

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

MAPUSA GOA



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Politicus

TRACKING POLITICS, SHAPING PERSPECTIVES

DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

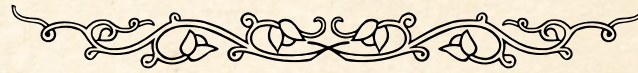
2025-2026

VOL II

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



It gives me immense pleasure to pen this message for the Political Science Department newsletter, a reflection of the department's activities in the year gone by.

From integrating NEP's multidisciplinary spirit to guiding students through activities on local governance and constitutional values, the department has contributed to nurturing responsible citizens.

The energy and enthusiasm of the students in awareness drives, competitions like youth parliament, youth gram sabha, field studies related to Village Panchayats, as well as other activities has been amazing.

May the activities chronicled in this newsletter be an inspiration for every Xavierite to engage with democracy thoughtfully and responsibly.

I congratulate the Head of Department, Ms Tricia Borges, the editor Ms Gauri Rao and all the faculty members, and every student contributor.

Best wishes for yet another enriching year ahead!

Ms Ursula Pinto Barreto
Officiating Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." This oft-quoted insight, attributed to the renowned Irish poet and playwright William Butler Yeats, aptly captures the true purpose of education. Inspired by this vision of igniting minds and nurturing human potential, the Church in Goa embraced the mission of education with remarkable zeal and commitment.

Soon after the liberation of Goa, the Church established St. Xavier's College, Mapusa under the pioneering leadership of Fr. Edwin D'Cruz, SJ, its founding Principal. The College began its journey in a building belonging to the MSFS Fathers at Bastora and functioned there until 1969, when it was shifted to Mapusa, where it continues to flourish today.

A decisive chapter in the institution's history began when its stewardship was entrusted to Dr. Fr Nicolau Pereira, a visionary educationist and an eminent academic. Building upon the strong foundation laid by Fr. Edwin D'Cruz, he transformed the College into one of Goa's premier centres of higher learning. His legacy of excellence, innovation, and service continues to inspire the institution to this day.

Over the years, the landscape of education has undergone profound changes. Yet, St. Xavier's College has remained steadfast in its commitment to academic excellence, thanks to the dedication of its teaching and non-teaching staff, the perseverance of its students, and the enduring vision of Dr. Nicolau Pereira. Their collective efforts have enabled the College to uphold its cherished values while responding creatively to the challenges of a changing world.

As we place this issue of *Politicus* in the hands of our staff and students, we express our gratitude to all those who have contributed to the growth and reputation of the College. The Management is deeply grateful to the teaching faculty for positively shaping the perspectives of our students. May the Department of Political Science continue its journey of study so that its students are able to stand up for the values that our great country is known for and take it to greater heights. May the views shared by the contributors in this magazine serve as a valuable guide, helping to strengthen our shared commitment to learning, integrity, and the holistic development of every student.

Congratulations to the editorial board and to the contributors and may God bless everyone.

Fr Tony Salema
Administrator

HOD'S MESSAGE



It gives me immense pleasure to present the second issue of 'POLITICUS – Tracking Politics, Shaping Perspectives'. We are delighted to continue this initiative that celebrates the academic life, achievements, and activities of the Department of Political Science.

Over the past academic year, our department has continued to grow as a centre of learning, inquiry, and engagement. Through seminars, workshops, field visits, student-led activities, research initiatives, and competitions, we have sought to nurture critical thinking and encourage meaningful participation in contemporary political and social discourse. This issue captures many of these milestones while reflecting the enthusiasm and commitment of our students and faculty.

Politics is constantly evolving, shaped by changing ideas, institutions, and global developments. As students of Political Science, it is our responsibility not only to understand these changes but also to engage with them in a critical and constructive manner. I hope that POLITICUS continues to inspire curiosity, debate, and a deeper appreciation of the discipline.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the editorial team led by Assistant Professor Ms. Gauri Rao, whose dedication and meticulous efforts have made this publication possible. My heartfelt thanks also go to our students, faculty members, and everyone who has supported this endeavour. Your enthusiasm and commitment are the driving force behind the success of this newsletter.

As we move forward, let POLITICUS remain a platform that showcases our collective accomplishments, fosters academic excellence, and strengthens our sense of community.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue and invite your valuable feedback.

Happy Reading!

Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges
Head of the Department
Department of Political Science

EDITOR'S NOTE



“The price good men pay for indifference to public affairs is to be ruled by evil men”.

-Plato

We live in a world that feels as though it is moving faster than ever before. From shifts in global power to the changing landscape of our local environment, staying informed is not just about keeping up with the news; it is about understanding the forces that shaped our daily lives. Politics is the framework through which we decide how we live together.

The newsletter *Politicus: Tracking Politics, Shaping Perspectives* provides an essential platform for students to express their thoughts on politics at the state, national and international levels. Our Department continues to encourage students to track the political developments and explore new ideas. We are committed to organizing various activities that highlight key issues, fostering an environment where we can learn together.

Throughout the 2025-26 academic year, the department conducted a number of activities for the student community. It has been a pleasure to watch our students achieve great heights, showcasing their talents and critical thinking skills in competitions and events.

Politicus features reports on these events, alongside insightful articles and poems contributed by our students. We are proud to share this edition with you. We wish our readers an enhancing journey. Happy reading!

Ms. Gauri Rao

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT



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Associate Professor and HOD



Mr. Prasad Naik
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STUDENT'S CORNER

True Leadership

True Leadership,
A question that holds the breath, a measure of spirit
Did my leadership bring something good into
lives of my people?

When the sky is torn and oceans swell
In the huge storm of problems where spirits dwell
Could I, in my leadership move forth forward?
Was the beam of my guidance truly adored?
Again the mirror asks, with a solemn tone
Did my leadership bring something good in the lives of my people?

I am loyal towards my responsibility as a leader
To guide my people, the follower, the reader.
Towards the true direction, the destination of their life.
Cutting through the static, escaping all the strife
Did my leadership bring something good in the lives of my people?

I shall not make any difference towards my people.
A truth that holds the key a foundational staple
The failure waits where division is allowed to breed.
When a broken trust is sown, a destructive seed.

I shall choose the way of integrity in my leadership.
The only path that honors the promise of the ship.
This is what I have decided and I shall never give up upon my leadership.



Raisel Carvalho
SYBA

आमचो हक्क

आमच्या सुसंस्कृत भुंयेंत,
काय व्हड , कांय ल्हान
नागरिकांक आसता हक्क
आसता मानवी हक्क म्हत्वाचे

पूण पयशे , गिरेस्तकायेचो
आनी राजनितीचो बळ
घेवन, हे मानवी हक्क
दुबळ्यांकडल्यान ओडून घेता

घरात शुद्धां
करता अन्याय ,
शिकयता तांका
कशें चिडून रावचे ते

तू चड उलो नाका !
तू चड चितू नाका !
तू चड शिको नाका !
तू मोग करू नाका! !

तू आमी सांगता तेच उलय !
तू आमी सांगता तेच चिंत!
तू आमी सांगता तेच शिक!
तू आमी सांगता ताचेच कडे कर मोग !

ना !! हक्क म्हजो उलोवपाचो!
हक्क म्हजो मेकळे चिंतपाचो!
हक्क म्हजो उच्च शिकपाचो!
हक्क म्हजो मोग करपाचो!
आमच्या दुखेंत
आशिल्ल्या समाजाक
मानवी हक्क
जाणा जावप गरजेचे

जावक व्हड वा ल्हान लोकांक
जावक संत वा पापी लोकांक
मानवी हक्क सगळ्यां लोकांक
भेदभाव ना खंयच्याच लोकांक



काजल वेर्णेकर
SYBA

Youth in Democracy and Government for Viksit Bharat

India is the best example of a democratic country, and we are known across the world for our strong democratic values. As a political science student and a person who is very interested in politics and leadership, I am always keen to explore this field. However, one thing that truly makes me sad is that very few young people today include “politician” in their career goals.

I still remember that when I was in Class 3, our teacher would ask, “How many of you want to become the Prime Minister?” and almost half the class would raise their hands with excitement. But today, the situation has changed completely. I am now a second year college student, and during class representative elections, when students are given a chance to participate, hardly one or two people submit nominations. This happened in my first year. This time in 2025, when I am in second year, literally no one filled the nomination form.

Why is this happening? Why are young people staying away from political learning at a time when there is such a high need for youth policymakers in Parliament and governance?

I am personally very influenced by Narendra Modi ji’s Viksit Bharat concept. This also inspired me to become a young founder of Digital Yuva Sansad, a digital platform where I provide a virtual mock parliament experience for youth. Even though it is a virtual startup, I have already reached more than 300+ young people across 15+ states through this initiative.

