



XAVIERWRITE

A BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

*"Hope does not
disappoint"*


ROMANS 5:5



PILGRIMS OF HOPE

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

IN MEMORIAM



St. Xavier's College
Community
offers a tribute of love
to
POPE FRANCIS ,
a shepherd of
compassion ,
a voice of peace,
and a heart for the
poor .

May he rest in God's
eternal embrace.

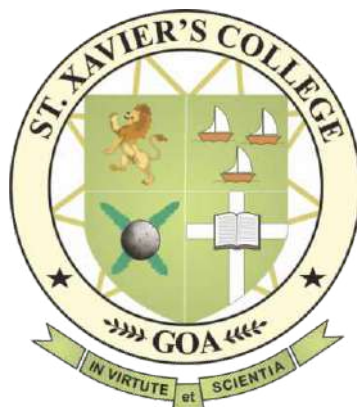
1936 - 2025



Xavierwrite

A BIENNIAL NEWSLETTER OF

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa.



✧ Editorial Team ✧

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|--------------------------|---|---|
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Principal's Message



I am elated to present the *Xavierwrite*, the 38th Volume and the second issue for the academic year 2024-25, a vivid presentation of the myriad activities conducted during the second term and a glimpse of the vibrant campus life at Xavier's!

The beginning of the Even Semesters coincided with the celebrations of the decennial Exposition of the relics of St Francis Xavier at Old Goa, an occasion very special for us, xavierites. The exemplary life of the patron of our College, 'an educationist par excellence' is our inspiration in the quest for excellence.

Striking a perfect balance between academics and extra-curricular activities, the semester saw students busy showcasing their talent at college events and participating at almost all inter collegiate festivals, returning home proudly with the Winner's trophy.

In addition to the regular courses, a number of our students successfully completed Skill Development Certificate Courses on campus as well as earned NPTEL SWAYAM certifications through online learning. A good number of students participated in the Campus Placement Drive and many took up summer internships to get a first-hand experience of industry.

Our faculty members constantly striving to update themselves through faculty development programs and keep abreast with current trends, organised several National and International level Seminars for staff and students.

Considering the importance of evaluation and feedback for an Institution's progress, every department of the college, for the first time, went through an Academic Audit, an exercise that was extremely rewarding and enriching. In keeping with the SDGs, new initiatives for a clean and green campus were introduced and a Green Audit was carried out.

My heartfelt appreciation to our faculty and staff whose dedication to creating an engaging learning environment encouraged our students to explore their creativity and critical thinking skills. The activities and achievements are a testament to the

hard work and passion of all the members of the Xavierite family including the PTA, our alumni and our Management.

Our students are our pride! We have abundant talent, a number of innovative minds, thousands of helping hands and great team spirit!

As the Jubilee year 2025 opened the door to a year dedicated to hope, we at Xavier's wind up our activities for the academic year 2024-25, recommitting ourselves to aim higher, to achieve new benchmarks for quality education, with the hope of forming responsible, refined and caring individuals.

My sincere appreciation to the editorial team Ms. Freda, Ms. Linette, Ms. Sandra, Ms Swizel and Mr. Lisvan for their dedicated efforts in editing and ensuring the timely release of this issue of the newsletter. Well done!

To our readers, a big thank you! Your support is our motivation. We hope this edition makes for interesting reading and inspires everyone to achieve more.

- Ursula Barreto
Acting Principal

“

“Take pride in how far you've come.
Have faith in how far you can go.
But don't forget to enjoy the journey.”

– Michael Josephson

”

Administrator's Message



Success of a scholastic year largely depends on the curricular and extracurricular activities conducted in the institution. While the curricular activities equip the students with knowledge of the subjects helping them to gain academic excellence, the extracurricular activities strengthen the academic achievements. A student is expected to grow academically, but his/her all-round development is very much conditioned by the degree of his/her participation in the various extra-curricular activities that are conducted. These activities help in the development of leadership and communication skills, promote a sense of community, sharing of knowledge, and much more.

The work done in this direction is put to black and white in the bi-annual magazine, Xavierwrite. The aim is not only to record the work that has been done, but also to act as a stimulant for the students to do better and excel in their respective fields of interest. This bi-annual magazine is like opening a window to the world, allowing it a peek into intense academic work and the supporting activities conducted in the College so as to ensure a holistic development of the students.

Sincere thanks to the editorial board and its collaborators for working meticulously to put together all that has been done during the second half of this academic year, 2024-25. May God bless everyone.

- Fr. Tony Salema
Administrator

Editor's Note

As we close the pages of another remarkable year at St. Xavier's College, it is with immense pride and gratitude that I present to you the 38th volume of Xavierwrite.



In this edition, you will find the remarkable achievements of our students and faculty. Each department has left its unique mark, various cells have championed important causes, and our clubs and associations have created platforms for creativity, leadership, and fellowship. As we reflect on the months that have passed, we are reminded that education is not merely about acquiring knowledge—it is about nurturing hope, building character, and preparing individuals to make meaningful contributions to society.

My gratitude to our Principal Ms. Ursula Baretto and Administrator Fr. Antonio Salema for their invaluable guidance, constant support, and encouragement. I am immensely grateful to the editorial team for the hours of work, and whole-hearted cooperation to bring out this issue. My heartfelt appreciation to all the contributors who have made this newsletter possible—the faculty members who have guided academic pursuits, the students who have embraced opportunities for growth, and the entire college community that continues to embody the Xaverian spirit of excellence and service.

- Freda Antonio Tavares

Editor

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“The best way to predict the future
is to create it.”

– Peter Drucker

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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED

Internship Programme: Six students undertook a two weeks Internship Programme at Our Lady of Milagres Urban Cooperative Credit Society (Mapusa and Siolim Branch). The students were divided into 2 batches. The first batch commenced from November 11, 2024 to November 24, 2024 and the second batch from November 26, 2024 to December 8, 2024. The interns were introduced to the structure, principles, and functioning of financial cooperatives. They were provided practical exposure to daily operations such as account management, loan processing, and customer service. The interns interacted with members and understood the role of cooperative societies in community development. Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza co-ordinated the programme.



Session on Guart (Goa University Admission Ranking- Test): On January 4, 2025, Ms. Viveka de Melo e Granjo provided insights and advice to help prepare and motivate students for GUART. Ms. Viveka explained GUART criteria and eligibility using clear guidelines, interactive presentations, and real-life examples to ensure proper understanding among the students. The students were exposed to several effective strategies for mastering the GUART syllabus, such as time management and structured study plans, that would boost the student's confidence and readiness. This session transformed the daunting challenge of this Test into an



achievable milestone further motivating students to pursue their dreams with determination and confidence. Nine students from TYBA participated in the session. Ms. Gema Ataide co-ordinated the session.

Value Added Course: The Department of Economics organized the Flower Making Workshop 2.0 (as part of the Value-Added Course) on March 25, 2025 to teach specific flower making techniques, to foster creativity and to promote a hobby. Ten students participated with great enthusiasm. Ms Kimaya Gawas, the resource person, a self-taught artist, patiently and meticulously taught the students the skill of making three types of flowers using ribbons, stockings and foam. Ms Jacqueline Monteiro co-ordinated the workshop.

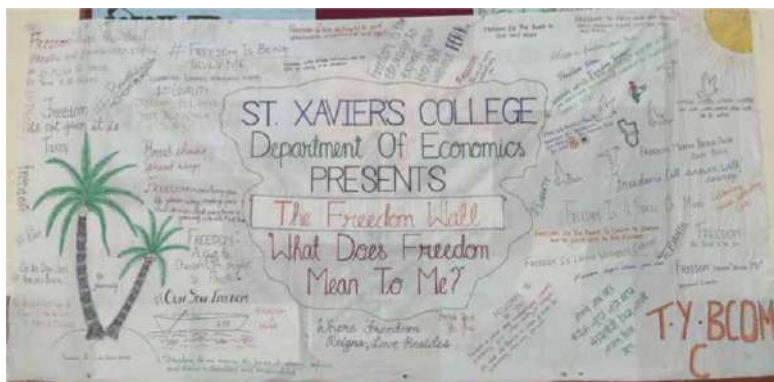


Bridge Course: The Department of Economics in association with IQAC conducted a 30- hour Bridge Course for SYBA Economics Major students titled 'Macroeconomics Made Simple: A Bridge to Understanding the Economy' from December 16, 2024, to March 4, 2025, aligning with the sustainable goals of Quality Education, Decent work and Economic Growth, Reduced Inequalities and Responsible Consumption and Investment. The Bridge Course served as an introductory or preparatory course for the students who may not have had a strong background in macroeconomics or who needed a refresher before tackling more advanced topics. Twelve students from SYBA (Economics) benefitted from the Course. Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza conducted the Course.



Activities Conducted

The Freedom Wall: On the occasion of Goa's 63rd Liberation Day on 19th December 2024, the 'Freedom Wall' provided a space where students could express their individual interpretations and feelings about what freedom means to them. The programme created an environment where a variety of thoughts and experiences about freedom could be shared, highlighting the diversity of views within the student community, promoting a culture of inclusivity and mutual respect. Sixty students from TYBCOM C participated. Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza co-ordinated the activity.



All Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition 'Beyond Borders: Exploring Cultures':

On January 2, 2025, the Global Village Club, in collaboration with the Department of Economics, organised an All-Goa Inter-collegiate Essay Competition themed "Beyond Borders: Exploring Cultures," receiving seventeen entries from various colleges in Goa. The competition aimed to help students engage with and explore diverse cultural aspects, including traditions, art, history, and contemporary issues, while enhancing their research, creativity, and digital presentation skills. The activity was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.



Educational Visit: On January 31, 2025, a field trip was organised to Ela Farm, GIPARD, and the Pilar Museum. Sixty-two students and all the faculty members of the Department participated. At Ela Farm, students observed organic compost creation, the farm's sugarcane fields, gaining insight into the cultivation process. They visited a Soil Testing Laboratory to understand soil analysis methods that guide fertilizer use. The trip included insights into the Entomology Department's work with honeybees, specifically the *Apis Cerana Indica* species and also with beneficial and non-beneficial pests. At GIPARD, the Director outlined the key objectives and discussed the Centre's training and development programs. The visit to the Pilar Museum which housed a diverse collection of artifacts, relics and exhibits showcased the region's history, art and culture. The field trip was a rich and valuable experiential learning experience that reinforced the importance of sustainable and environmentally conscious farming methods. Prof. (Dr.) Blanche Mascarenhas co-ordinated the field trip.



From News to Use: Handmade Newspaper Bags for a Greener Tomorrow: A paper bag-making initiative was organised to promote environmental sustainability on February 18, 2025. Fourteen students from SYBA were required to make 20 paper bags each. The goal was to encourage eco-friendly alternatives to plastic bags while fostering teamwork and social responsibility. The students distributed the paper bags to 15 shopkeepers from different occupations, including stationery shops, cosmetic stores, general stores, and other small businesses. Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza co-ordinated the project.



Ecofiesta 3.0: An event designed to engage students in an interactive, creative and active learning environment to exhibit the real-world application of economics, was a culmination of many exciting events and was held on March 6, 2025. The on-stage events were 'The Economist Runway' where students embodied an influential economist and 'Genz Green' where students came up with sustainable and innovative business ideas. The 'Great Eco Treasure Hunt' combined teamwork and application of concepts of economics in a competitive environment, as well as the 'Econmeme Showdown' where students highlighted economic concepts through funny and engaging memes. Around sixty participants in total took part in the various competitions with great enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Ms. Viveka de Melo e Granjo and Mr. Vishant Sawant co-ordinated the event.



The Money Maze: Understanding Bank Runs and Markets Through Posters: The objective of "The Money Maze: Understanding Bank Runs and Markets Through Posters" was to enhance students' understanding of the Indian money market and its key components. Twenty students of the FYBA Economics Minor class were divided into teams of two. The students had to make posters depicting the structure (components, instruments and functions) of the Indian Money Market and their understanding of Bank Run. 11 posters were received. The activity was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza March 19, 2025.z



'From Barter to Bitcoin: A Fashion Walk Through Money's History':



A thematic event highlighting the journey of money through history, titled 'From Barter to Bitcoin: A Fashion Walk Through Money's History', was organized on March 22, 2025. Fourteen SYBA Economics Major students were divided into teams of 3. Each team had to represent a different stage in the evolution of money, like commodity money, metallic money, paper money,

digital money and cryptocurrency. The students gained an understanding of the history and transformation of money. The activity was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.

Field Trip to the Archaeological Survey of India Museum and Several Renowned Churches and Temples in Goa:



The field trip was organised by Global Village Club of St. Xavier's College, in collaboration with the Abbe Faria Postgraduate Department of Psychology, the Economics Department, and Marathi Department, on March 25, 2025. 26 students and two faculty members participated. Maruti Temple, located in the quaint neighbourhood of Mala is dedicated to Lord Hanuman. It's simple yet elegant architecture, featuring a prominent statue of Lord Hanuman, provided a serene space for prayer and reflection. The Basilica of Bom Jesus, a UNESCO World Heritage Site is known for its exquisite Baroque architecture. The church houses the mortal remains of

St. Francis Xavier, a revered missionary, and its intricately adorned interior exuded a deep sense of history and devotion. The students next visited the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Old Goa, followed by a tour of the Archaeological Survey of India Museum of Goa, located opposite the Basilica. The museum's vast collection of artifacts, including ancient sculptures, pottery, and coins, provided valuable insights into Goa's historical and cultural evolution from prehistoric times to the colonial era. The final destination was the Shree Gomanteshwar Mandir, dedicated to Lord Shiva, in Brahmhapuri, Old Goa. The field trip was an educational and spiritually fulfilling experience, offering participants memories of the region's historical and cultural significance.

Workshop on Stock Market Trading:



On March 27, 2025, a workshop on Stock Market Trading was organized for students of SYBA, SYBSc, and TYBA. Thirty-nine students attended. The workshop was led by Mr. Evan Antao and Mr. Yash Parwar, both students from SYBCOM. They shared their insights and knowledge on various aspects of stock market trading, covering key areas such as investment methodologies, effective trading strategies, recommendations for suitable investment applications, the fundamental differences between stocks and trading, and the step-by-step procedures involved in stock market investment. The workshop also included a practical investment demonstration. The engaging question and answer session allowed students to clarify their doubts and gain a deeper understanding of stock market trading. Ms. Gema Ataide co-ordinated the workshop.

Currency Through Time: India and Beyond: The Department of Economics organised a display of currency notes and coins of different countries, on March 28, 2025. Currency notes and coins from various countries like Russia, Thailand, Fiji, Switzerland, Qatar, Uzbekistan etc. Students gained an understanding of how currency has evolved over time. The display of world currencies illustrated global diversity and economic history as well as provided insights into inflation, demonetization, and

currency design and promoted Numismatics. Sixty students benefitted. The activity was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.



RESEARCH COFFEE SERIES

The following presentations were made under the guidance of Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza during the months of February and March.

1. Smart City Model: An Alternative for a Sustainable Future. Ms Poonam Palyekar and Ms Kashish Mandrekar demonstrated use of smoke absorbing devices, garbage-to-electricity converters, piezoelectric materials, hydroelectricity, aquaponics, and solar-powered transport solutions to reduce pollution and enhance renewable energy usage on
2. The Gig Economy in India by Ms. Gautami Parab and Ms. Savia D'cruz who spoke about it as an avenue for employment in India and its long-term effects.
3. Ideal Budget Plan for Goa, Ms. Astrid D Mello and Ms. Ciana Gonsalves spoke about their, which focused on fostering technological innovation and environmental sustainability to build a resilient and progressive future.
4. Market for Second-hand Goods in India, Ms. Nicole Rodrigues, Ms. Renitta Fernandes and Ms. Vinoshka Fernandes, explored the economic benefits of buying and selling second-hand goods and to explore its current trends.
5. Small Scale Industries in India- A Brief Study, Ms. Saniya Gauns and Ms. Vaibhavi Hadfadkar researched on the role, importance, challenges, and future of Small-Scale Industries in India.

6. The Role of NCC in Economics, Mr. Piyush Kanjiya, emphasised the role of NCC in employment generation, leadership building, financial discipline, Disaster Management, women empowerment and social welfare.
7. The Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Employment, Ms. Usha Parwar, Ms. Ranjana Narvekar and Ms. Pavitra Mandrekar explained that AI has two main effects on employment: the 'destructive effect' - jobs being completely replaced by automation and the 'substitution effect' - the type of work changes, rather than disappears. They concluded that AI is not just a technological advancement but a social and economic shift.



BEST PRACTICES

1. On the occasion of World Literacy Day, the department organises a Stationery Drive. The donated items are handed over to the Prison Ministry and Caritas.
2. Maintaining a potted plant in the Department.
3. Switching off lights, fans, computers when not in use.
4. The Paper Bags Project to promote environmental sustainability.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended:

Prof. (Dr.) Blanche Mascarenhas attended the State Level Workshop 'Beyond the Facade: Recognising and Avoiding Deceptive Journals' organised by Vidya Prabodhini College, Parvari, in collaboration with DHE on 8 January, 2025 at SCERT, Parvari.

Prof. (Dr.) Blanche Mascarenhas attended a National Level Webinar 'Enhancing Research Visibility and ORCID' organised by St. Xavier's College Library in

collaboration with IQAC on Thursday, 3 April 2025 from 3:00 – 5:00pm.

Ms. Gema Ataide and Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza participated in the One Week National Level Online Faculty Development Program on 'Outcome Based Education and Application of Generative AI in Teaching and Research' organised by St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thrissur, Kerala in association with the Collegiate Education Department, Government of Kerala from 17th to 24th October 2024.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Winners: State Level Model Making Competition



Ms. Poonam Palyekar and Ms. Kashish Mandrekar students of Economics of SYBA, won the First Place at the State level Model Making Competition organized by the Department of Economics of Dempo Charities Trust's Srinivassa Sinai Dempo College of Commerce and Economics, Cujira, Bambolim, Goa. The theme was ' Viksit Bharat @ 2047: Innovative Solutions for a Sustainable Future ' and was organized on January 28, 2025.

Runners Up: All Goa Intercollegiate Quiz 'Battle of Brains 3.0'



Ms Astrid D Mello and Mr. Omkar Karpe, students of the Department of Economics of St. Xavier's College, were declared 'Runners Up' at the All-Goa Inter-Collegiate Quiz 'Battle of Brains 3.0' organized by the Department of Economics of Rosary College of Commerce and Arts, Navelim, on February 15, 2025.

Presentations

Miss Astrid Rachel D Mello (SYBA) and Miss Ciana Gonsalves (SYBCom) presented their budget plan on the theme 'Empowering tomorrow: Building a Resilient State for Young Goa' at the State Level Budget Plan Competition on 'My State My Budget' organised by Srinivasan Sinai Dempo College of Commerce and Economics, Bambolim on February 11, 2025.

Programmes Attended

Ms. Shelda Fernandes from SYBCOM C put up a stall of handmade flowers (crochet, ribbon, stocking) at the Market Mania, a vibrant pop-up bazaar organized by Dempo College, Cujira, on February 13, 2025. The event served as a dynamic platform for entrepreneurs and small business owners across Goa to showcase their products to the public.

Ms. Poonam Palyekar, M. Saniya Gauns, Ms. Kashish Mandrekar, Ms. Astrid D Mello and Ms Savia D' Cruz, SYBA Major students of Economics, participated in the State-level workshop on "Fundamentals of Econometrics in Research" organised by the Research and Development Cell and IQAC of Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre (DMC), organized on March 7, 2025.



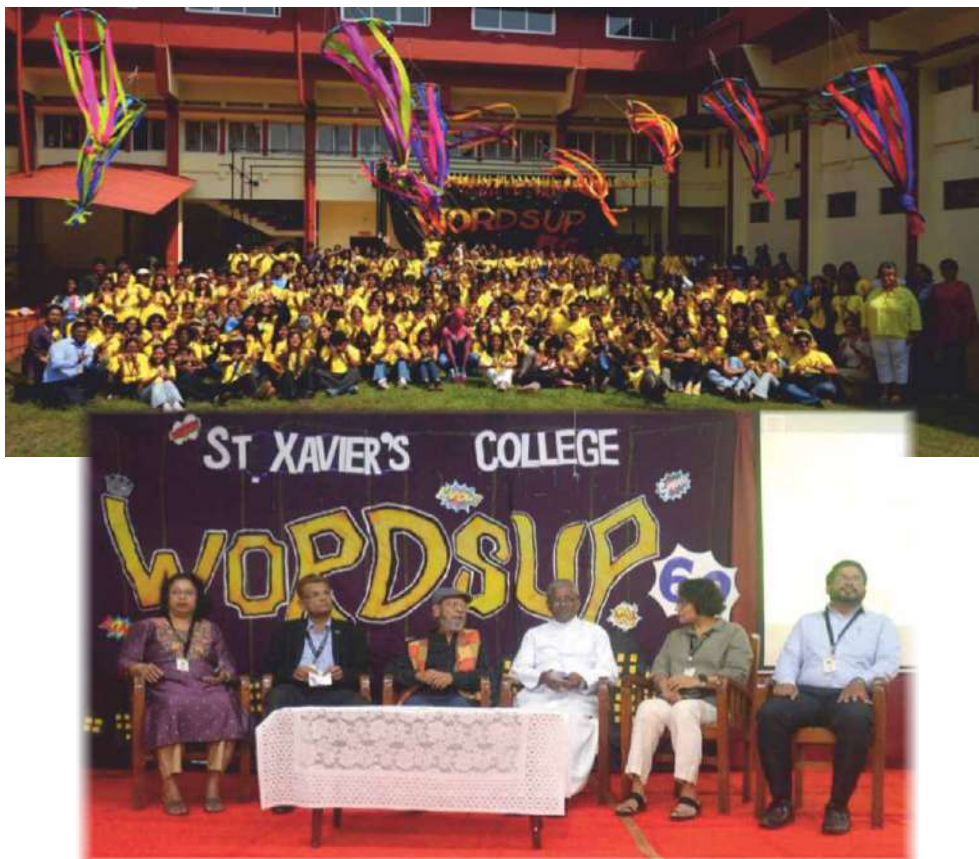
“Every problem has a solution.
You just have to be creative enough to find it.”

– Travis Kalanick



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED**

WordsUp 6.0: Celebrating the Comicverse: *WordsUp 6.0* and *Writers' Corner* held on February 22nd, 24th, and 25th, 2025, transformed the campus into a vibrant celebration of comic culture under the theme “*Comicverse: Where Every Panel Packs a Punch.*” Seventeen colleges from across Goa participated, with teams of 20–35 students each. The Writers' Corner featured sessions by Mr. Vaibhav B.U., Mr. Nishant Saldanha, and famous cartoonist Alexyz. Writer's Corner concluded with an open mic session. The main event comprised 25 creative and performance-based competitions spread across two days, accompanied by a pop-up bazaar, bookstalls, and food courts. With over 250 volunteers and electrifying performances, *WordsUp 6.0* concluded on a high note, leaving lasting memories for all. The event was coordinated by Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes.



Minors Meet: A Peer Learning Initiative was held on 26th March 2025 for the FYBA Semester II English Minor class. The session focused on Isaac Asimov's *I, Robot*, a key



text in the Science Fiction syllabus, and aimed to foster deeper understanding through peer-led discussion. Akansha Parsekar, Rukma Fadte, and Natalie

D'Cruz, students from the previous semester, served as resource persons, sharing insights into the themes and ethical dilemmas within the text. The session included an engaging Q&A segment and was attended by 35 students. The event was coordinated by Dr. Prema A. Rocha.

On Saving a Tree: Drawing inspiration from a prescribed poem *On Killing a Tree* by Gieve Patel, the English Major students who are enrolled in the Ecology and Literature course participated in a green initiative assignment to integrate ecology with literary exploration. Students were tasked with growing a plant from seed and were informed about this task in December 2024 by course faculty, Ms. Sunita Mesquita. The objectives of this assignment were to explore the intersection between nature and literature and to encourage students to experience hands-on environmental sensitivity. Each of the 35 students brought a plant to class on 20th January 2025.



Celebrating International Women's Day 2025: Students from the Department organized a special event to honor the strength, achievements, and contributions of women. Each student created a personalized bookmark, featuring meaningful quotes from famous women writers like Alice Walker, Margaret Atwood, Toni Morrison, Virginia Woolf and others which symbolized messages of empowerment and the

shared solidarity among the students. Several students took the stage including while Shrutika Padte rapped an original musical composition that focused on empowering women to overcome self-doubt and embrace one's strengths.



Session on 'Types of Reporting': the session held on 1st March 2025 for SY students studying the VET (Vocational Education Training) paper 'Newspaper Reporting and Editing' under the NEP was attended by 22 students and 03 faculty members. The Session had the Guest Speaker, Mr. Lisvan Rodrigues, Faculty, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa. Mr. Lisvan explained the various types of reporting such as objective reporting, interpretative reporting and investigative reporting in detail with the help of real-life examples and explained the importance and challenges of each.



Research Coffee Series: On the 13th of February 2025, TYBA students presented the central focus of their respective Project reports.

Group1 presented on *Kafka on Kafka: An Appreciation of Select Works, through the Understanding of the Author's Mind*. Their project guide, Ms. Alice D'Cruz, moderated the session during which she initiated a discussion on the Aim, Objectives, Methodology, Chapter Scheme, Scope, Limitations and relevance of their Project.

Ms. Priyanka Pandit moderated the discussion on the second project mentored by Dr.

Prema Rocha titled: *Decoding Contemporary India: Exploring Select Chetan Bhagat Novels*, highlighting the aim, objectives, Methodology Scope, limitations and relevance of their project.

Several queries regarding the focus of the project viva were tabled discussed and suggestions made by the respective guides.



Brewing Ideas - Final-Year Project Presentations at the Coffee Table Discussion"

on 3rd of March 2025, a Coffee Table discussion was organized for Third-Year students under the guidance of their mentors, Ms. Sunita Mesquita and Dr. Maria Claudette Gomes. The first presentation was "Crackling Salt: Analysing the Influence of Superstitions on Culture and Literature" by Azelia Rodrigues, Eulalia Fernandes, Rose Martin, Erica Heredia and Anelly Ribeiro. The project aimed to probe from the impact of superstitions on human communities and to assess whether literature can be a tool to understand tradition and culture. The next presentation was "Leafing Through the Blue Notebook: A Critical Appreciation of Satyajit Ray's 'Feluda' Series" by Christie Fernandes, Chetna Thanki, Joaquim Barneto, Marlon Fernandes, Diksha Tupkar, Joshua Fernandes, Michelle Macedo and Katherine Manuel. The project delved into the literary, cultural, and narrative significance of Satyajit Ray's iconic Feluda series, and how Ray has constructed an Indian detective figure who balances intellect, wit, and moral clarity.



Research Colloquium –The session held on 19th March 2025 featured TYBA English Honours students, Chetna Thanki and Katherine Manuel, who presented research papers earlier shared at the Research Paper Presentation Competition held at Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre in October 2024, where Chetna secured third place. Katherine presented “The Little Grey Cell Effect: Unravelling the Mystery of Imagination”, analysing Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* and *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. Chetna followed with “Bite of Imagination: Vampires in Modern Fiction and their Impact on Teenage Identity”, focusing on *The Twilight Series* and *The Vampire Diaries*. The event concluded with a QnA session featuring contributions from both faculty and students. 21 students and 5 faculty members participated in the event and was facilitated by the Head of Department, Dr. Prema Rocha.



BEST PRACTICES

A yearly training session is held for TYBA English students for GU ART entrance exam. Five students attended and all five received admission calls from the Goa University.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

Dr. Maria Claudette Gomes attended the Two-Day National Level Seminar on the theme 'Towards Viksit Bharat- The Skilling Mission for 2047 on 21st and 22nd March 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Mr. Christie Fernandes (TYBA) and Ms. Kimberly Valles (SYBA) were declared Runners up of Lit. Star a Literature Quiz 3.0 organized by Rosary College, Navelim on 13th March 2025.

Paper Presentations

Kimberly Vales and Kelly D'souza presented a paper titled 'No Man's Land: Role of Cross-Cultural Narratives in Short Fiction of The Goan Diaspora' organized by Parvatibai Chowgule College, Margao Goa on 10th March 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF HINDI

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED

Guest Lecture: Dr. Imre Bangha, Assistant Professor in Hindi and Fellow Wolfson College Oxford University delivered a lecture on the topic 'Role of Hindustani in the Mughal Era' on 24th January 2025. Dr. Bangha showed students different ancient writings of Hindustani Literature. 30 Students of FYBA, SYBA, SYB.SC and TYBA students attended the talk.



Guest Lecture: Renowned writer Shri. Govind Mishra spoke on the theme “Rachanakaar ki Rachanatmakta” on 4th February 2025. He spoke on importance of literature and how it helps us to know people and society. He also discussed the various aspects of stories written by him. Students of FYBA/ SYBA, and TYBA Hindi attended the same.



Value Added Course - Devnagari Typing: 12 students successfully completed 30 hours of the course held from 19th August 2024 to 10th January 2025. The participants gained the skill of Devnagari typing under the guidance and training from Dr. Ramita Gurav. The successful participants were awarded certificates at the hands of renowned Hindi writer Shri. Govind Mishra, during a function on 24th January 2025.



Certificate course - IKS on Goan traditional Art form Kaavi: A thirty-hour course was held by the Department of Hindi in collaboration with Internal Quality Assurance Cell from 27th February 2025 to 5th March 2025 on the local art form Kaavi. The participants were introduced to the concept of Indian knowledge system and indigenous art forms. They were imparted hands-on training in Kaavi art by writer, artist, eco-culture activist, Ms. Samruddhi Kerkar.

20 participants successfully completed the course. An exhibition of Kaavi art designs and artifacts made by the participants during the course was held on 6th March 2025 in the college lobby.



Distinguished Alumni Guest Lecture Series: Assistant Professor Ms. Deepali Sutar gave a lecture on the topic “Swatantryottar Hindi Kahani” on 24th March 2025. 24 students of SYBA and TYBA attended the same. Important topics discussed with the students were vibhinna Hindi kahani Aandolan , swatantryottar kahani ka Swarup, vibhinna vimarsh in Hindi kahani etc. Dr. Magdalene Desouza coordinated the event.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

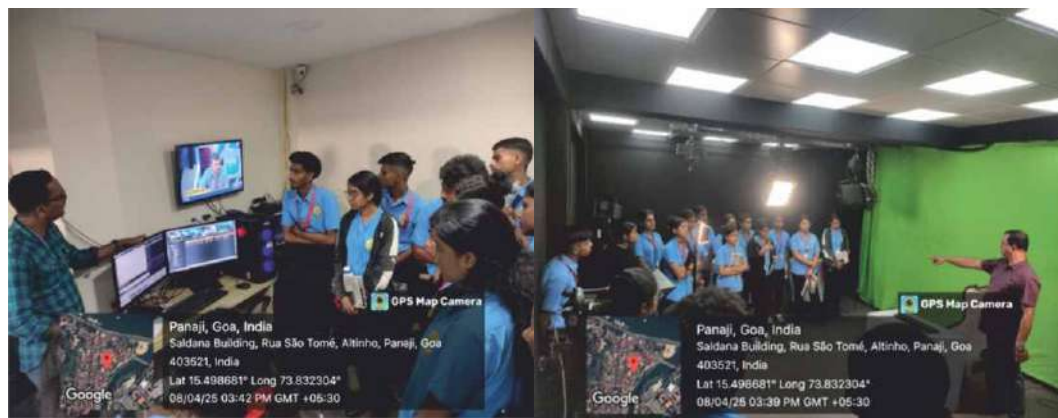
Study Tour: The Departments of Hindi, Konkani, and Marathi organized a study tour to Amritsar, Dharamshala, Kullu, and Manali between 19th to 28th December 2024. Key sites included the Golden Temple, Wagah Border, Jallianwala Bagh, Dalai Lama Temple, St. John's Church, Naddi Village, Dharamshala War Memorial, Manali's Snow Point, Vashisht Kund, Hadimba Temple, Tibetan Monasteries, and Kullu's Vaishno Devi Temple and shawl factory.

The tour offered insights into India's freedom struggle, military history, and Tibetan culture and spirituality. A total of 42 students and 8 teachers participated.





