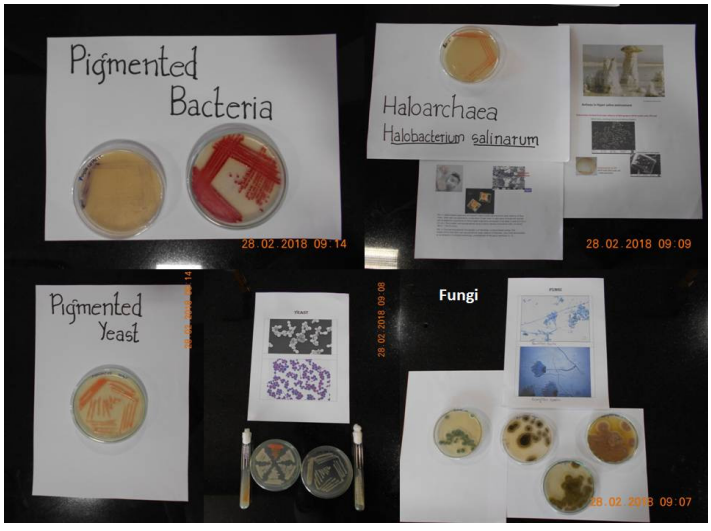
Department of Microbiology at Goa University celebrates National Science Day (28 February 2018)

National Science Day is celebrated in India on 28 February each year to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist Sir Chandrashekhara Venkata Raman on 28 February 1928. For his discovery, Sir C.V. Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930. The Department of Microbiology organized following activities as a part of celebration.

1. *Video show on the theme 'Microbiology in Health and Environment' for visiting students.*
   A video show was organized in the Marine Microbiology classroom, running the entire day, for visiting students. The topics covered ranged from history of microbiology, the significance of microorganisms (bacteria, fungi, viruses, protists) for human health and disease, cloning, genetic engineering, microbial applications in industry and environmental conservation and remediation.

2. *Exhibits 'Microbiology – Diversity and Applications'*
   

   Carefully selected microbial specimens were exhibitediq in the Instrumentation Room, throughout the day. To illustrate the diversity of microorganisms, isolates of different groups including bacteria, archaea, yeast and fungi, were displayed, with emphasis on pigmentation and enzyme activity along with a brief description of their characteristics and habitats. M.Sc. students as volunteers explained the various structural characteristics of the microorganisms on display, the techniques used to study them and their applications in various fields such as remediation and industry.

3. *Open Day – Laboratories for the Visitors*

The M.Sc. and research laboratories were open to the visitors for the entire day in order to provide an experience of the working of a microbiology laboratory.

4. *Visit of M.Sc. (Microbiology, Marine Microbiology, Biochemistry) Part I to OASTC/Centre of Excellence (Marine Microbiology)*
   The M.Sc. Part I students of all 3 Programmes visited the laboratories at the OASTC/Centre of Excellence (Marine Microbiology) during the first half of the day, from 10:00 to 11:30 hours, under the supervision of Prof.

   S. Garg. They viewed and studied the working of the Fermentor, High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) and Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS). This also forms an important part of their curricula, especially for the Techniques and Instrumentation in Microbiology, Industrial Microbiology, and Industrial Biochemistry Courses.

5. *Lecture on 'Aptamer overview: from Identification to Theronostics' by Dr. Pooja Dua Chaudhari*
   A lecture on 'Overview of Aptamers' by Dr. Pooja Dua Chaudhari, the UGC-FRP faculty was organized on the occasion in the Microbiology Classroom. The talk was attended by the faculty members and students of M.Sc. (Microbiology, Marine Microbiology, Biochemistry) Part II. Through a vivid and enriching presentation, Dr. P. Dua Chaudhari

elucidated Aptamers - their identification, synthesis and applications in cancer biology.

6. *Visit of M.Sc. Part I (Microbiology, Marine Microbiology, Biochemistry) to Department of Chemistry*
   The students of M.Sc. Part I (Microbiology, Marine Microbiology, Biochemistry) also visited the Department of Chemistry during the afternoon session, and observed the working of various instruments like Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer, Infrared (IR) spectrometer, BET Surface Area Analyser, Raman spectrophotometer,

   HPLC, CHNS analyser, Electrochemical Analyser, Gas Chromatography (GC), Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometer (LC-MS), Thermo Gravity Differential Thermal Analyser (TGDTA). This also forms an important part of their curricula, especially for the Techniques and Instrumentation in Microbiology, Industrial Microbiology, and Industrial Biochemistry Courses. They were accompanied by Dr. L. Charya and Dr. V. Damare.