



XAVIERWRITE

A BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Beyond Boundaries:

A SEMESTER OF DISCOVERY, INNOVATION AND IMPACT



XAVIERWRITE

Newsletter of
St. Xavier's College
Mapusa, Goa



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Principal's MESSAGE



Welcome to this edition of our biannual newsletter, Xavierwrite ! This publication highlights our core mission of holistic education. As you flip through these pages, you will discover the remarkable co-curricular achievements, creative student talents in sports and cultural activities, and collaborative milestones that continue to define our vibrant campus community.

Education, at its core, is a lifelong journey of enrichment. Our dedicated faculty work tirelessly to cultivate an environment that seamlessly bridges theoretical knowledge with real-world applications. Throughout the semester the Departmental activities specially curated, provided students with hands on learning. Field studies, industry visits, and interactions with community were part of regular teaching methodology. National Level Seminars exposed students to recent trends and interdisciplinary learning in keeping with the spirit of NEP 2020. Student Club activities, Value Addition Courses/ Certificate Courses equipped learners with additional skills and promoted innovative thinking.

The Peace education program and our value education classes are our best initiatives in the quest for holistic formation.

We are proud of our students who have given their best in all their endeavours. This newsletter serves as a mirror reflecting the vibrant enthusiasm of our students, the commitment of our staff, and the boundless potential that lies on this campus.

I extend my warmest congratulations to the editor Ms Jonquil Sudhir and the entire editorial team for capturing this spirit so beautifully. I appeal to our students to continue to remain engaged, support upcoming initiatives, and continue striving for excellence in all your pursuits. Let us work together to empower one another and create a brighter future. Wishing you an enjoyable and productive new semester ahead!

Ms. Ursula Barreto

Officiating Principal

Administrator's MESSAGE



"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. 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.

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 Xavierwrite 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. May the impact of discovery and innovation help shape the future of our students and guide them towards 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. Antonio Salema

Administrator

Editor's NOTE



Education is most meaningful when it inspires us to look beyond familiar horizons, question conventional thinking, and embrace opportunities for growth.

This semester has been a testament to that spirit. Across various spaces on campus and beyond, our students and faculty have continually challenged boundaries of knowledge, creativity, collaboration, and service.

This 40th edition of Xavierwrite celebrates a semester defined by purpose. Every page reflects the vibrant energy that makes our campus a dynamic learning community. They are more than a record of events; they are a celebration of curiosity and the collective pursuit of excellence. They remind us that innovation begins with a willingness to explore, discovery flourishes through collaboration, and impact is created when knowledge is transformed into action.

On behalf of the editorial team, I extend my sincere gratitude to our Principal, Ms. Ursula Barreto, for her constant encouragement and visionary leadership, and to our Administrator, Rev. Fr. Antonio Salema, for his unwavering support of every academic and co-curricular endeavour. I also thank our faculty coordinators, whose efforts have made this edition possible. Most importantly, thank you to every member of the Xaverian family whose enthusiasm to push boundaries continues to give Xavierwrite its voice. Happy reading!

Jonquil Gisela Sudhir

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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS



Certificate Course: The Department, in collaboration with IQAC, organised a 30-hour Certificate Course titled “Choices, Costs and Markets: Microeconomics Unlocked.” The course was structured in two parts: the first, covering the initial two modules, was conducted from August 20-September 26, 2025, and the second, covering the remaining modules, took place from January 2-31, 2026. Designed in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 4, Quality Education, the course served as an introductory and preparatory programme for students who lacked a strong foundation in Microeconomics or required a refresher before moving to advanced topics. Twenty-three students successfully completed and benefitted from the course, which was coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.

‘From News to Use: Handmade Newspaper Bags for a Greener Tomorrow 2.0’: A two-week paper bag-making initiative was organised from January 2-14, 2026 to promote environmental sustainability. The project aimed to encourage the use of eco-friendly alternatives, reduce waste through material reuse, raise environmental awareness, and foster sustainable habits among students. Eighty-three students from the Commerce and Arts streams produced 2,075 paper bags, which were distributed to a wide range of establishments, including hardware stores, stationery shops, general stores, chemists, restaurants, bakeries, tailors, paint shops, and food stalls. This outreach helped spread awareness across Mapusa, Tivim, Calangute, Pernem, Saligao, Aldona, Calvim, and Candolim. This initiative, which also strengthened teamwork and collaboration among students, was successfully coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.





EcoLens: The inaugural issue of EcoLens, the Department's official newsletter, was released on January 26, 2026. The newsletter highlights the accomplishments of both students and faculty, celebrating academic milestones, innovative projects, and contributions within and beyond the Department. It also provides space for creative expressions, thoughtful opinions,

and insights that encourage deeper learning and critical thinking. Through this initiative, the Department aims to strengthen communication, inspire intellectual exploration, and foster a sense of belonging among its members.



Understanding Bank Runs Through Posters: An activity aimed at creatively representing the concept of bank runs was organised on February 16, 2026. Twenty-four students participated by designing posters that visually depicted the causes, processes, and consequences of bank runs in innovative and engaging ways. The initiative also helped enhance awareness about the importance of financial stability and the critical role banks play in maintaining economic confidence and security. In addition to building conceptual clarity, the poster-making exercise coordinated by Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza fostered creativity and active learning among participants.

Session on Entrepreneurship: An insightful guest lecture was organised on March 5, 2026 for First and Second Year Economics. The speaker, Ms. Jade D'Sa—an alumna of St. Xavier's College and popularly known as "That Goan Girl"—is an entrepreneur and noted food and travel blogger. She began by sharing her personal journey, describing her upbringing in a traditional family and her experience as a first-generation entrepreneur without formal mentors.



She explained the meaning of entrepreneurship and recounted the highs and lows of her career, including her pivotal decision to leave a well-paid corporate job to pursue her passion. Ms. Jade highlighted the importance of an entrepreneurial mindset, stressing resilience, experimentation, and viewing failure as a learning opportunity. The session, coordinated by Ms. Gema Ataide, proved inspiring and motivating for all attendees.



Mapusa, Goa, India
Duler-marna-siolim Rd, Near Mapusa, Housing Board, Mapusa, Goa 403507, India
Lat 15.597859° Long 73.807403°
Thursday, 05/03/2026 10:58 AM GMT +0



Mapusa, Goa, India
Duler-marna-siolim Rd, Near Mapusa, Housing Board, Mapusa, Goa 403507, India
Lat 15.59849° Long 73.806648°
Saturday, 07/03/2026 10:06 AM GMT +05:30



‘Ecofiesta- 4.0’: The Department’s flagship event was organised on March 7, 2026. The event featured activities like Econ Meme, Reel the Real Economy, Eco Rang (Green Rangoli Challenge), and the Eco Treasure Hunt, aimed at encouraging creativity, teamwork, and practical application of economic concepts. Eighty-students participated. Winners included Arden Rodrigues and Kaushal Kishor (Econ Meme), Shoiab and Amrut Nagnori (Reel the Real Economy), Poonam Palyekar and Kashish Mandrekar (Eco Rang), and Omkar Kharpe’s team (Eco Treasure Hunt). The event successfully enhanced students’ analytical, communication, and problem-solving skills, making it an engaging and meaningful learning experience. Ms. Gema Ataide was the co-ordinator of the event and Mr. Vishant Sawant the co-coordinator.

Wallpaper: During the months of February and March, the Department actively maintained and updated its departmental wallpaper on a fortnightly basis, transforming it into an engaging learning resource for students. Each edition of the wallpaper focused on a relevant economic theme, encouraging curiosity and discussion among learners. The first theme, “Employment equals Empowerment,” highlighted how job opportunities contribute to individual growth and socio-economic development.



The second theme explored Bank Runs, helping students understand financial panic, depositor behaviour, and the need for institutional stability. This was followed by a focus on the Asian Financial Crisis, offering insights into one of the most significant economic downturns in modern history and its lessons for today's global economy. The final theme, "A Rupee Route to Trade: SBI's Framework for India-Israel Transactions" examined how trade settlements in the domestic currency can strengthen international trade relations. Through these rotating themes, the Department fostered awareness, critical thinking, and continuous learning.

Research Coffee Series: SYBA students Ms. Somya Madhehiya and Ms. Saniya Ahmad presented an analysis of India's performance in the 2025 Human Development Report on January 31, 2026. 'Ms. Vanessa Fernandes and Ms. Pearl Fernandes delivered a presentation on Black Money and the Indian Economy'. 'Ms. Safana Aga and Ms. Natalie D'Cruz presented a paper on SBI's Rupee Settlement Plan' on February 5, 2026. 'Ms. Archita Naik and Ms. Diya Waghela presented a study on Cryptocurrency and the Indian Economy' on February 13, 2026. All the presentations were made under the guidance of Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

- Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza participated in a workshop on Extended Syllabus in the Course of International Economics offered at TYBCOM in Semester VI(NEP) organised by the Department of Economics, Autonomous College of Multidisciplinary Studies and Research, Margao, Goa on January 3, 2026.
- Prof. (Dr.) Blanche Mascarenhas, Ms. Gema Ataide and Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza attended Faculty Enrichment Sessions on 'Strengthening Research Culture' on April 1, 2026, a session on 'Understanding Student Mental Health' and 'Stress Management' on April 2, 2026.

Invited Speaker

- Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza was resource person for a workshop on the Extended Syllabus of BA Semester IV and VI Economics courses organised by the Department of Economics, IQAC, M.E.S. Vasant Joshi College of Arts and Commerce, Zuarinagar, Goa in association with BOS in Economics, Goa University, on January 7, 2026. Prof. (Dr.) Blanche Mascarenhas and Ms. Gema Ataide also attended the workshop.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH



Insightful lecture: “Things Fall Apart: Rethinking Africa” was organised on December 6, 2025. Attended by 23 TY English Major students, the lecture focused on colonialism of Africa and shared its roots, lived experiences, native cultures and misconceptions. The speakers were department faculty Mr Aaron-Paul Fernandes and Ms. Giann Fernandes. The lecture was coordinated by Dr. Prema Rocha, and student co-ordinator Valencia D’Costa.

Pride, Prejudice and Perspective: A Peer Presentation was organised on January 21, 2026, wherein the FYBA AEC English students made a presentation for SYBA English Major 1 students. Organised for students of “British Literature: 18th and 19th Century” by Dr. Prema Rocha and Ms. Giann Fernandes, the session aimed to present Jane Austen’s novel *Pride and Prejudice*, exploring her timeless insights into human nature, societal expectations, and relationships. The session successfully demonstrated the innovative power of peer learning. The team of six FY students acted as facilitators, fostering literary understanding, critical thinking, and collaborative leadership in a lively and interactive environment.

UG Project Guidelines Session: A session on Goa University Project Guidelines (UG) as per Ordinance OA -38 was conducted on December 22, 2025 by department faculty and resource person, Dr. Claudette Gomes. Twenty-four students attended the session co-ordinated by Ms. Sunita Mesquita.

Literary field trip: The First Year English Major students were treated to a literary experience, when they visited The Dogears Bookstore Margao on January 8, 2026. The objective was to introduce and initiate youngsters to indulge in quality reading. Renowned Goan author, Ms. Jessica Faleiro addressed the students letting them appreciate literary texts and get insights into the nuances of language, style, and content of these texts. The beneficiaries included 25 English major students; the visit was curated by Mr. Leonard Fernandes and co-ordinated by Ms. Shirlene Fernandes.



Literary Festival: On January 13, 2026, the students of the Department of English, set out on an intellectually invigorating journey to the Jaipur Literature Festival 2026, accompanied by Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes and Ms. Urvi Ghotge. The 21 students attended the festival on January 15-16 at Hotel Clarks Amer, Jaipur, where ideas, imagination, and inquiry converged on a global stage.

Literature Quiz 4.0: The quiz was jointly organised by the Department, in collaboration with the Literature Club. It was held in two rounds, the preliminary written round on January 24, 2026 which saw 13 teams competing to qualify for the finals. On January 28, 2026, Team Austen featuring Fernandes, Pearl Fernandes and Meloshka Cardozo emerged victorious. Shrutika Padte (TYBA), Sumaiya Khan (SYBA) and Tavia De Souza (TYBA) of Team Mauzo were runners-up.



Writer's Corner: This event, themed 'Man, Machine and the Earth in Between', was held on February 14, 2026. The panelists included Dr. Nandakumar Kamat, Dr. Sarath Guttikunda and Mr. Gaurav Padte who discussed 'The Scientific Cosmos: Deciphering the impact of technology on humanity, Environment and ethics.' The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Frederick Noronha, founder of publishing house Goa, 1556. The programme was coordinated by faculty Ms. Giann Fernandes and student, Ms. Kelly D'Souza.

Newsletter: Eloquence, the department newsletter, was released on February 16, 2026 at the hands of retired senior faculty Ms. Alice D'Cruz. Ms. Giann Fernandes was faculty editor and Kimberly Vales and Kelly D'Souza student editors.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes Attended

- Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes attended a state level workshop on 'The Mechanics of Print and Digital Writing' organised by the Department of English, DCT's Dhempe College, Miramar – Panjim on January 27, 2026.
- Ms. Shirlene Fernandes, along with two FYBA English Major students attended the book release of Ghost Eye, novel by internationally acclaimed novelist Amitav Ghosh at Literati Bookshop and Café, Calangute on January 17, 2026
- Ms. Shirlene Fernandes and Mr. Aaron-Paul Fernandes attended the book release of Mario Coelho's 'The Twisted Child' at Broadway Book Store, Panjim.
- Dr. Prema Angela Rocha participated in Integrating Performance in Teaching: Reimagining the Literature Classroom – a one day workshop for faculty of English Literature and Languages organised by discipline of English Shenoai Goembab School of Languages and Literature at Goa University on April 1, 2026.

Presentations

- On February 14, 2026, Dr. Prema Angela Rocha presented a research paper titled "Polite Machines and Anxious Humans: Ethical Interfaces of Artificial Intelligence in Satyajit Ray's "Anukul" in "A One - Day Multi - Disciplinary Hybrid International Conference" on "Interface of Human Intelligence & Artificial Intelligence - Possibilities and Challenges" organised by IQAC of PTVA's M. L. Dahanukar College of Commerce (Autonomous) in association with Western India Regional Council (WIRC), and The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).
- On February 23–24, 2026, Dr. Prema Angela Rocha presented a paper titled "Wounds Into Wit: Caregiving, Moral Injury, and Ethical Resistance in Jerry Pinto's Em and the Big Hoom" at the two-Day International Conference on "Ethics, Values and Human Dignity in Healthcare: Psychological, Literary, Artistic and Medical Perspectives", held on at DCT's Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar–Goa, organised in collaboration with Sangath and Manipal Hospital Goa.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Awards

- Team Xavier's won the Pegasus Renaissance ed. XVI championship organised by the Department of English, Chowgule College, Margao, marking their eighth win. Nineteen students participated on December 15-16, 2026. The faculty co-ordinator was Ms. Giann Maria Fernandes.

Programmes attended

- Third Year English Major students namely Cynthia Madgaonkar, Charuta Moye, Saniya Pednekar, Vallencia Fernandes and Bhoomi Mujral, attended the Career Conclave organised by Employment Exchange, Government of Goa at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, Indoor Stadium, Bambolim on January 30-31, 2026.
- Students of English Major, Minor, AEC and VAC participated in the Book Swap, a platform for exchanging pre-loved books, organised by the BBA Department in collaboration with the college library and Literature Club on January 21, 2026.
- Thirty-five English major students attended the 14th edition of Goa Arts and Literature Festival (GALF 2026) between February 12 -14, 2026. They had an amazing experience surrounded by creative authors and passionate storytellers including Padma Shri awardee Dr. Arminda Fernandez, a Mumbai-based physician of Goan origin and Jerry Pinto, a multi-dimensional author besides others. Ms. Shirlene Fernandes co-ordinated the participation of the students at the event.



DEPARTMENT OF HINDI



Educational Study Tour to Agra: An educational tour to Gwalior, Datia, Jhansi, Orchha and Agra was organised from December 26-31, 2026 along with the departments of Konkani and Marathi. The main objective of the tour was to provide students with practical exposure to India's rich historical and cultural heritage. A total of 32 students participated along with four teaching faculty members. During the tour, students visited famous historical monuments such as the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Gwalior Fort, Jhansi Fort and the temples of Orchha. The visit helped students gain valuable insights into history, architecture and cultural traditions. It enhanced their academic knowledge beyond classroom learning and encouraged interactive understanding.



International Seminar: A seminar was organised on January 21, 2026 at the College Seminar Hall by the Department of Hindi and IQAC in collaboration with the Centre for Indian Knowledge System. The seminar focused on the theme "Understanding the Tradition of Folk Theatre, its Relevance and Impact on Modern Indian Theatre." Renowned scholars and artists shared valuable insights through keynote sessions and discussions. A total of 120 participants, including students, faculty members, researchers and theatre enthusiasts, actively took part in the seminar. The sessions highlighted the importance of preserving traditional art forms like Swang and Nautanki while connecting them to contemporary theatre practices. The seminar was successfully coordinated by Dr. Ramita Gurav and co-coordinated by Mr. Salim Gaded.

Harmonium Recital Competition: This competition was successfully organised in association with Indian Knowledge Systems on March 16, 2025. The objective of the event was to encourage musical talent and provide a platform for students to showcase their skills. The competition witnessed the participation of two enthusiastic contestants who presented their performances with dedication and confidence. The event created a positive and artistic atmosphere, promoting appreciation for music among students. The program was smoothly and efficiently coordinated by Ms. Priyanka R. Pednekar, ensuring its successful execution.



Educational Visit: On March 17, 2026, the FYBA and SYBA students of the Department of Hindi and Marathi organised an educational visit to Gomantak News Media at Panjim as part of their academic syllabus. A total of 40 students participated in the visit, accompanied by three faculty members, Ms. Kshitija Devidas Pednekar, Ms. Priyanka Pednekar, and Mr. Chayan Gaonkar. The visit aimed to provide practical exposure to students by helping them understand the functioning of a professional news channel. During the session, students gained valuable insights into various aspects of media operations, including news reporting, editing, and broadcasting processes.

BEST PRACTICES

- Use of AI based tools for Teaching Learning Process
- Use of google classroom for sharing notes and taking ISA
- Use of E-Banner for the events and Activities conducted by the Department.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Dr. Magdalene Desouza and Dr. Ramita Gurav received a national award by National Book Trust of India.
- Dr. Magdalene Desouza and Dr. Ramita Gurav received an Archdiocesan Board of Education for completing 30 years for service.

Presentations

- Dr. Magdalene Desouza, Dr. Ramita Gurav, and Mr. Salim Gaded presented papers at International Seminar organised by the Department of Konkani, St. Xavier's College.
- Mr. Salim Gaded presented a research paper at International Seminar organised by the Department of Hindi, St. Xavier's College.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Course on Research: From September to December 2025, the Department of History conducted a 30-hour course titled “Fundamentals of Research and Ethics.” The course was designed to equip students with essential research skills and an understanding of ethical practices in academic investigation. Conducted over 15 weekly sessions, the programme provided participants with foundational knowledge in research methodology and academic ethics, thereby enhancing their analytical and scholarly abilities. The course was coordinated by Dr. Sharmila Pais and benefited 10 students.



Research Coffee Series: From August to December 2025, the Department organised the Coffee Table Series titled “The Wonder That Was Bharat” for TYBA History students. The series encouraged students to engage in research-oriented discussions on India’s rich cultural, historical, and scientific heritage through interactive sessions and presentations. Conducted in an informal setting, the discussions explored themes such as transportation, art, and

indigenous food, fostering intellectual exchange between students and faculty. Special emphasis was placed on the ingenuity of ancient Indian civilizations in developing trade routes, maritime networks, and systems of travel across the subcontinent. The series was coordinated by Dr. Sharmila Pais and benefited 25 students.

Shivaji Jayanti: The Department commemorated the birth anniversary of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on February 20, 2026. The programme aimed to highlight the life, achievements, and enduring legacy of the great Maratha leader, with special emphasis on his vision, administrative acumen, leadership, and valor. The event served as an opportunity to create awareness among students about Shivaji Maharaj’s significant contribution to Indian history and heritage. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Pamela Fernandes and benefited 60 students.





History Day: On March 27, 2026, the Department of History organised “History Day” to celebrate the academic journey and experiences of students within the department over the past three years. A major highlight of the programme was the “History Personality 2025–2026” competition, wherein students enacted the roles of notable historical personalities and showcased their significance to society. The programme also featured engaging speeches, a quiz competition, a specially curated video presentation, and student reflections on their academic growth and memorable experiences in the department. The event saw the involvement of 40 students.

BEST PRACTICES

- In December 2025, the Department organised the “Kilo Campaign,” a socially driven initiative aimed at promoting empathy, sharing, and community responsibility among students. Through the campaign, students contributed essential food items, thereby fostering a spirit of compassion and collective welfare. The activity sensitised students to societal needs while reinforcing the importance of civic engagement and humanitarian values. The event was coordinated by Ms. Pamela Fernandes and benefited 25 individuals.
- In December 2025, the Department organised the “Counsel the Old and Infirm Programme” as a meaningful outreach initiative involving FYBA students. The programme aimed to foster empathy, social responsibility, and human connection by encouraging students to spend time with the sick, elderly, and infirm. Students offered companionship, emotional support, and attentive listening to the elderly, while also assisting in attending to their needs. The initiative highlighted the importance of kindness, compassion, and care towards vulnerable individuals in society. The programme was coordinated by Dr. Sharmila Pais and benefited 25 individuals.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes attended

Dr. Sharmila Pais participated in an International Workshop on Palaeography and Heraldry organized at Fundação Oriente on November 24, 2025. She also attended the XV Local History Seminar at Goa University on February 20, 2026 on the theme “The Foral Structure in the New Conquests.” She also presented a paper at a National Seminar held at Goa University on March 12, 2025 titled “Balancing the ‘Moriada’ Tradition (Customary Practices) Within the Colonial Framework in Goa.”

Dr. Sharmila Pais served as a member of the committee for the animated video series on the “History of Liberation of Goa” produced by the Department of Archives, Government of Goa. She was also invited as the Chief Guest at Government College Quepem for a workshop on “Film-Making and Production” held on December 8, 2025. In addition, she served as an evaluator for the UGC-Sponsored Refresher Course in Social Sciences (Interdisciplinary) conducted in online mode by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, Goa University.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Mr. Xavier Lobo and Ms. Taniya Sarnaik won second place in the State-Level Quiz Competition organised by DMC College, Mapusa on February 25, 2026.

Participated

Mr. Xavier Lobo and Ms. Taniya Sarnaik participated in the XV Local History Seminars, at Goa University on February 19-20, 2026.

On February 18, 2026, students of the Department of History participated in the seminar titled “Intercultural Encounters and Knowledge Exchange in the Indian Subcontinent” held at the Xavier Centre of Historical Research. The seminar featured deliberations on diverse themes such as “The Good Shepherd Rockery from Portuguese India (1570s-1650s),” “The Jesuit Mughal Transfer in Early Modern Indo-Persian Translation Movement,” and “The Sacred Images from Ethiopia.” The programme provided students with valuable academic exposure and proved to be an enriching learning experience.

DEPARTMENT OF KONKANI



Konkani Official Language Day: The Department commemorated this special occasion on February 4, 2026, to honour the rich linguistic heritage of the state. The event, coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Ms. Pranita Redkar, witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 20 students and was held at the Post Graduation Block of the college. The programme commenced with a keynote address by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, who emphasised the importance of preserving one's mother tongue. This was followed by a vibrant poetry recitation session and a literary quiz, which actively engaged students and strengthened their appreciation of the Konkani language and its literary legacy. As part of the celebration, the participants also attended a programme organized by the Goa Konkani Academy in collaboration with Saraswat College, further enhancing their sense of linguistic pride and community engagement.

Certificate Course: The Department, in collaboration with the Dalgado Konknni Akademi, Panaji, conducted a 30-hour certificate course titled Learning of Romi Konknni Orthography from June 2025 to February 2026. The programme was coordinated by Associate Professor Dharma Chodankar and Assistant Professor Silvester Vaz, and aimed to enhance the linguistic competence of 19 student participants through structured sessions focusing on the rules and literary usage of Romi Konknni. The course concluded with a valedictory function held on February 13, 2026. The event was graced by Chief Guest Tomazinho Cardozo, who released the devotional book *Soddvonnechim Paulam*.

NLP Guest Lecture: The Department organised a collegiate-level guest lecture titled Natural Language Processing (NLP) with Reference to Konkani Language on February 18, 2026. The session, coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar, was held in the Seminar Hall and attended by 25 students. The resource person, Sanjeev Shirodkar, delivered a comprehensive overview of Natural Language Processing, highlighting its role in enabling computers to understand human language. He elaborated on its applications in machine translation and speech recognition, with specific reference to the Konkani language. He also discussed the technical challenges involved in developing NLP tools for Konkani and outlined ongoing research initiatives in the field.



Venchik Tiatranchem Chinton-Monon: The Department, in collaboration with Dalgado Konknni Akademi, organised a one-day collegiate-level national seminar titled *Venchik Tiatranchem Chinton-Monon* on February 19, 2026. Coordinated by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, the event was held at the Black Box and focused on the critical and comparative academic study of three tiatrs by Tomazinho Cardozo: *Ami Soglle Ek*, *Mhonvall Vikh*, and *Goa.. Going... Gone?*. The seminar featured two technical sessions in which resource persons presented papers examining the sociological, linguistic, and historical perspectives of these works. A significant academic milestone of the event was the formal release of five books, including transliterated Tiatrs and texts on research methodology, along with DKA's first research journal, *Sod Pormoll*. The programme reached 107 beneficiaries, including faculty members and students from the host institution as well as six other colleges.