Visit to O Heraldo: 16 students FYBA Hindi visited O Heraldo Office, Panjim on 8th April 2025. Students were introduced to various reporters who explained the importance of newspapers in daily life, the process on news writing, and different layouts of news. Students also visited Heraldo TV Studio, and the Advertisement department. They were introduced to video editing, and shown how news is telecast live. Teachers in-charge were Ms. Pritam Salgaonkar and Ms. Kshitija Pednekar.



DEPARTMENT OF KONKANI

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED

Bhas-Sanvad (Talk): The Department of Konkani in collaboration with Konkani Bhasha Mandal (KBM), Margao, organized Bhas-Sanvad to commemorate International Mother Tongue Day on 21st February 2025. The event aimed to promote the Konkani language and literature while recognizing academic excellence in Konkani studies. The event was graced by two eminent Konkani literary figures—Mr. Tukaram Shet, a Sahitya Akademi Award-winning writer, and Dr. Kiran Budkule, a renowned Konkani writer and critic. Discussions revolved around the evolution of Konkani literature, linguistic challenges, and the promotion of Konkani among the younger generation.

Another major segment of the event was the presentation of Konkani academic awards and scholarships for students across institutions in Goa who secured the highest marks in Konkani at SSC, HSSC, B.A., and M.A. examinations, with sponsorships from various benefactors.

The event coordinated by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, saw participation from 104 attendees, and was financially supported by the Directorate of Official Language, Panjim.



International Seminar on 'Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today': the seminar was organised by the Department of Konkani in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), 28th March 2025 on college campus. Guests, included Most Rev. Dr. Simião Purificação Fernandes, Auxiliary Bishop of Goa and Daman, who graced the occasion as the Inaugurator. Prof. Kyoko Matsukawa, a distinguished Tiatr researcher from Japan, was the Chief Guest, while the keynote address was delivered by Mr. Fausto D'Costa, a Tiatr scholar from Goa.

The seminar featured two engaging academic sessions chaired by prominent tiatrists Mr. Tomazinho Cardozo and Mr. Wilson Mazarelo. Scholars from various institutions presented research papers covering diverse aspects of Tiatr, including its thematic evolution, sociocultural reflections, and the influence of European drama. Each

paper presentation lasted 20 minutes, followed by insightful discussions. Prince Jacob, a celebrated tiatrist, served as the Chief Guest for the valedictory session. The seminar coordinated by Dr. Fr. Luis Xavier Gomes witnessed a turnout of 191 students.



Writer's Meet with Students: The Department of Konkani in collaboration with the Goa Konkani Academy, Panjim, organized a program titled "Lekhok Vidyarthanchie Bhettek" (Writer's Meet with Students) on 20th January 2025.

Mr. Dilip Dhargalkar, a retired teacher of St. Xavier's HSS, Mapusa, and a Sahitya Academy Award winner for his exceptional contributions to Konkani literature shared his journey as a writer and emphasized the importance of reading and writing in shaping their future. His personal anecdotes and experiences as a writer left a lasting impact on the audience.

The program was attended by 51 students from FY, SY and TY Konkani classes and coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar.



Lecture: The Department of Konkani at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the Directorate of Visiting Research Professors Programme, Kavivarya Bakibab alias B. B. Borkar Chair in Comparative Literature at Goa University, organized a lecture by the eminent linguist and Padma Shri awardee, Prof. Anvita Abbi. The lecture, titled 'Language and Cognition', was held on 23rd January 2025.

Prof. Abbi explored the intricate relationship between language and cognition. Her engaging and thought-provoking presentation captivated the audience, which comprised 100 participants. The event was coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar.



National Seminar – 'The Journey of Romi Konkani Novels': Department of Konkani in collaboration with Dalgado Konknni Akademi (DKA), Panjim, organized a National Seminar on Konkani Novels at the college hall. The seminar brought together distinguished scholars, writers, and literary enthusiasts to explore the rich heritage of Konkani novels.

Mr. Valley Quadros, a renowned Konkani promoter, novelist, and short story writer, was the Chief Guest. He encouraged participants to contribute to the Konkani literary landscape through the novel genre. Keynote speaker, Mr. Tomazinho Cardozo provided an overview of the history and evolution of Romi Konkani novels. He underscored the importance of Romi Konkani in shaping Konkani literature and urged participants to actively promote and preserve Romi Konkani literature for future generations.

The first session on Konkani novels written in Romi, Devanagari, and Kannada scripts, and was moderated by Prof. Cosma Fernandes from M.E.S. College, Zuarinagar. Mr. Willy Goes, Principal of Goa College of Art, Panjim, gave an insightful presentation on the evolution and growth of Romi Konkani novels. Asst. Prof. Glynis Dias from Government College, Quepem, gave an analytical perspective on Devanagari Konkani novels. The session concluded with Mr. Valley Quadros, representing Ashawadi Prakashan, Mumbai, providing an in-depth discussion on Kannada Konkani novels.

The second session, moderated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar, featured critical analyses of notable Konkani novels. Asst. Prof. Darshan Kandolkar from Vidya Prabodhini College,

Porvorim, presented an in-depth study of Edward J. B. D'Souza's novel "Kristanv Ghorabo". Fr. Jose Silveira from Thomas Stephens Konknni Kendr, Porvorim, examined Reginaldo Fernandes' novel "Vonvaxi Put", highlighting its literary significance. Asst. Prof. Fr. Roman Rodrigues from Rosary College, Navelim, concluded the session with a thought-provoking analysis of Willy Goes' novel "Kotrin".

The event was coordinated by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes and Mr. Silvester Vaz. 107 students attended.



One-Day Workshop on Konkani Literature: The Department of Konkani at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, in collaboration with Goa Konkani Academy, Panjim, and Rosary College, Navelim, organized a one-day workshop on 10th January 2025. It focused on training students in writing various forms of Konkani literature, including poetry, story, children's literature, and literary criticism. The inaugural session featured Ms. Prashanti Talpankar, Associate Professor and noted Konkani writer from DMC College, as the Chief Guest.

Mr. Prakash Naik led the session on poetry, guiding students in crafting poems. The session on story writing was conducted by Mr. Ramnath Gawde and Ms. Jofa Gonsalves, who shared techniques for developing engaging and well-structured stories. For children's literature, Mr. Chetan Acharya and Ms. Nayna Aradkar, trained participants in writing for young audiences, emphasizing simplicity. Dr. Hanumant Chopdekar, led the session on literary criticism and book reviews, focusing on developing analytical writing skills. The workshop witnessed active participation from 70 students representing various North Goa colleges, along with six teachers. Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes coordinated the programme.



Certificate Course - Romi Konkani Orthography: Department of Konkani, in collaboration with Dalgado Konknni Akademi (DKA), Panaji, and Seminary Niwas Konknni Kendr, Duler, successfully conducted the Valedictory Program of the Certificate Course in Romi Konkani Orthography on 31st March 2025 at Seminary Niwas, Duler. This course was a collaborative effort aimed at enhancing proficiency in Romi Konkani orthography, the course instructor and coordinator, Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, highlighted the significance of orthographic proficiency and its role in enriching Konkani literature and documentation. This activity was undertaken in keeping with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between St. Xavier's College and DKA. The 30-hour course which was conducted over 20 Sundays commenced in June 2024 and concluded on 31st March 2025. 17 students and seminarians successfully completed the course and were awarded certificates.



Literary activity: The Department of Konkani at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, in collaboration with Sahitya Akademi, Delhi organized a program titled Avishkar on 22nd January 2025. The event was attended by 100 students

Mr. Zilu Gaonkar, a member of Sahitya Akademi, introduced the program and highlighted the significant contributions of Sahitya Akademi in promoting Indian literature. The highlight of the event was a dramatized reading of poems and stories by Dhaee Akhar, a literary group comprising Dr. Ramita Gurav, Ms. Niyati Patre, Ms. Mamta Verlekar, and Mr. Nikhil Satardekar. The readings paid tribute to two iconic Konkani

literary personalities:

1. Dr. Manohar Rai Sardesai, the celebrated Konkani poet whose birth centenary is being observed this year.
2. Mr. Damodar Mauzo, a Jnanpith awardee and distinguished Konkani writer.

The program was coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Field Trip: The Department of Konkani of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the Goa Konkani Academy, organized a one-day educational field trip titled "Vidheartim Lekhokanche Bhettek" on 24th March 2025.

32 students, accompanied by faculty members visited Goa University, where they interacted with Konkani authors, Dr. Hanumant Chopdekar and Dr. Prakash Parienkar. Both authors shared their literary journeys and gave students valuable insights into the process of writing, the current trends in Konkani literature.

The group proceeded to Thomas Stephens Konkani Kendr, Porvorim, where they explored the library, which houses rare books, old manuscripts, and significant publications in Konkani. They learned about the ongoing research projects that the institute undertakes.

At the next stop - Goa Konkani Academy, Panjim students were given an overview of the Academy's initiatives in supporting writers, promoting publications, and organizing literary events. This was followed by a visit to the Dalgado Konkani Academy, which promotes Konkani in the Roman script.

The final visit was to the Tiatr Academy of Goa, students explored exhibits and learned about the contributions of legendary tiatrists.

The field trip was coordinated by Ms. Siddhi Gawas, Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes and Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Dr. Fr. Luis Xavier Gomes was awarded second Prize in Best Lyrics at 57th All Goa State Level Mando Festival 2024 organised by Goa Cultural and Social Centre in collaboration with Goa Sonvskrutik ani Samjik Kendr held at Institute Menezes Branganza Auditorium Panaji on 11th and 12th of December 2024.

Paper Presentations

Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Mr. Silvester Vaz presented papers titled “Tiatrtale nave prayog: Prince Jacob hanchya tiatra sandharbhat” and “Joao Fernandes hanchya Kunabi Jaki tiatranrale lokata'tva” respectively at the International Seminar 'Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today' organised by Konkani Department in collaboration with TAG on 28th March 2025.

Fr. Dr. Luis Gomes presented the following papers:

1. “Manoharrai Sardesai: Jinn ani Vaur” at a national seminar organized by Sahitya Academy in collaboration with Govt. College Sankahli on 14th December 2024.
2. “Tiatr, Mando and Dulpodam” at State level Konknni (Romi Lipi) Borovpieanchem Sommelson 2025 organised by Dalgado Konknni Akademi, Panaji at Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar Goa on 12th January 2025.
3. “Zag Mhoinealleant Disun Yeupi Veachearik Ravindra Kelekar” at a seminar organised by Konkani Adheyonxaka Shenoi Goembab and Sahitya Mahaxala Goa University Taleigao in collaboration with Goa Konkani Academy Panaji held at Goa University on 13th and 14th February 2025.
4. “Tomazinho Cardozo Hanchea tiatrantlem Somaz Jivon” organised by St. Xavier's College Mapusa in collaboration with Tiatr Academy of Goa Panaji held at St. Xavier's College Mapusa on 28th March 2025

Programmes Attended

Mr. Silvester Vaz

1. Attended a workshop on “Academic writing” organised by Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola Goa on 22nd January 2025.
2. Attended workshop on the topic “Konkanicho Sanganakiya vapar” organised by Directorate of Official language, Govt. of Goa in collaboration with Government college of Arts, Science and Commerce, Quepem o 14th January 2025.
3. Attended Third Tribal Literary Conference organised by Adivasi Sahitya Sangh Goa, Directorate of Art and Culture & Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola n 14th December 2025.
4. Attended National seminar on the topic “Konkani Kadambarit Romi Kadambarichi vattchal” on 10th March 2025 organised by Dalgado Konkani akademi, Goa

Mr. Dharma Chodankar

- Attended the Konkani Textbook development workshop for grade 1 & 2 on 5th March 2025 at SCERT, Porvorim, Goa
- Attended the Konkani Textbook development workshop for grade 3 on 25th February 2025 at SCERT, Porvorim, Goa
- Attended National seminar on the topic 'Konkani Kadambarit Romi Kadambarichi Vattchal' on 10th March 2025 organised by Dalgado Konkani Akademi, Goa

Ms. Siddhi Gad attended workshop on the topic “Konkanicho Sanganakiya vapar” organised by directorate of Official language, Govt. of Goa in collaboration with Government college of Arts, Science and Commerce, Quepem on 14th January 2025.

Invited as a Speaker/ Resource Person

- Mr. Silvester Vaz was invited as a resource person for the workshop on the topic “Konkani bhaxa xixxanna mukhavailim aavhana ani sandi” at Ganpat Parsekar college of Education, Parsem – Goa on 12th February 2025.
- Fr. Dr. Luis Gomes delivered a lecture on “Dalagado: The Life and his Works” at Konknni Chollvollintle Mhalghoddeanchem Yogdan, a State level lecture series organised by Konkani Adheyonxaka Shenoj Goembabani Sahitya Mahaxala Goa University Taleigao in collaboration with Thomas Stephens Konknni Kendra Porvorim on 15th January 2025.
- Fr. Dr. Luis Gomes was a resource person for a one-day seminar titled “Tiatr: Past, Present and Future” organized by Vidya Prabodhini College Porvorim on 29th January 2025.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar was invited as Chairperson for a National seminar on 'Konkani kadambarit Romi Kadambarichi Vattchal' organised by Dalgado Konkani Akademi on 10th March 2025.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar contributed as a resource person in the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat- Shiksharth Teacher Education programme in

Konkani language funded by Govt. of Gujrat, at Ahemdabad, from 6th March 2025 – 7th March 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

1. Mr. Nigel Periera of TYBA secured second prize for poetry writing competition organised by Dalgado Konkani Akademi.
2. Mr. Nigel Periera & Asmiksha Shiroadkar received Goa Konkani Akademi student scholarship for best performance in the academic for the year 2024-25.



“Teaching is not just a job, it's a calling.
It requires patience, dedication and
a deep commitment to the well-being and
growth of our students.
But it's also one of the most rewarding and
fulfilling experiences we can have in life.”

– Unknown



DEPARTMENT OF MARATHI

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED:

Guest Lecture on National Youth Day: the department of Marathi in collaboration with NSS unit organised a lecture on the topic 'Swami Vivekananda: Inspiration to today's youth' on the occasion of National Youth Day on 18th January. Dr. Anita Tilve, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, PES college was invited as guest speaker. Dr. Rheane addressed the gathering, The programme was coordinated by Dr. Prachi Joshi.



Marathi Language Day: 'Marathi language Day' was successfully organized at St. Xavier's College on 27th February 2025. Alumni, Adv. Shalini Marathe, was invited as chief guest for the event. She also encouraged students to become enthusiastic and participate in co-curricular activities for their interpersonal development. Competitions like elocution, poetry writing, essay writing, rangoli, singing, one act play, fashion show, dance competition were organized for students across streams. The annual newsletter of the department -Disha was released at the hands of the chief guest. 80 students participated in the programme.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr. Prachi Ganpat Joshi released 'Marathi Sahitya Sampadan', ISBN 978-93-87628-64-9, at an international conference 'First Vishwa Mukta Srujan Marathi Sahitya Sammelan 2024' organised by Mukta Srujan Sanstha, Aurangabad, from 5th to 11th December 2024.



Paper Presentations and Publications

Dr. Prachi Joshi presented the following papers:

1. Presented and published 'Impact of Globalization on Marathi Poetry' at the International Conference-'First Vishwa Mukta Srujan Marathi Sahitya Sammelan 2024' organized by Mukta Srujan Sauntha, at Veskot Al Kabir Suk, Dubai, UAE from 05th to 11th December 2024.



2. 'Shikshan Kshetratil Striyansamoril Awahane' at the Kokan Marathi Parishad at Nageshi, Ponda on 5th January 2025.
3. 'Gyanpeetkar Ravindra Kelekar aani V. S. Khandekar Yanchea Sahitya Sadhanecho Tounik Pad'dhtin Chikitsatmak Abhyas' at Two-days National Seminar -'Ravindra Kelekar: An Eternal Guide of Konkani

- Literature and Language Movement' organised by Goa University on 13th - 14th February 2025.
4. Presented and published 'Gomantkatil Jatirachna aani Marathichea Boli' at a two-day National Seminar 'Bhasha ani Sahitya Abhaysache Antar Vidhya Shakhiy Swaroop' organised by Night College of Arts & Commerce Kolhapur Autonomous on 13th March 2025 in Online Mode.
 5. Presented and published 'Sant Meerabai Yanchi Krushnabhakti' at a two-day International Seminar 'Jagte Krushna Sahityatil Sanskruti, Samaj, ani Tatvigynan' organised by Ganga Mai Education's Arts, Science & Commerce college, Dhule, Maharastra, in online mode on 28th and 29th March 2025.
 6. Presented and published '21vya Bhatkatil Gomantkiy Marathi Kadambari' at a multidisciplinary One-day National Seminar organised by Shri Sant Damaji Mahavidyalaya, Mangal Vedha, Maharashtra on 18th March 2025 in an online mode.
 7. Presented and published 'Ashok Borkar yanchya Kavyanubhuti ya Kavitasangrache Vadmayin Mulyamapan' at a One-day International Interdisciplinary seminar 'organised by Mudhoji college, Phaltan, affiliated to Kolhapur university on 9th April 2025.
 9. Published Research paper in an International Peer Reviewed Journal 'Ideal' on the topic 'जागतिकीकरणानंतरच्या मराठी कादंबरीचे स्वरूप'. 18th March 2025
 10. Published and presented Research paper on the topic 'अण्णाभाऊ साठे यांचे साहित्य: अस्सल भारतीयत्वाचा अविष्कार', at Pune University on 21st April 2025
 11. Published Research paper in an International Peer Reviewed Journal IUC International Interdisciplinary Research Journal (AIIRJ) on the topic 'मराठी संशोधनातील पाठचीक्सेचे महत्त्व 29th March 2025.

Invitation as Speaker/ Resource Person

Dr. Vrunda Kelkar was invited as a resource person for training programme 'Promotion of Indian languages & supporting Multilingualism' of PM SHRI JNVs Bhopal, Jaipur, Lucknow and Pune region from 16th December 2024 at Navodaya Leadership Institute, Canacona Goa.

Dr, Vrunda Kelkar was invited as a resource person at One day National seminar entitled 'Ramesh Vanskar Yanche Sahitya Vishwa' at Government college of Arts and Commerce, Khandola Goa, on 1st March 2025.



Dr. Prachi Joshi was invited as Resource Person for National Seminar 'Konkani Sahitya ani Chalvalitlo Chitran Disha Darshak: Ravindra Kelekar' Goa University.



STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Srujansangam: On February 24, 2025, Goa Marathi Academy hosted the 'Srujan Sangam 2025' Youth festival at Ravindra Bhavan in Sankhali- Goa. The event featured all together nine competitions, 26 students from Department of Marathi participated and won prizes as follows.

- A) Langar Dance Competition: Shruti Metre and Ranjana Narvekar secured the second prize.
- B) Poetry Recitation Competition: Anuja Sutar received the second consolation prize.
- C) Theatrical Singing Competition: Riddhi Shetgaonkar received the second consolation prize.

A State level One Act Play Competition was organised by Kala Academy on 19th December 2024 at Rajiv Gandhi Kala Mandir Ponda. Students of Marathi department presented a one act play named Chuffee. It won overall 2nd prize. Master Priyanshu Londe won the 2nd best actor's prize in the competition. Ms. Chandana Sonawale and Ms. Gautami Dessai, secured the best actress certificates.

Programmes Attended

Students from department of Marathi attended the workshop on 'Story writing' organised by Post Graduation, Department of Marathi, Goa University, from 3rd to 7th February 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED

Certificate Course: A 30-hour 2 credit course on '*Fundamentals of Research and Ethics*' was conducted in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy from September to December 2024. The course was designed to equip students with essential research skills and an understanding of ethical practices in academic investigation. 39 students registered for the course, which took place over the course of 15 weekly sessions. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator. The course was co-ordinated by Dr Sharmila Pais and Dr Shefali Kale.

Guest faculties were invited to deliver sessions. Ms. Dakshata Zabambulkar, the Librarian delivered a session on academic resources available in the college library. Mr. Anzil Fernandes, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, conducted a session on 'Blogging for Academic Research'. Dr. Zen Lobo, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, engaged a session on the use of 'SPSS for Data Analysis'. Dr. Vijay Viegas, Assistant Professor, PG, Department of Psychology delivered a lecture on 'Qualitative Research Methods'.

Workshop: Archaeology and History: Dr. Namrata Biswas conducted a workshop '*Uncovering the Past Through Archaeology*' for 32 History students on 1st March 2025. The workshop aimed to provide students of history with a comprehensive understanding of archaeological artifacts and their role in reconstructing the past. Ms. Domnic Fernandes was the coordinator of the event

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Museum on Wheels: A traveling exhibition designed to bring historical artifacts, cultural displays, and educational content to different locations was invited to the campus on 10th December 2024. The Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS), Mumbai, a pioneering outreach initiative of Citi-(CSMVS) displayed its beautiful and colourful origami artifacts



through their vehicle. The exhibits were seen by nearly 500 students of the college. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator.

International conference titled “*The Pan Asian Heritage of St. Francis Xavier: Between Memory and Contemporary Appropriations*” was held from the 12th to 14th of December 2024, at the St. Joseph Vaz Renewal Centre in Old Goa. It was organized jointly by St. Xavier's College (Mapusa), Rosary College of Commerce & Arts (Navelim), the Archdiocese of Goa and Daman, and the Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics (Singapore). The Departments of History and Sociology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, collaborated in the organizing of the event with great enthusiasm. The conference featured panel discussions, keynote addresses, and interactive sessions, it was an exploration of the rich historical and cultural legacy of St. Francis Xavier, a prominent figure in the history of Goa.

Exhibition on St. Francis Xavier: The Department of History collaborated with the **Goa Heritage Action Group** and the **Asmitai Cell**, to organize an **Exhibition on St. Francis Xavier**, displaying artifacts, paintings, statues, relics, commemorative coins, and souvenirs that reflect the life and legacy of the revered saint. Ms. Pamela Fernandes organised the event.

Role Play - Women Breaking the Gender Barriers: 34 Students from SYBA (Major I) presented a role-play on political strategy in the royal household in medieval India, as a part of their course study in February 2025. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator.

GUArt Classes: 12 Third Year BA students were enlightened on effective study methods, with a particular emphasis on Ancient, Medieval Indian History and History of Goa. The classes were held between January -February 2025. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator.

Women' Day Celebration: International Women' Day was celebrated on 10th March 2025. Dr. Rheane Da Silva, NSS Chief Programme Officer and a member of Sabrcare, an NGO dedicated to offering compassionate support to those affected by cancer, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator.



Green Initiatives: An attempt at promoting environmental sustainability and spreading consciousness among students led the faculty to organise a Green Initiative Campaign on 27th January 2025. The event was led by Ms. Clera D'Souza, who administered a pledge to the students, encouraging them to adopt eco-friendly practices and promote environmental awareness. Dr. Sharmila Pais and Ms Pamela Fernandes coordinated the event.

History through Drama - 'Rakhandars of Goa: This intriguing historical enactment by 34 students of FYBA students brought to life the rich and often untold stories of Goa's past. It exhibited the beliefs of the people in the Rakhandar and how he served as the benevolent guardian of the village. It has held on 10th February 2025. Dr. Sharmila Pais was the coordinator.

Alumni Lecture: Mr. Benjamin Monserrate, Assistant Curator and Educator at the Museum of Christian Art (MOCA) in Old Goa, delivered a talk for 60 history students as an alumni guest on 28th February 2025. Dr. Sharmila Pais and Ms. Pamela Fernandes coordinated the event.

Talk - History Through Art in Goa: The Department of History, in collaboration with the Goenchi Asmitai Cell, hosted an enlightening Talk on the History of Art in Goa, delivered by Dr. Subodh Kerkar, Mario Miranda Chair for Fine Arts at Goa University on 10th March 2025. This event offered a deep dive into the rich and diverse artistic traditions of Goa.

Workshop on Needle Crafts: Ms. Pauline Fernandes was invited to conduct a **Workshop on Needlecraft** on 26th March 2026, to explore the historical and cultural significance of needlework in Goa. The workshop was designed to offer students a hands-on experience with various needlecraft techniques, such as embroidery, cross-stitch, and traditional Goan needlework.

The Kilo Campaign (February 2025) was organised to encourage students to empathize the needs of the underprivileged in Goa. Students were invited to participate in this drive by donating a variety of items that could make a significant difference in the lives of those in need. These donations included everyday essentials such as sugar, cereals, pulses, detergents, rice, and other non-perishable goods. The were distributed by Mr. Dominic Fernandes to an asylum in Moira. Ms. Pamela Fernnades was the coordinating faculty.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

- Dr. Sharmila Pais presented and participated at a National Level Conference organised by DMC College, Department of English on 11th January 2025 on the Theme *From Fantasy to Realism: Animal Archetypes in Goan Folk Stories*.
- Dr. Sharmila Pais participated and presented a research paper at the Local History Seminar Organised by Department of History, Goa University and Directorate of Archives, Government of Goa on 24th and 25th January on the theme *Sacred and Profane, Colonial Constructs of the Bailadeiras and Prostitutes in colonial Goa in the 19th century*.

Invitation as Resource Person

Dr. Sharmila Pais was invited to present a paper at a Two Day international Conference, held on 6th and 7th January 2024 at Goa University. It was organized by Yale MacMillan Centre, Council of Latin America and Iberian Studies, in collaboration with Shenoi Goembab School of Languages and Literature and Joaquim Heliadora da Cunha Rivara Chair Visiting Research Professor's Programme, Goa University. The theme of the Conference was India Portugal, The Confluence of Cultures. Dr. Pais presented a paper on *Artistic Reflections in the 19th Century Indo-Portuguese Literature, Theatre Music and Dance*.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Ms. Blanche Menezes, Ms. Rachel Gauncar and Ms. Anushree Tople won the First Place in the Quiz Competition organised by the Museum of Christian Art, Old Goa under Women' Category on 9th March 2025.

Paper Presentations

Ms. Linnes Rodrigues and Ms. Savia D'Cruz participated in a Paper Presentation Competition organised by Carmel College for Women, Nuvem Goa on 20th January 2025. They worked on the theme, "Unity and Diversity in Goa".

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED**

National Geography Day: On 27th January 2025, the National Geography Day was commemorated with the students of Geography and Environmental Studies. Key note address was delivered by Dr. Krishna Badiger, Associate Professor, Geography, Government College Sanquelim, Goa. Shri. Sunil Korajkar, Chaiperson, and Shri. Chetan Talwar from NGO Green Cross gave a lecture on the topic 'Importance of Biodiversity in Goa and its Conservation'

A Powerpoint Presentation competition and a Rangoli competition on the themes 'Environmental degradation in Goa- the need for conservation' and 'Clean and Green Goa' respectively. The program was coordinated by Prof. (Dr.) D. M. Jakati



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Human Rights Day: On 9th January 2025, the “International Human Rights Day” was commemorated with the theme “Our Rights, Our Future, Right now”, the UN slogan for the year 2024. The speaker of the day, Ms. Aletthra C.Vieira, touched upon the significance of Human Rights Day, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The European Convention on Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Economic Rights. The creative segment of the day had six students presenting poems, three students presenting posters. The programme was organised by Ms. Aletthra C.Vieira, around 30 students participated in the event.



On 12th February 2025 a session on, “Careers for Students of Philosophy in Human Resource” was conducted for the students of first, second- and third-year students of Philosophy. The resource person for the session was Mr Rohit Gupta, Human Resource Manager, Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Goa. Mr Gupta elaborated on how corporates are linked with people and the people with various philosophical ideologies. He emphasized that there is no dearth of jobs but there is a lack of qualified personnel. He concluded by listing various career options for students of Philosophy in the field of Human Resource. It was attended by 25 students. It was organised by Dr. Shefali Kale.



Library Visit: The students of second year Philosophy visited the college library on 10th February, 2025 to further their study on 'Research Ethics'. Library as a repository of knowledge is an invaluable source for any academic study. The students were instructed by Library Assistant, Ms Lina of the old system of book retrieval. The college librarian Ms Dakshata Zambulkar, informed them of the new system of coding library books by subjects and of the digitalization of the resources. She demonstrated the digitalized mode of book search across the state. It was attended by 6 students. It was organised by Dr. Shefali Kale.

A Student Seminar: was conducted for the students for second year Philosophy on 10th March, 2025. The theme of the seminar was 'Issues in Research Ethics'. The students presented and deliberated on various topics as informed consent, responsibility in research, confidentiality, plagiarism, academic integrity, besides others. It was attended by 6 students and organised by Dr. Shefali Kale.



Field trip: On the 15th of March 2025 a field trip for 55 students was organised to explore significant locations that blended historical, technological, and cultural knowledge, beginning at the San Thome Museum where Thomas Antonio Da Costa, the curator shared his passion for preserving technological advancements from bygone eras.



The second destination was the Don Bosco Farm in Sulcorna, Fr. Laurence Monteiro, provided students with an overview of the institution,



discussing various types of crops, emphasizing the benefits of mixed cultivation, etc. The faculty accompanying the students were Ms. Aletthra Vieira and Dr. Shefali Kale.

Lecture – 'Soft Skills': was conducted by Ms Gianni Fernandes for FY and SY students of Philosophy on 29th March'25. She informed the students of the common errors in mannerism and how to avoid them, and guided them on appropriate soft skills. Through a role play of a telephonic conversation, she demonstrated how to exercise phone mannerism. It was attended by 20 students organised by Dr. Shefali Kale.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

Dr Shefali Kale presented the following research papers:

- “Reclaiming Authenticity as a Value in Education in the midst of AI” at an International Conference organised by Asia Pacific School Psychology Association (APSPA), Malaysia in collaboration with Indian School Psychology Association (InSPA), India. St. Xavier's College, Goa & Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar, Goa, India on 6th and 7th March, 2025 at Pilar, Goa.
- Theorizing on the Religious Experiences of St. Francis Xavier by the Roman Catholic Women of Goa' at an International Conference titled, “The Pan Asian Heritage of St. Francis Xavier: Between Memory and Contemporary Appropriations” was organized by the St. Xavier's College, Goa, India in

collaboration with Rosary College of Commerce & Arts, Goa, India Archdiocese of Goa and Daman (India), Committee for Exposition of the Sacred Relics of St. Francis Xavier and The Initiative for the Study of Asian Catholics (hosted by the Asian Research Institute, Singapore) from 12th to 14th December, 2024 at St. Joseph Vaz Spiritual Renewal Centre, Old Goa.

- A Philosophical Study of the Protector Deity Sri Ajoba” on 11th January, 2025 at a Two-Day National Seminar - 'Deciphering Indian Folk Heritage: Revisiting the Past and Reevaluating the Present to Rethink the Future' on 10th and 11th January, 2025, which was organised by Department of English, DMC College, in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Govt. of Goa, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts & Centre for Folklore Studies and Research, Kolkata.

Dr. Shefali Kale, conducted 22 lectures in “Feminist Studies” for Post Graduate students of Philosophy at the Patriarchal Seminary of Rachol, Archdiocese Goa from 19th November to 6th December, 2024. The course comprised of series of lectures on topics the introduction to ideology of feminism, history and varieties of feminism, nature of feminist philosophy and contemporary issues in feminist philosophy.

Programmes Attended

Dr. Shefali Kale attended the following programmes:

1. Introduction to Philosophical Counselling' (online mode) from 8th to 24th July, 2024 conducted by Indraprastha College for Women, University of Delhi, in association with Philosophical Practitioners Association of India.
2. 'A- level' course on Philosophical Practice (Counselling) Course held online from 03rd August 2024 to 19th January 2025, conducted by Philosophical Praxis, Counselling and Spiritual Healing Society, Jaipur.
3. National Webinar “NIRF: Rankings: Understanding Parameters & Strategies for Improvement” organised by IQAC, St. Joseph's Degree and PG College, Hyderabad, Telangana in collaboration with Xavier Board of Higher Educational Institutions on November 18th, 2024.

Invitation as Resource Person

Dr. Shefali Kale delivered a public lecture on “Feminist Reading of the Bala Kanda of Ramayan” on 31st January, 2025, hosted by Centre of Study of Mythology and Culture at Panjim, Goa.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED

Talk on “Human Rights in India: A Legal Perspective”: A talk to commemorate International Human Rights Day was held on 10th December 2024. The session featured Adv. Bhuwaneshwar Fatarpekar as the resource person, who delivered a presentation on Human Rights, Fundamental Rights, Constitutional Rights, and Legal Rights.

He provided a comprehensive overview of the historical evolution of human rights—from ancient civilizations to modern times—highlighting key milestones in the global struggle for human dignity. Special emphasis was given to landmark judgments by the Indian judiciary, helping students understand the legal framework protecting these rights in India.

