## Nature Club Sophia College for Women



ANNUAL REPORT
NATURE CLUB | 2022 - 2023



Name of the event: Peace Begins Within

Start Time and End Time of the event:  $13^{\text{th}}$  August, 2022; 5:30 P.M. -6:30 P.M.

PLATFORM: GOOGLE MEET

CHARGES: N.A.

Turnout: 32 Participants

**SUMMARY OF THE EVENT:** 

As a part of the Peace Fortnight, Nature Club organized an event to help students connect with their inner peace through meditation. Through this event, the Nature Club wanted to give the students an opportunity to spend an evening de-stressing through meditation. Mrs. Akshaya Doli, a meditation and yoga practitioner of five years, has gained her knowledge of yoga from Yoga Vidya Niketan and whose interest lies in knowing more about Vedic Yoga and Ancient Practices of Yoga, was invited as the guest speaker who guided the participants through the whole event, telling about meditation, its importance and procedure .She made participants do 'Omkar Meditation' and 'Pranayam' and also introduced them to the concept of 'Guided Meditation'.

#### Pictures:

1. Instagram Post: @ncofsophia





NAME OF THE EVENT: Climate Change Workshop

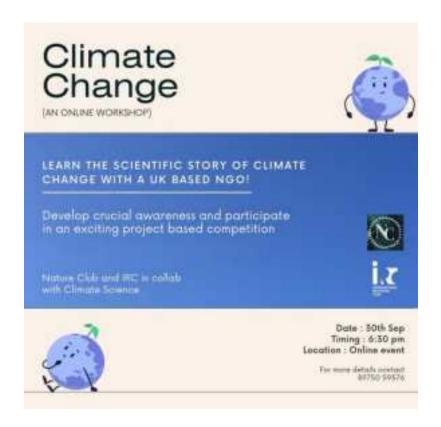
START TIME AND END TIME OF THE EVENT: 30<sup>TH</sup> September, 2022; 6:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

<u>PLATFORM</u>: Zoom <u>CHARGES:</u> N.A.

<u>TURNOUT:</u> 139 Participants <u>SUMMARY OF THE EVENT:</u>

Nature Club, in collaboration with International Relations Club, organised an event on Climate Science to spread awareness on climate change and how it is impacting people in different locations. The guest speakers for the event, Hiba Hasan and Shridha Pai, talked about major climate change issues like carbon emissions and its visual representation and taught how data can be represented in a better way for a better understanding. They ended the session by giving details of the data visualisation submissions procedure, thus helping the participants learn about data visualisation and representation. It was an interactive and engaging session with thorough audience participation. The participants were actively responding and showed enthusiasm.

#### Pictures:





<u>N</u>ame of the event: Korigad Fort Trek <u>S</u>tart <u>T</u>ime and <u>E</u>nd <u>T</u>ime of the event:  $13^{\text{th}}$  November, 2022; 5:00 A.M. -8:00 P.M.

**V**ENUE: KORIGAD FORT

CHARGES: 999/-

Turnout: 63 Participants

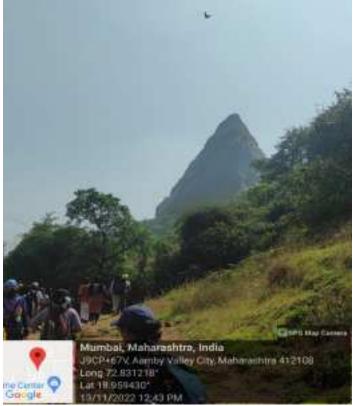
 $\underline{S}$ UMMARY OF THE EVENT:

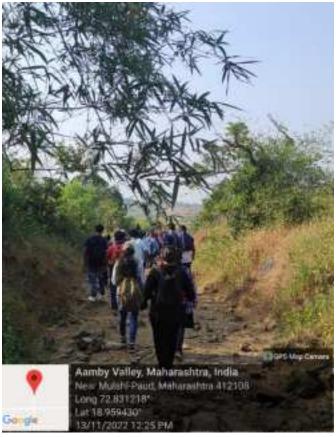
As a part of the yearly trek organized by Nature club, this term after two years of online college, a trek to Korigad Fort was organized by Nature club in association with The Backpackers. Korigad Fort is a hill fort which is located 20 kms south of Lonavala, Pune. The fort is set at an elevation of 923m and is dated to be approximately 1500 years old. The trek was facilitated by Ms. Vidya Khandagale, the staff incharge for the trek. For the ease of the students, various pickup points were arranged starting from Borivali up till Raymond tower, Breach candy. Lunch and refreshments were provided by the organizers. Once the students had reached the top of the hill, everyone was given plenty of time to have lunch, relax, spend time with their friends, and enjoy the pleasant weather. Various safety measures were taken to ensure a safe hike by the authorities which included vigilance by the organizing staff during the ascent and the descent of the hike, rolecalls at various points during the trek and making sure the students reached home safely from the pickup points after the end of the trek. Students enjoyed the trek thoroughly as well as the journey to the hill by playing various games on the bus. The trek was executed smoothly without any hurdles.

#### Pictures:











Name of the event: Debate on Animal Testing

Start  $\underline{T}$ ime and  $\underline{E}$ nd  $\underline{T}$ ime of the event:  $25^{\text{th}}$  November, 2022; 11:20 A.M. - 12:25 P.M.

 $\underline{V}$ ENUE: COLLEGE (ROOM 30)

<u>CHARGES:</u> N.A.

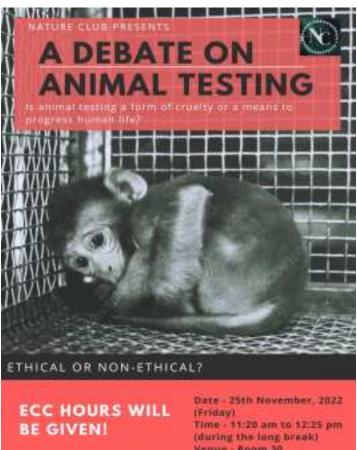
Turnout: 16 Participants

**S**UMMARY OF THE EVENT:

The Nature Club conducted a debate on the topic 'Animal Testing' in an effort to encourage critical thinking among its members and to provide a platform for active discussion and debate on topics that concern the environment. The event kicked off with the club secretary explaining the rules to the two teams ( 'FOR' and 'AGAINST'). The debate opened with the FOR team stating that animal testing is beneficial to humans and society at large because it allows scientists to prepare better medication. In response, the AGAINST team stated that animal testing was completely unethical as it violated the rights of animals by taking advantage of them as well as treating them cruelly. The teams also began to debate the validity of genetic similarity and discussed 'informed consent' in the case of animals.

During the question round, both teams went back and forth, each side vying to get the spotlight on their point of view. As both teams started to get fired up, the debate turned to adjacent topics such as ethics and morals of animal testing, tissue culture as a viable alternative and policies to protect the rights of animals. Both teams attempted to take a nuanced approach on the topic by covering a variety of issues within the overarching issue of animal testing. As the debate approached its conclusion, FOR team concluded by emphasising the linkage between animal testing and the progress of modern science while the AGAINST team concluded by emphasising availability of alternatives and the need for humans to be more open to change. The moderators wrapped up this event successfully by giving a vote of thanks.

#### Pictures:



Time - 11:28 am to 12:25 pm (during the long break) Venue - Room 80



 $\underline{N}$ ame of the event $\underline{:}$  Overnight Camp to Neral

 $\underline{\underline{S}}$  tart  $\underline{\underline{T}}$  ime and  $\underline{\underline{E}}$  nd  $\underline{\underline{T}}$  ime of the event: 27th-28th December

