## **Star Status Scheme**

Under HRD Programme Funded by DBT, Govt. of India

St. Edmund's College

Shillong

**Background:** Star College Scheme" has been initiated by Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, New Delhi under the HRD programme to support colleges offering undergraduate education to improve the quality of science teaching. The programme aims to improve the skills of teachers by organising faculty training, improved curriculum and emphasis on practical training to students



by providing access to specialised infrastructure and consumables. Star college scheme has been divided in two categories *viz*. strengthening of support for undergraduate education and Star college status. Criteria for selection as a "StarCollege" are very stringent and budget provision is double for colleges accorded star college status. So far, 130 colleges have been supported under the "strengthening of support" category. The support has strengthened physical infrastructure in laboratories, library, teaching aids, and promoted networking with neighbouring institutes. Hands-on training and projects of day to day relevance have enhanced interest in students to pursue science courses at Undergraduate level

STAR College Scheme at St Edmund's College focus is on the strengthening of the academic endeavours of the students for achieving excellence in teaching and training, enhance the quality of the learning and teaching process to stimulate skill development through 'practical exposure and participation in Summer Schools, to promote networking and strengthen ties with neighbouring institutions and other Laboratories and to provide unified access and exposure to students to research laboratories and industries in the country



<u>Star Scheme at College</u>: In the year 2008 the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India has started its new venture to enhance the scenario of practical skill development among the UG students of the country. In context to these STAR College Scheme was initiated and St. Edmund's College was one of the beneficiaries. The following departments of the college – viz. Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Biochemistry and Biotechnology were the recipient of the Scheme



During the year the college has made significant progress with the Scheme and these are evident from the student's admission to higher degree courses in reputed universities all over the country and also in many institutions abroad. Beside the students the Scheme has also helped the faculty to initiate individual research temperament among the students and in turn the faculty are oriented towards receiving various research grants from various funding agencies.

Recently in the year 2015 the STAR College expert committee has upgraded the college to the STAR STATUS which actually has boost the academic activities of the students and faculty and also has exposed the college to the attain new heights.



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- ✓ Screening of Movies
- ✓ Art Competition
- ✓ Summer Training
- ✓ Faculty Improvement programme
- ✓ Preparation of SOP
- ✓ Initiation of Departmental Library
- ✓ Publication of Scientific papers in Journals