For this essay, I decided that instead of researching from outside sources, I would try to understand the issue directly by interacting with these youth. I want the suggestions and real-life examples collected from them to reach PM Modi ji, because they reflect the true situation of young Indians today.

Youth and Politics: Why Young India Is Moving Away and Why It Must Return?

When I interacted with many youth members during my online survey, I received some eye-opening responses. More than 30 young participants openly said they don’t like politics or don’t want to join it. Their reasons forced me to think deeply. Piyush from Goa said, “There is no scope... what’s the use?” Prince from Bihar felt politics needs a lot of financial support. Brid from Goa shared that society sees politics as a bad field.

When I asked why, he simply said, “Corruption... and here you have to lie, fight, etc.” Even 14-year-old Shruti said that entering politics would bring unnecessary pressure. After hearing all these honest opinions, I realised one thing clearly: if our youth are getting demotivated and no awareness is reaching them, then making our Bharat truly Viksit will become difficult. This pushed me to analyse the situation more deeply and understand why youth engagement in politics is weakening—and what we must do to reverse it.

Why Youth Are Essential in a Healthy Democracy Like India

According to me, the youth are truly the future of India. Just like parents lovingly call their children “Budhape ka Sahara,” in the same way, the youth act as the real pillars of our democracy.

In my creative imagination, if the Legislature, Executive, Judiciary, and Media are the four pillars of democracy, then the youth naturally become the fifth pillar. Why? Because as time passes, their age increases, their interest develops, and eventually these same young citizens become part of the other four pillars—they become lawmakers, administrators, judges, journalists, and change-makers. It may sound philosophical, but it is absolutely true. And even though many youth today are moving away from politics, the Government of India under the leadership and vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji is consistently trying to bring young people into the democratic process. A recent example is from Bihar, where the NDA government gave an election ticket to a 25-year-old youth, Maithili Thakur, showing that India is ready to pave a new path of leadership by trusting young voices. This proves that youth are not just voters—they are nation-builders, and India's democracy grows stronger when they step forward.

Government Initiative in Promoting Youth in Democracy Campaign India has launched several strong initiatives to involve youth in democracy and nationbuilding. The National Youth Parliament trains students in debate, leadership, and parliamentary values, while the National Service Scheme (NSS) and NCC build discipline, social responsibility, and a spirit of public service. Through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), lakhs of rural youth get opportunities to participate in community development and leadership activities. The MY Bharat initiative and the MyGov platform directly connect young citizens with government programs, policymaking, and national campaigns. At the same time, Fit India, Khelo India, and various sports initiatives strengthen physical fitness, teamwork, and national unity. Together, these programmes prepare India's youth to be active, confident, and responsible contributors to a truly Viksit Bharat.

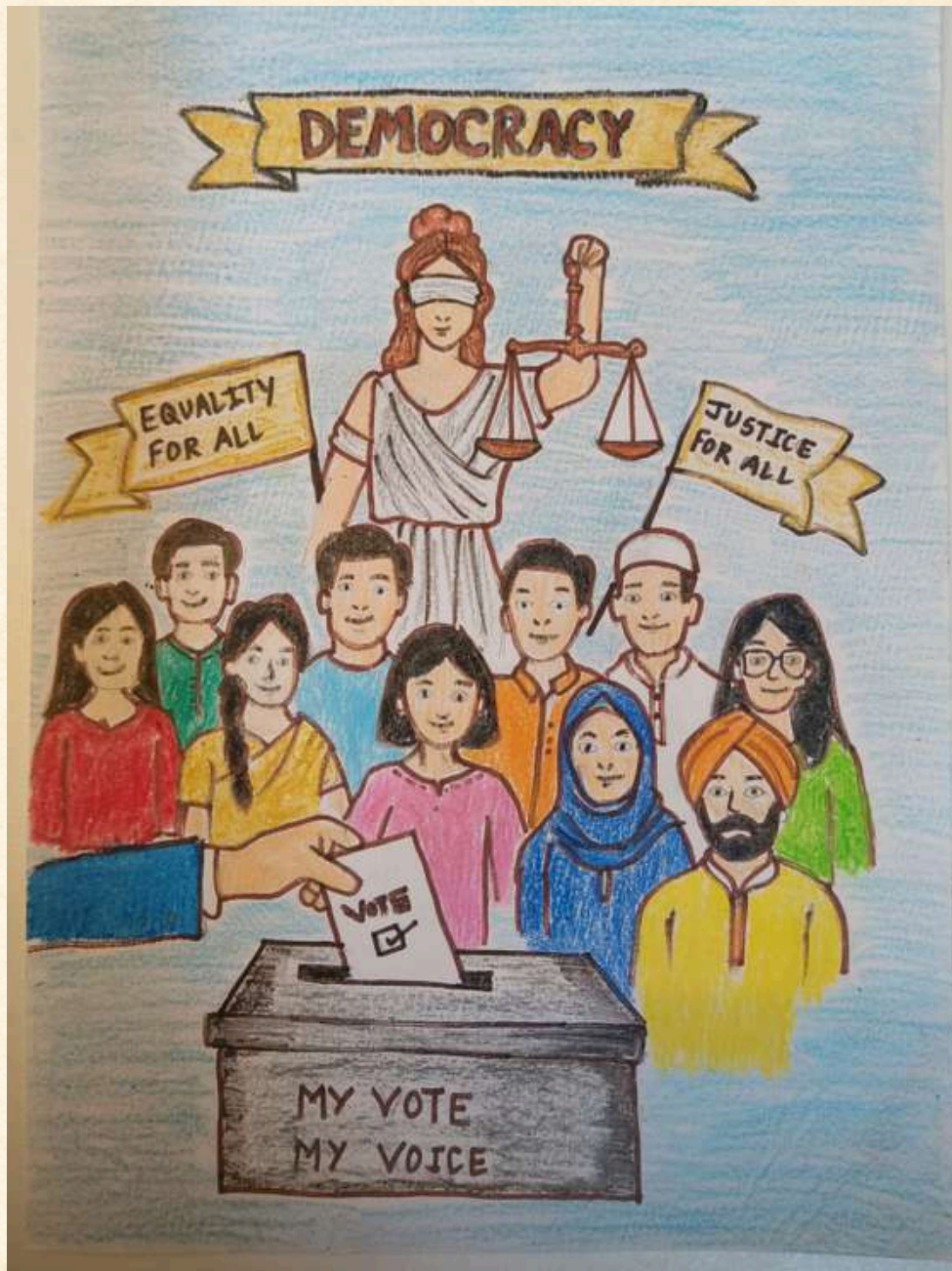
My Suggestions to the Government to Make Youth Participation in Politics More Effective

To make youth participation in politics more meaningful, the government can take a few practical steps. First, more National Youth Parliaments should be organized in schools and colleges so students naturally develop awareness and confidence in democratic processes. Our Political Science education also needs to be modernized by adding practical lessons like how leadership works, how laws are made, and how one can actually become a public representative. The government can also start structured internships with MLAs, MPs and local government offices, where deserving students learn real political work on the ground. Along with this, young people should be given paid opportunities such as drafting speeches, preparing campaign posters, and helping with research instead of just being called to rallies. Most importantly, all these opportunities should follow a strict merit-based system so that only genuinely capable and committed youth get selected. These steps can truly strengthen the bond between young India and Indian democracy.



Sharmat Goltekar

SYBA



Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth”.

- Abraham Lincoln



Puravi Shetye
FYBA

Beyond Politics: The Digital Generation and the Power of Influence

Every generation is shaped by the medium through which it communicates. Earlier generations were influenced by books, newspapers, radio, and television. Today's generation, however, is largely influenced by smartphones, social media platforms, and short-form digital content. Instagram reels, YouTube shorts, memes, podcasts, and online discussions have become a major part of how young people think, learn, and express themselves.

The rise of short-form content has completely transformed the attention span of modern youth. Information today is consumed within seconds. A person can scroll through entertainment, news, motivational speeches, and social issues in less than a minute. This fast-paced digital environment has made communication quicker and more engaging, but it has also reduced patience for long discussions and deeper understanding. This raises an important question — Is the digital age making democracy stronger through awareness, or weaker through distraction?

Despite these concerns, social media cannot be viewed entirely negatively. Digital platforms have also become spaces for creativity, awareness, and self-expression. Many young people today learn about social issues, careers, mental health, and current affairs through online creators rather than traditional textbooks alone. A short video or a meme can sometimes explain a complicated idea in a simple and relatable manner, making information more accessible to the younger generation.

