

St. Xavier's College

Mapusa Goa



Department of Political Science

Politicus

'Tracking Politics, Shaping Perspectives'

Department Newsletter

2024-2025

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From the Principal's Desk

I am delighted to convey my best wishes and congratulations to the Department of Political Science on the launch of the first edition of the departmental newsletter, "Politicus".



This maiden edition marks a significant milestone in the department's journey, and I am thrilled to see the faculty and students come together to create a platform that can foster critical thinking, informed discussion, and healthy analysis of the complex world of politics.

The theme 'Tracking Politics, Shaping Perspectives' is particularly apt in today's fast-paced, interconnected world, where political developments have far-reaching consequences.

I commend the Head of the Department Ms Tricia Borges, the editor of this edition Mr. Anthony Lobo and the department for their initiative and enthusiasm, and I look forward to seeing this newsletter grow into a vibrant platform for intellectual exploration and debate.

Once again, congratulations to the Department of Political Science on this achievement!

Ms Ursula Pinto Barreto
Acting Principal

Message from the Administrator

Political Science is a subject that teaches the students the beautiful art of governance by adhering to the various civil, social and human laws based on truth and justice. It is intended for creating an atmosphere of peace and prosperity for the nation, by instilling among the citizens a feeling of brotherhood. To put in the words of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, 'A nation cannot advance without the units of which it is composed and conversely, an individual cannot advance without the nation of which he is a part'.



The Political Science Department, with its dedicated and efficient staff, has been actively working in fostering a critical engagement of the students with various issues that affect the Indian society and how good governance can bring about a sense of brotherhood which creates the right atmosphere for the nation's development. The various activities, like, discussions, research, guest speakers, visits to the Goa Legislative Assembly, I am sure, have brought fresh perspectives on topics like democratic resilience, respect for the fellow human-being irrespective of religious, social, etc differences, and global governance. As we look ahead, we remain committed to advancing scholarship, civic awareness, and inclusive dialogue within and beyond our campus community.

I extend my hearty congratulations to the HoD and the faculty of the department for making the study of political science very attractive and challenging to the students, through the various activities, research, field trips and I hope that it has helped in the dissemination of the knowledge and importance of political science in our everyday life as citizens of this great nation, India.

Hearty congratulations to all the students, as well, for their eager participation in all the departmental activities, and wish them all, and, more especially the TY Students, success in their examinations and beyond.

May God bless everyone!

Fr Tony Salema
Administrator

HOD's Message

I am extremely happy to announce the release of the first e-newsletter of our department, POLITICUS - Tracking Politics, Shaping Perspectives. This newsletter is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team, and I am honoured to share it with you.

This milestone marks a new chapter in our journey, one that showcases our collective passion for learning, research, and community engagement. As we embark on this exciting venture, I invite you to join us in celebrating the achievements, insights, and stories that make our department vibrant and dynamic.



POLITICUS aims to keep you informed about the latest developments, achievements, and events within our department. We will feature updates on research, student accomplishments, faculty expertise and upcoming events that shape our academic landscape.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the editorial team led by Assistant Prof. Anthony Lobo and the students for their dedication and creativity in bringing this vision to life. Their efforts will help us stay connected, inspired, and informed. I am confident that POLITICUS will become a valuable resource for our community.

As we share our stories, ideas, and experiences, I encourage you to stay engaged, curious, and passionate about the world of politics and governance. Together, let's make POLITICUS a beacon of intellectual curiosity and a testament to our department's commitment to excellence.

Welcome to this new journey! I look forward to hearing your thoughts and feedback.

Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges
Head of Department

Editor's Note

"...wherefore, if he have not virtue, he is the most unholy and the most savage of animals, and the most full of lust and gluttony. But justice is the bond of men in states, and the administration of justice, which is the determination of what is just, is the principle of order in political society." ~ Aristotle



Whenever, the question is asked to anyone on the street or even to students, about their extent of involvement in politics, prompt comes the reply that it is an area that any person of good calibre should stay away, the system is corrupt, it comprises of self-interested individuals, egoistic, money power and muscle power, etc. On the contrary it is important to understand that virtuous people are needed to set things right. Even more so is the involvement of young people, especially the student community who need encouragement for active participation to ensure change.

The newsletter Politicus - tracking politics and shaping perspectives, is a platform for students to express their thoughts on politics at the state, national and international level. The Department of Political Science has been dutifully and diligently moulding students to track the various political developments and shape perspectives in a non-partisan manner. Over the years the Department has been instrumental in organising various activities to highlight key issues that confront our nation and the world at large.

2024-25 was an eventful year for the Department in terms of not only involvement in conducting a number of activities for the student community but also active participation at various events conducted at the national level and state level. Accordingly, students have brought many laurels to the college. Participants have been trained and nurtured by the faculty of the Department. Politicus seeks to highlight briefly the reports of all these events. Articles from students have been well received in compiling our first newsletter. We wish our readers an insightful and enriching journey.

