Simultaneously, the YSSP, being a government program, offers you an opportunity to enhance your knowledge for future academic pursuits. Furthermore, the Tamilnadu State Council for Science and Technology in Chennai will support innovative projects showcased in national-level programs."

**Mr. J. Manohar**, State General Secretary, Tamilnadu Astronomy and Science Society, Tiruchirappalli participated as a Chief Guest. In his speech, he shed light on the commendable efforts made by the scientists involved in the Chandrayan mission, particularly in rural schools. He emphasized the significance of utilizing science for the advancement of society, highlighting that even seemingly ordinary objects such as atoms and knives can be used positively rather than negatively. To illustrate his point, he mesmerized the audience with a captivating scientific puzzle, wherein a parrot and a cage rotated in a display of astonishing creativity.

**Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ**, Director, Extension Department-SHEPHERD, and Mr. C. Jeyachandran, the Assistant Coordinator-YSSP and Senior Coordinator of the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, warmly greeted the attendees and expressed their gratitude, respectively. A total of eighty-one (81) students, accompanied by their parents, actively participated in the event. Prior to this, the college management organized an activity focused on promoting a clean and green environment. During this initiative, the students and parents enthusiastically engaged in sowing seeds in the nursery pockets. Various plants including Pungan, Moringa, Sesbania, and Papaya were carefully planted. The attendees diligently watered these plants each day, with the intention of later receiving them as a token of appreciation at the culmination of the program.

**Theory and Practical:** Following the creation of the curriculum for each subject by ten (10) faculty volunteers from science departments, it was decided to schedule theory classes in the morning and practical sessions in the afternoon, which took place in the laboratories. The eight lab assistants provided assistance to the school students, facilitating hands-on learning experiences.

**Exposure Program:** Three exposure sessions took place at different locations to expand the students' knowledge. The first session was held at the Anna Science Center - Planetarium in Tiruchirappalli on December 30, 2023. During this visit, Mr. Akilan, the Director of the Anna Science Center, provided insights into the historical background of Trichy's planetarium and showcased 3D films like Shark Island and Magic Show. The second session occurred at the Dalmia Cement Factory Limited, Dalmiapuram on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Mr. Balamurugan, the HR Manager, arranged for a specialized team to guide the students through the factory operations, allowing them to gain firsthand experience. Transportation from the campus to each destination was efficiently managed by the organizing committee through a contracted bus service. Lastly, the students explored the St. Joseph's College museum located within the campus in Tiruchirappalli during the third session. All these exposure visits served to educate and enlighten the students.

**Science Exhibition:** A science exhibition was conducted in Community Centre of the college in which the participants under the guidance of teachers and college students prepared and exhibited forty-eight (48) models from the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Botany, Mathematics, Electronics and Environment Science. The exhibition was thrown open to the public and the parents of the student participants.

**Special Motivational Talk:** In order to motivate the participants a special talk was arranged in which the various resource persons involved themselves and dealt with the topics such as Recent Trends in Advanced Physics, Instrumentation and Techniques, Sky Watching, Bio-diversity and Conservation, Nutrition and Dietetics, Recent Trends in Information and communication Technology etc. An exposure of the various medicinal plants was also given.

**Moral Values:** **Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ**, Director, Extension Department - SHEPHERD, engaged the participants in discussions on moral values through a lecture, followed by newspaper reading activities.

**Medical Services:** To guarantee the welfare and security of the Young Students Scientist Programme throughout their residential tenure, particularly in the winter months, Dr. S. Kiruthiga, Medical Officer, provided invaluable support and guidance. Her contribution was instrumental to the success of the programme.

**BMI and Haemoglobin Test:** Dr. A. Beno Susai Vijayakumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Bio-chemistry along with his staff and a team of postgraduate Bio-chemistry students from St. Joseph's College, graciously offered their time and skills to perform a detailed examination to ascertain the Body Mass Index (BMI) and Hemoglobin levels of the eighty-one students of YSSP. The results indicated that half of these students had insufficient Hemoglobin levels and were below the normal weight range. The professor, along with his dedicated team, urged the students to incorporate a balanced and nutritious diet into their daily routine.

**Yoga and Meditation:** In order to further improve the overall wellness of the individuals, Mr. S. Anandan, Yoga Master, SOCSEAD Organization, Trichy conducted exclusive sessions on yoga and meditation during the early morning hours for thirteen days. After the training, the participants were motivated to continue practicing yoga during the early mornings on the following days.