International Seminar: In collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), an international seminar was organised on tiatr titled *Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0.* on March 23, 2026. The collegiate-level event was held in the Seminar Hall of the college and witnessed the participation of 126 beneficiaries, including researchers, students, and cultural enthusiasts. The seminar was convened by Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes and co-coordinated by Prof. Dharma Chodankar, Head of the Department of Konkani, with the support of faculty members Asst. Prof. Ankita Zambaulikar, Asst. Prof. Pranita Redkar, and Asst. Prof. Megan D'Souza.



Field Trip Report: Seventeen students went to Prashu-Van Farm on March 7, 2026. The visit was coordinated by Mr. Dharma Chodankar, Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar, and Ms. Pranita Redkar. The primary objective of the excursion was to acquaint students with Goa's rural landscape and traditional agricultural practices. During the visit, students explored the farm's rich biodiversity, gaining firsthand insights into local flora and fauna that often serve as inspiration in Konkani literature. The serene natural environment encouraged interactive discussions, observation-based learning, and team-building activities.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations

- Mr. Dharma Chodankar presented a paper titled "*Mhovall Vikh' tiatrantlya gitanchem mulyankon*" at the seminar Venchik Tiatranchem Chinton-Monon on February 19, 2026, organised by the Department of Konkani in collaboration with Dalgado Konkani Akademi. Mr. Dharma also presented a paper titled "*Jivit Ek Sapan' tiatrantle kutumbik samband ani naitikta*" at an International Seminar on tiatr titled Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0. on March 23, 2026, organised by Department of Konkani, St. Xavier's College, in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), Panaji.
- Mr. Silvester Vaz presented a paper titled "*Konkani Natak me lokrang-Konkani natakkar Pundalik Nayak ke Shabai shabai Bhovjan samaj natak ke sandhrabha me*" at an International Seminar on tiatr titled Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0. on March 23, 2026, organised by Department of Konkani, St. Xavier's College, in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), Panaji. Mr. Silvester Vaz also presented a paper titled "*Natakkar Dattaram Kamat Bambolkar hanchya natkatalya loktattviya addhishtannachi chikitsha*" at the National seminar on January 28-29, 2026, organized by Goa Konkani Akademi, Panaji Goa. He additionally presented a paper titled "Folk beliefs in the Jagor folk drama of Goa" at the National seminar on February 20, 2026, organised by the Department of Sociology & Philosophy.

- Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes presented a paper titled “*Sant Antonichim Ochoriam: Konknni Bhaxik Sompoda*” at a One-Day State level Workshop held on March 7, 2026, organised by Vasant Joshi College of Arts & Commerce, Zuarinagar, Goa, in collaboration with Goa Konkani Academy Panaji. He also presented a research paper titled “*Tomazinho Cardozo Hanchea Kantaranchem Vixlexonn*” at an International Seminar on tiatr titled Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0. on March 23, 2026, organised by Department of Konkani, St. Xavier’s College, in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), Panaji.
- Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar presented a paper titled “*Jivit Ek Sapan’ tiatrantle kutumbik samband ani naitikta*” at an International Seminar on tiatr titled Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0. on March 23, 2026, organised by Department of Konkani, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), Panaji.
- Ms. Pranita Redkar and Ms. Megan D’Souza presented a paper titled “*Cesar D’Mello hanchya ‘Kirmidoracho Rosto’ hya tiatrachya kantaranchi Viskotavnni*” at an International Seminar on tiatr titled Tiatr: Echoes from the Past, Voices of Today 2.0. on March 23, 2026, organised by Department of Konkani, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG), Panaji.

Programmes attended

- Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Ms Ankita Zambaulikar attended the International Seminar on the topic “*Konkani Natak me Lokrang*” organised by Dept. of Hindi, St. Xavier’s College, a on January 21, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar attended the National Seminar titled “*Rashtriya Shikshanik Dhoranachya Sandarbhat Marathiche Adhyapan*” organised by the Dept. of Marathi, on January 23, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar, Mr. Silvester Vaz, Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar and Ms. Pranita Redkar attended the two-day National Seminar Titled “*Sonshodhanachyo Novyo Disha*” organised by the Goa Konkani Academy, Panjim on January 28 - 29, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes attended the ‘Rajbhas Day Celebration Programme’ organised by the Goa Konkani Academy, Panjim in collaboration with Saraswat College, Mapusa on February 4, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar, Mr. Silvester Vaz, Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar, Ms. Pranita Redkar, and Ms. Megan D’Souza attended the National Seminar Titled “*Venchik Tiatrancher Chinton-Monon*” organised by the Department, in collaboration with Dalgad Konkani Academy, Panjim on February 19, 2026.

- Mr. Dharma Chodankar, Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar, Ms. Pranita Redkar, and Ms. Megan D'Souza attended the session themed 'NPL with reference to the Konkani Language' organised by the Konkani Dept. and Computer Science Dept. of the College on February 25, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar and Ms. Pranita Redkar attended the National Seminar titled '*Konkani: Boli Samvardhanachi Garaj*' organised by the Sant Sohirobanath Ambiye, Govt. College & Research Centre, Pernem on March 6, 2026.
- Mr. Dharma Chodankar, Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes, Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar, Ms. Pranita Redkar and Ms. Megan D'Souza attended the International Seminar Titled 'Tiatr: Echoes from the past, voices of today 2.0' organised by the Konkani Dept. in collaboration with Tiatr Academy of Goa, Panjim on March 23, 2026.
- Mr. Silvester Vaz attended a one-day workshop on the topic "The Empowered scholar: Mastering research methodology for high impact research in Languages and Humanities" organised by Discipline of English, in collaboration with Directorate of VRPP, Goa University on February 25, 2026. Mr. Vaz also attended a one-day state level workshop on "Emerging research opportunities in Languages, Linguistics and Literature" organised by Goa state research foundation, Porvorim on February 28, 2026.
- Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes and Ms. Ankita Zambaulikar attended a two-day national level workshop on *Konknni Songonnki-i Xobdsompod* organised by CES college of Arts & Commerce Cuncolim funded by DHE on February 27- 28, 2026.

Invited Speaker

- Mr. Dharma Chodankar served as a resource person and delivered a talk on 'Dialects of Goa' at Sant Sohirobanath Ambiye Government College & Research Centre, Pernem Goa, on March 7, 2026.
- Dr. Fr. Luis Gomes served as a resource person for a 30-hour Certificate Course on Learning of Romi Orthography, organised by Dalgado Konknni Akademi in collaboration with St. Xavier's College. The course was conducted at Seminary Niwas from July 2025 to February 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Students received first place for the Tiatr 'Purple' staged for the Tiatr Competition organised by the Tiatr Academy.
- Students received third place in the One Act Play Competition organised by the Kala Academy, Panjim, Goa.

DEPARTMENT OF MARATHI

National Seminar: On January 23, 2023, the Department organised a National Seminar on the theme “Teaching Marathi Subject in the Context of NEP 2020.” The seminar aimed to provide a platform for academicians, researchers, faculty members, and students to discuss the implications, opportunities, and challenges presented by the National Education Policy 2020 in the field of higher education and language studies. Chief Guest Prof. Anil Sahastrabudhe emphasised the transformative vision of NEP 2020 with special focus on holistic and multidisciplinary education, promotion of Indian languages, and integration of technology in teaching and learning. The event was also attended by Dr. Keshav Dhuri from the Directorate of Higher Education. Dr. Apurva Betkekar was the event convenor.



Shivaji Jayanti: On February 19, 2026, St. Xavier's College commemorated the birth anniversary of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. As part of the celebration, sketching and painting competitions were held, in which students from various streams participated enthusiastically. Kashish Mandrekar secured first place, while Ritesh Chari and Aaryan secured second and third place respectively. A monologue competition based on historical incidents from Shivaji Maharaj's life was also conducted. Sai Pranav Raul from FYBCA secured first place, followed by Avani Chodankar from FYBA and Ranjana Narvekar from TYBA in second and third place respectively.

Marathi Day: On March 2, 2026, the Department collaborated with the Goa Marathi Academy to organise Jagatik Marathi Bhasha Divas in honour of renowned Marathi poet, playwright, and novelist V. V. Shirwadkar. In her address, chief guest Mrs. Snehal Karkhanis shared insightful perspectives on Marathi theatre, language, and its relevance in contemporary society, while also motivating students to cultivate artistic talents alongside academic excellence. The event featured a variety of student performances, including music, dance, and theatrical presentations celebrating Marathi culture. Competitions such as Elocution and Poetry Recitation were also organised, witnessing enthusiastic participation from students across departments.



Educational Trip: On March 17, the students of SYBA Marathi undertook an educational field visit to the office of the Marathi daily Gomantak in Panjim. The purpose of the visit was to gain firsthand knowledge about the functioning of a newspaper and to understand the various stages involved in news production. Assistant Prof. Mr. Chayan Gaonkar accompanied the students.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Dr. Vrunda Madhav Kelkar received the Goa Marathi Academy Literary Award – 2027 (Sahitya Puraskar) from the Goa Marathi Academy on November 28, 2025 for Gomantakiya Katha Kadambareetil Stree, which analyses the portrayal of women in Goan Marathi short stories and novels. The award was presented during the Academy's Foundation Day celebration at Ravindra Bhavan, Margao.
- Dr. Vrunda Kelkar was awarded for her dedicated and meritorious services rendered to the Archdiocesan Board of Education, Goa on February 26, 2026.
- Dr. Vrunda Kelkar was felicitated in recognition of her valuable contribution to literature at the Goa Book Festival, organised by NBT, India & Lokmanya Multipurpose Co-operative Society Ltd. Panaji on February 6, 2026 at the hands of Dr. Kiran Thakur, Chairman, LMCS Ltd and Advisory Editor of Tarun Bharat.

Programmes attended

- Dr. Apurva Betkekar attended a two-week online refresher course on the topic “Reimagining and Revamping Higher Education in India” scheduled from November 17-29, 2025, organised by MMTTC, Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer. The course was designed to enhance academic knowledge and pedagogical skills, and contributed significantly to professional development and teaching effectiveness.
- Dr. Prachi Joshi participated in a one-week Faculty Development Programme (FDP) for Law, Humanities and Languages Cluster “Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education”, organised by the directorate of Higher Education, Govt. of Goa in collaboration with Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design, and Manufacturing (IIITDM), Jabalpur for the faculty members of Higher Education Institutions in the state of Goa from February 2-6, 2026.
- Dr. Apurva Betkekar was invited to recite a Marathi poem in the programme ‘Kavyanand’ organised by Ravindra Bhavan, Margao on the occasion of Marathi day on February 27, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations

- Ms. Saloni Satelkar of SYBA presented a paper on 'A Study of Vishnu Surya Wagh's play Adityachakshu' at the one-day National Level Seminar organised by the Government College of Arts Science and Commerce Sanquelim on the topic 'Marathi Theatre: Goan Contribution' on February 6, 2026.

Programmes attended

- Students of SYBA Ms. Saloni Satelkar, Ms. Vaibhavi Aeer, Ms. Riya Chari, Ms. Rohini Gawade and Ms. Riya Kenavdekar attended a one-day National Level Seminar organised by Government College of Arts Science and Commerce Sanquelim on the topic 'Marathi Theatre: Goan Contribution' on February 6, 2026.
- Goa University Dept of Marathi organised 'Abhijaat Utsav Marathi', an Inter collegiate Quiz and Elocution competition on February 24, 2026 in which students Riya Kenavdekar from SYBA secured second prize in Quiz and Saloni Satelkar from SYBA secured third prize in Elocution competition.
- Students participated in the Inter-College One Act Play Competition organised by the Kala Academy. The college team delivered an engaging and impactful performance that impressed both the judges and the audience, securing the Third Prize overall. A major highlight of the competition was the outstanding performance of Swed Divkar from SYBA, who won the First Prize in the Best Actor (Male) category for his powerful portrayal marked by emotional depth and authenticity. Other participants included Gautami Desai from TYBA and Ashwin Naik from SYBA. The play was directed by Vaibhav Naik, who was also awarded the Third Prize in Direction.
- At 'Srujasangam', organised by Goa Marathi Academy, students secured four prizes. Saniya Kalangutkar and Anushka Haldankar won first place in the rangoli competition. In the poster-making event, themed on Goan folk dances, Poonam Palyekar earned first prize. Ranjana Narvekar, Avni Chodankar, and Gayatri Vengurlkar received second prize. Our students also impressed in the tribal attire category with their authentic depiction of the Naga tribe from Nagaland. Saipranav Raul, Pavitra Lamani, Sanjana Narvekar, Chhabir Shah secured third place in the tribal attire category.

Srujasangam



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY



National Seminar: The Department jointly organised a One-day National Seminar on February 20, 2026, titled “Decolonizing Ethnography: Critical Sociological and Philosophical Perspectives on Tribes of Goa”. The keynote speaker was Prof. (Dr.) Virginius Xaxa and other dignitaries were the chief guest, Hon MLA Mr. Alexio Reginaldo Lourenco, Officiating Principal Ms Ursula Barreto and Administrator Fr. Antonio Salema. The Convenors of the seminar were Prof Afonso Botelho, Head of Dept. of Sociology, and Ms Aletthra Vieira, Head of Dept. of Philosophy. The first technical session titled, “DecolonisingHistory, Identity, and Institutions” was moderated by Prof. Ganesh Somayaji. The second session titled, “Ritual, Livelihood, and Resistance in the Tribal Landscape” was moderated by Prof. R. B. Patil. A total of 22 papers by 21 researchers were presented on various themes related to the seminar topic. The total number of participants was 86.

Certificate Course: The Department organised a 30-hour certificate course on, ‘A Philosophical Study of the Bhagavad-Gita’ in collaboration with IQAC and IKS Cell. The course aimed to promote well-being in accordance with the ancient wisdom of the Upanisads. The course facilitator was Dr Shefali Kale, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Philosophy. The objectives of the course were to understand the philosophy of the Bhagavad Gita, to construct a world view based and enhance the well-being of self and society through the wisdom of the Bhagavad-Gita. Four students benefited from the course.

Library visit: On December 17, 2025, a session in the college library was organised for the students of FYBA. The session was conducted by college librarian Ms Dakshata Zambulkar. She introduced the students to the numbering system of books on Philosophy and directed students to the right shelves. The objective of this activity was to inculcate and promote the habit of reading amongst the students. The session was attended by 25 students of FYBA Philosophy.



Understanding Counselling: College counsellor Ms Beverley Monteiro conducted a session titled, 'Understanding Psychological Counselling', for the TYBA students of Philosophy on January 22, 2026. The session was aimed at bringing out the difference between psychological and philosophical counselling. The session was attended by three students of TYBA.



Poster-making Competition: The Department conducted a poster-making competition to commemorate Human Rights Day. The event was held on January 27, 2026. Eleven students from various streams participated in the event, showcasing their talent and expressing their multidimensional views in various hues on poster, in accordance with the Human Rights Theme of 2025, "Our Everyday Essentials". The event was coordinated by Ms. Aletthra C. Vieira.



Guest lecture: The Department facilitated a lecture by Dr Yogita Chhatre-Kelkar, Programme Director, School of Sanskrit, Philosophy & Indic Studies, Goa University. Held on February 6, 2026, the lecture benefited TYBA Philosophy students. Dr Chhatre began the session by introducing students to the importance of Indian Knowledge Systems promoted by the NEP programme. She underscored the relevance of Sanskrit and Philosophy in promoting the spirit of IKS. She explicated various papers taught under Sanskrit and discussed various career options of Philosophy and Sanskrit.

Alumni talk: On February 12, 2026, the Department organised a talk titled "Heart and Mind: A Philosophical Inquiry" by alumnus Rev. Fr. John Alban Fernandes. Rev. Fr. John delivered a practical and interactive session exploring the relationship between the heart and mind, and how reasoning and emotions influence human actions and judgement. Through relatable examples and humour, he provided students with valuable insights into balancing logic and emotion in everyday life.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Papers Presented

- “A Philosophical Study of the Protector Deity Sri Ajoba” by Dr Shefali Kale was published in the proceedings of the seminar titled, ‘Timeless Threads; Weaving the Past, Present, and Future in Indian Folk Traditions, published by Qurate Books Pvt. Ltd, 2025, edited by Prof. M Shanthi, ISBN no 978-93-58988-42-0.
- Dr Shefali Kale presented a paper titled, “A Comparative Analysis of the Metaphysical Worldviews of the Tribes of Goa” at the a One-day National Seminar on February 20, 2026, titled “Decolonizing Ethnography: Critical Sociological and Philosophical Perspectives on Tribes of Goa”, organised by the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Sociology, St. Xavier’s College.

Programmes attended

- Ms. Aletthra C Vieira attended a one-day workshop on “Innovative approaches in TYBCom/TYBA/TYBSC Project mentorship” on January 22, 2026 organised by Government of Goa’s Autonomous College of Multidisciplinary Studies and Research, Margao.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Samvidhan Diwas: To commemorate Constitution Day, a talk on 'The Spirit of the Indian Constitution' was delivered to FYBA students by faculty Mr. Prasad Naik on December 9, 2025. The session was organised to deepen students understanding of the foundational ideals enshrined in the Constitution of India and their relevance in contemporary society. He emphasised liberty, equality, fraternity and justice as the cornerstone of democratic life, enabling individuals to think, express, and act freely within the framework of law.



Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series: A lecture on "Careers in Law" was organised on January 10, 2026. Mr. Tejas Tulaskar, advocate at the Bombay High Court and an alumnus of St. Xavier's College (batch 2015-1016), delivered an insightful talk on the diverse career opportunities available in the field of law, offering valuable guidance to the students. He also spoke about Right to Information (RTI) Act, explaining the procedure for

filing an RTI application and emphasizing its relevance as a powerful tool for transparency, accountability, and citizen empowerment in a democratic system. A total of 70 students, along with the faculty members of Department of Political Science, participated in the programme. The event was coordinated by Mr. Vijay Talwar and Ms. Rashika Raikar.

Student Research Initiatives: The Department 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 on January 14 and 22, 2026.





Certificate Course: The Department, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of St. Xavier's College conducted a 30-hour certificate course on 'Civic Engagement: Empowering Citizens' from January 7, 2026 to February 5, 2026. The Course Coordinator was Mr. Vijay Talwar and 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. Resource persons for the course were Adv. Tejas Tulaskar, Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, Mr. Prasad Naik, Mr. Vijay Talwar, Ms. Gauri Rao and Ms. Rashika Raikar.

Inter-collegiate Essay Competition: The Department 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 event concluded successfully, with the top three essayists receiving merit certificates and trophies.



POLITRONICA 2.0: An enriching intra-collegiate event was organised by the Department of Political Science, on March 17, 2026. Dr. Prakash Desai, Associate Professor at Goa University, delivered the keynote address. His thought-provoking discussion, titled "The Idea of Democracy in India: Past and Present," set the intellectual tone for the day. Then, students took the stage for diverse presentations, which included showcasing their own research initiatives, performing a skit, and and celebrating local culture through Goan folk dances. Students also participated in Rangoli and Poster-making competitions. Students also participated in a role-play competition on the theme 'Faces of Power: Leaders of Independent India'.



Field Study Tour: The Department organised an educational field visit on March 18, 2026 to provide students with practical exposure to important political and administrative institutions in Goa. The visit included the Goa Legislative Assembly, Old Secretariat, and the Governor's residence, Lok Bhavan. A total of 78 students from

FYBA, SYBA, BBA, and BBA (T&T) participated in the visit, accompanied by Anthony Lobo, Prasad Naik, Vijay Talwar, and Rashika Raikar.

BEST PRACTICES

As part of the green initiative and save energy initiatives of the college, the department has introduced measures to reduce the paper and save energy.

- The students of TYBA undertaking project work in the department are encouraged to submit their 'work in progress' reports and references materials in digital format only to their respective guides.
- The faculty provides reading materials for courses taught to students through digital platforms.
- The faculty ensures that after lectures, lights and fans are turned off to save energy.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

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 April 13, 2026.



Papers Presented

- Mr. Prasad Naik presented a research paper on the topic titled “Media and Unscientific Temperament in Contemporary India” at the Two-Day Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on “Intersecting Perspectives: Contemporary Political Issues & Global Challenges in Focus” on January 30-31, 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.
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- Ms. Gauri Rao presented a research paper on the topic “Media, Populism, Nationalism and Federal India” at the One-Day National Conference on “Constitutionalism and Federalism” on January 9, 2026 organised by Department of Political Science, Government Colleges of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Panjim.
 - Ms Gauri also presented a research paper on the topic “Balancing Regulatory Compliance with Academic Freedom: An Analysis of Institutional Autonomy under the National Accreditation Framework” at the International Conference on 'Educational Transformation : Legal Reforms and 21 Century Global Perspectives’ on January 29, 2026 organised by Mithra Dev Publications, Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu, India in collaboration with V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Goa, and Faculty of Liberal Arts, Shinawatra University.
 - Additionally, Ms. Gauri presented a research paper on the topic “The Localization of Sustainable Development Goals: Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India” at the Two-day Multi-Disciplinary National Conference on “Intersecting Perspectives: Contemporary Political Issues & Global Challenges in Focus” on January 30-31, 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 January 30, 2026.
 - Finally, Ms. Gauri presented a research paper on the topic “Staging Agency: Participatory Theatre as a Motive for Livelihood Security and Rights-Based Advocacy among Youth and Self-Help Groups” at the two-day National Level Seminar on “Tattvamala Theatre and Textual Transformations via Aesthetics, Memory, Archives, Lore and Adaptation” on January 30-31, 2026 organised 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 January 31, 2026.

- Ms. Rashika Raikar 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 30-31, 2026 organised by Department of Political Science, DCT’s Dhempe College of Arts and Science.
- Ms. Rashika also 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 30-31, 2026 organised by Department of English, Dnyanprassarak Mandal’s College and Research Centre (DMC).

Programmes attended

- Mr. Vijay Talwar attended a two-day National Level Workshop titled "From Algorithms to Policy: The Tech-Driven Evolution of Political Science" organised 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, on January 27-28, 2026.
- Associate Professor Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges attended a one-day training programme on ‘Empowering Youth for Human Rights: Awareness and Sensitization on the Concerns of Marginalized Groups’ organised 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 February 3, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Students participated and won prizes in all the events held at the United Nations Day competition organised by the School of International & Area Studies, Goa University, on the occasion of United Nations Day on December 10, 2025. Mr. Nahshon Rebello (TYBA) and Mr. Niraj Zantye (TYBA) secured first place for Treasure Hunt. Mr. Sharmat Goltekar (SYBA) secured first place for Essay Writing. Ms. Sanjana Shirodkar (TYBA) and Ms. Radhika Rathod (TYBA) secured second place for Poster Making. Ms. CH Saideepika Jalaneela (FYBA) secured third place for Reel Making. Mr. Omkar Karpe (SYBA) and Ms. Astrid D’Mello (TYBA) secured third place for quiz. The students were awarded with certificates and cash prizes.

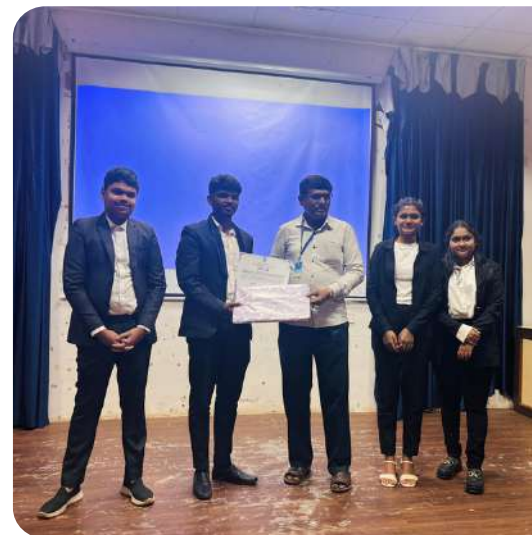


Mr. Sharmat Goltekar (SYBA), Ms. Kajal Vernekar (SYBA), and Mr. Ashwin Naik (SYBA), secured first place at the second edition of “Gram Vikas Manthan”, a state-level documentary-making competition, on the theme “My Village, My Narrative” organised by the Department of Political Science, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Khandola on January 17, 2026.



Students secured the First Runners-Up (Second Place) at the Students' Parliament Competition 2026 organised by the Goa Legislature Secretariat. In the individual category, Mr. Shivang Shirodkar (TYBSc) won the Best Leader of Opposition (LOP) award. The prize distribution ceremony was held on February 25, 2026 at the Goa Legislative Assembly Complex in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, the Hon'ble Speaker Ganesh Gaonkar, and the Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Joshua D'Souza. The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from twenty colleges across Goa. The St. Xavier's team enacted a 90-minute Lok Sabha sitting, taking up various legislative business items. A total of thirty-four students participated and were trained by Coordinator Associate Professor Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges, and Co-coordinator Mr. Anthony Lobo from the Department of Political Science.

The students from SYBA Political Science Major of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa Goa participated in the Annual Inter-Collegiate Event "Making Equality a Reality (MEAR) 2026" organised by D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies and Women's Studies Programme on March 10, 2026 at Goa University. It was held to commemorate International Women's Day under the theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls". The event featured two major competitions. A team of four students competed in 'Mock Constitutional Convention' securing third place for policy initiative. Also, a team of two students participated in the poster-making competition 'The Invisible Walls' where they also secured third Place. Our six students representing the college demonstrated strong academic and creative engagement with social and constitutional issues.