Faculty of the Department





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Students' Corner

Global North: "Hypocrisy at its best"

In the World Happiness Index of 2024, published by the Wellbeing Research Centre at the University of Oxford, Gallup and the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, India ranks 126th out of the 143 countries surveyed. While this is a concerning matter, many people are confused as to how India can score lower than conflict ridden countries like Ukraine and Palestine who, each have a rank of 105 and 103 respectively, and Pakistan who is on the verge of going completely bankrupt, ranked at 108th position.

This is not the only ranking in which India has been ranked lower than countries with civil wars and other such things going on. How can India be less happy than a country who is being bombed every day is a very big mystery to many people. Time and again, India finds itself ranked poorly on indices like press freedom and democracy, often below countries facing severe humanitarian crises. Do these rankings genuinely reflect reality, or do they show the biases against nations like India?

At the 2024 Paris Olympics, swimmers fell sick after swimming in dirty Seine River where people are said to dispose their feces, but the media didn't make much noise about it. Had such an event taken place in a third world country like India, the world would be in storm talking about health and hygiene, but doesn't seem to mind much as it happened in a country belonging to the Global North. The outcry over 'third-world hygiene' and 'developing nation standards' would have dominated headlines for weeks if anything like this had to happen here.

No one speaks of the violent protests in Europe but a word of it in India and the Western media is screaming for the world to hear. Civil unrest in Europe is often viewed as a sign of democratic expression, but similar movements in India are painted as chaos and symbols instability. The hypocrisy of certain news channels really does it.

India, like any other nation has flaws and problems but the way western media shows it makes one really believe that countries in Global South know nothing of peace and justice and that only the selected few countries are maintaining justice. Not once do they make an effort to look in the mirror and see themselves. Every nation has problems but to pull all

the negative attention on only one country while some who are way worse is the game they are playing.



~ Ms. Aaditi Satelkar (FYBA) ~



The Crippled Horse Named Democracy

Run! Run faster my horse for I have fed you figs.

Oh master, my master how can I run for you have crippled my legs.

Stop this nonsense, it is I who own you and not the other way around.

But master you bought me with the promise to set me free, yet I still remain bound.

Don't you whine now, for I won battles for you and not myself.

But master aren't those the same battles that you created yourself.

Don't complain democracy, have I not entertained you enough?.

Master, oh master the entertainment you talk about is my life which you have made tough.

You are my horse! You shall run when I tell you to and think what I command you.

Yet master you led me into the same ditch every time isn't that true.



~ Mr. Xavier Lobo (FYBA) ~



"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government."

~ Thomas Jefferson

Why NATO? Is it still relevant in today's world?

As we all know that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation was first formed in 1949 as the first military alliance after the second world war. The fundamental role of NATO is to safeguard the freedom and security by political and military means. Article 5 of the NATO declares that an attack on any of the members would be considered as attack on the organization.

Speaking about it's relevance in today's world it is playing an increasingly important role in crises and management, also contributing to peacekeeping. However, with new security concerns, NATO now faces questions about it's strategic direction and unity. NATO remains a crucial force in global security, rising in great power competition, climate threat, cyber warfare etc. Russia's aggression and China's growing influence demand a stronger strategic approach while other threats like pandemics and hybrid warfare necessitate broader security planning.

To remain effective, NATO must reinforce deterrence, strengthen unity, and adapt to the emerging global challenges, ensuring it's role as a cornerstone of international stability in today's up changing world.



~ Ms. Mahak Singh (FYBA) ~



Grieving Goa: An Elegy for a Dying Identity

I remember.

In childhood's shadow,
I walked on Goa's golden dust.
Only for destiny's door to open,
and witness everything rust.

Candolim 's shore caressed my pale feet,
while Mangeshi's temple blessed my heart to beat
Grandma's tales, I once found solace in.
A Goa that embraced me whole within

Now, lost—not found—
in serpent's control.

Rakondar guards me in the darkest of the drapery nights,
My Goa, an epitome of land serene and sublime.

For you, mother, I would.
I am your daughter,
I tread the paths you pave,
Like you,
My wings are cut,
and my feet chained.
Your reputation,
I cannot reclaim.

She cries—crimson rivers flowing down her withering cheeks, into the ocean of
frustration where sorrow seeks.

Her radiance waned with the tides
She cringes while her limbs are torn asunder, a little she dies
Mandovi's meandering Muriel,

-a gambler's den,
A fate revealed with every die rolled.
This is a grim chronicle,
a death foretold.

The fabric of her womb lies in shattered remnants,
now a banquet for putrid brood.

Her honored name, tarred by Machiavellian deceit,
chameleons and liars leap from party to party,
auction her to greed's insatiable flame.

Leaving her—
in eternal shame.

She struggles against the web of blind visionaries,
shackled by their tyranny.

She laments with a heavy heart.
Perspicacious time watches as she falls apart.

Mhadei's matter festers unresolved,
Her turmoiled heart tore,
A lacerating arrow that she bore.