The talk concluded with a thought-provoking Q&A session where students raised pertinent questions, which were addressed with clarity. A total of 48 students from various streams participated in the event. The session was coordinated by Asst. Prof. Ms. Priyanka Chandekar.



P u b l i c L e c t u r e o n “Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in India”

: The Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy, Goa University, under the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Chair in Leadership and Governance, in collaboration with St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, organized a public lecture on “Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in India” on 4th February 2025 at the Conference



Hall, Administrative Block, Goa University.

The resource person for this public lecture was Prof. V.N. Alok from the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. The lecture explored fiscal federalism, Role of Finance Commission, and resource allocation challenges. Moderated by Dr. Suresh Shanbhogue, the session saw active participation from students of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa.

Assistant Professor Mr. Vijay Talwar was the faculty coordinator from St. Xavier's College. A total of 49 students from FYBA and SYBA attended the lecture.

Certificate course - Civic engagement empowering citizens: The Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, conducted a Certificate Course on "Civic Engagement: Empowering Citizens" from 23rd September 2024 to 12th February 2025 (30 hours). Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, was the Course Coordinator. Mr. Vijay Talwar was Co-coordinator. 54 students from FYBA, SYBA, and TYBA registered for the course. The objective of this certificate course was to empower citizens, community leaders, students, professionals, and volunteers with the knowledge and tools for effective civic engagement. It aimed to foster active participation in governance and policymaking. The following were the Resource Persons, Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges (Head of Department), Mr. Anthony Lobo, Mr. Vijay Talwar, Ms. Richa Kajoli and Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Study Tour to INS Kadamba, Naval Base, Karwar:



On December 21, 2024, a study tour to INS Kadamba, the Naval Base in Karwar was organised. A group of 49 students and five faculty members participated in this enriching experience aimed at exploring the operational aspects of the Indian Navy.

The highlight of the visit was boarding INS Aditya, a

172-meter-long replenishment tanker, and viewing INS Vikrant, India's first indigenous aircraft carrier. Students explored various sections of the ship, attended interactive sessions with naval officers, and witnessed live demonstrations of naval equipment. They also engaged with naval engineers to understand the technological and engineering aspects of shipbuilding and maintenance. The visit provided valuable insights into naval operations and inspired a deeper appreciation for the Indian defence forces. The group later visited the Rock Garden and returned to Goa by 4 p.m. The tour was coordinated by Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar.



Poster Exhibition on "Goa's Quest for Identity":

To commemorate Opinion Poll Day (Asmitai Dis) on 16th January, a Poster Exhibition on the theme, "Goa's Quest for Identity" was organised from the 15th -18th January 2025. The exhibition focused on the significance of the Opinion Poll, which allowed Goans to decide whether they wanted to merge with Maharashtra or remain as an independent state.



The students of SYBA Political Science (Honours), participated in the exhibition as part of their course 'Government and Politics of Goa'. The posters displayed, focused on Goa's unique cultural identity, shaped by its history, architecture, and traditions; and Goa's communal harmony and the coexistence of different cultures and religions. 32 students participated in the event, which was co-ordinated by Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges.

International Women's Day Commemoration: Screening of "Girl Rising": The Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the NSS Unit of St. Xavier's College, commemorated International Women's Day on 8th March 2025 with a special screening of the documentary 'Girl Rising'. The event aimed to raise awareness about gender equality and the transformative power of education in empowering women. 'Girl Rising' tells the inspiring stories of nine girls from around the world who overcome social barriers to pursue their dreams. An interactive session followed the



screening, where students from various streams reflected on gender issues and the critical role of education in driving social change.

The gathering was addressed by Ms. Alice D'Cruz, Associate Professor, Department of English, and Dr. Rheane P. Da Silva, Chief Programme Officer, NSS, who shared their insights on women's

empowerment. A total of 45 students participated. The event was coordinated by Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Richa E. Kajoli.

Field Trip to Central Jail, Colvale:

A field visit to Central Jail, Colvale, was organised on 17th March 2025 for 58 students from FYBA, SYBA, and TYBA, Political Science, accompanied by two faculty members from the Department of Political Science, Mr. Anthony Lobo and Mr. Vijay Talwar, who were the coordinators. The aim of this visit was to familiarize them with the practical aspects and functioning of the jail system.



This visit helped students bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and correctional practices at the Central Jail.

Field trip to Strawberry Farm and Waterfall, Netravali:



The Department of Political Science, organised a Study Field Trip to strawberry farm and a trek to waterfall, Netravali, on 16th March 2025, for the students of department of Political Science. The purpose of the visit was to appreciate local initiatives to generate income and sustainable agricultural practices and to understand the need to protect and

preserve the environment.

40 students from FYBA, SYBA and TYBA accompanied by two faculty members from the Department of Political Science, Mr. Anthony Lobo and Ms. Richa Kajoli participated in the trip. It was an opportunity to promote greater understanding and appreciation of nature.



Politronica 1.0:



The Department of Political Science, organised its first intra-collegiate event titled, Politronica 1.0, on 27th March 2025, for students of the college. The purpose of the event was to showcase politics and governance with emphasis on SDG goals through numerous on-stage and off-stage events.

The event began with an Alumni Lecture by Dr. Shraddha Shrikant Naik, Asst. Prof., Political Science Programme, D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and behavioural Studies, Goa University. The topic of the presentation was “Research in Political Science”. Following the lecture, the department's e-newsletter *Politicus* was released at the hands of Principal In-charge, Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo.



On-stage events included: role play, skit and fashion show. Off-stage included: quiz, rangoli, cartoon and caricature painting, and reel-making. Enthusiastic participation was witnessed across all streams. The event ended with prize distribution and awarding certificates for successful completion of the departmental Certificate course

titled “Civic Engagement Empowering Citizens. A total of 202 students attended the event.

BEST PRACTICES

As part of the green initiatives of the college, the department has tried to introduce measures to reduce the use of paper. The project work undertaken by Third year students of the department are encouraged to submit their 'work in progress' reports and references materials in digital format only to their respective guides. The faculty also shares reading material for courses taught in the department only through digital format.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Ms. Richa Eknath Kajoli received award for Best Script and Best Faculty Coordinator on 10/04/2025 at the All Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha 2.0 Competition, organized by GIPARD, Old Goa.

Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar received award for Best Faculty Coordinator on 10/04/2025 at the All Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha 2.0 Competition, organized by GIPARD, Old Goa.

Paper Presentations

Mr. Prasad Naik, Assistant Professor

- Presented a research paper titled 'Dynamics of Nationalism in Contemporary Indian Democracy: Exploring the Philosophical Roots' at a two-day National Conference held at Tumkur University, Tumakuru, Karnataka on 23rd-24th December 2024.
- Presented a research paper titled 'Village Reconstruction and Community Engagement in Early 20th century India: Exploring Tagore's Argumentation' at the one-day National Seminar held at Ponda Education Society's Ravi S. Naik College of Arts & Science, Farmagudi, Ponda- Goa on 15th February 2025.

Invitation as Resource Person

Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, delivered a lecture on "Indian Constitution, Constitutional Values, and the Role of Citizens" on 15th March 2025 at PM Shri Government High School, Namoshi, Guirim, Bardez, Goa.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Runners-up at Inter-collegiate event 'Politika 2025': A team of 8 students participated in the Inter- collegiate event 'Politika' organised by Department of Political Science, Dhemphe College of Arts & Science, Miramar, on 10th January 2025. Mr. Satyam Singh & Mr. Deepankar Padloskar (TYBA) secured 1st place in the 4th Edition of Jeevan Shivdas Kenkre Memorial Law Politics & Governance Quiz by QuizLabs. Ms. Sumaiya Khan (FYBA) claimed 2nd place in the elocution competition. Our college bagged the Runners-Up Trophy for the overall event.



Runners-up at the State-Level Quiz Competition: Mr. Satyam Singh and Mr. Deepankar Padloskar from TYBA Political Science secured 2nd place in the State-Level Quiz Competition on the theme 'Indian Constitution' held on 24th January 2025 at V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, in association with the Directorate of Higher Education

Inter-collegiate Event 'Celebrating 75 Years of Indian Constitution'



Ms . Ayushi Nemlekar and Ms . Siya Varkhandar of

FYBSc won the First place at Postal Stamp Making competition, which was part of the Inter-collegiate Event on the theme 'Celebrating 75 Years of Indian Constitution', organized by Niti Prashasak- Student's Club of Manohar



Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy, Goa University on 27 January 2025.

Students' Parliament Competition 2025

The Students of St. Xavier's College participated in the Students' Parliament Competition 2025 organised by the Goa Legislature Secretariat on 13th February 2025. The students enacted the Legislative Assembly 'Sitting' in which various legislative business items were taken up.



Winners at the All-Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition 2.0

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa clinched 1st Place at the All-Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition 2.0 organized by GIPARD held on March 13th, 17th & 18th, 2025



Individual Winners:

1. Best Presiding Officer: Mr. Omkar Karpe (FYBA)
2. Best Secretary: Mr. Yog Ghotge (FYBCom)
3. Best Video: Mr. Adam Ferrao (FYBA)
4. Best Script: Ms. Richa E. Kajoli (Asst. Prof., Department of Political Science)
5. Best Faculty Coordinators: Ms. Richa E. Kajoli & Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar (Asst. Prof., Department of Political Science)



Winners at Annual Political Science Festival 2025

Team Xaviers emerged winners at Annual Political Science Festival 2025 conducted by Political Science Programme, D D Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University on the theme "We the people: Celebrating 75 years of the Indian Constitution."

1st Place Quiz- Satyam Singh and Deepankar Padloskar

2nd Place -Poster Competition- Winona Taveira and Cinetta Ferrao

3rd Place -Elocution- Lynn D'Souza



Presentations

Winners at State-level Competition – Gram Vikas Manthan: Our Village, Our Plan!

Mr. Ashwin Naik, Ms. Sherlyn Lobo, and Ms. Kajal Vernekar from FYBA, secured first place in the State-level Competition titled "Gram Vikas Manthan: Our Village, Our Plan"

organized by Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola, on February 24, 2025.

Runners-Up at the 2nd Parrikar National Policy Hackathon 2025

Mr. Omkar Karpe (FYBA) and Ms. Astrid D'Mello (SYBA), Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, won the Runner-Up position in the 2nd Parrikar National Policy Hackathon 2025, organized by the Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy, Goa University, on the theme “Hinterland Tourism Policy of Goa” on 27th-28th February 2025. The prize distribution ceremony was held at Raj Bhavan, Dona Paula, on 28th February 2025.



Programmes Attended

Two Day National Workshop on “Youth Exploring Gender Equality”

Naveen Prasanna Variyath (TYBA) and P.R. Gaggan (SYBA) from Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College participated in a Two-Day National Workshop on *Youth Exploring Gender Equality*, held on 4th and 5th February 2025 at Fr. Agnel College, Pilar, Goa.



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED****VAC courses:**

- a) Substance Abuse: Legal and Psychological Perspectives, in association with the Bastora Free legal Aid Cell, Feb-March 2025. Around 29 students attended the sessions, organised by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.
- b) POSH 2013 Act for HRM students on 26th March 2025. Adv Shabnam Shah was the resource person. It was organised along with the PG department. Around 33 undergraduate students attended the course, organised by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.
- c) SEL – Social Emotional Learning Workshop (6 hours) 37 students of SYBA Psychology participated in the Hands- on workshop conducted by Prof. (Dr) Janet Fernandes in April 2025.

Talks:

- a) Advanced Learning in Psychology: (1 Hour) Resource person – Aastha Shirodkar – SPU Doha- Qatar Campus. 42 students of TYBA participated. The talk was conducted by Prof. (Dr) Janet Fernandes in December 2024
- b) A career guidance session cum orientation towards answering GUArt on 5th Feb 2025. Resource persons were faculty members of the Abbe Faria PG department. Session was organised by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha
- c) Masters in Psychology- Future Ahead: Alumina speaks of future prospects and new opening in the field of psychology. The talk was conducted by Prof. (Dr) Janet Fernandes in March 2025
- d) Organised in association with PG Department of Psychology, a one-day session on Special Needs Education as a Career Option on 1st April 2025. Resource person was Mrs. Mylin Gonsalves. Around nine SYBA students attended the session, organised by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha

Scientific Writing Workshop: As per APA Guidelines Workshop, a 4-hour course was held for 42 students who all presented papers at the international conference 'AI and the future of School Psychology and Education' organised by the department.

The 7th APSPA & INSPA International Conference on “AI and the Future of School Psychology and Education” was held from 6th to 8th March 2025 at Fr. Agnel Pilgrim Center, Pilar. Jointly coordinated by St. Xavier's College and Fr. Agnel College, the event brought together academicians, researchers, and professionals to explore the evolving impact of AI in education and school psychology. Prof. Janet Fernandes was the secretary of the conference and coordinator for the undergraduate section, Ms. Elvira Pereira helped facilitate a seamless experience for participants. The three-day

conference featured workshops on AI applications in psychological assessment, counselling, and learning, alongside symposiums addressing AI-driven interventions and ethical challenges. A highlight was the research presentation session, where 94 researchers shared studies on emerging trends and solutions in AI and education.



Activities Conducted:

- Field Trip to Brahma Kumari Center, Porvorim:** On 8th January 2025, students from the Department of Psychology visited the Brahma Kumari Center in Porvorim as part of their academic curriculum. The session, led by Mr. Kamat, an expert in spirituality and meditation, offered students valuable insights into achieving inner peace and mental clarity. Mr. Kamat introduced various meditation techniques and emphasized the importance of detachment from material possessions, titles, and relationships, reminding students of the fleeting nature of worldly attachments. The field trip was organized by Prof. Janet Fernandes and Ms. Elvira Pereira.



- **Field Trip to Goa Science Center, Miramar:** On 13th January 2025, 18 students from various streams visited the Goa Science Center to celebrate National Youth Day, accompanied by Ms. Elvira Pereira. The session, led by Mr. Kishore Shah, revolved around the theme “RISE—Reinvent, Influence, Stabilize, Excel,” aiming to inspire self-discovery and personal growth. Mr. Shah introduced the Johari Window model, explaining how self-awareness and feedback help unlock hidden strengths. An interactive exercise involving a short video tested the participants' observation skills, highlighting the importance of mindfulness in everyday life.



- **Life Skills for Career Success:** On 22nd March 2025, TYBA Psychology students attended an enriching session on “Life Skills for Career Success,” conducted by Ms. Mehvish Shah, a counsellor from the District Hospital. Organized by Ms. Elvira Pereira, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, the session aimed to equip students with vital skills for both personal and professional growth. Ms. Shah emphasized the role of effective communication, emotional intelligence, decision-making, adaptability, and resilience in achieving career success. Practical strategies were shared, offering students tools they could immediately apply to their academic and career paths.
- **Mission Drug-Free Campus Session:** On 24th March, a special awareness session under the "Mission Drug-Free Campus" initiative was held for 150 students across various streams. Mr. Mangesh Pednekar, Inspector from the Narcotics Control Bureau, Government of India, served as the resource person. Mr. Pednekar discussed the dangers of substance abuse, its legal ramifications, and the crucial role youth play in fostering a drug-free community. Through real-life case studies and practical insights, he highlighted the psychological and social impacts of addiction, stressing early awareness and peer support. Students also learned how to recognize signs of substance abuse and intervene

responsibly. At the close, attendees pledged to uphold a drug-free lifestyle. The session was coordinated by Ms. Elvira Pereira (Psychology) and Prof. Afonso Bothelo (Sociology).



A **Summer Internship Programme** at Kripa Foundation, Anjuna, was held from 29th April 2024 to 19th June 2024. A total of 40 students participated in this immersive program, gaining practical exposure in the field of addiction rehabilitation and mental health care. The internship was coordinated by Ms. Elvira Pereira.

Department of Psychology and NGO Sangath, Goa, partnered through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and jointly organised the following activities:

1. Xavier's Takes a STRIDE (Strengthening Teens Resolve in Drug Education) the two-day event aimed to educate students on substance use, empower them as youth leaders, and promote healthier decision-making was held on 3rd and 4th March 2025 at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa.

The first day focused on providing students with substance-specific information, debunking myths, teaching boundary-setting skills, and informing them about harm reduction strategies. Interactive exhibitions, activities, and games were employed to make learning engaging and memorable. Various interactive stalls were set up across campus to engage students in experiential learning, challenge perceptions, and promote harm reduction strategies.

Day 2 featured a panel of experts, including Dr. (Major) Manisha, Dr. Kashyap, and Miss Miriam, who addressed students' anonymous questions on substance use, creativity, and support strategies. A key element was the orientation of second-year students to ensure campaign continuity. Faculty coordinators were Dr. Eulalia Fernandes and Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.



2. On 10th February 2025, a Value Added Course (VAC) on *Qualitative Interviewing Training* was held for third-year Psychology students. The workshop was attended by 39 students and led by Ms. Grace Pacheco, Screening Coordinator at Sangath, with assistance from Ms. Shruti Bora. The session began with a welcome address by Dr. Eulalia Fernandes, the session coordinator.

The workshop provided a comprehensive overview of qualitative interviewing, covering both foundational and advanced skills. Students learned professional ways to initiate and conclude interviews, and practiced techniques like probing, summarizing, reflecting, and using non-verbal cues. Interactive activities included role-plays on sensitive topics like dating violence, mock interviews with diverse participants, and using reflexive sheets for post-interview reflection.



Best Practices:

- Stimulating an incubation for advanced studies coupled with a research culture among the Honours students of psychology through workshops, participation in conferences, presenting research papers and shouldering responsibilities of organising state-level events under the guidance of Prof. Janet Fernandes.

- **Outreach programs** – Peer wellness groups, Mental health day and suicide prevention day activities and programs to create a culture of safety, belongingness and help under the guidance of Prof. Janet Fernandes.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Prof. Janet Fernandes: Granted recognition and PhD Guideship in the subject of Psychology at Goa University on 13th March, 2025.

Paper Presentations

Dr. Eulalia Fernandes presented a paper titled, ' Mental Health in the Age of Connectivity: Internet Addiction and Psychological Well-Being in College Students' in a two-day International Conference on Addiction among youth-Issues, Challenges Management and Prevention (ICSSR sponsored) held on 30th and 31st of January, 2025 (Hybrid Mode) organized Guwahati University, Assam India.

Dr. Eulalia Fernandes & Dr. Ubaldina Noronha: Participated in the 10th International Conference on Life Skills Education and presented a paper titled, ' The Role of Life Skills Education in Enhancing Good Health and Well-Being: Contributing to the Achievement of SDG's', organized by Indian Association of Life Skills Education, Chennai, and Nirmala Institute of Education, Panaji, Goa from 27th February to 1st March 2025.

Prof. Janet Fernandes presented a paper titled “Dating Violence among Teenagers: Forms of abuse and gender Comparisons” at the international conference on the theme” Research Prospects in School Psychology” Organised by Indian School Psychology Association and Central University of Tamil Nadu, held at Central University of Tamil Nadu- Thiruvarur. Dec, 2025.

Programmes Attended

1. Dr. Ubaldina Noronha: Attended a two- day online FDP on 'The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education organised by DHE, Goa on 20th-21st Feb 2025.
2. Ms, Elvira Pereira attended a workshop on Beyond the Facade: Recognizing and Avoiding Deceptive Academic Journals organized by Research and Development Cell of Vidhya Prabhodhini College in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education Govt of Goa held on 8th January 2025.

Invitation as Speaker/ Resource Person

Prof. Janet Fernandes

- Invited as a Panelist for a session on Life skills at the 10th International Conference on Life Skills Education and presented a paper titled, ' The Role of Life Skills Education in Enhancing Good Health and Well-Being: Contributing to the Achievement of SDG's', organized by Indian Association of Life Skills Education, Chennai, and Nirmala Institute of Education, Panaji, Goa from 27th February to 1st March 2025.
- Invited as a Resource person at Rosary High school Cujira - Bambolim for a workshop (02 hours) on Mental Health for teachers and parents – Dec 4th 2025.
- Invited as a Resource person at Rosary High school Cujira -Bambolim for a workshop (2 hours) on Healthy Parenting for parents – Dec 4th 2025.
- Invited as a resource person at Navadaya Leadership Institute Canacona to give a 3 hour workshop for school teachers of Navadaya Schools (Pune & Patna Region) on the topic “Understanding and Managing Adolescents Mental Health – Teachers as Mental Health Guardians” organised by Ministry of Education & Literacy, Government of India in association with IGNOU – 7TH, 14TH & 21ST April, 2025. 3 batches of 72 school teachers
- Invited as a resource person for FDP at M.E.S. College Vasco for the teaching faculty on “Applications of Statistical Techniques to research writing”- 03 hours session. Dec 2025.
- Invited as a Chairperson of a scientific session at the international conference on “Innovations in Social Sciences: Interventions, challenges & future trends” organised by MES Vasco.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

42 students of Honours Psychology presented research papers at the international conference held in Goa from 6th – 8th March 2025 on the theme “AI and the future of school psychology & Education organised by Asia Pacific School Psychology Association, Indian School Psychology Association, Fr. Agnel College Pilar & St. Xavier's College, Mapua – Goa.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**ACTIVITIES ORGANISED**

Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series - 'Discovering Potentials and Moving Towards Achievement and Entrepreneurship' Ms. Alisha Da Cunha, a past pupil of our college, who is currently educator, GTET/CTET exam coach and counsellor, addressed students and shared her personal experiences, highlighting key aspects that have contributed to her success path. The event was held on 06th March 2025 and was organised by Ms. Elizabeth Bara. 50 students attended the event.

Festa Sociologica: A one-day event for Higher Secondary Schools of North Goa was organised on 21st January 2025. The theme for the competition was *Goa's Cultural Mosaic: Continuity and Change*, aimed at fostering academic competition, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of Goa's evolving cultural landscape. The competition comprised a variety of onstage and offstage events designed to highlight different aspects of Goan culture and social issues. The event witnessed participation from four Higher Secondary Schools and was organised by Ms. Freda Tavares.



Film Screening: On 13th Feb 2025, A short film titled "Juice" was screened for 15 SYBA Major 3 students as a part of their course on Gender and Society. The short film deals with issues of patriarchy and gendered division of labour. The activity was organised by Ms. Elizabeth Bara.

Film Screening: On 26th March 2025, three short documentaries The Fear of Stigma, Others, Reach were screened for 31 students of MC class on Health and Society. The short films enabled the students to understand the meaning of social exclusion, fear, and prejudice associated with skin diseases like leprosy, STDs like HIV/AIDS, and physical disabilities. The activity was organised by Ms. Elizabeth Bara.

Inter-Collegiate Quiz and Poster-Making Competition: St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the District Tobacco Control Cell, North Goa, organized an Inter-Collegiate Quiz and Poster-Making Competition on 18th March 2025 at the State Institute of Health and Family Welfare, Mapusa. Prof. Afonso Botelho, Nodal Officer, Anti-Tobacco Campaign was assisted in this endeavour by the Department of Sociology. The event aimed to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and promote a healthier lifestyle among students. 16 colleges from across Goa participated in the event.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

Prof. Afonso Botelho presented a paper on 'St. Francis Xavier as 'Goencho Saib': A Historical And Cultural Justification of The Sobriquet' at the International conference titled: ' The Pan Asian Heritage of St. Francis Xavier: Between Memory and Contemporary Appropriations held at St. Joseph Vaz Renewal Centre, Old Goa from 12th to 14th December 2024.

Programmes Attended

Prof. Afonso Botelho attended a two-day national seminar on 'Towards Viksit Bharat - The Skilling Mission for 2047' held at Fr. Agnel College of Arts & Commerce, Pilar, Goa on 21st and 22nd March 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Overall champions at Sociofiesta, an intercollege Sociology event organised by Chowgule College on 23rd January 2025. The individual awards they have won are given below:

1. Elocution- Minister for a day: 3rd Place -Shanoor Shaikh
2. Debate- 1st place: Anshika Thakur / Rachel Shania Fernandez
3. Quiz- 2nd place: Anshika Thakur
4. Photography - Theory behind the picture- 2nd position: Iqbal Singh
5. Reel - Change through a lens- 2nd place: Cybil Rodrigues
6. Quiz - 2nd place: Sandhya Sahani

Ms. Anuja Sutar & Ms. Marina Ferrao won third prize in the Poster making competition at the Intercollegiate Competition on Poster Making organised by North District Hospital and Nodal Officer, St. Xavier's College on 18th March 2025.

Programmes Attended

Six students attended a State-Level Youth Seminar on the theme “Eradication of Social Evils and Vices Among Youth”, organized by the Department of Sociology at Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar, Goa, in collaboration with the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Goa. on February 15, 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Hands-on Training in collection and preservation of algae along Anjuna coast was organized by Prof. Maria A. A. R. Fonseca on 27th and 28th January, 2025. She was accompanied by Ms. Jenica Rangel. 25 students participated in the training programme.



Guest Lecture - “Innovative Sustainable Technologies”: Mr. Ganesh Chari, M.D. and Founder-Neshaju Envirotech Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru gave a talk on “Innovative Sustainable Technologies” to the F.Y.B.Sc, S.Y.B.Sc and T.Y.B.Sc Botany students on 07th March, 2025. A total of sixty-four students along with faculty members attended the talk. Mr. Ganesh Chari introduced the concept of Innovative Sustainable Technologies to the audience. The talk highlighted the various fields of Life Science available to the students. The programme was co-ordinated by Dr. Maria A. D'Souza.



Distinguished Alumni Guest Lecture Series - “Botany beyond Books – The Science that shapes our future”: Dr. Aditi Naik, Assistant Professor, Biological School of Life sciences, Goa-University was invited on 13th March, 2025 for a talk titled “Botany beyond Books – The Science that shapes our future”. Dr. Aditi in her address to the F.Y.B.Sc, S.Y.B.Sc and T.Y.B.Sc. students, discussed how a Green Future can capture the environmental effects on



earth and how botany is important with respect to green future. The talk was well attended by 62 students and 7 faculty members. The talk was co-ordinated by Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Field Trips

Mr. Farmer: 43 students of F.Y. (SEC) and 23 students of F.Y. (M.C.) visited Mr. Farmer Nursery at Guirim, Mapusa on 27th February, 2025 and 1st March, 2025. Prof. Maria Fonseca, Ms. Sabina Sales, Mr. Conceicao De Souza, Ms. Maria Beatriz De Souza and Dr. Harshala Shetgaokar accompanied the students. At the end of the field trip, the students gained knowledge of the layout of plant nursery, observed different types of fruit and other ornamental plants, their arrangements and the technique of growing plants.



Garça Branca Botanical Garden: Field Trip for 47 students of F.Y. (Major) was organized by Dr. Wendy F. Xavier Martins and Ms. Maria Beatriz De Souza on 21st March, 2025 to Garça Branca Botanical Garden, Loutolim, The visit helped the students to have an outdoor experience in observing and studying various types of plants, their habitat and their adaptations.



Tanshikar Farm: Dr. James D'Souza organized a field trip for 15 students of S.Y. (VET) on the 29th March, 2025, to Tanshikar Farm, Netravali – Sanguem. The students had hands-on experience in agri-ecotourism and other components of ecotourism. Mr. Chinmay Tanshikar gave a tour around the farm and explained various



aspects of ecotourism, He showed students various economically and medicinally important plants cultivated and also demonstrated manual pollination of Vanilla plant species. Students were also introduced to the concept of Apiculture (beekeeping) and composting.

BEST PRACTICES

“Plant of the Week” Programme: To create awareness among the students, teachers and non-teaching staff about the medicinal, economical, ecological and commercial importance of plants, the department exhibits 'Plant of the week' in the College lobby. The programme is coordinated by Dr. Seema Fernandes.



Composting of Green Waste: A composting programme co-ordinated by Dr. Wendy Xavier Martins, is being managed by Mr. Manuel Cruz and Mr. Regi Rodrigues, wherein, all the green waste of the Botany Department is collected and converted into compost.



Medicinal Garden: The faculty and students have initiated a Medicinal Garden to create an awareness of medicinal plants. To begin with, there are 25 different varieties of medicinal plants in a designated area of the college campus. This garden is maintained under the guidance of Prof. Maria Fonseca and Ms. Sabina sales e Dias.



Green Indoor Environment: As part of the ongoing initiative coordinated by Ms. Maria Beatriz De Souza, students are encouraged to bring indoor plants which are kept in the laboratory and staffroom to contribute to a greener, healthier and more aesthetically pleasing environment. This initiative aims to enhance indoor air quality and instil a sense of ecological responsibility among students.



Kitchen Garden: Dr. Maria D' Souza and Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar along with the students have begun a Kitchen Garden on campus, aimed at providing fresh, home-grown produce to the staff. This activity has promoted the entrepreneurship and healthy eating practice.



Nomenclature of Campus Trees: The department is in the process of naming the campus trees and this activity is co-ordinated by Dr. Wendy Xavier Martins.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Poster Presentation

Dr. Seema Fernandes presented a poster titled: “Arbuscular Mycorrhizal (AM) Fungal Diversity in *Lawsonia inermis* L. of South Goa, India” at a two-day National Conference on “Plant Sciences for a sustainable Future: Innovations and Challenges” held on 16th and 17th January, 2025 at Goa University.

Paper Publication

Paper publication in SPECTRUM, Interdisciplinary Research Journal, Research and Development Cell, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa, Volume XVI October 2024, pp 16-25. on “Formulation and Evaluation of Herbal Lipbalm and herbal Lotion” D. Bhandodkar, S. Halankar, R. Gadekar, S. Revodkar, P. Chodankar, A. Fernandes, D. Fernandes, S. Sales e Dias* Department of Botany, St Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa.

Programmes Attended

Dr. Seema Fernandes attended a One Day State Level Workshop on “Enhancing Learning Outcomes through Innovative Pedagogies for Practicals - Based Courses” organized by Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Margao, Goa, on 3rd January, 2025.

Ms. Sabina M. Sales e Dias attended a two-day National Conference on “Plant Sciences for a sustainable Future: Innovations and Challenges” held on 16th and 17th January, 2025 at Goa University.

Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar attended along with 6 students a One Day State Level Seminar on “The Importance of Strong Family Bonds in Building Resilient Individuals” on 21st January, 2025, at the Church Hall, St. Joseph Vaz College, Cortalim.

Dr. Seema Fernandes, the Nodal Officer, attended the National Deworming Programme programme on 10th February, 2025. She successfully co-ordinated the distribution of deworming tablets received from Directorate of Health Services, Mapusa to the 300 college students.

Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar and Dr. Seema Fernandes attended a One-Week Online National FDP “Cancer awareness for community engagement @nep 2020” from 11th to 18th February, 2025, organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (UGC-MMTTC/GAD-MMTTC), SGTB Khalsa College, University of Delhi in collaboration with Indian Cancer Society, Delhi.

Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar and Dr. Seema Fernandes participated as textbook writers in the 'Authors Workshop on Academic Writing, Developing Textbooks for Higher Education in Bharatiya Language-Konkani' organized by Goa University on 20th and 21st February, 2025.

Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar and Dr. Seema Fernandes attended the Trainers Programme for Master Trainers on Panchayati Raj Under RGSA Scheme from 18th to 20th March, 2025, GIPARD, Ella Farm, Old Goa.

Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar and Dr. Seema Fernandes attended Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Swachh Bharat Student Internship sessions and Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar mentored 2 projects of 6 students each while, Dr. Seema Fernandes mentored 2 projects of 5 students each, from 23rd January 11th April, 2025 at Goa University.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

1st Runner Up for the Chlorofest Intercollegiate Event organized by Department of Botany, Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, on 17th March, 2025. Students bagged 1st Prize for Entry Parade, 1st Prize for Theatrical Skit, 2nd Prize for Fashion show and 3rd Prize for Face Painting.



Second Runner-up Award at The ACTIZEN Collective Student Project

Presentations

T.Y. students, participated in the Intercollegiate T.Y.B.Sc. Project Presentation Competition organized by the Botany Department of Dhempe College of Arts and Science on 11th March, 2025. Two projects were presented:

1. Medicinal Plants as Potential Source of Anti-cancerous Agent: A review presented by Mustafa Latifnawar and Kinoshha Gonsalves.
2. Assessment of Phytochemicals from some Marine Algae, presented by Merlyn Maria Goretti Fernandes and Juhi Jayant Kamat.



