

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**  
**ACTIVITIES**  
**2024-2025**

**1. Inauguration of the activities of 'LITSWAG' – The English Association and Orientation for BA Semester I Students**



The Department of English of M. E. S. Vasant Joshi College of Arts & Commerce, Zuarinagar, in collaboration with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the College, organized the inauguration of the activities of 'LITSWAG' - The English Association, along with an orientation for B. A. Semester I students on Friday, 2nd August 2024. The theme of the event was 'The World of Science and Detective Fiction' which showcased the department's dedication to encouraging a strong literary spirit among its students.

## 2. Alumni Lecture Series on Career Guidance



The Department of English and the MES College Alumni Association, in collaboration with the IQAC and the Career Guidance Cell, organized the ‘Alumni Lecture Series on Career Guidance’ on 28 August, 2024 in Room No. 15 of Block IV. The speaker of the session was Ms. Diksha Singh, a model, writer, and actor who was from the Batch of 2017.

## 3. FUN WITH LITERATURE 2024 - Language Mosaic: The Translation Fair



The Department of English in collaboration with the Readers’ Club of the College organised Fun with Literature 2024-25 on the theme ‘**Language Mosaic: The Translation Fair**’ commemorating the **International Translation Day**, observed globally on **30th September, 2024**, in Principal M. S. Kamat Seminar Hall from 11:30 onwards. The event consisted of events like Voiceover Virtuoso, Poster Perspective, Lyrics Reloaded, Real-Time Translator and The Translator’s Expedition. The purpose of the event was to celebrate the linguistic diversity of India, focusing on the art and practice of translation and its critical role in bridging cultures and preserving regional languages. The total number of students participated were 33. A total of 59 (female 45) (male 14), students of our college attended the program.



#### 4. DHE sponsored “30-hour Certificate Course on Community Engagement through Documentary Filmmaking”





The Department of English in collaboration with the Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, BITS-Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus, Zuarinagar-Goa, organized a DHE sponsored “30-hour Certificate Course on Community Engagement through Documentary Filmmaking” on 30<sup>th</sup> of September at the hands of award-winning cinematographer & filmmaker, Mr. Saumyananda Sahi in the Raj Tara Seminar Hall, Block V, BBA Auditorium of the college. Mr. Saumyananda Sahi, cinematographer and filmmaker was the Chief Guest and resource person for the inaugural and the first session of the Certificate Course.

The second day’s sessions on 06<sup>th</sup> of October were conducted in BITS Pilani K. K. Birla Goa Campus. The session began at 09. 30 with theory sessions by Dr. S. Susan Deborah, Dr. Sayantani Sarkar and Dr. Rayson K. Alex. The students were led through various topics of community engagement, documentary and the nuances of the same. The latter part of the day saw the students shoot an interview with their ideas and mobile phones.

The third day’s session was held on 13<sup>th</sup> of October in the café Chai Coffee at Dabolim, which was also the day of shooting. In the gap of a week, the students were asked to submit their ideas and topics for a probable documentary film which would be conceptualized by the students. An idea from one of the students was to talk about the journey of an alumni of the college which led us to focus on the life and times of Mr. Raj Bhandare, Founder of Nirvana Ltd. Since his journey was incomplete without his spouse’s, it was decided that the journey of both Ms. Sneha Raj Bhandare and his would be documented. The documentary was shot the full day and the following week was devoted to editing the documentary. The next session on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> of October – Mr. Arun Bose, film director from Kochi engaged sessions on editing techniques and sound aspects following which some students tried their hands on editing the documentary which was shot.

The concluding session and the valedictory function was held on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2024 at 12. 30 p. m. in the Principal. M. S. Kamat Seminar Hall of the College premises. Mr. Raj Bhandare and Ms. Sneha Bhandare were the guests on the occasion. The function began with the screening of the documentary film *Two Tastes Together* which was made by the students with the guidance of Dr. Rayson K. Alex. The screening was followed by the Principal, Prof. Manasvi M. Kamat, welcoming the gathering. After the introduction of the guests, they were presented with potted plants. This was followed by the report reading by Ms. Jayshree Ghosh, a participant of the certificate course. After the report reading, two students of the course, Mr. Rahul Gupta and Ms. Bibi Sinin shared their feedback on their experience of the course. Then the certificates were



distributed to the students for the successful completion of the course. Next, the Chief Guests: Mr. Raj Bhandare & Ms. Sneha Raj Bhandare shared their Felicitations to the audience where they talked about the film and their experience of the same following which Dr. Rayson K. Alex, Dept. of HSS, Bits-Goa, Convener of the course from BITS-Goa shared his remarks about the course and students. The function concluded with the proposing of the Vote of thanks by Dr. S. Susan Deborah, Convener of the Certificate Course from MES Vasant Joshi College of Arts & Commerce, Zuarinagar-Goa. Thereafter lunch was served to the guests and the students who had successfully completed the 30-hour certificate course.

