



# News Bulletin

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## Chief Minister Lays Foundation Stone for New Boys Hostel

On 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2007, Chief Minister, Shri Pratapsing Rane laid the Foundation Stone for a New Boys' Hostel for Goa University in the presence of the Vice-Chancellor of Goa University at the University Complex.

Speaking on this occasion, Shri. Rane assured of his governments total support to the University's activities to make it a centre of Excellence. Vice Chancellor, Prof. P. S. Zacharias gave the welcome address. Shri Manish Bahuguna, Managing Director, GSIDC also spoke on the occasion. Registrar, Dr. M. M. Sangodkar proposed the vote of Thanks.

The proposed area of the hostel is 3675 sq.mt. with a capacity of 84 twin staying rooms in a ground plus two-storied building. The project will be taken up by GSIDC.

The estimated cost on completion will be approximately Rs. 5 crores and the expected time of completion is 14 months from 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2007.

## Seminar on 'Agricultural Development In Goa: Issues And Perspectives'

The Department of Economics, Goa University organised a Seminar on "Agricultural Development in Goa: Issues and Perspectives" on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2007. The Chief Guest for the inaugural function was Dr. A.R. Padoshi, former Head of the Department of Economics, Goa University and former member of Goa Planning Board. Dr. Padoshi reviewed the process of economic growth of India. He pointed out that the rapid rate of growth in India which is led by the service sector is NOT sustainable because the service sector cannot produce concrete wealth but merely transfers the wealth. He expressed regret that agriculture and inflation which were almost forgotten in India have come to the centre stage due to dangers posed to Indian Economy due to poor growth of agriculture. He also warned that unless the agricultural sector is revolutionized by massive investment, it will be impossible to sustain 9% growth in the eleventh Five Year Plan.

Earlier Dr. Silvia Noronha, Head, Dept. of Economics, Goa University welcomed the seminar. In her welcome address she lamented that agriculture in Goa was almost non-existent. Today, Goa is heavily dependent on the neighbouring states for its supply of agricultural goods which places Goa in a precarious position. She also commented that the Agricultural Tenancy Act 1964, was probably one of the many factors that sounded the death knell to Goan Agriculture. The seminar was attended by faculty members of university and affiliated colleges from the field of economics and students.

## Regional Seminar on Marine Microbial Interactions

A two day seminar was organised by the department of Microbiology, Goa University on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2007. The theme of the seminar is 'Marine Microbial Interactions'. Dr. D. Chandramohan, Consultant, NIOT, Chennai and Ex-Deputy Director, National Institute of Oceanography inaugurated the Seminar on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007. Speaking on this occasion, he gave a brief review of the Marine Microbes and called upon all to work hard and achieve success in their various fields of research. Prof. P.S. Zacharias, Vice Chancellor, Goa University presided over the function. He felicitated Dr. S. Mavinkurve and Dr. Joe D'Souza, Ex-faculty members of the department of Microbiology on this occasion. In his address, he congratulated the department for organizing this seminar and stated that this seminar will provide an opportunity to the science students to achieve excellence in these respective fields. Dr. Saroj Bhosle, Head of the department of Microbiology welcomed the gathering and highlighted the importance of the seminar. She also said that this seminar will give exposure to the students which will enable them to compete at the national level. Dr. Sarita Nazareth, faculty member, Microbiology Department proposed the vote of thanks and compeered the programme. In these two days, special invitees like Dr. D. Chandramohan, Dr. S. Mavinkurve, Dr. Joe D'Souza, Dr. S. Achutankutty, Dr. Loka Bharati, Dr. L. Parumalswamy, Dr. N. Thajuddin, Dr. S. Raghukumar, Dr. C.G. Naik, Dr. N.B. Bhosle, Dr. S. Bhosle, Dr. S.K. Dubey, Dr. S. Nazareth and Dr. I. Furtado gave plenary lectures with presentations.

Faculty Members and students attended the seminar.

