



**Goa University**  
**Discipline of Physics**  
**School of Physical and Applied Sciences**  
**Report on SSR Activity DST-PURSE**

<b>1. Title of the Event/Activity/program</b>	<b>Sky Observation and Talk on Wonders of Universe</b>
<b>2. Date and Time</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> January, 2026 5:30 pm to 10:00 pm
<b>3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)</b>	Physical
<b>4. School/ Directorate/ Section</b>	School of Physical and Applied Sciences
<b>5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate</b>	DST-PURSE Social Entrepreneurship Swachhata and Rural Engagement Cell (SES-REC), Directorate of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), Education Outreach Goa University
<b>6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)</b>	Prof. Rajendra Gad, Vice Dean SPAS Dr. Reshma Raut Dessai, Assistant Prof. in Physics SPAS Dr. Narayan Ventrekar, Assistant Prof. in Electronics SPAS Dr. Lata Gawade, Assistant Prof. in Microbiology, SBSBS Ms. Krishna, Phd Student SPAS
<b>7. Number of Faculty attended/participated</b>	7
<b>8. Number of Student attended / participated</b>	94

<b>9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants</b>	20
<b>10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To introduce children to the basic concepts of astronomy in an engaging way.</li> <li>• To offer interactive stargazing experiences, helping people observe celestial objects.</li> <li>• To ignite curiosity and interest in science through hands-on participation,</li> <li>• And most importantly, to promote experiential learning beyond the confines of classrooms making science accessible and enjoyable for all.</li> </ul>
<b>11. Description of the Program/activity/event</b>	<p>The event was held at Shree Sati Devi Temple, Ghodkem, Balli, Cuncolim, Goa, on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026, as part of the Science outreach and astronomy awareness initiatives by DST-PURSE. A total of 124 participants, including villagers and middle school students, attended the program, engaging enthusiastically in the activities and observations.</p> <p>Prof. Rajendra Gad, Chairman of the PURSE Project at Goa University, in his speech urged students to cultivate curiosity, embrace scientific learning, and explore the wonders of the universe.</p> <p>Dr. Reshma Raut Desai delivered an inspiring talk titled “Discover the Wonders of the Sky,” covering a range of astronomical phenomena including the phases of the Moon, planetary motion, space exploration, space tourism, and careers in astronomy. Her session ignited curiosity among participants and encouraged them to delve deeper into the mysteries of the cosmos.</p> <p>An interactive quiz based on the discussion was conducted, in which students participated enthusiastically. Prizes were awarded to those who answered correctly, celebrating their curiosity and knowledge.</p> <p>Participants were then treated to a rare firsthand experience of observing celestial objects through telescopes, including the Moon, Saturn with its iconic rings, Jupiter with</p>

	<p>its five moons and distinctive bands, the Andromeda Galaxy, and several constellations.</p> <p>Overall, the event was highly informative and deeply inspiring, offering a unique opportunity to witness the beauty and vastness of the universe. It successfully fostered scientific temper and nurtured a lasting interest in astronomy among students and the community</p>
<p><b>12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced understanding of basic astronomical concepts and space exploration.</li> <li>• Encouraged active participation through a quiz based on the talk, promoting learning in an interactive way</li> <li>• Provided hands-on experience in night-sky observation using telescopes.</li> <li>• Strengthened interest in science, technology, and astronomy among school students</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Enclosures with report</b></p>	<p>Brochure, Notice, Geo-tag photos, Attendance of students/faculty/external participants, Bio Data of resource person (if applicable), Any other information.</p>

*R. Dessai*

Coordinator: Dr. Reshma Raut Dessai  
 Designation: Assistant Professor SPAS

*R. V. Pai*

Prof. Ramesh V Pai  
 Dean SPAS

Seal of the School





Photo 1: Prof. Rajendra Gad sharing his thoughts while addressing the audience



Photo 2: An engaging quiz session with prizes awarded to the winners.



Photo 3: Participants setting up and aligning the telescope for night sky observation.



Photo 4: A group of elderly observers captivated by the night sky through the telescope.



Photo 5: An elderly participant joyfully observing Jupiter through the telescope



Photo 6: Eager students in line, excited to explore the cosmos through the telescope.



Photo 7: The youngest participant marveling at the beauty of the Moon in the night sky

 विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

 **Stargazing Night:  
Discover the Wonders of the Sky**

 **UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN**

**Organized by  
DST-PURSE and School of Physical and Applied Sciences (SPAS),  
in association with  
Social Entrepreneurship Swachhata and Rural Engagement Cell (SES-REC),  
Directorate of Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), Goa University**

<b>VENUE: Ghodke Balli</b> Date: 26 <sup>th</sup> January, 2026	Talk: 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm Sky gazing through 6" reflector telescope 6:40 pm to 8:30 pm
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