 $\underline{V}$ enue $\underline{:}$  Neral

CHARGES: 60,000

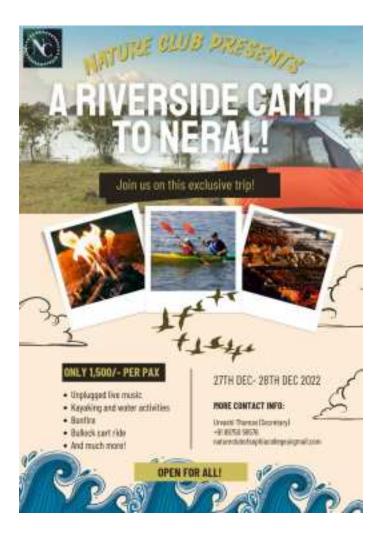
 $\underline{T}$ urnout: 40

**S**UMMARY OF THE EVENT:

The Nature Club, in collaboration with Backpackers India, conducted an overnight Riverside camp to Neral. Neral is a town in Raigad district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. It is well connected to other regions such as Panvel, Mumbai, Thane and Pune. The camp was facilitated by Ms. Tanaz Asha, the staff incharge of the camp. For the ease of the students, various boarding points such as CSMT, Byculla, Dadar were decided beforehand. The hosts Ummeayman and Anuj were present as well. Upon reaching the destination, students enjoyed some vada pav and tea in classic mumbai fashion. They saw many interesting animals such as Ostriches and Emu and various other species of birds. They had fun participating in activities such as boating, followed by bullock cart riding and fishing. The first one to catch a fish was given a prize. Students took part in a cow milking activity that turned out to be a rare opportunity due to their urban lifestyles. Later, tents were set up near the lake with beautiful fairy light decorations, creating a calming ambience. Students played fun games and had dinner afterwards. Cake and barbeque was distributed to everyone and entertaining horror stories were told. They sang songs to brighten the atmosphere as well.

The next day, all participants woke up to see the mesmerising sunrise and went kayaking. Later on, group photos were clicked and lunch was served. After spending a thrilling time at Neral, students returned to Mumbai with many precious memories. Thus, the trip finished safely and in a smooth manner.

Pictures:









NAME OF THE EVENT: Beach Cleanup Drive

START TIME AND END TIME OF THE EVENT: 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2023; 8:30 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.

PLATFORM: Girgaum Chowpatty Beach

CHARGES: N.A.

<u>TURNOUT:</u> 103 participants <u>SUMMARY OF THE EVENT:</u>

The Nature Club in collaboration with Change is Us (CIU) and Sigma Club conducted a **Beach Cleanup Drive** to take action and to bring a change in the currently declining status of aquatic life. General instructions about attendance, how to collect the trash, where to deposit it, etc, were given.

Once the instructions were given, the participants very carefully and diligently started with their cleaning, collecting the waste and depositing it near the flag posts set up specifically for the waste deposition. Since it was difficult to take out bigger pieces of trash like clothes and bags, several people had come together to help. Through the drive, approximately 3 tonnes of waste was collected in total which was quite remarkable.

The event was wrapped up with taking attendance and a group photo with all the people present for the drive. Despite the exhaustion, the drive was a huge hit amongst the participants and they even wanted to do such drives on a monthly basis.

#### Pictures:

1. Instagram Post: @ncofsophia

Link: https://www.instagram.com/p/Cnbe1LSL606/







NAME OF THE EVENT: Plant It Yourself

START TIME AND END TIME OF THE EVENT: 4th February, 2023; 6:00 P.M. – 7 P.M.