Programmes Attended

6 students attended a One Day State Level Seminar on “The Importance of Strong Family Bonds in Building Resilient Individuals” on 21st, January 2025, at the Church Hall, St. Joseph Vaz College, Cortalim.

Students of F.Y., S.Y. and T.Y., participated in the Aqua Goa Mega Fish Festival 2025 held from 10th to 12th January, 2025.



Dr. Maria A. D'Souza, Dept. of Botany

Minor Research Project Grant of Rs. 2.55 lakhs

Topic: "Biodiversity, Physiochemical Parameters and Molecular Phylogeny of Microfungi Isolated from Unusual Niches"

Funding agency: GSRF - Goa State Research Foundation



“Start where you are. Use what you have.
Do what you can.”

– Arthur Ashe



DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED**

Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series-"Innovation and Patent in Emerging Areas of Research": In collaboration with the Post Graduate Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier's College, a session was organized on 1st April, 2025. Dr. Akshay Salkar, an alumnus of the college, delivered the keynote speech, sharing insights on patent filing, nanostructuring, and emerging research areas like Graphene technology and Electrochromic camouflage. Dr. Salkar addressed questions on patent searching, becoming a patent officer, and overcoming research challenges. 54 students and faculty members participated in the session, which was coordinated by Prof. Nelson Lobo, Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz, and Ms. Mamata Prabhugaonkar.



Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series-"Ignite Your Knowledge": Ms. Pooja Godge, a senior research executive at Syngenta Biosciences and an esteemed alumna, delivered a session on "Ignite Your Knowledge" on 22nd February, 2025. She shared insights on skill development, career growth and industry trends. She emphasized the importance of consistent effort, self-improvement, and ethics in the industry. The



session covered topics like Green Chemistry, Flow Chemistry and interview preparation, providing valuable guidance and motivation to undergraduate students. 50 students were present for the lecture, co-ordinated by Ms. Janesline Fernandes.

Guest Lecture-"Cutting-Edge Innovation in Chemistry and the Pharmaceutical Industries: Transforming Our World": In collaboration with the Post Graduate Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier's College, a guest lecture was organized on 18th March, 2025. Mr. Ajit S. More, Associate Director of Analytical R&D at Solaris Pharma Corporation, USA, delivered a presentation, addressed students' questions and inspired them to explore the frontiers of chemistry and pharmaceuticals. The event was coordinated by Ms. Janesline Fernandes and Ms. Mamata Prabhugaonkar.



Certificate Courses

Chemistry Software: The certificate course was conducted for T.Y. and S.Y. students. The course covered three softwares: ChemsSketch, MS Excel and Origin. Sessions were held on: (1) ChemsSketch (24th February, 2025): The resource person, Dr. Mira Parmekar



taught drawing organic chemistry structures, reaction mechanisms, and electron movement; (2) MS Excel (17th March, 2025): The resource person, Dr. Johnross Albuquerque covered functions, formulas, graph plotting, and analysing reaction endpoints; (3) Origin (18th March, 2025): The resource person, Dr. Mira Parmekar demonstrated graph plotting and spectra analysis. The hands-on course had 28 students from F.Y., S.Y. and T.Y.

"Chemistry in Daily Life" : A Two Day certificate course was conducted for students on 26th March, 2025 and 2nd April, 2025. The course covered practical applications of chemistry, including: (1) pH, indicators, and titration. The resource persons were Mr. Clarence Rodrigues and Dr. Johnross Albuquerque. (2) Cosmetics and perfumes, including natural paint-making. The resource person was Dr. Rheane Da Silva. The course featured hands-on activities, discussions, and expert lectures. Students gained a deeper appreciation for chemistry's significance in daily life. 28 participants enrolled and the course was deemed a success due to its interactive approach and expert guidance.



Analytical Instruments: A 30-hour certificate course was conducted from 7th October, 2024, to 8th April, 2025. The course covered various analytical instruments. 42 students from Chemistry, Microbiology, and Botany Departments participated in the hands-on training. Key sessions included: (1) Introduction to chemical analysis and instrumental analysis, (2) Principles and applications of pH meter, conductivity meter, and analytical balance, (3) HPLC theory, instrumentation, and applications, (4) GC techniques and NMR spectroscopy (5) UV-Visible spectroscopy, flame photometry, and IR spectroscopy



(6) Cyclic voltammetry and X-ray diffraction analysis. The course featured study visits to the School of Chemical Sciences, Goa University, and Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Colvale, Goa. The course aimed to provide in-depth understanding, practical skills, and troubleshooting techniques, aligning with the National Education Policy 2020's objectives. The course was co-ordinated by Dr. Andrew D'Souza.

Training Programme: A comprehensive training programme was organized for Third Year B.Sc. Chemistry students on 14th December, 2024, 4th January, 11th January, 18th January and 12th March 2025, to prepare them for the Goa University Admission Ranking Test (GU-ART). The programme featured expert sessions, practice questions, mock tests and time management strategies. 30 students benefited from the programme, reporting increased clarity and motivation to study for the exam, and providing positive feedback on the structured approach and approachable nature of the teaching and resource persons. The co-ordinators for this activity were Dr. Mira Parmekar and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

State level Inter-collegiate Chemistry Event: “Chemscope 2025-An Element of Surprise”: The one-day festival was held on 28th January, 2025 and organized in collaboration with Post Graduate Department of Chemistry. The festival featured nine exciting events, which drew participation from eight colleges across Goa, showcasing the talents of enthusiastic B.Sc. Chemistry students. Carmel Women's College of Arts, Science and Commerce-Nuvem secured the first place, while Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sanquelim, emerged the runners-up. The co-ordinators were Mrs. Mamata Prabhugaonkar, Ms. Kalpita Talpekar and Dr. Rheane Da'Silva.



Festival of Innovation: The 9th Festival of Innovation was hosted in collaboration with the Institution Innovation Council, on 14th February, 2025. The event co-ordinated by Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz, brought together 30 participating institutes from schools, Higher Secondary Schools and Colleges across Goa. The festival featured a competition showcasing scientific models based on concepts like light, sound and sensors. The Chief Guest was Mr. Ryan Vaz and the Guest of Honor, Mr. Rohit Gupta.



Open Lab Day: On 25th February, 2025, experiments were demonstrated to the students of neighbouring schools to spark curiosity about chemistry and science. S.Y.B.Sc. Major students carried out the demonstrations, guided and co-ordinated by Dr. Mira Parmekar. The event was well-received by school students and their teachers.



National Science Day Celebration: The chief guest for the event held on 28th February, 2025, Prof. Shrivallabh Kamat, conducted hands-on chemistry activities using microscale techniques. The event featured various activities, including research presentations, a fancy-dress competition, science quiz, street play and science exhibition. Students from all streams participated enthusiastically. The event was coordinated by Mr. Clarence Rodrigues and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza.



Field Trips

Vedanta – Sesa, Goa: On 17th December, 2024, 26 students were provided hands-on learning, bridging theory and practice in geology, chemistry, and engineering, witnessing the pig iron-making process and power generation. Students gained insights into industrial operations, sustainability initiatives, and innovative practices. The visit was led by faculty members Dr. Mira Parmekar and Mr. Clarence Rodrigues, coordinated by Mr. Clarence.



ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute (ICAR-CCARI) in Old Goa: 21 F.Y.B.Sc students participated in the educational visit organized on 6th February, 2025. The students were given a guided tour of the agricultural farm and learned about the institute's research projects, initiatives, and achievements in agricultural science. The visit provided students with hands-on exposure to agricultural research and its applications. Dr. Andrew D'Souza co-ordinated this activity.



Sukraft Recycling Pvt Ltd: 21 students participated in the educational visit on 13th February, 2025, aimed to deepen students' understanding of environmental conservation and sustainability. The students witnessed the paper recycling process, learning about sustainable practices and waste management. Mr. Vijay Patel, Plant Head and General Manager, shared insights into Sukraft's innovative initiatives, including their unique use of municipal waste to reduce fossil fuel dependency. Dr. Andrew D'Souza co-ordinated this activity.



Ashutosh Industries, Madkai: On 17th February, 2025, a team of five faculty members, were provided insights into sustainable manufacturing practices, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Highlights included Ashutosh Industries' zero-waste policy, solvent recycling, and diversification into new markets, such as edible ink production. The visit was conducted under an MOU between St. Xavier's College and Ashutosh Industries, and was coordinated by Dr. Andrew D'Souza.



Textile designer's studio: On 18th February, 2025, Faculty members visited the studio of Mrs. Juliette Ravel, a French textile designer known for her sustainable textile work using plant-based dyes. They were inspired by her commitment to eco-friendly practices and innovative designs. The visit provided insight into the intersection of chemistry and textile design, highlighting sustainable practices in the industry. Dr. Andrew D'Souza co-ordinated this activity.



Nestlé India Ltd., Bicholim: 27 F.Y.B.Sc Chemistry Major students and 3 faculty members participated in the visit on 8th March, 2025. Students gained insights into industrial operations, production processes, quality control measures, and safety protocols. They observed partial automation in manufacturing lines and learned about export-oriented production lines with stringent requirements. The visit was coordinated by Mr. Mahesh Nair.



Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Colvale: As part of the Certificate Course on 'Usage and Maintenance of Sophisticated Analytical Instruments, an educational visit to Glenmark Pharmaceuticals was organized for 20 students on 8th April, 2025. The visit was coordinated by Dr. Andrew D'Souza, Course Coordinator. Ms. Kathleen Pinto, Ms. Edwina Pereira and Dr. Johnross Albuquerque accompanied the students. Students were exposed to the instruments used and the functioning of various departments.



T.Y.B.Sc Class Quiz: The first round of the Annual T.Y.B.Sc Class Quiz was held on 16th December, 2024 and witnessed enthusiastic participation from 37 Third Year students of the Chemistry Department. After Round One, the top-performing students will be competing in the next round in the even semester. The quiz was organized by Dr. Mira Parmekar and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza.

The Annual Third Year Chemistry Students Quiz was held on 22nd February, 2025. 43 students participated, with the top 10 shortlisted for the oral round. The quiz aimed to enhance core subject knowledge and aptitude. The winning teams were: (1) First place: Mr. Vedant Pilankar and Ms. Samiksha Anvekar (2) Second place: Ms. Ostira D'Souza and Mr. Narendra Singh (3) Third place: Ms. Ritusha Palyekar and Mr. Nehal Patil. The event was coordinated by Dr. Mira Parmekar and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Poster Presentation

Ms. Kathleen Pinto, Head, Department of Chemistry attended the Meet organized by Goa State Higher Education Council, Directorate of Higher Education, Vidnyan Dhara 2025 on 6th March, 2025, at Multipurpose Hall, Sanskruti Bhavan. She presented a poster on “An Eco-friendly Catalyst for the Synthesis of Biscoumarins and Study of its Quorum Quenching Potential.”

Programmes Attended

22nd Annual Convention cum Workshop of the Association of Chemistry Teachers (ACT-Goa) was held on 8th February, 2025, at Goa University. The event featured invited lectures by renowned researchers, aiming to inspire students and teachers. A student from St. Xavier's College, Ms. Saniya Sandesh Kovtankar, was felicitated for being the topper in B.Sc. Chemistry at Goa University. The convention brought together over 150 delegates, including teachers, professors, and researchers. Dr. Andrew D'Souza, Dr. Mira Parmekar, and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza, attended the event.

Dr. Mira Parmekar participated in a two-day workshop at Goa University, organized by Goa University in collaboration with the Bharatiya Bhasha Samvardhan Samiti (BBSS). The workshop aimed to guide textbook writers in creating Konkani language textbooks for Sciences, Commerce, and Arts streams.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Intercollegiate oral quiz competition - "Green Chemistry and Laboratory Safety for Better Sustainability"

The event was organized by the Green Club, Department of Chemistry, Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre, Assagao on 29th January, 2025. The team accompanied by Dr. Mira Parmekar, comprising of T.Y.B.Sc Chemistry students Mr. Vedant Pilankar and Ms. Tamanna Shaikh emerged as winners among 9 participating teams from different science colleges.

Presentation

The T.Y. project "Sustainable pigments from Indigenous Goan flora - A study" was selected as one of the top 12 entries in the KALPAK State-Level Science Exhibit Showcase. The team, consisted of Ms. Simran Shaikh, Ms. Saishma Naik, Ms. Samiksha

Anvekar, and Ms. Sampada Naik. The event was held at the Exhibition Gallery, Directorate of Art and Culture, Panaji, Goa, from 5th to 7th March, 2025. The students showcased their innovation, interacted with science enthusiasts, and gained insights from inspiring projects. The exhibit attracted over 500 students and visitors.

Programmes Attended

Ms. Shalome D'Souza, Ms. Shruti Salgaonkar, and Ms. Utkarsha Kotkar, students of S.Y. Major, completed a two-week internship at a leading pharmaceutical company. The internship provided valuable insights into pharmaceutical technology and regulatory standards, bridging the gap between academic learning and real-world application.

Symposium on "Fascinating World of Chemical Sciences"

The 17th Annual One-Day Symposium was organized by The School of Chemical Sciences, Goa University, for T.Y.B.Sc Chemistry students on 8th March, 2025. 16 students participated, presenting their project work. Notably, Ms. Simran F. Shaikh secured 2nd place in the oral presentation category for her project "Sustainable Dyes from indigenous Goan flora" under the guidance of Dr. Mira Parmekar. Other students, including Ms. Jamira Mendonca and Ms. Ritusha Palyekar, presented their projects in the poster competition.



DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

National Level Seminar on "Exploring Inter-disciplinary Applications in Physical and Computational Sciences": The Seminar was organized on 3rd and 4th March, 2025. Four S.Y.B.Sc students presented their research posters. 107 students participated in the seminar, co-ordinated by Dr. Manoj Salgaonkar. Students, Aman Jee Mishra and Dheeraj Pradhan presented a research poster on "Theory of Mind" and Vignesh Raul and Daksh Ram Singh presented a research poster on "Backpropagation"

Webinar on "GenAI Application Trends and Best Practices": A live viewing of the ACM India webinar on "GenAI Application Trends and Best Practices" was facilitated on 8th March, 2025. The session, delivered by Mr. Rajeev Rastogi, Vice President of International Machine Learning at Amazon, was attended by 21 Second and Third Year B.Sc Computer Science students. The co-ordinator was Edwin D'Souza.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Exabyte 3.0: This flagship IT event was organized on 6th March, 2025. Coordinated by Ms. Prajoti Chimulkar and student coordinator Harrison Amaral, the event featured eight competitions including C-programming, algorithmic problem-solving, a tech quiz, a treasure hunt, debate, poster making, logo design, and meme creation. The event saw enthusiastic participation of 134 students across all streams.



Demonstration of Final Year Projects: A showcase of final year projects was held on 4th April, 2025. The Third Year B.Sc Computer Science students presented their innovative projects to the First and Second Year students, providing them with inspiration and a glimpse into advanced coursework. The co-ordinator for this event was Ms. Avani Kharde. 41 students benefitted from this activity.



BEST PRACTICES

The department fosters a culture of continuous improvement by encouraging faculty and students to attend advanced workshops, such as the FDP on Deep Learning. This knowledge is then cascaded through events like the "Demonstration of Final Year Projects," where senior students showcase practical applications and mentor their juniors, effectively bridging the gap between advanced training and classroom learning.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

Ms. Melissa Rodrigues and Ms. Avani Kharde presented a paper on 'Revolutionizing Teaching and Learning with Large Language Models in Higher Education' at the Conference organized by 7th Asia Pacific School Psychology Association (APSPA) International Conference 2025 on the theme "AI and the Future of School Psychology and Education" in collaboration with Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar and St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa from 6th to 8th March, 2025.

Programmes Attended

Ms. Avani Kharde and Ms. Melissa Rodrigues along with students, Nathan Fernandes, Kyros Echaporla, Vignesh Raul and Harrison Amaral, attended the five-day Faculty Development Programme on, "Exploring Deep Learning with TensorFlow: A Hands-On Approach" from 20th to 24th January, 2025, organized by the Directorate of Higher Education, Goa.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

5 students of F.Y.B.Sc. – Aman Jee Mishra, Daksh Singh, Dheeraj Muktikant Pradhan, Figo Marcus Fernandes and Vignesh Digamber Raul successfully completed the 12-week SWAYAM NPTEL Course – The Joy of Computing using Python between January – April 2025 conducted by IIT, Madras.

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Workshop on Industrial Automation in PLC, VFD, HMI and SCADA: The Workshop, aimed to provide 16 student and 5 faculty participants with practical knowledge and hands-on experience in modern industrial automation, was conducted by AutoTech Technologies at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa, on 21st January, 2025. The resource persons were Mr. Subodh Mone and Ms. Sanjitha Nadkarni. The coordinating faculty was Mr. Daryl Gonsalves.



Seminar on “Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Inter-Disciplinary Applications in Physical and Computational Sciences”: The National Level Seminar was organized in collaboration with the Departments of Physics, Computer Science, Mathematics and BCA on 3rd and 4th March, 2025. 107 students participated in the Seminar which was co-ordinated by Dr. Manoj Salgaonkar.

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
Mapusa-Goa

NATIONAL LEVEL SEMINAR
ON

“ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE : EXPLORING INTER-DISCIPLINARY APPLICATIONS IN PHYSICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES ”

ORGANIZED BY

DEPARTMENTS OF PHYSICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE , MATHEMATICS , B.C.A. AND ELECTRONICS

IN COLLABORATION WITH

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL, ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE , MAPUSA – GOA

ON 3RD AND 4TH OF MARCH 2025

SPEAKERS FOR THE SEMINAR

DR. SUBODH MONE
MANAGING DIRECTOR
AUTOTECH TECHNOLOGIES

DR. SANJITHA NADKARNI
MANAGING DIRECTOR
AUTOTECH TECHNOLOGIES

DR. DARYL GONSALVES
COORDINATING FACULTY
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA

DR. MANOJ SALGAONKAR
COORDINATING FACULTY
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA

DR. MANOJ SALGAONKAR
COORDINATING FACULTY
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Field Trip to Andrew, Amphenol Company, Verna: On 7th March, 2025, 45 students from F.Y., S.Y. and T.Y. along with 6 faculty members, attended the field trip. This trip provided the students with valuable insights into the practical aspects of communication technology. The resource persons were Mr. Sadik Aga and his team. The coordinating faculty was Ms. Vilma Fernandes.



Open Lab Day: On 25th February, 2025, students and teachers from St. Britto's High School, Mapusa, Holy Cross High School, Siolim and St. Francis Xavier High School, Mapusa visited the Electronics Department laboratory. Demonstrations were conducted focussing on circuit building and microcontroller-based experiments. Faculty members and S.Y./T.Y.B.Sc students actively guided and explained each setup to the visiting students, making the learning experience engaging and accessible.



Internship Programme - "Robotics with Arduino": The 10-day Summer Internship under NSQF OJT was conducted from 15th to 30th April, 2025, for the students of St. Britto High School, Mapusa and students of The Gera School, Old Goa and a student of The Rosary High School, Cujira, Goa. The programme aimed to enhance practical skills and technical knowledge in Robotics and Arduino programming, and offered students a hands-on learning experience. The training sessions were conducted by Dr. Cajé Pinto, Ms. Sneha Talekar, and Ms. Viola Fernandes. The co-ordinator was Ms. Vilma Fernandes.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Award

Dr. Caje F. Pinto won Best Paper Award at the 3rd International Conference ICRTMD, 2025, at JVMGRR College, Charkhi Dadri, Haryana from 24th to 26th March, 2025.

Paper Presentation

Dr. Caje F. Pinto was invited as speaker and presented a paper titled “Recent Trends in Material Science and Devices” at the 3rd International Conference (ICRTMD, 2025) held from 24th to 26th March, 2025. at Haryana.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentation

Mr. Bhikaji Gawade presented a poster titled, “AI-based exam security with real time exam paper generation” at the National level Seminar on Artificial Intelligence: Exploring Inter-Disciplinary Applications in Physical and Computational Sciences held on 3rd and 4th March, 2025.



“Go into the world and do well.
But more importantly, go into the world
and do good.”

– Minor Myers, Jr.



DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Certificate Course - Vedic Maths: The course was conducted from 6th to 23rd January, 2025 through interactive lectures, tutorials, exercises, assignments, self-study, and evaluations. It covered Vedic sutras for arithmetic computations such as additions, subtractions, multiplications, divisions, squares, square roots, cubes, cube roots, quadratic equations, etc. The 42 participants provided positive feedback, highlighting the ease and efficiency of Vedic Mathematics in calculations. The objective of developing confidence in problem-solving and improving computation speed was achieved. The Resource Person was Mr. Divesh Maulingkar. Dr. Jerwin Zen Lobo co-ordinated this activity.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

National Mathematics Day: To commemorate the birthday of Shri Srinivasa Ramanujan, several events were organized:

A Guest Lecture was held on 1st February 2025. The Chief Guest and the resource person Dr. Kalpesh Haria delivered a lecture on “Exploring Mathematics through Magic”. He showed 3 interesting card tricks using maths which the audience found very fascinating. Based on these “tricks” he showed how “proofs” in Mathematics evolve. Most of these tricks explored various proofs in combinatorics and number theory thereby demonstrating the real-life applications of Mathematics. 67 participants benefitted from this talk co-ordinated by Mr. Rahul Naik.



A quiz competition for F.Y. and S.Y. students was organized by the T.Y. students. The quiz tested concepts of higher secondary mathematics. The winners were Mr. Aman Jee Mishra and Mr. Avinash Fernandes (1st place) from S.Y.B.Sc., Ms. Charvi K. Parkar



and Ms. Alaika Fernandes (2nd place) from F.Y.B.Sc., Ms. Siddhi Swapnil Chodankar and Ms. Riya Redkar (3rd place) from F.Y.B.Sc. There were 10 student participants in the quiz conducted by 2 T.Y. B.Sc students, Mr. Utkarsh Dessai and Miss Riya Pednekar.

Rapid Calculation Challenge to test the speed and accuracy of calculations. Most of these questions were answerable for those who are familiar with techniques in Vedic Maths. The winner of the competition was Mr. Navjyot Santosh Naik from S.Y.B.Sc. 5 students participated this competition conducted by a T.Y.B.Sc. student Mr. Utkarsh Dessai.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Invitation as Resource Persons

Dr. Jerwin Zen Lobo was invited as Resource Person for a **Two-day State Level Workshop on “Exploring Linear Algebra and Optimization using SageMath”** organized by the Post Graduate Department of Mathematics, Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sanquelim, Goa, in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, from 9th to 10th January, 2025.

Dr. Jerwin Zen Lobo was invited as Resource Person for a **One-day State Level Workshop on “Abstract Algebra using SageMath”** organized by the Department of Mathematics, Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre, Assagao, Goa, in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, on 27th February, 2025.

Dr. Jerwin Zen Lobo was invited as Resource Person for a **One-day Workshop on “Calculus using SageMath”** organized by the Department of Mathematics, Ganpat Parsekar College of Education, Harmal, Goa, to celebrate Pi Day, on 15th March, 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Alumnus Shankar Pradip Kubal (graduated in 2020) qualified GATE in March 2025 and secured an All India Rank of 616.

Third Year students Riya Ritesh Pednekar and Utkarsh Manikrao Desai topped the GUART 2025 securing Rank 1 and Rank 2 respectively.

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED****Two-Day International Seminar on “Exploring New Frontiers in Biosciences” :**

The seminar was conducted in association with the Department of Biotechnology and in collaboration with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) on 23rd and 24th January, 2025. Dr. Satish Shetye, former Vice-Chancellor of Goa University and former Director of the National Institute of Oceanography, Dona Paula, Goa, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural function. The Resource Persons for the Seminar were eminent scientists and academicians. Prof. Srikanth Mutnuri, Dean, International Programmes and Collaboration Division, Department of Biological Sciences, BITS-Pilani, Goa, Dr. Prabu D., Head in Charge, Department of Microbiology, University of Madras, Tamil Nadu, Prof. Momna Hejmadi, Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality and Enhancement), Department of Life Sciences, University of Bath, U.K. The seminar garnered the participation of over 200 participants from all across the globe including Australia, Germany, India, U.K., and U.S. The participants presented their novel ideas and exciting research through vivid scientific posters and interactive oral presentations. Ms Florence Pereira from Kingston University, London bagged the Best Poster Presentation and Ms. Yuga Ghotge from BITS Pilani, Goa won Best Oral Presentation. The convenor of the seminar was Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



Student Exchange Programme: As part of an ongoing initiative to foster academic collaboration and cross-institutional learning, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, partnered with St. Francis College for Women, Hyderabad, to conduct an online student exchange programme comprising four sessions. The inaugural session on 21st March, 2025, featured Dr. V. Gayatri, Associate Professor at St. Francis College for Women, as the guest speaker. Dr. Gayatri delivered an engaging lecture titled “E-Waste Management and Micro-Remediation.” The session was attended by 47 students of S.Y.B.Sc and 10

students of T.Y.B.Sc Biotechnology. The second session, held on 27th March, 2025, was attended by 36 F.Y.B.Sc students. Dr. Gayatri once again captivated the audience with a session titled “3D Printing in Foods – An Overview.” The third session held on 1st April, 2025, was delivered by Dr. Nadine de Souza, on “Gut Instincts: How Microbes Shape Your Health and Mind,” exploring the intricate role of the gut microbiome in maintaining both physical and mental health. This session was attended by 34 students from St. Francis College, Hyderabad. The final session, conducted by Dr. Trelita de Sousa, took place on 3rd April, 2025. Her presentation, “Microplastic Pollution: The Big Threat,” addressed the environmental and health risks posed by microplastics. 18 students from St. Francis College, Hyderabad, actively participated in this session. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Ursula Barreto.

St. Francis College for Women
Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016
(Autonomous & Affiliated to Osmania University)

St. Xavier's College
Mapusa, Goa - 403507

Student Exchange Program

12 SEMINAR
SESSIONS
PROGRAM

Resource Person



Dr. V. Gayatri
Associate Professor, Microbiology

Session 1
E waste Management and micro remediation
Date : 21st March, 2025 Time : 11:15 am to 12:15 pm

Session 2
3D printing in Foods - an overview
Date : 27th March, 2025 Time : 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Dr. Uma Joseph
Principal, SFC

Resource Person



Dr. Nadine de Souza
Assistant Professor, Microbiology

Session 3
Gut Instincts: How Microbes Shape your Health and Mind
Date : 1st April, 2025
Time : 11:45 am to 12:45 pm

Rev. Fr. Antonio Salema
Administrator, St. Xavier's College

Resource Person



Dr. Trelita de Sousa
Assistant Professor, Microbiology

Session 4
Microplastic Pollution : The Big Threat!
Date : 3rd April, 2025
Time : 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Ms. Ursula Barreto
Acting Principal, St. Xavier's College

Dr. Roselin
HOD - Microbiology

Ms. Linette de Souza
HOD Incharge - Microbiology




Mapusa, Goa, India
Hutatma Bala Desai Marg, Bardez, Mapusa,
Goa 403507, India
Lat 15 598121, Long 73 807637

Workshop - Mushroom Cultivation: The two-day workshop was held on 5th and 6th March, 2025, organized in collaboration with the Microbiologists Society, India. 40 students registered for this workshop. The participants were MBSI members from across F.Y, S.Y and T.Y B.Sc. Microbiology. The Resource Person was Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

The students were divided into groups and each group prepared the substrate, inoculated and cared for till fruiting was observed. Each group then submitted a reel of their mushroom cultivation process. In all, the students had a fun learning experience.



Summer School: The five-day programme “Microbiology in Everyday Life” was organized in collaboration with Goa State Research Foundation for students of Higher Secondary Schools from 6th to 10th May, 2025. There were 26 student participants from 7 different higher secondary schools. This programme aimed to highlight the relevance of microbiology in daily life while equipping participants with essential theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The theme for Day 1 was “Basic Techniques in Microbiology.” The resource person was Dr. Nadine de Souza. Day 2 focused on the “Microbiology of Food.” The theoretical and practical session was conducted by Ms. Ruella D'Souza. On Day 3, Mr. Siddhesh Menon explained the various techniques in Medical Microbiology and Molecular Biology. The fourth day explored “Microbial Ecology and Environment,” emphasizing the ecological role of microbes and their potential in bioremediation. This session was conducted by Dr. Trelita de Sousa. The final day, on “Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Microbiology,” introduced students to career prospects and entrepreneurial opportunities within the field. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Nadine de Souza.



Value Added Course - Composting of Kitchen Waste and Growing Organic Micro-

greens: The hands-on training in compost preparation from kitchen waste was conducted from 20th December to 21st February, 2025, as part of a Value-Added Course for 56 T.Y.B.Sc Microbiology students. Working in groups of eight, students explored various composting techniques, including Bokashi and vermicomposting. They monitored the composting process until stabilization and subsequently utilized the compost to cultivate different varieties of microgreens. Finally, students consumed the freshly grown microgreens, enhancing their diet with nutrient-rich, homegrown produce. The training was coordinated by Ms. Arina Frank.

**Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series - Talk on Career Guidance: “Crossing Over”:**

The talk was held on 13th January, 2025, organized in association with the Microbiologists' Society, India. The session was delivered by Ms. Grazielle Serrão an alumna of St. Xavier's College (Batch of 2022-2023) and currently pursuing her Masters in Medical Biotechnology and Business at the University of Queensland, Australia. The purpose of this session was to enlighten students about the academic options available to them after acquiring a Bachelors in Microbiology and how to pursue a Masters abroad. The coordinator of the event was Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



Talk on “Career Opportunities in Microbiology”: The talk was held on 29th March, 2025 in association with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI). The Resource Person for the session, Dr. Alisha Malik Satwani, Assistant Professor and Coordinator, Chowgule College, Margao, spoke of the various career options available in Microbiology and provided detailed information about the different Masters Programmes offered in Goa. The event was coordinated by Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



Guest Lecture - “Future Prospects in Microbiology”:

The talk was held on 24th January, 2025. The Resource Person Dr. Prabhu D., Head Department of Microbiology, University of Madras, delivered an insightful lecture on the future prospects in microbiology. The talk explored various domains, showcasing how microbiology is pivotal in addressing global challenges and advancing science. The session ended with an engaging Q&A, leaving attendees with a broader perspective on microbiology's role in shaping a sustainable and innovative future. The programme had 59 beneficiaries from the F.Y.B.Sc. Microbiology Major class. The co-ordinator for the talk was Dr. Sheryanne Velho Pereira.



Guest Lecture - “Prevention and Control of Vector-Borne Diseases in Goa” :

The talk was organized on 29th March, 2025 in association with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI). The Resource Person Dr. Ajeet Mohanty, Officer-In-Charge, National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR), Field Unit, Goa, delivered an engaging and informative session on the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases in Goa. Through a vivid presentation and onsite video clips, Dr. Ajeet gave a detailed account of the scenario in Goa concerning the various vector-borne diseases including Malaria, Chikungunya, and Elephantiasis. 18 students benefitted from this session, coordinated by Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Outreach programme: The Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, organized an outreach programme for 30 F.Y. GNM Nursing students of Harmal Panchakroshi Shikshan Mandal's College of Nursing, Harmal – Pernem on 11th January, 2025. The students were accompanied by 2



teachers. The objective of this field visit was to provide practical experience, demonstrate real-world applications and foster a simple and clear understanding of microbiological concepts and techniques. Explanation and demonstration of the purpose and working of instruments used in the laboratory, observation of various staining techniques in Microbiology using the compound microscope, demonstration of serological testing of blood for blood group detection, cultivation of bacteria, yeast and fungi and the use of various culture media was very efficiently conducted by the Third Year students of Microbiology. The programme co-ordinators were Dr, Sheryanne V. Pereira, Ms. Ruella D'Souza and Ms. Linette de Souza.



'ShutterBugs' Competition: The photography competition was organised on 17th December, 2024, for the First Year students, in association with the Microbiologists' Society, India. The purpose of this competition was to stimulate the curiosity of students and sensitize them about microbial ecology and the environment. The students displayed their creativity and photography skills by capturing beautiful photographs of their surroundings on the following topics: Biofouling; Eutrophication; Lichens. The judges were Dr. Valerie Gonsalves and Dr. Nadine de Souza. There were 27 participants and the winners were Ms. Rutika Shetmandrekar for her photograph depicting Biofouling, Ms. Tanisha Shidruk for her photograph depicting Eutrophication, and Ms. Saniya Kalangutkar for her photograph depicting Lichens. The event was coordinated by Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



ANIMALCULES 2024-2025 Competition: The Inter-School Microbiology Competition was held on 11th February, 2025, to commemorate International Organism Day which is celebrated on 17th September, drawing enthusiastic participation from 20 schools across the state of Goa. The event featured four exciting competitions: Fancy Dress, Elocution, Poster Making, and Brainstorm Showdown (Spelling Bee & Rapid Fire), fostering scientific curiosity among young minds. There were 3 winners for each competition. The Overall championship was clinched by G. S. Amonkar Vidhyamandir, Mapusa, with St. Theresa's High School, Candolim emerging as the Runner-up.