St. Xavier's College participated in 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 March 24, 2026. The team delivered commendable performance enacting an Ordinary Gram Sabha Meeting. Mr. Niraj Zantye, TYBA (role as a drunkard) and Mr. Ashwin Naik, SYBA (role as a farmer) won Interesting Character prizes. The competition aimed to promote youth involvement in local self-governance and enhance awareness of grassroots democratic processes. The students were guided by Ms. Tricia Vaz e Borges and Ms. Rashika Rama Raikar.



Presentations

- 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 organised by Rosary College of Commerce and Arts, Navelim, on March 7, 2026.

Programmes attended

- Mr. Anish Naik, Mr. Aryan D'Costa, Ms. Symphonia Dsouza, Ms. Kajal Vernekar, Ms. Rency Nayak, and Ms. Aditi Satelkar attended the one-day National Conference at Panaji titled 'Media, Populism, Nationalism and Federal India', organised by Department of Political Science, Government Colleges of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Panjim Goa, on January 9, 2026. Ms. Gauri Rao accompanied the students.
- Ms. Rency Nayak and Ms. Nisha Rathod, attended a two-day National Level Workshop titled "From Algorithms to Policy: The Tech-Driven Evolution of Political Science" 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, on January 27-28, 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.
- 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' organised by the 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 February 3, 2026.



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY



International Seminar: The under-graduate and post-graduate departments of Psychology of St. Xavier's College, Goa, in association with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), organised an International Seminar titled "Empathy Advantage: Reimagining Communication and Relationships in a Connected World" on March 6, 2026. The seminar aimed to highlight the importance of empathy and effective communication in today's rapidly evolving and hyperconnected world. The event brought together around 77 students from five different colleges across Goa to explore the role of empathy in strengthening interpersonal relationships and fostering meaningful communication. The seminar featured two distinguished international resource persons, Mr. Thomas Teisen from Denmark and Ms. Regina Lombardo from the Philippines, who shared their expertise and insights on empathy and communication.

Falun Dafa Workshop: The Department, in collaboration with the Wellness Centre of St. Xavier's College, organised a Falun Dafa (Falun Gong) session on February 7, 2026. The session aimed to promote holistic well-being and mindfulness among students. Resource persons Ms. Neha Shah, Dr. Vipin and Ms. Nandani provided a comprehensive overview of Falun Dafa, 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 on January 14 and 22, 2026.





Field Trip to Owl House: A field trip was organised for TYBA students to the Owl House. The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to inclusive education, observe behavioural patterns, and understand psychological concepts in real-life settings. Founded in 2018 by Priya Sule, the Owl House functions as a vocational training centre for neurodivergent individuals, bridging the gap between

education and employment by equipping students with practical, monetizable skills while fostering independence, dignity, and social inclusion. The centre operates both as a training hub and a fully functional café run by its students, demonstrating their capabilities and promoting community awareness. Students are grouped according to support needs, receiving individualized assistance in managing tasks, sensory sensitivities, time, and self-regulation. Around 21 students were accompanied by Ms. Saloni Gaonkar.



Alumni Connect: On March 4, 2026, Third Year students attended an insightful talk led by an alumna, Veda Mandrekar, who returned to her alma mater to share her journey into postgraduate studies. Currently pursuing her Master's degree at Vishwakarma university, Pune, India, she provided a comprehensive overview of her transition from being a student in these very classrooms to navigating the complexities of higher education. Her talk was specifically tailored to address the immediate concerns of students preparing for their own upcoming applications. The session concluded with Ms. Mandrekar encouraging the students to reach out to her directly if they encounter any difficulties.



Value-Added Course: The Value-Added Course (VAC) titled "Criminal Psychology Beyond the Syllabus" was held in January and February 2026 with two engaging sessions. Organised in collaboration with V. M. Salgaocar College of Law, Panaji, and coordinated by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha, the VAC extended students' understanding of criminal psychology through practical legal insights, with a total of 32 students

participating. A session on Cybersecurity Laws, Cyber Offenses, and Prevention was conducted by the Free Legal Aid Cell in collaboration with the North Goa Legal Services Authority (NALSA),

featuring expert resource persons Adv. Vahida Yelgar, a practicing advocate, and PSI Yashica Sancoalkar from the Cyber Crime Police Station, Goa. A session on the POCSO Act 2012 and POSH Act 2013 was conducted by student members of the Bastora Free Legal Aid Cell and POSH Compliance Clinic, V. M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar, in a peer-to-peer interaction. The afternoon segment by Ms. Richa Gomes and Ms. Padmaja Chauhan focused on the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013, including ICC formation, inquiry timelines, and compliance, emphasizing zero-tolerance workplace practices.



One-day National level Seminar: The Department participated in the National level Seminar organised by Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce Khandola-Goa in association with the DHE, Govt of Goa. The key note address was delivered by Prof. Suhas Shetgovekar of School of Social Sciences, IGNOU. Prof Suhas highlighted the history of natural calamities and disasters, including

those of industry and the lack of psychological support services to the victims, survivors and their families. A panel discussion followed on the theme, 'The digital lifeline: Leveraging Technology to bridge mental health gaps in crisis'. Post lunch, Dr. Aswini, from BITS Pilani, Goa highlighted her ongoing research with regard to Systems, Resilience and Youth Mental Health in India. The last session featured a panel discussion on 'The unseen wounds: Addressing the Unique mental health needs of vulnerable populations in emergencies'. The seminar was attended by four students of the SY and TY classes. They were accompanied by Dr. Ubaldina Noronha.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Paper Presentations

- Dr. Ubaldina Noronha, Dr. Fr. Ramiro Luis, and Dr. Eulalia Fernandes jointly presented a paper titled "From Suffering to Strength: Understanding the Psychological Pathways of Resilience and Recovery in the Face of Spousal Death" at the Two-Day International Conference on "Ethics, Values and Human Dignity in Healthcare: Psychological, Literary, Artistic and Medical Perspectives," held on February 23-24, 2026. The conference was organised by DCT's Dhempe College of Arts and Science in collaboration with Sangath and Manipal Hospital Goa. The conference brought together global experts to deliberate on interdisciplinary perspectives related to healthcare ethics, values, and human dignity.



Dr. Ubalдина Noronha participated in a one-day workshop titled “Beyond the Diagnosis: A Family-Centred Approach to Loss and Demoralisation,” organised by Novi Suvrat on February 2, 2026 at Panaji. The workshop featured Dr. David Kissane, Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry at Monash University and Professor Emeritus of Palliative Medicine at University of Notre Dame Australia, as

the resource person, while Ms. Michelle Normen, Psycho-oncologist and Lead for Counselling Services at Bangalore Hospice Trust, served as the facilitator. The sessions focused on family-centred care during palliative care and bereavement, as well as demoralisation and psycho-existential symptoms in palliative care, with emphasis on family assessment and symptom management. The workshop was attended by counsellors, psychologists, NGOs, and members of the medical and para-medical fraternity, providing valuable interdisciplinary insights into palliative and bereavement care.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Students participated in an intercollegiate event titled **PSYCHAURA 2026**, organised by the Department of Psychology, Don Bosco College, Panaji, on January 27, 2026. The event focused on mental health in the digital age and aimed to provide students with a platform to express their understanding of psychological concerns through both academic and creative activities. The students were declared the Winners of PSYCHAURA 2026. They participated as a team named Mind Rest Squad and were guided and accompanied by Ms. Saloni Gaonkar.



A Board Game Design Competition, called ‘**The Empathy Lab**’ was organised for students at the International Seminar on ‘The Empathy Advantage’ on March 6, 2026. Participants were encouraged to creatively design board games that incorporated themes related to empathy, communication, emotional intelligence, and relationships.



Seven teams of three participants each, presented their innovative ideas and explained the rules, objectives, and psychological concepts behind their games. The innovative games were evaluated by the judges, Ms. Anuradha Kakodkar and Prof. Nelson Lobo, who provided constructive feedback and appreciated the creativity and thoughtful effort demonstrated by the students. The winning team of Iloiysia, Destiny and Bethany of TYBA, won a cash prize, and a chance at patenting their game along with two other teams through the Institution Innovation Council of the college.



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY



National Seminar: The Department jointly organised a One-Day National Seminar on February 20, 2026 titled “Decolonizing Ethnography: Critical Sociological and Philosophical Perspectives on the Tribes of Goa” with the Department of Philosophy. The seminar included two technical sessions, titled “Decolonizing History, Identity, and Institutions.”

and “Ritual, Livelihood, and Resistance in the Tribal Landscape,”. Chief Guest of the valedictory programme, Prof. Ganesha Somayaji, spoke on the importance of understanding tribal communities within their historical and cultural contexts.



Awareness session: The Department organised a special awareness session on ‘Drug Abuse—Drugs: A Menace to the Society’ on January 9, 2026. Resource person Advocate Ms. Mary Fernandes, along with North Goa Police officers actively involved in drug control and awareness initiatives, addressed the audience. The lecture was attended by faculty members of Sociology and a number of Sociology and Philosophy students as well as some NSS students, totally 106. The awareness programme was conducted under the guidance of the Goa State Legal Services Authority (GSLSA) with the support of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) and the Taluka Legal Committees (TLCs). Thereafter, students pledged their commitment to say no to drugs and to refrain from the consumption of narcotic substances.



Field Trip: Students went on a field trip to Cotigao, Canacona, on February 20, 2026. The purpose of this field trip was to provide students with experiential learning by enabling them to observe and understand aspects of tribal life in the region, thereby complementing their classroom engagement with sociological theories and perspectives on tribal communities. The visit was planned as part of our curriculum enrichment initiative, aimed at fostering field-based learning, critical observation, and reflective analysis among students.



Singing Competition: An Interclass Patriotic Singing Competition was organised on January 23, 2026, coordinated by Ms. Simran Kumar, with enthusiastic participation from students across streams. SYBSc secured first place, followed by TYBSc in second place. The programme was successfully conducted as a meaningful tribute to patriotic national leaders.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Prof. Afonso Botelho presented a research paper titled “Understanding Decolonisation of Tribal Ethnography with the Gods and Goddesses” at the National Seminar on February 20, 2026, themed “Decolonizing Ethnography: Critical Sociological and Philosophical Perspectives on Tribes of Goa.”
- Ms. Sayed Rizwana P. attended a workshop conducted by the Department of Sociology at Goa University to discuss course content and teaching pedagogy for semester IV and VI on February 9, 2026.
- Ms. Elizabeth Bara presented a paper titled ‘The Social Womb: Phenomenology of Childbirth’ at the All-India Sociological Conference organised by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Easwari School of Liberal Arts, SRM University-AP, Amaravati, scheduled from December 28-30, 2025. Ms Bara also presented a research paper titled “Decolonising Ethnography: Rethinking How We Study Tribal Communities” at the National Seminar on February 20, 2026.

- Ms. Shivani Calangutcar presented a research paper titled “Rethinking Tribal Studies in Goa: A Sociological Critique of Knowledge Production.” at the National Seminar on February 20, 2026. Ms Calangutcar also attended a workshop conducted by the Department of Sociology at Goa University to discuss course content and teaching pedagogy for semester IV and VI.
- Ms. Simran Kumar presented a research paper titled “Exploring Socially Constructed Identities through the Lens of Perception and Stigma: A Sociological Study” at the National Seminar on February 20, 2026.

STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS



The students of the Department of Sociology won Sociofiesta 2026, organised by Chowgule College, Margao for the second consecutive year. The winning team comprised of Elisa Fernandes, Cybil N. Rodrigues, Rachel N. De Souza, Rachel S. Fernandes, Chandana V. Sonawale, Shanoor Shaikh, Nelzia Kate Azavedo, Asma M. Shaikh, Brenda Mascarenhas, Cyrus Raposo, Dale E. D'Souza, and Annalise N. Das Chagas E Silva.



The students participated in UNMUTE, a community empowerment program by Sky Social, supported by the High Commission of Canada in India under the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI). The course, organized by Sky Social with support from the High Commission of Canada in India, aimed to bridge the digital gap through community empowerment. The programme included an inaugural session highlighting the importance of AI, digital responsibility, and online safety. Participants were introduced to key themes such as AI literacy, financial awareness, and leadership. Subsequent sessions focused on understanding AI, digital footprints, cybercrime, and online safety.

Students attended a “Exploring Perspectives, Possibilities, and Career Opportunities”, a one-day workshop organised by the Women’s Studies Programme at Goa University under the D.D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies on January 21, 2026. The event aimed at introducing students to the interdisciplinary scope of Women’s Studies, emphasising that it is not limited to women alone but engages with diverse identities and inclusive perspectives. The workshop focused on encouraging participants to critically reflect on everyday experiences and understand their broader social, cultural, and political contexts.



DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY



State Level Seminar: On February 24, 2026, the Department organised a One-Day State-Level Seminar titled “The Green Cure: Discovering the Power of Medicinal Plants.” The keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Nitin Ujjaliya from the All India Institute of Ayurveda on the topic “Our Green Pharmacy: Goa’s Legacy and Global Promise.” The seminar also featured informative sessions by Prof. Sangram Keshari Das and Dr. Bishnupriya Mohanty from Gomantak Ayurveda and Research Centre on medicinal plants and herbal formulations. A total of 47 participants from various institutions across Goa attended the seminar, including 11 participants who presented research posters. The valedictory function was graced by Dr. Emilia Mascarenhas. The seminar was coordinated by Prof. Maria Fonseca.



Field Trip: Twelve TYBSc Botany students undertook a study tour to Coorg and Mysore from November 11-18, 2026, under the guidance of Prof. Maria Fonseca. During the tour, students visited plantations, botanical gardens, and research facilities, where they observed a variety of plant species, cultivation practices, and horticultural techniques. They also examined preserved specimens in museum collections, gaining insights into plant taxonomy and biodiversity. The field experience provided valuable practical knowledge of plantation management, botanical research, and landscaping.

BEST PRACTICES



The Department organised the “Plant of the Week” activity from January to April, 2026, coordinated by Dr. Seema D. Fernandes, with participation from SYBSc Botany students. The objective of the activity was to create awareness about plants of medicinal, economic, ecological, and commercial importance. Each week, a selected plant was displayed in the college lobby along with details such as its scientific name, family, common/vernacular names, and uses. A total of six plants were presented: *Coleus amboinicus*, *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*, *Costus woodsonii*, *Cissus quadrangularis*, *Catharanthus roseus*, and *Murraya koenigii*. Different students participated in presenting the plants.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations

- Dr. Wendy F. Xavier Martins published a Book Chapter titled: Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi: Diversity, Conservation and Application in some selected crop plants of Goa (2026). In: Diversity, Conservation and Biotechnology of Fungi. Ed. Prof. Praveen Gehlot, Prof. S.M. Reddy, Prof. M.M.V. Baig and Prof. Joginder Singh. Agrobios Research- Jodhpur. ISBN: 978-93-49045-69-9. 3: 45-60. Another paper published was Dr. Wendy F. Xavier Martins et al., Assessment of Phytochemicals from Some Marine Algae (2025). SPECTRUM, 17: 140-156.
- Dr. Maria A. Dsouza presented an oral paper titled ‘Hidden Diversity: Microfungi from places of historical importance in Goa, India’ at The International Conference on Microbial Technologies (ICMMT) – 2025, held on October 27-28, 2025, organised by Faculty of Technology, Rajarata University of Sri Lanka, College of Biology and Food Engineering, Quing Normal University, China and Tropical Microbiology Research Foundation.

Programmes attended

- Dr. James D’Souza and Dr. Suraksha S. Dongrekar attended One-Week Discipline Specific Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education" from January 12-16, 2026.
- Dr. Maria A. Dsouza attended training on "Bioinformatics Analysis of DNA Sequence data" held at Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, from March 23-26, 2026.

- Dr. Seema D. Fernandes attended and accompanied 80 students for a talk on 'Career Conclave' at Goa University, Taleigao held on January 30-31, 2026, at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Bambolim, Goa, organised by the Office of the Commissioner, Labour & Employment in collaboration with the Regional Employment Exchange and Model Career Centre, Panaji.

Invited Speaker

- Dr. Maria A. Dsouza served as a Resource Person for Vidnyan Dhara, A Mega Science Series and delivered interactive lecture on the topic "The secret life of fungi and their immense potential" at Government High School, Palyewada Dadachiwadi, Dhargal, Pernem, Goa on February 16, 2026.
- Dr. Maria A. Dsouza served as a Resource person in the Pre-Conference Workshop on "Basic Lab Techniques for Mycology Students" held on October 26, 2025, at The International Conference on Microbial Technologies (ICMMT) - 2025 in Rajarata University of Sri Lanka.
- Dr. Suraksha S. Dongrekar served as a Resource Person for Vidnyan Dhara, A Mega Science Series and delivered interactive lecture on the topic "Algae: The Fuel, Food, and Future Revolution" at Dnyanprassarak Vidyalaya, Mapusa-Goa on January 27, 2026.
- Dr. Seema D. Fernnades served as a Resource Person for Vidnyan Dhara, A Mega Science Series and delivered interactive lecture on the topic "Vermicomposting A Natural Way to Manage Waste:" at Father Agnel Multipurpose High School, Verna-Goa, on January 9, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Students of the FYBSc and SYBSc actively participated in the "Botanica 2026" Intercollegiate Event organised by the Department of Botany, Goa University, Taleigao, Goa, on March 4, 2026. The students were accompanied by the Teacher In-charge, Dr. Seema D. Fernandes. Mr. Sufiyan Shaikh and Mr. Soham Kerkar of FYBSc secured third place in the Treasure Hunt competition. Mr. Rudra Thakur of FYBSc was awarded third place in the Reel Making competition. Mr. Rudra Thakur of FYBSc was awarded second place in surprise event. Ms. Saara Hussain of SYBSc won first prize in the Bottle Painting competition.



DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY



GU-ART Training: The Department conducted a two-day training programme to prepare TY BSc Chemistry students for the Goa University Admission Ranking Test (GU-ART) on January 3 and 17, 2026. The sessions focused on Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, combining concept revision, practice questions and exam-oriented guidance and were coordinated by Ms. Sheryl D'Cruz and Dr. Johnross Albuquerque.



Educational Visit: An educational visit to the Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant, Karwar was organised on February 21, 2026 to bridge theoretical knowledge with practical exposure. Students were introduced to the layout, working principles, safety measures and control mechanisms of nuclear reactors through expert interactions and demonstrations with 33 undergraduate students and four faculty members participating in the visit.

Tenth Annual Festival of Innovation: The Department, in collaboration with the Institution's Innovation Cell, organised the 10th Annual Festival of Innovation: Goa's Young Innovators on February 13, 2026. The event featured a keynote address on innovation and research and included competitions such as one-minute video making and scientific model making, attracting participants from schools, higher secondary schools, and colleges across Goa with a total of 84 student participants.





Chemscope: The Post Graduate and Under Graduate Departments of Chemistry organised Chemscope 2026, a state-level intercollegiate event, on March 12, 2026, bringing together students from three colleges across Goa. The event provided a vibrant platform for chemistry students to showcase their talent through nine engaging sub-events. Prof. Rajendra Shirsat, School of Chemical Sciences, Goa University graced the occasion as the chief guest.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Ms. Janesline Fernandes was awarded the Best Research Paper Presentation Award (Oral Category – Second Place) for her presentation on “CoFe₂O₄ Nanomaterials” at the International Conference on Nanomaterials & Green Technology for Viksit Bharat “Mission 2047” (ICNMGT 2025) held at Uttarakhand University, Dehradun, from November 28–29, 2025.
- Ms. Shivta H. Mayenkar received the Best Research Paper Presentation Award. She presented a poster on manganese ferrite nanoparticles at the International Conference on Nanomaterials & Green Technology for Viksit Bharat “Mission 2047”.

Presentations

- Ms. Flavia Sheila Travasso presented an oral paper on “biosynthesised copper ferrite nano catalysts” at the International Conference on Nanomaterials & Green Technology for Viksit Bharat “Mission 2047”.
- *Prof. Tushar S. Anvekar presented a poster on green-synthesized doped ZnO nano particles, at the International Conference on Nanomaterials & Green Technology for Viksit Bharat “Mission 2047”.*

Programmes attended

- Associate Professors Ms. Janesline Fernandes and Ms. Kathleen Pinto, along with SYBSc students, attended the National Conference on Material Chemistry: “Functional Materials for Sustainable Development” (FMSD-26) held on January 23-24, 2026, at Carmel College for Women, Nuvem. The conference featured keynote and technical sessions by experts from premier institutions such as IIT Bombay, CSIR-CLRI, BITS, TIFR, and Goa University, covering topics related to sustainable materials, CO₂ conversion, wastewater treatment, and advanced material synthesis. The event concluded with a valedictory session led by Prof. Purnakala Samant.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Ms. Krusiya Sawant, TYBSc, received the third prize for poster presentation on her research work “Synthesis of Cobalt Blue Nanopigments” at the 18th Annual Chemistry Fest at Goa University on March 14, 2026.

Students participated in the intercollegiate event Kynesis, hosted by Shri Parvatibai Chowgule College, Margao on December 6, 2025, and won the Runners-up Trophy. Ms. Sarah D’Souza was crowned Ms. Kynesis. In individual events, the students secured first place in the Fitness Surprise Event and Face Painting, and second place in Kinetics Reel, Chem Sharks, Treasure Hunt, Singing, Fashion Show and Dance Competition.

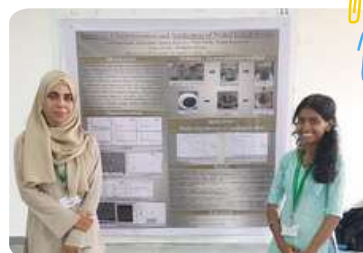


Ms Michele Barreto and Ms Utkarsha Kotkar, T Y BSc, won third place in the All Goa Chemistry Quiz Competition organised by ACT (All Chemistry Teachers) Goa at Goa University on March 28, 2026.



Presentations

- Mr. Sudhanshu Haldankar, TYBSc, delivered an oral presentation on his project titled “Synthesis and Antimicrobial Studies of some Heterocyclic Compounds” at the 18th Annual Chemistry Fest at Goa University.
- Ms. Aurooj Bhat, TYBSc, presented her poster titled “Synthesis, Characterization, Application of Nickel Cobalt Ferrite” at the 18th Annual Chemistry Fest at Goa University.
- Ms. Krusiya Sawant and Ms. Gauravi Chari presented their work in “An Intercollegiate TYBSc project poster presentation competition” organised by ADAIT Club of Research, Development & Innovation Cell by P.E.S’s Ravi S. Naik College of Arts & Science on March 27, 2026.



Programmes attended

Seven students attended a State Level Workshop on “Exploring Chromatographic and Spectroscopic Techniques for Characterization of Substances” held at Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcel, Goa, on February 10-11, 2026. The workshop covered both theory and hands-on training in various chromatographic and spectroscopic techniques, conducted by experts from CSIR-NIO, BITS Pilani, and Goa University. The programme enhanced the students’ understanding of modern analytical instruments and strengthened their laboratory skills.



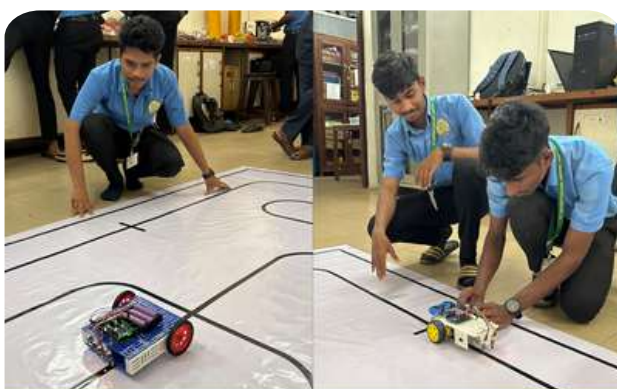
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS



Field Trip: On December 12, 2025, the Electronics Department organised an industrial field trip to EME Automation, Kundaim, Goa, with 14 students accompanied by Dr. Cajé Pinto, Mr. Daryl Gonsalves, and Ms. Viola Fernandes. The team was welcomed by Mr. Anant Toraskar (Production Manager), who guided them through PCB manufacturing processes. Students observed key machines including the Paste Printing Machine, Solder Paste Inspection System, Pick and Place Machine, Reflow and Wave Soldering Machines, and the AOI (Automated Optical Inspection) system. Insights into quality control were shared by Mr. Blaise Nazareth (Quality Manager), followed by functional testing demonstrations such as the “Powering a Pump” project. In the WAR Room, Mr. Macjan Fernandes (Project Manager) explained product design, testing methodologies, microcontroller selection, and career opportunities, while recommending open-source PCB design tools like KiCad. The field trip was coordinated by Dr. Cajé Pinto.



Open Lab Day: The Department hosted Open Lab Day on March 17, 2026, showcasing innovative student projects and offering hands-on exposure to electronics and technology for visiting high school and higher secondary students. Dr. Cajé Pinto and Ms. Vilma Fernandes emphasised integrating hardware and software in practical learning. In the Robo Race Arena, Mr. Bhikaji Gawade, Ms. Urvi Shetgaonkar, Ms. Shraddha Mavalankar, Mr. Amogh Dessai, Mr. Vignesh Palyekar engaged students in interactive robot obstacle courses. The event was coordinated by Ms. Viola Fernandes with assistance from Ms. Sneha Talekar.

