

Department of Zoology

Proforma for submission of Annual Progress Report supported under Star College Scheme

1. **Name of the College :** St. Francis College For Women, Begumpet, Hyderabad.

2. **Name of Coordinator,**

**Designation:**

**Address, Phone no.**

Dr. Vidya Jayaram  
Associate professor  
Department of Zoology,  
St. Francis College For Women,  
Begumpet, Hyderabad.  
Ph No. 9985395889

3. **Assessment duration :** 08/08/25 to 31/03/26 Duration in years : 1 year

**4. Details of Departments Supported**

	Name of Department	Courses (B.Sc./M.Sc./PG Diploma, certificate etc) offered	Regular Faculty members	
			Total = With Ph.D. Without Ph.D.	
1.	ZOOLOGY	B.SC	3	1 (pursuing)

5. **Number & Date of Advisory committee meeting:** 1, Date: 22/07/2025

Internal meeting with the Faculty: 8  
(Principal, Vice Principal, DBT coordinator, Dean of Science, HODs  
and Department coordinators)

**6. Qualitative improvements due to DBT support. Please highlight 5 salient points (within 500 words).**

Impact of DBT Support under the *Star College Scheme*

**Expanded Learning Opportunities**

- Financial assistance enabled student visits to industries and research institutes, bridging theory with real-world applications.

**Skill Enhancement**

- Hands-on projects strengthened practical expertise and experiential learning.
- Students demonstrated improved confidence, problem-solving skills, and self-directed learning.

**Expert-Led Knowledge Expansion**

- Guest lectures by specialists enriched curriculum content and exposed students to industry trends and emerging research.

**Long-Term Educational Impact**

- The initiative supports institutional goals of fostering research aptitude, critical thinking, and technical proficiency.
- Future plans include broadening student projects and internships to cultivate entrepreneurial skills and professional readiness.

**8. Any Novel aspect introduced or planning to introduce during the Scheme duration.**

**Initiatives Implemented:**

- **Entrepreneurship-Oriented Training:** Final-year students received hands-on exposure to freshwater pearl culture, silkworm rearing for silk production, and vermiculture/composting techniques.
- **Field Visit:** Second-year students visited the Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases, gaining practical insights into genetic disorders.
- **Interdepartmental Activity:** On Wildlife Day, a one-day seminar was organized featuring poster presentations by first-year Botany and Zoology students.
- **Awareness Lecture:** A guest talk on “*Hormonal Harmony: Understanding Women’s Endocrine Health and Quality of Life*” was conducted for final-year students, highlighting strategies for maintaining hormonal balance.

- **Social Outreach:** The Departments conducted a social outreach programme, GLEE, aimed at fostering scientific temper and curiosity among school students. Interactive learning was promoted through live science experiments and 3D models, making concepts more engaging and easier to understand. This initiative enabled students to grasp scientific ideas through hands-on experiences and inspired a greater interest in science education

Summary:

Activities	Department of Zoology
Hands on workshop	1
Guest Lectures	1
Field visit	1
Seminars / conferences	1
Books Purchased	16

#### Future Plans

	Activity	Objectives
Project based learning	Inhouse projects	Introduce student-driven experimental projects to strengthen conceptual understanding and application of scientific theories.
Internship Opportunities	Field surveys, conservation projects, and lab research	To provide real-world skills beyond classroom learning. Internships are geared toward academic and research careers.
Training Programme	Maintenance of Museum	Equip teaching and non-teaching staff with <b>practical knowledge and skills</b> required for the effective maintenance and management of zoology museums. Promote <b>standardized practices</b> in specimen preservation, cataloguing, and display to ensure long-term sustainability of collections.

Entrepreneurship Initiatives	Pearl culture, Aquaculture farms, Sericulture, Apiculture, Vermiculture, biotech startups, and eco-tourism	Entrepreneurship opens new avenues such as reducing dependency on government jobs. Zoology-based businesses can align with sustainability goals, supporting the global "blue economy" movement.
------------------------------	--	---

ventures,

Workshop Nerve and Muscle physiology

New Experiments Rotary microtome techniques and staining procedures

These experiments bridge fundamental biology with medical applications, making them a cornerstone of zoology and physiology training.