Despair and hope—twisted kin,
Was she wrong to scream for reform within?

Strangers flock to our shores,
a tidal wave of faces unknown.
My ancestral home, now rented,
echoes with the laughter of the outsiders alone.

Carnage of green canopy,
a massacre of mofussil milieu,
Creeds clash, then shatter and divide,
high on vanity and false pride.

Uncle D'Souza, our neighbor, lost his home to mining's cruel grasp,
While the politician hides behind a mask, mocking the past.
He weeps for the walls that witnessed laughter and tears,
Now razed to the ground,
leaving only sorrow and fears.

My mother is wailing for her unwary children,
Her mortal coil, covered in autumn leaves,
yearns for her benighted people.
Her arteries lie severed as she cradles her lost sons and daughters,
who have strived for her ancient lore—
A tapestry of stories, traditions, and threads of identity,
now sepulchred within her, in deafening silence.

Can you hear it?
Her voice, once a roar, now a whisper?

Her cadaver now awaits.
Mournful dirges sung from the diaspora.
This is the lament of our sinful deed.
Echoing through eternity as justice bleeds.

"The horror, the horror,"
Shrieks her soul in terror.

India's paradise,
in peril, forever?

Her ashes now strewn from urn's hollow depths,
fading slowly into oblivion as the sinister night crept.
Was this the nightmare we chose for our motherland?

Why? Why? Tell me, why?



~ Ms. Diksha Tupkar (TYBA) ~



Social Justice: A Call to Action

Social justice is the cornerstone of a fair and equitable society. Yet, we continue to witness systemic inequalities, discrimination, and marginalization of vulnerable communities.

It's time for us to acknowledge the injustices and take collective action. We must recognize the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, regardless of their race, gender, religion, or socioeconomic status.

We can start by educating ourselves about the issues, listening to the voices of marginalized communities, and advocating for policies that promote equality and justice.

Together, we can create a society that values diversity, promotes inclusivity, and ensures equal opportunities for all. Let's join forces to build a brighter, more just future for ourselves and future generations.



~ Ms. Saniya Samir Ahmad (FYBA) ~



My Experience at 'Politika'

The department of Political Science at Dhemphe College of Arts and Sciences Miramar every year organises an inter-collegiate competition titled 'POLITIKA' with multiple events focusing on the varied topics related to political science such as QUIZ, elocution, essay writing, poster making etc.

This year the event was organised on 10th January 2025 . Me and my friend, Deepankar Padloskar from TYBA contested for QUIZ. The quiz competition was conducted by quiz lab and focused on topics such as the 2024 US presidential election, women in world politics, 75 years of the Indian constitution and cases that shaped India's financial landscape .The participants comprised of eleven teams of two, each representing various colleges of Goa. Me and my quiz partner divided the topic among ourselves and gathered information mainly from the Web and books related to the topic.

The quiz took place In the seminar hall with an elimination written round of twenty-four questions based on the topic. Each question was represented by a letter that was also the first letter of the answers. The questions were moderately difficult as they were not straightforward and confusing. We were not confident about making it to the next round as only the top four teams were to be qualified for the final round and most of the teams seemed confident as they had been genuinely preparing for it. But we did make it to the final round and that to, with a good score. The final round was a rapid fire round based on audio-visual as well as standard questions. There was also negative marking if we gave the incorrect answer after pouncing on a question first. Till the last moment we were not sure who'd win because of the this. But we won first place with a lead of 20 points from the runner ups team. When the name of our college was announced as the winner, I felt a surge of pride, joy and surprise. The applause from the audience was overwhelming, and it felt like all the effort I had put into preparing for the quiz had truly paid off. It was a moment I'll never forget neither our team .

Participating in the quiz for me and my quiz partner turned out to be one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences. Competing against some of the brightest minds was both challenging and inspiring. This experience taught me the importance of consistency and hard work. It boosted my confidence and inspired me to keep learning and exploring new areas of knowledge as I personally never understood the worth of my knowledge and the quiz made me appreciate what I learned.



~ Mr. Satyam Singh (TYBA) ~



"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

~ Abraham Lincoln

अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं...!

जन गण की आवाज बनकर,
अखिल विश्व को बतलाना चाहता हूं।
भारत की लोकतंत्र की आवाज,
सबको सुनाना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।

इस झूठे राजनीति से,
भारत को मुक्ति दिलाना चाहता हूं।
इस गंदी राजनीति के कीचड़ में
लोकतंत्र का कमल खिलाना चाहता हूं,
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।

भारत को भ्रष्टाचार से,
मुक्त करना चाहता हूं।
झूठे वादे करने वाले सरकार को,
लोकतंत्र का दर्पण दिखाना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।

राम के राज में रावण का शासन,
नहीं चलने देना चाहता हूं।
यह लोकतंत्र है साहब,
यहां राज्य तंत्र नहीं चलने देना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।

इन कुटिल बुद्ध जीवों को,
यह बतलाना चाहता हूं।
असली राजनीति का,
मतलब समझाना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।

