VOLUME 10 | ISSUE : 01

CATALYST





LEARNING
EXPERIMENTING
EXCELLING





HIGHLIGHTS

- Orientation Programme for First Years.
- "Y2KVERSE" Welcoming the Freshers.
- Teacher's Day Celebration.
- Alumini Talk "Molecules to Methodology: Research Journey in Synthetic Chemistry" by Shubham Rivonker.
- 1st Runners-up for inter-collegiate Event "Atomica".
- Guest Lecture on "Molecular assemblies formed through non-covalent interactions" by Dr. Ketan Mandrekar.
- "Molecular Munch 2026" cooking competition.
- Students visit to BITS-Goa Campus
- Faculty Development Programmes and Trainings.

Faculty Advisor & Editor: Dr. Lactina Gonsalves

STUDENT LIFE & DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

FYBSc Orientation Programme | 27 June 2026



The Chemistry Faculty welcomed the incoming FYBSc batch of 2026–27 to Chowgule College, marking the start of their undergraduate journey and introducing them to the academic environment of the department.

The F.Y.BSc. students were oriented on the various aspects of their B.Sc. degree programme by the faculty.

Y2KVERSE: Freshers' 2026 | 1 August 2026



A fun-filled and a warm welcome party based on the theme 'Y2KVERSE' was held for the First Year students by the seniors of Chemistry Department.

The celebration featured games, performances, music and dance which was an ice-breaker for the freshers and seniors, welcoming them into departmental and college life.

Teachers' Day Celebration | 4 September 2026

The Chemistry students celebrated Teachers' Day to recognise teachers' dedication and guidance in students' academic and personal growth. The day was celebrated with fun filled games, laughter and cake-cutting making it one of the memorable occassions.



A warm tribute and gratitude for the Teachers

STUDENT LIFE & DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

"CINE CHEM" REEL Making Competition | Inter-class

"CineChem – A Reel-Making Challenge", encouraging students to explore chemistry through creativity and digital storytelling was organised by the club ChemZone. The competition featured two themes: Chemistry in 30 Seconds and Chemistry Multiverse: "What If?", challenging participants to present chemical concepts creatively through short reels.
Two teams participated, one each from FY and SY. The competition was judged by Dr. Priyanka Talak and Dr. Manjita Porob. The FY team emerged as the winner. The event promoted scientific communication, creativity, and the effective use of social media to make chemistry engaging and accessible.

LOGO Designing Competition | Inter-class

The club ChemZone, organised an Individual Logo Designing Competition to encourage students to express their creativity and design a meaningful logo representing the department and its values. A total of 18 students participated, showcasing their artistic skills and innovative ideas through unique logo designs. The entries were evaluated by Dr. Manjita Porob, Dr. Lactina Gonsalves, and Dr. Priyanka Talak.
Amay Ajaia Naik Gaunker (SYBSc) emerged as the winner of the competition.



Winning Logo
By Amay Gaunker (SYBSc)

" MOLECULAR MUNCH" 2026 | Cooking Competition



"Molecular Munch 2026 – Rang • Raas • Reactions" was held on 5th October 2026. The event brought together the flavours of Indian vegetarian cuisine, the festive spirit of Navratri. Five teams participated and prepared Indian vegetarian dishes. The chemistry behind the culinary creations, highlighting the scientific principles and transformations involved in cooking was explained by the teams.
The competition was judged by Dr. Sidhali Parsekar, Ms. Trupti Dessai, and Ms. Alka Gawas. The winners of the competion were TYBSc (1st and 2nd Place) and SYBSc (3rd Place) students.

Winners:

- **1st Place (TYBSc): Linzy Falcao, Mahima Carvalho, Komal Parsekar, Netravati Telagar, Najila Coutinho.**
- **2nd Place (TYBSc): Shrushti Naik, Sneha Chandekar, Nidhi Kaskar, Struan Cardozo.**
- **3rd Place (SYBSc): Crisha Rodrigues, Bhumi Raikar, Francia Dias, Sania Gaonkar.**

Supramolecular Chemistry | 6 August 2026



Dr. Ketan S. Mandrekar, Assistant Professor, School of Chemical Sciences, Goa University, delivered a lecture on "Molecular assemblies formed through non-covalent interactions". He also spoke to the students about his research journey in Chemistry.

Runner's Up for Inter-Collegiate Event "ATOMICA" | 8 September 2026



ATOMICA 2026 was a state level intercollegiate event for undergraduate B.Sc. students (Chemistry) that was held at Carmel College, Nuvem-Goa on 08th September 2026.

It was a one-day state level intercollegiate event which provided a stage to the students to showcase their knowledge in Chemistry and show how well they can use their talents to fulfil the given tasks. This event was being organised with an aim to promote learning Chemistry in higher studies & Research.

The student team who participated in the event emerged as the RUNNERS UP OF ATOMICA 2026

Alumni Talk | 7 September 2026



Mr. Shubham C. Rivonker, Alumnus of Chemistry Department, currently a PhD Scholar at Dongguk University, Seoul, South Korea, gave a talk on 7 September 2026 on the Topic "Molecules to Methodology: Research Journey in Synthetic Chemistry".

