Goa University (GU)

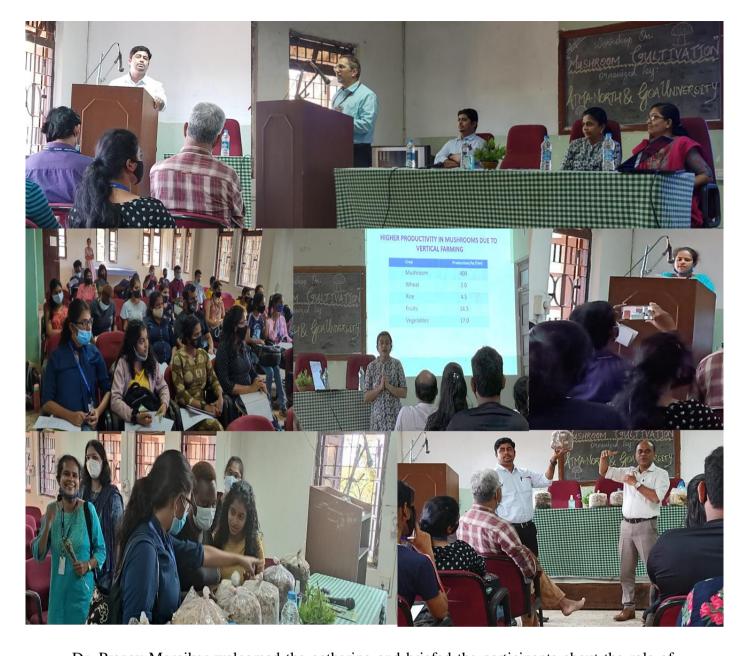
Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhata and Rural Engagement Cell (SES-REC),

Awareness program and workshop on

"MUSHROOM CULTIVATION: SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUES, ECONOMIC PERSPECTIVES & CHALLENGES"



The Educational Outreach Committee (EOC) of Social Entrepreneurship, Swachhata and Rural Engagement Cell (SES-REC), Goa University in collaboration with Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA), Directorate of Agriculture, Government of Goa organized a Workshop titled "Mushroom Cultivation: scientific techniques, economic perspectives & challenges" on 4th March 2022 at 2.00 p. m. at Ela farm, Old Goa for the Goa University Swachh Bharat Student Intern (SBSI). Prof. Jyoti Pawar was the Convenor of SES-REC, Goa University, and Dr. Pranay Morajkar was the convenor of the event and Chairperson for EOC, SES-REC. Shri. Kishore Bhave, Project Director of ATMA, Smt. Vismita Marathe, Depute Project Director, ATMA, Government of Goa, and Shri Shivanand C. Volvoikar, Director of Vana Shrubs Private Limited graced the occasion with their presence.



Dr. Pranay Morajkar welcomed the gathering and briefed the participants about the role of EOC, SES-REC, GU towards the need for social entrepreneurship and rural engagement. The importance of skill development programs such as Mushroom Cultivation and the plan to establish the Mushroom Cultivation & Incubation Centre at GU was also highlighted. It was informed that a series of such mushroom cultivation workshops will be organized at GU and across villages of Goa especially in the GU adopted villages such as Madkai, Gudi Paroda, Naushi, Shirdao and Cacra. This was followed by a briefing about ATMA and its role in agriculture in the north of Goa by Shri. Kishore Bhave. Smt. Gauri Prabhudesai, Agricultural Officer, Directorate of Agriculture, Govt. of Goa, was the esteemed speaker for this workshop, who delivered an informative talk on mushroom science along with her insightful knowledge on "Oyster Mushroom cultivation as an agri-business for rural development" along with its economic perspectives and the challenges. Furthermore, the speaker educated

the SBSI- interns on various mushroom cultivation techniques, introduced them to several commercial mushroom species and their health benefits. Shri. Shivananda Volvoikar displayed live mushroom cultivations beds and described the different stages of mushroom growth process. The need for cyclic economy via value addition to the leftover oyster mushroom produce was also highlighted. The economic model to provide financial benefits to the young entrepreneurs especially in rural villages of Goa was presented by Smt. Vismita Marathe.

The talk was well-received by the audience, and a thorough discussion ensured that this was an excellent learning experience for all the participants. The entire session was coordinated by Dr. Kiran T. Dhavskar duly supported by the members of the coordination committee namely, Dr. Shanti Desai, Dr. Milind Naik, Dr. Bhakti Salgaonkar, Dr. Diptesh Naik, Dr. Teja Khandolkar, Ms. Rajavi Naik and Mr. Brandon Fernandes from Goa University.

This workshop was indeed successful in inspiring several SBSI interns to take up entrepreneurship and contribute towards Atmanirbhar Goa and Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Report by

Ms. Rajavi Naik & Dr. Pranay P. Morajkar EOC, SES-REC, GU