Overall Champions:

G.S. Amonkar Vidhyamandir, Mapusa

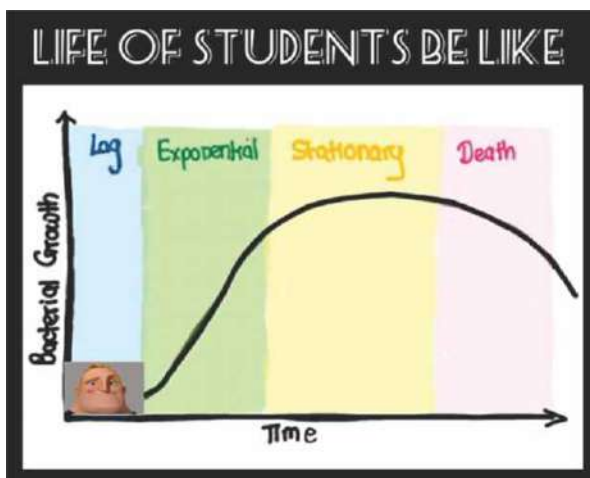


Runner Up:

St. Theresa's High School, Candolim

Meme Magic – Finding humour in Microbiology Competition: The competition was held on 25th February, 2025 and organized in collaboration with the Microbiologists Society, India. Memes were evaluated based on creativity, content and visual appeal. 9 participants registered for the competition. The First Place was bagged by Ms. Shreya Bhat and Ms. Siyanda Rodrigues (T.Y.B.Sc.), the Second Place by Ms. Shruti Madgaonkar and Ms. Anisha Parab (T.Y.B.Sc.) and Third Place by Ms. Sajal Mardolkar and Ms. Rini Fernandes (T.Y.B.Sc.). The competition was coordinated by Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

When you get to know the name of the largest known bacterium is *thiomargarita magnifica* but all you can think about is margaritta pizza



Digital Art Designing Competition: Pixel Palette – “Diversity of Microbial world”

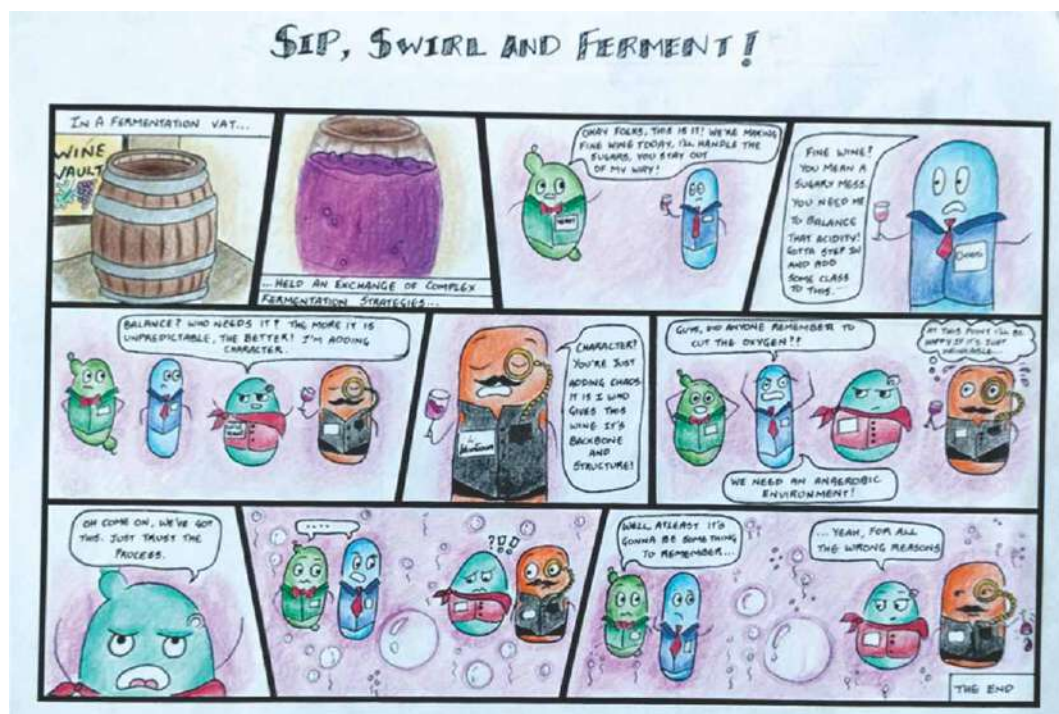
The Competition was held on 27th February, 2025 and organized in collaboration with the Microbiologists Society, India. Memes were evaluated based on creativity, content and visual appeal. 16 participants registered for the competition. The First Place was bagged by Ms. Sonia Shetka and Ms. Jenessa



Fernandes (T.Y.B.Sc.), the Second Place by Mr. Joel Fernandes and Mr. Shubham Mandhkar (S.Y.B.Sc.) and Third Place by Ms. Sajal Mardolkar and Ms. Rini Fernandes (T.Y.B.Sc.). The competition was co-ordinated by Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

Comic Strip Designing Competition: 'Microverse' – Tales from a tiny universe':

The Competition was held on the 28th February, 2025 and organized in collaboration with the Microbiologists Society, India. Comic strips were evaluated based on Plot,



Creativity and Visual appeal. 8 participants registered for the competition. The First Place was bagged by Ms. Shanaika Pires and Ms. Nupur Bandekar (T.Y.B.Sc.), the Second Place by Ms. Shantashri Gaitonde and Ms. Sajal Mardolkar (T.Y.B.Sc.) and Third Place by Ms. Lensa Lobo and Shefali Kerkar (S.Y.B.Sc.). The competition was coordinated by Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

Consultancy Service - Water Testing to Determine the Safety of Drinking Water Supplies

A consultancy service is offered to anyone desirous of testing the safety of water for consumption. Besides the potability of all drinking water on campus was also monitored during the academic year 2024-25. 15 samples from people desirous of availing this consultancy service were analyzed for their coliform count. The amount generated was ₹ 3000 @ ₹ 200 per water sample. In addition to these samples, the drinking water from filters on campus as well as the water from the college canteen were assessed for potability. The service was coordinated by Ms. Katelyn Gonsalves with assistance from Second Year Microbiology student volunteers.



Field Trip - North Goa District Hospital

A study visit to Mapusa District Hospital, Mapusa Goa was organized on 27th February, 2025, for the Third Year students (Haematology and Clinical Biochemistry). The students were shown collection centre where sample collection, handling and storage is done. In the Pathology Laboratory, the different procedures and laboratory tests done were explained. The working of sophisticated automated equipments was



demonstrated. 17 students participated and benefitted from the study visit. The students were accompanied by the co-ordinators of the visit - Dr. Trelita de Sousa and Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

Field Trip - Goa College of Agriculture, Old Goa

A Field Trip was organized as part of the curriculum for 56 students of TY Microbiology on 17th March, 2025 at Goa College of Agriculture, Old Goa. Ms. Saloni Patil, a lecturer at Goa College of Agriculture, gave a guided tour of the facilities. The field trip included a visit to the vermicomposting unit, mushroom cultivation unit, apiary and soil testing laboratory. The co-ordinators for the field trip were Dr. Trelita de Sousa, Dr. Nadine de Souza, Dr. Valerie Gonsalves and Ms. Linette de Souza.



Journal Club: A Paper Presentation and Panel Discussion was organized for the T.Y.B.Sc. students on 29th March, 2025 in association with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI). Fourteen students presented and scientifically discussed recent research papers and review articles published in reputed high-impact factor journals facing a panel of experts constituting Dr. Ajeet Mohanty (NIMR), Dr. Alisha Malik Satwani (Chowgule College), Mr. Siddhesh Menon (St. Xavier's College, Goa), and Dr. Nadine de Souza (St. Xavier's College, Goa). The audience comprised both faculty members and students. The event was coordinated by Dr. Trelita de Sousa.



An **Extension Service** is offered for the determination of antimicrobial effectiveness of newly synthesized organic and inorganic chemical products, organic extracts, etc. This service is extended free of cost to the students of this college and @ ₹ 100 per sample for students of other colleges. Samples of ferrites, K-10 clay, dyes, essential oils, metal oxides, etc were analyzed for their antimicrobial effectiveness against *E. coli*, and *S. aureus* by the students of the Chemistry Department (Undergraduate and Post Graduate) of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa and DM's College, Assagao (Postgraduate). The analysis was carried out from 19th February 2025 to 25th April, 2025. The consultancy service was co-ordinated by Ms. Linette de Souza Noronha and Dr. Valerie Gonsalves.

Open Lab Day: The event was held on 25th February, 2025 to celebrate National Science day, on the theme, “National Science Day – Building Public Trust in Science,” for 4 schools in and around Mapusa. 20 students from each of these schools accompanied by a teacher participated in the event. As part of the celebration, an engaging and informative session was conducted for these school students that showcased the Department's laboratory work and inspired the next generation of scientists and researchers.



Explanation and demonstration of the purpose and working of instruments used in the laboratory, observation of various staining techniques in Microbiology using the compound microscope, cultivation of bacteria, yeast and fungi and the use of various culture media was efficiently conducted by the Third-Year students of Microbiology. The session was co-ordinated by Ms. Linette de Souza and Ms. Ruella D'Souza.

BEST PRACTICES

Maintenance and Updating of Bulletin Board: Students of F.Y/S.Y/T.Y. contribute to the bulletin board by submitting articles and creative content on a chosen microbiological theme for the month and organizing the data into visually appealing boards. This activity is coordinated by Dr. Valerie Gonsalves

Harnessing Research Temperament through Journal Club: With the aim of encouraging and improving critical thinking and presentation skills of students, the Club organizes Paper Presentations and Panel Discussions for students of F.Y/S.Y/T.Y. The co-ordinator for this activity is Dr. Trelita de Sousa.

Recycling of Cotton Plugs and Newspapers: Used cotton plugs are employed during F.Y./S.Y./T.Y. practicals to disinfect table tops and other equipment. Newspapers are used for wrapping plates, flasks, etc. and thus efficiently reused and recycled.

Segregation of Waste: The laboratories are equipped with designated bins for sorting, collection and proper disposal of different types of wastes generated in the laboratories.

Maintenance of Indoor Plants: Students are encouraged to bring low-maintenance plants that are easy to grow, care for and which can thrive in indoor conditions. These plants are noted for their air purifying capabilities as well as for their aesthetic appeal, thus creating an engaging, sustainable and healthy environment for students and faculty. Dr. Sheryanne V. Pereira is the co-ordinator for this activity.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Dr. Trelita de Sousa was conferred with the MBSI Senior Teacher Award, 2025 by the Microbiologists Society of India.



The MBSI Best Department Award for the year 2024, was conferred on the Department of Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa.



Dr. Nadine de Souza won the Third Place for her Poster Presentation on “A Sustainable Approach to Textile Azo Dye Wastewater Treatment using a Marine Bacterium” at the National Conference on “Bioentrepreneurship in Microbiology” organized by the Microbiology Programme, School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology (SBSB), Goa University from 6th to 7th March, 2025 at Goa University.

Presentations

International Seminar on “Exploring New Frontiers in Biosciences”

Dr. Trelita de Sousa, Dr. Nadine de Souza, Dr. Sheryanne V. Pereira and Dr. Valerie Gonsalves presented posters on “The potential of mRNA vaccines to revolutionize cancer treatment,” “Exploring the critical role of the human gut microbiome in health,” and “Safeguarding Spice Integrity: A Comprehensive Review of Antimicrobial

Properties, Adulteration Practices, and Detection Techniques” respectively, at the Seminar organized by the Departments of Microbiology and Biotechnology, St. Xavier's College, Goa from 23rd to 24th January, 2025, in collaboration with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC).

Dr. Nadine de Souza and Dr. Valerie Gonsalves delivered oral presentations on “Molecular profiling of a marine bacterium for sustainable bioremediation of reactive azo dyes” and “*A. restrictus* – a novel specialist fungi at the cusp of evolution” respectively, at the Seminar.

National Conference on “Bioentrepreneurship in Microbiology”

Dr. Trelita de Sousa delivered an oral presentation on “Halotolerant PGPR-based bioformulation for enhancing salinity tolerance in *Vigna radiata* (Moong)” at the Conference organized by the Microbiology Programme, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology (SBSB), Goa University from 6th to 7th March, 2025, at Goa University.

Publications

Dr. Sheryanne V. Pereira published research papers: Velho-Pereira S. and Mira V. Parmekar (2024) Synthesis and Antibacterial Properties of Manganese Dioxide Nanostructures: A Review. *Chemistryselect* 9: 1 - 14. doi.org/10.1002/slct. 202402247 and Mamata C. Naik, Jyothi H. Kini, Kumara Swamy B. E. and Sheryanne Velho-Pereira (2024) Sensor and antibacterial research of *Mussaenda frondosa* leaf extract assisted zinc oxide nanoparticles, *Sensing Technology*, 2:1, 2385839, doi: 10.1080/28361466. 2024.2385839.

Programmes Attended

Dr. Nadine de Souza participated as textbook writer in the “Author's Workshop on Academic Writing, Developing Textbooks for Higher Education in Bharatiya Language – Konkani” organized by Goa University on 21st and 22nd February, 2025.

Invitation as Speaker/Resource Person

Invited Speakers

Dr. Trelita de Sousa delivered a talk on “The Wonders of an Invisible World” at Airway Public School, Sancoale, on 21st February, 2025 and at Mushtifund High School on 28th February, 2025.

She also delivered a talk on “Microplastic Pollution: The Big Problem” at CES's Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, Margao, on 2nd April, 2025.

Dr. Nadine de Souza delivered talks on “Exploring the Microbial World around you” at Cornerstone High School, Thivim, on 10th February, 2025, and at Smt. Anandibai Naik High School, Madkai, on 25th February, 2025.

Dr. Sheryanne V. Pereira delivered talks on “Extremophiles: Unlocking nature's secrets for sustainable solutions” on 1st February, 2025, at Government High School Kirlawada, Chimbél, at Immaculate High School Goa Velha, on 8th February, 2025, and at Our Lady of Mercês High School, Mercês, on 24th February, 2025.

Dr. Valerie Gonsalves delivered talks on “Revolutionizing health through gut microbiome transplantation” at Dr. T.B. Cunha Government Higher Secondary School, Campal Goa, on 18th January, 2025, “The gut microbiome: Impact on human health” at Azmane High School, Neura Goa on 22nd January, 2025 and “From stools to solution: The Science behind faecal banks” at Mary Immaculate Girls' High School, Panjim Goa on 11th February, 2025.

Resource Persons

Dr. Trelita de Sousa and Dr. Nadine de Souza were invited as Resource Persons for the Online Session for the students and faculty of St. Francis College for Women, Hyderabad on “Microplastic Pollution: The Big Threat” and “Gut Instincts: How Microbes Shape Your Health and Mind,” respectively, at the Student Exchange Programme organised by St. Xavier's College, Goa and St. Francis College for Women, Hyderabad, from 21st March to 3rd April, 2025.

Dr. Valerie Gonsalves was invited as Resource Person for a Workshop on “Mushroom Cultivation” at Nirmala Institute of Education, Altinho Panaji Goa on 17th March, 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

SWAYAM NPTEL Courses

3 students of S.Y.B.Sc. – Ms. Shefali Kerkar (Molecular Biology), Ms. Pinky Govekar and Ms. Madhavi Gawade (Microbial Biotechnology) and 1 student of T.Y.B.Sc. – Ms. Seiran Da Costa (Food Microbiology for Safe and Sustainable food Systems) successfully completed the 12-week courses during January – April 2025 conducted by IIT, Madras.



Dr. Nadine de Souza, Dept. of Microbiology

Summer School 2025 - Grant of Rs. 79500/-

Topic: “Microbiology in Everyday Life”

Funding agency: Goa State Research Foundation

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Distinguished Alumni Guest Lecture Series - “Climb Higher”: Ms Abigail De Souza, delivered a talk for the T.Y.B.Sc Physics students on 15th March, 2025. 13 students attended the talk co-ordinated by Prof. Bosco Lawrence.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

IPR related Inter-Collegiate Reel-Making Competition on “Geographical Indications (GIs) registered in Goa”:

The Competition organized on 29th January, 2025, was open to all colleges in the state of Goa. 9 teams participated in the event. The resource person for the event, Ms Vaibhavi Rane, Assistant Professor from Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Goa University enthralled the



audience on the topic “Local Treasures to Global Icons”. She highlighted the importance of GI and its registration, how GIs are registered and various GI products registered in Goa and India with some interesting history of the products. The panel of judges consisted of Ms Vaibhavi Rane, Assistant Professor from Manohar School of Law, Goa University, Ms Venita Gomes, Senoir Multimedia Producer from Gomantak Time Digital and Ms Atharv Salgaonkar, a freelance Cinematographer and Video Editor from Bicholim, Goa. 32 students participated in the event co-ordinated by Prof. Nelson Lobo.

National Science Day 2025 - "Science for Sustainable Development: Promoting Green Technologies.”: The event, celebrated on 28th February, 2025, was marked by



enthusiastic participation from students in various competitions: Poster Making, Model Making, and Quiz, fostering curiosity and a deeper understanding of Physics concepts. The Poster Making Competition focused on the theme "Indian Contribution to Physics." The Model Making Competition challenged students to create working physics models, demonstrating their practical understanding of scientific concepts. The Quiz Competition, based on the topic "Everyday Physics," that tested their knowledge of fundamental physics concepts and real-world applications. 60 students participated in these competitions co-ordinated by Ms. Avani Talkatkar.

Field Trip - Reis Magos Fort: The Trip was organized on 26th March, 2025 under the title "Physics of architectural design and thermal ventilation of ancient forts." The objective of this exercise was to share and experience rich insights of Goa in relation to physics involved in ancient architecture. The Resource persons were Prof Nelson Lobo, Pradeep Morajkar, Dr. Manoj Salgaonkar and Mr Sujay Rane. 13 students participated in this event co-ordinated by Mr. Pradeep Morajkar.



BEST PRACTICES

1. Use of energy efficient LED tube lights throughout the laboratory.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Award

Mr. Sujay S. Rane won the Best Poster award at the 68th DAE Solid State Physics Symposium (DAE - SSPS-2024) organized by Bhabha Atomic Research centre, Mumbai, from 18th to 22nd December, 2024.

Presentations

Ms. Avani Talkatkar and Mr. Sujay Rane presented posters titled, “SANS Study of Hydrophobic Silica Aerogels Synthesized by Ambient Pressure Drying Method” and “Investigating the Role of Strontium on the Bioactivity of Silicate Glass and the Effect of Doping Fe” at the 68th DAE Solid State Physics Symposium (DAE - SSPS-2024) organized by Bhabha Atomic Research centre, Mumbai, from 18th to 22nd December, 2024.

Invitation as Speaker/Resource Person

Prof. Nelson Lobo was a resource person in the Authors workshop on “Academic Writing-Developing Textbooks for Higher Education in Bhartiya Language–Konkani” organized by Goa University on 20th and 21st February, 2025.

Prof Nelson Lobo was invited as the resource person for the One-Day Workshop “Data Analysis and Visualization using OriginLab” organized at Govt College, Sanquelim on 1st March, 2025.

Prof. Bosco Lawrence was appointed as the External Auditor in Physics at Govt. College-Quepem on 28th April, 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Award

The St. Xavier's Team were declared Runners-Up at Boson 2.0 2025 organized by DCT's Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, held on 15th March, 2025.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED**

Talk - Careers in Banking: On 16th December 2024, a talk titled "Careers in Banking" coordinated by Dr. Yasmin Shaikh was conducted by Mr. Sanoop Luis, Probationary Officer at the Central Bank of India. Mr. Luis shared his educational journey, highlighting his background in English Literature and Publishing, and his success in clearing the IBPS examination and also delved with the challenges faced by banking professionals. With 63 students in attendance, the talk offered valuable insights into career pathways in banking, equipping attendees with a better understanding of the sector's demands and opportunities.

Talk – “ACCA – A Door to a Global Career”: On January 6, 2025, a session was organised titled "ACCA – A Door to a Global Career". 73 students attended the session. The objective was to inform students about the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and its value as a globally recognized professional qualification. Mr. Afaq Ajim Aga, an ACCA Affiliate, was the resource person. He discussed the structure, flexibility, and global relevance of ACCA, including pathways after Class 10, 12, or graduation, and exemptions available to St. Xavier's graduates. The session was coordinated by Ms. Sumina D'Costa.

Career Guidance Session – “Pursuing MBA After Graduation”: On January 22, 2025, a career guidance session on “Pursuing MBA After Graduation” was organized for Third Year B.Com students. The session was conducted by Dr. M. Prabhakaran and Assistant Professor Giselle from Agnel Institute of Technology and Design (AITD). Attended by 72 students and faculty members, including Dr. Yasmin Shaikh and Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo, the session highlighted MBA specializations. Dr. Prabhakaran discussed key career roles such as Product Manager, HR Manager, and Financial Analyst, and covered topics like digital marketing, labour laws, and financial modelling. He also explained the MBA admission process, including CMAT and ATMA exams, and AITD's group discussions and interviews. Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo coordinated the session.

Career Guidance Session – “Careers in Tourism”: On 28th January 2025, the department, in collaboration with the Cell for Career Guidance and Competitive Exams, organized an orientation session on “Careers in Tourism.” The session was conducted on campus with Dr. Edgar D'Souza, Officiating Principal of Goa College of Hospitality and Culinary Education, as the keynote speaker. Drawing from his vast experience in the hospitality sector, Dr. D'Souza outlined career opportunities in areas such as hotel management, guest relations, cruise lines, airlines, event management, and tech-driven roles like web development and data analysis. The session was attended by 60 students and coordinated by Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo.

Alumni-Student Interactive session on the Pursuit of Higher Studies: On 11th March 2025, Mr. Trevor Paes, an alumnus of the department, addressed First Year B.Com (Div C) students on the topic of pursuing higher studies outside Goa, with a special focus on ACCA. Mr. Paes shared his academic journey, highlighting his experiences studying in Pune, and offered practical insights into the ACCA qualification and adjusting to life in other states. The session was coordinated by Dr. Carmelita D' Melo.

Orientation cum Counseling Session on NEP Admission 2025-2026 for SYBCom: A counseling session was organized on 28th and 29th March 2025 for 220 First Year B.Com students to guide them on NEP-based admissions for Second Year B.Com. The session was coordinated by Dr. Yasmin Shaikh and conducted by Mr. Yash V. Pawar, NEP Sarthi and current SYBCom student. He explained the academic structure and subject selection process under the National Education Policy (NEP).



Workshop on 'Soft Skills for Success in the Business World': A workshop on “Soft Skills for Success in the Business World” was organized on 1st March 2025 for 33 B.Com students from all three years. Coordinated by Ms. Mumtaz Mendonca and Dr. Carmelita Dmello, the session was conducted by Ms. Loretta Jovita Dias. The session began with an engaging icebreaker, 'Two Truths and a Lie'. Key topics covered included resume building, interview etiquette, posture, professional presentation, and LinkedIn profile creation.



Certificate Program in Banking, Finance, and Insurance (CPBFI): A Certificate Program was held in Banking, Finance, and Insurance (CPBFI) from 5th February to 17th March 2025, coordinated by Prof. (Dr.) Oscar Braganca De Melo. This intensive 100-hour program was designed to equip 92 enrolled students (41 from SYBCOM and 51 from TYBCOM) with practical knowledge and skills relevant to the banking, finance, and insurance sectors. The sessions were facilitated by expert resource persons — Mr. Trevor Fernandes, Mr. Eleazer Mathew, and Dr. Amit Yalgi.

Certificate Course – Tally: The Department of Commerce, in collaboration with Skill World, an authorized Tally training institute in Goa, successfully conducted its fifth Tally Certificate Course for the academic year 2024–25. 20 commerce students participated in the course, which comprised 35 one-hour sessions. The course aimed to enhance students' practical accounting skills using Tally software. The coordinators for this year's course were Mr. Carmelito D'Souza and Ms. Swizel Alphonso.



Release of News Letter “Comquest 2023-2024” on 26th January 2025



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

ARENA 2025: On 10th February 2025, the Department of Commerce hosted its annual inter-collegiate event, Arena 2025, with participation from nine colleges across Goa. Coordinated by Ms. Kimberly Barros and Co-coordinated by Dr. Frazer Taylor and student leaders. Mr. Caleb Fernandes, an alumnus of the department was the Chief Guest for the event. Shree Damodar College of Commerce & Economics emerged as overall champions, while Carmel College secured the runner-up position. The valedictory function was graced by alumna and Milroc CEO Mrs. Kavya Allaparthi.



Entrepreneurship Development Programme: “Let’s Ignite the Entrepreneur in You 3.0”: On 13th February 2025, the Department of Commerce, in collaboration with the Cell for Entrepreneurship Incubation and Start-Ups, successfully organized the Entrepreneurship Development Programme – “Let’s Ignite the Entrepreneur in You 3.0.” Mr. Carmelito D’souza was the coordinator of the programme. The event aimed to foster entrepreneurial competencies, promote innovation, and help students tap into emerging opportunities within the dynamic startup ecosystem. The programme was attended by 170 students. Mr. Ajay Gramopadhye, known for his work in sustainability and business innovation was the Chief guest for the programme. The day featured three expert-led sessions: *Session 1*, conducted by Mr. Gramopadhye, explored Green Industries, focusing on eco-friendly entrepreneurship and the green economy. *Session 2*, titled “Inspiring Stories of Entrepreneurs,” featured alumni speakers Mr. Aaron Dias, Mr. Dominic Pereira, and Mr. Johan Fernandes, who shared real-world insights and personal journeys. *Session 3*, led by Mr. Sanjay Mulvi of CIBA India, covered start-up incubation, seed funding, and business strategy.



Two-day National Seminar on "Driving Profit through Sustainable Production and Responsible Consumption" (SDG 12) was held on 12th and 13th March 2025. Dr. Ashwin Fernandes, the keynote speaker, highlighted the role of sustainability in education and industry. The seminar featured five technical sessions with speakers from Mr. Indoco Remedies on sustainable supply chains, Mr. Sauvik Bhattacharya on circular economy strategies, Mrs. Dhanusha A. Prabhu on sustainable branding, Mr. Rajkumar Kamat on profit with purpose, and a panel discussion led by Dr. Fr. Bolmax Pereira on sustainable business and consumption practices. An E-Poster competition showcased 21 student posters on various sustainability themes. The Seminar was coordinated by Ms. Maria Difa Fenandes and Co-coordinated by Ms. Sumina D'Costa.



Joy Of Giving - A Social Outreach Programme:

The annual social outreach programme "Joy of Giving" was conducted on 2nd April 2025, with the aim of sensitizing students to the challenges faced by the underprivileged. ASRO, a home for children affected by HIV in Tivim, Goa, was chosen as the beneficiary. Based on their immediate needs, the department donated plastic chairs, a 20-litre cooker, and two bags of rice. Students responded to a departmental appeal with enthusiastic support and generous contributions. A team of five faculty members and eight students visited ASRO to deliver the items. The initiative was coordinated by Mr. Herwin Furtado and Dr. Santana Fernandes.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Dr. Yasmin Shakh was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Archdiocesan Board of Education, Goa, on 6th February 2025. The award was presented in recognition of her dedicated and meritorious service, marking the completion of 30 years of service to the Board.

Paper Publications

Dr. Yasmin Shaikh published the following papers:

- “Cash Vs Digital Payment: The Changing Perspective in Goa”, in International Journal of Innovative research in Technology (An International Open Access Journal Peer-reviewed, Referred Journal) ISSN: 2349-6002. IJIRT | Volume 11 Issue 12 | May 2025.
- “Paradigm Shift from Cash to Cashless: A Study of Goa”, in International Journal of Innovative research in Technology (An International Open Access Journal Peer-reviewed, Referred Journal) ISSN: 2349-6002 | IJIRT | Volume 11 Issue 12 | May 2025.
- “Bitcoins Awareness and Usage in Goa: An Update” and “Security Concerns in Digital payment: An Overview” in Educational Administration: Theory and Practice. ISSN: 2148-2403 2024, 30(6), June 2024

Dr. Carmelita Dmello published paper Jointly with Dr. Frazer Taylor in Spectrum, titled “An analysis of Pre and Post Merger Performances: A Case study of Vodafone India within the Indian Telecom Sector.”

Presentations

Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo presented a research paper at the International Conference on the theme “Consumer Purchase Intentions for Organic Products: A Case study of Goa” organized by Choice College of Arts and Commerce, Pune, Maharashtra on 5th October 2024.

Dr. Carmelita Dmello presented Paper titled “Evolving Pilgrimage Tourism in Goa: A comparative study of Motivations, Expectations and Experiences at the 18th Exposition of St. Francis Xavier's Relics” at 3rd AIRTP Conference in Manoro Raia at VMSHIE held from 15th January to 18th January 2025.

Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo presented a research paper at the International Conference on the theme “Research & Development Investment and its impact on Firm Performance in the Indian Corporate Sector” organized by V.M. Salgaocar Institute of International Hospitality Education, Manora-Raia, Goa from 13th to 15th February 2025.

Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo presented a research paper at the International Conference on the theme “Impact of Rural Tourism on the Socio Economic Development of Goa” organized by Under Graduate Department of Commerce and Post Graduate Department of Commerce, Rosary College of Commerce & Arts, Navelim, Salcete Goa on 11th and 12th April 2025.

Programmes Attended

Ms. Kimberly Barros and Ms. Swizel Alphonso attended One day State level workshop on 'Advancements in Modern Accounting organised by Goa Vidyaprasarak Mandal's Gopal Govind Poy Raiturcar College of Commerce and Economics, Ponda on 4th July 2024.

Ms. Alia Aga attended a Training Development Programme on Mentoring Skills organised by GIPARD-Old Goa from 3rd October 2024 to 5th October 2024.

Ms. Kimberly Barros attended Entrepreneurship Bootcamp Start-up and Scale up organised by Directorate of Higher Education, Goa in collaboration with Uzvaad Goa, on 22nd April 2025.

Mr. Priyanshu Rai and Ms. Enajia Fernandes, attended One – Day State Level workshop on “Fundamentals of Econometrics in Research” was held at DMC College, Assagao on 7th March, 2025.

Ms. Elvira D'souza, attended a Two-day National Seminar “Towards Viksit Bharat: The Skilling Mission for 2047”, held at Pilar Pilgrim Centre, Goa, on March 21-22, 2025.

Ms. Sandra Fernandes, attended Refresher Course in Management, Tourism and Commerce for Nation Building' under Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organised by Malviya Mission Teacher Centre, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak (MP) from 19th May to 31st May 2025.

Invitation as Resource Person

Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo was invited as Keynote Speaker for National Level Conference organized by Shri Sadguru Gangageer Maharaj Science, Gautam Arts & Sanjivani Commerce College, Kopergaon, Maharashtra, 18th March 2025.

On 19th June 2025, Dr. Oscar de Melo delivered a talk to administrators and managers of Diocesan Schools, Higher Secondary Schools, and Colleges under the Diocesan Society of Education, furthering the conversation on educational leadership and institutional effectiveness.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Yash Vivek Pawar (SYBCom), has officially broken the Guinness World Record for the most jumping jacks in 30 seconds! With a staggering 77 jumps in 30 seconds, Yash has achieved the seemingly impossible!

On February 28, 2025, the Department of Commerce, participated in **Insignia 9.0**, a National-Level Intercollegiate Event hosted by Rosary College, Navelim. The team of 20 students secured First place in Dance Battle, Fashion Show, Quiz Competition, Reel Making, and Short Film, and Second place in Battle of the Bands, Photography, and Elite Manager, earning the **Runners-Up trophy**.



The R&D Cell of St. Xavier's College, organized a Best Project Competition to recognise and promote outstanding research work of final-year students. The project titled "Role of G.I. in Promoting and Protecting Goa's Unique Products", was adjudged the Best Project at the competition.