Histopathological and Histochemical studies using various tissues samples.

**9. Lessons learnt / difficulties faced/suggestions if any, in implementation of the programme and utilization of DBT grant. (Max 3 points within 300 words).**

**Lessons Learned:**

Meticulous pre-planning of activities proved essential for smooth integration with academic schedules. Early scheduling minimized confusion, optimized time efficiency, and ensured effective coordination of resources.

**Challenges Faced:**

Conducting activities within limited timeframes was demanding yet achievable. Despite the urgency, this approach enabled the engagement of highly qualified resource persons, enriching the academic experience. Balancing time constraints with quality delivery remained a critical challenge.

**Suggestions:**

Timely release of DBT grants before the start of the academic year would greatly strengthen planning and execution. Early budget allocation allows for diverse,

well-structured activities, ensuring optimal resource utilization and enhanced academic enrichment.

### 9. Key performance indicators

S. no	Indicator	During /After Support		Rem arks
1	No. of students admitted	Total =996		
		Only Female		
		SC -88 ST - 25 OBC - 334 G 549		
2	No. of students passing out (%) Students Admitted/passing out (pass %)	UG 96%		
3	Drop-out rates	4%		
4	No. of students opting for MSc	700		
5	Average marks	8.7		
6	No. of hands-on experiments being conducted	NIL	A two day Hands on training on <b>“Nuclei Implantation techniques in Pearl Culture”</b> on <b>28 th &amp; 29 th January, 2026 for 50 students</b> nil  NIL	completed
7	No. of new experiments introduced			
8	Publications (scopus indexed) /patents, if any.			
9	Training received by faculty	NIL	NIL	
10	Exhibitions/seminars /training courses conducted	NIL	<b>Inter departmental activity:</b> The Departments of Zoology and Botany together organized a one-day seminar on the topic <b>“Conserving Health : Heritage and Habitat for Sustenance of Plants and Animals”</b> on <b>7th February, 2026</b> to commemorate World Wildlife Day. for <b>200 students</b>	completed
11	Books/journals subscribed from grants	NIL	16 Text books were purchased for newly introduced courses.	completed

1 2	Outreach activities (Popular lectures)	NIL	A Field Visit on 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases for 60 students	completed
1 3	Colleges mentored to apply for DBT Star College grants			
1 4	Invited lectures		A guest lecture titled “Hormonal Harmony: Understanding Women's Endocrine Health and Quality of Life” on 4 <sup>th</sup> February, 2026 for 80 students	completed

o Proofs ( S.No. 6-14)

### A Report on two day Hands on training on “Nuclei Implantation techniques in Pearl Culture”

The Department of Zoology, in association with Indian Pearl Farm, and sponsored by DBT under Strengthening component organized a two day Hands on training on “**Nuclei Implantation techniques in Pearl Culture**” on 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2026. The Resource person for the event was **Mr. Nanjappa Puggera, Founder And Lead Trainer, Indian Pearl Farm, Karnataka, India**. The event was organized for the Final year students of B.Sc IIIA and IIN in Zoology Lab, SFC. **50 students** participated in this program along with **4 faculty** from the zoology department.





Hands on Workshop and Designer pearls



#### Program Objective:

“To Empower students with hands-on pearl culture skills, bridging science with sustainable entrepreneurship for a brighter future.”

#### Learning Outcomes

- Gain technical skills in nuclei implantation & mussel care
- Solve practical challenges in pearl farming
- Develop entrepreneurial insight into pearl markets
- Integrate zoology knowledge with real-time practices
- Foster holistic growth through sustainable skill-building

The program aims to empower learners through hands-on training in pearl culture, promote sustainable aquaculture practices, and inspire self-employment ventures. This initiative is designed to bridge classroom learning with real-world applications, fostering both scientific knowledge and entrepreneurial opportunities.