**LINE FOLLOWER ROBOT CHALLENGE****ELECTROQUEST 2026
WINNERS**

ElectroQuest 2026: The Department organised ElectroQuest 2026 on March 18, 2026, with 36 participants competing across five technical challenges: Electronic Maze Challenge, Debug the C Code Challenge, Circuit Building Challenge, E-Waste Home Challenge, and Line Follower Robot Challenge. The event promoted teamwork, innovation, and practical learning among students.



Workshop: A Robotics with Arduino Workshop was conducted from April 1-17, 2026, to introduce school students to robotics, electronics, and Arduino programming through theory and hands-on sessions. A total of 14 students participated in the 30-hour workshop. Topics included Arduino UNO, electronic components, circuit building, and programming concepts. Students learned to write and upload programs and use the Serial Monitor for debugging. Practical work included LED projects, sensor interfacing using IR and ultrasonic sensors, and motor control using L298N drivers. Participants built Line Follower, Obstacle Avoidance, and Bluetooth-controlled robots. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Viola Fernandes and assisted by Mrs. Vilma Fernandes under the guidance of Dr. Cajé Pinto.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Mr. Bhikaji Gawade (TYBSc Electronics) was among the student entrepreneurs felicitated with the Young Entrepreneur 2026 Award at Converge 3.0 – Shiksha Udyojak Sangam 2026, organised by the Directorate of Higher Education. The award was presented during the Valedictory Programme held on February 24, 2026, at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium.



Presentations

Mr. Satyawan Arun Palyekar and Mr. Chinmai Valvoikar presented on a deep learning-based system for detection of adulteration in black pepper powder using image analysis, organised by Innovatex, on March 16, 2026.

Programmes attended

Mr. Bhikaji Gawade participated in the Product Development Hackathon from January 19-23, 2026, at the Electronics Building, School of Physical and Applied Sciences (SPAS), Goa University, Goa. This was a five-day intensive workshop and innovation-driven event focused on design thinking, electronics product development, PCB designing, sensors and actuators, and practical prototyping.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

National Mathematics Day 2025: PARADOX 2026, an intercollegiate event, was held on February 23, 2026 to commemorate National Mathematics Day. The event featured a range of intellectual, creative, and physical challenges, including Prime Olympiad, GeoGebra Art, and The Gordian Knot. Chief Guest Mr. Shivaji Gaonkar, HOD, Department of Mathematics, St. Xavier's Higher Secondary School, Mapusa presided over the inaugural. Nine college teams participated, with Carmel's College of Arts and Science, Nuvem emerging as overall winners.

With 70 student volunteers working behind the scenes, the event ran smoothly, making it a valuable experience for all involved. The event was co-ordinated by Mr. Soham Ashvekar.



National Seminar: With the objective of seeking to promote academic interaction and exposing participants to the applications of Partial Differential Equations in modelling real-world phenomenon by exposing them to challenges and open problems requiring collaboration and interdisciplinary research, a National Seminar on "Recent Trends in Partial Differential Equations" was organised on February 27-28, 2026. The seminar was a collaboration between the Department and the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa. It brought together eminent mathematicians from IISc, Bengaluru, Mathematical Sciences Institute, Belgavi, IIT Goa and BITS Pilani, Goa campus. A significant highlight of the inaugural function was the formal launch of the Institutional Digital Repository by the Chief Guest Prof. A. K. Nandakumaran, IISc. Sixty participants from Goa and beyond actively engaged in discussions, clarifications, and interactions. The seminar was co-ordinated by Mr. Gajanan Parab.

DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY



Workshop: A workshop on 'The Science Behind the Preparation of a Probiotic Drink' was conducted on February 11, 2026 in the Microbiology Laboratory for all TY students and 20 students of FY, with the objective of introducing them to the fundamentals of brewing and the scientific principles underlying probiotic drink preparation. The resource person, Mr. Donovan Rodrigues, Founder of MyOwnBrews, explained how informed choices in fermentation and probiotics contribute to improved gut health, wellness, and responsible consumption. He introduced students to the idea of creating value and wealth from fruit waste, explaining how fermentation biotechnology can transform agricultural and food waste into functional, probiotic-rich products, thereby promoting circular bioeconomy practices. The workshop was co-ordinated by Dr. Sheryanne Velho-Pereira.



Career guidance: A session on 'Careers in Food Technology' was organised on January 5, 2026, in association with Department of Biotechnology and Microbiologists Society India. The session aimed to create awareness among students about the scope and opportunities in Food Technology as a career option. The Resource Person, Dr. Maria Cordeiro, Assistant Professor, Post Graduate Department of Food Technology, Carmel College, Nuvem, began the session with an introduction to Food Technology as an interdisciplinary field combining science, technology, and innovation in food processing, safety, quality control, and product development. Various career avenues were discussed. The session was coordinated by Dr. Valerie Gonsalves and attended by 78 students from the Departments of Microbiology and Biotechnology.



Talk on GUART and Competitive Exams: The talk was organised on January 29, 2026, for 52 TY students. This session is an annual feature offered to the final year students in an attempt to ensure all round development and provide students with insights to opportunities available after graduation. The Resource Person, Ms. Rachel Dsouza, began with a roadmap of the educational journey of a student and the importance of attempting various exams and the myriad academic possibilities available. Ms. Rachel alerted the students to the number of available seats in Goa University and allied colleges.

BEST PRACTICES

Consultancy Services: Water quality testing, antibacterial activity assays of chemically synthesized compounds, etc, and blood group detection are provided. These services contribute to community health awareness, support research and diagnostic needs and promote the application of scientific knowledge for societal benefit.

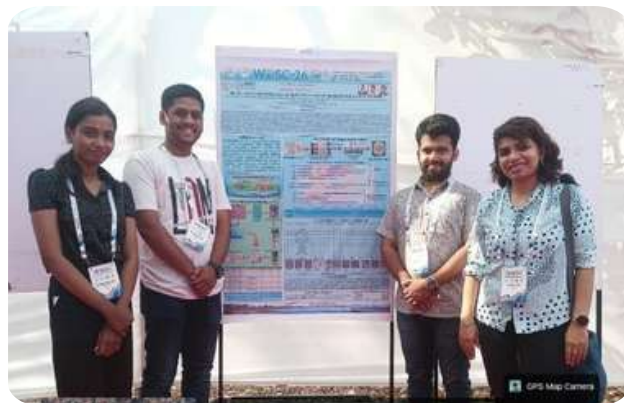
Recycling of Cotton Plugs and Newspapers: Used cotton plugs are employed during FY/SY/TY practicals to disinfect tabletops and other equipment. Newspapers are used for wrapping plates, flasks, etc and thus efficiently reused and recycled.

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

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

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations



- Ms. Arina Frank, Dr. Sheryanne Velho-Pereira, Dr. Trelita de Sousa and Dr. Nadine de Souza participated in a conference organised by the School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University from January 21-23, 2026, at Goa University on the theme 'Bridging Indian Knowledge System with Technology Development for One Health Approach'. Dr. Trelita de Sousa was invited to judge the Oral Presentations at this Conference.
- Ms. Arina Frank presented 'SCOBY Chakra: A Micro-Biorefinery Framework for Circular Valorisation and Smart Sensing.'
- Dr. Sheryanne Velho-Pereira presented 'A natural indicator based Biodegradable Diaper for Geriatric Care'.

Programmes Attended

- Dr. Nadine de Souza and Dr. Valerie Gonsalves participated in the one week Faculty Development Programme. organised by the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, in collaboration with IIITDM Jabalpur, from January 12-16, 2026, at Porvorim, Goa. The programme featured a rich blend of expert lectures and hands-on sessions conducted by eminent resource persons such as Prof. Aparajita Ojha (PDPM IIITDM Jabalpur), Dr. Kavita Asnani (DHE, Goa), Dr. Shiwangi Mishra (AsterByte Software Systems), Dr. Konjengbam Anand (IIT Dharwad), Dr. Dip Prakash Samajdar (PDPM IIITDM Jabalpur), and Dr. Samir Jain (AlfaTKG India Pvt. Ltd.).
- Mr. Siddhesh Menon and Dr. Trelita de Sousa attended the one-day hands-on Training Workshop jointly organised by the Goa State Higher Education Council (GSHEC) and the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) on February 6, 2026 at the Directorate of Higher Education, Alto-Porvorim, Goa.

Invited Speaker



Ms. Arina Frank delivered a lecture on **‘Fermented Beverages of India- special focus on Goa: From Tradition to Probiotics’** at the One Week Certificate course on Cultured Sips: The Microbial Art of Indian Fermented Drinks, organised by Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Goa on November 25, 2025.

For Vidnyan Dhara

- Ms. Arina Frank spoke on “The Science of Lacto-fermented vegetables” on December 17, 2025, at Our Lady of The Rosary HSS, Dona Paula.
- Dr. Sheryanne V. Pereira spoke on “Extremophiles: Tiny Survivors Driving Big Sustainable Breakthroughs” on January 21, 2026, at Our Lady of the Rosary High School; at Ezekiel Methodist School on February 2, 2026 and at St. Bartholomew H. S. Pandavaddo Madel on February 4, 2026.
- Dr. Valerie Gonsalves spoke on “Microbiome Mysteries: Case Studies of Gut Health and Disease” on January 19, 2026 at Dr. K. Hedgewar High School, Cujira-Tiswadi, Goa, and on “Antibiotics Losing Power: A Dark Future Ahead?” at Sunshine Worldwide School, Baingini on January 28, 2026.
- Dr. Trelita de Sousa presented “The Invisible Invasion of Microplastics” on January 5, 2026 at St. Clara’s High School, Assonora and at Estellar HSS, Penha de França on January 14, 2026.
- Dr. Nadine de Souza presented "Microbial Magic in Everyday Life" on January 9, 2026 at Lourdes Convent High School, Saligao, at Little Flower of Jesus High School, Calangute on January 10, 2026, and at Holy Cross High School, Siolim on January 19, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

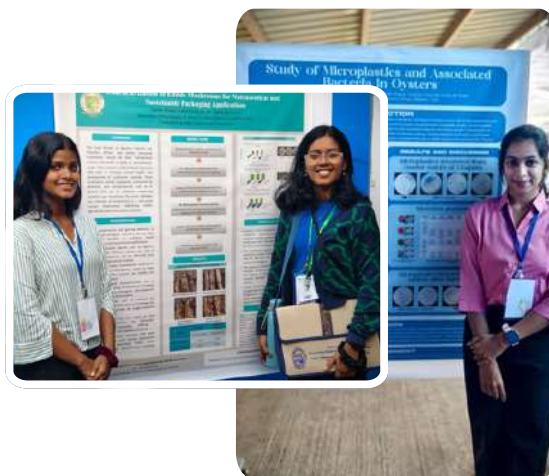
Awards

Mr. Namdev Shirodkar and Mr. Tanishq Chari were awarded Second Place for Bio-InnoQuest for their presentation titled ‘AMR-Eye: An AI-enabled Lab-in-a-box for Automated AST Interpretation’ at the three-day National Conference organised by The School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University from January 21-23, 2026, at Goa University.



Presentations

Ms. Gautami Desai presented a poster 'Microplastics as Microbial Hotspots in Edible Oysters from Goa'. Ms. Suman Prasad presented a poster 'Characterization of Edible Mushrooms for Nutraceutical and Sustainable Packaging Applications', and Asmi Chowgule presented her idea on 'Edible Mushroom-Derived Myco-Composites as Biodegradable Alternatives for Packaging Materials' at the three-day National Conference organised by The School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University.



Programmes Attended

- Arush Khorjuvekar, Namdev Shirodkar, Diksha Poojary, Sadhika Shaikh, Ayushka Naik, Lizanne D'Souza, Sakshi Patil and Soumya Sinari attended a five-day Winter School organised by The School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, Goa University from November 24-28, 2025. The programme was organised in collaboration with ICMR-NIMR (Goa), NVBDCP (Goa), Goa College of Pharmacy, and BITS Pilani (Goa). Its objective was to provide participants with theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience in vector biology, pathogen detection, vector control, and field surveillance.
- Ms. Asmi Chowgule student of TYBSc, attended 'Climate Skills: Seeds for Transition India, the five-day Sustainability and Leadership Camp organised by The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) in partnership with the British Council and HSBC, held at the TERI New Delhi Office, IHC from December 8-12, 2025. The camp brought together youth from across India for hands-on learning, leadership development, and capacity-building on climate action and sustainability.



Promotion of Research for management & control of vector borne diseases

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS



International Series lecture: On December 6 2025, an International Series Guest Lecture was delivered by Rev. Fr. Richard D'Souza SJ, Director of the Vatican Observatory. The lecture was attended by 120 beneficiaries and focused on the contributions of Christian clergy to the fields of Astronomy and Astrophysics through the centuries. Fr. Richard D'Souza

shared his inspiring journey as both a priest and an astrophysicist, eventually leading to his appointment as Director of the Vatican Observatory. He elaborated on scientific advancements in stellar composition, spectroscopy, lunar craters, asteroids, and galactic mergers, with special reference to the Andromeda Galaxy (M31). Through engaging analogies and captivating visuals of stars, galaxies, and nebulae, he explained the formation and age of stars and galaxies, making complex concepts accessible to students.



Study Field Trip: On February 4, 2026, the Department organised a study field trip to the Central Sophisticated Instrumentation Facility (CSIF) at BITS Pilani Goa Campus for 13 students. The visit was conducted with the objective of providing students with exposure to advanced research instrumentation and facilities. During the visit, the BITS Pilani technical team introduced

students to sophisticated instruments such as the High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (HRTEM), Raman Microscope, Laser Scanning Confocal Microscope (LSCM), X-Ray Diffractometer (XRD), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer, and Liquid Chromatography–Mass Spectrometer (LC-MS).

Study Tour: The Department visited the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, this academic year (2025-2026), as well as Raman Research Institute (RRI) - Bengaluru.



FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

- Dr. Manoj Salgaonkar was awarded PhD in Physics

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards



Mr Shivang Shirodkar (TYBSc) was awarded Best Leader of Opposition by the Goa State Legislative Assembly on February 25, 2026 at its Student Parliament. He was also official representative for the state of Goa at the "Know Your Leader" on December 24, 2025, organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs, Govt. of India. He was PM presenter at VBYLD 2026, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Govt. of India on January 11, 2026, where he got the opportunity to share his ideas and engage in a direct interaction with the Prime Minister.

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



Natural Language Processing: On February 25, 2025, the Computer Science and Konkani Departments jointly organised a talk titled "NLP with reference to the Konkani Language". Coordinated by faculty members Mr. Edwin D'Souza and Mr. Dharma Chodankar, the session featured resource person Dr. Annie Rajan, Head of the Computer Science Department at Dhempe College of Arts and Science. The event was attended by 50 FY, SY and TY BA Konkani and BSc Computer Science students. The session introduced the fundamentals of Natural Language Processing (NLP) — including POS Tagging, Tokenisation, Morphology, and Sentiment Analysis — using Konkani as a reference. Dr. Rajan encouraged interdisciplinary research collaborations, showcased her educational application 'Audio Pustakam', and emphasised the vital importance of utilising NLP technologies to digitally preserve regional Indian languages.



Educational Talk: On March 6, 2026, the Department hosted a talk titled "From College to Cloud – Lessons from Building, Testing and Migrating a Real Airline System". Coordinated by faculty member Ms. Prajoti Chimulkar, the session featured resource person Mr. Peter De Souza, an alumnus of the college (B.Sc. Computer

Science 2008-2011) and former Team Lead in Software Engineering for Canadian Electronics and Aviation. The talk was attended by 89 students, who were guided through the evolution of an airline crew rostering system. The presentation covered the system's transition from a monolithic architecture to cloud-based microservices using Docker and Kubernetes, alongside practical lessons on automated testing with FitNesse and real-world debugging. The event concluded with career guidance emphasizing strong fundamentals and problem-solving skills over mastering numerous frameworks.

Webinar: On March 12, 2026, the Department organised a webinar titled "Building AI-Powered Applications". Convened and coordinated by Vice-Principal Ms. Sandra Fernandes, the session featured college alumna Ms. Lucia Rodrigues (B.Sc. Computer Science 2008-2011), currently a Senior Full Stack Engineer at Maltego Technologies in Munich, Germany, as the resource person. The event was attended by 20 SYBSc Computer Science students. During the highly practical session, Ms. Rodrigues demonstrated the creation of a modern web application using the complete MERN stack with a React frontend. She further enriched the learning experience by showcasing the practical usage of a Gemini API key to seamlessly integrate artificial intelligence capabilities into the application. The event successfully bridged foundational academic concepts with cutting-edge industry innovation.



a glimpse into the realities of the modern tech world. Mr. Nadgouda shared his extensive experience in the software industry, providing valuable real-world insights into software engineering.

Software Design Talk: On March 17, 2026, the Department organised an engaging session focused on high-level software design and engineering. Coordinated by faculty member Mr. Parmanand Mandrekar, the session featured resource person Chetan Nadgouda, Principal Software Engineer from Bothell, Washington. The event was attended by SYBSc and TYBSc Computer Science students. The session offered



including coding challenges, creative contests like Canva Chronicals, and a competitive gaming tournament. Mr. Sanket Mhamal, Assistant Professor, Goa Business School, Goa University, the student coordinator of the very first edition of Exabyte, proudly graced the occasion as the chief guest for the valedictory programme. This beautiful full circle moment perfectly marked the successful end of the grand departmental technology festival this academic year.

Inter-Class Competition: On February 04, 2026, the Department hosted **Exabyte**, a dynamic IT event spearheaded by TYBSc students and student coordinator Mr. Figo Marcus Fernandes. Coordinated by faculty member Ms. Prajoti Chimulkar, the initiative provided a platform for students to showcase technical, creative, analytical, and gaming skills. The engaging program featured ten diverse competitions,



Field Trip: On February 17, 2026, the Department organised a college-level educational field trip to the Goa Institute of Management (GIM) Sanquelim Campus and the Harvalem Caves in Sanquelim. Coordinated by faculty members Mr. Parmanand Mandrekar, Ms. Prajoti Chimulkar, and Ms. Melissa Rodrigues, the excursion was attended by 49 SY and TY BSc Computer Science students. The trip provided a unique blend of modernity and historical exploration. At the GIM campus, students were introduced to various opportunities for higher education and professional courses available post-graduation. Following this, the visit to the Harvalem Caves exposed the students to the vibrant cultural heritage and historical roots of Goa, resulting in a well-rounded and enriching educational experience.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes attended

- Ms. Sandra Fernandes, Mr. Edwin D'Souza, Mr. Parmanand Mandrekar, Ms. Prajoti Chimulkar and Ms. Avani Kharde participated in a One-Day State-Level Workshop on “NEP 2020 Semester VI Syllabus for Computer Science”, organised by the Department of Computer Science, Dhempe College, Miramar in collaboration with the Board of Studies in Computer Science & Technology, Goa University on December 2, 2025.
- Mr. Edwin D'Souza participated in a State-Level Workshop on “Outcome Based Education”, organised by Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science Autonomous in collaboration with Directorate of Higher Education, Goa on February 6, 2026.
- Ms. Avani Kharde participated in a two-day National Level workshop “Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking from fundamentals to live penetration testing” organized by the department of IT & Computer Applications, SPES's Goa Multi-faculty College Dharbandora -Goa in collaboration with the Department of Science, Technology and Waste Management Government of Goa on March 13-14, 2026 at Sanskruti Bhavan Patto Panaji Goa.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Junior Under Officer Aman Jee Mishra (TYBSc), a cadet of 1 GOA BN NCC, was felicitated by Honorable Governor of Goa Shri. Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju for his exemplary performance and for being recognised as the Best Cadet 2025 during the Governor's in-house function held on February 27, 2026. Aman Jee Mishra also received prestigious Cadet welfare Society scholarship for the year 2025-26 for his outstanding achievements and active participation and meritorious performance in Academics.

Programmes attended

- Mr. Vignesh Digamber Raul (TYBSc), Mr. Dheeraj Mukhtikant Pradhan (TYBSc) attended a two-day National Level workshop “Geospatial Technologies and the Roadmap to Viksit Bharat 2047: Innovations, Applications and Future Trajectories” organised by Government of Goa’s Autonomous College of Multidisciplinary Studies and Research, Margao – Goa” in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa held on January 29-30, 2026.
- Mr. Sheehan Benjamin Rebello (SYBSc) attended a two-day National Level workshop “Cyber Security & Ethical Hacking from fundamentals to live penetration testing” organised by the department of IT & Computer Applications, SPES’s Goa Multi-faculty College Dharbandora-Goa in collaboration with the Department of Science, Technology and Waste Management Government of Goa on March 13-14, 2026 at Sanskruti Bhavan, Patto, Panaji-Goa.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Certificate Course: A Certificate Programme in Banking, Finance and Insurance (CPBFI) was conducted February 6 to March 14, 2026, under the coordination of Prof. Oscar Braganca de Melo. The programme aimed to equip students with practical knowledge and skills in banking, finance, and insurance, enhancing their career readiness. The course included modules on Banking, Managing Self, Communication and Workplace Skills (CAWS), and Insurance. The Banking module introduced students to corporate banking, customer relations, and cheque handling through interactive sessions and role plays. The Managing Self module focused on self-awareness, personal growth, and mindset development. CAWS enhanced communication, presentation, and interview skills through practical activities. The Insurance module provided insights into insurance concepts, products, and client interactions.



Tally Prime GST Course: The Department, in collaboration with Skills World, conducted a 30-hour Certificate Course in Tally Prime GST in March 2026 to enhance students' practical accounting and taxation skills. The programme aimed to improve employability by providing hands-on training in Tally Prime and GST compliance. Four students participated, guided by resource person Mrs. Rashi Shirodkar, with coordination by Mr. Carmelito Dsouza and Ms. Swizel Alphonso. The course covered key areas such as accounting and inventory management, including recording transactions, creating ledgers, and managing stock. Students were trained in GST concepts like invoice preparation, tax calculations (CGST, SGST, IGST), and input tax credit. They also learned to file GST returns (GSTR-1, GSTR-2, GSTR-3B) and generate financial reports such as Profit and Loss Accounts and Balance Sheets. Additionally, the course included TDS calculation, ensuring understanding of statutory compliance and real-world accounting practices.



Arena 2026: The Department organised its inter-collegiate business event, Arena 2026, on February 6, 2026. The event aimed to provide students with a platform to explore their potential, enhance their skills, and gain experiential learning beyond the classroom. It was coordinated by Dr. Yasmin Z. Shaikh and Ms. Victorya Rodrigues and student coordinators Mr. Emrev Fernandes, Mr. Yog Ghotge, and Mr. Sydney Dias. The day featured a variety of engaging events. Overall, Team Deal Dynasty emerged as the champions of Arena 2026.



National Seminar: A one-day National Seminar on “Recovery to Resilience in the Service Sector: Innovations and Sustainable Pathways for Transformation” was held on March 25, 2026 and organised by the Departments of Commerce, BBA, and BBA Travel & Tourism in collaboration with the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The seminar, attended by 99 participants, was convened by Dr. Yasmin Z. Shaikh. The keynote address underscored business model innovation and sustainability as essential drivers in a VUCA environment. Three technical sessions explored resilience in the pharmaceutical industry, tourism recovery through the 4R model, and the role of design thinking, agility, and circular economy. The paper presentations examined post-pandemic recovery in film exhibition, ESG practices in SMEs, and the impact of online reviews on business performance.



Outreach: The Department organised the “Joy of Giving” initiative to promote compassion and social responsibility among students. The programme supported St. Joseph’s Eventide Home, Uccasaim (37 elderly residents), and Obra De Proteção A Mulher (OPM), Nachinola (5 infants). A donation drive was conducted from March 5-16, 2026, with active participation from 20 faculty members and 200 students. On March 18, 2026, 11 student volunteers and three faculty members visited both institutions to personally hand over the donations and interact with the residents. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Sandra Fernandes.

Workshop: A workshop on “Resume Writing and Interview Mastery” was held for students of BCom on March 28, 2026. Resource Person Mr. Kirk Duarte is an alumnus of the college and serves as Senior Manager HR at Kilowatt Agency. The workshop was divided into two parts, Resume Writing: the dos and don’ts and Interview skills comprising of mock interviews. The workshop was organised by Prof. Carmelita Dmello and Ms. Mumtaz Mendonca.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Arden Osbon Rodrigues, Tanya Paes and Sybil Cajelia D'souza, TYBCom students, were part of a programme, organised by Lenovo in collaboration with BharatCares as part of its CSR initiative. The programme offered an eight-week mentored internship in Data Analytics. During this period, the students gained hands on experience in data visualisation and analytical interpretation using Tableau while working with real datasets and learning from industry mentors. As part of the internship, they worked on a project titled "Insights of Road Accidents in Goa." The project focused on analysing accident data to identify patterns and derive insights that could help in understanding road safety issues in the state. Their project was selected as the Best Project, and they were invited to present it before a panel of judges during the programme's Pitch Night. The results were announced at the Culmination Event held on January 30, 2026 at Padre Conceicao Engineering College, Verna, where the team secured First Place in the programme.



On February 28, 2026, the students of the Department participated in Insignia 10.0, a National-Level Intercollegiate Event hosted by Rosary College of Commerce and Arts. A team of 15 students showcased an outstanding performance and emerged as the Overall Champions of the event. The team was accompanied by faculty member Kimberly Barros.