Cluster Research Center

Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo served as the research guide for Dr. Ajita Morajkar, who was awarded a Ph.D. in Commerce for her dissertation titled "Tourists' Perception towards Services of Small and Medium Tourism Enterprises in Goa: A Study."



Ph.D. AWARD

Dr. Frazer Taylor, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce was awarded Ph.D. Degree on 8th November 2024 for his thesis "A Study on Public Health Expenditure in India at a Sub-National Level with a Focus on Service Quality of District Hospitals in Goa." He completed his research at Goa Business School, Goa University, under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Sanjay Desai.

DEPARTMENT OF B.B.A.**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED**

Book Swap: On December 16, 2024, the BBA Department, in collaboration with IIC and the College Library, hosted the college's first Book Swap. A total of 185 books were exchanged by over 100 students and staff, promoting sustainability and reading habits. Genres ranged from fiction to self-help and manga. Volunteers collected books in advance and helped organize the event. The student coordinator was Ms. Diya Sardessai and the faculty coordinator was Ms. Vanessa Furtado. The event fostered community, reduced waste, and encouraged literary engagement in an enjoyable, student-driven setting.

The Reason for the Season: Christmas Program: On December 17, 2024, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the BBA Department, along with AICUF and the Child and Women Welfare Club, hosted a Christmas celebration involving over 200 participants. Events included carol singing, a Nativity play, ornament-making, and food stalls. Students and staff from St. Xavier's Academy were hosted with games, lunch, and gifts. Teachers sponsored presents for the guests. Mr. Savio Fernandes was the student coordinator, supported by faculty coordinator Ms. Vanessa Furtado. The event brought the campus together in a spirit of giving, reflection, and festivity, celebrating the joy of Christmas meaningfully.

Field Visit to Silva Heritage and Goa Chitra Museum: On April 3, 2025, 30 First-Year BBA students visited Silva Heritage and Goa Chitra Museum in Benaulim. The visit aimed to provide real-world exposure to business models rooted in cultural tourism, sustainable finance, and heritage preservation. Students gained insights into managing private heritage initiatives and understanding customer engagement in niche markets. The field trip was coordinated by faculty members Ms. Charmaine Dias and Mr. Vernon Desa. This experiential learning activity helped students link classroom theories to actual entrepreneurial practices in the heritage and tourism sectors, enhancing awareness of local enterprise and cultural sustainability.

Field Visit to RK Vrindavan, Nanoda (SYBBA): On March 20, 2025, 30 Second-Year BBA students visited RK Vrindavan, Nanoda, for a day of sales training and team-building activities. Students developed sales pitches for farm products and engaged in experiential exercises like leadership debates, trust circles, elevator pitches, and negotiation games. The visit was coordinated by Ms. Charmaine Dias and Mr. Vernon Desa. The immersive experience encouraged peer interaction, public speaking, creative strategy, and critical thinking. Students connected academic learning with

practical application, gaining a deeper understanding of group dynamics, consumer behavior, and communication—skills essential for professional development in marketing and sales.

Experiential Learning Session on Dining Etiquette: On April 4, 2025, 30 BBA students participated in an Experiential Learning session on Dining Etiquette at La Den Restaurant. The session covered formal table settings, multi-course dining, business introductions, and small talk for networking. Students practiced posture, confident speech, and etiquette for professional settings. The interactive session was organized and facilitated by Ms. Vanessa Zita Furtado. Through simulations and demonstrations, students gained practical skills for corporate dining environments. The program enhanced their confidence and readiness for formal business occasions, contributing significantly to their soft skill development and corporate grooming for future internships and careers.

Team Building Day at RK Vrundavan Farm: On March 11, 2025, the BBA Department conducted Team Building Day for 30 First-Year students at RK Vrundavan Farm. Activities included business quizzes, tagline creation, matchstick logic games, and interactive challenges like the helium stick and hula hoop tunnel. These exercises emphasized trust, collaboration, creativity, and communication. Students worked in teams and reflected on their interpersonal dynamics. The program was coordinated by BBA faculty and structured to improve peer bonding and leadership skills.

SYBBA Field Visit to Cashew Distillation Plantation, Chandel: On April 8, 2025, 30 Second-Year BBA students visited a Cashew Distillation Plantation in Chandel, gaining insights into Goa's heritage product—cashew feni. The visit covered distillation techniques, GI product branding, and local entrepreneurial challenges. Students participated in breakout sessions and team-building games, followed by a traditional Goan lunch. The visit was coordinated by Ms. Vanessa Zita Furtado. This field experience connected rural entrepreneurship with classroom learning, while highlighting sustainable tourism and heritage economy.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

Ms. Vanessa Zita Furtado attended a one-day conference on Industry-Academia Interface on 5th October 2024, Porvorim.

DEPARTMENT OF B.B.A. (TRAVEL & TOURISM)

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Unlocking Careers in Tourism: Opportunities and Pathways for a Bright Future: The Department of BBA (Travel & Tourism), in collaboration with IITTM, organized a career awareness session on 22nd February 2025. The session explored diverse career options in tourism, such as private and government jobs, entrepreneurship, freelancing, and academia. Guest speakers presented a case study on Dubai's tourism model, and students were introduced to higher education avenues like Master's degrees, certifications, and the “Incredible India Tourist Facilitator” program. The session was coordinated by Ms. Chelsea Martins with 64 students attending.



Field Trip to Shivaaz Life Farms, Maharashtra: On 19th March 2025, the Department organized a field visit to Shivaaz Life Farms in Pikule, Maharashtra, for SYBBA students. Students learned about rural tourism and farm management. Coordinated by Ms. Sarita Mahale-Camulkar.



Heritage Tourism Field Trip – South Goa: On 15th February 2025, FYBBA students visited the Braganca Pereira Mansion and Sara Fernandes House. Students explored Goan culture, antiques, and historical architecture. They gained insights into heritage preservation and cultural traditions. Coordinated by Ms. Chelsea Martins.



Field Trip to Nandanvan Spice Farm:

On 29th March 2025, FYBBA students visited Nandanvan Spice Farm to learn about spice and cashew cultivation. Students observed the harvesting and processing techniques, gaining insights into organic farming. The visit was coordinated by Mr. Rommel Pinheiro.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

Ms. Sarita Mahale-Camulkar attended a National Level Webinar on “Enhancing Research Visibility and ORCID” on 3rd April 2025.

Mr. Rommel Pinheiro attended National Tourism Day Workshop at IITTM-NIWS Goa on 7th February 2025.

Ms. Chelsea Martins attended a National Webinar on “Enhancing Research Visibility and ORCID” on 3rd April 2025 and an FDP on Innovative Teaching Approaches in Management & Social Sciences.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Students of BBA (T&T) won overall championship at *Magnify 2024*, hosted by Don Bosco College, Panjim, on 1st October 2024. The theme was “Tourism and Peace.”

- **Winners:** Blaine & Daniel (Debate), Abbas (Business Pitch)
- **Runners-up:** Stefka & Leanne (Poster Making)



Programmes Attended

On 7th February 2025, students participated in the *National Tourism Day Workshop* at IITTM-NIWS Goa.

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED**

Open Classroom on Ecological Awareness: On 15th August 2024, the BCA Department conducted an intra-college outdoor class themed *Ecological Awareness*, coordinated by Mr. Worrel D'Souza. The session aimed to integrate syllabus learning—specifically on disk management—with an appreciation for nature. Students formed groups, sat on the ground outdoors, and discussed academic content while being immersed in a natural setting. They submitted key discussion points for assessment. The session successfully promoted both learning and environmental mindfulness.

Photography Exhibition by TYBCA Students: On 29th March 2025, an intra-college photography exhibition was organized by Mr. Worrel D'Souza and attended by Third Year BCA students. The exhibition displayed photos taken during a field trip to Loutolim, capturing village life, landscapes, and heritage. Held in the college lobby, the event celebrated Goan culture and student creativity.

Certificate Course on Digital Marketing: From 18th February to 12th March 2025, the BCA Department in collaboration with Avanteia Pvt. Ltd. and IQAC, held a 30-hour intra-college certificate course on Digital Marketing. Coordinated by Mr. Vipul Parsekar and attended by 25 participants from within and outside the college, the course covered core concepts including social media strategies, SEO, website planning, and performance analytics.

Career Guidance Talk by Mr. Snehal Harmalkar: On 21st February 2025, an intra-college career guidance session was organized for BCA students, coordinated by Ms. Aarti Kadam. The session was conducted by Mr. Snehal Sham Harmalkar, who discussed career opportunities after BCA, the importance of a strong CV, and the relevance of certifications and Master's degrees. Interactive quizzes and student engagement made the talk informative and practical.

Techbytes Intra-Class Event: On 9th January 2025, *Techbytes*, an intra-college event was organized by the department and coordinated by Mr. Worrel D'Souza and involving FY, SY, and TY BCA students. The event featured 13 competitions to build camaraderie and prepare for Techclipse. With scoring systems and structured events, FY emerged as overall winners. The event encouraged teamwork and student participation.

Annual Inter-Collegiate Techclipse 2025 was held on 8th March 2025. It was coordinated by Mr. Stalin D'Sa. The event saw participation from various colleges,

with Saraswat College winning the overall trophy. Mr. Marshall Fernandes was the Chief Guest. Events included coding, debate, fashion show, web design, and more. The day concluded with a prize ceremony and group photo.

Field Trip to Loutolim for TYBCA: On 27th March 2025, TYBCA students accompanied by coordinator Ms. Worrel D'Souza, went on an intra-college field trip to Loutolim. Guided by Mr. Lisvan Rodrigues, students explored photography techniques and captured local scenes including churches, chapels, and village architecture. The visit also included an emotional interaction with cancer patients, offering a unique blend of skill-building, cultural immersion, and life perspective. The experience left a lasting impact on all participants.

“

“The function of education is
to think intensively and critically.
Intelligence plus character –
that is the goal of true education.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.

”

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANISED**

A **Two-Day international seminar titled “Exploring New Frontiers in Biosciences”** was organized by the Departments of Biotechnology and Microbiology, St. Xavier's College, in collaboration with the Microbiologists' Society, India (MBSI) and Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) on 23rd and 24th January 2025. The following poster presentation were made by faculty of the department at the seminar:

- Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes presented a poster titled “Biofuels: The sustainable energy solution to power the future” and 'Sustainable Packaging Paper from *Citrus maxima* (Pomelo) and *Citrus limetta* (Sweet lime) fruit rinds'
- Ms Swaroopa Naik presented posters titled “Antibiotic resistance in the environment” and “Biodegradation of ocean plastics: a step towards sustainable seas”
- Mr. Vishal U. Mardolkar presented poster titled “Exploring the impact of light, temperature and nutrients on carbon sequestration in Phytoplanktons” and “Valorization of fish scale collagen as a sustainable Biotechnological resource”

The following students made presentations at the seminar:

- Abigail Joy Gomes Souza, Alethea Fernandes, Aloma Saldanha, Katelyn Pinheiro, Sweta Gawas presented poster titled “Exploring the impact of light, temperature and nutrients on carbon sequestration in Phytoplanktons”
- Anifa Fernandes, Kimberly D'Costa, Ruth Aguiar, SeeyaMandrekar, ShriyaRaikar, Thanishka Menezes presented poster titled “Valorization of fish scale collagen as a sustainable Biotechnological resource”
- Amit Vernekar, Rochelle Rocha, Vrunda Naik, Shawna Castelino and Siya Raut presented a poster titled 'Sustainable Packaging Paper from *Citrus maxima* (Pomelo) and *Citrus limetta* (Sweet lime) fruit rinds'
- Jaherul Mallick, Sasha Fatarpekar, ShreyashGawas, Taniel Pereira presented a poster titled “Biofuels: The sustainable energy solution to power the future”
- Abhidnya Sawant, Ananya Apte, DeepishaMandrekar, Khushi Yadav, MitaliBagkar, SaloniSangodkar presented poster titled “Antibiotic resistance in the environment”
- Asmita Salkar, Blossom Baretto, Jyoti Jadhav, Najina Rathod, Sahista Yakkundi presented poster titled “Biodegradation of ocean plastics: a step towards sustainable seas”

Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series on “Bio-entrepreneurship: Blending Science, Passion and Innovation: On 4th March 2025, the department hosted an engaging guest lecture by alumnus Donovan Rodrigues, founder of MyOwnBrews. Speaking to 51 First and Second-Year students, Donovan shared his inspiring journey into bio-entrepreneurship, highlighting how his passion for fermentation technology led to the creation of scientifically crafted fermented beverages. He discussed his startup's focus on winemaking kits and artisanal products, emphasizing the critical role of biotechnology in product development. Reflecting on his challenges with funding, market dynamics, and regulations, he stressed the value of persistence, creativity, and adaptability. Donovan encouraged students to explore unconventional career paths and leverage biotechnology in innovative ventures. He also underscored the importance of research, experimentation, and consumer awareness in building a sustainable business.



Open Lab Day to commemorate National Science Day: St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, celebrated National Science Day on 25th February 2025 by organizing an Open Lab Day themed “Building Public Trust in Science.” The event aimed to ignite scientific curiosity and encourage students to pursue higher education in science by offering them hands-on exposure to the college's advanced laboratories. Seventy students from St. Francis Xavier's High School, St. Britto's High School, and Holy Cross High School participated, exploring labs across departments such as Biotechnology, Botany, Chemistry (UG and PG), Computer Science, Electronics, Mathematics, Microbiology, and Physics. The Department of Biotechnology had engaging live experiments, preserved sample displays, and insightful explanations of lab instruments, showcasing real-world applications of the field. The visiting students displayed remarkable enthusiasm and curiosity, interacting actively with faculty and demonstrators, asking thoughtful questions, and immersing themselves in the learning experience. The event successfully fostered scientific interest and strengthened the bridge between academic science and young learners.



Certificate course in “*Fundamentals of Biomolecules*”: The Department of Biotechnology in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell under the DBT Star College Scheme, successfully conducted a 30-hour certificate course titled “*Fundamentals of Biomolecules*” from 17th September to 19th October 2024. Exclusively offered to Second Year Biotechnology students, the course aimed to strengthen foundational knowledge on key biomolecules. The curriculum covered four core topics: Carbohydrates, Amino Acids, Proteins, and Lipids, focusing on their structure, function, and biological significance. Sessions were delivered by faculty members: Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes, Ms. Sonali Kajoli, Ms. Emma Fernandes, and Ms. Jenica Rangel, who ensured engaging and informative teaching. Offered free of charge, the course successfully enhanced students' conceptual understanding and sparked interest in molecular biology and biochemistry, laying a solid foundation for future academic pursuits.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

“Biowizards: Potential unleashed” - State level Inter Higher Secondary School Event: The 8th annual Inter-Higher Secondary School event, BOWIZARDS 2025 – “Potential Unleashed”, was held on 6th February 2025. Welcoming eight higher secondary institutions, the event began an inaugural ceremony, featuring Chief Guest Mr. Sean D'Silva, an alumnus and Embedded Engineer, who inspired students to explore innovations in biotechnology. Participants competed in a series of engaging competitions including *BIOGENIUSES* (quiz), *BioCanvas* (theme-based painting), *The Silent Stage* (biological charades), *Idea Arena* (Shark Tank-style pitches), *VOQUESTA* (bio-couture fashion), and *ReelGenix* (reel-making contest). The day showcased creativity, scientific curiosity, and teamwork, reflecting the passion and potential of future biotechnologists. The event concluded with a valedictory function where Harmal Panchakroshi HSS secured first place, followed by St. Andrew's HSS and St. Xavier's HSS.



Field trip to Chopdem - Agarwada Village Panchayat:

On 8th March 2025, a field visit was organized under the GBT 205: Bioentrepreneurship course to Chopdem-Agarwada Village Panchayat, guided by



Assistant Professors Ms. Emma Fernandes and Ms. Jenica Rangel. Twenty-one S.Y.B.Sc. Biotechnology students participated, gaining hands-on exposure to aquaculture and salt farming practices. Mr. Anthony and Mr. Sachin explained traditional, eco-friendly salt farming methods, highlighting their economic viability. Students also attended a session on prawn farming conducted by local experts, learning about pond management, feeding practices, and modern technologies in aquaculture. The interactive nature of the visit encouraged active student participation. This experience aimed to inspire interest in small-scale bio-based startups by showcasing real-world applications of biotechnology in sustainable agriculture and aquaculture.

Field trip to Latambarcem Brewers Pvt. Ltd.: On 19th March 2025, a field visit was organised under the BIC 108: Bioprocess Technology course to Latambarcem Brewers Pvt. Ltd., Nanoda. Guided by Mr. Kamlesh Korgaonkar, 11 T.Y.B.Sc. Biotechnology students gained firsthand exposure to the brewing industry. Dr. Dhaval Patel, Research Scientist, led the session, offering insights into beer production, fermentation kinetics, quality control, and packaging techniques. The visit emphasized the role of microbiology and biotechnology in fermentation, along with microbiological testing and regulatory standards. Students actively engaged in discussions on product



innovation, sustainability, and market differentiation in craft brewing. The visit not only deepened their technical understanding of brewing processes but also highlighted business aspects and emerging trends in the industry. Overall, the experience broadened their perspective on the industrial applications of biotechnology, reinforcing concepts in microbiology, enzymology, and food safety while opening up potential career pathways in brewing and fermentation technology.

BEST PRACTICES

Green and sustainable practices such as use of digital invitations, reduced generation of laboratory waste by efficient work in groups for certain experiments that depend on single use items.

Annual release of department newsletter which is now an E-newsletter.

Alumni Engagement- Invite alumni as Chief guests and Judges for events, and to share their experiences, deliver guest lectures and sponsor departmental events.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Project guided by Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes titled 'Sustainable Packaging Paper from *Citrus maxima* (Pomelo) and *Citrus limetta* (Sweet lime) fruit rinds' was awarded 'Best Exhibit' award for the project by Goa State Higher Education (GSHEC) & Directorate of Higher Education (DHE Goa, India) at Science Exhibit Showcase KALPAK on the 05th to the 07th of March 2025.

Presentations

Mr. Vishal U. Mardolkar presented a poster paper titled “Fish Scale Collagen: An Untapped Sustainable Resource” at 2 days National Conference from 6th - 7th March 2025 on “Bioentrepreneurship in Microbiology”, organized by the Microbiology Programme at the School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology (SBSB), Goa University.

Programmes Attended

1. Mr. Vishal U. Mardolkar, attended a 7-day hands-on workshop for college teachers on "Using *Drosophila melanogaster* for Biology Laboratory Classes," organized by Department of Zoology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, from 24th to 30th December 2024 at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune.

2. On 7th January 2025, Ms. Jenica Rangel attended on National Seminar on “Zoonotic diseases and one health approach” organized by Department of Zoology, Government College of Arts Science and Commerce, Sanquelim Goa.
3. Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes and Mr. Vishal Mardolkar attended the master class series session on “Alternate structures in RNA and their functional significance” organized by Directorate of Higher Education, Goa on 9th January 2025.
4. Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes attended three days LCMS workshop on Mass Spectrometry for proteomics organized by CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa from 29th -31st January 2025.
5. Mr. Vishal U. Mardolkar attended 2 days National Conference from 6th - 7th March 2025 on “Bioentrepreneurship in Microbiology”, organized by the Microbiology Programme at the School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology (SBSB), Goa University.

Invitation as Speaker/ Resource Person

1. Ms. Jenica Rangel was resource person at a session on “*Photosynthesis – A Biological Marvel*” on 12th February 2025 at St. Michael's Convent High School, Vagator, Goa, and on 14th February 2025 at Shri Dayanand Arya High School, Neura, Dongrim, Goa.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Amit Vernekar, Rochelle Rocha, Vrunda Naik, Shawna Castelino and Siya Raut was awarded 'Best Exhibit' award for the project titled 'Sustainable Packaging Paper from *Citrus maxima* (Pomelo) and *Citrus limetta* (Sweet lime) fruit rinds' by Goa State Higher Education (GSHEC) & Directorate of Higher Education (DHE Goa, India) at Science Exhibit Showcase KALPAK on the 05th to the 07th of March 2025.

Ms. Vedika Marathe won 3rd place in Orator competition at MEAR event hosted by DD Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural studies, Goa University on 7th March 2025.

Presentations

Ms. Seeya Mandrekar and Ms. Kimberly D'Costa presented poster titled “Fish Scale Collagen: An Untapped Sustainable Resource” at 2 days National Conference on “Bioentrepreneurship in Microbiology”, organized by the Microbiology Programme at the School of Biological Sciences & Biotechnology (SBSB), Goa University on 6th - 7th March 2025.

Programmes attended

1. Sakshi Pagi, Jaden Dias, Riddhi Mayekar, Shayina Naik, Aashana Naik, Tanishq Shirodkar, Disha Salgaonkar, Saniya Naik, SanishaManerikar, Auxcilia Cardozo, Taniel Pereira, Ananya Apte, Sasha Fatarpekar, Saloni Sangodkar, Khushi Yadav, Blossom Barreto, Mitali Bagkar, Seeya Mandrekar, Ruth Aguiar, Rochelle Rocha, Siya Raut, Vrunda Naik, Thanishq Menezes, Amit Vernekar, ShriyaRaikar participated in “Synapse 2K24-25: Rewriting The Code of Life” on 21st December 2024 organised by Department of Biotechnology of Chowgule Education Society's ParvatibaiChowgule College of Arts and Science.
2. Ms. Khushi Yadav, Ms. Abhidnya Sawant, Ms. Ananya Apte, Ms. Deepisha Mandrekar, Ms. Saloni Sangodkar, and Ms. Sasha Adil Naik Fatarpekar attended, organized a National Seminar on 'Zoonotic Diseases and One Health Approach' on 7th January 2025 organized by the Department of Zoology, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Sanquelim-Goa.

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“There is no magic to achievement.
It's really about hard work, choices
and persistence.”

– Michelle Obama

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DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION AND JOURNALISM**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED**

Educational Field Trip to Chandor : On 18th March 2025, second-year students of the Mass Communication and Journalism program participated in a field trip to Chandor as part of their Advanced Photography and Travel & Tourism curriculum. The trip was attended by approximately 20 students and coordinated by Mr. Vibhav Naik and Mr. Lisvan Rodrigues. The group explored several culturally significant sites including the ruins of a fort, Kushavati River, Kadamba Shri Shiva Temple, Sara Fernandez's Portuguese-era house, and Archie's Gallery by Celino Mascarenhas. They documented architectural, cultural, and artistic elements through photography. The final stop was a traditional feni distillery in Cansaulim, where students engaged in the cashew juice extraction process. This hands-on trip allowed students to practice composition, framing, and cultural storytelling, blending photography with field-based reporting.

Flash Photography Workshop: On 5th April 2025, an interactive Flash Photography workshop was held from 12 PM to 2 PM at the Mass Communication and Journalism Studio, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. Around 20 students from the Advanced Photography course attended the session conducted by Mr.



Shreeyash Kittur, a wedding photographer and department alumnus. The workshop, coordinated by subject faculty, focused on understanding TTL metering, sync speed, manual flash, and balancing natural with artificial lighting. Students practiced using soft boxes, bounce flash, and off-camera lighting setups. Mr. Kittur demonstrated real-time examples and addressed student queries about gear, technique, and challenges in wedding photography. His industry insights provided students with a practical learning experience and a glimpse into the professional demands of event photography.

Food Photography Workshop: On 8th March 2025, a session on Food Photography was conducted by professional photographer and videographer Miss Aishwarya Rivonker for Advanced Photography students at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. The workshop took place from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM in the Mass Communication and Journalism Studio and was attended by about 20 students. Coordinated by Mr. Vibhav Naik, the session covered lighting, composition, mood boarding, storytelling, and exposure techniques. Students were divided into groups and given food props to plan and execute creative shots. Miss Rivonker offered detailed feedback on each group's

work, discussing the creative and technical aspects of food photography. The session was highly interactive and offered valuable professional exposure in a key area of visual communication.

Distinguished Alumni lecture series -

Multimedia Storytelling: As part of, the department of Journalism invited Ms. Venita Gomes, a Senior Multimedia Producer and Social Media Manager (alumnus of Journalism batch 2014-15) to deliver a session on Multimedia Storytelling: Engaging Audiences in digital world on 6th March 2025. The



session aimed to provide students with valuable insights into the evolving world of digital content and its role in multimedia journalism. The session was attended by 62 students from FY, SY and TY Mass Communication and Journalism class.

Study Tour to Mangalore and Bangalore: On 24th November 2024, 22 TYBA students embarked on a study tour to Mangalore and Bangalore. In Mangalore, students visited St Aloysius College where they interacted with Journalism faculty Ms. Bhavya Shetty and Mr. Vishal Nayak, and learned about postgraduate options and community radio at Radio Sarang, where they recorded audio in the studio. They also visited Basel Mission Press and Diganta Press to understand traditional and modern printing processes. At DaijiWorld studios, students explored international-standard news production and sound mixing. In Bangalore, on 27th November 2024, they visited Thomson Reuters, gaining insight into global newsroom structures, ethics, and multimedia journalism. They also visited Christ University's Yeshwanthpur campus, touring the media department with student guides and learning about AR/VR integration, infrastructure, and industry-linked curriculum. Meetings with editorial teams at The Hindu and Deccan Herald offered practical exposure to print journalism, content curation, AI tools, and newsroom workflow.



Radio Indigo FM Station Visit: On 4th April 2025, a field visit to Radio Indigo 91.9 FM was organized for TYBA Journalism students as part of their Radio Journalism paper. A total of 15 students participated. The visit offered a behind-the-scenes look into the workings of a private FM station. Ms. Ayesha Barretto explained the process of planning and producing radio shows and demonstrated live radio jockeying. Students also had the rare opportunity to go on-air with RJ Ayesha, turning the visit into a hands-on learning experience. Coordinated by the department faculty.



National Press Day: On 16th November 2024, FYBA students attended the National Press Day celebrations organized by the Department of Information and Publicity at Institute Menezes Braganza Hall, Panaji. The event began at 9:30 AM and included an interactive session titled “Maintaining Ethics and Accountability in Reporting.” Moderated by Glenn Costa, the panel featured prominent media professionals Alister Miranda, Prasad Mhambrey, Newton Sequeira, and Dr. Olav Albuquerque. Students engaged with critical issues surrounding ethical journalism and the responsibilities of the press. The event was attended by approximately 25 students. Coordinated by the department faculty.



Interactive Session on Cybercrime Awareness by SP Edwin Colaco: On 25th March 2025, an interactive session on cybercrime awareness was conducted by SP Edwin Colaco for TYBA Mass Communication students at the Mass Communication Lab, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. The session, part of the “History of Media II” paper, focused on distinguishing cybercrime from cyber fraud, responsible online conduct, and legal measures. The event aimed to equip future media professionals with essential awareness of digital threats and ethical practices in digital spaces. Coordinated by Mr. Anzil Fernandes. Attended by 20 students.



Visit to Goa Legislative Assembly by

First-Year Students: As part of their Media and News course, 30 first-year students of the Mass Communication and Journalism program visited the Goa Legislative Assembly during its summer session in March 2025. The visit aimed to provide students with firsthand exposure to the legislative process and state-level governance. During the session, students observed live debates and discussions on Goa's current issues, which offered



insights into the functioning of parliamentary democracy. They also had the opportunity to interact with key political figures including Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant, Deputy Speaker Joshua D'Souza, and Opposition MLAs Yuri Alemao and Vijay Sardesai. These conversations enriched their understanding of political journalism. The visit was coordinated by the department faculty.

Internship and Delegate Participation at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI):

From 15th to 29th November 2024, students from the Mass Communication and Journalism program participated as interns and delegates at the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) held in Panaji, Goa. The event saw global participation with over 11,000 delegates and showcased 189 films from 81 countries. Around 20 students benefitted from the internship and delegate experience, which included assisting at the Film Bazaar, Tech Pavilion, and masterclasses. Students gained exposure to event management, film marketing, live dubbing, and networking with filmmakers and industry professionals. As interns, they handled coordination, data management, and assisted jury members. As delegates, they attended screenings, interacted with filmmakers, and explored cinema's role in cultural storytelling. The activity was coordinated by the department faculty and aligned with the festival's youth-centric focus, offering students practical insights into the workings of international film events.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Invitation as Speaker/ Resource Person

Mr. Dinesh Nirawdekar delivered a session titled "Impact of Social Networking Sites: Its Merits and Demerits" at Government High School, Alto-Betim, Porvorim, on 27th January 2025.

ABBE FARIA POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Certificate Course - Counselling Skills and Interventions:

The certificate course held on 12th, 17th, 18th March, 1st and 2nd April, 2025, was conducted for 29 undergraduate and postgraduate students of psychology, featuring a range of expert-led sessions. Dr. Kshipra Vora introduced core counselling skills and ethics, followed by Ms. Andrea D'Souza's session on ethical practice. Dr. Vijay Viegas addressed the importance of documentation and record-keeping. A workshop by Cognizavest, led by Dr. Sakshi Grover and Ms. Lisha Khatri, offered practical training in CBT, behavior therapy, and SFBT through role-plays and case studies. Ms. Mylin Gonsalves covered child psychology and special needs, while Prof. Vithoba Narayan Mhalkar spoke on emotional intelligence for resilience and optimism. The co-ordinating faculty was Dr. Kshipra Vora.



VAC Courses - Child Psychology and Special Needs: The course was organized in collaboration with the Undergraduate Department of Psychology and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the college on 1st April, 2025. The session was conducted by Ms. Mylin Gonsalves, Clinical Psychologist and Mental Health Therapist at Sanjay Centre for Special Education. 66 undergraduate and postgraduate students participated in this course. Coordinated by Ms. Swarnima Verma, Ms. Sania Rego, Ms. Alison Azavedo, and Ms. Adrita Das, the course provided participants with foundational knowledge and applied strategies for working with children with special needs. Co-ordinating faculty were Ms. Andrea D'Souza and Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.



VAC Courses - Sustaining Optimism and Resilience with Emotional Intelligence: The course was organized in collaboration with the Undergraduate Department of Psychology and the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the college on 2nd April, 2025. The resource person, Prof. Vithoba Narayan Mhalkar—Associate Professor and Certified Emotional Intelligence Coach—led an engaging session for 57 students of psychology, focussed on emotional regulation, self-awareness, and resilience. Through interactive activities and real-life applications, the students explored strategies to manage stress and enhance well-being. Co-ordinating faculty were Dr. Vijay Viegas and Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Intercollegiate Fest

Veritas Mentis: On January 11, 2025, a psychology-themed intercollegiate fest inspired by Greek mythology was organized in collaboration with the Undergraduate Department of Psychology. The event aimed to celebrate the roots and evolution of psychology, combining intellectual inquiry with artistic expression. Seven teams participated in 11 creative and competitive events, including quizzes, debates, monologues, street plays, and a fashion show. The programme featured Chief Guests Ms. Sofia De Souza and Mr. Daniel Lobo, and Special Guest Ms. Anuradha Kakodkar. Carmel College won the overall championship. Co-ordinating faculty were Ms. Andrea D'Souza and Prof. Janet Fernandes.



Field Trip - Chaitanya Institute for Mental Health, Pune: The visit was organized on 21st March, 2025. Renowned for its residential psychiatric care and community-based rehabilitation services, the institute caters to individuals with conditions such as Schizophrenia, Mood and Personality Disorders, Substance Use, and Geriatric Psychiatric issues. 60 Students engaged with a multidisciplinary team, gaining insights into clinical procedures like admission protocols, case history intake, medication management, and psychosocial interventions including counselling and occupational therapy. Co-ordinating faculty was Dr. Vijay Viegas.

Community Outreach Programmes: As part of the practicum component for the M.A. Part I Psychology programme, students undertook individual field observations across diverse mental health and community-based settings including NGOs, schools, private clinics, and mental health organizations. Conducted on Saturdays from January to March, 2025, each student completed a minimum of 20 hours.

The initiative aimed to integrate theoretical learning with practical exposure. Students maintained observation logs and submitted experiential reports highlighting challenges in diagnosis, assessment, and intervention. They encountered a range of issues such as anxiety, learning disabilities, and emotional dysregulation. Common difficulties included overlapping symptoms, cultural considerations, limited assessment tools, and therapy resistance. Through volunteering and reflective engagement, students developed clinical insight, ethical awareness, and empathy—key competencies for psychological practice. Co-ordinating faculty were Dr. Kshipra Vora and Ms. Andrea D'Souza.