**Sports and Games:** To encourage physical activity, the students were provided with the chance to participate in sports and games at Mahe Ground (Playground) during the evening.

**Rev. Fr. M. Berchmans SJ,** Director, College Sports and Games granted permission to send a team of ten skilled sports students who were enlisted to supervise and provide instructions in a variety of sports including volleyball, football, ring ball, basketball, skipping, and more.

**Accommodation:** To ensure a comfortable and convenient experience, special arrangements have been made to accommodate male and female participants separately. The AV Hall and Vidivelli was designated as the accommodation Centre for each gender.

**Rev. Sr. A. Mariyammal,** Superior General, Vidivelli, Tiruchirappalli graciously offered the opportunity for the stay at Vidivelli Hostel for Girl students. Furthermore, in order to guarantee the well-being and support of all participants throughout their stay, two staff members have been allotted. Mrs. H. Yasodai, Junior Coordinator, Mr. P. Amaleswaran, Accountant from the Extension Department-SHEPHERD and College students were designated for providing assistance and care for female and male students separately throughout the entire duration of the participants' stay.

**Monitoring visit from the College Management:** Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier, Principal, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), along with Rev. Dr. K. Amal, the Secretary of the College, Dr. A. Rose Venis, who is responsible for coordinating the Young Student Scientists Programme (YSSP), Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj, the Director of the Extension Department - SHEPHERD, Dr. B. Augustine Arockiaraj, Vice Principal of Shift-II, and Mr. Dominique, Vice Principal of Shift-I, frequently visited the venue to oversee the proceedings. During their visits, they shared insights into the rich history and legacy of the Young Students Scientist Programme over the past decades.

**Valedictory Function:** On January 9th, 2024, at 10:30 am, the valedictory function for the Young Student Scientists Programme took place at the Community Centre. Rev. Dr. Pavulraj Micheal SJ, the Rector of St. Joseph's Institutions, blessed everyone in attendance. He also shared moral stories to inspire and urged them to make the most of this opportunity.

**Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ,** Principal, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) presided over the function. He commended the students for their impressive exhibits and encouraged them to transfer their newfound knowledge to their schools and enlighten others.

**Rev. Dr. K. Amal SJ**, Secretary, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), felicitated the participants. He invited them to visit the campus and interact with the professors to clarify any doubts they may have. He also expressed his admiration for their achievements.

**Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ**, Director, Extension Department – SHEPHERD at St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), warmly welcomed everyone and motivated the students to continue developing themselves in the field of science.

**Dr. A. Rose Venis**, Program Coordinator for YSSP, Dean, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), and Associate Professor in the Department of Chemistry was also present and felicitated the participants.

**Dr. R. Selvarajan**, Director, ICAR-NRC for Banana, Thayanur, Tiruchirappalli, graced the event as the Chief Guest. He invited the students to visit the National Research Centre for Banana and praised their project preparation and explanations during the exhibitions. He emphasized the potential application of their innovative projects in the agricultural field to enhance yield.

Nineteen (19) prizes were given to participants for their science exhibition demonstrations and the quality of their project preparation and submission. The event ended with a vote of thanks from Mr. P. Vijayakumar, Senior Coordinator, Extension Department – SHEPHERD. During the evaluation by the organizing committee, students expressed their appreciation for the well-organized program.

- **Design small-scale wind mill to run low power devices**

St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) is recognized as a Participating Institute (PI) of Unnath Bharat Abiyan (UBA). The UBA projects have been carried over by the Extension Department-SHEPHERD of St. Joseph's College in the adopted village. One of the notable projects involved the installation of a small-scale windmill at the Panchayat Council Building in Nagamangalam, Manikandam Block, Tiruchirappalli district. The windmill, valued at Rs. 1,50,000/- (Rupees one-lakh fifty-thousand), was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the UBA Cell, Panchayat Council, and College Management.

This initiative marks a significant milestone in the history of St. Joseph's College, as it represents a commitment to sustainability and innovation. The miniature windmill is designed to provide clean and environmentally friendly electricity to help meet the Panchayat's partial power requirements (1 KV). Its installation at the Panchayat Council Building in Tiruchirappalli district signifies a step towards a greener future for the college and the community it serves.