On March 9, 2026, the Department of Commerce participated in Finanzaa, a National-Level Intercollegiate Event hosted by Don Bosco College, Panjim-Goa. A team of seven students participated in the event. The team was accompanied by faculty member Ms. Mumtaz Mendonca.

Programme Attended

On March 13-14, 2026, the Department of Commerce participated in Chanakya Bhoomi, a National-Level Intercollegiate Event, hosted by Shree Damodar College of Commerce & Economics, Margao-Goa. A team of six students participated in the event. The team was accompanied by faculty member Mr. Carmelito De Souza.



DEPARTMENT OF BBA



Book Swap 2026: The Department, in collaboration with the Literature Club and the College Library, organised a Book Swap on January 21, 2026. Coordinated by Ms. Vanessa Furtado (BBA Department), Ms. Dakshata Zambulkar (College Librarian), and Ms. Sunita Mesquita (Mentor, Literature Club), the event aimed to promote reading habits, encourage the sharing of personal book collections, and foster sustainability within the campus community. At a time when reading habits are perceived to be declining, the initiative showcased the vibrant reading culture at St. Xavier's College. The event attracted enthusiastic participation from over 100 students and faculty members across college, who registered their books in exchange for the opportunity to select a book from a curated collection of more than 350 books displayed in the college library.



Business with Heart 2.0: The Department, in collaboration with the TIP Cell, organised a Value Added Course titled Business with Heart at Xavier Retreat House, Baga, Goa, on February 10, 2026. The programme aimed to develop students' understanding of ethical leadership, self-awareness, values-based decision-making, and the importance of integrating personal integrity with professional success. The course was attended by 30 FYBBA students, accompanied by Ms. Vanessa Furtado. The sessions provided students with insights into philosophical foundations of leadership, drawing upon the ideas of renowned thinkers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Hannah Arendt, and Amartya Sen. Through interactive discussions, reflective exercises, group activities, business card design, and team-building games, students explored concepts such as purpose, identity, values, behaviour, and leadership responsibility.

Start-Up Street 2026: The Department, in collaboration with the Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) and the Training, Internship, and Placement (TIP) Cell, organised the inaugural Start-Up Street on February 21, 2026. Coordinated by Ms. Vanessa Furtado (HOD, BBA), Mr. Carmelito D'Souza (Convenor, E-Cell), and Ms. Ruella D'Souza (Convenor, TIP Cell), the event aimed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world business practice by providing students with hands-on entrepreneurial experience. The campus was transformed into a vibrant marketplace where students managed their own stalls, gaining practical exposure to marketing, sales, customer relations, communication, and financial management. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Kevin Mascarenhas, Founding Partner of Aspire Ventures, who encouraged students to embrace innovation, creativity, and calculated risk-taking as essential entrepreneurial qualities. As part of Converge 3.0, the event also featured an Entrepreneurship Mentors' Lounge in collaboration with the Goa Institute of Management Incubation Centre, offering aspiring entrepreneurs guidance on business development, mentorship, and funding opportunities. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation with 110 registered stalls, involving approximately 300 student entrepreneurs, along with over 150 additional online registrations.



Summit Session: As part of CONVERGE 3.0 – Shiksha Udyojak Sangam, the Department organised an Academia-Industry Summit session titled “My Journey as an Entrepreneur” on February 18, 2026. The session featured Ms. Veeam Braganza, CEO of Dsouza Biotech, as guest speaker. Aligned with the summit theme “Innovate, Integrate, Impact: Building

Goa's future ready changemakers,” she shared insights on the speakers entrepreneurship journey, entrepreneurial challenges, innovation, and the mindset required for building sustainable ventures. The event was organised by Ms. Vanessa Furtado.

SYBBA Field Visit to Rasraj Farms: The Department organised an educational field visit on February 25, 2026 at Rasraj Farms, Mollem, Goa. Coordinated by Ms. Charmaine Dias and Mr. Vernon Desa, the visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to agri-entrepreneurship, sustainable business practices, and strategic management concepts. The students of the SYBBA Batch 2024–2027 had the opportunity to interact with Mr. Vandit Naik, Founder and owner of Rasraj Farms, an award-winning 34-acre organic enterprise. Through guided tours and interactive sessions, students gained insights into the farm's direct-to-consumer (D2C) business model, organic branding strategies, and farm-to-table approach. The visit showcased how innovation, sustainability, and value-added services such as eco-tourism contribute to business success. Students also participated in hands-on activities, including vermicomposting and beekeeping, which highlighted the importance of teamwork, communication, and operational coordination in integrated farming systems.



National Seminar: The Departments of Commerce, BBA, and BBA Travel & Tourism, in collaboration with the IQAC and the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCl), organized a National Seminar titled “Recovery to Resilience in the Service Sector: Innovations and Sustainable Pathways for Transformation” on March 25, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

BBA Students attended Converge 3.0 – Talk on “**Sales as a Life Skill**” on February 18, 2026. The TIP Cell of St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa, in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), Goa State Higher Education Council (GSHEC), and Business Network International (BNI), were organizers. The session was coordinated by Ms. Ruella D’Souza and Vanessa Furtado and featured Mr. Stedwick Fernandes, CEO of Fernscorp and a member of BNI, as the resource person. The objective of the session was to promote a positive understanding of sales as an essential life skill and to help students recognize the importance of communication, networking, and relationship-building in both personal and professional contexts.

Through the “**Start Young, Dream Big!**” podcast series, Prime Business Network, hosted by Ryan Vaz, our BBA students had the privilege to share their experiences in digital marketing, creative entrepreneurship, and event hosting, reflecting innovation, passion, and leadership beyond the classroom. Uzaif Dodamani, SYBBA student and digital marketing expert, and Naomi Remedios, TYBBA student and creative entrepreneur, were featured in podcasts.



Podcast

DEPARTMENT OF BBA (T&T)



National Study Tour to Hyderabad: The Department organised a National Study Tour to Hyderabad from December 11-16, 2025, for TY students as part of their academic curriculum. The tour aimed to provide practical exposure to tourism destinations, travel logistics, and destination management. Accompanied by two faculty members and a professional tour guide from Travel Bug, students visited several prominent attractions including Birla Mandir, Nehru Zoological Park, NTR Gardens, Statue of Equality, Charminar, Golconda Fort, Salar Jung Museum, and Lumbini Park. A major highlight was the visit to Ramoji Film City, where students gained insights into film production, special effects, and entertainment tourism.



Agritourism Field trip to Ras Raj Goa Farms: Students of SYBBA (Travel & Tourism) visited Ras Raj Goa Farms on February 25, 2026 an inspiring agritourism destination that connects agriculture with tourism. Developed by the Naik family, the farm demonstrates how sustainable farming practices can be transformed into meaningful tourism experiences. During the visit, students observed organic farming methods, mixed

cropping, dairy management, and beekeeping, gaining valuable insights into sustainable agricultural practices. The visit also highlighted how farms can diversify their income through tourism while promoting environmental awareness and appreciation of rural culture. Ms. Chelsea Martins and Ms. Sarita Mahale accompanied the students.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Programmes attended

Ms. Sarita Mahale and Ms Chelsea Martins attended a workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education at the DHE on November 3-7, 2025.

Ms Sarita Mahale, Ms Chelsea Martins and Mr Rommel Pinheiro attended a National Seminar on Recovery to resilience in the service sector Innovations and Sustainable Pathways for Transformation on March 25, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

Students won third Place at INSIGNIA National Level Under Graduate Fest organised by St. Aloysius University on March 16, 2026.

Programmes attended

Thirty students from the BBA (Travel & Tourism) Department visited Excellence Education Academy, a premier UK-accredited hospitality and culinary institute, on March 20, 2026, for an educational workshop. Coordinated by Ms. Chelsea Martins, the visit provided a valuable blend of theoretical learning and hands-on experience, highlighting the strong link between tourism and culinary arts. Students explored modern facilities, including advanced kitchens, bakery units, and a bartending room, and participated in group-based practical sessions such as pizza making, mocktail preparation, and baking.



DEPARTMENT OF BCA



Visit to Goa Legislative Assembly: A field trip was conducted for the FYBCA Students to the Goa Legislative Assembly on September 22, 2025. The students got to learn the rules and procedures of the house when in session and even got to experience the live proceedings of the Assembly session. 41 students from FYBCA participated in this field trip which was coordinated by Mr. Anthony Lobo from the Department of Political Science.

Photography Field Trip: A photography field trip was conducted for the SYBCA students on October 11, 2025. The session provided the students with practical knowledge on improving photography skills, understanding lighting and many more. The resource person for the field trip was Mr. Lisvan Rodrigues, Department of Mass Communication & Journalism, St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. Thirty-four students from SYBCA attended the workshop, which was coordinated by Mr. Worrel D'Souza.



Full Stack Development Workshop: A workshop was conducted for TYBCA students on October 15, 2025. The session provided the students with practical knowledge on ReactJS, NodeJS, ExpressJS and other current technologies and Industry trends. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Snehal Harmalkar, Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science, Dhemphe College of Arts and Science, Miramar who also happens to be an alumnus of St. Xavier's College. Thirty-seven students from TYBCA attended the workshop, which was coordinated by Ms. Arati Kadam.



E-Commerce Workshop: A one-day workshop was conducted for College Teachers teaching the TYBCA Minor (VET) course “E-Commerce Applications” in various colleges offering the BCA course all over Goa on January 10, 2026. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Godfrey Fernandes, Senior Front-End Engineer at Flipkart, an alumnus of the first batch of the BCA department. The workshop was coordinated by Mr. Worrel D’Souza.

Techlipse 2026: The Department organised its Annual State Level Intercollegiate event Techlipse on January 31, 2026. This was the 12th Edition of the event, which had five colleges participating in the same. The chief guest for the event was Ms. Anliya Mathews, Senior Systems Administrator, International Workplace Group (UK), an alumna of the Department. Don Bosco College, Panjim emerged overall winners. The event was coordinated by Mr. Worrel D’Souza.



Techbytes 2026: The annual Intra departmental event Techbytes was held on February 26, 2026. The three teams of FYBCA, SYBCA, TYBCA participated in various competitions and the TYBCA secured the overall Winners Trophy. The event was coordinated by Ms. Aquilla Afonso.

Field Trip: A field trip was conducted for the TYBCA students to the National Forensic Sciences University, Curti Ponda on March 2, 2026. The visit provided practical exposure to various branches of forensic science including digital forensics, biology, chemistry, fingerprint analysis and drone applications for the same. The field trip was coordinated by Ms. Shruthi Nair.





E-Waste Exhibition: St. Xavier's College hosted science students and teachers from high schools and higher secondary schools as part of Open Lab Day, in commemoration of National Science Day 2026 on March 17, 2026. On this occasion, the Department organised an e-waste exhibition. Students of FYBCA and SYBCA actively participated by demonstrating innovative items they created using e-waste, and explained how such materials can be reused sustainably. The exhibition witnessed participation from 10 schools and two higher secondary institutions, along with their teachers. The exhibition was coordinated by Ms. Shruthi Nair.

E-Waste Field Trip: A field trip was organised for the FY students on March 28, 2026. The visit aimed to provide practical exposure to sustainable waste management practices in the city of Panaji. The field trip included visits to Bulk Composting Facility in Panaji, Model Residential Society Complex, Material Recovery Facility Plant, St. Inez, Wet Waste Treatment Plant, and PAWS Animal Care Facility. The field trip was coordinated by Ms Shruthi Nair and Mr Worrel D'Souza.



2D Animation Workshop: A workshop was conducted for the FYBCA students titled "Character Design" on March 20, 2026. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Sanket Lawande, Caricature Artist, Illustrator and Teacher at Dada Vaidya High School, Curti, Ponda. Thirt-five students from FYBCA attended the workshop, which was coordinated by Ms. Aquilla Afonso.

BEST PRACTICES

- Use of E-Waste for decorations created at various events.
- E-Files instead of physical copies of journals for lab practicals.
- Field trips organised to create awareness for E-waste and other waste segregation.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Ms. Aquilla Afonso and Mr Stalin D'Sa attended a Faculty Development programme on “Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education” organised by Directorate of Higher Education, Goa from November 3-7, 2026



Mr. Worrel D'Souza was appointed as the Assistant Coach for the Goa University Women's Football Team which secured the overall 3rd place at the West Zone Inter University Football Championship held at Rewa, Madhya Pradesh. He was also appointed as the Assistant Coach for the Goa University Women's Football Team at the Prestigious Khelo India University Games 2024-2025 at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENTS



Ten students participated in and emerged winners at IT Maestros XIII, a State Level Inter collegiate IT Event organised by SES's Sridora Caculo College of Commerce and Management Studies, Mapusa on January 10, 2026.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY



Outstation Trip: The Department organised an outstation academic trip to Thrissur, Kerala, from November 25-30, 2025. The visit included participation in a National Symposium titled “Advances in Cancer Research: Taming Cancer – Progress and Promises” held at the Amala Cancer Research Centre. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes and Mr. Vishal Mardolkar, with 11 TY BSc Biotechnology students participating. The trip also included visits to cultural sites in Kochi such as the Dutch Palace, Hill Palace, and Fort Kochi.

Career Guidance Session: On January 5, 2026, the Departments of Microbiology and Biotechnology, in association with the Microbiologists Society of India, organised a session on “*Careers in Food Technology*” for TY Biotechnology and Microbiology students. The session was delivered by Dr. Maria Cordeiro, Assistant Professor, Post Graduate Department of Food Technology, Carmel College, Nuvem, Goa. Dr. Cordeiro introduced the field as an integration of science, technology, and innovation, focusing on food processing, safety, quality assurance, and product development, along with career opportunities in industry and research.



“Biowizards – Potential Unleashed 2026”:

The Department organised the ninth edition of the inter-higher secondary event Biowizards on February 9, 2026, themed “BioFrontiers – Innovating Tomorrow.” The event aimed to foster scientific curiosity, creativity, and innovation among students.

Around 70 participants from five higher secondary schools competed in eight events. The programme included the release of the departmental newsletter “Sequence – Unravel Yourself.” St. Xavier’s Higher Secondary School emerged as the overall champion, followed by Harmal Panchakrushi Higher Secondary School and Shri Shantadurga Higher Secondary School as first and second runners-up. The valedictory session featured Chief Guest Mr. Donovan Rodrigues, Co-founder of MyOwnBrews.



Career Awareness Session: A career guidance session was delivered on March 17, 2026 by Mr. Vikash Kumar Yadav, Assistant Professor of Biotechnology. The talk focused on creating awareness about various career opportunities in the field of biotechnology. Mr. Yadav shared insights into his research work, helping students understand its practical applications and relevance. He also guided students on higher education pathways, competitive examinations, and skill development required for building a successful career in biotechnology. Additionally, he introduced biotechnology programmes offered at Goa University, with special emphasis on Marine Biotechnology and its growing significance in research and industry.



Field Trip: On March 28, 2026, a total of 19 TY B.Sc. Biotechnology students, accompanied by Dr. Larissa Menezes, visited Nestlé India Ltd., Ponda, to gain practical exposure to industrial food processing. Upon arrival, the group was briefed by Ms. Prithvy Velingkar, HR in-charge, regarding safety protocols and conduct within the factory premises.

All participants were equipped with protective gear and underwent hygiene procedures before entering the production area. Students observed the KitKat production line, including wafer baking, cooling, chocolate coating, moulding, drying, packaging, and palletising using automated machinery. The visit also included insights into raw material handling, quality control, and HACCP practices.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations

- Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes presented a poster titled “Citrus Peel Biofilms: Bioactive Antimicrobial Wound Dressing” in the One Day State Level Seminar titled “The Green Cure: Discovering the Power of Medicinal Plants,” organised by the Department of Botany, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa-Goa, on February 24, 2026.
- Mr. Vishal Mardolkar Sahistha also presented a poster titled “Harnessing Endophytic Fungi from Medicinal Plants for Green Biotechnology” at the seminar.

Programmes attended

- Mr. Vishal Mardolkar and Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes participated in a 2-day National Symposium titled “Advances in Cancer Research: Taming Cancer – Progress and Promises,” held at the Amala Cancer Research Centre on November 28 and 29, 2025.
- Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes participated in a One Week Faculty Development Programme (FDP) for the Science Cluster – Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools for Pedagogical Enhancement in Higher Education, from January 12-16, 2026.
- Mr. Vishal Mardolkar and Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes attended the One Day State Level Seminar titled “The Green Cure: Discovering the Power of Medicinal Plants,” organised by the Department of Botany, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa-Goa, on February 24, 2026.
- Dr. Larissa Menezes, Mr. Vishal Mardolkar, and Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes participated in Vidnyan Dhara 2026 organised by the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), Goa, on March 5, 2026, at Sanskriti Bhavan, Directorate of Art and Culture, Patto, Panaji, Goa.
- Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes participated in the National Conference on “Translational Biotechnology and Sustainable Bioeconomy” in TRANSBIO 2026 on March 13, 2026, at St. Aloysius, Deemed to be University, Mangaluru.

Invited Speaker

- Dr. Larissa Menezes delivered an interactive session on “Basics in Microbiology and Food Biotechnology” at St. Joseph High School, Tivai Vaddo, Calangute, Goa, on January 5, 2026, as a part of Vidnyan Dhara 2026.
- Ms. Jenica Rangel delivered an interactive session on “Decode the green language: Identifying leaves and inflorescences” at St. Aloysius High School, Sateribhat, Diwadi, Goa, on January 10, 2026, as a part of Vidnyan Dhara 2026.
- Ms. Jenica Rangel delivered an interactive session on “Decode the green language: Identifying leaves and inflorescences” at St. Elizabeth’s High School, Pomburpha, Goa, on January 21, 2026, as a part of Vidnyan Dhara 2026.
- Dr. Larissa Menezes delivered an interactive session on “Basics in Microbiology and Food Biotechnology” at Mary Immaculate Girl’s High School, Panaji, Goa, on February 2, 2026, as a part of Vidnyan Dhara 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Presentations

- Aleteha, Pooja, Abhidnya, and Asmita from TY Biotechnology presented a poster titled “Citrus Peel Biofilms: Bioactive Antimicrobial Wound Dressing” in the One Day State Level Seminar titled “The Green Cure: Discovering the Power of Medicinal Plants,” organised by the Department of Botany, St. Xavier’s College, Mapusa-Goa, on February 24, 2026.

- Alethea, Pooja, Asmita, and Shreyash from TY Biotechnology presented a poster titled “Citrus Peel Biofilm: Bioactive Antimicrobial Wound Dressing” at Kalpak 2026 – Poster competition for final year students, organized by the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), Goa, on March 5, 2026, at Sanskriti Bhavan, Directorate of Art and Culture, Patto, Panaji, Goa.
- Jaheerul, Jyoti, and Najina from TY Biotechnology presented their research titled “Comparative Analysis of Sediment Quality Across Five Mangrove Ecosystems in Goa” at Kalpak 2026.
- Abigail, Blossom, Kaitlyn, Sasha, and Sahistha from TY Biotechnology presented a poster titled “Medicinal Plant Endophytes as Biofactories of Laccase and Lipase for Environmental Bioremediation Application” at Kalpak 2026.
- Alethea and Pooja from TY Biotechnology presented a research poster titled “Bridging Waste Management and Material Science through Translational Biotechnology: Valorisation of fruit peels for a Circular Bioeconomy” at the National Conference on “Translational Biotechnology and Sustainable Bioeconomy” in TRANSBIO 2026 on March 13, 2026, at St. Aloysius, Deemed to be University, Mangaluru.
- Aloma from TY Biotechnology presented a research poster titled “Beyond Basic Nutrition: Development of Innovative Functional Group” at the same conference.
- Jaheerul and Najina from TY Biotechnology presented a research poster titled “Comparative Analysis of Sediment Quality Across Five Mangrove Ecosystem in Goa” at the National Conference.
- Sahistha from TY Biotechnology presented a research poster titled “Harnessing Endophytic Fungi as Sustainable bioresource for Industrial Applications” at the National Conference.

Programmes attended

- Shayina, Sakshi, Nafia, Priya, Deepal from SY Biotechnology, and Jolisa from FY Biotechnology participated in a hands-on training workshop on Basic Technologies of Microbiology organised by CSIR-NIO from November 11 to November 14, 2025.
- Alethea, Pooja, Abhidnya, Blossom, Saloni, Jaheerul, Taniel, Shreyash, Khushi, Mitali, and Jyoti from TY Biotechnology participated in a two-day National Symposium titled “Advances in Cancer Research: Taming Cancer – Progress and Promises,” held at the Amala Cancer Research Centre on November 28-29, 2025.
- Shayina, Sakshi, Nafia, Deepal, Priya, Saloni, Zoe, Prerna, Anushka, and Suhani from SY Biotechnology attended the seminar on the 7th edition of the Manohar Parrikar Vidyan Mahotsav on December 18, 2025, organised by the Department of Science, Technology and Waste Management, Government of Goa.
- Deepal, Shayina, Tanishq, Nafia, Aashana, Priya, and Vedhika from SY Biotechnology participated in a hands-on training on DNA barcoding of Marine Biodiversity organised by NIO Goa on January 12-13, 2026.
- Tanishq, Aashana, Vidhi, Lynn, Mabel, and Vedhika from SY Biotechnology participated in a hands-on training on Cell Culture Techniques and 3D Printing at BITS Goa on February 12-14, 2026.

- Deepal, Tanishq, and Aashana from SY Biotechnology participated in a hands-on training on Marine Bacterial Identification organized by NIO-Goa on February 17-20, 2026.
- Aleteha, Pooja, Abhidnya, Asmita, Abigail, Blossom, Kaitlyn, Sasha, and Sahistha from TY Biotechnology attended the One Day State Level Seminar titled “The Green Cure: Discovering the Power of Medicinal Plants.
- Alethea, Pooja, Asmita, Shreyash, Jaherul, Jyoti, Najina, Abigail, Blossom, Kaitlyn, Sasha, and Sahistha from TY Biotechnology participated in Vidnyan Dhara 2026 organised by the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), Goa, on March 5, 2026, at Sanskriti Bhavan, Directorate of Art and Culture, Patto, Panaji, Goa.
- Aloma, Sahistha, Pooja, Alethea, Jaherul, and Najina from TY Biotechnology participated in the National Conference on “Translational Biotechnology and Sustainable Bioeconomy” in TRANSBIO 2026.



DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM



Bootcamp: IGNITE 1.0, a two-day Bootcamp, was organised for the students of FY, SY and TY on December 6-7, 2025 at Don Bosco Provincial House, Odxel. The Bootcamp dealt with areas of leadership, need for teamwork and positivity; it also had sessions around understanding oneself – identity and empathy towards others. The workshop aimed at helping students understand the importance of self-esteem and growth. Resource persons included Fr Ramiro Luis, Fr Regan Fernandes, Mrs Mylin Gonsalves and Ms Megha Gulati. The Bootcamp cum workshop was organised by Mr Anzil Fernandes and Ms Jonquil Sudhir.

Distinguished Alumni Series: On December 18, 2025, Karen Fernandes, director of Meraki Socials, a social media startup on social media marketing, addressed students through a lecture. The session, attended by SY and TY MCJ students, highlighted the ABCs of Social Media Marketing where students explored the world of social media marketing by understanding SEO optimisation, client servicing and understanding the workflow of the business. She also offered one-on-one coaching opportunities for the students.



Higher education: On March 9, 2026, the Department organised a double Distinguished alumni talk given by Umesha Benari and Neha Pandey from the batch of 2021-22, who shared their experience as budding academicians and media professionals respectively. As Umesha is pursuing her PhD in International Relations from University of Kerala, she discussed the skills and research background needed in higher education. Neha Jadhav is a voice over artist and spoke on changes in the field from accents to clarity and the increasing use of AI.



Mediascope X: On January 10, 2026, the Department organised the tenth edition of MediaScope, an inter-higher secondary school media festival. Coordinated by Ms. Jonquil Sudhir and Mr. Dinesh Nirawdekar, the event aimed to introduce participants to the dynamic world of media through a series of creative and skill-based competitions. A total of ten higher secondary institutions participated in the event, which was inaugurated by Chief

Guest Mr. Vardhan Dhaimodkar, acclaimed filmmaker, director, editor, and alumnus of the college, who inspired students with insights into the evolving media landscape. Sharada Mandir Higher Secondary School emerged as the overall winner, with Navy School HSS and St. Xavier's HSS securing the first and second runner-up positions respectively. The programme concluded successfully with enthusiastic participation and widespread appreciation from students, teachers, and organisers.



Experiential field trip: An experiential field trip to Hampi, Karnataka was organised from 15-18, 2026. A total of 19 students were accompanied by Mr. Nitin Volvoikar, Mr. Dinesh Nirawdekar and Ms. Megan Fernandes. During the visit, the faculty guided the students in sourcing content for nearly six practical assignments, including video features, expedition reports, essays in print and visual storytelling formats. Students explored Anjanadri Hills, believed to be the birthplace of Lord Hanuman, where they witnessed the sunrise. They also experienced a coracle ride, a popular local attraction and visited prominent heritage sites such as the Virupaksha Temple, Hazara Rama Temple, and Vijaya Vittala Temple which features the iconic Stone Chariot and musical pillars, a UNESCO World Heritage site, Sanapur Lake, Durga Temple, etc.