गांधी के भारत में जिन्ना का,
विचार नहीं पलने देना चाहता हूं।
इस खंड-खंड भारत को,

अखंड करके दिखलाना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।।

साम, दाम, दंड, भेद की,
कूटनीति को अपनाना चाहता हूं।
चाणक्य बनके इस देश को,
सत्य राजनीति का अर्थ समझना चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।।

यह सारी बातें राजनीति के,
संसद के सिंघासन से करना चाहता हूं।
इन्हें बताना चाहता हूं कि,
देश नहीं चलता है केवल भाषण से।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।।

वह लोकतंत्र का कैसा राजा जो,
देश के थाली में छेद करें।
वह लोकतंत्र का कैसा राजा,
जो जनता में भेद करें।
वह लोकतंत्र का कैसा राजा जो,
चुप्पी साधे देश की दंगों पर।
वह लोकतंत्र का कैसा राजा जो,
फर्क करें कपड़ों के रंगों पर।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचललाना चाहता हूं।।

छत्रपति सा सब धर्मों का सम्मान करें,
अंगराज सा जो भिक्षुक को दान करें।
हरिश्चंद्र सा सत्य वचनों का मान करे,
रामचंद्र सा न्याय करें।
लोकतंत्र में धर्म राज सा राजा चाहता हूं।
अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूं।।

भारत एक लोकतंत्र देश है साहब!
यह देश मजहब के पन्नों से नहीं।
यह देश केवल संविधान के,

पन्नों से चलाना चाहता हूँ।
हा! अब राजनीति में थोड़ा सा हलचल लाना चाहता हूँ।।

कविराज_अनमोलमिश्रा



~ Mr. Anmol Mishra (FYBSC) ~

(Won the 1st Place at the Inter- Collegiate Poetry recitation competition held at Government College, Khandola on 24/8/2024, titled, 'Poetic Political Ponderings')



We the People of India: An Ode to the Constitution

There are 5 words stuck in my throat,
2 at the tip of my tongue.

I know one of them looks like freedom,
And the other cannot be found.

We walked barefoot in the fire,
And dreamed to dare and aspire

5 words that set us free
so we could be,
We, the people of India.

The pages turn for an eternity,
but I am stuck on page one.
Justice, equality, liberty, fraternity
are more than just textbook words to learn.

We were built on the back of a woman blind,
Who did not judge kind from kind.
Who did not see whom she pleased
or appeased;

Who did not bow down to a vote bank's greed.

This land blessed, where rivers ran,

We watch it turn to barren land

Whilst on the other bank,

The river has swallowed crops and dreams,

The well splashed, the village heard

A dead farmer's wife scream.

They build and build with no restraint,

Development is something that has to sustain;

We watched them cut our mountains and trees,

Then hoped for good rain and agricultural yield.

While bills were passed with stamps of greed,

And schemes introduced without facilities.

What is growth when we neglect the land,

and policies do not consider environmental demands.

Banker, butcher, milkman or millionaire,

In this land, by this book,

We share the same ground.

So why do we still hear the distant sound

Of village bells ringing that announce

The arrival of brooms tied to waists

and gazes lowered down.

This sound that Babasaheb sought to annihilate,

To bring Tagore's vision to life,

Of a country unafraid.

Then why are we afraid

To think and to speak?

This country was not loaned to us,

It is our right we seek.

So that we are not denied opportunity,

Or imprisoned needlessly.

So that nobody can ask us to prove

Nationality based on community.

So that we can live a life of dignity.

But how many of us really know
These rights upon us bestowed?
The crux of the constitution
that no leading power may have
power enough to devour
our lives to fulfill a greed,
that tramples over our needs.

The 5 words remain motionless;
At the tip of my tongue rests freedom
But I am afraid to open my mouth
because the other word that rests there
is TRUTH.

Loot-ed like objectivity in the news.
But silence is a deadly noose.
So, like an earthquake,
these words need to stir in every heart,
To see that no one dares to disregard,
The basis of freedom's idea
That says:
We, the People of India.



~ Ms. Sumaiya Khan (F.Y.B.A) ~

(Won the 2nd Place at the Inter- Collegiate Poetry recitation competition held at Government College, Khandola on 24/8/2024, titled, 'Poetic Political Ponderings')



Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies.

~ Groucho Marx



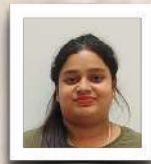
~ Ms. Sherly Lobo (FYBA) ~



~Ms. Charlize Rangel (SY MCJ) ~

(Won the 1st place at the intra-collegiate event Politronica 1.0- Cartoon Chronicles. held at St. Xavier's College on 27/3/2025)





~ Ms. Poonam Palyekar (S.Y.BA) ~

(Won the 2nd place at the intra-collegiate event Politronica 1.0 - Cartoon Chronicles, held at St. Xavier's College on 27/3/2025)



~ Ms. Anuja Sutar (TYBA) ~

(Won the 1st place at the intra-collegiate event Politronica 1.0 - Caricature, held at St. Xavier's College on 27/3/2025)





~ Ms. Larissa D'souza (FYBA) ~

(Won the 2nd place at the intra-collegiate event Politronica 1.0 - Caricature, held at St. Xavier's College on 27/3/2025)



"A politician needs the ability to foretell what is going to happen tomorrow, next week, next month, and next year. And to have the ability afterwards to explain why it didn't happen."