## **VII. NATIONAL INTEGRATION AND IMPORTANT DAYS**

- **Independence Day Celebration-2022**

The 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Independence Day was joyously commemorated in twenty-five (25) service villages and Urban Poor areas with great pomp and show. Dignitaries including Members of the Panchayat Council, President, and Vice President graced the occasion as esteemed Guests. The event featured a ceremonial flag-hoisting, enlightening speeches, and a significant initiative of

tree planting. A remarkable turnout of one thousand two-hundred and nine (1209) individuals, consisting of one hundred and thirty-eight (138) college students, five hundred and twenty-four (524) children, and twenty-one (21) others actively participated in the festivities. The details are given below.

Class	Village/ Slum	Chief Guest	Beneficiaries	Special event
III BSc Chem A	Archampatti	<b>Dr. A. Arun Viveke</b> Dept. of Chem, SJC	70 women 14 College students	50 Tree sapling planted & Grama Sabha meeting
III BSc Chem B	Thalinji	<b>Mr. Manoharan,</b> Panchayat President	40 people 27 College Students	25 tree sapling planted
II BCom A	Alathur	<b>Mr. Jayapal,</b> Panchayat President	50 School Children 15 College students 20 public	50 tree sapling planted
II MSC CS A S-II	Devarayaneri (Narikuravar Colony)	<b>Mrs. Dharani</b> Thiruvalluvar Gurukula Primary School	40 School Children, 2 Teachers, 20 Village People and 18 College Students (80)	Flag Hoisting, Children's Right awareness, Sports and Games and Prize distribution
II MSC CS B S-II	Kemps Town (Trichy Corporation) Slum Area	<b>Rtn. Mr. S.Micheal,</b> Former President, Rotary Club, RC Shrirangam S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator, T. Mr. Prem, President Mr. Ajay, Secretary, Youth Club Mrs. Gracy, Mrs. Reeta, Mrs. Isabella, Women's Committee	60 Children, 80 Village People and 20 College Students (160)	Flag Hoisting, Children's Right awareness, Sports and Games and Prize distribution
III BCom B S-II	Kullampatti	<b>Mr. Balaji ,</b>	60 School	Flag Hoisting,

	i	Balaji Catering	Children and 32 College Students (92)	Sports and Games and Prize distribution.
II BCA – B	Kunnathur	<b>Mr. Senthil Kumar</b> President Kunnathur Panchayat	60 Members	Flag Hoisting, Sports and Games and Prize distribution.
III BA English	Melanaga mangalam	Mr.Villaisamy (Panchayat President)	Spots and Prize Distribution	18 Students 41 People
II BA Tamil	Kullampatt i	<b>Mrs. S. Selvi Subramani</b> Panchayat President, Melapachakudi <b>Mr. M. Balaji Subramaian,</b> Founder, Balaji Catering Service	Spots and Prize Distribution	22 Studnts 70 Children and People 92
III B.Com B S1	Aruvakudi	<b>Mr. K.S. Sundaram</b> Panchayat President, K. Kallikudi <b>Dr. A. Sahaya Alexander</b> (Dept. of Commerce) <b>Rtn. Sathiya Dhayal Sharma</b> (Interact Chairman, Rotary club of Trichy City)	Spots and Prize Distribution	44 Students 61 People and Children 105
III B.Com A S2	Akkalnaya kanpatti	<b>Mr. KPM. Ramasamy</b> Panchayat President, Kathalur	Spots and Prize Distribution	23 Student s 116 Children and People 139
II BA Eco	Kalkulathu patti	<b>Mr. Paulraj</b> Panchayat Vice- President, Boothakudi	Spots and Prize Distribution	15 Children 41 Children and People 56
II B.Com B S1	Poongudi	<b>Mr. P. VeeraMuthu</b>	Spots and Prize	23 Students 41 Children

		Village leader, Poongudi	Distribution	64
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- **Republic day Celebration**