Media Study Tour: The Department organised a Media Study Tour for SY and TY students from March 18-21, 2026 to Mangaluru and Mysuru. The tour aimed to provide practical exposure to media institutions, enhance students' understanding of newsroom operations and enrich their overall learning through field experiences. As part of the tour, students visited St. Aloysius College, Mangaluru, where they interacted with the faculty of Department of Media Studies (PG). The Head of the Department Professor. Bhavya Shetty and Faculty Mr. Vishal Nayak briefed the students on the academic structure, facilities and functioning of the department. The visit included a guided tour of the campus, during which students observed the working of the community radio station Sarang. In Mysuru, students visited the newsroom of the evening newspaper Star of Mysuru. Mr. Kenneth Shishir. S, Senior Sub Editor, introduced students to the functioning of a newsroom, including news gathering, editing and layout processes. Students also explored prominent historical and cultural sites. Twenty-four students gained a deeper understanding of media operations while also creating memorable experiences under the guidance of Mr. Nitin Volvoikar and Mr. Anzil Fernandes.

Enterprising Bazaar: The students of FYMCJ organised an Enterprising Entrepreneurs challenge by setting up small business kiosks to put the four Ps of Marketing into action. Students set up a small bazaar with sales of various items like stickers, keychains, snacks and chaats, sandwiches and various other items on February, 18, 2024. Students learned the skills of pitching and promotion tactics while working in teams. The activity was organised by Ms Jonquil Sudhir.



Media Fest 6.0: The three-day inter-class competition was organised by the Department March 6, 7, and 13, 2026. The event brought together students from all three years, who showcased their talents in a range of competitions. During the inaugural, the Final Year students' projects consisting of documentaries, short films and News Magazine were released. The event featured a diverse range of competitions, with the Third Year students emerging as overall winners, followed by First Year and Second Year students.

Field Trip: On March 26, FY students were taken to Zeroposro – an organic venture at Farm life organics, Parra. They interacted with Jonah Fernandes, the mind behind Zeroposro to understand the need for sustainable food and organic produce in urban spaces today. They also walked through the farm to look at poultry farming, watermelon and banana plantations along with pulses and other vegetables being grown. Students were accompanied by Ms Vailarose Fernandes.

Outreach: The students of FY MCJ went on a 'Joy of Giving' visit to Novisurvart, an NGO that caters to children in need of palliative care. Accompanied by Ms Jonquil Sudhir and Ms Vailarose Fernandes, students observed the children undergoing physiotherapy and other sessions for various neurological condition. They also interacted with Dr. Philomena De Souza, who explained the work carried out by the organisation in supporting children and their families, not just with their health needs but also procedural requirements at hospitals and government bodies.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- On December 18, PACT foundation felicitated the students of SY and FYBA MCJ with Certificates of Appreciation for leading a Social Media Campaign for the organisation. The campaign was to strengthen their search for two students to be sent for the QS World Youth Summit at London. The social media campaign was led by Evanna Vaz, Saandrushka Viegas, Kajal Ram, Meehir Ghotge and Jeremias Fernandes and was a short internship with PACT foundation.
- The Department had two films selected at the WAVES International Short Film Festival – Goa 3.0. First was the TYBA Documentary Film 'Hovyo', which was directed by Tanisha Pawar, Loukik Avsare, manoj rathod, Vaibhavi Joshi and Vibha Betkar. The second film was produced by students of SYBA and FYBA – Chimera which was part of the 60 hours short film competition challenge. The film was directed by Warren Pereira, Screenplay by Tanushree Nair, DOP – Warren Fernandes and Yohan Fernandes. Both the films were screened at the WAVES film festival at ESG, Goa.

POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Movie Screening: A 'Film Screening and Psychological Analysis' of *The Bishop's Wife* was organised by the Department for their students on December 10, 2025. The session was coordinated by Dr. Kshipra Vora, Ms. Mary-Jane D'Souza, Ms. Vaishnavi Ghosarwadkar, and Ms. Janice Zuzarte. The screening aimed to facilitate experiential and application-based learning through cinema, using the film's exploration of faith, human relationships, moral dilemmas, and emotional conflicts as a base for psychological inquiry. Students were encouraged to observe and interpret character behaviour through concepts such as empathy, cognitive dissonance, role conflict, and interpersonal dynamics. The screening was followed by an interactive discussion where students critically reflected on character motivations and connected theoretical frameworks with real-life situations.



Christmas Celebration: Faculty and students celebrated Christmas on December 16, 2025, coordinated by all members of the faculty. The celebration aimed to foster a sense of community, joy, and emotional connectedness among students while also highlighting the psychological significance

of festivals in enhancing well-being and social bonding. The event included engaging activities such as carol singing, interactive games, group performances, and reflective sharing, creating a warm and inclusive atmosphere. Students actively participated, expressing creativity and collaboration, which contributed to strengthening peer relationships and reducing academic stress. The celebration also provided an opportunity to reflect on themes of gratitude, empathy, and togetherness from a psychological perspective.

Emotional Awareness Session: "From Awareness to Action: Building Emotionally Informed Leaders," was organised for the Department students on January 29, 2026. The session was conducted by Ms. Chrissy Gomes from COOJ Mental Health Foundation, Ms. Sandra D'Mello, college counselor, and Ms. Beverly Monteiro, college counselor and distinguished alumna of the department, as part of the Distinguished Alumnus Series. The session focused on translating emotional awareness into meaningful leadership practices, emphasising the role of emotional intelligence in decision-making, interpersonal effectiveness, and responsible leadership. Through interactive discussions, reflective exercises, and real-life illustrations, students were encouraged to examine their emotional responses, enhance self-regulation, and develop empathy in leadership contexts. The resource persons shared practical strategies to navigate complex social and professional environments with sensitivity and resilience.

Canteen Mela: A student-led fundraiser was organised on February 10, 2026, coordinated by the faculty. The event provided students with an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills, teamwork, and organisational abilities while working towards a common goal. Students actively participated in planning and executing the mela, setting up food stalls, managing finances, and promoting the event within the campus. The activity encouraged creativity, collaboration, and practical application of planning and management skills. It also fostered a sense of responsibility and ownership among students as they worked collectively to ensure the success of the fundraiser.

Flourish Fiesta: A departmental initiative titled Flourish Fiesta: A Celebration of Mental Health Awareness was organised as a vibrant campus-wide event aimed at promoting psychological well-being and holistic growth. The event featured a range of interactive activities focused on self-care, emotional expression, and awareness-building, encouraging students to reflect on their mental health in a positive and supportive environment. A key highlight of the event was the inclusion of eco-conscious initiatives such as an eco store and a thrift store, promoting sustainability and responsible consumption alongside psychological well-being. These initiatives reinforced the interconnectedness of personal wellness and environmental responsibility.

Alumni Meet: A departmental initiative titled Psych Connect: Alumni Meet was organised on February 11, 2026 as an informal and engaging platform to reconnect with alumni. The event was coordinated by all members of the faculty and was designed as a flexible, walk-in gathering that encouraged spontaneous participation. Alumni shared their professional journeys, insights, and reflections, offering current students valuable perspectives on career paths and personal growth. The informal structure of the event allowed for open conversations, strengthening bonds between past and present members of the department.

Pre Placement Drive: A departmental activity titled Pre-Placement Drive was conducted on February 11, 2026. This initiative marked an important first step towards introducing structured placement-oriented engagement within the department. The drive aimed to provide students with exposure to potential career pathways, employer expectations, and the practical realities of recruitment within the field of psychology. However, the response to the event was relatively limited, reflecting the unique nature of career opportunities in psychology, where recruitment is often need-based, qualification-specific, and dependent on the availability of vacancies rather than large-scale campus hiring.

Student & Alumni Pop-Up: An exhibition was organised on February 11, 2026. It was conceptualised as a platform to promote entrepreneurial skills among students while also extending support and visibility to alumni who have ventured into business and independent initiatives. The event showcased a diverse range of products and creative ventures by both students and alumni, encouraging innovation, self-expression, and practical application of business ideas. It provided an opportunity for participants to engage directly with the campus community, enhancing their confidence, marketing skills, and understanding of consumer engagement. The collaboration between current students and alumni created a dynamic exchange of ideas, experiences, and mentorship.

Trauma-Focused Counselling Workshop: A departmental activity titled Trauma-Focused Counseling Workshop was conducted on February 18-19. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Sakshi Grover of Cognizavest, who brought in-depth expertise and practical insights into trauma-informed care and therapeutic interventions. The sessions focused on building an understanding of trauma, its psychological impact, and effective counseling approaches to support individuals experiencing distress. The workshop emphasised sensitivity, ethical considerations, and the importance of a client-centered approach in trauma work.

COOJ Certificate Course: A 30-hour Certificate Course in Psychosocial Rehabilitation was conducted in collaboration with COOJ Mental Health Foundation. The course was designed to provide PG Psychology students with in-depth, practice-oriented exposure to the field of psychosocial rehabilitation. The programme focused on equipping students with knowledge and skills related to psychological assessments, therapeutic interventions, and rehabilitation strategies for individuals with mental health concerns. Through interactive sessions, demonstrations, and guided practical experiences, students were introduced to various psychological tests and evidence-based intervention techniques. A key highlight of the course was the opportunity for firsthand engagement with patients under professional supervision, enabling students to understand real-world clinical dynamics and challenges.

International Seminar: A joint departmental initiative titled The Empathy Advantage: Reimagining Communication and Relationships in a Connected World was organised as an international seminar by the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Departments of Psychology on March 6, 2026. The seminar featured distinguished international resource persons, Mr. Thomas Teisen from Denmark and Ms. Regina Lomarda from the Philippines, who shared valuable global perspectives on empathy, communication, and relationship-building in contemporary society. The seminar was open to participants across the state, encouraging wide engagement and interdisciplinary learning. A unique highlight of the event was a game-based activity conducted for college students, where participants were tasked with designing a board game aligned with the seminar's theme. This innovative exercise promoted creativity, application of psychological concepts, and collaborative thinking.

Eid On Campus: This initiative was organised on March 23, 2026 as part of the department's continued efforts to celebrate diversity, secularity, and inclusivity. Coordinated by all members of the faculty, the event built upon earlier celebrations such as Navratri and Christmas. The celebration provided a warm and informal space where students and faculty came together to share traditional Eid delicacies and engage in meaningful conversations about the significance and values associated with the festival.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

Ms. Vaishnavi Gosarwadkar and Dr. Kshipra Vora co-authored a research paper titled: "Beyond the Board: Assessment of Personality and Coping among Chess Players in Goa". This paper has been published in the Vidyabharati International Interdisciplinary Research Journal, a UGC CARE-listed journal.

Invited Speaker

Dr. Kshipra Vora contributed academically by chairing and moderating two paper presentation sessions at the International Conference on Ethics, Values and Human Dignity in Healthcare: Psychological, Literary, Artistic and Medical Perspectives, organised by Dhempe College of Arts and Science on February 23-24, 2026. Dr. Kshipra was also invited to Navodaya Leadership Institute, Canacona, to deliver sessions on Adolescent Mental Health on April 6, April 20 and May 4, 2026.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Awards

The PG Psychology students participated in Psych Aura, an intercollegiate psychological event organised by Don Bosco College, Panaji, on January 27, 2026 and secured the position of Runner-Up, marking a significant achievement for the department.

Attended

Students attended the Career Conclave organised by the Government of Goa on January 30-31, 2026 at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium, Bambolim. The conclave served as a comprehensive platform bringing together professionals, organisations, and academic institutions to provide insights into diverse career pathways and emerging opportunities. Participation in the conclave enabled students to gain clarity regarding career choices, understand industry expectations, and develop a broader perspective on professional growth.

POST GRADUATE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY



Outstation Trip: The Department organised an outstation academic trip to Thrissur, Kerala, from November 25-30, 2025. The visit included participation in a National Symposium titled “Advances in Cancer Research: Taming Cancer – Progress and Promises” held at the Amala Cancer Research Centre. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes and Mr. Vishal Mardolkar, with 11 TY BSc Biotechnology students participating. The trip also included visits to cultural sites in Kochi such as the Dutch Palace, Hill Palace, and Fort Kochi.

Stress Management: On February 2, 2026, the Department held a “Stress Management” session for all students under them. The session was conducted by Ms. Beverly Sibia Monteiro, College Counsellor, with the objective of helping students understand stress and develop effective coping strategies to enhance their mental well-being and daily life. The resource person discussed common sources of stress among college students, including examinations, assignments, family expectations, and career-related concerns, while emphasising that stress is a normal part of life that must be managed effectively. Students were introduced to practical stress-management techniques such as breathing exercises, meditation, relaxation methods, time management, positive thinking, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. A total of 13 students benefited from the session.



Hands-On Training: On February 5-6, 2026, the Department organised a two-day programme titled “Hands-on Training: Understanding Lab Instruments” for M.Sc. Part II and TYBSc Chemistry students. Coordinated by Mrs. Rupali Neje, the training aimed to provide practical exposure to the functioning and applications of sophisticated analytical instruments used in chemical research.

The first day featured sessions on Cyclic Voltammetry by Mrs. Mamata Prabugaunkar, X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) by Ms. Flavia Travasso, and Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) by Ms. Fami Fernandes, focusing on their principles and research applications. On the second day, Mrs. Rupali Neje conducted sessions on Ultraviolet-Visible Spectroscopy and Flame Spectrophotometry, explaining their instrumentation, working principles, and quantitative applications in chemical analysis.



Value Added Course: The Department organised a four-hour value-added course for M.Sc. Part II students with the objective of enhancing their knowledge of modern research methodologies and advanced analytical instrumentation. A key focus of the course was recent developments in nanomaterials research and the application of sophisticated instruments in scientific investigations. Students gained practical exposure to laboratory analysis using techniques such as UV-Visible Spectroscopy, Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Cyclic Voltammetry (CV), and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD). The technical demonstrations and hands-on sessions were conducted by Mrs. Rupali Neje and Ms. Fami Fernandes, who emphasised the working principles and applications of these instruments.



Chemscope: On March 12, 2026, the Postgraduate and Undergraduate Departments of Chemistry collaborated to organise “Chemscope 2026,” a State-Level Inter-Collegiate event aimed at fostering enthusiasm, creativity, and academic engagement among Chemistry students. Mrs. Mamata Prabhugaonkar was the PG Convenor, and Mrs. Rupali Neje the M.Sc. Course Coordinator.



National Energy Conservation Day: On December 16, 2025, the National Energy Conservation Day was commemorated. Rangoli and Collage-Making competitions were held. The event was successful in promoting environmental awareness and student engagement through creative expression.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Publications

Dr Mamata Prabhugainkar published a research paper – Prabhugaonkar, M., Kini, J. H., Swamy, B. K., & Manjunatha, L. S. (2025). Electrochemical investigation of 5-fluorouracil at ZnO modified carbon paste electrode. *Materials Letters*, 139268.



CYBER CLUB



The **Cyber Club** organised "Cyber Conclave: A Talk on Cyber Crime, Cyber Security and Cyber Law" on December 17, 2025 featuring Advocate Eeshan Usapkar, practicing at the Hon'ble High Court and Civil & Criminal Courts across Goa, Mumbai, Pune, Vizag, and Assam. Over 60 participants, eager to understand the intersection of technology and law, attended.



The **Cyber Club** partnered with the Bastora Free Legal Aid Cell of V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar to conduct a talk on "Cyber Crime Prevention and Cyber Law" on January 12, 2026. The resource persons for the talk were Adv. Vahida Yelgar, practicing for last 20 years in Civil and Criminal Cases, and Lady Police Sub Inspector Madam Yashica Sancoalkar of the Cyber Crime Police Station Ribandar. Over 80 students participated.



A cyber safety awareness session titled "Cyber Safety for Students – Protecting our digital world, securing our future" was organised on March 9, 2026, in association with the Gender Champions and Cyber Club. The aim of the session was to create awareness among students about cyber crime and the importance of staying safe in the digital world. The resource persons, Mr. Sahil Awasthi, Cyber Yoddha, Goa Police, and Advocate Sunil Loran.

ECONOMICS CLUB



Winners of Eco-scape



Runners-up of Eco-scape

The **Economics Club** organised **Eco-scape Room**, an engaging and intellectually stimulating event that attracted sixty-three enthusiastic members from multiple disciplines. Conducted in two rounds, the preliminary round on February 5, 2026 featured 21 teams competing across three challenging stages: a timed MCQ quiz designed to test quick thinking, a chronological sequencing activity involving major historical events, and an exciting bottle-flip memory challenge where teams had to recreate a revealed pattern of shapes. Four top-performing teams advanced to the final round held on February 7, 2026. In the finale, participants entered specially prepared rooms filled with clues, riddles, and puzzles that required teamwork, logical reasoning, and effective communication to “escape.”



The Chronicle of Nobel Prize Laureates in Economics was formally released by the Officiating Principal Mrs. Ursula Baretto and Vice-Principal Ms. Sandra Fernandes during **Ecofiesta 4.0** on March 7, 2026. The publication brings together the outstanding contributions of economists whose ideas have shaped our understanding of markets, development, and human welfare. Through this

compilation, readers and students are introduced to the influential work of Nobel Laureates, helping them appreciate how economic theories impact everyday decisions and broader societal progress. The Chronicle was prepared by the members of the Economics Club under the guidance of Ms. Ana Andrade e Souza, the Club Mentor.

GOENCHI ASMITAI CLUB

The **Goenchi Asmitai Club** commemorated Goenchi Asmitai Dis on January 24, 2026, with the theme “**Goenchi sanskruti zagoi, Goenchi asmitai fuloi.**” The Principal and Vice Principal were welcomed with a brass band parade, followed by a cultural programme that included songs, a Kalshi dance, and a skit highlighting Goan culture and identity. Four stalls offering heritage Goan food added to the cultural experience, making the celebration vibrant and meaningful.

LITERATURE CLUB



The **Literature Club** members organised an exciting segment ‘**Guess the Writer**’ at the college Book Swap event held on January 21, 2026. Clues were attached to covered pre loved books and when guessed correctly, the book had a new owner. Several Club members donated books. They ensured that the event deco was made from biodegradable materials that could be reused and contributed 50 handmade bookmarks for visitors who picked books on display.

For the first time, the Literature Club collaborated with the Department of English during the **Literature Quiz** held on January 24 and 28, 2026. Club President Ms. Kelly D’Souza spearheaded the preliminary round by inviting participation across streams as a new initiative. E-posters and an e-invitation were designed for the event and spot prizes awarded.

Organised by the National Book Trust (NBT) for the first time in Goa, from February 4-8, 2026, students from the Literature Club visited the festival and experienced a lively celebration of stories, ideas, and conversations. The students explored and interacted with booksellers as well as writers and purchased books at discounted rates. The festival highlighted the continued importance of books in the present digital age.



MUSIC AND DANCE CLUB



The Music and Dance Cell brought nostalgia to life this semester through a **vibrant operetta** celebrating old Konkani songs on January 15, 2026. The performance was creatively staged as a lively household scene, where each character expressed emotions and stories through timeless melodies. Classic songs like “Ohh Lawry” and “Goa Goa” were beautifully woven into the narrative, evoking memories of

Goa’s rich musical heritage. Adding grandeur to the presentation was a 12-member brass band, whose energetic tunes elevated the overall atmosphere. The students of the cell showcased remarkable talent, seamlessly blending music, acting, and dance into a cohesive performance. Their dedication and passion were evident in every detail, from choreography to stage design. The operetta not only entertained the audience but also highlighted the cultural significance of Konkani music.

PUBLIC SPEAKING AND ORATORY CLUB



The Public Speaking and Oratory Club organised a workshop titled **Master the Mic** on January 7, 2026. The session was conducted by emcee Gaurav Padte and aimed at equipping aspiring comperes with the skills to command the stage confidently and connect with audiences. The workshop explored essential aspects of public speaking, including confident handshakes, commanding posture, and understanding micro-expressions to interpret non-verbal cues.

Emphasising soft skills and stage presence, Mr. Padte blended practical demonstrations with humour, personal anecdotes, and interactive activities, making the session engaging and insightful. He also shared practical strategies such as vocal warm-ups and mental preparation techniques before stepping on stage, highlighting the importance of consistent practice in achieving proficiency. Attended by 20 students and two faculty members, the event left participants better prepared to excel as emcees and confident communicators.



The Public Speaking and Oratory Club organised a session titled **From Campus to PM's Forum: A Viksit Bharat Young Leader Speaks** on January 28, 2026. The session featured club member Mr. Shivang Shirodkar, a TYBSc Physics student and Data Science scholar at IIT Madras, who was among 25 presenters selected from over 3,000 participants at the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue held at Bharat Mandapam. Shivang shared his journey through the rigorous national selection process, culminating in presenting his ideas on "Fit Bharat, Hit Bharat" before the Prime Minister. He offered valuable insights into crafting impactful presentations, engaging distinguished panels, and confidently articulating ideas on national issues. The session, attended by 22 students, concluded with an interactive discussion on policy, censorship, and leadership pathways.



The Public Speaking and Oratory Club organised an intercollegiate contest titled **"Actempore"** on February 14, 2026. The competition aimed to enhance improvisational skills while encouraging critical thinking and adaptability in public speaking. The event featured an improvised role-play format with a creative twist. Each college could send a maximum of two participants, who were required to pick a prompt

along with a random object from a bag and incorporate both into their performance. The Participants displayed remarkable creativity, humour and spontaneity. The event was hosted by Mr. Joseph Samuel from TYBA Mass Communication. Sixteen participants from nine colleges across Goa took part. Jade Pereira and Jezia Desouza from DCT Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar secured first place, while Valaisha Souza and Keenan D'Silva from Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Margao won second place.

NATURE CLUB

The Nature Club organised a **Nature Treasure Hunt** on February 7, 2026 with the objective of promoting environmental awareness and sustainability among students. The activity was aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly focusing on responsible consumption, climate action, life on land and sustainable communities.

The Nature Club organised an **Intra-College Online Quiz Competition** on March 27, 2026 with the objective of enhancing student's general knowledge and awareness of current affairs while promoting a spirit of healthy competition. A total of 29 students from various academic streams participated enthusiastically in the event. The participants displayed commendable presence of mind, analytical skills and intellectual engagement throughout the competition.

SOCIAL SCIENCES CLUB



The Social Sciences Club organised an **Intra-College Quiz Competition** on January 23, 2026 to commemorate Asmitai Diwas. The quiz was open to all students of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. The main aim of organising the quiz was to create awareness and promote understanding of Goan identity (Asmitai) by encouraging students to engage with the political, cultural, and linguistic heritage of Goa. The quiz was conducted by Mr. Vijay Talwar, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.

The Social Sciences Club organised a **Poster-Making Competition** on the theme "Digital India: Transforming the Nation Through Technology" on January 24, 2026. The event aimed to encourage students to creatively express their understanding of how technology is reshaping governance, education, economy, and society in contemporary India. A total of 21 participants enthusiastically took part in the competition, showcasing innovative ideas, artistic skills, and thoughtful interpretations of the theme. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Ms. Tricia Vaze Borges, Mentor of the Social Science Club.



THEATRE CLUB



Inspired and motivated, the students of the **Theatre Club** eagerly set out to showcase their theatrical skills through an engaging performance at the Annual Day celebrated on January 15, 2026. Beyond the Hourglass was a theatrical exploration of 'Time' as a living presence rather than a mere measure of hours and minutes. The performance opens with a striking image of a human clock,

symbolising Time personified. As performers enter chanting “Tick Tock, Tick Tock,” the rhythmic sound evokes the relentless movement of time that governs every human life. The production examined how time shapes our experiences, memories, choices, and destinies. Through movement, music and symbolism, it reflects on the human tendency to race against time, cherish fleeting moments, and grapple with the inevitability of change. Beyond the Hourglass invited the audience to look beyond the ticking clock and contemplate the deeper meaning of time in the human journey.

CELL FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP



The **Cell for Entrepreneurship, Incubation and Start-up** organised the inaugural edition of Start Up Street, transforming the college campus into a dynamic marketplace that provided students with practical exposure to entrepreneurship, marketing, communication and financial management through self-managed stalls. The event was jointly organised by the Department of BBA, the Entrepreneurship Cell and the TIP Cell. The programme commenced with a formal inaugural ceremony attended by college dignitaries and Chief Guest Mr. Kevin Mascarenhas, Founder of Aspire Ventures Hospitality.

The Cell for Entrepreneurship, Incubation and Start-up deputed two faculty members to participate in a week-long **Faculty Development Training Programme** conducted by the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, from January 4-11, 2026. The faculty members were part of the second batch of participants nominated from Goa. The programme followed a rigorous and comprehensive schedule, commencing each day with a Yoga session followed by academic sessions and expert lectures. To reinforce learning outcomes, participants were assigned group-based tasks and assignments at the end of each day, encouraging collaborative learning, critical thinking, and practical application of entrepreneurial concepts.



CELL FOR PROMOTING INCLUSIVITY AND DIVERSITY

The **Cell for Promoting Inclusivity and Diversity** coordinated a series of Christmas-themed activities from December 10-18, 2025, fostering a spirit of unity, joy, cultural appreciation, and togetherness among students from various departments. The celebrations commenced on December 10 with a screening of *The Bishop's Wife* organised by the M.A. Psychology students, followed by a Christmas presentation and festive interaction. On December 16, students came together for the exchange of sweets and goodies, a Secret Santa activity, and a Christmas-themed quiz conducted by the Department of Political Science. The Department of Mass Communication and Journalism further contributed to the festivities through a Christmas movie screening, carol-singing, sweet treats, and a "Make and Eat" activity that encouraged collaboration and sharing. Students also participated in Christmas-themed art and craft activities, creating festive decorations while enjoying refreshments.