In March 2025, M.A. Part I Psychology students from the Abbé Faria Post Graduate Department of Psychology at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, conducted a Community Outreach Program as part of their practicum. Working in groups of three, students designed and facilitated interactive mental health workshops for diverse community groups, including schoolchildren, college students, and youth organizations. Topics

included self-care, team dynamics, time management, expressive arts, and dance movement therapy. The sessions emphasized experiential learning through discussions, creative activities, and role-plays. Each group submitted detailed reports and geotagged photographic documentation. The initiative promoted psychological well-being while enabling students to apply classroom learning in real-world contexts. Co-ordinating faculty were Dr. Kshipra Vora and Ms. Andrea D'Souza.



Internship Programme: A One-Month Internship at Sethu Centre for Child Development and Family Guidance was coordinated by the Abbe Faria Postgraduate Department of Psychology at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa, under its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Sethu Centre for Child Development and Family Guidance, Saligao – Goa, for Ms. Heloise D'Souza from 8th May to 31st May 2024. This internship aimed to provide practical exposure and hands-on learning in the area of child psychology, developmental assessments, and therapeutic interventions, thereby enhancing the professional competencies of students pursuing postgraduate studies in psychology.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

The Best Paper Award was shared by Dr. Kshipra Vora and Dr. Vijay Viegas for their papers titled, "Quality concerns in Teacher-delivery and Student –progression: A meta-analytic review of AI integration in teaching pedagogy" and "Transforming Education and Mental Health: The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Counselling Practices" respectively, presented at the 7th APSA International conference on AI and the Future of School Psychology and Education, organized by Asia Pacific School Psychology Association, Malaysia (APSPA), Indian School Psychology Association (INSPA), India, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Goa and St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa – India; from 6th to 8th March, 2025.

Presentations

7th APSPA International conference on AI and the Future of School Psychology and Education: Ms. Andrea D'Souza presented a paper titled, "Academic stress, academic self-efficacy and AI Driven Support for High School Students" at the 7th APSPA International conference on AI and the Future of School Psychology and Education, organized by Asia Pacific School Psychology Association, Malaysia (APSPA), Indian School Psychology Association (INSPA), India, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Goa and St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa – India; from 6th to 8th March, 2025.

34th Annual International Conference of the Sports Psychology Association of India, 2025: Dr. Kshipra Vora presented a paper titled, "Beyond the Board: Assessment of Personality and Coping among Chess players in Goa" at the Two-Day 34th Annual International Conference on "Psychology for Sporting Success: Enhancing performance and Wellness", Conference of Sports Psychology Association of India, 2025 organized by Manipur University, Jaipur – India; from 17th to 18th April, 2025.

Programmes Attended

Dr. Vijay Viegas attended the half day workshop on "Tips for Good Academic Writing" organized by Don Bosco College, Panjim, in collaboration with Goa State Research Foundation on 25th February, 2025.

Ms. Andrea D'Souza attended a workshop on "Writing of Research Proposal" as part of FDP on 15th April, 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Programme Attended

46 students attended the International Conference organized by Asia Pacific School Psychology Association, Malaysia (APSPA), Indian School Psychology Association (INSPA), India, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Goa and St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa – India; from 6th to 8th March, 2025.

POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY**ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED**

State Level Seminar on “IPR Boot Camp”: The One-Day Seminar was held on 15th March, 2025, organized in collaboration with IPR Cell, IQAC and IIC and supported by Patent Information Centre, Goa State Council of Science and Technology, Saligao-Goa. The first session was conducted by Professor Sanjeev Ghadi, a Senior Professor, on the topic 'Empowering Innovation' followed by the second session delivered by Dr. Ranjana Ferrao, Associate Professor, V. M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar, Panaji, Goa on the topic “Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Copyrights: Emerging issues.” The third session was delivered by Ms. Vaibhavi Rane, Assistant Professor, Programme Director (LLM), Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance, and Public Policy, Goa University on the topic “Securing the Legacy.” 82 students along with faculty participated in the seminar. Ms. Mamata Prabhugaonkar was the co-ordinator.



Value Added Course - Lab Analysis: Techniques and Instrumentation: The course was held on 2nd and 3rd April, 2025 for the M.Sc. Part-II Students. The course aimed at imparting knowledge of the basic principles underlying commonly used instruments and their working. 19 students participated in the course. Sessions were conducted by Mrs. Mamata Prabhugaonkar, Mrs. Rupali Neje, Ms. Kalpita Talpekar and Ms. Fami Fernandes. Ms. Rupali Neje co-ordinated this course.

ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

National Energy Conservation Day: The celebration was held on 16th December, 2024. Rangoli and Model Making Competitions were organized for UG and PG students on the theme “Energy Conservation, having the aim to showcase student's creativity and



innovativeness.” 8 students participated in the competitions. The competitions were coordinated by Ms. Kalpita Talpekar, Mrs. Rupali Neje and Ms. Fami Fernandes.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Publication

C. Naik, M., H. Kini, J., BE, K. S., & Velho-Pereira, S. (2024). Sensor and antibacterial research of *Mussaenda frondosa* leaf extract assisted zinc oxide nanoparticles. *Sensing Technology*, 2(1), 2385839.

Programme Attended

One-Day State Level Chemistry Symposium on “Current Trends in Chemical Sciences”: Mrs. Mamata Prabhugaonkar attended the symposium organised by Post Graduate Department of Chemistry in collaboration with IQAC and RDC, P. E. S.'s R. S. N. College of Arts and Science, Ponda-Goa held on 7th March, 2025.

Invitation as Speaker

Ms. Kapita Talpekar was invited as a Resource Person for the Science Day Programme at Vadem Nagar Shikshan Seva Mandal's, Vadem Nagar English High School, New Vadem, on 28th February, 2025.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Ms. Taniya Joshi and Ms. Chrystal Braganza (M.Sc. Part II) secured First Place for Poster Presentation on the topic “Green Synthesis, Characterisation and Applications of Cerium and Samarium ion doped ZnO nanoparticles using *Crossandra infundibuliformis* and *Averrhoa carambola* leaf extracts,” organized by Post Graduate Department of Chemistry in collaboration with IQAC and RDC, P. E. S.'s R. S. N. College of Arts and Science, Ponda-Goa held on 7th March, 2025.

Ms. Jane Gomes (M.Sc. Part II) secured Second Place for her Presentation on the topic “Electrochemical Investigation of Dopamine and Uric Acid using plant-mediated NiO-ZnO Nanocomposite modified Glassy Carbon Electrode,” organized by Post Graduate

Department of Chemistry in collaboration with IQAC and RDC, P. E. S.'s R. S. N. College of Arts and Science, Ponda-Goa held on 7th March, 2025.

Ms. Giselle Henriques, Ms. Vaishnavi Korgaonkar, Mr. Yash Nanoskar, Mr. Hritik Gawas and Mr. Laxman Shetye secured First Place in the fashion show category of the National level Intercollegiate Chemistry Fest held on 11th March, 2025, organized by St. Aloysius College (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru.



Poster Presentation

Ms. Sailee Tulaskar and Mr. Jovi Moura (M.Sc. Part II) presented a poster on the topic “Plant-mediated Synthesis of CoAl_2O_4 Nanoparticles using *Syzygium cumini* leaf extract and its electrocatalytic activities for sensing applications” organized by Post Graduate Department of Chemistry in collaboration with IQAC and RDC, P. E. S.'s R. S. N. College of Arts and Science, Ponda-Goa, held on 7th March 2025.

Programme Attended

21 students participated in ANALYST 2025 – Chemistry Under the Sky, a National Level Intercollegiate Chemistry Fest held on 11th March, 2025, at St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru.

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“Strive not to be a success,
but rather to be of value.”

– Albert Einstein

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POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED

Talk - "Guidance in Preparing for NET/SET":

The session was held on 9th December, 2024. The session, led by Research Scholar and alumna of M.Com Department, Ms. Neha Parveen Haider Ali, aimed to provide insights into qualifying for the NET and SET exams, which are crucial for aspiring educators and researchers in India. The co-ordinator for this event was Ms. Concy Noronha. 15 students benefitted from this session.



Data Analysis Workshop Using SmartPLS 4 for M.Com Dissertation Students:

A hands-on data analysis workshop was organized using SmartPLS 4 for the M.Com students on 10th March, 2025. Ms. Concy L. Noronha, facilitated the session to support the dissertation work of the students. The session aimed at familiarizing students with Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) techniques, particularly Partial Least Squares (PLS-SEM), a powerful tool for analysing complex relationships between observed and latent variables. This hands-on experience boosted their confidence in using advanced statistical tools for empirical research, preparing them to meet the demands of academic rigor and professional expectations at the postgraduate level. Ms. Purva Chodankar co-ordinated the workshop for 13 student participants.



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

Field Trip - GST Museum, Panaji:

The field trip was held on 8th January, 2025, for the MCom part II students to gain practical insights into India's taxation system. The students were accompanied by Ms Purva Chodankar, faculty of the MCom department. The guided tour provided a comprehensive understanding of GST's implementation, structure, and impact on businesses and the economy, complemented by interactive exhibits and multimedia presentations. A key takeaway was how GST has helped curb smuggling by streamlining tax processes and improving goods tracking through digital compliance.



IQAC

The IQAC started the Academic year with the first of its series with an FDP on “Holistic Learning for Excellence in Higher Education”. The Five-Day National level FDP was held in a hybrid mode from 22nd to 26th October 2024. The themes covered were the Indian Knowledge System, Value Education for Shaping Character and Inspiring Young Minds, Pedagogical Approaches in Higher Education, Research for Academic Excellence and Unleashing Potential, Circular Economy Strategies for Combating Climate Change and From Stress to Serenity: A Journey to Wellness. The Resource Persons came from various backgrounds that included Arch. Pritha Sardessai from the Goa Heritage Action Group, MR. Sagar Ram Sakordekar from SRS Vedic Mathematics Academy, Dr. Maryanne Lobo, Nutritionist and Ayurvedic

Consultant, Dr. Arloph Johnvieira from Bajaj Healthcare Limited, Dr. Niradhar Dey from IGNOU, Dr. Amit Yalgi from Finservices and Optimistic Learning. The last day included sessions by Dr. Ashwini Panandikar from TERI and Prof. Sanjeev Sawardekar from the Vivekananda Foundation of Goa. Participants included faculty members from the Institution, across the State as well as Country. The diversity in terms of the themes included for the FDP and the experts was much appreciated.

The IQAC, conducted the second FDP, in collaboration with the PACT Foundation and O. P. Jindal Global University, hosted a one-day State level Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on the theme “Advancing Excellence in Higher Education: Innovation and Global Perspectives.” The event saw the participation of 150 faculty members from 15 institutions across Goa. Dr. Ashwin Fernandes, Founder and President of The Pact Foundation, highlighted the importance of the FDP in the context of the evolving higher education landscape, stressing the need for faculty to embrace innovation, technology, and global perspectives.

The first two sessions, led by Prof. C Raj Kumar, Prof. Padmanabha Ramanujam, and Ambassador Mohan Kumar, focused on “Innovative Teaching Pedagogies – The Future of Higher Education” and “AI-Enhanced Learning: Transforming Classroom Teaching and Student Engagement.” The morning concluded with a panel discussion.

In the afternoon, Dr. Francois Therin, Deputy VC Research and Enterprise, University of Cyberjaya, Malaysia, spoke on “Building a Research-Driven Academic Ecosystem: Strategies and Best Practices,” advocating for quality over quantity in education. The final session by Dr. Agueda Benito of Cintana Education focused on “Strategies for Internationalisation and Achieving Global Standards in Higher Education,”

highlighting the need for a comprehensive internationalization strategy and building global networks.

Additionally, the third FDP was a three-day FDP on the theme “Quality in Higher Education” was organized by the IQAC from April 15–17, 2025, focusing on NAAC Accreditation, NIRF Rankings, research enhancement, Institutional Development Plan (IDP), and case study pedagogy. The first day featured Dr. Murari Tapasvi, who guided participants on writing research proposals and identifying research topics using methodologies such as replication, brainstorming, problem orientation, and gap filling, stressing the criteria of being innovative, impactful, and feasible.

An online session by Dr. Prabhu D. from the University of Madras discussed best practices in research, including collaborative research, publications, patents, and consultancy projects.

On the second day, Dr. Sabeen Govind, Associate Professor at Rajagiri College of Social Sciences, led sessions on Outcome-Based Education (OBE) and the UGC framework for IDP, detailing governance, financial, academic, research, and digital enablers, and emphasizing continuous quality assurance and the new Maturity-Based Graded Levels accreditation. The day also saw the online release of the bi-annual newsletter Xavierwrite, presented by editor Ms. Freda Tavares.

The final day included an online session by Dr. Angela Susan Mathew on using case studies as an innovative teaching tool, advocating for new pedagogies to address real problems and promote equitable learning. This was followed by a workshop where more than ten multidisciplinary teams presented their minor research proposals, fostering cross-departmental collaboration. Both FDPs concluded with valedictory sessions, reinforcing the commitment to advancing excellence, innovation, and global standards in higher education.

In addition, the IQAC has been instrumental in conduct of the Academic Audit for departments. This Academic year audit teams comprised of internal as well as external members from other colleges for the Annual Academic Audit. A thorough report given by the audit committee was forwarded to the heads of the various departments for further actions. The IQAC has processed applications for Career Advancement Scheme for faculty promotions. As a result, faculty members have got promotions through the various levels right from stage I to Professorship.

The IQAC has mentored various cells, associations and departments to bring about quality initiatives in their work. This included various Certificate Courses,

Entrepreneurship talks and initiatives, the Green Audit, various seminars, workshops and conferences and student-centred activities.

The IQAC has held four meetings for the Academic year 2024-25 bringing about various initiatives based on discussions and deliberation that were held during the meetings. An Action taken report will soon be made available on the college website.



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“Success is the sum of small efforts,
repeated day-in and day-out.”

– Robert Collier

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STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES (2024–2025)

The elections for the Executive Council and Class Representatives were held on the 28th and 29th of August 2024 at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. For the first time, the Executive Council elections were conducted in a presidential style (direct elections) for the four key positions: General Secretary, Sports Secretary, Lady Representative, and Cultural Secretary. Class Representatives were elected the following day.

The elected Executive Council members were:

- Mr. Stephen Fernandes – General Secretary
- Ms. Mehak Sayed – Sports Secretary
- Ms. Swara Dharwadkar – Lady Representative
- Mr. Nikhil Satardekar – Cultural Secretary

The faculty coordinator for the Student Council was Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes.

Activities Undertaken by the Student Council:

1. Teacher's Day Celebration (5th September 2024)

A cultural programme was organized in collaboration with the PTA to honour and appreciate the teaching faculty.

2. Clean and Green Initiatives

The council actively contributed to campus beautification and sustainability efforts through various cleanliness and environmental awareness drives.

3. Participation in Intercollegiate Events

Under the guidance of the college management, council members represented St. Xavier's College at various intercollegiate events across Goa, earning several accolades.

4. Xtravaganza / Xavier's Got Talent (8th October 2024)

A one-day talent showcase event was organized to provide students with a platform to exhibit their skills and creativity.

5. Classroom Cleanliness Drive (1st–7th October 2024)

Class Representatives, along with their respective classes, participated in a week-long campus cleanliness initiative.

6. The Socials (18th December 2024)

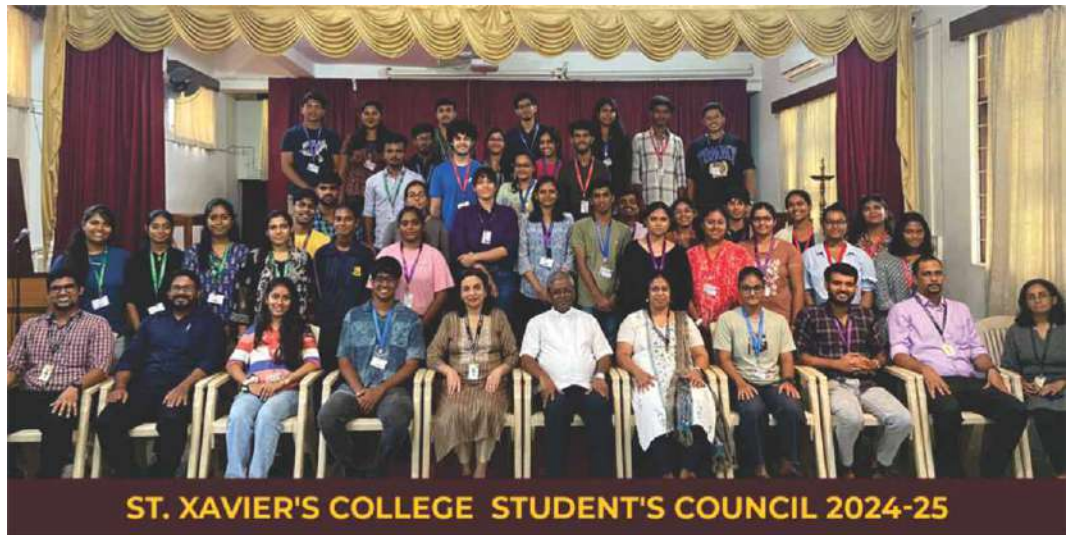
A social gathering attended by over 600 students was successfully conducted. Mr. Christy Fernandes and Ms. Mehak Sayed were crowned Mr. and Ms. Xavier's, respectively.

7. Plus Points 2024 (20th–23rd December 2024)

The intra-college competition saw participation from 12 teams. TYBSc emerged as the overall champions once again.

8. Kaleidoscope 2025 (31st January–1st February 2025)

A mini fun week was organized to engage students through interactive and entertaining activities.



GREEN AUDIT REPORT

The Green Audit of the college was conducted on 13th February 2025 by Mr. Sushant Figueiredo from Environmental and Green Building Consultants. The audit highlighted the college commitment to maintaining a clean, green, and sustainable campus environment.

It covered key areas including: waste management, energy use and conservation, sustainability practices, green initiatives and eco-friendly measures, environmental awareness, and health and hygiene standards.

Photographic evidence of green practices and activities was presented during the audit. Features such as landscaping, herbal gardens, and medicinal plantations that enhance the campus's eco-aesthetic appeal were showcased. Initiatives by the Go Green Cell and the National Service Scheme (NSS), including eco-friendly practices and awareness programmes, were also highlighted. Energy-saving strategies, waste segregation systems, and paperless communication methods adopted by the college were displayed.

Future plans discussed included rainwater harvesting and composting to further strengthen our sustainability goals.



ANNUAL ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT 2024-25

For the first time at St. Xavier's College, the IQAC took the initiative with the support of the Principal and Administrator to have a comprehensive Academic Audit across all departments—Science, Arts, and Commerce—during the academic year 2024-25. This exercise included both regular and self-financed departments, covering undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Audit teams comprised internal senior faculty members and experienced professors invited from other reputed colleges, ensuring a balanced and expert evaluation.

Each department was provided with a detailed checklist of files and documentation to prepare in advance. Many departments also created PowerPoint presentations to effectively showcase their strengths and achievements. The audit process served as an excellent SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis, helping departments reflect on their progress and identify areas for improvement.

The external experts commended the departments for their dedicated work and offered valuable recommendations for further enhancement. Constructive feedback was delivered to all Heads of Departments (HoDs), outlining actionable steps for the future. Overall, the academic audit proved to be a purposeful and enriching exercise, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and academic excellence in our institution.

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“The only impossible journey
is the one you never begin.”

– Tony Robbins

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CELLS, CLUBS, AND ASSOCIATIONS

The **AICUF** Cell of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, hosted a soulful Choir Concert 'Vandana' on campus, attended by around 200 participants, including students, faculty, and religious dignitaries. The chief guest was His Excellency Rev. Fr. Simião Fernandes, Auxiliary Bishop of Goa and Daman. The choir was directed by Miss Aloma Saldanha, and the event was coordinated by Miss Lynn D'Souza and Miss Crecensia Pinto, under the guidance of Fr. Ramiro Luis, AICUF Convenor.

On 5 February 2025, a spiritually enriching event titled "Share Your Faith" was organised. The event was held under the theme "Witnessing Faith Through Personal Testimonies", with the objective of encouraging students to share and reflect on their spiritual journeys, thereby fostering a deeper sense of faith and community. Coordinated by Claude Braganza and Michele Barreto of the AICUF Core Team, under the guidance of Rev. Fr. Ramiro Luis, the programme saw the participation of over 100 students and faculty members.

A vibrant three-day art event "Art Aurora" was held on 26th, 27th, and 28th March 2025, aimed at encouraging students to express their creativity and faith through art. The objective was to pay tribute to St. Francis Xavier by engaging students in artistic interpretations of the theme "St. Francis Xavier & the College Campus." The event was coordinated by Ms. Shayina Naik. The artworks were exhibited in the college lobby on 7th April, commemorating the birth anniversary of St. Francis Xavier.

On 11th April 2025 a Farewell mass was organised under the leadership of Ms. Aloma Saldanha in honour of all the Final Year students of the College as they prepare to embark on their journey ahead, carrying with them the knowledge and virtues they imbibed from St. Xavier's College. The Holy Eucharist which was presided by Rev. Fr. Joyan D'Costa.

Every Wednesday, the AICUF members assemble in the Conference Hall of the College during the recess break for the Campus Prayer. Together with Rev. Fr. Ramiro Luis, the students pray for the various needs of their fellow students and the world at large while also thanking God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon them.

On every first Friday of the month, the AICUF Cell takes charge of organizing the 1st Friday Mass in which faculty and students devoutly partake.

The students of AICUF, guided by the Convener Fr. Ramiro Luis would organize the Stations of the Cross for the faculty and students of the College on every Friday of Lent. Students, teachers as well as the non-teaching staff would participate in the same in large numbers in a prayerful spirit.

The Cell for **Career Guidance and Competitive Exams** undertook multiple initiatives during the Even semester of the academic year 2024-25, aimed at enhancing career awareness, providing professional guidance, and exploring opportunities for skill development.

A seminar on “Decoding Master's in Ivy League & Top Universities Abroad” was organised on 11th February 2025, led by Mr. Shyam Manavat, CEO, Maxxcell and Ms. Haloise Fernandes, Regional Manager. in collaboration with TIP Cell and Maxxcell Institute & Overseas Education. 66 students participated. The seminar focused on guiding students through the process of applying to prestigious international universities. The session also featured a quiz, with winners receiving giveaways, and a dynamic Q&A segment. Ms. Fernandes elaborated on Maxxcell's student-support services.

A talk on UPSC and GPSC Competitive Exams was held on 19th February 2025. With Mr. Amit Narera, Founder of Udgam IAS Civil Centre as resource person. Approximately 100 students across streams participated. Mr. Narera, a decorated civil servant and multiple-time UPSC interviewee, delivered an impactful session that gave students an in-depth understanding of the nuances of UPSC and GPSC examinations. His personal journey—from software engineering in the U.S. to success in civil services—served as a compelling case study.

An Awareness Program on Opportunities in Civil Services was held on 25th March 2025 led by Mr. Amit Medhekar, Civil Services Mentor Chanakya Academy, Pune were collaborators in the event. This awareness session aimed at introducing the 140 participating students to the vast career avenues within the Indian Civil Services. Mr. Medhekar, highlighted the scope, structure, and prestige associated with roles in the Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service, and other allied services.

The **Child and Women Welfare Cell** a guest lecture on “Strategies for Gender Sensitization and Women Empowerment” was organized to commemorate Women's Day in collaboration with Value Education Cell on 4th March, 2025. It was attended by 54 students. Adv Ms. Lida Joao, Chairperson of Child Welfare Committee was the speaker for the session. Faculty in Charge was Dr. Shefali Kale.



A team of 14 students participated in the MEAR (Making Equality a Reality) event, hosted by the D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University, to commemorate International Women's Day, on 7th March, 2025. After an insightful session by the Chief Guest a series of competitions were conducted, like the MEAR Orators, MEAR Artist, MEAR Streeters and MEAR Reelers. St. Xavier's College bagged the 3rd Place for MEAR Orators represented by Ms. Vedika Marathe and the 3rd Place for the MEAR Reelers. Faculty In Charge was Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz.



The cell for **Community Extension and Outreach** launched a unique spiritual publication on 3rd February 2025, titled 'Bhorvanxachim Paulam' – The Stations of the Cross. The event was attended by dignitaries including Rev. Fr. Antonio Salema, Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo, and Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes. Authored by 18 seminarians and students of the college, it reflects youthful insights into traditional devotion. A total of 2,500 copies were distributed across Goa, enhancing spiritual engagement in the community.

SAINTS.COM was organized under the guidance of Ms. Vailarose Pereira on 4th May 2025 in collaboration with the Vocation Commission for the Diocesan Clergy and Deanery Altar Servers Association. The event featured eight engaging competitions and brought together 128 altar servers from eight Parishes. The event was coordinated by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes.

The **Consumer Welfare Cell** in association with the Department of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Government of Goa organised a Session on Consumer Rights on 28th January, 2025. 170 Students attended the session. The resource person was Mr. Roland Martins, the coordinator of GOACAN, an organization dedicated to consumer advocacy in Goa.

On 29th January 2025, the Consumer Welfare Cell organised a Poster Competition on the theme 'Consumer Rights and Responsibilities'. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from 75 students. The events of the cell were coordinated by Mr. Carmelito De Souza, Ms. Rizwana Sayed and Ms. Concy Noronha.

The Theatre wing of the **Cell for Creative Arts** began with an original Konkani play, Ghuspagondal, written and directed by Dr. Ramita Gurav. This was staged at the All-Goa Konkani one act play competition organized by Kala Academy, Goa on 19th December

2024. A total of 20 students attended the event. It was based on the relevant topic of environmental destruction against the backdrop of the intricacies of human relations which bagged awards for best actress and best script.

Milele Musical was a song, dance, and theatrical performance, modelled and inspired by the film Mufasa: The Lion King. This musical witnessed the engaging performance of dancers, singers, and actors, directed by Ms. Shirlene Fernandes and staged at the Annual Day held on 25th January 2025. A total of 20 students attended the performance.



The Movie 12th Fail which embraces the idea of restarting one's academic journey despite a string of failures achieved its motive and impressed 13 participants at its screening organized by Visual Arts on Women's Day 8th March, 2025.

25th March, 2025 witnessed the photography unit of the cell conducting a mobile photography workshop mentored by Mr. Vibhav Naik of the department of Mass Communication and Journalism. This two and half-hour session provided 12 participants with practical smartphone photography skills like composition, lighting, camera settings and basics editing.



The Cell for Creative Arts (Dance) in collaboration with Crescendo Dance Studio conducted a certificate course in Contemporary Dance styles from 24th to 29th March 2025 which received an enthusiastic response from 26 students. Under the able guidance of qualified dance instructors Mr. Swapnesh Kunkalkar and Mr. Swapnesh Ojha, the students were able to pick up the rhythm and put a grand outdoor display of their learning abilities through a well-choreographed flash mob.



Kaavya Rang: An Afternoon of Poetry was conceptualized and curated by Dr. Ramita Gurav on 3rd April 2025. This poetic endeavour provided a creative platform



for self-expression in multiple languages, where 12 participants took to the stage to share their innermost thoughts, feelings, motives, and opinions.

The Divyangjan Cell presented a thought-provoking street play on the occasion of Goa Liberation Day, on 19th December 2024. The play focused on advocating for the rights and dignity of differently-abled individuals, emphasizing that they should not be ill-treated due to their impediments but treated as equal human beings. The play performed by 12 students was written by Nigel Pereira, TYBA, and directed by Mr. Silvester Vaz, Assistant Professor, Department of Konkani.



The Cell in collaboration with Department of Physical Education and Sports hosted students at 59th Annual Sports Meet on 8th February 2025. Six schools for Divyangjan students participated running races: Anand Niketan-Mapusa, St. Xavier's Academy, Sanjay Centre for Special Education – Porvorim, Peace Haven Special School – Panaji, Keshav Seva Sadhana School for Special Children – Bicholim, Vidhya Vardhini Education Society's Special School - Usgao Ponda. The event featured separate races for girls and boys, with a total of 12 students participating.



The Divyangjan Cell hosted Mr. Siddharth Naik, an entrepreneur, from Bicholim, at the college campus from 21st to 26th April 2015. During his week long entrepreneurial efforts Mr. Naik set up a counter, selling stationary and home-made food items, which were patronised by college staff and students.



The Electoral Literacy Club celebrated National Voters Day on 25th January 2025, to mark the occasion the Voters Pledge was administered by Ms. Neslie Victoria, FYBBA in the College Ark at the start of the College Annual Day Celebrations. The pledge was administered to an audience comprising of students, parents, teaching and non-teaching staff members and guests.



Award of EPIC to new student voters- Students of St. Xavier's College in collaboration with the office of the Jt. Mamlatdar of Pernem, participated in a special ceremony in which EPIC was awarded to new eligible student voters. The programme was held at Harmal Panchakroshi HSS Harmal Pernem on 25th January 2025 during which 07 students from the college received their EPIC.



Special Summary Revision at St. Xaviers- The Electoral Literacy Club of St.Xavier's College kickstarted the EPIC Card Making Drive for new voters on 12th February 2025, helping students aged 18 and above register for their Voter ID. The camp was organised and manned by student volunteers who helped complete the online registration process for eligible student voters of the college.



The Cell for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Startups in collaboration with the Department of BBA, IQAC, and IIC, organized POP UP BAZAAR – 2025 on campus on February 3, 2025. Over 100 student entrepreneurs participated, showcasing 71 stalls with food, beverages, artwork, accessories, and more. The event provided hands-on entrepreneurial experience to more than 500 beneficiaries, including students and visitors, fostering creativity and business skills. A training workshop held on January 23, 2025, led by alumna Ms. Natasha Parekh, co-partner at 'Pop It Up', helped participants prepare for the bazaar. Coordinated by the BBA department, a student team handled planning and logistics under faculty mentorship. Live music added to the vibrant atmosphere. The event successfully combined learning with real-world application, promoting innovation, teamwork, and confidence among student entrepreneurs.



The Global Village Club, in association with IQAC, organised a Certificate Course in Portuguese. The course was open not only to college staff and students but also to the general public. It aimed to develop basic communication skills, foster cultural awareness, and enhance vocabulary and grammar through 30 hours of instruction, conducted from November 14 to December 21, 2024. A total of 20 participants registered for the course, including one participant from Dubai and one student from Los Angeles. Student evaluation was based on a test administered at the end of the course. The course was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza and instructed by Ms. Munira Ursula de Souza.

On January 2, 2025, the Global Village Club, in collaboration with the Department of Economics, organised an All-Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition titled *“Beyond Borders: Exploring Cultures.”* The competition received 17 entries from various colleges in Goa. It aimed to help students engage with and explore diverse cultural aspects, including traditions, art, history, and contemporary issues, while enhancing their research, creativity, and digital presentation skills. The activity was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.

All-Goa Inter-Higher Secondary E-Poster Competition: “Flavours of a Country – A Culinary Journey” An All-Goa Inter-Higher Secondary E-Poster Competition titled *“Flavours of a Country – A Culinary Journey”* was organised on March 5, 2025, for Higher Secondary schools. The event aimed to promote the United Nations' 'Zero Hunger'

Sustainable Development Goal while encouraging students to explore diverse cultural cuisines. Participants included students from St. Francis Xavier's HSS, Siolim, and Carmel HSS, Nuvem. The event was coordinated by Ms. Sabina M. Sales e Dias.

The Global Food Fiesta was organised on March 24, 2025, with 26 students participating in the event. A total of 11 food stalls were set up, each representing a different country through a variety of dishes. Countries featured included India, the United States of America, Nepal, England, Egypt, Sweden, Greece, Italy, the Philippines, and Mexico. Popular items included chaat, pickles, Coke float, brownies, momos, trifle, falafel, tiramisu, cinnamon rolls, salad, cassava cake, and many more. Students and teachers thoroughly enjoyed the event, with most food items selling out within half an hour. The student vendors expressed great enthusiasm and looked forward to similar events in the future. The event was coordinated by Ms. Jonquil Sudhir.



The Health and Wellness Club organised a Free Eye Screening Camp in association with Lens and Spex Opticals Private Limited on 17th March 2025. The camp aimed at providing free essential health screenings and early detection of potential health issues, contributing to the overall well-being of the college teaching and non-teaching staff



community. Optometrist Aishwarya Malvankar, Manager Pandurang Nagvekar and Sales in Charge Aloysius Dias from Lens and Spex Opticals, Pvt, Ltd were present for the camp. The camp witnessed enthusiastic participation of 64 individuals. Ms. Gema Ataide coordinated the camp.