In Goa, this situation becomes even more interesting because of the well-known “Susegad” lifestyle. The calm and relaxed nature associated with Goan culture creates a peaceful social environment, but it can also lead to indifference among sections of youth. Many young individuals are highly active online, yet they hesitate to participate seriously in discussions related to governance, public responsibility, or social change. Important conversations are often limited to casual opinions rather than meaningful engagement. Interestingly, modern discussions no longer happen only in classrooms or public spaces. Earlier, people gathered at chai stalls and local grounds to exchange ideas. Today, these conversations have shifted to comment sections, podcasts, online communities, and social media platforms. In many ways, the internet has become the new public square where opinions are formed, challenged, and spread rapidly.

Memes, especially, have emerged as one of the most powerful forms of communication among youth. Through humor and satire, memes simplify complicated issues and make them easier to understand. In some cases, a meme can create more awareness than a lengthy explanation because it connects instantly with people. However, this also creates the danger of misinformation, where individuals accept viral content without questioning its accuracy. Therefore, the digital era demands not only technological skills but also critical thinking. Young people must learn to verify information, question online narratives, and think independently instead of blindly following trends. Technology itself is neither entirely positive nor negative; its impact depends on how responsibly society chooses to use it.

Ultimately, the future of society will depend on whether the younger generation remains passive

consumers of digital content or becomes thoughtful individuals capable of meaningful participation and responsible decision-making.



Ashwin Naik
SYBA

राजनीति

क्या हार है
क्या जीत है,
यह सब लिखा
एक गीत है।

कोई रो भी ले
कोई हस भी ले,
यह स्वार्थ के
सब मित है।

मगर मित जन के जान के
अगर स्वार्थ लोक सेवा हो।
तो अर्थ लोकतंत्र का
करे साध्य ये राजनीति है।



अनिश भिवा नाईक
SYBA

The Shadows of Survival: Challenges in Fighting Human Trafficking

There is evil that does not disguise itself behind any mask. There is no need to hide or operate in darkness, as it moves through the refugee camps, through court rooms and foreign policy documents. Child trafficking for both exploitation and commercial purposes has emerged as one of the fastest-growing criminal ventures globally. This issue arises as a direct creation of the structures and the conflicts that uproot families and deprive children of their identity.

Nowadays, children constitute up to 40% of all trafficked individuals, and a substantial proportion of these children are unaccompanied or have been separated from their families. These percentages of 43% for forced labor and more than 20% for sexual exploitation are not mere outliers; these percentages happen after wars, displacements, and the very movement of governments' failing to serve their people.

WAR DOESN'T JUST KILL. IT MANUFACTURES VICTIMS

As soon as a state declares war, the casualties are not only the fatalities; they are also the displaced people. Displaced individuals lack proper documentation, their legal standing, social ties, and most importantly, their security. Human traffickers operate according to opportunities, just like any other business enterprise.

The problem for governments is simple: Any state providing weapons to an armed conflict, any government sealing off its border from refugees, or policies reducing displaced people to stateless conditions are not simply standing by in relation to child trafficking. They are contributing to it.

This is a reality that ought to concern each and every individual who supports due process: in many jurisdictions, the child sex trafficking victims remain the only child abuse victims that can be arrested and charged with their own abuse. A child who has been groomed, coerced, and sold becomes viewed not as a survivor but a criminal. An arrest, detention, and prosecution represent a completely new traumatic experience for an already traumatized child, increasing their psychological dependency on the abuser and creating a deep and long-term mistrust towards those who are supposed to help them. What adds insult to injury is the similarity of this response to abuse. For the traumatized individual to be met by a punitive system in either juvenile or criminal justice is not only unfair but also because it is something like how the trafficker behaves. Trafficking involves exploitation of vulnerable and mentally ill individuals, just like a punitive system does. The youth will be charged with offences resulting from his/her condition while the condition itself makes him/her incapable of navigating a system meant for those who never had problems.

This is not something that can be solved by charity; this is a problem caused by the very policies we create, which we will now have to dismantle to find any solution. For children who become refugees, protection is required on a global scale regardless of borders; once one crosses a border, protections cannot suddenly vanish. Children caught up in human trafficking, particularly child

trafficking, should be completely decriminalized within juvenile justice systems. A state cannot oppose any kind of crime when there are absolutely no consequences for those perpetrating the crime.

We are currently living in an age of states arguing over border walls in order to prevent children from disappearing through them. We are claiming to have created a democracy yet our courts are putting chains around the wrists of children in order to convict them. We save children just long enough for photo opportunities before returning them back to the cycle of poverty that made them vulnerable in the first place. This system is not broken; it has been working the way it was intended for too many children to say otherwise.



Ritika Hegde
FYBA

Voices of Change

The youth rises with dreams so bright
Leading to the path where they could shine
With hearts full of valor and radiance in their eyes
They look forward to make the society free of lies.

They speak with a hope of changing violence with peace
With every person gaining equal rights that should not be ceased
They focus on making a world a better place
Where everybody smiles with a happy face

Through every hard step and fight,
They proceed to shine so bright
They are the future, strong and bold
Building a better world for generations untold.



Chandrakant N. Parulekar
TYBA

Cybersecurity In Modern Warfare

Cybersecurity is the crucial practice of defending digital systems, networks and data from theft, damage or unauthorised access of individual citizens, companies, organisations, especially from countries secure and critical organisations like defence, space agencies etc. In today's modern world wars are fought through cyberattacks by stealing sensitive government data, attacking power grids, financial systems, spreading propaganda or disinformation via social media to sway public opinion, weaken the country economically, cause chaos etc.

Cyber-attacks include malware, ransomware, fileless attacks, different kinds of phishing techniques, deepfakes, denial of service, SQL injection, cross site scripting are the few cyber-attacks used by in modern warfare. During operation Sindoor India's military response to the Pahalgam attack triggered a massive wave of cyber warfare where Pakistan launched 1.5 million cyber-attacks against India's digital assets. So, to protect India from these cyber-attacks it maintains a sophisticated, multi-layered cyber defence architecture coordinated primarily through the National Security Council Secretariat and specialised agencies.

The Government of India have set up agencies like Indian Computer Emergency Response Team, National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre, National Coordinated Centre etc. The Indian government has also introduced policies to counter cyber-attacks and wars such as National Cyber Security Policy, 2013 etc, laws such as IT Act, 2000 etc. Then the initiatives of the government like Cyber Swachta Kendra, Cyber Surakshit Bharat etc were introduced to counter cyber espionage taking place in different ways.

In a growing country like India who is steadily going to become the third largest economy in coming years, Cybersecurity is essential for economic stability, protection against devastating physical harm, political manipulation etc. Overall we individuals, developers and organizations must all contribute through education and gain and share knowledge about Cybersecurity as it is a dynamic necessity for digital survival which requires constant adaptation as threats evolve. It also blends technology with human awareness, ethics and strong policies to protect critical infrastructure and personal data, ultimately enabling digital progress and we individuals must embrace a future where responsibility is shared, have proactive defence systems and the willingness of learning about Cyber world to secure our interconnected world.



Brid Kandolkar
SYBA

She Became her Own Rescue

She learned young
that doors can slam louder than thunder,
that silence at dinner tables
can bruise deeper than fists.

Men came into her life
thinking softness meant surrender,
thinking a woman with tired eyes
would be easy to break.

They did not know
she was stitched together
by storms.

A hand once raised against her
became the fire
she carried through every dark hallway after.
Every insult became another brick
beneath her feet.

Every night she cried alone
watered the roots of the woman
she would become.

Her skin held the color of midnight earth,
rich with history,
warm with survival.

She wore her darkness beautifully
not as shadow,
but as power.

People saw scars.

She learned to call them proof.
And now she walks differently.

Not untouched,
not unbroken
but rebuilt.

She laughs without asking permission.
Speaks without lowering her voice.
Loves herself with the tenderness
the world forgot to give her.

She is no longer waiting
for someone to save her.

She became
the woman
who saved herself



Cia Fernandes
FYBA

Criminalisation in politics

The punishment infamous doctrines inflict on good men who refuse to govern is to be governed by worse men.

-Plato

When thinking about the qualities of a good leader, the immediate answer that comes to mind is that he or she shouldn't be selfish. A leader should have integrity and humility, and shouldn't be corrupt. I came to realize that this is our wish; it's a dream that our leaders should be like this, but unfortunately, several people's representatives whom we elect to make the law are themselves criminals before the law. When a criminal comes to power, we have seen how he makes a mockery of the law.

