



Chowgule Education Society's
Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science
(Autonomous)
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Best Affiliated College-Goa University Silver Jubilee Year Award



BOTANY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

Showcasing Research on a National Platform

Dr. Uma Masur, Associate Professor Botany Department gave oral presentation on the topic "Morpho-Physiological Dynamics of Goan Chilli Varieties under Controlled Hydroponic Cultivation" at 15th NABS National conference organised by Department of Botany and Zoology, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem- Goa and National Academy of Biological sciences (NABS) Chennai.



Dr. Amisha Pednekar made Oral presentation on: "Dominant Arbuscular Mycorrhizal (AM) Fungal Communities Modulate Yield and Mineral Nutrition of *Ipomoea batatas* (L.) Lam. in Tropical Agroecosystems of Goa, India." and poster presentation with students Lisa Afonso, Sanskruti Sawant Dessai and Sahista A. on: "Diversity and Colonization Patterns of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi Associated with Coastal Dune Vegetation in Colva Beach, South Goa, India" at the 15th NABS National conference organised by Department of Botany and Zoology, Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem- Goa and National Academy of Biological sciences (NABS) Chennai.

Doctoral Milestone Achieved: Successful Completion of Ph.D.

Ms. Amisha Pednekar defended her PhD thesis titled "Studies on Arbuscular Mycorrhizal (AM) Fungi in Wild and Cultivated Tubers, found in Goa"; from the Botany discipline, School of Biological Sciences and Biotechnology, on 5th August 2026 at Goa University. Worked under the guidance of Rtd. Sr. Prof. B.F. Rodrigues.



Faculty Development Achievement

Ms. Sonali Gaonkar, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science (Autonomous), Margao, successfully completed the UGC-approved Faculty Induction Programme (Online Mode) conducted by the Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly UGC-HRDC), Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat, from 6 July 2026 to 2 August 2026.



Welcoming New Beginnings: Botany Department Induction

First-Year Orientation Programme



The Department of Botany conducted an Orientation Programme for First-Year students on 26th June 2026. The programme introduced students to the department, faculty members, academic structure, curriculum, facilities, and various learning opportunities. It provided students with a welcoming start to their academic journey and helped them become familiar with the department and its activities.

Third-Year Project Induction Programme



The Department of Botany conducted a Third-Year Project Induction Programme to introduce students to the project requirements and expectations. The session provided guidance on project selection, planning, methodology, documentation, evaluation criteria, and timelines, helping students prepare for their research projects with greater clarity and confidence.

Planting the Seeds of Leadership: Club Botanica Induction 2026



Club Botanica, the official club of the Department of Botany, serves as a platform for students to actively participate in departmental events, academic activities, competitions, outreach programmes, celebrations, and co-curricular initiatives. The club encourages teamwork, leadership, creativity, and active involvement among students while fostering a strong sense of community within the department.

An Induction Programme for Club Botanica was held on 14th August 2026, marking the beginning of a new term of student-led activities. During the programme, the office bearers were selected and assigned their respective responsibilities, preparing the team to coordinate and conduct various departmental activities throughout the academic year.

Office Bearers:

- President: Sanskruti Sawant Dessai
- Secretary: Lisa Afonso
- Treasurer: Eshica D'Souza
- Class Representative: Rukma Prabhu Dessai

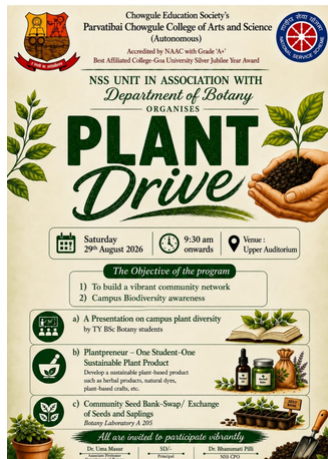


Celebrating Academic Excellence: Ph.D. Achievement

As a gesture of appreciation and to celebrate a significant academic milestone, the Department of Botany felicitated Ms. Amisha Pednekar on the successful completion of her Ph.D. The felicitation recognised her dedication, perseverance, and academic achievement, while celebrating this proud moment with the faculty and students of the department.



PLANT DRIVE & PLANTPRENEUR



Together in learning and growth!
A memorable moment with the teachers, staff, and students who participated in the events.



PRESENTATION BY A TY.BSC STUDENT

The Botany Department organized a Plant Exchange Drive to promote environmental awareness and encourage sustainable practices. Teachers, students, and staff actively participated in the drive by exchanging different varieties of plants. The activity promoted the importance of plant conservation, increased awareness about the benefits of greenery, and encouraged everyone to contribute towards a healthier and more sustainable environment. The event also fostered a sense of community and inspired participants to incorporate more greenery into their surroundings.

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY MDC STUDENTS



PLANTPRENEUR



"Plantpreneur" aimed at promoting entrepreneurship, creativity, and awareness about the importance of plants and sustainability. The event provided participants with an opportunity to showcase their ideas and explore innovative plant-based products and business concepts, a platform for participants to present their ideas, interact with others, and understand the importance of combining business with environmental responsibility.



Learning Beyond the Classroom: Satpal Arboretum Visit

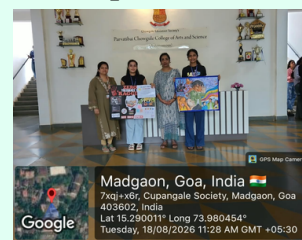


On 28 August 2026, the Department of Botany visited the Satpal Arboretum in Sacorda. This field visit, a key part of the curriculum's experiential learning initiative, was a completed successfully.

Students from FY students of Diversity of Lower Forms, MDC Economic Botany, SY MDC Basics in Hoeticulture, and TY B.Sc. Major Botany programs came together to explore the arboretum maintained by the Forest department, Govt. Of Goa. Students observed and studied various lower plants, including bryophytes, a variety of pteridophytes, numerous basidiomycetes etc. They also observed various medicinally important plants. Overall the visit was a successful one.

Student Achievement: First Place in Anti-Ragging Poster Competition

Ms. Lisa Afonso from the Department of Botany secured First Place in the Anti-Ragging Poster Competition organised by the college. The achievement highlights the student's creativity, artistic skills, and awareness of the importance of maintaining a safe, respectful, and inclusive campus environment.



Learning Beyond Boundaries: Workshop Participation

Ms. Amisha Pednekar attended a workshop on "UGC Anti-Ragging Guidelines and Portal Compliances", on Wednesday, 12 August 2026. At Government of Goa's College of Multidisciplinary Studies and Research (Autonomous), Margao-Goa.



UPCOMING EVENTS

1. SY.BSc Visit to Goa State Pollution Control Road.
2. TY.BSc Visit to ICAR in Kasargod.
3. FY.BSc Fresher's Party
4. Teachers Day Celebration

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