#### Report on DBT-Sponsored One-Day Seminar Commemorating World Wildlife Day

The Departments of Zoology and Botany together organized a DBT-sponsored one-day seminar on the topic “Conserving Health : Heritage and Habitat for Sustenance of Plants and Animals” on 7th February, 2026 to commemorate World Wildlife Day. 200 students participated in the event.



**Chief Patron**  
Prof. Uma Singh  
Principal

**Patron**  
Dr. Cornelia Theobald  
President

**Guest Patron**  
Dr. Sr. Sharyll  
Principal

**Chief Guest**  
Dr. N. Gayathri  
Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology

**Guests**  
Dr. M. Jayathirani, Dr. Suresh Ch.  
Head, Department of Zoology, St. Francis College

**Organizing Committee**  
Dr. Vidyajayanti, Department of Zoology

**Co-Organizers**  
Dr. S. Suresh Ch., Department of Zoology  
Dr. Suresh Ch., Department of Zoology  
Dr. A. Padmalini, Department of Zoology



**St. Francis College for Women**  
Autonomous  
Approved by  
**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Joint Sponsor of**  
**Commemorating World Wildlife Day**

**One day Seminar on**  
**"Conserving Health - Heritage and Habitat for Sustainance of Plants and Animals"**



**Organized by the Departments of Zoology & Botany**

**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2026**  
Venue: Amphitheatre Hall  
Time: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**ABOUT COURSE**

St. Francis College, Hyderabad (SFC) with the objective of providing better education to women students in all disciplines, college affiliate to St. Francis University, the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Hyderabad, presents this course for the benefit of the students of the college. The course is for and the content is interdisciplinary in nature. It covers the importance of flora and fauna and the role of plants and animals in the environment. The course is designed to provide the students with the necessary knowledge and skills to understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment.

**ABOUT THE DEPARTMENTS**

**ZOOLOGY**

Established in 1962, the Department of Zoology at St. Francis College, Hyderabad is one of the oldest and most prominent departments in the college. The department provides a comprehensive education in the field of zoology, covering the structure and function of animals, the evolution of life, and the interactions of animals with their environment. The department is equipped with modern facilities and is staffed by highly qualified faculty members. The department also organizes various extracurricular activities and seminars to enhance the learning experience of the students.

**BOTANY**

The Department of Botany at St. Francis College, Hyderabad is one of the oldest and most prominent departments in the college. The department provides a comprehensive education in the field of botany, covering the structure and function of plants, the evolution of life, and the interactions of plants with their environment. The department is equipped with modern facilities and is staffed by highly qualified faculty members. The department also organizes various extracurricular activities and seminars to enhance the learning experience of the students.

**Learning Objectives**

- Understand the importance of World Wildlife Day as a global platform for raising awareness about biodiversity conservation.
- Identify the role of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.
- Understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.
- Understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.

**Expected Outcomes**

- Identify the role of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.
- Understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.
- Understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.
- Understand the importance of plants and animals in the environment and their interactions.

**Activities for Student Participation**

- Pre-Event: Sign-up for the event.
- Event: Attend the seminar and participate in the activities.
- Post-Event: Complete the assignment and submit it to the faculty.

**Workshop for Registration**

St. Francis College, Hyderabad  
17<sup>th</sup> February, 2026  
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM



Keynote Speaker Advocate Mrs. P. C

Nirmala addressing the gathering





Dr. Karuthapande , Scientist -D, ZSI delivering

first session of the seminar

**Program Objective:**

The objectives of a world wildlife Day

- Raising awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation and biodiversity
- Promoting sustainable use of natural resources and protecting endangered species.
- Encouraging public participation in conservation efforts and advocating for wildlife protection polices •

Fostering collaboration among Governments, NGOs and communities to advance wildlife preservation.