I dug deeper to see how truthful we Indians are about this issue. In a research study, it stated that if you didn't have any criminal case, you have about a 7% chance of winning an election. Now, if you have one criminal case, which could be of a minor variety, you have a 19% chance, and if you have a serious charge, you have a 25% chance of winning an election. Unfortunately, the situation at the state level is not much better than that in the Lok Sabha; candidates with criminal charges were more likely to win elections than those who had no criminal cases against them.

It is worth thinking about: the candidate who has several charges against him has more chances of winning, and this is the major reason why the ruling party does not hesitate to offer tickets to such candidates. But why do we, the people, vote for such tainted candidates? Do the people not know the candidates they are voting for are tainted? Unfortunately, they are completely aware. Whichever candidate is contesting the elections, the people of the constituency know a lot about him, especially if he is a criminal.

Then why do we still vote for him? A reason for that is caste. It is the reality of India, and if you check the records of the criminal, you will learn that in his constituency, the vote percentage of people from his caste is higher. The perspective is that all are corrupt, so why don't we vote for someone from our own community?

late 70s was a critical phase in Indian politics, after which the number of such entrants increased. Earlier, the criminals and gangsters supported the leaders. Then, they began to think: if the leader was using their strength to win and enjoying all the benefits, why can't they? When it is I who is getting the crowds, collecting funds, and using my muscle power, why should someone else take the seat? I can also do it, and thus, they took on the role of a politician. When unstable governments were formed, they were in demand because each party wanted a winning candidate. And the winning candidate is the one who has the vote of his community, he who has the power to force people to vote for him, and he who has funds—all these make them the winner.

The second question is, why are they winning in spite of being known criminals? We have to ponder over it, because of the way society has been accepting these criminals or turning them into role models. In a democracy, a vote is the strength and power of the people. With the help of this power, the people choose their government. These days, attempts are made to buy our precious votes. The higher-ranking officers at the Election Commission have closely seen the trading of votes.

So, when did the criminals start entering politics? The late 70s was a critical phase in Indian politics, after which the number of such entrants increased. Earlier, the criminals and gangsters supported the leaders. Then, they began to think: if the leader was using their strength to win and enjoying all the benefits, why can't they? When it is I who is getting the crowds, collecting funds, and using my muscle power, why should someone else take the seat? Each candidate believes that if he spends more than the other, he will be more likely to get more votes over their nearest rival, so he is willing to rip the earth just to get that extra vote. The scale at which money is being used nowadays to buy votes and win elections is unimaginable, which leads to the rise of criminalization in politics.

Selling our votes is definitely a loss-making deal for us financially, but we are losing something else too, which is much more important and cannot be compared to money. We are losing our souls, our faith, and our conscience. We are left with no strength to fight for the truth. The venom of greed, corruption, and criminalization is spreading in our veins like a cancer.



Tulip Pereira
FYBA

Public and Private sector companionship towards progress

The theme of my essay writing is all about “Public and Private sector companionship towards progress”. Where we can use some of the progressive methods of partnership towards the public and private sector. As public sector refers as government sector where their vision, interest is around public interest those are the people of the country and other hand is private sector which has motto is profit, where a single person ownership enterprise in public market to earn his or her personal interest. This theme which I took is common to all of you, especially the readers who will read this essay writing. It is our day-to-day activities in the global Earth of trade and exchange of goods.

In historical many nations had a race for gaining spices and goods , as our India has past historical footnotes, as Arabs trading , after 1510 Portuguese arrival in India by Vasco Da Gama in search of land slowly in after some century arrival of British’s East India Company and French in Pondicherry which lead trade to politics of colonization in India and given huge profits to European market of spices and goods, till independence and liberation of British Raj, Goa and Pondicherry to become one nation that is India , after the some years of freedom, in 1991 economic crises arises where economic gets terrible crises India has will solution to ask loan from World Bank, and as to follow some conditions from World Bank those are Privatization, Liberalization, Globalization which given birth to Private sector in India. Only certain industries were only legally manufactured by the Government. 'During those times the former Indian Finance minister and Prime minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh's work towards New Economic Policy (NEP) has impacted India giving a hope for a better future for our nation called India.

The question raised in our mind is whether we require the public and private sector to work together in the lives of people which is called society? For progress and development in our country, just think of it. Yes, we need it because both sectors are interdependent or each other.



Raisel Carvalho
SYBA

The Voice of the People

Every vote carries a hope, every voice carries an opinion, and together they shape the future of a nation. This is the true spirit of democracy. It affects our lives in many ways, from the rights we enjoy to the leaders we elect. Democracy believes in the power of the people and gives every citizen an equal opportunity to participate in shaping the future of the country. The values of freedom, equality and justice form the foundation of a democratic society.

The success of democracy depends on responsible and aware citizens. People should understand their rights and duties and take an active part in public life. Freedom of expression and access to information help citizens make informed decisions. Democracy encourages people to share their views, respect different opinions, and contribute positively to society. Since democracy is a government of the people, by the people and for the people, the participation of citizens is essential for its success.

Another important feature of democracy is the protection of rights and the selection of good leadership. Every citizen, including minority, should enjoy equal rights and justice. Free and fair elections help people choose leaders. At the same time leaders should serve the people with honesty and dedication. Democracy is not just a system of government but a way of life that promotes freedom, equality, and participation. When every voice is heard and every vote is valued, a nation becomes stronger, fairer and more united.



Puravi Shetye
FYBA

ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT

A Talk to commemorate 75 years of India's Constitution

The Department of Political Science in collaboration with the Department of History organized a special talk to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Indian Constitution on 6th August 2025 under the theme 'Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Swabhimaan'. The event was held in Room No. 327 from 9:30 am to 10:30 am. The speakers for the session were Ms. Pamela Fernandes, Head of the Department of History and Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science. The event was well-attended with the presence of all faculty members from both departments and 80 students. The session provided valuable insights into the journey, values and significance of the Indian Constitution over the past 75 years.



Value Added Course on ‘Basics of Research in Political Science’

Department of Political Science Organised a successful 10-hour Value Added Course titled ‘Basics of Research in Political Science’ from August 6th to August 16th, 2025. The course was designed to assist the students who opted for Political Science project paper. 37 students from TYBA Political Science enrolled for the course. The valedictory function was held on September 17th, 2025.

Ms. Jacqueline Monteiro, Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics was the Chief Guest. The students were awarded certificates at the hands of Chief Guest. The Course Coordinator was Mr. Prasad Naik Assistant Professor of Political Science and the Co-Coordinator was Ms. Gauri Rao.





"I don't want to conquer anything. I just think with the most freedom in this whole ocean is the Pirate King".

-Monkey D. Luffy



Pranay Shirodkar
SYBA

Poster Competition on 75 Years of the Indian Constitution

The Department of Political Science, organised a Poster Exhibition to commemorate '75 Years of Indian Constitution (Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Swabhiman)' & '79th Independence Day (Honouring Freedom, Inspiring the Future)' on 15th August-18th August 2025. The event was part of the Independence Day programme of the college. The exhibition showcased over 80 creative posters prepared by FYBA and FYBSc students enrolled in the Constitutional Values and Obligations (VAC) course. The works reflected the spirit of the Constitution, highlighted civic duties, and celebrated India's journey of freedom and democracy over the past eight decades. The display was open for viewing in the College Lobby and Administrative Block corridor, offering students, faculty, and visitors an opportunity to engage with themes of constitutional awareness and national pride. The exhibition provided valuable insights into the journey, values, and significance of the Indian Constitution.

The exhibition was coordinated by Assistant Professors Ms. Gauri Rao and Ms. Rashika Raikar from the Department of Political Science.



National Level Online Quiz

The Department of Political Science organized a National Level Online Quiz to commemorate India's 79th Independence Day with the aim of spreading awareness about the freedom struggle, national heroes, and patriotic values among students as well as the general public. The quiz received an overwhelming response, with enthusiastic participation from across the country.

The quiz was held online through Google Form. It had 20 questions including multiple choice, true or false, audio and video questions. The quiz link was open from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on 15th August 2025. Participants who scored 60% or above received e-certificates.

A wide range of participants from across and beyond the state participated in the quiz. Participants included students from high schools, higher secondary schools, colleges, universities, as well as members of the general public participated.

Alumni Talk

The Department of Political Science organised an Alumnus Talk on the "Prospects of Higher Education at Delhi University". The talk was held in Room no 326 from 8:30-10:30 on 25th August 2025. The Head of Department of Political Science Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Mr. Prasad Naik Assistant Professor in Political Science and Mr. Vijay Talwar Assistant Professor in Political Science dedicated their time by joining for the talk. Ms. Maithili Chumbalkar, alumnus of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa was invited to interact with the students of SYBA and TYBA. Also encouraged to have career paths by sharing about the faculties and environment and its influence, also to have exposure to discover their skills. She highlighted her educational journey and encouraged students who wants to aspire at top universities outside the state. Coordinator of the Talk was Ms Gauri Rao, Assistant Professor in Political Science. 42 students participated with much enthusiasm. The talk provided valuable insights into the journey, values, and significance of career path in academic prospects for the students.



