

## Converge report SXC

Converge 2.0 – Shiksha Udyojak Sangam, an Academia-Industry Summit, was successfully held on 7th March 2025 at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa, by the Training Internship and Placement Cell in collaboration with the Institution Innovation Council; with the support of the Government of Goa, Goa State Higher Education Council, and the Directorate of Higher Education. The event, themed "Skill-Up, Scale-Up, Succeed: Empowering the Workforce of Tomorrow," provided a platform for knowledge-sharing, industry exposure, and networking. The inaugural session was addressed by Rev. Fr. Antonio Salema (Administrator), Prof. Filipe Rodrigues e Melo (Principal In-charge), and Ms. Ruella D'Souza (TIP Coordinator), Other dignitaries including Ms. Sandra Fernandes (Vice Principal), Prof Oscar Braganca e melo (Coordinator of IIC) and keynote speaker Ms. Mishyle Adam (Founder, Xenerx Healthcare) were also present.

The event had 4 eminent speakers from various avenues.

- a) Chief guest and speaker for Technical Session I Ms Mishyle Adam, was the first choice for the inaugural programme. An academically brilliant, dynamic, young Goan woman entrepreneur; she was the ideal choice to share with students the **Challenges and the Satisfaction of being a CEO** and Startup founder.
- b) The Speaker for Session II -**“Food Industry...What you need to know...”** was Mr Richard Noronha, a biotechnology alumnus from the college, currently Designated Officer and Licensing Authority, Directorate of Food and Drugs Administration Bambolim Goa. He was speaking to the students of Biotechnology, Microbiology and young entrepreneurs of the college, currently in the food industry perhaps as home bakers or custom dessert makers. He consented to give a brief on various guidelines and regulations essential for the food industry and the opportunities available in terms of career options.
- c) Session III **“Tourism- an offbeat, Sustainable and Experiential option....”** ran parallel to Session II and was engaged by Mr Pratik Joshi, the head of the curations team on behalf of Varun Hegde and Kedar Borker the founders of Soul Travelling. The session was primarily curated for students of BBA T and T and BBA as it aligned with their current field of study and would be inspiring and informative.
- d) Session IV, was by Ms Ann Kurien, Engagement Associate at CSRBOX the implementation partner of Converge 2.0. and was held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 for the students of BCA, Computer science, Electronics and others. She focused on the importance of upskilling in today's world and rolled out the online digital platform by Lenovo to help students build technical skills in AI and data analytics.

Ms. Mishyle Adam shared her entrepreneurial journey and insights on healthcare innovation. She spoke about the challenges she faced as an entrepreneur and shared important insights to students.

Other speakers included Mr. Pratik Joshi – Head of Curation, Soul Travelling spoke about tourism and the crucial role in curating unique travel experiences at Soul Travelling. He highlighted the importance of cultural entrepreneurship and tourism innovation in Goa's economy. His talk was riveting and he showcased photographs of Goa's rich cultural heritage.

Mr. Richard Noronha (Designated Officer, Food and Drug Administration, Goa), discussed food and drug regulations and career opportunities in the food industry, was a much-anticipated speaker for the students of science. He chronicled his journey from the portals of the institution to his current role as officer in the FDA. He readily fielded questions from the students and advised them on precautions to take when it comes to matters of health and food.

Ms Ann Kurien Engagement associate at CSR Box, delivered 2 sessions to the students of the college and introduced an IBM-powered platform for student skill development. She onboarded students onto the platform and shared her journey as a social worker with the youth. She was an engaging and concise speaker.

The event successfully bridged academia and industry, providing students with valuable insights, networking opportunities, and career-enhancing knowledge. The TIP cell and IIC of the college collaborated seamlessly to make this event a grand success.