~ Winston Churchill

Activities of the Department

The Department of Political Science exposes its students to wide range of co-curricular activities. In the current academic year 2024-25 a number of activities were organised at the national and state level for the benefit of the students' community. Following are brief reports of the events conducted.

Poster Making Competition



The Department of Political Science organized a Poster Making Competition on August 13, 2024, to commemorate India's 78th Independence Day and International Youth Day (12 August). The theme was "The Role of Youth in Nation-building," highlighting young people's vital contributions to the nation's growth. 34 teams (68 students) from various streams participated, and the posters were displayed in the College lobby for viewing on 15th August. Feedback was collected from viewers, including students from St. Xavier's Higher Secondary School, who were invited to view the posters on display.

The winners of the competition were:

- First Position: Team 24

Mr. Manish Mahesh Khobarekar (FY BSC) & Mr. Babaji Gawas (FY BSC)

- First Runner-Up: Team 27

Mr. Elton Ming (SY.Bcom) & Ms. Sanika Mishal (SY.Bcom)

- Second Runner-Up: Team 21

Ms. Asma Mohiuddin Shaikh (FYBA) & Ms. Larissa Valika D'Souza (FYBA)

The event was coordinated by Assistant Professor Vijay Talwar and co-coordinated by Assistant Professor Anthony Lobo



All-Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Writing Competition



The Department of Political Science organized an All-Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Writing Competition on 16th September 2024 to commemorate the International Day of

Democracy. The theme of the competition was 'Media, Elections, and the Future of Democracy.'

The results were announced on 23rd September, with the following winners:

- First Position:

Ms. Ulfat Banoo Sunkad

(Carmel College of Arts, Science & Commerce for Women, Nuvem)

- First Runner-Up: Mr. Siddharth Kittur

(Don Bosco College, Panjim)

- Second Runner-Up: Ms. Anuksha Velip

(CES College of Arts and Commerce, Cuncolim)

The winners were awarded trophies and merit certificates during the Cultural Extravaganza on 11th October 2024. All participants received e-certificates for their efforts. The event was successfully coordinated by Ms. Richa E. Kajoli.



E-waste Management

To commemorate International E-waste day on 14th October, a talk was held on the topic "Reboot the Earth" by Mr. Ashley Delaney, the resource person. Two sessions were held at 9:30-10:30 am and 10:45-11:45 am for college students on 15th October 2024.

Mr. Ashley began the sessions explaining the various types of wastes. He emphasized



the need to segregate garbage from E-waste and give it to authorised recycling dealers so that it can be adequately recycled. He mentioned that when E-waste is given to unauthorized dealers, not all metals are retrieved that can be reused. Besides, he

stated that when E-waste is not recycled scientifically, it puts life of the individual and community at risk. The key points stressed upon was, "Waste is not garbage, instead a resource that can be used again and again."

To make his sessions interactive he conducted spot questions and prizes were given for the right responses. At the end of the sessions, students were informed about the E-waste collection drive beginning on 22nd October 2024 and ending on 24th October 2024.



The drive invoked a positive response (generating 114 kgs of E-waste) from the students, teaching and non-teaching staff of the college. Mr. Ashley then award the college a certificate in appreciation for the activity conducted on 24th October 2024.



Constitution Day



As part of the commemoration of the 'Constitution Day' 2024, the Political Science Department of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa celebrated the occasion by reading the

Preamble to the Constitution of India on 26/11/2024 at 9:10 a.m. via the public address system of the college, ensuring participation of students, teaching, and non-teaching staff.

A National Level Online Quiz on “75 years of Indian Constitution” was also organized by the department for students and the general public, which attracted about 100 participants. The faculty of the department also attended the Inaugural ceremony of the Launching a Year-Long celebration of ‘75 years of the Indian Constitution’ organized by Goa University and DHE, Government of Goa, on 26/11/2024. The keynote speaker for the Inaugural was Hon’ble Justice Siddharth Mridul, Chief Justice (Retd.), High Court of Manipur.



Human Rights Day

The department of Political Science of St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa Goa organised a talk to commemorate International Human Rights Day on 10th December 2024. The theme of the year 2024 was “Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now”.

The Resource person for the talk, Adv.



Bhuwaneshwar Fatarpekar delivered an insightful presentation on the intricacies of Human Rights, Fundamental Rights, Constitutional Rights, and Legal Rights. The session provided a comprehensive overview of the historical evolution of Human Rights and their significance in contemporary times.

He traced the development of Human Rights

from ancient civilizations to modern times. The audience gained a deeper understanding of the milestones achieved in the struggle for human dignity and rights. The presentation focused on landmark judgments delivered by the Indian judiciary.