Field Visit to District and Sessions Court

The Department of Political Science organised a field visit to the District and Session Court, Mercers Goa on 3rd October 2025 as part of the Practical component of the TYBA Minor VET paper “Democracy and Legal Literacy in India”.

The field visit provided students with first-hand exposure to the functioning of the judiciary, helping them understand the structure and role of subordinate courts and connecting classroom knowledge with practical insights into legal procedures and democratic institutions.

A total of 20 students participated in the visit. the students were accompanied by two faculty members of the Department of Political Science, Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Gauri Rao.



International Day of Non-Violence

The Department of Political Science celebrated the International Day of Non-Violence (2nd October 2025) on 6th October 2025. The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2nd October every year to promote the message of tolerance, understanding, and peaceful coexistence, in remembrance of Mahatma Gandhi.

The following activities were conducted as part of the celebration by the students of SYBA (Single Major):

- Poster Making
- Presentation
- Quiz

The Poster Making activity allowed students to creatively depict messages of peace, harmony, and non-violence through visual art. This was followed by a presentation that emphasized the significance of Gandhian principles and their continued relevance in contemporary society. Quiz was organized for SYBA (Single Major) students to enhance their awareness of Mahatma Gandhi's life, philosophy, and teachings.



Field Visit to Legislative Assembly

The First-Year BA Political Science students stepped out of their textbooks and into the heart of Goan Democracy with an educational visit to the Goa Legislative Assembly Complex on 6/10/2025. It was an immersive day of learning providing our students a firsthand look at how governance works.

Mr. Deepak Bhosle, Marshall of the State Assembly demystified legislative procedures.

Hon'ble MLA of Aldona, Shri Carlos Alvares Ferreira spoke on the crucial role of youth in our democracy.

Hon'ble Deputy Speaker and MLA of Mapusa, Shri Joshua de Souza, alumnus of St. Xavier's College shared valuable insights into the working of democratic institutions.

Kudos to Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Mr. Prasad Naik from the Department of Political Science for coordinating this enriching experience for our 46 students.





“Our guiding philosophy is ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas’. It is based on the belief that the needs and aspirations of every human being are equally important.”

-Narendra Modi



Jeet Sukumar Roy
SYBA

Distinguished Alumni Lecture

The Department of Political Science organized a Distinguished Alumni Lecture on 10th January 2026. Mr. Tejas Tulaskar, Advocate at the Bombay High Court and alumnus of the 2015-2016 batch, delivered on Careers in Law, sharing valuable insights and guidance with the students.

A total of 70 students along with the faculty members of the Department of Political Science participated in the programme.

The event was coordinated by Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Rashika Raikar faculty from the Department of Political Science.



Certificate Course on ‘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 7th January 2026 to 5th February 2026 (30 hours). The Course Coordinator was Assist. Prof. Mr. Vijay Talwar and Assist. Prof. Ms. Rashika Raikar was Co-coordinator. A total of 15 students from 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, Adv. Tejas Tulaskar, Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Mr. Prasad Naik, Mr. Vijay Talwar, Ms. Gauri Rao and Ms. Rashika Raikar.



Field Trip to Museum and Media House

The Department of Political Science organized a Field Trip as a part of SEC Practical at the Customs Museum and Prudent Media at Panaji on 19th February 2026 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. At National Museum of Customs and GST, the students learned about the history of maritime trade and various methods used to prevent smuggling. Also, the importance of border security and national heritage protection.

The second half of the trip was at Prudent Media where the students toured the newsroom, production of control room and live broadcast studio. They observed how news is gathered and edited. A total of 31 students from FYBA SEC and Minor participated in the field trip. The coordinators were Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Gauri Rao (Assistant Professors, Department of Political Science).



Politronica 2.0

POLITRONICA 2.0 was an enriching intra-collegiate event held on 17th March 2026 and organised by the Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa. The event received guidance from Principal Ms. Ursula Barreto, Administrator Fr. Antony Salema, and Ms Tricia Vaz e Borges (HOD)

The program commenced at 9:30 am in the Seminar Hall with an enlightening keynote address by Dr. Prakash Desai, an Associate Professor at Goa University. His thought-provoking discussion, titled "The Idea of Democracy in India: Past and Present," set the intellectual tone for the day.

After the Keynote address, students took the stage for diverse presentations, which included showcasing their own research initiatives, performing a skit, and celebrating local culture through Goan folk dances.

A major highlight of POLITRONICA 2.0 was its competitive segment. Students participated in the Rangoli and Poster-making competition. Students also participated in a role-play competition on the theme 'Faces of Power: Leaders of Independent India'.

The event was open to all the students of the college. The valedictory function was held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Fr. Ramiro joined the valedictory session. While trophies were provided to all the winners, all participants and attendees also received certificates.

On this occasion, certificates and trophies were also offered to the winners of the essay writing competition held on 20th February 2026 by the Department of Political Science on the theme.





Field Study Tour:

The Department of Political Science organized an educational field visit on 18th March for students to gain practical exposure to key political and administrative institutions in Goa. The visit included the Goa Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, and the Governor's residence (Lok Bhavan). This field visit was organised for the students of FYBA, SYBA and BBA and BBA(T&T). A total of 78 students participated in the visit, accompanied by four Assistant Professors, Anthony Lobo, Prasad Naik, Mr. Vijay Talwar, and Ms. Rashika Raikar.

The field visit began at the Goa Legislative Assembly, where students learned about its structure, functioning, and legislative procedures, along with a visit to the Assembly Library. The group then proceeded to the Old Secretariat, where they explored historical artifacts from various ruling dynasties and the Portuguese period, gaining insight into Goa's administrative evolution. The visit concluded at Raj Bhavan Goa (Lok Bhavan), where students were briefed on the constitutional role of the Governor and toured the premises, enhancing their understanding of state governance.



TYBA Political Science Farewell 31st March 2026



Coffee Series

1-The Political Leadership Challenge

As part of the Coffee Series, the Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa, organised two student led sessions on 'The Political Leadership Challenge' on 2nd and 9th August 2025 as part of the practical component of the 'Leadership Skills in Politics' course. Students were divided into 4 teams, each representing a political party at the state level. Every team selected a leader and developed a campaign speech highlighting their party's ideology, key promises, and leadership style. Teams then identified a crisis related to their ideology and held internal discussions simulating a cabinet meeting to formulate appropriate responses. The exercise concluded with public and media statements, followed by a mock press interaction where teams faced questions and criticism. The activity effectively combined theoretical understanding with experiential learning, enhancing students' leadership, teamwork, and communication skills. The coordinator was Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science.



2-Mock Panchayat Election

As part of the Coffee Series, a 'Mock Panchayat Election' was enacted on 25/8/2025 by SYBA Political Science students as a SEC practical activity so as to provide hands-on understanding of the election process. Three students-Tanisha Divkar (torch), Raisal Carvalho (football), and Anallie Dias (musical note)- contested the election after campaigning on their proposed improvements. On polling day, Election Commissioner Rency Nayak announced the commencement of voting. The polling booth was managed by Presiding Officers Akansha Parsekar and Sania Mayekar, Polling Agent Brid Kandolkar, and BLO Aditi Satelkar, who verified voters and supervised the process. Students voted using ballot papers and cast their votes in secrecy. After voting concluded, Returning Officer Riddhi Naik sealed and counted the ballots before announcing the results along with the Election Commissioner. Tanisha Divkar was declared the winner and later interviewed by media reporter Amiti Pujari. The entire event was documented and photographed by Adam Ferrao and coordinated by Ms. Rashika Raikar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.

3-International Day of Democracy

Under the research initiative Coffee Series, the Department of Political Science organized a group presentation to commemorate the 'International Day of Democracy' on 15th September 2025 in Room No. 309, from 9:30 am to 10:30 am for SYBA students. The International Day of Democracy, observed on 15th September, celebrates the principles of democracy and highlights the importance of participation, freedom, and equality in governance.



Two groups participated in the presentations, each consisting of three members, which encouraged diverse ideas and active collaboration. The topics covered were “Why Institutions are Pillars of a Strong Democracy?” and “Youth Participation in Strengthening Democracy.” Group 1, comprising Aryan Luke D’Costa, Sharmat Sanjay Goltekar, and Anish Bhiva Naik, addressed the first topic, while Group 2, consisting of Aaditi Arvind Satelkar, Kajal Sudesh Vernekar, and Raisel Carvalho, focused on the second topic. The coordinator was Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.