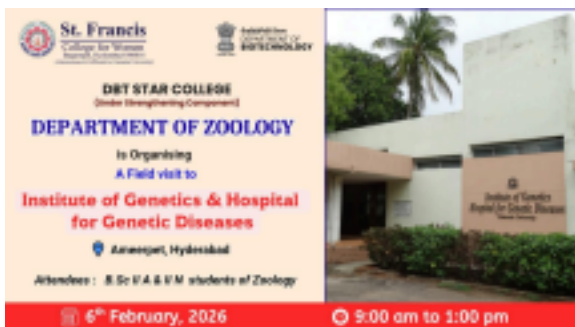
**Learning Outcomes:**

Contribute ideas and action plan for integrating conservation themes into academics, research and outreach activities, adapt eco-friendly practices.

**A Report on Field Visit to  
A Report on Field visit to**

**Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases**

The Department of Zoology had organized A Field Visit on **6<sup>th</sup> February 2026**. The event was organized for B.Sc IIA & IIN to **Institute of Genetics and Hospital for Genetic Diseases** located at Ameerpet, Begumpet, Hyderabad. Around **60 students** along with Dr. Jyothi Rani and Dr. A. Padmini visited the Institute.



Group

picture with B.Sc IIA & IIN along with Faculty Dr. Jyothi Rani and Dr. A. Padmini



Dr.

Deepika, Scientist Toxicology Department explained about Pollution and its effect on genes.



**Dr. Venkateshwari, Scientist Cytogenetics explained about karyotyping in Human genome**

**Objectives:**

To gain a deeper understanding of Genetic Disorders their causes and treatment and to explore the latest advancements in genetic research and their implication for public health.

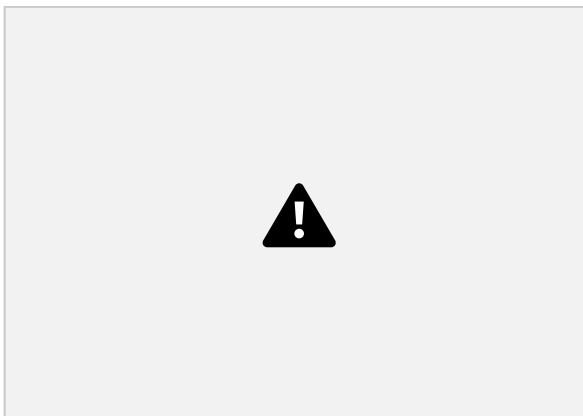
**Outcome:**

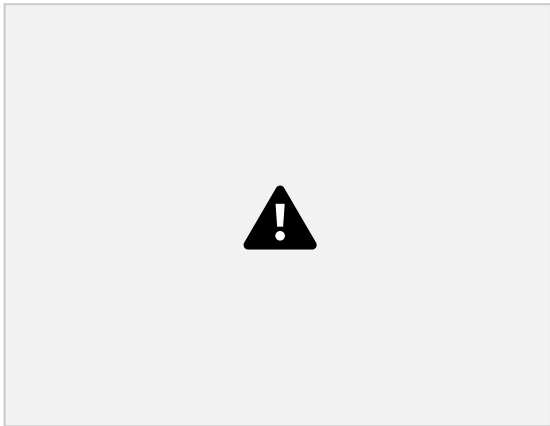
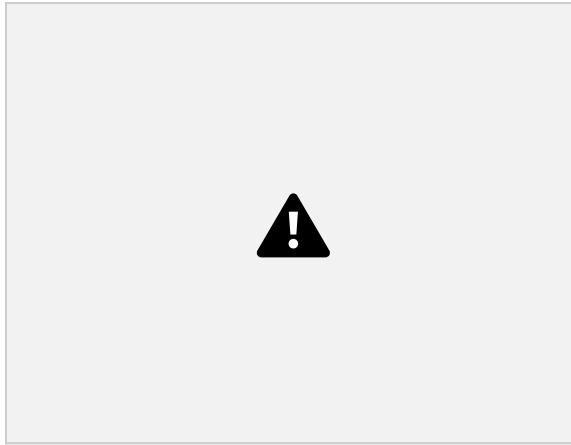
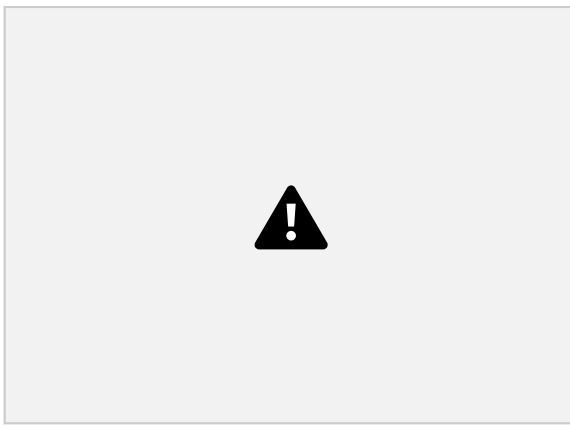
Students gain deeper appreciation for the complexities of genetic disorder and the importance of genetic counselling.

