



ST.XAVIER'S COLLEGE, MAPUSA GOA

Report of Activity conducted in the Academic Year 2024-25

Name of Activity	“VIDNYAN DHARA 2026”, A MEGA SCIENCE SERIES By Goa State Higher Education Council and Directorate of Higher Education
Date/Duration	9 th January. 2026
Venue	St. Xavier's College, Mapusa – Goa Seminar Hall
Name of organizing Department/Cell	St. Xavier's College – Host Institute
In collaboration with	
Name/s of Faculty Coordinator	Dr. Maria Fonseca (Dept. of Botany) Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz (Dept. of Chemistry) Ms. Prajyoti Chimulkar (Dept. of Computer Science)
Stratum of Event	Multidisciplinary educational environment
Name & details of Resource Person/s If any	Dr. Rohit Srivastava (Scientist, National Center for Polar and Ocean Research, Vasco-da-Gama)
Report	<p>St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa, was the host Institution for the Vidnyan Dhara 2026, A mega science series, on the 9th of February, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.</p> <p>Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz, faculty, department of Chemistry, welcomed the Resource person Dr. Rohit Srivastava, Scientist, National Center for Polar and Ocean Research, Vasco-da-Gama, Goa, a PhD holder on atmospheric Aerosols and presently involved in developing Indian Polar Aerosol Network.</p> <p>After the introductory remarks and presentation of the potted plant by Dr. Maria Fonseca, Faculty, Department of Botany, Dr. Rohit Srivastava took over the session bearing the theme: Science beyond borders: India's Arctic endeavors.</p> <p>Dr. Rohit began the session by explaining the basic difference between the similar yet so different poles, the Arctic and the Antarctica, why we find Polar bears in the Arctic and Penguins in the Antarctica. He went</p>

	<p>on to explain why the Arctic matters globally to India. He briefly explained the short-term Atmospheric bridge and the long-term Ocean Tunnel. He also informed about the 6 pillars of India's Arctic Policy: Science and Research, Climate and Environment Protection, Economic and Human Development, Transportation and Connectivity, Governance and International Cooperation and National capacity building.</p> <p>Dr. Srivastava then portrayed the various expeditions of the Indian Arctic at the Himadri Research Station based on varied sciences: Atmospheric Science, Environmental Science, Cryosphere Science, Space Science, Biological Science, Geosciences and Marine Science.</p> <p>Through the beautifully illustrative presentation, he explained the Arctic Auroras.</p> <p>Dr. Rohit shared glimpse of the Scientific Cruise Expedition to Denmark Strait, sharing that the Himadri has the distinction of being manned for 300 odd days, has more than 200 scientific publications and several international collaborations.</p> <p>Though his interactions with students he told them that they should ask WHY and get answers for the same. He also asked them to try and reduce global warming in their own little ways and concluded with a quote "The Arctic is not just about the Polar Bears and Ice, it is about understanding our planet, future and India's place in protecting it for the generations to come".</p> <p>Dr. Rohit then threw the floor open for queries and convincingly replied to the same.</p> <p>In total, 139 students participated in this session.</p> <p>The session ended at 11:30 am with Ms. Prajyoti Chimulkar, Faculty, Department of Computer Science, proposing the Vote of Thanks.</p> <p>The session was coordinated by Dr. Maria Fonseca, Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz and Ms. Prajyoti Chimulkar.</p>
Brochure/Poster	https://xavierscollegegoa.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/Vidnyan-Dhara-poster.pdf
Photographs	NA
List of participants With signatures	NA
Certificate	NA