4-Slogans pertaining to Social, Economic and Environmental Issues in India

The Department of Political Science organized a Coffee Series session on the topic, ‘Slogans pertaining to Social, Economic and Environmental Issues in India’ on 16th September 2025 in Room no 401. The session aimed to raise awareness, inspire and develop their thinking skills and creative abilities. This activity made students to simplify complex issues using slogans to encourage participation in campaigns. A total of 32 students from FYBSc and FYB.Com participated in this activity. The students were encouraged to assemble in a group of 4 hence, received 8 slogans in total. The faculty in-charge was Ms. Gauri Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.



5-Local Self Governments in Goa

A Coffee Series session on the topic 'Local Self Governments in Goa' was organised by the Department of Political Science on 20th, 22nd, and 24th September 2025 for the students of SYBA SEC class. The students were divided into six groups, and each group made a presentation. The main focus of this activity was to encourage the students to understand the functioning of local self-governments in Goa, its evolution, functions and structure, and difference between urban and rural governance. Overall, it helped in developing research and presentation skills, improved confidence, and increased knowledge of local self-governance process among students. The students wrote a report on their group presentation in the journals as a practical. 30 students of SYBA SEC actively participated in the session coordinated by Ms. Rashika Raikar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.



6- Counterterrorism, Political Anxiety, and Legitimacy in Postcolonial India and Egypt

As part of the Coffee Series, the Department of Political Science, organised a thought-provoking session featuring a student-led review of the scholarly article "Counterterrorism, Political Anxiety, and Legitimacy in Postcolonial India and Egypt" authored by Alice Finden and Sagnik Dutta on 26th September 2025.

Ms. Tianna Lobo and Ms. Mansi Halarnkar, students of FYBA Political Science (Major), led the presentation with clarity and insight, unpacking the article's core arguments and contextual relevance. Their review explored how counterterrorism policies intersect with political legitimacy and public anxiety in postcolonial democracies, drawing parallels between India and Egypt. The presenters highlighted the authors' critique of state narratives, the role of media and surveillance, and the implications for civil liberties and democratic accountability. A dynamic Q&A segment followed the presentation, allowing students to pose critical questions, share reflections, and connect the article's themes to contemporary political developments. The coordinator of the session was Assistant Professor, Mr. Prasad Naik.



7- Evolving Goan Identity: An Overview

The Department of Political Science organised paper presentations under ‘Student Research Initiatives’ to celebrate ‘Asmitai Dis’ on the topic “Evolving Goan Identity: An Overview”. Twenty-Six SYBA students of the Department participated in the Student Research Initiatives. Participation was in the form of teams comprising two members each. Students’ made presentations on various aspects of Goan identity and issues facing Goa, for example, language, Opinion Poll, culture, traditional attire, civil society movements, mining, tourism and formation of the new District (Kushavati). The presentations documented deep awareness of Goan identity and culture. The presentations were conducted on two days, 14th January 2026 and 22nd January 2026



SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

Two-Day National Conference at Goa University

A two-day National Conference titled '75 Years of Indian Constitution: Reflections, Reforms and Road Ahead' was organized by Manohar Parrikar School of Law and Governance in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education.

The event took place on October 9th and 10th, 2025 at the Chemistry Auditorium, Goa University.

The conference addressed key ideas about the Indian Constitution and the essence of Federalism and governance in the Indian state. Several academicians, research scholars and faculties presented papers highlighting the necessary arguments sustaining Indian Constitutional status.

A total of 12 students from TYBA of the Department of Political Science participated in the conference. They were accompanied by one faculty member from the Department of Political Science, Ms. Gauri Rao.



National Level Workshop

Mr. Vijay Talwar along with two SYBA (Single Major) students, Ms. Rency Nayak and Ms. Nisha Rathod, attended the workshop organized by the Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem, Goa, in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, organized a two-day National Level Workshop titled "From Algorithms to Policy: The Tech-Driven Evolution of Political Science" on 27th and 28th January 2026. The workshop aimed to provide participants with insights into the intersection of technology, data analytics, and public policy, and to build capacities in digital governance and research methodologies



Paper Presentation

Ms. Kajal Vernekar of SYBA Political Science Major presented a paper titled 'From Passive Readers to Active Participants: The Role of Social Media in Shaping Political Awareness' at the Research Paper Presentation Competition organized by Rosary College of Commerce and Arts, Navelim, on 7th March, 2026.

One Day Training Programme

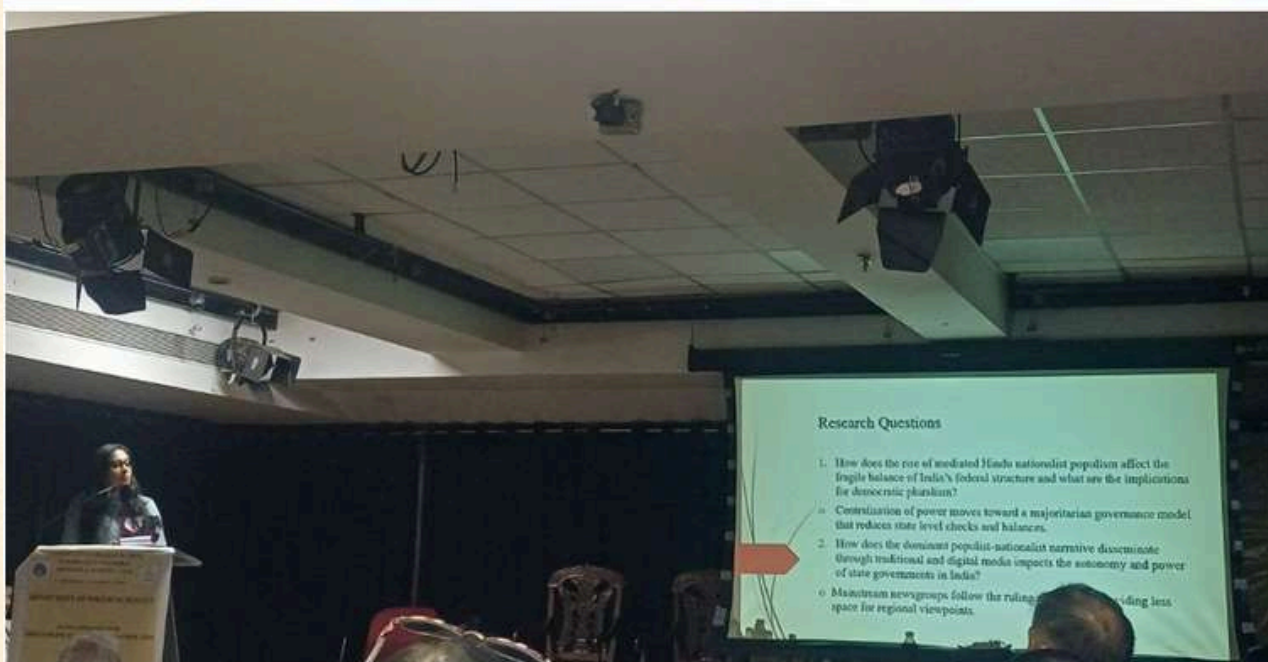
A group of five students from the department of Political Science, namely Mr. Niraj Zantye, Mr. Chandrakant Parulekar, Ms. Rica Da Costa (TYBA), Mr. Aryan D'costa (SYBA) and Ms. Chelsea Fernandes (FYBA) attended a One Day Training Programme on 'Empowering Youth for Human Rights: Awareness and Sensitization on the Concerns of Marginalized Groups' organized by Department of Political Science, Carmel College of Arts, Science and Commerce for Women, Nuvem-Goa in association with National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi on 3rd February 2026 at the College Auditorium. Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science accompanied the students.



One-Day National Conference at Panaji

A One-Day National Conference was organized by the Department of Political Science of the Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela, Goa in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education on the title 'Constitutionalism and Federalism in India' on 9th January 2026 at Sanskruti Bhavan, Panjim, Goa. The Conference addressed key ideas regarding the Indian Constitution and the essence of federalism and governance in the Indian state. Ms. Gauri Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College Mapusa Goa presented her paper titled, 'Media, Populism, Nationalism and Federal India.'

A total of 6 students from the SYBA Political Science Major participated in the conference and were accompanied by one faculty member, Ms. Gauri Rao, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.



AWARDS AND ACHIVEMENTS

Excellence in Research!

The Department of Political Science won the Best TYBA Project Award for the Academic Year 2024-25 in the college.