**PLATAFFIRMATIVEM:** ZOOM

<u>CHARGES:</u> 1,570/-<u>TURNOUT:</u> 107

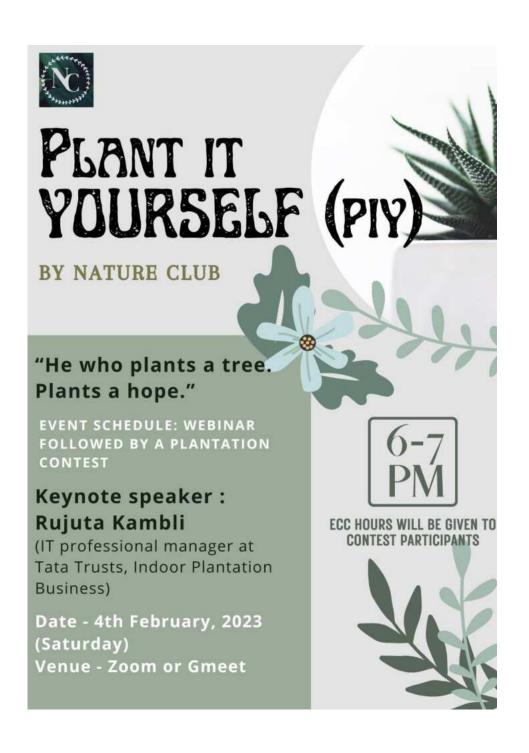
**SUMMARY OF THE EVENT:** 

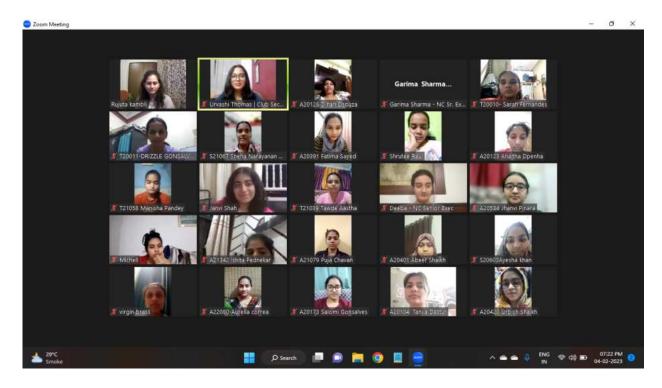
In order to educate students with information that can help them in taking good care of indoor plants, Nature Club conducted a webinar 'Plant It Yourself'. Giving students an opportunity to spend an evening knowing more about the intricacies of what it takes to grow a plant at home, the do's and don't when doing indoor plantation were some of the agendas of the webinar.

Ms. Rujuta Kambli, who is an IT professional, Entrepreneurship and Business Coach and started an 'Indoor Plantation' during the pandemic to spread awareness of the benefits of plants and greenery to others, was invited as a guest speaker for this event. She guided us through the whole process of plantation right from what all factors to keep in mind to ensure healthy growth of plants, advantages of indoor plantation on health to common reasons responsible for the death of indoor plants .

The session was very enriching and engaging and the guest speaker introduced us to a few new concepts about indoor plantation which will certainly benefit us in the near future when taking care of plants at home. As part of the event, a Tree Plantation Contest was organized wherein all the contestants had to submit their entries of planting their respective saplings at home and taking a video of the process. Out of all the contestants, the top three contestants whose submissions we found best were chosen as winners. Tushika Hissaria, Shine Gonsalves and Vaibhavi Dhonde were chosen as the top three.

#### Pictures:





NAME OF THE EVENT: Debate on Fast Fashion

START TIME AND END TIME OF THE EVENT: 10th February, 2023; 11:30

A.M. - 12:35 P.M.

PLATAFORM: AVB

CHARGES: 500/-

**TURNOUT:** 22

#### **SUMMARY OF THE EVENT:**

The Nature Club conducted it's flagship event, a debate on the topic 'Fast Fashion' in an effort to encourage critical thinking among its members and to provide a platform for active discussion and debate on topics that are relevant to modern day environmental issues. This time, the floor was also open to audience members who wished to contribute to the debate happening between the AFFIRMATIVE and OPPOSING Team.

The debate began with the AFFIRMATIVE team talking about the affordability of fast fashion. In their introductory statement, the OPPOSING team explained the concept of fast fashion and highlighted issues such as pollution and labor exploitation. The rebuttal round began soon after, with both teams bringing forward strong points to support their stance with the OPPOSING team saying that it's not sustainable as it leads to massive environmental pollution. The AFFIRMATIVE team countered this by saying that consumers should reuse & recycle their clothing. Many other valid points were brought up by both sides relating to issues like ethical labor considerations and exploitation of natural resources.

After some time, the floor was opened up to audience members. One audience member came forward to say that the average consumer of fast fashion isn't the one throwing it away as soon as it leaves the trend. A second audience member put forth a thought provoking question, asking "How do you reconcile the economic impact of shutting down industries?"

In this manner, the debate came to its end with the OPPOSING team going on to state that the short time period of current fashion trends is the root cause of all the issues discussed previously. The AFFIRMATIVE team concluded by saying that the change starts with us and it is our collective duty to do better. After much deliberation, the moderators declared the OPPOSING team to be the winner. Thus, an extremely productive and fruitful debate came to an end.



NATURE CLUB FLAGSHIP EVENT 2022-23

# **FAST FASHION**



VENUE: Offline AV (B)



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FRIDAY, 10 FEB - 11:20 TO 12:25

000

"THE FASHION INDUSTRY CONSUMES AROUND 93 BILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER EACH YEAR"





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Club Secretary- Urvashi Thomas

<u>Senior Executives-</u> Garima Sharma, Amatullah Morbiwala, Deeba Tandon, Disha Chandra Prakash, Jyoti Chauhan

Junior Executives- Paridhi Dwivedi, Chandrika Garodiya, Jess Doshi