India attained Independence on August 15, 1947, and solidified its identity as a Sovereign, Democratic, and Republic nation with the ratification of the Constitution on January 26, 1950. In commemoration of this significant day, the extension department-SHEPHERD arranged a republic day celebration in various village panchayats. The particulars of this event are provided below.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Village Name</b>	<b>Chief Guest</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>
III BSc Chem B	Archampatti	Mrs. Deviga Govindaraj	70
III BSc Chem A	Thalinji	Dr. Antony Sakthi Assistant Professor Dept. of Chemistry	50
II BSc CS A S-II	Puluthri	Dr. Siva Venkadesh (Retd.) Asst. Registrar, Bharathidasan University, Trichy	40
III BA Eng	Sethurapatty	<b>Mrs. Gandhimathi</b> Headmistress	
III BSc Maths	Yagapudaiyanpatty	<b>Mrs. A. Bhavani</b> , Headmistress Govt. High School	16 Students 56 School Children 72
III BA Eco	Kumarapatti	<b>Mrs. Chinnaponnu</b> , Headmistress, PUPS, Kumarapatti	38 Studnts 41 children
III BCom B S-II	Aruvakudi	<b>Rtn. Sathiya Dhayal Sharma</b> (Interact Chairman Rotary club of Trichy)	44 Students 61 People and Children 105
III BCom C S-II	Sevanthyanipatti	<b>Mrs Daisy</b> , Headmistress PUPS, Sevanthyanipatti	46 Students 52 Childen 98
III BSc CS C	Purasampatti	PTA President	60
III BSc Elec	Purasampatti	Headmaster	65

- **International Women's Day Celebration**

S.No	Date	Class	Village	Name of the Guest	Beneficiaries
1.	08.03.2024	III BSc Chem B	Thalinji	<b>Dr. G. Diana Jeyaseeli</b> Assistant Professor Dept. Chemistry, SJC	75
2.	09.03.2024	III BCom Hon	Purasampatti Colony	Ms. A. Mary Magdalene Assistant Professor Dept. Honours, SJC	120

- **Kamarajar's Birthday**

On July 15th, the people of Tamil Nadu honor the birth anniversary of K. Kamaraj by celebrating it as "Education Development Day". To mark this occasion, the SHEPHERD extension department hosted a special event aimed at advancing educational opportunities in different service villages. The details below offer a glimpse into the activities that took place during the event.

Class	Village/ Slum	Chief Guest	Beneficiaries	Special event
II MSc Chem	Nehruji Memorial Corporation Middle School, Melakondayampettai	Mrs. Sivakumari, HM	240	Study materials donated
II MSc Chem S-II	Bharathi Memorial Primary School, Melakondayampettai	Mr. Maruthanayagam, BEO, Andanallur Block Mr. S. Jeyaraman, HM	100	Donated 10 Abacus slidable beats
	Kumarapatti	Mrs. Chinnaponnu, Headmistress Panchyat Union Primary School	68	
	Aruvakudi	Rtn. Sharma Member of Rotary club of Trichy	105	
	Sevanthyanipatti	Mrs. Daisy, Headmistress Panchayat Union Primary School	46	

- **Christmas Celebration**

The college students celebrated Christmas gathered in two places for the purpose of sharing their love with each other. They made a beautiful crib, Santa Claus, and carol singing for the birth of a king. Before that, they cleaned up the chapel and decorated. Children arrived after school and joined them in decorating the chapel. Also, they conducted sports, games, Christmas cake cutting, prize distribution, and a prayer service. Talk, prayer, and a preamble on people's solidarity with school students and the general public. A total of one-hundred and thirty-nine (139) school students from two schools took part.

Date	Class	Village	Guests	Participants
05.12.2023	II BA Eco	Kalkulthupatti	<b>Rev. Fr. Michal Joe</b> , Parish priest, Fathima Nagar <b>Rev. Sr. Vimala Gracy</b> Sister of St. Thomas <b>Mr. Paul</b> Vice President	75
15.12.2023	II BCA A S- II	Alampatti	<b>Mrs. Rose Mary</b> Head Master, St. Sabastin Primary School	64

### Christmas Celebration in the Department:

First time in the history of Shepherd we celebrated Christmas for the staff with decorating Crib and a short formal celebration with Fr. Rector, Secretary, Principal and Vice Principals. It helped to improve our family spirit.

- **Pongal Celebration**

The Pongal harvest festival in India is a widely celebrated event aimed at fostering unity among different segments of society. College students and rural residents came together in the central area of seven villages to partake in the festivities. They cooked traditional Pongal dishes and offered prayers to the Sun God. Experts encouraged the participants to uphold their cultural traditions and organize similar events in the future. A total of 129 students and 319 villagers took part in the celebration, further strengthening community bonds.