Their project, “Village Vistas: A Study of Growth, Sustainability and Heritage of Eight North Goa Villages” truly stood out.

Kudos to the winning team- Ms. Cinetta Ruella Ferrao, Mr. Deepankar Dayaram Padloskar, Mr. Isaac Succour Paul, Mr. Sameen Sushant Durbhatkar, Ms. Winona Taveira, Ms. Diana Maria D’Souza, Ms. Lizel Dias and Mr. Gajanan Patil and their guide, Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges.

The award was presented at the hands of Dr. Mrunali Jambotkar, resource person Prayog DHE-Goa.



Poetic Political Pondering

The Department of Political Science of Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce Khandola-Goa has organized an Inter-Collegiate Poetry Competition titled as “Poetic Political Ponderings” on 6th October 2025. A team of two students from St. Xavier’s College participated in the competition “Poetic Political Ponderings”.

The name of two students is:

- Ms. Manisha Pahadiya, FYBA
- Ms. Pearl Khanolkar, FYBA

The event witnessed total 25 participants, 2 from each college from across the state. The chief guest for the competition was Mr. Ravindra Fugeri, Mr. Umesh Sardesai, and Mr. Govind Mopkar. The competition provided students with great exposure and was a wonderful opportunity to showcase their creativity and critical thinking through poetry. It not only encouraged the students to express their political ideas and also helped them to gain confidence in public speaking, enhanced their literary skills. All participants were also received certificates for participation.



Prarambha Path: The Story beyond Classroom Walls

The Department of Political Science and St. Xavier’s College Mapusa gave opportunity to the students to present ‘THE STORY OF PRARAMBHA PATH EVENING SCHOOL (PPES).

Mr. Anish Bhiva Naik (Founding member, PPES) presented his article and shared the ideas and motives of Prarambha Path with the students of Political Science Department during a ‘Civic Engagement Certificate Course’.



United Nations Day Competition

The students of the department of Political Science, St Xavier's, College, participated and won prizes in all the events held at the United Nations Day competition organized by the School of International & Area Studies, Goa University, on the occasion of United Nations Day on 10th December 2025. Mr. Nahshon Rebello (TYBA) and Mr. Niraj Zantye (TYBA) secured 1st Place for Treasure Hunt. Mr. Sharmat Goltekar (SYBA) secured 1st Place for Essay Writing. Ms. Sanjana Shirodkar (TYBA) and Ms. Radhika Rathod (TYBA) secured 2nd Place for Poster Making. Ms. CH Saideepika Jalaneela (FYBA) secured 3rd Place for Reel Making. Mr. Omkar Karpe (SYBA) and Ms. Astrid D'Mello (TYBA) secured 3rd Place for Quiz. The students were awarded with certificates and cash prizes.



State-Level Documentary Making Competition at Khandola

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa has secured first place at the second edition of “Gram Vikas Manthan” a State-Level Documentary Making Competition, on the theme “My Village, My Narrative” organised by the Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola–Goa on 17 January, 2026. The competition aimed to encourage students to engage creatively with grassroots realities by documenting village life, development, challenges, and aspirations through the visual medium.

The students from the Department of Political Science Mr. Sharmat Goltekar (SYBA), Ms. Kajal Vernekar (SYBA), and Mr. Ashwin Naik (SYBA), brilliantly captured the history, heritage, culture, economy along with community needs/challenges (including voices of the stakeholders), and future vision of their selected village (Siolim). The students were guided by faculty coordinator, Assistant Prof. Ms. Rashika Raikar, Department of Political Science. Their work was appreciated for its originality, strong narration, and presenting a strong vision for Siolim village through innovative schemes at grassroot level, broadly highlighting balancing development and people's needs for Viksit Goa, 2030.



A Historic Win: Prestigious Students' Parliamentary Competition 2026

The students team of St. Xavier's College clinched the First Runners Up (Second Place) at the Students' Parliament Competition 2026 organised by the Goa Legislature Secretariat. Mr. Shivang Shirodkar (TYBSc) won the Best Leader of Opposition(LOP) in the individual category.

The prize distribution ceremony was held on 25th February 2026, at the Goa State Assembly Complex, Porvorim in the distinguished presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant , the Hon'ble Speaker of Goa Legislative Assembly Dr. Ganesh Gaunker and Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Shri Joshua D'Souza. The competition witnessed the enthusiastic participation of twenty colleges from all over Goa. The students of St. Xavier's College enacted the Lok Sabha 'Sitting' for 90 minutes in which various legislative business items were taken up. Thirty-four students participated in the competition and were trained by the Coordinator, Associate Professor Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Co- coordinator, Assistant Professor Mr. Anthony Lobo, faculty of Department of Political Science. Their mentorship was instrumental in preparing the team to excel in this competitive environment.

Congratulations to all the students and faculty coordinators for this outstanding achievement!



Designing Climate-Resilient Villages: Reimagining Goa's Villages : An Inter-Collegiate Event

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa-Goa secured second place for “Designing Climate-Resilient Villages: Reimagining Goa's Villages”, an Intercollegiate Event, held on 27th January 2026, at Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy, Goa University in collaboration with GOA Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (GIPARD). The competition was themed “Climate-Resilient Village based on a real village case study” and aimed encourage students to understand village level governance. Students from the Department of Political Science, Ms. Kajal Vernekar, Mr. Anish Naik, and Ms. Mansi Mandrekar (SYBA) presented a chart-based conceptual presentation on Rivona village. The presentation focused on identifying climate-related vulnerabilities and proposing governance-oriented, community-based solutions to strengthen local resilience. The students were guided by Assistant Professor Ms. Gauri Rao and Ms. Rashika Raikar.



International Women's Day at Goa University

The students from SYBA Political Science Major at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa Goa participated in the Annual Inter-Collegiate Event organized by D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies and Women's Studies Programme at Goa University. It was held on the occasion of International Women's Day under the theme "Making Equality a Reality", the event featured two major competitions. A team of 4 students competed in 'Mock Constitutional Convention' securing Third place for policy initiative. Also, a team of 2 students participated in the poster-making competition, 'The Invisible Walls' where they also secured Third Place. In total, 6 students represented the college demonstrating strong academic and creative engagement with social and constitutional issues.



All Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition

The Department of Political Science, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, successfully organised an All-Goa Inter-collegiate Essay Competition as one of the key components of POLITRONICA 2.0. The competition invited students to delve into the thought-provoking theme 'Rationalism and Critical Inquiry: Reimagining the Future of Indian Democracy'. A total of 13 students from various colleges across Goa actively participated. The results for "All Goa Inter-Collegiate Essay Competition" were announced at Politronica 2.0.

- The First place bagged by Ms. Bhumika Ashish Kejriwal from VVM's G.R Kare College of Law, Margao.
- The second place bagged by Stefan Antonio Caeiro Roberts from VVM's G.R Kare College of Law, Margao.
- The third place secured by Nikita Agarwadekar from V M Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar.

The event was coordinated by Mr. Prasad Naik, Assistant Professor.



All-Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition 3.0

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, participated at the All Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition 3.0, held at the Goa Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (GIPARD), Ella Farm, Old Goa, on 24th March 2026.

The team delivered commendable performance, bringing real life governance roles to life with confidence and creativity.

Special congratulations to:

1. Mr. Niraj Zantye (TYBA) – recognized for his impactful role as an drunkard.
2. Mr. Ashwin Naik (SYBA)- recognized for his impactful role as a farmer.

The competition aimed to promote youth involvement in local self-governance and enhance awareness of grassroots democratic processes. The presence of distinguished dignitaries added prestige to the occasion. This achievement marks a proud moment for St. Xavier's College and highlights its ongoing commitment to fostering leadership, civic engagement, and academic excellence. The students were guided by Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Ms. Rashika Rama Raikar from the Department of Political Science.





RESEARCH INITIATIVES



1. Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Associate Professor

- Attended One Week offline national FDP on ‘Open Educational Resources and Artificial Intelligence in teaching and Learning’ organised by IQAC, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa-Goa from 17th- 24th October 2025. Duration: 30 Hours.
- Attended a Workshop on 15th December 2025 organized by the Goa Legislature Secretariat on Student’s Parliament Competition, 2025-2026 at the Assembly Complex, Porvorim-Goa.
- Attended a One Day Training Programme on ‘Empowering Youth for Human Rights: Awareness and Sensitization on the Concerns of Marginalized Groups’ organized by Department of Political Science, Carmel College of Arts, Science and Commerce for Women, Nuvem-Goa in association with National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi on 3rd February 2026.
- Attended the Workshop cum Briefing on All Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition held 04th March, 2026, organised by GIPARD, Ella Farm, Old Goa.

