

St. Thomas College, Ranni

Department of Chemistry

Association Report [2017-18]

The Chemistry Association was inaugurated on 29/08/2017, by Dr. Rakhi Sarath (NIIST, Trivandrum). The inaugural ceremony was held at the Conference Hall, St. Thomas College, Ranni. She also delivered a lecture on “Carbon Nanotubes”.

The Ozone day is on September 16th to mark the day back in 1987 when the Montreal protocol was signed. It has been celebrated since 1994 and was established by the UN General assembly. The day is mainly intended to spread awareness on the depletion of the Ozone layer and search for the solutions to preserve it. On behalf of the main sponsor (In association with Kerala State Council For Science ,Technology, Environment, Trivandrum) the ozone day celebrations were held on 19th,20th September 2017 at seminar hall, St. Thomas College, Ranni. The main objectives of the programme are to increase curiosity and interest of the students towards the conservation of our nature and natural resources and also make awareness on harmful effects of ozone layer depletion. On the first day 19/09/2017, the celebrations were inaugurated by Prof. Nancy Jacob(Former HOD, Dept of Physics, St. Thomas college Ranni). The presidential address was given by Dr.Lata Marina Varghese ,Principal, St .Thomas College, Ranni. An Awareness programme on “Ozone Layer-Depletion” was given by Prof. Nancy Jacob. It was followed by an interactive session with students in which they expressed their views and ideas. Afternoon session mainly focussed on a interdepartmental powerpoint competitions. Dr. R Arunadevy(Assist.Professor, Dept of zoology,St.Thoma college, Ranni), Prof. Sruthi mariam David (Assist.Professor,Dept of Mathematics, St.Thomas College Ranni) judged the competitions. Mr. Saj S (Dept.of chemistry) Miss. Amrutha V K (Dept. Of Physics) Won 1st and 2nd positions respectively. Second day (20/9/2017) started with Technical section II. It was lead by Dr. Ajish K R (Assist. Professor , Dept. Of Chemistry , C M S college , kottayam) regarding the subject “General Science” . This was followed by a Film Show “The Cowspiracy – The sustainability secret”. After that a Inter departmental Essay Competition on the theme “Caring for all life under the sun “ was conducted. It was judged by Dr.Vinod Kumar T.G (Dept.Of Botany, St.Thomas College, Ranni).Suma M(IIPG chemistry), Ganga S(IPG Chemistry) won 1st, IInd positions respectively. The Valedictory function was inaugurated by Dr. Ajish K R. All the teachers and students from Chemistry and Physics Departments participated in the valedictory function. It was followed by Prize distribution for the winners of PowerPoint , Essay writing competitions. The participation in the programme will offer an opportunity for the students to present their idea in a creative way.

International mole day is celebrated on 23rd October every year. Following this, we celebrated MOLE DAY ON 23/10/2017. Prof.Rintu Mathew gave a talk about the relevance of this day . Following this, Mr.Saj S, I P.G student of this department, explained the MOLE

HISTORY. We respected this day by lighting the Bunsen Flame by teachers in union with students. After that we arranged a SPOT CARTOON COMPETITION on the theme "MOLEVENGERS". Suma S of IIPg got 1st prize.

A workshop on research methodology and analytical writing was conducted by the Department of chemistry, St. Thomas College Ranni on 31st October 2017 in the seminar hall. The chief guest for the event was Dr. R. Jayakrishnan, Assistant professor, Department of Physics, Christian College, Chengannur. The event started off with an Inaugural session at 10.00 a.m. First, Dr. Ansu Jacob, Head of the department of chemistry welcomed the gathering, underlining the importance of a workshop on research methodology. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese, Principal, St. Thomas College, Ranni delivered the presidential address. The Principal, with her great experience in research field, urged the students to utilise the workshop to the maximum as a foundation for future endeavours. Next, the chief guest Dr. R. Jayakrishnan spoke a few words on the importance of a workshop like this after which he moved on to the lighting of the lamp with the other dignitaries on the dais, along with a student representative. Capt. John M. George, IQAC Co-ordinator, St. Thomas College, Ranni, felicitated the workshop, by encouraging the department and the students to plan and conduct more of similar workshops. The inaugural session was concluded at 11.30 a.m. by a vote of thanks by Ms. Leeza Abraham, Guest Lecturer, Department of Chemistry. We began the next session, "Research Methodology and Article writing" by Dr. R. Jayakrishnan at 10.30 a.m. In the session, he talked about the nuances of article writing. The session was successful in helping the students in getting an awareness about the current research methodology trends and scientific writing. After lunch the second session of the day, "Spectral aspects of Paper writing" by Dr. Hari Narayanan G., Assistant Professor, Devaswom Board College, Thalayolaparambu began. This session dealt with the various spectroscopic methods available for analysis today especially NMR. Dr. Hari shared with us his own experiences and work of his PhD days in Purdue University to help the students get better understanding of the topic. The session concluded with Q&A session followed by vote of thanks by the students.