The session concluded with a thought-



provoking Q&A session, where Adv. Fatarpekar addressed queries and provided clarity on various aspects of Human Rights and Fundamental Rights. The event was coordinated by Asst. Prof. Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar.



Study Tour to INS Kadamba, Naval Base, Karwar



On December 21, 2024, the Department of Political Science at St. Xavier's College organized a study tour to INS Kadamba, the Naval Base in Karwar. A group of 49 enthusiastic students and five faculty members participated in this enriching experience, which offered a unique opportunity to explore the operational aspects of the Indian Navy.

The highlight of the visit was boarding the 172-meter-long INS Aditya, a replenishment tanker ship of the Indian Navy, and viewing India's first indigenous aircraft carrier, INS Vikrant. This visit aimed to provide insights into naval operations, foster a deeper understanding of naval architecture and engineering, and inspire interest in the defence forces.

The students explored various sections of INS Aditya, attended interactive sessions with naval officers, and witnessed live demonstrations of naval weapons. They also engaged with naval engineers to understand the technological and engineering aspects of shipbuilding and maintenance.

After an appetizing lunch, the group visited the famous Rock Garden before departing for Goa at 4 p.m. The tour provided invaluable insights into the Navy's operations, fostering a deeper appreciation for India's defence forces.



Opinion Poll Day



To commemorate Opinion Poll Day (Asmitai Dis) on 16th January, the department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College organized a Poster Exhibition on the theme, "Goa's Quest for Identity" 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'. 32 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. The event was co-ordinated by Associate Professor, Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges.



Lecture on “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, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.. 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. The event provided valuable insights into fiscal governance and its practical implications.



Collaboration event International - Women's Day Commemoration: Screening of "Girl Rising"



The Department of Political Science, in collaboration with the National Service Scheme (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 highlight the transformative power of education in empowering women.

Girl Rising is a powerful documentary that narrates the inspiring stories of nine girls from different parts of the world who overcome societal barriers to pursue their dreams. An interactive session was held, where students from various streams shared their thoughts on gender equality and women's empowerment. They reflected on the challenges women face and discussed the critical role of education in fostering social change.

Ms. Alice D'Cruz, Associate Professor from the Department of English, and Dr. Rheane P. Da Silva, Chief Programme Officer, NSS, addressed the gathering, offering their valuable insights.

The event was graced by Ms. Alice D'Cruz, Ms. Sunita Mesquita, Ms. Shirlene Palha Fernandes, and Dr. Rheane P. Da Silva. The successful coordination of the event was led by Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Richa E. Kajoli from the Department of Political Science.



Field trip to Strawberry farm and Waterfall, Netravalli



The Department of Political Science, organised a Study Field Trip to Strawberry farm and a trek to waterfall, Netravalli, 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.



Study Field Trip to Central Jail, Colvale



The Department of Political Science organized a field visit to Central Jail, Colvale, on 17th March 2025 for the students of Political Science. The main aim of this visit was to familiarize them with the practical aspects and functioning of the jail system. A total of 58 students from FYBA, SYBA, and TYBA participated, accompanied by two faculty members from the Department of Political Science, Mr. Anthony Lobo and Mr. Vijay Talwar, who were the Coordinators. This visit helped students bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and correctional practices at the Central Jail.



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 at 9:30 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". Thereafter began the various events planned as per schedule. On-stage events involved: 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."



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, Associate Professor & Head of the Department of Political Science, was the Course Coordinator. Mr. Vijay Talwar was Co-coordinator. A total of 54 students from FYBA, SYBA, and TYBA registered for the course. The primary 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.



"People often ask me how I feel about my invention being used to kill people every day and the AK being a common weapon of ethnic conflicts. I want to make it clear that I created my assault rifle to protect my country. You can blame politicians for its spreading out of control on a global scale."

~ Mikhail Kalashnikov

Awards & Achievements

Over the years the Department has achieved various awards at national and state level competitions bringing laurels to the college through the participation of its students. 2024-25 has been a special year for the Department, where students trained by faculty with dedication and commitment have won many accolades. The Department of Political Science wishes its awardees a Hearty Congratulations! Your skills, dedication, and positive attitude have made you a true asset to 'Team Xaviers'.

Poetic Political Ponderings



Mr. Anmol Mishra (FYBSc) won the First Place and Ms. Sumaiya Khan (FYBA) won the Second Place at the Inter- Collegiate Poetry recitation competition titled, 'Poetic Political Ponderings' organised by the Department of Political Science, Government College, Khandola, Marcela on 24 August 2024. Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College guided the students.

"After a point of time, when you get success and fame, money and everything, the purpose of life has to be redefined. For me, I think that purpose is to build bridges. Artists can do that very easily, more than politicians."