2. Mr. Prasad Naik, Assistant Professor

- Presented a research paper titled ‘Media and Unscientific Temperament in Contemporary India’ at the Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on ‘Intersecting Perspectives: Contemporary Political Issues & Global Challenges in Focus’ organised by the Department of Political Science, Dhempe College of Arts And Science, Miramar, Panaji – Goa on 30th January 2026.
- Attended One Week offline national FDP on ‘Open Educational Resources and Artificial Intelligence in teaching and Learning’ organised by St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa-Goa from 17th- 24th October 2025. Duration: 30 Hours.
- Attended a one-week Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on the theme ‘Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education’ organised by the Directorate of Higher Education, Govt. of Goa, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design and Manufacturing, Jabalpur, from 19th to 23rd January 2026.
- Organised students' field trip / Educational visit to the Goa Legislative Assembly, Porvorim, Goa, to deepen students’ understanding of democratic institutions and legislative processes and to facilitate meaningful interaction with Members of the Legislative Assembly. A total of 46 FYBA students visited the legislative assembly on 6th October 2025

3. Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor

- Presented Research paper titled, “Migration, Remittances and Strategic Influence: A Comparative Study of the Indian Diaspora in the United States and United Arab Emirates” in the Three-Day International Conclave on “World Peace and Order: Navigating India’s Foreign Policy Challenges” organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Kerala with the support of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi and in association with the Association of Political Scientists- Kerala held from 25th to 27th February 2026.
- Participated in the Three-Day International Conclave on “World Peace and Order: Navigating India’s Foreign Policy Challenges” organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Kerala with the support of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi and in association with the Association of Political Scientists- Kerala held from 25th to 27th February 2026.
- Attended the Two-Day National Workshop titled “From Algorithms to Policy: The Tech-Driven Evolution of Political Science” organised by the Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce Quepem-Goa in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education, Porvorim-Goa held from 27th and 28th January 2026.
- Attended the One-Day National Workshop on “Research Methodology and Academic Writing in International Relations: Pedagogy & Peer Reviewed Publishing” organized by the School of International and Area Studies, Goa University held on Wednesday, 18th February 2026 at VRPP Hall, Directorates Block, Goa University.

4. Ms. Gauri Rao, Assistant Professor

- Published a research paper titled, ‘Digital literacy as a Foundational 21st Century Skill: Implications for Education and Workforce’ in the International Journal of Creative Research Thoughts (IJCRT) an International Open Access, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed Journal 2025, Vol.13, Issue 10 October 2025, ISSN: 2320-2882, (pg nos g440-g447) <https://www.ijcrt.org>.
- Published a research paper titled, ‘Rural Transformation and Technology Integration’ in The Academic Journal an International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, an Online Peer Reviewed, Refereed Journal, 2025 Vol.3, Issue 10, October 2025, ISSN: 2583-973X (pg nos 1150-1160) <https://doi.org/10.528/zenodo.17616481>
- Published a research paper titled, ‘Literature, Linguistic Politics, Cross-Cultural Communication and AI in Global Order’ in Harvest: An International Multidisciplinary and Multilingual Research Journal, 2026 Vol. VI Special Issue I January 2026, E-ISSN:2582-9866, (pg nos. 85-93) <https://www.harvestjournal.org>
- Published a research paper titled, ‘Media, Populism, Nationalism and Federal India’ in The Academic Journal an International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, an Online Peer Reviewed, Refereed Journal, 2026 Vol. 4, Issue 1 January 2026, ISSN: 2583-973X, (pg nos. 874-890) <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18641542>

- Published a research paper titled, 'Balancing Regulatory Compliance with Academic Freedom: An Analysis of Institutional Autonomy in Indian Higher Education Institutions' under the National Accreditation Framework in International Journal of Novel Research and Development (IJNRD) an International Open Access, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed Journal, 2026 Vol. 11, Issue 2 February 2026, ISSN: 2456-4184 (pg nos. a635-a640) <https://www.ijnrd.org>
- Published a research paper titled, 'Constitutional Morality: The Normative Precondition for a Sustainable Democratic Ethos' in Journal of Advance and Future Research, an International Open Access, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed Journal, 2026, Vol. 4, Issue 1 February 2026, ISSN: 2984-889X (pg nos. 1-7) <https://www.jaaftr.org>
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Literature, Linguistic Politics, Cross-Cultural Communication and AI in Global Order' in the Two-Day International Conference on 'Voices Across Borders: Literature, Culture, Communication and AI in the Global Era' organized by Department of English, BLDEA'S Smt. Bangaramma Sajjan Arts, Commerce and Science College, Vijayapura, Karnataka, India in collaboration with Cape Comorin Trust, India in Association with Harvest the International Multidisciplinary and Multilingual Research Journal, Waves Research and Education from 25th- 26th October 2025.
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Constitutional Morality: The Normative Precondition for a Sustainable Democratic Ethos' on 26th November 2025 in the Two-Day National Level Online Seminar cum Workshop on the 'Indian Constitution: Spirit, Practices & Contemporary Challenges' organized by the Department of Political Science, Research Cell & IQAC, S.R. Fatepuria College, Murshidabad, West Bengal in collaboration with the Department of Political Science, DCT's Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Goa from 26th-27th November 2025 conducted in Online mode via Google Meet.
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Media, Populism, Nationalism and Federal India' in One-Day National Conference titled, 'Constitutionalism and Federalism in India' organized by the Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela-Goa in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Porvorim-Goa on January 9, 2026 held at Sanskruti Bhavan, Directorate of Art and Culture, Patto, Panaji-Goa.
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Balancing Regulatory Compliance with Academic Freedom: An Analysis of Institutional Autonomy in Indian Higher Education Institutions under the National Accreditation Framework' in the International Conference on Educational Transformation: Legal Reforms and 21st Century Global Perspectives held from 29th-30th January 2026.
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Localization of Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in India' at a Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on 'Intersecting Perspectives: Contemporary Political Issues and Global Challenges in Focus' organized by the Department of Political Science sponsored by the Western Region Centre, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Mumbai on January 30th 2026.
- Presented a research paper titled, 'Staging Agency: Participatory Theatre as a Motive for Livelihood Security and Rights-Based Advocacy among Youths and Self-Help Groups at a Two-Day National Seminar organized by the Department of English at Tattvamala on 30th & 31st January 2026.

- Participated in National Conference on '75 Years on Indian Constitution: Reflections, Reforms and Road Ahead' on 9th & 10th October 2025 at Goa University organized by Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa

5. Ms. Rashika Raikar, Assistant Professor

- Presented a research paper on the topic "Social Media as a Catalyst for Political Engagement among Youth in India" at the Two-day Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on "Intersecting Perspectives: Contemporary Political Issues & Global Challenges in Focus" on January 30th – 31st, 2026 organised by Department of Political Science, DCT's Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Goa in collaboration with Indian Council of Social Science Research, Mumbai on 30th January 2026, in physical mode.
- Presented a research paper on the topic "Street Theatre in India: Its Evolution Through Caste and Community Resistance" at the Two-Day National Level Seminar on "Tattvamala Theatre and Textual Transformations via Aesthetics, Memory, Archives, Lore and Adaptation" on January 30th-31st, 2026 organized by Department of English, Dnyanprassarak Mandal's College and Research Centre (DMC) in collaboration with Directorate with Higher Education, Panaji and Centre for Folklore Studies and Research, Kolkata on 31st January, 2026 in physical mode.
- Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Ms. Rashika Rama Raikar attended a workshop on 15th December 2025 organized by the Goa Legislature Secretariat in connection with Student's Parliament Competition, 2025-2026 at the Assembly Complex, Porvorim-Goa for 2 hours.

"Man is by nature a political animal"

-Aristotle

CONGRATULATIONS

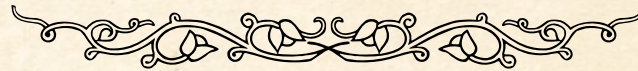


Mr. Prasad Naik, Assistant Professor, successfully defended his PhD thesis titled “Nationalism in India: A Study of the Influence of Tilak’s Nation-Centric Thought and Tagore’s Universalist Idealism on Contemporary Nationalism” at Goa University on 13/04/2026. The research was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Prakash Desai from the DD Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies.





SPECIAL THANKS



On behalf of our department, we want to say a big thank you to the college leadership for making this newsletter possible. To those who contributed essays, stories, poems and paintings- thank you for making this a success! We also truly appreciate the help we received from the Political Science teachers. To our competition winners: Congratulations! Keep reaching for your goals and we wish you a bright future ahead.

Thank You!