

**SREE NARAYANA COLLEGE KOLLAM**  
**BIODIVERSITY CLUB AND SHANTHISTHAL**

**ACTIVITY REPORT 2019-2020**

**INTRODUCTION**

Kerala State Biodiversity Board (KSBB) is planning to establish 'Biodiversity Clubs' in Colleges and Higher Secondary Schools in order to implement programmes to conserve biodiversity in a timely manner. Biodiversity Conservation programmes will be conducted by the Biodiversity Clubs in University Campus, Colleges and Higher Secondary Schools. These biodiversity clubs will carry out programmes for conservation of local biodiversity in accordance with Biodiversity Acts, in association with local Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs). In addition, these clubs will also establish 'Shanthisthal', a man-made forest ecosystem in the colleges, where at least a minimum of 10-20 cents would be made available for making a forest grove with RET (Rare, Endangered and Threatened) species. This protected Shanthisthal maintained by the Biodiversity Club of the college in due course of time will become a biodiversity rich area of rare and endangered plant and animal species without human hindrance.

The main objectives of establishing the Biodiversity Clubs include

- In association with BMCs conduct biodiversity studies.
- Involve in the activities of forming People's Biodiversity Registers
- Assessing the local biodiversity and come up with programmes on benefit sharing of biodiversity resources in association with BMCs
- Conducting awareness programmes on biodiversity conservation
- Equip younger generation to create biodiversity awareness in the community

- Help to materialise Biodiversity conservation plans proposed by BMC of the area

Organisational structure Biodiversity clubs will have an organisational structure as given below:

Patron	: Principal of the College
Coordinator	: A teacher committed to biodiversity studies and conservation activities
Executive committee	: Three teachers and two students who are Interested in conservation/ protection of environment, one member of PTA
Invitees	: KSBB District Coordinator, One BMC member, Local Forest Officer and Local Agricultural Officer

The club shall have a minimum of 50 members drawn from various classes and shall not be gender based.

### **Guidelines for establishment of ‘Shanthisthal’**

- There shall be at least 10-20 cents available for establishing the ‘Shanthisthal’
- The forest grove being made in the allotted land, shall be only with RET and local varieties of trees/ plants
- The State Biodiversity Board will offer financial support for initial establishment/ protection
- In course of time the forest grove referred to as ‘Shanthisthal’ would be an assembling of plant/ tree varieties of RET species and also would automatically enrich the faunal elements
- The teachers/ students shall maintain ‘Shanthisthal’ in a sustainable manner so that the future generations of students and the local community will get benefit out of it

- Once the trees/ plants are established, the local/ scientific names are to be displayed so that the Shanthisthal will also have an educative value
- In course of time a 'register' with the plants and animals in the 'Shanthisthal' to be prepared and maintained in the College for reference

Biodiversity Club in our college hosts various programmes in the academic year 2019-20. The biodiversity club in our college maintain a tree garden in the campus named Shanthisthal, a place where Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) plants were kept growing, maintained by the Biodiversity Club under the sponsorship of Kerala State Biodiversity Board Thiruvananthapuram. The following faculties are in charge of the club;

Dr. N. Ratheesh Dept. of Botany	(Co-ordinator)
Dr. S. Sheeba Dept. of Zoology	(Member)
Dr. Latha Sadananthan Dept. of Botany	(Member)
Smt. S. Jisha	(Member)
Smt. Nisha V.S	(Member)
Dr. B.T. Sulekha	(Member)
Smt. Greeshma P	(Member)
Dr. P.S. Preetha	(Member)

Student Representatives

H. Kiran

Ajimol

Rehna BR

Salini Sasikumar

Pranav B

Shankarjith

### **Activity Report 2019-2020**

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Some of the activities are listed below:

- **Observation of World Environmental Day**

World Environment Day was celebrated with various students activities on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019. A message on the theme of the Environment day was given by the Coordinator. Biodiversity club members of the college planted tree sapling in the campus. 15 tree saplings were planted in the campus.

- **Poster competition**

A poster making competition for the subject environment and climate change was conducted by the club for the club members. In that the club members make four groups among themselves. Group three was bagged the first prize.

- **Planting new seedlings at Shanthisthal**

The main activity of the club is to maintain the shanthisthal, a garden of rare and endangered and threatened (RET) plants. Students were entrusted to plant seedlings of fruit trees at Shanthisthal. Each tree seedling was planted by students and maintained it.

- **Regular maintaining activities at shanthisthal**

The club members make four groups among themselves to perform the maintenance activities at Shanthisthal. Each day one group perform weeding, watering and other activity at evening time. Like- wise all the four groups perform their activity from Monday to Thursday. Friday all the four groups jointly perform

the activities. Possible Saturdays all the group members and coordinators were assembled at Shanthisthal to perform campus cleaning, weeding etc

- **National Science day**

Each year national science day and World Forest day were observed by the club members with various activities. Due to COVID-19 Pandemic in the current year we could not take part the event. However, the coordinator give a briefing of the importance of these days to the Club members.