Date	Class	Village	Guest	Participants
07.01.2024	II BA His	Kalimangalam	<b>Mr.P. Arockiadoss</b> Professor, Department of Chemistry	56
07.01.2024	II BSc Maths	Velapudaiyanpatty	Mr. Thangarathinam Panchayat President	
07.01.2024	II BCom B S-II	Idayapatti	<b>Mr. R. Kumar</b> Panjayat Vice President	45
07.01.2024	II BA Tamil	Kullampatti	<b>Mrs. S. Selvi Subramani</b> Panjayat President	65

11.01.2024	III BA English	South Paganur	Mr. Velankanni Village leader	55
11.01.2024	III BCA A S-II	Alampatti	<b>Mrs. Rose Mary</b> (Head Master, St. Sabastin Primary School <b>Mr. Lawrance</b> Panchayat President	54
13.01.2024	II BA English	A. Pallapatty	<b>Mr. Periyasamy</b> Village leader	46
26.01.2024	III BSc Maths	South Paganur	<b>Mrs. H. Yasodai,</b> Junior Coordinator	54
				319

- **Grama Sabha Meeting**

The Grama Sabha serves as the fundamental democratic institution at the grassroots level in each Village Panchayat. An active and thriving Grama Sabha plays a crucial role in ensuring the efficient functioning of Village Panchayats. It achieves this by fostering transparency and accountability in administration, encouraging public participation in the planning and execution of projects, and involving the community in the selection of beneficiaries. Additionally, it facilitates social audits.

The Government has mandated that Grama Sabha meetings be conducted a minimum of four times a year, specifically on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January, 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 15<sup>th</sup> of August, and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. To comply with this requirement, the staff of the extension department, SHEPHERD with students, actively participated in Grama Sabha meetings across various adopted villages within the respective panchayats. A total of 315 people participated. The details are given below.

Class	Village/ Place	Guest	Activities	Participants
III BA English- B S-II	Nagamnagalam	<b>Mr. Vellaisamy</b> Panchayat President	Small scale Wind Mill Project orientation in Grama Sabha	40
III BA English	Sethurapatti	<b>Mr. Thangarathinam,</b> Panchayat President	Take Pledge with People - Preamble to the Constitution of India	38
III BBA- A S-II	Inam kulathur Villivadi	<b>Mrs. Vellaiyammal Palanisamy</b> Panchayat President	Take Pledge with People - Preamble to the Constitution of India	46
III BA	Inam mathur	<b>Mr. Bharathidhasan</b>	Swachh bharat	58

English- A S-II		Panchayat President	mission implementation Petition to Panchayat President	
III BSc Maths S-II & II BA Eco	Alunthur Yagapudayanpatti	<b>Mrs. Emalda Lilly GracyArockiasamy</b> Panchayt President	Take Pledge with People - Preamble to the Constitution of India	38
III BSc Chem	Archampatti	<b>Mr. P. Thirugnanam</b> , Zonal Deputy BDO, Karur <b>Dr. R. Anitha</b> , Subject Matter Specialist, <b>Dr. Arun Viveke</b> , Dept. of Chem. SJC	Agriculture development	80 people and 15 students

## VIII.AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- **Service Learning Award**

On 27th September 2023, the Rotary Club of Trichy City held the installation of new members of Club and the 2023-2024 award program at Vasuki Mahal in Trichy. During the event, Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, the Director of the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, received the service learning award from Rtn. Anantha Jothi Rajkumar, the Governor of Rotary Club. This award recognized Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj's significant contributions to the extension activities in ninety-six rural villages and twenty-two urban poor areas. Rtn. Manikandan, the President of the Rotary Club, felicitated the awardee. Additionally, the Senior Coordinators of the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, Mr. Lenin and Mr. T. Joseph Christu Raja, also participated in the event.

## IX. GUEST LECTURE BY SHEPHERD STAFF IN OTHER INSTITUTION

- **Paper Presentation in International Conference at Christ University, Bangalore**

The paper titled "Service Learning: Community Engagement through a Trans-Disciplinary Approach" was presented at an international conference held at Christ University in Bangalore by Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ, Director of the Extension Department-SHEPHERD, along with Mr. C. Jeyachandran, Senior Coordinator, and Mr. S. Lenin, Senior Coordinator. The presentation took place during the 9th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Service Learning from 18th to 21st July 2023 at CHRIST Varsity in Bangalore. The conference was attended by a total of 40 delegates from 11 different countries.