**Guest Lecture – Report**

**" Hormonal Harmony: Understanding Women's Endocrine Health and Quality of Life"**

The Department of Zoology organized a guest lecture titled “**Hormonal Harmony: Understanding Women's Endocrine Health and Quality of Life**” on **4th February, 2026** for the students of BSc III A and III N. The guest speaker, **Dr. K Neelaveni, M.D., D.M, Professor and Head, Department of Endocrinology, Osmania Medical College, Osmania General Hospital, Hyderabad**, spoke on the importance of Hormone health, the silent conductors of our body’s symphony, influencing everything from our growth to our moods and to how to keep that symphony in tune for a healthier future. Around **80 final year students** attended the guest lecture.





**Objectives:**

The guest lecture "Hormonal Harmony: Understanding Women's Endocrine Health and Quality of Life" was to educate students about:

- The importance of hormonal balance for women's health
- How hormones regulate various bodily functions
- The impact of hormonal changes during different life stages  
(puberty, reproductive years, pregnancy, menopause)
- Strategies for maintaining hormonal harmony and managing imbalances
- The connection between hormonal health and overall quality of life

**Outcome:**

By understanding hormonal harmony, students can gain insights into women's health and well-being, and how to promote balance and harmony in their own lives.

**10. Self evaluation**

<b>Department</b>	<b>*Objective (as stated in proposal)</b>	<b>% achieved</b>	<b>Reasons for underachievement / If achieved, state in quantitative metrics</b>
	Hands on workshop (Completed)		
	Guest Lectures (Completed)		<b>Limited time for implementation, as the</b>
<b>ZOOLOGY</b>	Field visit (Completed)	<b>85%</b>	<b>sanction was released only in January 2026.</b>

	Seminars / conferences (Completed)		
--	---------------------------------------	--	--

**Books Purchased  
(Completed)**

11. Provide detailed information on budget utilization under Grants-in-Aid (General), including the exact percentage of funds allocated and utilized for the purchase of chemicals, travel, mentoring activities, contingency and any other activity:

<b>Head</b>	<b>grant</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance as on 31.03.2026</b>	<b>Remarks if any</b>
<b>Grants for creation of capital assets (Non- recurring)</b>	Rs. 9,99,486-00	Rs.9,98,340-00	Rs. 1146-00	
<b>Grants-in-aid General (Recurring)</b>	Rs. 1,50,000-00	Rs. 1,49,869-00	Rs. 131-00	
<b>Total</b>	Rs. 11,49,486-00	Rs. 11,48,204-00	Rs. 1,277-00	



DBT Coordinator, Dr. Jyothi Rani, Head Department of Zoology, Department of Zoology St. Francis College for Women. St. Francis College for Women

**Course Coordinator Head of the Institution (With Seal) (With Seal)**