

# Non-Goan students show the way for Portuguese language at GU

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## PANAJI

If not the only threat of gradual decline of Portuguese legacy from Goa, the present generation's approach towards the foreign language has raised apprehensions about the future prevalence of the Portuguese-speaking population in the State.

During his visit to Goa in 2018, Fransisco Duarte Azevedo, the Consul General of Portugal claimed the language is considered to be a means of economic progress given that its knowledge offers employment opportunities in most first world countries.

While Goan students, by and large, do not appear keen to pursue the language, non-Goan students have taken



PG students of Portuguese program at Goa University.

Azevedo's views seriously. The undergraduate and postgraduate programs at Goa University (GU) have students from North and Central parts of India. The undergraduate program

across all three years has 19 students but not a single from Goa.

An Engineering graduate, Gyanendra Kumar Shukla from Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh) is

## GU is the only varsity that offers BA, MA in Portuguese in India

PANAJI: Assistant Professor Dhruv Usgaonkar said that Goa University is the only university in the entire country to offer BA and MA in Portuguese. Usgaonkar further said that pursuing this program will bring Goans onto the international platform as some GU pass-outs are now professors in universities in Delhi and Hyderabad.

"I see that several documents in Goa are in Portuguese language that requires translations. Certified and professional Portuguese-speaking candidates are empanelled by the government and Goans should take it up," he added.

pursuing his Masters in Portuguese at GU. What drew him to this language is a sea of career opportunities on completing the course. "During my graduation, my University spon-

sored me for a summer course in Portuguese language. It was interesting and subsequently I took up various certificate courses but realized that pursuing a full-time program will

benefit me," he said in a short interaction with The Goan.

Having researched the prospects of this language worldwide, Shukla answered entrance tests across three universities in Delhi and Goa and got selected too. He chose to join GU.

His batch mate Amit Patel, also a graduate from a completely different field – Agriculture, decided to switch his interest to Portuguese language. His brother, a German interpreter, persuaded him to dive into the ocean of opportunities.

"The salary package is much higher than any graduate, post-graduate or professional degree holder. My brother is a graduate in

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