Student Achievements | Innovation Competition



- Vaidehi Manerikar (SYBSc), won 1st Place in the "PLANTPRENEUR" competition organised by the Botany Department on 27 August 2026.
- Vaidehi and her team also secured 3rd Place in the AI HACKATHON event at the college level, where they presented a sustainable product idea.

AI HACKATHON | College Level | District level | 1 October 2026

Chemistry students from FYBSc and SYBSc participated in the "AI Hackathon" Competition Organised by the Department of Information Technology, Electronics & Communications (DITEC), Startup & IT Promotion Cell (SITPC), and the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) under the 'Seva Sankalp Abhiyaan'. The team of Saisha Desai, Purva Naik, Nasiya Rebello, Rutvi Prabhudessai and Jainab Jakati from FYBSc won the 2nd place. They presented Safe Route AI,





an innovative AI-powered women's safety solution designed to recommend safer routes based on safety conditions. Vaidehi Manerikar and team won the 3rd place. Both teams were then selected to participate at the District Level competition held at Ravindra Bhavan, Margao.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT & ACADEMIC OUTREACH

FDP on UHV Integrated Student Induction Programme | 16-18 June 2026

Dr. Padmini Raiker, Dr. Mayuri Gaonkar and Dr. Lactina Gonsalves participated in the three-day, fully residential Faculty Development Programme on "Universal Human Values Integrated Student Induction Programme" organised by the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa, from 16–18 June 2026.

Resource Person | Innovation Training

Dr. Mayuri Gaonkar served as resource person for the Orientation Training Programme on "16th Finance Commission Recommendations and Quality GPDP", organised by Goa Institute of Public Administration & Rural Development from 11–13 June 2026.

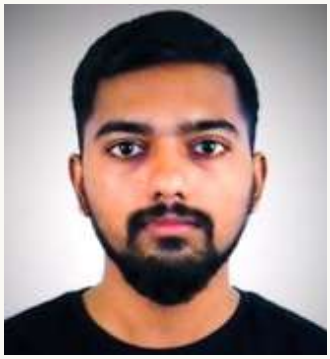
She also completed the online Foundation Level training by MoE's Innovation Cell and AICTE on 20 June 2026, followed by Advanced Level training on 13 July 2026, IIC calendar year 2025–26.

Careers in Chemistry | BITS-PILANI Goa Campus | 11 Sep 2026



The Department of Chemistry, Chowgule College, participated in the event "Careers in Chemistry", organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) in association with the Department of Chemistry, K. K. Birla Goa Campus, BITS Pilani. The programme was attended by the final-year B.Sc. Chemistry students, who gained valuable insights into diverse career pathways and opportunities available to chemistry graduates.

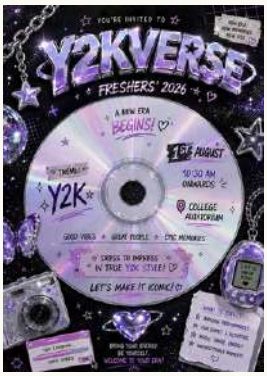
New Faculty Joined| Dr. Viraj G. Naik



Dr. Viraj Ganpat Naik joined the Chemistry Department as Assistant Professor in June 2026. He holds a Ph.D. in Chemistry from BITS Pilani, K. K. Birla Goa Campus, with research expertise in synthetic organic chemistry, fluorescence sensing, and (AIE)-based materials. He has authored and co-authored several research publications in reputed international journals. With experience in teaching chemistry courses and handling advanced analytical instruments, Dr. Naik is committed to fostering scientific curiosity, practical learning, and research-oriented education among students.

MORE MOMENTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT....BEHIND THE SCENES !









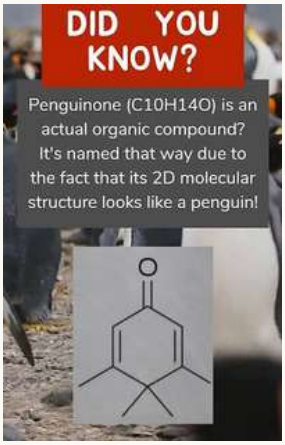


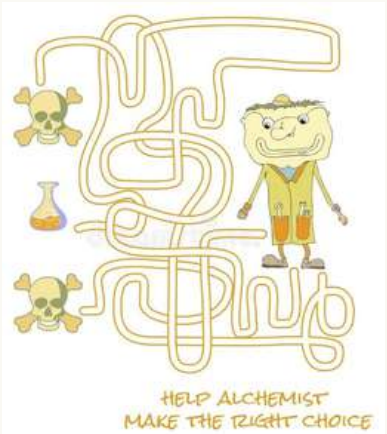






CHEMISTRY CORNER : THINK.. EXPLORE.. DISCOVER..!





Crack the Code!

Unscramble the letters to identify the gas:

G O N E Y X

Chemistry Humour!

Why can't you trust an atom?

It makes up everything!

Because CHEMISTRY should make U Smile!