



ST FRANCIS DE SALES COLLEGE

Permanently Affiliated to Bangalore University Electronics City, Bengaluru - 100

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A FRANSALIAN INSTITUTE OF HIGHER LEARNING

DFFA REPORT 2018-19

The DFFA in association with the CSE has come out with various initiatives in order to help the farmers' community progress and prosper. In the field of agriculture, the use of technology must be improved so that farmers can improve their productivity. Many of them are still using the traditional system of cultivation and hence there is a need to teach them about the latest techniques of cultivation to help them to move ahead. It is an established fact that the future of the agricultural sector depends on innovation and technology. DFFA focuses on helping the farmers by mentoring them, by teaching them about the various latest techniques existing today which will help them to take their farming to another level.

On the 24 October 2018 C-SED which stands for Centre for Social Entrepreneurship Development, conducted a programme at SFS College. It is a unique initiative of the CSE and completely focuses on nurturing social entrepreneurs from the rural and semi-urban background by identifying their business ideas. This helps the growing and challenging Entrepreneurs to get an insight into their own strengths and weaknesses and how to go about with their business plan. C-SED also focuses on rural empowerment and upliftment of backward classes of the society. The students were introduced to the concept of Social Entrepreneurs and how they as the youth of the country can bring a change in society. This also helped many students to identify the entrepreneurial abilities within them.

"National Farmathon" event was launched on 23 December 2018 at St. Francis de Sales College, Bengaluru. The distinguished speakers of the event were Mr. Narayana Reddy, Dr. Surya Kumar, Dr. Acharya, Mr. Sundar Raman, and Rev. Fr. Roy, the Principal who enlightened and inspired us through their message, followed by a cultural performance by the students of SFS College. Various 'Kisan Diwas' awards were distributed for the various categories of the agricultural sector. The launch of the National Farmathon was a successful programme and the next event was scheduled to take place in the month of June 2019.

On the 23 and 24 June 2018, the 'National Farmthon' was held at SFS College. This was a two-day event where the Consumers and Farmers were came together. On the first day, there

was run for the cause and protection of farmers and also a small exhibition. On the second day, a seminar was conducted for the farmers. During the seminar, there were vibrant speakers who enlightened the farmers about how they could bring better results from their occupation. Sri Narayan Reddy who received Bishma Award in natural farming was felicitated. He is Indian Ambassador for natural farming, he shared his expertise in natural farming.

As future plan of DFFA in association with the CSE is adopting a village. Measures are being taken to raise the required funds in this regard. Once a particular village has been adopted by the college, measures will be taken to mentor and monitor them on a regular basis. There will also be a focus on the holistic development of that particular community and thereby the wellbeing of our society.



Farmathon connects farmers with B'luru techies

Express Features

On Sunday, hundreds of farmers got the opportunity to connect with the urban youth at the National Farmathon, an event that attempts to bring together those who support and those involved in natural farming. It was an opportunity for IT professionals in Bengaluru to recognise the tireless effort of farmers. The event that took place at Electronics City saw a fusion of cultures, with many getting an opportunity to understand natural and integral farming methods.

The event highlighted sustainable farming, community farming and shared resources. The brainchild of Atchuta, founder of non-profit organisation, Estah Society, National Farmathon aims to engage with the best minds from across India for the well-being of farmers.

The first event was a 5km run, Farmathon Run, as techies of different IT companies expressed solidarity with the farmers. "Most of us are just consumers and don't know the pains and challenges. The farmers work really hard to make India independent economically

and self-reliant. I am glad that I met and understood the way farmers work," said Raghavendra, a techie.

At present, Estah supports more than 1,200 farmers across five south Indian states. In the next one year, National Farmathon is proposed to be conducted across 12 cities in India to help farmers understand scientific methods.

The biggest challenge for the farmers is the risks and dangers of genetically modified and hybrid seeds. The Farmathons aim to be an initiative that will help them to not be dependent on multinational agri companies, which walk away with a large share of the output or the income.

Ensuring food security in the fast-diminishing agricultural land areas and increasing water scarcity are posing to be a challenge. So, the farmathon focuses on water conservation techniques that are needed in modern day farming.

"Farmers need to save water, reduce fertilizer and pesticide usage and at same time, use natural resources to boost yield," said Krishna Reddy, a farmer supported by Hyderabad-based SVR Group.



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Farmathon



Mr.Narayana Reddy - Bishma awardi



Oath taking on Farmathon



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