~ A. R. Rahman

Iconic Impressions: Unleash the Leader Within



Ms. Viveka Cordeiro (FYMCJ) secured first place, and Mr. Shivang Shirodkar (SYBSc) won third place at the Inter-collegiate event titled 'Iconic Impressions: Unleash the Leader Within,' organized by the Department of Political Science at Fr. Agnel College, Pilar, on 03 September 2024. Ms. Richa E. Kajoli, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at St. Xavier's College assisted and guided the students.



Politika 2025



A team of 8 students participated in the Inter- collegiate event 'Politika' organised by Department of Political Science, Dhempe 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 proudly bagged the Runners-Up Trophy for the overall event. Ms. Richa Kajoli, Asst. Prof. Department of Political Science guided the students. Kudos to the entire team!



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, organised by V.M. Salgaocar College of Law in association with the Directorate of Higher Education.



"From education to employment, housing to trust in the police, politicians from all parties must understand the different issues affecting individual communities."

~ Rishi Sunak

Postal Stamp Making competition



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. 'Team Xaviers' also participated in debate, reel making, newspaper designing, slogan writing and street play. Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science was the faculty coordinator for the team.



Gram Vikas Manthan: Our Village, Our Plan!



The Team of Ashwin Naik, Sherlyn Lobo, and Kajal Vernekar from FYBA secured 1st place in the State-level Competition – 'Gram Vikas Manthan: Our Village, Our Plan' held on 24th February 2025. Hosted by the Department of Political Science, Government College of

Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola, this competition challenged students to design a sustainable development plan for a Goan village.

The competition was conducted in two phases:

Phase 1: Teams prepared a development plan for their chosen Goan village on chart paper.

Phase 2: Teams presented and defended their plan before a panel of judges.

The team's SWOT analysis, creativity, and vision stood out. The team was mentored by Ms. Richa E. Kajoli, Assistant Professor of Political Science.



2nd Parrikar National Policy Hackathon 2025



The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, participated 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.

St. Xavier's College secured the Runner-Up position in this competition. Mr. Omkar Karpe (FYBA) and

Ms. Astrid D'Mello (SYBA) were the Runners-Up team representing the college. Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor from the Department of Political Science was the mentor of the team.

The students were guided and supported by the faculty of the Department of Political Science, whose mentorship and support were instrumental in their success.



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.

The competition was held on March 13th, 17th & 18th, 2025 at GIPARD, Ella Farm, Old Goa, with enthusiastic participation from 18 colleges across Goa.

A huge congratulations to the entire team comprising students from FY, SY, and

TYBA, and FYBCom for their exceptional performance.

Special Recognition for 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 (Asst. Prof., Department of Political Science) & Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar (Asst. Prof., Department of Political Science).



Kudos to our students and faculty for their outstanding teamwork, dedication, and leadership that made this remarkable victory possible. Keep reaching for new heights, Xavierites!



Annual Political Science Festival 2025



Politicus - 'Tracking politics, shaping perspectives'

'Team Xaviers' were declared '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' held on 29th March, 2025.

- 1st Place : Quiz - Mr. Satyam Singh and Mr. Deepankar Padloskar
- 2nd Place : Poster Competition - Ms. Winona Taveira and Ms. Cinetta Ferrao
- 3rd Place : Elocution - Ms. Lynn D'Souza

Faculty in charge - Mr. Vijay Talwar



"A businessman cannot force you to buy his product; if he makes a mistake, he suffers the consequences; if he fails, he takes the loss. If bureaucrat makes a mistake, you suffer the consequences; if he fails, he passes the loss on to you."

~ Ayn Rand

Faculty Initiatives

Why Politics?

It's in the price of grain and gold,
In every promise left untold.
It's in the laws that guard your rights,
And whispers born from silent fights.

It's in the school, the street, the sky,
The reason some still wonder why.
It shapes the world with unseen hands,
And draws the lines on shifting lands.

You say, "I'm not political." True—
But politics still speaks for you.
It's in your life; it's in your soul—
A force that shapes the world as whole.

It's not a game for those who wait,
It's what we choose, it's our own fate.
In every vote, in every plea,
Politics is where we're meant to be.

It shapes the future, echoes the past,
It holds the present, firm and fast.
Through all our struggles, hopes, and fears,
Politics defines our coming years.



~ Asst. Prof. Richa Eknath Kajoli ~



Research Initiatives

1. Ms. Tricia Dilecta Vaz e Borges, Associate Professor

- ♦ Attended an online session on "Orientation cum Refreshers' Session on Institution's Innovation Council Objectives, Structure, Operation for IIC Institutions" organized by, MoE's Innovation Cell on 05th August 2024.
- ♦ Attended an online session on "Accreditation and Quality Education: Exploring the Binary System by NAAC" organized by IQAC, St. Xavier's College on 07th August 2024.
- ♦ Attended a session on "Cultivating a Research Mindset: Strategies & Resources for College educators" organized by Research and Development Cell in collaboration with IQAC, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College on 20th September 2024.
- ♦ Attended the session on Awareness on POSH Act organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (IC) of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, on 29th January 2025.
- ♦ Participated in State Level Faculty Development Programme on 'Advancing Excellence in Higher Education: Innovation and Global Perspectives' organised by IQAC, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa in collaboration with PACT Foundation and O.P.Jindal Global University, India, on 30th January 2025.
- ♦ Participated in NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme under Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme(MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organized by UGC- MMTTC, Goa University from 18.03.2025 to 27.03.2025.
- ♦ Participated in the Three-Day FDP on 'Quality in Higher Education' organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, from 15th to 17th April 2025.