## PLATEAUNICA – 2007

Under the auspices of the Directorate of Students' Welfare and Cultural Affairs, the Post Graduate Students Union (PGSU) of Goa University organized the annual Cultural festival – Plateaunica 2007, from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2007 at the Faculty Enclave. The inaugural programme of Plateaunica was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2007. Registrar of Goa University, Dr. M.M. Sangodkar, was the Chief Guest and inaugurated the Plateaunica. In his address the Registrar exhorted the students to improve their skills and to imbibe good qualities in life. He suggested that students should use Plateaunica and such other events to achieve their all round development. Dr. N. Shyam Bhat, Director of Students Welfare also spoke on the occasion and gave details about the programme of the Plateaunica. He said that the students' should organize quality programmes which should be educative and rewarding. Mr. Satish Mandrekar, President of PGSU welcomed the Guests while Mr. Hanumant Redkar, General Secretary, proposed vote of thanks. Miss Alysha Lobo compered.

During the three days programme various on-stage and off-stage events were held. Post Graduate Students of various Departments participated in these competitions. On-stage events included Mera Desh Mahan, Mute Beat, Ad-Mad Show, Folk Dance, Third Degree, Skit, Mime, Cultural Fusion, Movie Masala, One Act Play (Kuch Sikh Le), Fashion Show and Mr. and Miss Plateaunica 2007. Off – stage competitions included Flower arrangement, Rangoli, Charcoal Painting, Love Letter Writing, Vegetable Carving, Collage, Hair Styling, Thermo-craft, Mehendi, Face Painting, Best out of Waste and Plateaunica Times.

The Post Graduate Students constituted six groups, namely M.A., M.Com., MBA, MCA, Science-A and Science-B and these groups participated in all the programmes. Students of the M.C.A. and M.Com. groups won the first place and the rolling shield. The runners up were students of Science-A and Science-B groups. Mr. Plateaunica and Miss Plateaunica contests were won by Mr. Deepak Jaryal of M.Sc. Physics, Part II ( Science-B group) and Miss Atasha Diana D'Souza of M.Com. Part I (Commerce group) respectively.

## Frontiers in Animal Sciences Lectures

Department of Zoology, Goa University in collaboration with Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore organized two days Lecture series in "Frontiers in Animal Sciences" on 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007.

The series was inaugurated on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007, by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Goa University, Prof. P. S. Zacharias and Prof. S. K. Saidapur, recipient of most coveted S.S. Bhatnagar Award and Vice Chancellor of Karnatak University was the Chief Guest. Prof. A. B. Shanbhag, HOD, Zoology welcomed and introduced the guest.

In these two days, Lectures on Natural Selection and Evolution, Frontiers of Molecular Biology Research, Status of Stem Cell Research and its application, Behavior of Non Human Primates, Primate Societies, Role of Zooplankton and Carbon in monitoring the health of aquatic bodies etc., were dealt by Prof. S. K Saidapur, Prof. R. R. Bhonde, National Centre for Cell Science, Pune, Prof. Mewa Singh, a leading animal psychologist from University of Mysore, Dr. L. Shashidhara from Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad and Dr. Victor Smetacek from Germany. The lectures were attended by more than 100 teachers and students from Goa University and its affiliated colleges. Dr. I. K. Pai proposed the vote of thanks.

## Diversity and Life Processes from Ocean and land

On February 16, 2007 a book titled, "Diversity and Life Processes from Ocean and land" was released at the hands of Prof. Kallapur, Prof. Emiretus, Karnatak University.

This book, which is edited by Prof. P. V. Desai and Dr. R. Roy, faculty members of the department of Zoology, is an outcome of a National Seminar on "Frontiers in Zoology" held on Feb 22-24, 2006 along with a Symposium on the theme "Ocean as a source of Nutrients and Drugs for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". Twenty-one articles have been included in this book after it has been peer reviewed by eminent scientists and professors.

Prof. P. S. Zacharias, Vice Chancellor, Goa University presided over the function. The book release function was followed by a talk on 'Insect Plant Interaction" by the Chief Guest, Prof. Kallapur.

## CYNOSURE 2007, The English Literary Festival

The department of English, Goa University organised CYNOSURE 2007, the English Literary Festival, on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Students from eight colleges where English is offered as an elective component participated in the literary festival with full enthusiasm and vigour.

Five on-stage—debate, JAM, literary quiz, theatre and talent show—and two off-stage—poetry writing and crossword—competitions were held and the quality of participation was excellent. St. Xaviers College bagged the coveted rolling trophy for its superior overall performance.

Dr. A K Joshi, Retired Professor of English, Goa University was the chief guest and gave away prizes to the winners.