The Post Graduate students from the Chemistry Department of St. Thomas college, Ranni conducted a Post Graduate student's seminar on the topic "EMERGING RESEARCH TRENDS IN CHEMISCIENCE" and a paper presentation competition on 3rd November 2017. The inaugural session started at 10.30 am with a prayer song by Arya.P.B. and Reshmi Raj. The student co-ordinator Akshay Kumar.P.K. delivered the welcome speech. Prof. Dr. Latha Marina Varughees principal of St. Thomas college, Ranni delivered the presidential address. Dr. C.T. Aravinda Kumar, faculty of school of Environmental Science, M.G. University lighted the lamp and inaugurated the program, he also delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Ansu Jacob Head of Chemistry Department felicitated the program. Finally Sneha Maria Jose student of 1st MSc. Chemistry delivered the vote of thanks. After the inaugural session, a talk was made by the chief guest Dr. Aravinda Kumar on the topic "Femtochemistry; Race Against Time". He introduced the basics of Femtochemistry to students. The talk was very informative and

interesting. After the talk Saj S. from 1stMSc.Chemistry conveyed our gratitude to the guest. The afternoon session started at 2.00pm. Paper presentation competition for Post Graduate students was conducted in this session. Dr. Ansu Jacob and Dr.MathewKuruvila (faculty of chemistry department St.Thomascollege,Ranni) were on the judging panel. They announced the rules and regulations of the competition. Jisna Jose, MariammaAustine, FathimaMuhammed, Sneha Maria Jose, Sona Elizabeth Antony, Suma M. and Saj S. presented their papers based on the topic “Emerging Research Trends in Chemiscience”. Result of the competition was announced byDr.MathewKuruvila. Jisna Jose of St.Thomas college Palai won the first price. FathimaMuhammed of B.C.M college bagged the second place.Principal of the collegeDr.Latha Marina Varughees distributed the certificates to the winners and participants .At the end of the session student co-ordinator Ganga s. conveyed vote of thanks. The program was anchored by Shamini of 2ndMSc.Chemistry.

The Prof. K. K. Unnikrishnan Nair and Prof. K. J. Kamamma Memorial Lecture was conducted by the Department of Chemistry in the College Auditorium on 10th Nov 2017. The commemorative session was started by a presentation about the instigator and former HoD Prof. K. K. Unnikrishnan Nair and his wife Prof. K. J. Kamamma by Swetha C, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry. After this, Dr. Ansu Jacob, HoD, welcomed the gathering. Dr. Lata Marina Varghese, Principal delivered the presidential address. She extended her full support and appreciated the idea of installation of the Memorial Lecture series which is first of its kind in the history of St. Thomas College. This was followed by the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest Dr. Sony C George, HoD, Basic Science, AmalJyothi College of Engineering along with other dignitaries. After the inauguration,Chev. Prof. Prasad Joseph K (Manager), Major Prof. M. G. Varghese (Retd. Prof.), Prof. A. J. Joseph (Retd.Prof.), Prof. Betsy Paul (Retd.Prof.), Bindhu K Nair (D/O Prof. K. K. Unnikrishnan Nair), Sri Thomas Varghese (Former student, PTA president), Capt. John M. George (Asso.Prof. Dept. of Physical Education) fondly shared their memories of Prof. K. K. Unnikrishnan Nair and Prof. K. J. Kamamma. Commemorative service session was concluded by vote of thanks by Asst. Prof. Bincy Francis. Memorial Lecture session was started by 11:30 am. Dr. Sony C George, HoD, Basic Science, AmalJyothi College of Engineering delivered a talk on ‘A Gateway to Polymeric Nano Composites’. His talk provided an insight to the emerging trends in Nanotechnology. The second session was concluded with a vote of thanks by Ms. Leeza Abraham.

One day national seminar “SYNERGY 2K18”on “Trends in Green Chemistry” was conducted on 10th January 2018 in the Conference Hall. Dr. P. Nagaraj (Asst. Professor, Anna University, Chennai) delivered a talk on “Green synthetic approach for novel organic molecules”. Dr. Cintil Jose Chirayil (Asst. Professor, Newmann College, Thodupuzha) delivered a talk on “Green Polymers”.

Extension activity of Chemistry Department, St. Thomas College Ranni was conducted on 5th February 2018 at Govt. L P School, Ranni. The programme was based on waste management and related environmental problems and was aimed at creating awareness among children about how to contribute effectively towards this grave issue. The programme started at 11:00 am with an introductory speech by Prof. Rintu Mathew followed by a presentation based interactive session by Devika Soman and Angitha P of Third DC Chemistry. This was followed by various fun games and activities such as Traffic Light experiment (oscillatory reaction), finding the right waste box game, blood sample collection and lucky dip conducted by Ajith V R, Jilse Varghese, Jinta Sara Joseph and Varsha Santhosh of third and second DC Chemistry. Students and teachers actively participated in all the programmes and it was culminated by 2:00 pm with distribution of prizes for the participants. Angitha of third DC Chemistry gave the vote of thanks.