On April 28, 2026, the Cell for Promoting Diversity and Inclusion, in collaboration with Fundação Oriente, organised **"Herança Portuguesa – A Day for Portuguese Language and Culture"**. Coordinated by Fr. Dr. Ramiro Luis along with a team of faculty members, the inter-school and inter-institutional event brought together 12 teams from schools and higher secondary institutions across North Goa to celebrate the rich Portuguese cultural heritage of Goa. The

programme was graced by Chief Guest Dr. Paulo Gomes, Director of Fundação Oriente, who highlighted the importance of cultural exchange and multilingualism. The event featured a variety of competitions and performances, including Portuguese Reading, Reel Making, Canvas Painting, and the Personalidade Portuguesa Contest. Cultural presentations such as "Fado Meets Dekhnni," Goan folk dances, and a Portuguese dance performance added vibrancy to the celebrations.



From March 18-25, 2026, the Cell organised a **socially impactful initiative** by facilitating a sales stall run by Mr. Sidharth Naik, a person with disabilities, in the college lobby. Coordinated by Ms. Arina Frank, the activity aimed to promote entrepreneurship, dignity of labour, inclusivity, and community engagement. Mr. Sidharth showcased and sold a range of traditional Goan sweets, farsan, Neero, and organic

vegetables, highlighting local culture and sustainable practices. The initiative received enthusiastic support from students, teaching staff, and non-teaching staff, creating an encouraging environment that fostered mutual respect and social inclusion on campus.

TRAINING, INTERNSHIP AND PLACEMENT (TIP) CELL



The Training, Internship and Placement (TIP) Cell, organised a Pre-Placement Talk on **“Opportunities for Women in RBI”** on December 16, 2025, in collaboration with Ms. Deepika Negi, Assistant General Manager, Reserve Bank of India. The objective of the session was to encourage women to join the Reserve Bank of India at a managerial level and attain financial independence. Ninety-one students registered for the session which was coordinated by Ms. Kimberly Barros and Dr. James D’souza.



As part of Converge 3.0 – the Industry-Academia Summit organised in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) and the Goa State Higher Education Council (GSHEC), the TIP Cell and the Department of BBA conducted a Value-Added Course titled **“Business with Heart”** on February 10, 2026 at Xavier’s Retreat House, Baga, Goa.



The TIP Cell organised a talk titled **“My Journey as an Entrepreneur”** on February 18, 2026. The session was delivered by Ms. Veeam Braganza, CEO of Dsouza Biotech, makers of the brands Frugurt and Happy. Coordinated by Ms. Ruella D’Souza, the programme aimed to inspire students to explore entrepreneurship as a career path and develop an entrepreneurial mindset. Drawing from her personal experiences, Ms. Braganza emphasised that every problem presents an opportunity for innovation and encouraged students to identify societal challenges and transform them into meaningful business ventures. The programme benefited 68 students.



On February 20, 2026, as part of Converge 3.0, the TIP Cell organised a panel discussion titled **“An Insight into the Influencer Industry”** with the objective of exposing students to the realities, opportunities, and challenges of content creation as a career. The panel featured Jade D’Sa (Food, Lifestyle and Travel Blogger), Mr. Lisvan Rodrigues (Assistant Professor), Adrian Franco (Content Creator), and Rudr Ghotge (Digital Media Creator) and was moderated by Ms Jonquil Sudhir. The programme was coordinated by Mr. Aaron Paul Fernandes and benefited 81 students.



On February 21, 2026, an Entrepreneurs Mentorship Lounge was established on campus in collaboration with the Atal Incubation Centre, Goa Institute of Management as part of the **Pop-Up Bazaar, “Start-Up Street,”** organised by the TIP Cell and assisted by the Entrepreneurship Cell. The initiative aimed to support student entrepreneurs by enhancing their sales, business planning, and entrepreneurial skills while encouraging long-term business development. Mr. Abhishek Singh, Incubation Manager at AIC-GIM, provided valuable guidance on business planning, scalability, funding opportunities, and startup development. In addition to interacting with students at the mentorship lounge, he visited individual stalls to offer practical advice on pricing strategies and the importance of collaboration over competition. Coordinated by Ms. Ruella D’Souza, the event benefited approximately 75 students and contributed significantly to fostering a startup mindset among young entrepreneurs.



Accompanied by Ms Ruella D’Souza, four TIP Cell members attended the **Young Innovators Challenge** conducted under Converge 3.0, an initiative of the Centralized Technology Innovation Platform (TIP), Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, at Fr. Agnel Ashram on January 30, 2026. The event provided valuable exposure to entrepreneurial thinking, inclusivity, and industry engagement, inspiring students to explore innovation-driven opportunities.



On February 26, 2026, 15 students attended the Valedictory Function of **Converge 3.0** at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium. Accompanied by Ms. Kimberly Barros, the students witnessed the Young Entrepreneurs Award Ceremony, where 32 emerging entrepreneurs were recognized for their innovative ventures. A notable achievement for the college was the felicitation of Mr. Bhikaji Gawade for his startup, BuildH EduTech. The programme also featured the finals of the Innovative Idea Challenge, panel discussions, cultural showcases, and networking opportunities.

Mr. Clarence Rodrigues attended the “**Campus to Career 2026**” workshop on March 18, 2026 at DoubleTree by Hilton Goa. The workshop was organised with the objective of strengthening industry-academia engagement and enhancing employment opportunities for Goan youth. Graced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Pramod Sawant, the programme featured a panel discussion on “Bridging the Skills Gap” and an informative session on “Industry Expectations and Career Opportunities.”



On April 30, 2026, the Cell organised a **Campus Placement Drive** with the objective of enhancing student employability and strengthening industry-academia collaboration. A total of 125 candidates, comprising 109 final-year undergraduate students and 16 alumni, participated in the recruitment process. The drive featured 23 companies from diverse sectors including finance, hospitality, media, pharmaceuticals, technology, and human resources, offering opportunities in areas such as business development, sales, human resources, social media management, accounts, creative media, and scientific research.

CELL FOR VALUE EDUCATION & PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

The **Cell for Value Education and Personality Development** facilitated value education sessions for the even semester during the academic year 2025-26 on Tuesdays from January 27, 2026 to March 17, 2026. Ten external resource persons, in association with the two college counsellors, worked collaboratively to design and deliver comprehensive, informative, and engaging sessions for the students. The sessions centred on youth-oriented themes such as Being Human in an AI World, Stress Management, Mental Health, Understanding Identity Beyond Likes and Labels, Love, Attraction and Commitment, The Silent Struggle – Loneliness, Balancing Digital and Real Life, Managing Anger, Hurt and Forgiveness, Dealing with Peer Pressure, and Respecting Life. The sessions were coordinated by Ms. Maria Difa Fernandes (Coordinator) and her team.

GREEN INITIATIVES CELL



The **Green Initiatives Cell**, along with the Departments of Sociology and Philosophy, organised 'Save Water Day' on March 27, 2026. Students conducted an awareness campaign across campus, featuring mascots called 'Drip Detectives' who highlighted issues like water wastage and leakages. Participants wore badges and interacted with peers to spread awareness about water conservation. The campaign effectively engaged students and emphasised the importance of responsible water usage in daily life.

As part of another Green Campus initiative, the college undertook the development of a **kitchen and medicinal garden with vegetables** such as radish, spinach, chillies, and brinjal. The garden is maintained by the Department of Botany as part of the institution's green initiatives. Other initiatives include nurturing indoor plants across departments to enhance environmental consciousness. Green Ambassadors were appointed to promote eco-friendly practices among students. Awareness messages encouraging energy conservation were displayed in classrooms, laboratories, and offices.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT CELL



Outstation Trip: The Department organised an outstation academic trip to Thrissur, Kerala, from November 25-30, 2025. The visit included participation in a National Symposium titled “**Advances in Cancer Research: Taming Cancer – Progress and Promises**” held at the Amala Cancer Research Centre. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Jocelyn Fernandes and Mr. Vishal Mardolkar, with 11 TY BSc Biotechnology students participating. The trip also included visits to cultural sites in Kochi such as the Dutch Palace, Hill Palace, and Fort Kochi.

CELL FOR CAREER GUIDANCE & TRAINING FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMS



Eighty students from the **Cell for Career Guidance & Training for Competitive Exams** participated in the Career Conclave 2026, held on January 30-31, 2026 at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium. The event was organised by the Office of the Commissioner for Labour & Employment, in collaboration with the Regional Employment

Exchange and Model Career Centre, aiming to guide students toward informed career choices and skill development. It featured insightful sessions delivered by eminent speakers and industry experts on “Mastering Skills of the 21st Century for Corporate Success” and “Unleash Your Potential”. A panel discussion titled “**Passion vs. Profession: How to Choose the Right Path**” helped students understand how to balance personal interests with practical career decisions. The students were accompanied by teachers, Mr. Clarence Rodrigues and Dr. Seema Dessai E. Fernandes.

GENDER EQUITY AND TRANSGENDER MONITORING CELL

The **Gender Equity and Transgender Monitoring Cell** organised a special session on “Gender Equity and Transgender Issues” on December 8, 2025. The session was attended by students from FYBA, SYBA, TYBA, FYBSC, SYBSC and SYBCOM. Resource person Prof. Shaila De Souza, Department of Women’s Studies, Goa University, initiated the session with an interactive activity designed to distinguish between equity and equality, enabling students to understand these concepts in a practical and engaging manner. The session also included the screening of a short film. The film featured narratives shared by transgender rights activists Laxmi Narayan Tripathi and Shreegauri Sawant, providing students with deeper insight into the challenges, discrimination, and resilience of transgender individuals.



WELLNESS CENTRE



The St. Xavier's College **Wellness Centre** organised a guest session titled "Mental Health and Psychosocial Rehabilitation – A Practice-Based Perspective from COOJ" for post graduate students on January 29, 2026. The session was conducted by Ms. Chrissie Gomes from COOJ, an RCI-approved therapist and coordinator, and was attended by 30 participants. Drawing on her extensive academic and professional experience, Ms. Gomes shared valuable insights into mental health care and psychosocial rehabilitation.

The Wellness Centre organised a one-hour workshop on "**Ethics in the Grey Zone: What Textbooks Don't Prepare You For**" for M.A. Psychology students on January 29, 2026. The workshop was conducted by Ms. Beverly Monteiro, College Counselor and was attended by 30 postgraduate students.



The Wellness Centre organised a one-hour session for MA Psychology students on January 29, 2026. The session "**Holding and being Held-Exploring the balance between supporting others and accepting support**" was conducted by Ms. Sandra D'Mello, College Counsellor and was attended by 30 participants.

The Wellness Centre organised a guidance session titled "**Exam Ready: Stress Management Outreach Programme**" for Class IX students of Holy Cross High School, Siolim, on February 25, 2026. The session was conducted by Ms. Sandra D'Mello, College Counsellor and was attended by 56 students. The programme aimed to help students understand examination stress and develop healthy coping strategies. It began with an interactive discussion on students' feelings



about examinations, highlighting that stress can be both beneficial and harmful. Common concerns such as fear of failure, parental expectations and social comparison were addressed. Students also learned about the brain's response to stress and the impact of lifestyle habits on well-being. Practical techniques, including time management, active revision and positive self-talk, were discussed.

The Wellness Centre organised a faculty enrichment session titled **“The Student Behind the Behaviour– Noticing Beyond, Listening Deeply, Connecting Meaningfully”** on April 2, 2026. The session was conducted by Ms. Sandra D’Mello, College Counsellor and was attended by 111 faculty members. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Gema Athaide. The session commenced with a reflective exercise that encouraged faculty members to reconnect with their purpose as educators. An overview of the Supreme Court guidelines on student mental health highlighted the importance of safeguarding student well-being. The session concluded with a gratitude activity that reinforced the value of positive reinforcement.



The Wellness Centre held an interactive session titled **“Healthy Stress: An Unlearning Unlimited Session on Coping with Distress and Harnessing Eustress”** on April 2, 2026, for the college faculty. The session was conducted by Mr. Pravin Sabnis, a seasoned life coach and experiential facilitator and was attended by 109 participants. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Gema

Athaide. During the session, Mr. Sabnis emphasised the importance of “unlearning” maladaptive stress responses and adopting healthier cognitive and behavioural patterns. He explained the distinction between distress and eustress and introduced participants to adaptive coping mechanisms, cognitive restructuring and emotional regulation strategies. Special emphasis was placed on self-awareness, mindfulness and sustainable approaches to stress management.

CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND VALUE EDUCATION



The Centre, in collaboration with the IQAC, organised a session on “**Communication & Etiquettes**” on December 6, 2025 at Don Bosco, Odxel. The session was conducted by Fr. Ramiro Luis, Convener of the Centre. The programme aimed at developing students’ communication skills, enhancing critical thinking and problem-solving abilities, and nurturing social etiquette and responsible behaviour, both offline and online. The session was highly interactive and engaging. Games that drew important life lessons were conducted by Fr. Ramiro,

through which students were encouraged to reflect on real-life situations. These activities helped participants understand the importance of clear communication, active listening, teamwork, empathy, and respectful behaviour in everyday life. The games also enabled students to recognise how attitudes and responses play a vital role in building healthy interpersonal relationships.

The Centre for Community Engagement and Value Education, in collaboration with the Diocesan Youth Centre, organised a psycho-spiritual youth programme titled “Take Courage” on March 15, 2026 at the Community Centre, Taleigao. The programme brought together nearly 1,200 young people from across Goa, creating an inspiring atmosphere of faith, reflection, and personal growth. The main session was conducted by Fr. (Dr.) Ramiro Luis, who integrated psychological insights with spiritual wisdom to encourage participants to face life’s difficulties with resilience and confidence. He highlighted the importance of emotional strength, prayer, and seeking support during difficult times.

The Centre for Community Engagement and Value Education conducted a session on “Mental Health and Emotional Well-being” for the parents of students of Classes IX and X at Chubby Cheeks Spring Valley High School, Pilerne, on April 17, 2026. Organised under the guidance of Mrs. Selena M. D’Souza, Headmistress of the school, the programme aimed to help parents better understand the psychological and emotional needs of adolescents. The session was facilitated by Fr. (Dr.) Ramiro Luis, who shared valuable insights into the developmental challenges faced by teenagers in today’s rapidly changing world. He emphasised the importance of effective communication, emotional support, attentive listening, and parental involvement in nurturing resilience and self-confidence among young people. The session also addressed concerns related to academic pressure, social media influence, and emotional well-being.



CENTRE FOR INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS (IKS CELL)



The Centre, in collaboration with the **Department of Hindi** and **IQAC**, organised an **International Seminar** on “**Loknatya Parampara Aur Aadhunik Bharatiya Rangmanch**” (**Folk Theatre Tradition and Modern Indian Theatre**) on January 21, 2026. The seminar aimed to explore the rich heritage of Indian folk theatre and its relevance in contemporary Indian theatre while promoting the objectives of the Indian Knowledge Systems initiative. The inaugural session was graced by distinguished academicians, including Dr. Imre Bangha (University of Oxford) as chief guest and Prof. Devendra Sharma (California State University) as Guest of Honour. The seminar featured scholarly presentations on various aspects of Indian folk theatre traditions, including their cultural significance, evolution, and influence on modern theatrical practices.

The Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Philosophy and IQAC, also organised a **30-hour Certificate Course** on “**A Philosophical Study of the Bhagavad-Gita**” from February 21, 2026 to March 21, 2026. The course was open to all and aimed to promote awareness and appreciation of Indian Knowledge Systems through the philosophical wisdom of the Bhagavad-Gita. The course facilitator was Dr. Shefali Kale, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, while the Course Coordinator from the IKS Cell was Dr. Fr. Luis Xavier Gomes. The beneficiaries of the course were **four students from the Science and Arts faculties**. The programme successfully introduced the participants to the timeless wisdom of the Bhagavad-Gita and its relevance in fostering personal growth, ethical values, and holistic well-being.

ALL INDIA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY FEDERATION (AICUF)

The All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF) Choir had the privilege of organising the liturgy and leading the congregation in song during the **Eucharistic Celebration held on December 2, 2025** at the Basilica of Bom Jesus, Old Goa. The event formed part of the celebrations in honour of St. Francis Xavier and brought together members of the wider faith community. Under the guidance of Fr. (Dr.) Ramiro Luis, the choir played a vital role in enhancing the solemnity and spiritual atmosphere of the celebration through meaningful hymns and active participation in the liturgy. The choir comprised 60 dedicated members, including choristers and musicians, who devoted their time and talents to ensure a prayerful and uplifting experience for all present.

St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, celebrated the **Feast of its patron saint, St. Francis Xavier**, with great devotion and reverence on December 4, 2025. The Eucharistic celebration, held in the Seminar Hall, was organised by AICUF under the guidance of Fr. (Dr.) Ramiro Luis. The Holy Mass was led by Fr. Richard Anthony D'Souza, Director of the Vatican Observatory, as the main celebrant. He was joined by Fr. Antonio Salema, Fr. Luis Gomes, Fr. Ramiro Luis, and Fr. Agnelo Fernandes in concelebrating the Mass. The celebration brought together students, faculty, and staff in a spirit of faith and community. AICUF members played a significant role in ensuring the success of the event by organising the liturgy, leading the choir, and beautifully decorating the altar and backdrop.

The AICUF Cell, in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology, organised a Christmas celebration titled "The Reason for the Season" on December 17, 2025. Held on the college campus, the event aimed to spread the joy and spirit of Christmas while fostering community engagement. The programme welcomed the students of St. Xavier's Academy and featured a variety of cultural performances by students and faculty members. The AICUF Choir performed choral renditions of traditional Christmas carols while the Faculty Choir delighted the audience with a medley of festive songs. AICUF members also presented a skit depicting the Nativity story, highlighting the true meaning of Christmas. The celebration concluded with a collaborative carol-singing session, followed by lunch and the distribution of Christmas gifts to the visiting students, creating a memorable and joyful experience for all.

The AICUF Cell organised an Inter-Class Star and Ornament Making Competition on December 18, 2025. The submitted stars reflected originality, creativity, and festive cheer, transforming the college campus into a vibrant Christmas display. All the entries were exhibited on campus throughout the Christmas season, adding to the celebratory atmosphere and bringing joy to students, staff, and visitors.



Activities as extensions of MoUs

On February 18, 2026, as part of Converge 3.0 and as an extension of its MoU with **BNI**, the college organised a session by BNI member Mr. Stedwick Fernandes, founder of Fernscorp. In his talk, titled, “Sales as a Life Skill” he explained why sales is important, and emphasised that it is a vital life skill as everyone sells ideas, services, or themselves in daily life. He highlighted the importance of networking and encouraged students to network at every opportunity. Mr. Stedwick made use of a web based interactive presentation tool, Menti, to curate responses from the audience. It enlivened the session and got students responding to the questions he posed. Mr. Stedwick also conducted a short networking exercise based on the classic board game Bingo and demonstrated its real-world value. Mr. Fernandes also spoke about communication and its importance in building trust and strong relationships. He mentioned that sales is one of the few careers that offers performance-based incentives. He concluded by stating that “sales is not just about closing deals, but about creating value and maintaining long-term connections”. Sixty-eight students benefited from the talk which was coordinated by Mr. Worrel Dsouza.

Robotics and Coding Classes were conducted during January and February 2026, as part of the collaboration between the College and Qurious Mind Infotainment Pvt. Ltd. The sessions were held twice a week and were coordinated by Ms. Sandra Fernandes of the Department of Computer Science. Mr. Bhikaji Gawade, a trainer from Qurious Mind Infotainment Pvt. Ltd., served as the resource person. The programme was designed as a skill development and certificate course for school students, introducing them to robotics and coding through a structured, hands-on STEM-based approach.

A session on “**An Introduction to Social Work and Opportunities for Internship**” was organised by the college in collaboration with Caritas – Goa as an extension of an MoU with the organisation. The session was held on February 25, 2026. Sayed Rizwana Parveen served as the faculty coordinator. The resource person was Fr. Savio Fernandes, Assistant Director, Caritas–Goa and Executive Secretary of the Council for Social Justice & Peace. The session was organised to introduce students to the field of social work and provide information about opportunities for internships through Caritas.

As part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Glenmark Pharmaceuticals**, the Department of Chemistry organised a two-lecture guest programme to commemorate National Science Day on February 28, 2026. The event, coordinated by Mr. Clarence Rodrigues, brought together senior professionals from Glenmark Pharmaceuticals, Mr. Nilesh Kurdikar, Deputy General Manager, QA, and Mr. Veerdhaval Kamble, General Manager, QA, who interacted with and mentored First Year and Second Year Science students. Mr. Kamble delivered a session titled “**From Classroom to Pharmaceutical Industry,**” explaining how theoretical chemistry is applied in pharmaceutical manufacturing and quality assurance.

The Certificate Programme in Banking, Finance and Insurance (CPBFI) was conducted at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, from February 6 to March 14, 2026, as a 100-hour programme under the MoU with Bajaj Finserv. Coordinated by Prof. Oscar Braganca de Melo, with student coordinators Aarna Singh and Biswajit Mohanty, the programme aimed to equip students with practical knowledge of the banking, finance and insurance sectors and prepare them for future career opportunities. The resource persons included Dr. Amit Yalgi, Mr. Trevor Fernandes and Ms. Aarti Jahagirdar. During the programme, students were introduced to **Banking, Managing Self, CAWS (Communication and Workplace Skills), and Insurance** through interactive sessions, discussions, activities and role plays.

Under the MOU with Nirmala Institute of Education, the Cell for Career Guidance and Training for Competitive Exam held a talk on **"Career Pathways and Financial Literacy: From Basics to Opportunities"** on March 23, 2026. The one-hour session was conducted by C.A. Xavier D'Mello, Chartered Accountant at Nirmala Institute of Education. The session focused on five professional qualifications—CA, CS, EA, CPA and ACCA—and highlighted their areas of specialisation, requirements, examination patterns, costs and career prospects. Students were encouraged to select career pathways based on their interests, strengths and long-term goals.

'All Goa Model Youth Gram Sabha Competition 3.0' was held on March 24, 2026 at GIPARD to promote the involvement of youth in local self-government and participate actively in the process of democracy. The students participated by enacting an ordinary Gram Sabha meeting. Mr Niraj Zantye, TYBA and Mr Ashwin Naik, SYBA won prizes for the characters essayed by them.

A three-day **Training Programme for Master Trainers under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA)** was organised by GIPARD from May 25-27, 2026. It was aimed at developing expertise in the specific thematic areas in Panchayati Raj as per new core areas discussed by Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Govt of India, to be executed for FY 2026-2027. Dr Seema Dessai e Fernandes and Dr Suraksha Dongrekar were selected for this training.

As an extension of its MoU with the college Qurious Mind Infotainment Private Limited organised a 10-day Robotics Summer Camp titled **"Robotics Construction Level – 1"** from May 11-22, 2026. The 20-hour certificate course was designed for school students to introduce them to robotics and STEM learning through practical, activity-based education. The camp was coordinated by Ms. Sandra Fernandes of the Department of Computer Science, with Ms. Kimaya Simepurushkar and Ms. Smriti Naik serving as trainers from Qurious Mind Infotainment Pvt. Ltd. The programme successfully inspired participants to explore robotics, science, technology and STEM-related fields further.



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS

Around 70 participants from five higher secondary schools competed in eight events. The programme included the release of the departmental newsletter “Sequence – Unravel Yourself.” St. Xavier’s Higher Secondary School emerged as the overall champion, followed by Harmal Panchakrushi Higher Secondary School and Shri Shantadurga Higher Secondary School as first and second runners-up. The valedictory session featured Chief Guest Mr. Donovan Rodrigues, Co-founder of MyOwnBrews.

STUDENT AWARDS

International Level

- Swezial D’Souza, MA Part 2, represented India at a marathon held in Macao on December 7, 2025.
- Chanel Crizzle, TYBA MCJ, was Vice Captain of the Senior Indian Women’s Rugby Team for the CASA 7s held at Tashkent from May, 16-17, 2026.

National Level

Kabaddi:

- Malishka Kittue, FYBA, participated at the 51st Junior Kabaddi Women’s National Championship at Kolkata from December 25-28, 2025.
- Piyush Chaudhary, SYBA, won a bronze medal at the 51st Junior Kabaddi Men’s National Championship held at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh from January 14-17, 2026.
- Piyush Chaudhary, SYBA, participated at the 72nd Senior Kabaddi Men’s National Championship held at Vadodara, Gujarat from February 19 to March 1, 2026.

Rope Skipping

- Gauri Shetgaonkar, TYBCom, won a gold medal in the Speed Sprint event and Double Dutch Relay at Rope Skipping National Championship held at Alibag, Raigad, Maharashtra from December 12-14, 2025.

Rugby:

- Chanel Crizzle participated at the Senior National Rugby 7s Women’s Championship held at Bihar from April 16-17, 2026.

Basketball

- Sakshi Mirgal, TYBSc, and Gautami Talekar, TYBCom, participated at the 75th Senior Basketball National Championship held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu from January 4-11, 2026.

Shooting Ball

- Devesh Tilve, SYBSc participated at the 44th Shooting Ball National Championship held in Solapur, Maharashtra from January 9-11, 2026.

Kho Kho

- Roush Fernandes, SYBCom, participated at the 58th Senior Kho Kho National Championship held in Telangana from January 11-15, 2026.

Taekwondo

- Joslora Mascarenhas, FYBCom, participated at the 41st Senior Kyorugi Taekwondo National Championship held at Hyderabad, Telangana from December 11-14, 2025.