2. Mr. Prasad Naik, Assistant Professor

- ♦ Published a paper, Naik, P. S. & Desai, P. S. (2024). Ethnicity, Religion, and Language: Locating Nationalism and Nation in the Political Thought of Bal Gangadhar Tilak. *Gandhi Marg Quarterly*, 46(2), 197-218. <https://gandhimargjournal.org/2024/10/18/volume-46-issue-2-july-september-2024/>
- ♦ 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.

3. Ms. Richa E. Kajoli, Assistant Professor

- ♦ Participated in one day workshop on "First Responder Training" organised by the Department of Biotechnology in collaboration with EMRI GHS in association with the Directorate of Health Services on 13th September 2024.
- ♦ Attended a session on "Cultivating a Research Mindset: Strategies & Resources for College educators organized by Research and Development Cell in collaboration with IQAC, Department of Sociology, St. Xavier's College on 20th September 2024.
- ♦ Attended a Two-Day State Level Seminar on 'Revitalizing Public Administration: Reforms for Efficiency and Effectiveness' organized by the Public Administration Program of the Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy on 26th and 27th September 2024.
- ♦ Participated in the National Level Faculty Development Programme on 'Holistic Learning for Excellence in Higher Education' organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell from 22nd to 26th October 2024.
- ♦ Attended the NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme under Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organised by UGC-MMTTC, Goa University from 04/03/2025 to 13/03/2025.
- ♦ Attended the session on Awareness on POSH Act organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (IC) on 29th January 2025.
- ♦ Participated in the Three-Day FDP on 'Quality in Higher Education' organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell from 15th to 17th April 2025.

4. Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor

- ♦ Attended Three-Days National Level Workshop on "Research Methodology for Policy & Administration" was organized by the Goa Institute of Public Administration & Rural Development (GIPARD) from 19th September to 21st September 2024 at Ella Farm, Old Goa.
- ♦ Attended Five Days National Level Faculty Development Programme (22nd October to 26th October 2024) on "Holistic Learning for excellence in Higher Education" organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), St. Xavier's College, Mapusa Goa.
- ♦ Attended One Week National Level Online Faculty Development Programme (17th October to 24th October 2024) on Outcome Based Education and Application of Generative AI in Teaching and Research organised by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), St. Mary's College (Autonomous) Thrissur, Kerala.
- ♦ Attended talk on "India-Pakistan Relations: Today and Tomorrow" by Amb. (Retd) Dr. T.C.A. Raghavan organised by the Department of Political Science, D.D. Kosambi

School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University, on 28th November 2024.

- ♦ Attended Faculty Development Programme on “AI TOOLS FOR ENHANCING CLASSROOM TEACHING” organised by the SVS Caculo College, Mapusa Goa in association with ICFAI Business School, Bangalore on 13th November 2024 and 14th November 2024.
- ♦ Attended the NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme under Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organised by UGC-MMTTC, Goa University from 04/03/2025 to 13/03/2025.
- ♦ Attended the session on Awareness on POSH Act organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (IC) on 29th January 2025.

5. Mr. Anthony Lobo, Assistant Professor

- ♦ Attended talk on "India-Pakistan Relations: Today and Tomorrow" by Amb. (Retd) Dr. T.C.A. Raghavan organised by the Department of Political Science, D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies, Goa University, on 28th November 2024.
- ♦ Attended the session on Awareness on POSH Act organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (IC) of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, on 29th January 2025.
- ♦ Participated in the NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme under Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organised by UGC-MMTTC, Goa University from 04/03/2025 to 13/03/2025.

6. Ms. Priyanka Chandelkar

- ♦ Attended the session on Awareness on POSH Act organized by the Internal Complaints Committee (IC) of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, on 29th January 2025.
- ♦ Participated in the NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme under Malviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) organised by UGC-MMTTC, Goa University from 04/03/2025 to 13/03/2025



“The first duty of a man is the seeking after and the investigation of truth.”

~ Cicero

Special Thanks

On behalf of the Department of Political Science, the Editorial Boards wishes to express its sincere gratitude to the Principal and Administrator of the college for all the encouragement and support provided to bring forth its first newsletter.

We're also very grateful to all those who have contributed in the form of articles, poems and paintings to the success of our newsletter. We appreciate the special assistance and timely cooperation provided by the faculty of the Department of Political Science. Last but not the least we would like to wish our prize winners of various competitions our Hearty Congratulations! May they continue to climb greater heights and wishing them a bright prospective future.

Dev Borem Korum!!!