The Media and Broadcasting Cell commemorated the 150th anniversary of "Vande Mataram" on 24th January 2025, celebrating its historical significance and role in India's freedom struggle. On 30th January, the college solemnly observed *Martyrs' Day*, with a moment of silence at 11:00 am, in accordance with the Directorate of Higher Education's directive.

The cell also conducted an *Awareness Initiative* on the Flag Code of India, 2002, and the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, on 24th April 2025. Posters outlining key guidelines were displayed on campus.



The Cell for Mentoring Programme conducted various sessions for students through their mentors. The session on "Sharing Life's Imperfections and Importance of College Dress Code" held on 21st January, 2025, encouraged students to share personal stories, highlighting the imperfections of life and emphasizing resilience. Additionally, the significance of adhering to the college dress code was discussed to promote discipline and professionalism.

The session on "Developing Academic Excellence" held on 25th February, 2025, following the results of the open day, focused on strategies for academic improvement. These strategies were aimed to guide students toward academic success through consistent effort and positive habits.

The session on "Maintaining Academic Integrity and Having a Fruitful Vacation" held on 25th March, 2025, underscored the importance of academic integrity and warning against the consequences of cheating. Students were advised to prepare thoroughly, manage time effectively, and seek help when needed. For the upcoming vacation, tips for a balanced and rejuvenating break were provided: such as Set goals and priorities. Create a balance between relaxation and personal development. Practice self-care. Staying engaged in hobbies and interests and reflecting and recharging for the upcoming year.

The Cell for Preservation of Goan Culture and Heritage (Goenchi Asmitai) in collaboration with the Goa Heritage Action Group (GHAG), organized a 3-day exhibition from 3rd to 5th January 2025. The event, held to coincide with the 18th Exposition of the relics of St. Francis Xavier, showcased historic artifacts including souvenirs, stamps, paintings, and coins, some dating back to the 19th century. The exhibition drew enthusiastic participation from college and higher secondary students, local schools, staff, and the general public. Five trained student volunteers, guided by GHAG, conducted guided tours and explained the displays, making it an engaging and educational experience for all visitors.

The Department of History and the Goenchi Asmitai Cell in association with Goa University, “Directorate of visiting Research Professor Programme under Mario Miranda Chair in Fine Arts, Painting Illustrative Cartooning” organised a talk by Dr. Subodh Kerkar on 19th March 2025. The session highlighted through documentaries and slides created by Dr. Subodh Kerkar, an interesting perception of Goa's heritage and how Goa's history can be understood through the legacy of her art and architecture. Dr. Subodh Kerkar also shared his personal journey from being a qualified practicing doctor to becoming a painter-artist.

Red Ribbon Club: A National Level Online Quiz was organised in collaboration with the NSS Unit on HIV/AIDS on 22nd December 2024 to commemorate World AIDS Day. The objective was to spread awareness and promote knowledge about HIV/AIDS among youth. A total of 25 college students, including participants from outside Goa, took part in the quiz. Three winners were declared and were awarded cash prize and certificates.

A Bookmark Designing Competition was organised in collaboration with the NSS Unit on 15th January 2025 to commemorate National Youth Day. The competition was held on the theme “The Power of Youth in the Fight Against AIDS”, highlighting the role of young people in raising awareness and promoting prevention. A total of 10 students from various streams participated. Mr. Rahul Naik the convenor of the club co-ordinated the activities.



The **SPARK Club** organized a series of eco-conscious activities aimed at fostering creativity, environmental awareness, and experiential learning among students. As part of sustainable celebration initiatives, a “Sustainable DIY Christmas Décor Making Competition” was held on 30th December 2024, encouraging students to create festive decorations using recycled and natural materials such as paper, jute, old fabrics, and pinecones. Ten students submitted 5-minute videos showcasing their creations, which were judged on originality, creativity, sustainability, neatness, and presentation.

The Club also hosted a poster-making competition on 3rd February 2025 commemorating World Wetlands Day with the theme “Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future.” The event drew participation from over 20 students who created visually compelling posters underscoring the significance of wetlands, biodiversity, and conservation efforts.

Further strengthening experiential learning, a field trip was conducted on 29th March 2025 to the Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary and the Naval Aviation Museum, led by Dr. Suraksha Dongrekar, Mr. Swapnil Belekar, and Ms. Milagrina D'Souza. Guided by WWF Goa's Mr. Aditya Kakodkar and zoologist Mr. Ankush Sahani, students explored the mangrove ecosystem and identified over sixteen bird species, gaining insights into avian diversity and ecology. The afternoon visit to the Naval Aviation Museum offered a glimpse into India's maritime history, with interactive exhibits, decommissioned aircraft, and naval equipment. These integrated activities successfully promoted environmental consciousness, creative expression, and national pride, while aligning with NAAC Criterion 2, 3 and Sustainable Development Goal 12 and 13.



The **SPIC MACAY Club** organized a vibrant cultural event titled “Kalarang” on 4th April 2024 to celebrate the rich heritage of Indian art and culture. The event aimed to provide a platform for students to showcase their talents and promote the essence of traditional performing arts. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Mr. Pradeep Sawant, Event Manager at Event 24 Goa Management LLP, who was invited as the Chief Guest for the occasion.

The Student Welfare Cell held a session on polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS) for 91 girl students on 28th August 2024. The Resource Person was Dr. Deepa Shiroadkar, Resident Doctor at All Institute of Ayurveda, Dhargal-Goa covered various topics such as causes (sedentary lifestyle, unhealthy eating, imbalance in hormones), long term complications (obesity, sexual issues, dyslipidemia), symptoms (irregular menstruation, acne, obesity, acanthosis, hair-loss, infertility and pregnancy), foods to avoid if one has the syndrome, etc. It also shed light on several myths about menstruation. Dr. Deepa's focus on the importance of healthy lifestyle as a means of preventive measures for PCOS and other health issues was inspiring. The All-India Institute of Ayurveda also organized a free Screening Camp for PCOS for the interested students. The session was coordinated by Ms. Kathleen Pinto and Dr. Kshipra Vora

The Student Welfare Cell in collaboration with Unicharm India and Global Hunt Foundation organized parallel online sessions on the theme 'My Menstruation My Pride' for students on 20th August 2024 at 9.30 a.m. The session for female students was delivered by Ms. Nitya Chaudhary, CSR Executive, Unicharm India, who gave a comprehensive understanding of menstruation as a biological process, the related social taboos and hygiene practices to be maintained during menstruation. The session for male students was delivered by Ms. Chitra Jalal, Research Associate, GlobalHunt Foundation. She addressed puberty changes, physical and psychological changes, a comparison between reproductive phases of men and women, and a focus on healthy lifestyle in the adolescent and youth phase. The sessions were attended by 42 girl students and 39 male students of the college. Ms. Maria Difa Fernandes and Ms. Freda Tavares coordinated the event.

The Student Welfare Cell and Cell for Value Education in collaboration with Empirical F&M Academy & Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI) organized 3 sessions on "SEBI Investor Awareness Program" on 18th February 2025 for students of B.Com, B.A and B. Sc. The Resource Persons were Mr. Abhishek Sharma Director, Empirical F&M Academy & Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Students were apprised on various investment strategies and precautions to be taken. The program was coordinated by Ms. Kathleen Pinto, Convenor Student Welfare Cell and Ms. Maria Difa Fernandes Convenor Cell for Value Education along with the members of the Cell.

The Cell coordinated the handling of dogs on campus through notices to Teachers, students and canteen in charge. Also coordinated the availability of sanitary pads to girl students in each block of the college buildings. A notice board to display notices, scholarships and facilities that students can avail was set up. Notices on counselling services, gym facilities, scholarships available were displayed. A suggestion box too was set up in the lobby to help students post their suggestions.

Training, Internship and Placement Cell (TIP)

hosted a Talk and Networking Session on “BNI Beyond Business Voices” on 4th February, 2025. The event successfully fostered an environment of collaboration and learning, aligning with BNI's mission to build strong professional networks. The meticulous planning and smooth execution ensured a productive and engaging session for all 25 BNI members and 50 student participants. Coordinating faculty was Mr. Worrel D'Souza.



In an endeavour to promote the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme amongst students, the DHE in collaboration with Ministry of Corporate Affairs organised a session for students of the college in order to familiarize them with the nuances of the scheme and enable them to enrol on the portal. The session was held on 17th February, 2025, delivered by Ms Aparna Mudiam, an Officer of the Indian Corporate Law Service. 57 students participated in the talk, co-ordinated by Ms. Kimberly Barros.



The event, Converge 2.0, themed "Skill-Up, Scale-Up, Succeed: Empowering the Workforce of Tomorrow," held on 7th March, 2025, provided a platform for knowledge-sharing, industry exposure, and networking. The keynote speaker for the inaugural session was Ms. Mishyle Adam (Founder, Xenerx Healthcare). Mr. Pratik Joshi – Head of Curation, Soul Travelling, spoke about tourism and the crucial role in curating unique travel experiences at Soul Travelling. Mr. Richard Noronha (Designated Officer, Food and Drug Administration, Goa), discussed food and drug regulations and career opportunities in the food industry. The event successfully bridged academia and industry, providing students with valuable insights, networking opportunities, and



career-enhancing knowledge. 273 participants benefitted from the summit, co-ordinated by Ms. Ruella D'Souza and Dr. Oscar Braganca e Melo.

In the talk on “Lenovo Leap,” Ms Ann Kurien, Engagement Associate at CSR Box, delivered 2 sessions for the students of B.C.A, Botany and B.B.A. of the college and introduced the platform for student skill development on 8th March, 2025. 61 students participated in the talk, co-ordinated by Dr James D'Souza and Mr Worrel D'Souza.



A placement drive was successfully conducted on 9th April, 2025 at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa with 19 companies and 4 Institutes participating. The event aimed to provide placement opportunities for students of U.G. and P.G. 112 students benefitted from the placement drive. The event was co-ordinated by Ms. Ruella D'Souza.



Mr. Clarence Rodrigues and Ms Ruella D'Souza; along with 14 students attended the Inaugural of Converge 2.0 at Raj Bhavan on 4th March, 2025, organised by DHE in collaboration with GSHEC. The programme included talks by entrepreneurs and Start-Ups along with felicitation of student entrepreneurs by the Chief Minister of Goa. The event also showcased innovative project stalls and was an endeavour to bridge the gap between Academia and Industry.



Ms. Kimberly Barros and Mr. Worrel D'Souza attended an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp Start Up and Scale Up organised by DHE in collaboration with Uzvaad Goa and hosted by BNI Aparant, on 22nd April, 2025 at Taj Convention Centre, Dona Paula. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Varun Sridhar, CEO of Paytm Services. A dynamic 'Ask Me Anything' session followed, featuring experts like Mr. D S Prashant, Mr. Amol Palkar, Mr. Gautam Verlekar, and Mr. Raj Kapoor.

Cell For Value Education and Personality Development: During the second half of the academic year 2024–2025, value education sessions were held every Tuesday, from 14th January, 2025 to 18th March, 2025. These sessions were facilitated by a diverse group comprising of 10 external resource persons and 2 college counsellors, providing students with meaningful insights and guidance on personal and ethical development. The resource persons led discussions on a variety of impactful topics, including: respect for life, leadership and teamwork, the power of prayer, the quiet strength and influence of humility, service to others, effective communication, evolving together in modern relationships, cultural awareness and sensitivity, time management, stress management and adaptability in the face of change.



“

“The journey of a thousand miles
begins with a single step.”

– Lao Tzu

”

N.C.C. (BOYS)**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED****Goa Liberation Day Celebration**

The celebration at St. Xavier's College held on 19th December, 2024, commenced with the flag hoisting ceremony, followed by a speech on Goa's liberation. NCC cadets performed a disciplined march past, honoring the occasion. A cultural program featuring patriotic songs, skits, and traditional Goan dances added to the significance of the celebration. A guest speaker highlighted the historical struggle for Goa's freedom. Cadets also participated in the Goa Liberation Day celebration at Goa University and at the Mapusa Mamlatdar programme.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS****Awards****CATC Camp at Shree Bhumika School, Poryem, Sattari**

St. Xavier's College was honored with the Best Institution Award. individual achievements included outstanding performances in cross country, drill, and the Best Cadet Competition at the camp.

**Republic Day Camp 2025 at New Delhi**

On 4th February, 2025, SUO Vedant Chandekar was felicitated in Bangalore for representing the



Goa Karnataka Directorate at the Camp. In recognition of his dedication, discipline, and exemplary performance, he was honored with the Deputy Director General (DDG) Commendation. This prestigious award highlights his commitment to excellence in NCC training and his role in upholding the values of leadership and patriotism.

Further, on 7th March, 2025, he was felicitated again at Raj Bhavan, Goa. The felicitation ceremony was graced by the Hon'ble Governor of Goa, Shri P.S. Sreedharan Pillai, who personally honoured SUO Vedant Chandekar for his dedication and exemplary performance at RDC 2025. The event was attended by Air Commodore Bevinmarad Arunkumar VSM, Deputy Director General (DDG) of the NCC Directorate for Karnataka and Goa, Colonel N.K. Bhagasra, Group Commander of HQ NCC Karnataka and Goa, along with the Commanding Officer (CO) and Administrative Officer (AO) of 1 Goa Battalion NCC, Panjim.



Programmes Attended

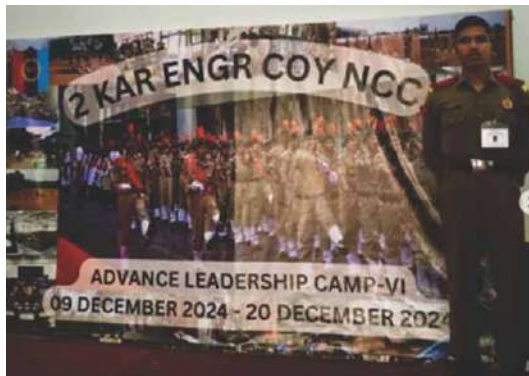
Special Sailing Expedition

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) organized the Expedition as part of Republic Day Camp (RDC) 2025, providing cadets from across India with a unique opportunity to experience a sailor's life aboard INS Tarangini. JUO Aman Jee Mishra participated in this prestigious expedition. The voyage commenced from Goa on 5th December, 2024, with the cadets embarking on an enriching journey before docking at Mangalore Port on 6th December, 2024. This expedition aimed to instill seamanship skills, discipline, and teamwork among NCC cadets while giving them hands-on exposure to maritime operations. The experience was a testament to NCC's commitment to fostering leadership and adventure among young cadets.



All India Advance Leadership Camp - VI at NITK Surathkal, Mangalore, Karnataka

JUO Gajanan Patil participated in the prestigious Camp from 9th to 20th December, 2024. He underwent intensive leadership training, which included lectures, group discussions, practical exercises, and outdoor activities aimed at enhancing decision-making skills, teamwork, and command capabilities. The camp provided an opportunity to interact with cadets from different regions of India, fostering a spirit of unity and discipline.

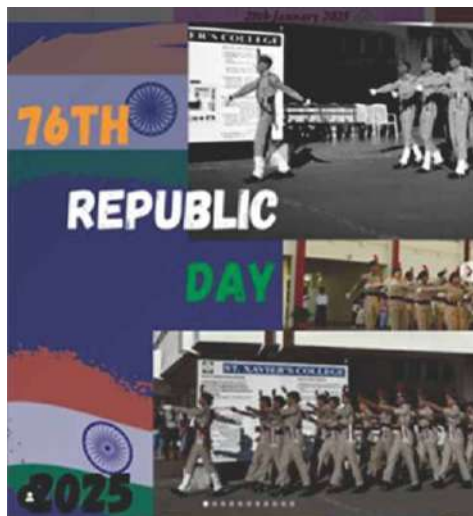


CATC Camp at Shree Bhumika School, Poryem, Sattari

The Camp was conducted by the 1 Goa Battalion NCC Army Wing from 22nd to 31st December, 2024. 26 cadets attended and actively participated in various activities, showcasing their dedication and discipline. The camp provided an enriching experience for all cadets, enhancing their skills, leadership, and team spirit.

Republic Day Parade at Goa University

The parade was organized by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs, Panaji-Goa on 26th January, 2025. 7 SD and 3 SW participated in the march past.



Training in Small-Arms Firing at INS Mandovi, Verem-Goa

26 Cadets participated in the training held on 25th February, 2025.



Jai Bhim Padyatra at Azad Maidan, Panjim-Goa

4 SD cadets participated in the Yatra conducted on 13th April, 2025 to commemorate Ambedkar Jayanti.



Inter Unit Shooting Competition at Belagavi

3 cadets, 2 SD and 1 SW participated in the competition conducted on 16th April, 2025 and organized by 26 KAR NCC.

“

“The secret of getting ahead
is getting started.”

– Mark Twain

”

N.C.C. (GIRLS)**ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED****63rd Goa Liberation Day Celebration**

The NCC cadets of 1 Goa Girls Battalion participated in the celebration on 19th December, 2024, coordinated by the NCC Boys Battalion Unit. Many cadets were felicitated for their achievements in national camps.

**76th Republic Day Celebration**

The celebration was conducted at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa on 26th January, 2025. Many NCC cadets were felicitated during the programme for their achievements in ATC and RDC.

**Visit to Old Age Home at Ishaprema Niketan, Assagao**

The visit was organized on 16th March, 2025, as part of community outreach programme. The cadets along with CTO Dr. Mira Parmekar and PI Staff from the Peddem Unit spent time with the elderly residents bringing joy and cheer to their lives leaving them smiling and entertained. They also distributed gifts and essentials showcasing compassion and empathy.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Cadet Felicitations at St. Xavier's College Annual Day

On 25th January, 2025, SUO Tanisha Palyekar was awarded the 'Best Girl Cadet' for the year 2024-25 and SGT. Maithily Kauthankar was conferred the Dr. Sudha Chari Scholarship.



Cadet Felicitations at St. Xavier's College Sports Day

On 8th February, 2025, SUO Tanisha Palyekar, Cdt. Alison Fernandes, Cdt. Steffi Ferrao and Cdt. Pooja Lamani were felicitated for their achievements at National Camp EBSB-2 at the hands of Major Dr. Sudha Chari, retired faculty of the college and former NCC Girls Nodal Officer.



Felicitations at Raj Bhavan, Dona Paula

Cdt. Radhika Rathod was felicitated by the Governor of Goa, Shri P.S. Shreedharan Pillai, for participating in RDC-IGC. She along with her parents and Cdt. Vania Fernandes (student representative) of 1 Goa Battalion unit of St. Xavier's College attended the felicitation function on 7th March, 2025.



Band C Certificate Examinations

The Second Year and Third Year Cadets were successful in the B and C certificate examinations held in the second and third week of February, 2025. 15 T.Y. cadets and 20 S.Y. cadets appeared for the examinations held at Damodar College, Margao and Fr. Agnel College, Pilar respectively.

Participated in Camps

Annual Training Camp (ATC)

30 cadets along with other cadets from different schools and colleges participated in the Annual Training Camp organized by the 1 Goa Girls Battalion NCC from 3rd to 12th December, 2024 at Assonora Sports Complex. The cadets of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, won the following competitions:

1. 1st Place in relay
2. 1st Place in guard mounting
3. 3rd Place in tug of war

They also were awarded the Best Pance performance award for the campfire event.



All India Advance Leadership Camp at Karnataka

The Camp was held at The National Institute of Technology, Surathkal Karnataka (NITK) from 9th to 20th December, 2024. Four cadets from Goa were selected for the camp from the Karnataka and Goa Directorate among which was Cdt. Sonali Irkal of 1 Goa Girls Battalion from St Xavier's College, Mapusa Goa. She had a very good learning experience for the camp and also participated in many camp activities and secured the 1st Place in the DST Competition.



Ek Bharat Shresht Bharat Camp (EBSB) at Toranagallu, Ballari, Karnataka

The Camp was held from 16th to 27th January, 2025. Four cadets represented the Goa Directorate: SUO Tanisha Palyekar, Cdt. Steffie Ferrao, Cdt. Alison Fernandes and Cdt. Pooja Lamani. They had very good learning experience at the National Camp and were also given exposure to the three-day EXPA-Workshop. The cadets secured 2nd Place in the tug of war competition at the camp.



63rd Goa Liberation Day Celebration

At Goa University

13 cadets participated on 19th December, 2024.



At the Mamlatdar Parade at Mapusa Municipal Council, Mapusa

8 cadets participated on 19th December, 2024.



Firing Selections at the SA Firing Range, Mandovi, Goa

The selections were conducted by 1 Goa Girls Battalion on 12th March, 2025. Ten cadets participated along with seven other colleges and schools in Goa.



Mock Drill at Colvale

9 Cadets participated in the Nationwide Mock Drill Exercise in an emergency situation of Air Strike conducted on 7th May, 2025 as per instructions from Ministry of Home Affairs GOI. They were supervised by The PI officials from the NCC unit and trained for drill exercise to aid in rescue operations during emergency.



Viksit Bharat Youth Dialogue National Championship at New Delhi

Cadet Poonam Palyekar qualified for the prestigious Championship held from 8th to 14th January, 2025. She represented the College at the National Championship by qualifying through the District and State Championship and was one among four from the state to reach the Nationals.



NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (N.S.S.)

On 22nd November 2024, 50 NSS volunteers had the opportunity to serve at IFFI (International Film Festival of India) at Panjim.



A total of 210 NSS volunteers actively participated in the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue on 25th November 2024, aimed at empowering youth to contribute to India's development by fostering leadership, innovation, and civic responsibility.

On 4th December 2024, 25 NSS volunteers took part in a cleanliness drive, actively cleaning the campus and promoting the importance of hygiene as part of preparation to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis Xavier on college campus.



Tantulum organized a Soft Skills Development Session for over 60 NSS volunteers on 10th December 2024, focusing on essential skills like communication, teamwork, and leadership. The interactive session equipped the students with practical knowledge and confidence, aligning with industry expectations.

To celebrate Goa Liberation Day on 19th December 2024, 95 NSS volunteers actively participated in the festivities by presenting a disciplined marching squad and a vibrant Street play performance.



On 17th December 2024, 15 NSS volunteers visited Mama Margaret's Home in Bastora, spending quality time with the orphan boys playing games, sharing stories, and engaging in fun-filled activities.



On 7th January 2025, two officials from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) visited and delivered an insightful talk on the role of WWF and the importance of wetland conservation to 43 NSS Volunteers. They highlighted the ecological value of wetlands, current threats, and ways to protect them.

43 NSS volunteers organized a Public Health & Hygiene Awareness Drive on 9th January 2025, beginning with a rally from St. Xavier's College to Mapusa Bus Stand, followed by a street play at the bus stand.



On 11th January 2025, 22 students had the opportunity to watch the live telecast of the Viksit Bharat event, which focused on India's journey toward development and the vital role of youth in this process. Through the broadcast, students learned about leadership, innovation, and the importance of active participation in nation-building.



On National Youth Day 13th January 2025, 20 NSS volunteers attended an inspiring session at the Goa Science Centre. The guest speaker Kishore M. Shah delivered a powerful speech on "Rise, Reinvent, Influence, Stabilize, Excel."



A Book Mark Design Competition was organised on 15th January 2025 to promote creativity and reading habits. 25 NSS volunteers participated in this activity.

A college-wide pledge was organised on 20th January 2025 where every student and faculty member joined hands to commit to protecting wetlands. This event became a powerful symbol of our dedication and a meaningful step towards spreading awareness about the vital role wetlands play in sustaining biodiversity and ecological balance. Approximately 2500 students participated in this pledge.



On 23rd January, a large-scale Phase II "My Bharat" Registration Drive was successfully organised, onboarding over 300 enthusiastic NSS volunteers. Throughout the registration process, the volunteers actively engaged with participants, explaining the vision and benefits of the My Bharat Portal—a national platform aimed at empowering youth through volunteering, leadership, and skill-building opportunities.



On 25th January, 210 volunteers organized and creatively coordinated the NSS participation in our college's Annual Day at Ark Hall.

On 26th January 2025, 145 NSS volunteers of St. Xavier's College actively organised and participated in the Republic Day celebration held on the college campus. As part of the event, the volunteers also presented a disciplined and well-coordinated marching squad. The event was coordinated by Dr. Rheane Da Silva, NSS CPPO.



On 3rd February, a vibrant Wetlands Conservation Poster Making Competition was organised in collaboration with the SPARK Cell. Inspired by the insightful WWF talk, the event aimed to creatively engage 25 students in spreading awareness about the importance of wetlands.



On 8th February 2025, during the College Sports Day, 35 NSS volunteers presented a stunning human pyramid formation, captivating the audience with their energy and coordination. In addition, the volunteers conducted a cleanliness drive before and after the event, ensuring a clean and litter-free environment.



On 25th February, 20 NSS volunteers participated in organising the Open Science Lab Day held at the college campus. During the event, they assisted in various activities, exploring and learning scientific concepts through interactive exhibits.

On 4th March, 18 NSS volunteers participated in the Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament by uploading a one minute video expressing their views. Four students qualified for the subsequent rounds at the district level, with Sharmat Gotlekar, a student from FY BA, securing



3rd place at the state level. His exceptional performance earned him the opportunity to represent Goa at the National Youth Parliament in Delhi.

On 8th March, a Women's Day Documentary Screening was held at the college campus, focusing on the empowering roles women play in society. The documentary beautifully highlighted their contributions across various fields, showcasing their strength, resilience, and impact. 43 students participated in this screening.

On 12th March, a Women's Day Street Play was displayed by 14 NSS volunteers at the college campus to highlight the pivotal role women play in society and celebrate their strength. The performance appreciated the immense efforts women contribute to our communities, from balancing work to nurturing families.



NSS Special Camp was organised at Archdiocesan Goa Farm, Bhironda, Sattari from 13th November to 19th November 2024. 28 NSS Volunteers attended the camp along with Chief Programme Officer Dr. Rheane Da Silva and Programme Officers Mr. Rahul Naik, Dr. Seema Fernandes and Mr. Sujay Rane.



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS

The Department of Physical Education and Sports motivates the students of our college to represent and participate at different levels of sporting events. Our students have participated at national level, West Zone Inter-University Level, All India Inter-University Level, Khelo India Inter-University Level & of National Games from November 2024 to April 2025.

I. National Level

• Hockey Nationals

Abhishek Pathak represented the State at the 15th Hockey India Senior Men Championship held at Chennai from 3rd to 15th November 2024.

• Lacrosse

Elena Pereira represented the state at the National Lacrosse Championship held at Udaipur Rajasthan from 7th to 9th February 2025.

• Pencak Silat

Aley Sam Da Silva represented the state and secured **Silver** and **Bronze** medal at the 6th West Zone Pencak Silat Championship held at Mandsour, Madhya Pradesh from 10th to 12th January 2025.

• Kabaddi

Supriya Vishwakarma represented the state at the 50th Junior National Kabaddi Championship held at Uttarakhand from 8th to 11th January 2025.

• Judo

Devesh Titre represented the state at the 43rd National Shootingball Championship held at Puri, Odisha from 17th to 18th January 2025.

Sanjana Nabik represented the state at the Senior National Judo Championship held at New Delhi from 4th to 7th January 2025.

• Woodball

Mrunmayee Bhike represented the state at woodball National held at Nagpur from 15th to 18th March 2025 and won **Silver Medal**

Neha represented the state at woodball National held at Nagpur from 15th to 18th March 2025 and won **Silver Medal**.

II. West Zone Inter-University Level

1. Pushpa Parab, Saniya Pednekar, Simran Narvekar, and Tanvi Parulekar, won the Gold Medal at the West Zone Inter University Football Championship held at

Vardhman Mahaveer Open University, Kota, Rajasthan from 7th to 11th December 2024.

2. Sankalp Kankonkar, Shaviz Khan Pathan, and Manjunath Chauhan won the Gold Medal at the West Zone Inter University Football Championship held at Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat from 16th to 22nd December 2024.
3. Ashmeet Parsekar, Soham Mandrekar, participated at the West Zone Inter University Badminton Championship held at SAGE University, Bhopal from 12th to 16th November 2024.
4. Mrunmayee Bhihe Participated at the West Zone Inter University Cricket Championship held at Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur from 7th to 14th January 2025.
5. Pavan Savoiverkar Participated at the West Zone Inter University Handball Championship held at Saurashtra University, Rajkot, from 12th to 16th January 2025.

III. All India Inter-University Level

1. Pushpa Parab, Saniya Pednekar, Simran Narvekar, Tanvi Parulekar, participated at All India Inter University Football Championship held at GNA University, Phagwara, Punjab from 11th to 16th January 2025.
2. Sankalp Kankonkar, Shaviz Khan Pathan, and Manjunath Chauhan, participated at All India Inter University Football Championship held at Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur Nagar, U.P. from 29th January to 5th February 2025.
3. Gauri Shetgaonkar and Richa Gawade participated at All India Inter University Beach Volleyball Championship held at S.R.M. University, Chennai and AMET Deemed to be University, Chennai from 17th to 19th January 2025.

IV. Khelo India Inter-University Level

1. Eldridge Fernandes Participated at the All India Inter University Athletics Championship held at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar from 26th to 30th December, 2024.
2. Pushpa Parab, Saniya Pednekar, Simran Narvekar, and Tanvi Parulekar qualified for Khelo India Inter University Football Championship 2025.

V. National Games

- **Wushu:** Siya Pednekar represented the state at the 38th National Games held at Dehradun, Uttarakhand from 29th January to 1st February 2025.
- **Triathlon:** Swezial D'souza represented the state at the 38th National Games held at Dehradun, Uttarakhand from 23rd January to 1st February 2025.

The following Inter-Class Tournaments were held between December 2024 and April 2025:



Handball Inter-Class tournament was organised for Men at the College Football Ground from 13th December 2024 onwards. TYBCOM were the Winners and SYBCOM were the Runners Up.



Basketball Inter-Class tournament was organised for Men at the College Basketball Court from 7th January 2025 onwards. SYBCOM were the Winners and FYBCOM were the Runners Up.



Volleyball Inter-Class tournament was organised for Men at the College Volleyball Court from 20th January 2025 onwards. TYBSC were the Winners and SYBCOM were the Runners Up.



Cricket Inter-Class tournament was organised for Men at the College Football Ground from 22nd January 2025 onwards. PG'S were the Winners and SYBSC were the Runners Up.



Tug of War Inter-Class tournament was organised for Men at the College Football Ground from 1st February 2025 onwards. were the Winners and were the Runners Up.

Laurels won at Inter-Collegiate Tournaments:

Runner's Up at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Men's Basketball Tournament



Runner's Up at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Women's Basketball Tournament



Champions at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Men's Handball Tournament



Champions at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Women's Handball Tournament



Champions at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Women's Volleyball Tournament



Runner's Up at Goa University Inter-Collegiate Women's Hockey Tournament



LIBRARY

National Level Webinar on “Enhancing Research Visibility and ORCID”: The Webinar was held on 3rd April, 2025 in collaboration with the IQAC, with the aim to help researchers increase the reach and impact of their scholarly work. It focussed on the significance of research visibility, the role of ORCID in preserving a distinct researcher identity, and methods for integrating ORCID with academic platforms. Participants gained practical knowledge about improving discoverability, citation metrics, and academic networking. The Resource Person was Dr. Mohit Garg, Assistant Librarian, IIT, Delhi. 46 participants benefitted from the webinar.

Annual Book Exhibition 2025 brought together book lovers, writers, publishers, and intellectuals under one roof. This much-anticipated event was held from 20th to 21st January, 2025, was a paradise for readers, offering a vast selection of books across multiple genres, cultures, and languages.

Annual Newspaper Clipping Display 2025 (Virtual): The display of selected newspaper articles or reports accessible through digital platforms. This display held on 26th January, 2025, served as a way to highlight important news, events, or achievements relevant to St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. Selected articles were arranged thematically. The event was co-ordinated by Ms. Dakshata Zambulkar.



“A child without education
is like a bird without wings.”

– Tibetan Proverb





Vandana – a choir concert held at the college.



Value Added Course titled Back to Basics: Enhancing English Language Skills for the Workplace



Street play performed by Divyanjan cell



College signs MoU with GKB Hi Tech Lenses



Exhibition on the Souvenirs and Stamps of the Past Exposition of St. Francis Xavier



"Reason for the season" children of St. Xavier's Academy, Old Goa, celebrate Christmas on the college campus.