Cross Country

- Vikas Bishnoi, SYBCom, participated at the 60th National Cross Country Athletics Championship held in Ranchi, Jharkhand on January 24, 2026.

Boxing

- Laxman Toralkar, FYBSc, participated at the 9th Elite Men National Boxing Championship held in Noida, Uttar Pradesh from January 3-11, 2026.

III. West Zone Inter-University Level

- Stuti Shivani, TYBCom and Pranavi Shetye, TYBSc Biotechnology, participated at the Table Tennis Women's Championship held at Veer Narmad University Surat, Gujarat from December 16-19, 2025.
- Shantesh Mhapsekar, SYBCom, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Table Tennis Men's Championship held at Mahatma Jyoti Rao Phoole University Jaipur, Rajasthan from December 15-19, 2025.
- Ashmeet Parsekar, SYBCom, and Yousuf Shaikh, FYBA MCJ, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Badminton Men's Championship held at LNIPE Gwailor, Madhya Pradesh from January 6-11, 2026.

- Manjunath Chavhan, TYBA, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Football Men's Championship held at Paul University Vadodara, Gujarat from January 5-11, 2026.
- Akansha Parsekar, FYBA, and Rizel Almeida, MA Part-II, participated at the Southwest Zone Inter-University Weightlifting Women's Championship held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from January 10-11, 2026.
- Nysa Dhupdale, FYBBA T&T, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Badminton Women's Championship held in Pune from December 26-30, 2025.
- Aley Sam Da Silva, TYBSc, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Pencak Silat Men Championship held at Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, Haryana from March 9-13, 2026.
- Royce Monteiro, TYBCom, Sandesh Honakhande, SYBA, and Vighnesh, MA Part-II, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Hockey Men's Championship held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from January 12-16, 2026.
- Arthur Desouza, TYBCom, Jeremiah Fernandes, TYBCom, and Aditya Naik, FYBCom, participated at the West Zone Inter-University Basketball Men's Championship held at Bhupal Nobles University Udaipur, Rajasthan from February 3-6, 2026.
- Tanvi Parulekar, TYBCom, Simran Narvekar, TYBCom, Elena Pereira, SYBCom, Geuel D'Souza, FYBCom, Vidhita Gadekat, FYBCom, and Saniya Pednekar, TYBA, won bronze medal at the West Zone Inter-University Football Women's Championship held at Rewa, Madhya Pradesh from February 9-13, 2026.

IV. All India Inter- University Level

- Alaque, FYBBA, won a bronze medal in 50m Freestyle and 100m Freestyle at the All India Inter University Swimming Championship held at SRM University Chennai, Tamil Nadu from December 18-23, 2025.
- Tanvi Parulekar, TYBCom, Simran Narvekar, TYBCom, Elena Pereira, SYBCom, Geuel D'Souza, FYBCom, Vidhita Gadekat, FYBCom, and Saniya Pednekar, TYBA, participated at the All India Inter-University Football Women's Championship held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu from February 19-26, 2026.
- Swezial D'souza, MA part-II, participated at the All India Inter University Cross Country Championship held in Karnataka on February 27, 2026.

V. Khelo India Inter-University Level

- Tanvi Parulekar, TYBCom, Simran Narvekar, TYBCom, Saniya Pednekar, TYBA, and Geuel D'souza, FYBCom, participated at Khelo India Inter-University Games Football Championship held in Jaipur, Rajasthan from November 25 to December 5, 2025.

VI. State Level

- Laxman Toralkar, FYBSc, won a gold medal at the All Goa State Boxing Championship held in Guirim, Goa from January 14-17, 2026.
- Saniya Santosh Phadte, SYBA, won a gold medal in up to and including 58 kgs, at the All Goa Women's Asmita Khelo India Weightlifting League held at the Goa University Jubilee Hall on May 2, 2026.
- Rizel Agneta Fernandes, MA part II, won gold medal in up to and including 63kgs at the same event. Akansha Ashok, SYBA, won the silver medal in the above 86 kgs category.

VII. Intercollegiate Event

- At the Inter-collegiate level, our students emerged winners in Swimming (women), Badminton (men), Basketball (men), best physique (men), handball (men), hockey (men), volleyball (women). The students were runners up at both men and women's table tennis, men's kabbadi and women's baseball. The men and women secured third place in football, while the women secured third in hockey as well.

VIII. Interclass Events

- During the second semester, four inter class events were held. TYBCom won at handball and basketball; FYBCom secured first place at volleyball; FYBSc won at cricket and SYBCom emerged triumphant at tug of war. TYBCom were the overall sports champions.

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

30-hour Certificate Course: The Department of Economics, in association with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), conducted a 30-hour certificate course for SYBA Economics Major students titled 'Choices, Costs and Markets: Microeconomics Unlocked'. The Resource Person and Faculty Coordinator was Ms. Ana Andrade Souza, Asst. Professor, Department of Economics.

National Seminar: *"Recovery to Resilience in the Service Sector: Innovations and Sustainable Pathways for Transformation"* was held on March 25, 2026, organised by the Departments of Commerce, BBA, BBA Travel & Tourism and IQAC in collaboration with GCCI. The event blended academic rigor with practical relevance, highlighting resilience, innovation, and sustainability as cornerstones for transformation in the service sector.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Annual Newspaper Clipping Display 2026 (Virtual): An Annual Newspaper Clipping Display (Virtual) was organised on January 26, 2026 through the college website. The activity aimed to create awareness about events and highlighted institutional achievements while promoting newspapers as important sources of information. A collection of selected newspaper clippings covering various events and campus activities was displayed online for students and faculty. The initiative encouraged regular newspaper reading and supported academic learning. The virtual format ensured easy accessibility and wider reach, contributing to effective information dissemination and promoting awareness among the academic community.



Annual Book Exhibition 2026: The College Library, in association with IQAC, organised a two-day Annual Book Exhibition on February 9-10, 2026 in the College Library premises. The exhibition aimed to promote reading habits among students and faculty and to provide easy access to academic, reference and general reading materials. The exhibition was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Antonio Salema, Administrator, Dr. Felipe Rodrigues e Melo, Principal In-charge and Ms. Dakshata Zambulkar, College Librarian. A wide range of books covering diverse disciplines were displayed for the academic community. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students and faculty members, creating an engaging learning environment and strengthening library-user interaction. A total of 414 participants attended the exhibition.

National Level Webinar: In collaboration with IQAC, a National Level Webinar was organised on “Scholarly Metrics and Research Visibility” on February 17, 2026 through Google Meet. The webinar was coordinated by Ms. Dakshata Zambulkar, College Librarian and Dr. Ubaldinha Noronha, IQAC Coordinator. Dr. Gopakumar V, Head of the Knowledge Centre, Digital University of Science, Technology and Innovation, Kerala, served as the resource person. He highlighted the importance of citation metrics, indexing services, author identifiers and digital platforms in improving research visibility and measuring scholarly impact. The session provided practical guidance on enhancing academic presence and responsible research dissemination. Academicians, researchers, and students from different institutions actively participated in the webinar, making the event informative, engaging, and beneficial for strengthening research awareness and scholarly communication.



Institutional Digital Library: The College Library launched the Institutional Digital Library in association with the National Digital Library of India (NDLI) on February 27, 2026. The Institutional Digital Library was inaugurated by Prof. A. K. Nandakumaran, Chairman and Professor, Department of Mathematics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in the presence of Prof. T. Venkatesh, Director, Mathematical Sciences Institute, Belgavi and distinguished academicians and delegates. The initiative aims to preserve and provide organized digital access to the institution's scholarly output through standardized metadata and long-term digital preservation.

NCC BOYS: UNIT (1 GOA BN NCC)



Annual Training Camp (ATC) 2025: The Second Year and Third Year NCC cadets of St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, attended the Annual Training Camp (ATC) 2025 organised by the 1 Goa BN NCC Boys Unit at Government College, Quepem, from November 19-28, 2025. A total of 32 cadets, comprising 12 SWs and 20 SDs, were part of Alpha Company. Alpha Company achieved notable success in various events. The contingent secured 1st place in the Continental March Past, while CPL Saniya Phadte won 1st place in the Best Cadet category. The team also secured Runners-Up positions in the

Penalty Shootout (SD), Volleyball (SW) and Group Singing and achieved 1st place in Volleyball (SD). In addition, the cadets secured 3rd place in Tug of War (SD/SW). The camp provided valuable training and fostered discipline, teamwork and leadership among the cadets.



State Youth Festival: The battalion attended the inaugural function of the 22nd State Youth Festival 2025, organised by the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs. The event was inaugurated by the Honourable for Sports and Youth Affairs, Shri Ramesh Tawadkar, on December 1, 2025, at Kala Academy, Goa. A total of twenty cadets, accompanied by Lt Avani Anil Kharde, participated in the programme.



Republic Day Celebration 2026: This Day was celebrated on January 26, 2026, with great enthusiasm by the NCC Boys. The cadets participated in parades at three locations – the college campus, Mapusa Mamlatdar's Office, and Goa University Ground. SUO Vedant Chandelkar served as the Contingent Commander at Goa University Ground. The cadets displayed commendable discipline, coordination, and a strong sense of patriotism throughout the celebrations.



“Youth and Women Empowerment Program – NCC Participation”: Cadets participated in the Youth and Women Empowerment Program held on January 8, 2026 at Canacona. The programme aimed to create awareness about the importance of youth development and women’s empowerment in society. The cadets actively took part in the event, demonstrating discipline and enthusiasm while promoting social awareness and a sense of community responsibility.



Felicitation of Best Cadet by Goa Governor: Junior Under Officer Amanjee Mishra was honoured as the Best Cadet for 2025 and felicitated by the Honorable Governor of Goa, Shri Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju, at a ceremony held on February 27, 2026 at Raj Bhavan. The KAR & GOA Directorate NCC also achieved notable success by winning the RDC Champions Trophy and the Prime Minister’s Banner for 2025-26, reflecting excellence, discipline, and dedication.



Annual Day Programme 2026: The Annual Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on January 15, 2026. On this occasion, Junior Under Officer Amanjee Mishra was honoured with the Best Cadet Award for the year 2025-26 from the 1 Goa Battalion NCC Boys Unit. The event highlighted the achievements, discipline, and dedication of the cadets, inspiring others to strive for excellence and actively participate in NCC activities.

NCC ‘C’ Certificate Exam: On February 14-15, 2026, 20 NCC Cadets answered ‘C’ certificate exam. The practical exam was held at Campal ground and written exam was held at S.S. Dempo College, Cujira. Senior cadets were assessed through written and practical tests including leadership skills.

Cleanliness Drive: A beach cleaning activity was conducted at Miramar Beach on March 6, 2026. A total of 15 NCC cadets from the Boys Unit of the college actively participated in collecting waste materials. The activity promoted cleanliness, environmental awareness, and a strong sense of social responsibility among the cadets.

NCC 'B' Certificate Exam: On March 14-15, 2026, 20 NCC cadets appeared for the 'B' Certificate Examination. The practical examination was conducted at Campal Ground, Campal, while the written examination was held at S.S. Dempo College, Cujira. The examination was conducted successfully under proper supervision. Cadets were assessed through written and practical tests covering drill, map reading, and basic NCC subjects, reflecting discipline and active participation.

"150 Years of Vande Mataram: A Tribute to the Nation": On March 25, 2026, the 150th anniversary of the iconic patriotic song "Vande Mataram" was celebrated with great pride and enthusiasm across the country. Composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, the song holds immense significance in India's freedom struggle and cultural heritage. The occasion was marked by patriotic programmes, group singing, and awareness activities. NCC cadets and students actively participated, paying tribute to the spirit of national unity and pride.

NCC GIRLS: UNIT (1 GOA BN NCC)



Commemoration of Vande Mataram: On the occasion of the commemoration of Vande Mataram, a poster-making competition was organised by the 1 Goa Girls Battalion NCC at St. Xavier's College, Mapusa. A total of 16 cadets participated in the event. The activity encouraged creativity while fostering patriotism and awareness among the cadets, making the programme both engaging and meaningful.

NCC Day Celebration: NCC Day was celebrated on November 22, 2025. The programme featured patriotic singing, which instilled a sense of unity, discipline, and national pride among the cadets. The event was conducted successfully, highlighting the values and spirit of the National Cadet Corps.

Sports Day: Sports Day was held on December 13, 2025. The programme commenced with a March past led by the cadets. The event featured dance performances, a play, speeches, and a felicitation ceremony, encouraging teamwork, discipline, and active participation among students.



Goa Liberation Day: This day was celebrated on December 19, 2024, by the NCC cadets who actively participated in parades, with eight attending the Mapusa Mamlatdar Ground and 14 participating in the Goa University Parade at Taleigao, fostering discipline and patriotism.

'Puneet Sagar Abhiyan' Cleaning Drive: This was conducted on January 11, 2006, at Calangute Beach by the cadets. A total of 13 cadets participated and collected four bags of plastic waste. The initiative promoted environmental awareness, cleanliness, and a sense of social responsibility among participants.





Run for Swadeshi: The Battalion organised a “Run for Swadeshi” on January 12, 2026, to commemorate National Youth Day and the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. The event aimed to promote self-reliance and national pride. A total of 30 NCC girl cadets actively participated, making the programme successful and reinforcing patriotic values among students.

77th Republic Day Celebration: The Republic Day was celebrated on January 26, 2026. The programme featured a parade by the cadets of the 1 Goa Girls Battalion NCC, followed by a felicitation ceremony honouring participants of various activities and camps. The event fostered a spirit of patriotism, pride, and unity among the cadets.



Rock Climbing Training Camp: SYBCOM cadets Cdt. Sheryl Sequeira and Cdt. Kajal Sharma represented the Karnataka and Goa Directorate among 28 participants for a Rock Climbing Training Camp, which was conducted at Gwalior from October 27 to November 7, 2025, by the 3 MP Girls Battalion NCC. The camp focused on developing physical endurance, climbing techniques, and teamwork. The Directorate secured the 1st Runner-Up position in the Rock Climbing competition.

NCC ‘C’ Certificate Examination: The NCC ‘C’ Certificate Examination (practical and written) was conducted on February 14-15, 2026. The practical examination was held at Campal Ground, Panjim, while the written examination took place at S.S. Dempo College, Cujira. A total of 16 cadets appeared for the examination, which was conducted smoothly and successfully.

Viksit Day: The programme was held on December 1 to 2, 2025, at Kala Academy, Goa. Seven cadets participated in the event. The programme featured traditional Goan dance performances by various higher secondary schools and competitions such as drawing, poetry writing, and rangoli. The Chief Guest, Dr. Ramesh Tawadkar, addressed the gathering and highlighted the role of youth in preserving Goa’s culture.



Yuva Apda Mitra Training Programme: The Programme was conducted at the Panjim Fire Station from November 25 to December 2, 2025. The programme aimed to equip cadets with skills in disaster management and emergency response, enabling them to assist communities during crises. A total of 50 cadets participated, including 10 cadets from St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, making the programme informative and impactful.

Agniveer Awareness Talk: This talk was conducted at Sawalwada, Pernem to create awareness about the Agniveer Scheme. Three NCC cadets—SUO Sonali, Cdt. Ishita, and Cdt. Kanishka—participated in the programme. The session aimed to inform youth about career opportunities and encourage participation in national service initiatives.

YuvaApdaMitra Training (Quepem): The Yuva Apda Mitra Training was conducted at Nirmal Nagar, Quepem, from March 4 to 10, 2025. Three cadets—Cdt. Ishita Gaunkar, Cdt. Kanishka Vaigankar, and Cdt. Sanjana Gugri—participated in the programme. The training focused on disaster preparedness, emergency response, and community service, equipping cadets with essential skills to effectively assist during crises.



NCC 'B' Certificate Examination: The NCC 'B' Certificate (practical and written) examinations were conducted on March 14-15, 2026. The practical examination was held at the 1 Goa Girls Battalion NCC, Peddem, while the written examination took place at S.S. Dempo College. A total of 13 cadets appeared for the examinations.



Felicitation of Cadets: JUO Anshu S. Jaiswar and JUO Steffie Ferrao were felicitated at Raj Bhavan, Panaji, on February 27, 2026, by the Honourable Governor of Goa, Shri Pusapati Ashok Gajapathi Raju, in the presence of the DDG of the National Cadet Corps (NCC) Directorate, Karnataka and Goa. The felicitation recognised their outstanding performance at the Inter Group Competition held in Mysore, Karnataka.

NSS

Quiz: An NSS Quiz Competition was held on December 16, 2025 to enhance awareness and knowledge among volunteers. It was conducted by PROs Kashish Mandrekar and Jenish Edwin.

Liberation Day: The Goa Liberation Day march held on December 19, 2025, was a significant and inspiring event marked by unity and national pride. Coordinated efficiently by Ahmed Raza Subhani, the programme reflected careful planning and smooth execution. Under the dynamic leadership of Daryl Fernandes, participants demonstrated exceptional discipline throughout the march. The event brought together individuals who worked in perfect coordination, showcasing strong teamwork.

Poster Competition: A competition on Nasha Mukta Bharat was conducted on January 2, 2026, with the objective of spreading awareness about the harmful effects of drug abuse. The event encouraged participants to creatively express their thoughts and ideas through impactful visual representations. Students actively took part, showcasing their artistic talents while conveying strong social messages against substance abuse. The competition served as an effective platform to educate and sensitise young minds about the importance of a drug-free society.

Awareness Talk: An Awareness Talk on Drug Abuse held on January 9, 2026 highlighted legal and health implications by Advocate Ms. Mary Fernandes. The awareness programme was conducted under the guidance of the 'Goa State Legal Services Authority' (GSLSA) with the support of the 'District Legal Services Authority' (DLSA) and the 'Taluka Legal Committees' (TLCs).

Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme: Volunteers participated in the Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme (January 12–20, 2026) at the St. Inez Fire Training Centre, Panaji, where volunteers received hands-on disaster management training. The Run for Swadeshi was organised on January 12, 2026, promoting self-reliance and national pride.

Republic Day: The Republic Day Celebration on January 26, 2026 included flag hoisting, march past, and felicitation of student achievers.

Quiz: The MY Bharat Budget Quest Quiz (February 3 to 16, 2026) encouraged awareness of the Union Budget and national development.

COLS: A Compression Only Life Support (COLS) Workshop on February 18, 2026 trained students in emergency response techniques under the guidance of Dr. Sandeep Naik, Dr. Sailesh Hede and Dr., Sachin Nandakumar.

Fire Drill: A Fire Drill was conducted on February 26, 2026 enhanced safety awareness and preparedness for the students of the college by Mr. Onkar from Fire and emergency services. Additionally, the multi-tasking staff of the college were trained on how to use the water hose.

Nasha Mukta Rally: The NSS Unit also participated in the Nasha Mukta Bharat Rally on February 27, 2026, promoting a drug-free society.

Open Lab Day: An Open Lab Day on March 17, 2026, coordinated by Mr. Mahesh Nair (Department of Chemistry), where NSS volunteers guided the school students to different departments at the college and demonstrated hands-on scientific exposure to school students.

The Impact Quest (Scavenger Hunt) on March 18, 2026 promoted teamwork and social responsibility through activity-based learning rooted in civic projects.

A Cancer Awareness Drive was held on March 24, 2026 to sensitise the college community through interactive participation and message sharing by sharing various coloured ribbons to highlight the existence of different types of cancer.

Cleanliness Drive: Regular campus cleanliness drives were carried out throughout the year, reflecting a sustained commitment to maintaining a clean and healthy environment. These initiatives encouraged students and staff to actively participate in preserving the surroundings and instilled a strong sense of responsibility towards nature. The drives not only focused on cleanliness but also promoted awareness about hygiene, waste management, and sustainable practices. Volunteers worked together with discipline and dedication, ensuring that the campus remained neat and well-maintained. Such collective efforts fostered teamwork and a spirit of community service among all involved.

Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme (YAMS) Training: NSS volunteers (Kashish Mandrekar, Anjali Singh, Mitali Khawadiya, Mohammad Talif, Garvit Jaitawat, Mahzar Khan, Chippala Tirumalesh, and Stanford Seby Godinho) successfully completed the Yuva Aapda Mitra Scheme (YAMS) training conducted by the NDMA from January 12-19, 2026 at the St. Inez Fire and Emergency Training Centre, Panaji. Volunteers were trained in disaster response, first aid, and emergency management.

Regional Mountaineering Camp: NSS volunteers Ahamad Raza Subhani, Abhishek Sharma, and Tulsi Ram represented Goa at the Regional Mountaineering Camp held from November 18-27, 2025 in Dharamshala. They received training in rock climbing, rappelling, rope techniques, and hazard awareness, along with trekking to various locations, enhancing their physical endurance and survival skills.

Pre-Republic Day Parade Camp (Gujarat): Shanoor Shaikh and Kashish Mandrekar participated in the West Zone NSS Pre-Republic Day Parade Camp held from October 31, 2025 to November 9, 2025 at Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan.

Regional River Rafting Camp (Kullu-Manali, Himachal Pradesh): NSS volunteers Anushka Maurya, Rishad Hussain, and Issac Dias represented Goa in a Regional River Rafting Camp held from November 27, 2025 to December 6, 2025. They were trained in rafting, kayaking, rescue techniques, and survival skills, and also participated in trekking and cultural exchange activities.

Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (New Delhi): NSS volunteers Shivang Shirodkar and Kush Kanthamraju represented Goa at the Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue (January 9 to 12, 2026) held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Shivang Shirodkar was selected among the Top 25 PM Presenters nationwide, presenting ideas on “Fit Bharat, Hit Bharat,” marking a historic achievement for Goa.

Republic Day Parade Invitation (Kartavya Path, New Delhi): NSS volunteer Yash Vivek Pawar was recognised among the Top 100 MY Bharat Volunteers in India and was invited as a special guest to witness the Republic Day Parade 2026 at Kartavya Path, New Delhi.

National Integration Camp (Pune): NSS volunteers Linnes Rodrigues and Aman Jha participated in the National Integration Camp (NIC), 2026 held at Savitribai Phule University, Pune February (11 to 17, 2026). The camp included cultural exchange, competitions, and awareness sessions promoting unity in diversity.

National Integration Camp (Mysore): A team of NSS volunteers, Anushka Maurya, Abhishek Sharma, Tulsi Ram, Anjali Singh, Avinash Pandey, Janessa D’Souza, and Arti Kumari represented Goa at the National Integration Camp (NIC) held in Mysore, Karnataka (March 12-18, 2026), promoting cultural exchange and national integration.

NSS GALLERY



STUDENT COUNCIL

The Socials was held on December 4, 2025. Over 600 students attended. Mr. Yash Pawar (TYBCom) and Ms. Aloma Saldanha (TYBSc - Biotechnology) were crowned Mr. and Ms. Xavier's respectively.



The Council, in coordination with the Cultural Events Committee, organised Plus Points 2025, an annual intra-collegiate cultural competition, on December 22-23, 2025. Held across various venues on the college campus, the event provided students with a vibrant platform to showcase their talents, creativity, teamwork, and competitive spirit. The theme, "Olympus Ascends: Clash of the Twelve," brought together twelve teams representing different classes and programmes. A wide range of cultural, literary, creative, gaming, and sporting events, including dance, photography, debate, rangoli, quiz, skit, football, cricket, and Mr. and Ms. Plus Points, were conducted. Faculty members served as judges, while the Student Council and Faculty Coordinator Mr. Stalin D'Sa ensured the smooth conduct of the event. The results were announced on December 23, with TYBCom emerging as the overall winner, followed by TYBSc and BCA.

FunSplash 2026 was organised from January 27-30, 2026. This was a mini fun week featuring Traditional Day, Mismatch Day, Movie Mania Day, and Scribble Day.

As part of a gender awareness initiative, Gender Champion Ms. Sheronne Dias organised a talk by Dr. Deepti Pinto on '**Menstrual Health and Hygiene**' on February 3, 2026.

In order to boost cyber security awareness, Mr. Jenish Edwards organised a session featuring Mr. Sahil Awasthi (CyberYodha, Goa Police) and Advocate Sunil Loran on **cyber security** for youth.

St' Xavier's College students excelled at inter college events, securing **second place at Meteora** (Don Bosco College, Panjim) and **first place at K-OSS** (Dempo College, Cujira).

Farewell!



The farewell function for the final-year students of St. Xavier's College was held with great enthusiasm and warmth on March 31, 2026 at Xavier's Ark. The programme was organised around the meaningful theme, "Sent Forth to Share Hope, Peace and Compassion," emphasising that the outgoing students were not merely leaving the institution but were being sent forth with a mission to make a positive difference in society.

The gathering was warmly welcomed by Rev. Canon Antonio Salema, Administrator, who encouraged the students as they prepared to embark on a new journey. The programme commenced with a solemn Concelebrated Eucharistic Celebration, presided over by Rev. Fr. Praveen D'Souza OCD, Director of Emmaus Wellness Centre, Mapusa. In his inspiring homily, Fr. D'Souza highlighted the importance of courage, faith, compassion, altruism, and prayer.

The occasion also included the felicitation of Rev. Canon Antonio Salema on his elevation to the dignity of Canon. Following this, a cultural programme featured a Konkani song, a video presentation by the juniors, and reflections from the outgoing students. Faculty members and the Officiating Principal addressed the students, encouraging them to uphold the values of empathy, inclusivity, unity, integrity, and peace. The programme concluded with the Xavier's slogan, a melodious performance by the College Choir, and the College Anthem, leaving the outgoing students with fond memories and valuable inspiration for their future.