

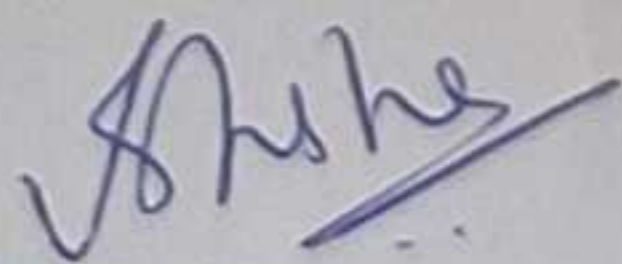
## NATURE CLUB AND HIKING CLUB

ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

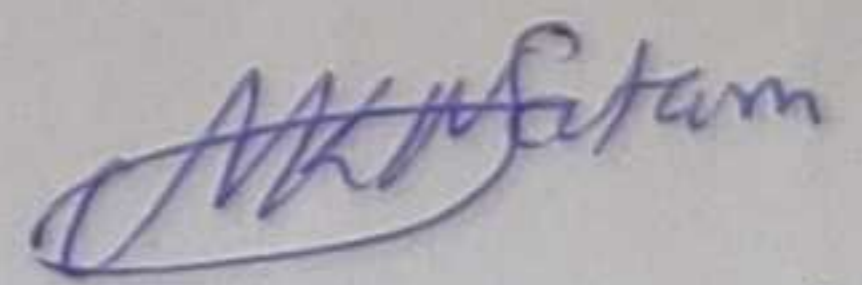
India is a large and diverse country with immense geomorphological features and a great biodiversity. Nature Club of SIWS College has always intended to enhance our understanding about the interactions between human beings and environment through its activities. Also, it aims to facilitate the development of skills for environmental protection, to promote environmental awareness among all sections of the society, to spread environment education, especially in the informal and creative manner among younger generation. To sensitize and mobilize student's participation for preservation and conservation of environment, Nature club organizes nature trails, hikes, nature walks, etc. to educate the students about nature's beauty, diversity and the necessity to conserve the treasures of natural resources that are around us.

In accordance with the above theme, the hike for current semester was planned at Fort Lohagad, near Lonavala, 94 Km from Mumbai. The meeting of committee members along with student general secretary was conducted on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. The idea was put in front of the members and preliminary planning was done. In line with the same, a notice containing details of hike was circulated among all college students. The announcement got an overwhelming response. First 50 students who approached to the committee members were given undertaking forms. After due written permission from parents, a meeting of these 50 students was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2016. The students were briefed about the dos and donts of a hiking trek. Consequently 50 students of FY, SY and TY along with committee members went for the trail on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2016.

The bus was arranged from the college main gate at 7am. The trekkers reached to the base of fort at 11. Trekking through the dense vegetation amidst consistent rain and mist was an fascinating experience. The senior students willingly helped the first timers to the trek. 3389 ft elevation was covered enthusiastically by all the trekkers. The historical and environmental knowledge gained was incredible. The scenic beauty was mesmerizing. With tremendous knowledge and appreciating the natural beauty, all the students returned to college at 7pm. The hike was a great success as everything concluded as planned. The committee members are thankful to Principal. Dr. Usha Iyer for her consistent support and encouragement. With the same spirit, the members plan to conduct more of such activities in future.



**PRINCIPAL**  
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20/01/2017  
(CHAIRPERSON)