- **Guest Lecture in Other Higher Education Institutions**

The Director and staff of Extension Department-SHEPHERD worked as resource people in different schools and other places. They gave great services to the people involved in the 2023-24 academic year. Director, Professors, College students and 1296 kids at secondary school took advantage of it. More info below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Title of the Program</b>	<b>Institution &amp; Place</b>	<b>Name of the Guest</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>
27.06.2023	Orientation to fresher	St. Joseph's College	Mr. C. Jeyachandran Mr. P. Vijayakumar Mr. S. Raja Mr. S. Lenin Mr. S. Jeyaseelan Mr. T. Joseph Christhu Raja	400
27-28.07 2023	Guest Lecture on Service-learning	Arul Anandar College (Autonomous), Karumathur	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator,	20 Professors
01.10. 2023	Guest Lecture on Herbal Medicine and Self Employment	St. Joseph's College Hr. Sec. School organised at Esanakorai	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator,	20 Students & 30 people
03.10. 2023	Guest Lecture on Importance of Herbal Medicine	National College Hr. Sec. School organised at Maruthandakur ichi	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator,	30 Students and teachers
11.10.2023	Seminar on Biodiversity Conservation	Department of Mechanical Engineering at Seshasayee Institute of Technology (SIT), Tiruchirapalli,	<b>Dr. Charles Franklin</b> , HoD, ME, SIT <b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> , Senior Coordinator, <b>Mr. Ramesh Prabhu</b> , Project Manager, <b>Mr. P. Sivakumar</b> , President of Lion's Club of Trichy Premier,	120 students and 5 staff
01.12.2023	Orientation on Service Learning	Servite Arts and Science College for Women, Idayapatti, Thogamalai	<b>Rev. Dr. T. Sahayaraj SJ</b> , Director <b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> , Senior Coordinator,	48 Students and Staff
01.12.2023	Guest Lecture	Values of	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> ,	150 NSS

	on World AIDS Prevention Day for College students	Human Life	Senior Coordinator,	Students
06.12.2023	Guest Lecture on International Year of Millets - 2023	Importance of Millets	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran,</b> Senior Coordinator,	45 NCC (5-TN, NAVAL UNIT NCC SD-I) SJC
27.02.2024	NSS Camp at Archampatti	Herbals and its Importance	Mr. C. Jeyachandran Senior Coordinator,	90 NSS Boys & Girls
01.03.2024	Annual Day	Kunnathur	Mr. C. Jeyachandran Senior Coordinator, Mr. S. Jeyaseelan Junior Coordinator,	138 Children and 200 people

- **Equipping the Staff**

The staff of Extension Department-SHEPHERD has undergone comprehensive Training of Trainers sessions conducted by experts from various government and private sectors. They have gained invaluable insights and are dedicated to sharing this knowledge with college students and individuals from rural and urban areas.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name of the Participants</b>	<b>Title of the Program</b>	<b>Institution &amp; Place</b>
8-12.01.2024	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator, <b>Mr. S. Jeyaseelan</b> Junior Coordinator, SHEPHERD	National training Program on Integration of Localization of Sustainable Development Goal for UBA Institutions	National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (NIRDPR) Hyderabad
24.01.2024	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator, <b>Mr. S. Jeyaseelan</b> Junior Coordinator, SHEPHERD	Progress Workshop Series on Plastic Management in UBA villages	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Chennai
24.02.2024	<b>Mr. C. Jeyachandran</b> Senior Coordinator,	Training on Value-added Products from Drumstick	Nochipatti, R. Vellod, Dindigul

- **Appointment of New women staff**

The college management has appointed in the year of 2023-24, Mrs. H. Yasodai as the first female Junior Coordinator in the Extension Department-SHEPHERD. This marks a significant momentous in the Extension Department-SHEPHERD history, as it is the first time in 38 years that a woman has been selected for this role.

## **CONCLUSION**

We acknowledge the support of college administration, union ministries, professors, panchayats council members, donors, well-wishers, various government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), responsibilities of city corporations, government schools, management of private hospitals, rural and urban poor area leaders, and printed and electronic media in bringing various SDG goals to the stakeholders of the service villages through the student community.