### 5. 'Experiential Learning Field Trip to Kala Academy College of Theatre Arts'

The Department of English of MES's Vasant Joshi College of Arts & Commerce organized a field trip to Kala Academy College of Theatre Arts, Ponda, for the B.A. Semester III SEC students on the 11<sup>th</sup> October of 2024. This visit was arranged as part of the "Text and Performance in English" course to provide students with experiential learning and insights into theatre and performance.

The students, along with faculty members Ms. Michelle D'Mello and Ms. Damini Mane, were warmly received by the staff of Kala Academy. The group was first introduced to the various wooden stage sets used in live performances, where they observed how the carpenter meticulously designs and constructs these sets, bringing artistic visions to life. This behind-the-scenes experience gave the students a deeper appreciation of the technical aspects of theatre production.

The students also had the opportunity to witness a rehearsal of *Baki Itihas*, a play by Badal Sircar, performed by two Theatre College students under the direction of Prof. Antara Bhide. This live rehearsal gave our students practical exposure to the nuances of acting and stage direction, providing an engaging learning experience.

The highlight of the trip was a 90-minute live performance of the play *Anjumallige* by Girish Karnad, staged by the third-year students of Kala Academy as part of their final examination. The professionalism and talent displayed by the performers deeply impressed our students, who thoroughly enjoyed the captivating drama.

The field trip concluded with an interactive discussion between our students and the theatre students, fostering an exchange of ideas about performance techniques and the complexities of live theatre.



Our students witnessing the rehearsal of the play *Baki Itihas*



Prof. Antara Bhide explaining the scene



The cast and Director of the play ‘Anjumallige’



Interaction between our students and the students of the Theatre College

## 6. A Symposium on Goa: An Art, Literary, and Cultural Fair

The Department of English, in collaboration with IQAC, Readers’ Club and the OBC Cell, organized “A Symposium on Goa: An Art, Literary, and Cultural Fair” on 14th January, 2025, at the college premises. The event aimed to showcase the rich art, literary, and cultural heritage of Goa through student participation and interactive displays. The Chief Guest for the inaugural function was Mr. Victor Hugo Gomes, Curator and Founder of the Goa Chitra Museum.

The symposium featured a diverse range of exhibits and performances, including:

- **Visual Arts:** A display of student artwork, including sketches, paintings, and photographs capturing the essence of Goa.
- **Creative Writing:** A showcase of poems, short stories, essays, and memes inspired by Goan themes, reflecting the students' creativity and imagination.
- **Handicrafts:** A collection of handcrafted items made using locally available materials like coconut tree parts, shells, and beach elements, showcasing the students' artistic skills and respect for local resources.
- **Diaspora:** An informative display highlighting the contributions of Goan communities worldwide to art, literature, and culture.
- **Cosplay:** A lively performance where students dressed up as characters from renowned Goan literary works, bringing them to life and engaging the audience.
- **Cultural Attire:** A vibrant display of traditional Goan attire, showcasing the colorful and diverse cultural tapestry of the region.
- **Music Corner:** A melodious section featuring Goan songs performed using both traditional and modern instruments, adding a vibrant musical backdrop to the event.
- **Cuisine:** A delectable display of Goan food and beverages, offering attendees a sensory experience of the region's rich culinary heritage.
- **SC, ST, and OBC Schemes Information:** A dedicated section providing valuable information and raising awareness about government schemes designed to support and empower SC, ST, and OBC communities in Goa.



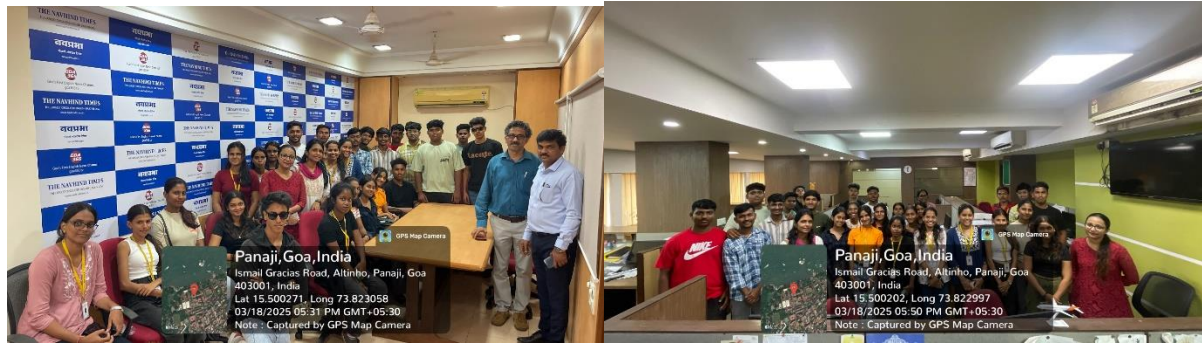
- **Library Display:** A curated exhibit showcasing a selection of books from the college library and *That Book Store*, Porvorim, focusing on Goa's history, culture, literature, and art.



## 7. Experiential Learning Field Trip to *Navhind Times*

The Department of English at MES College organized an experiential learning field trip for the B.A. Semester IV students enrolled in the 'News Reporting and Editing' minor paper. The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to the functioning of a newspaper office and its editorial processes.

27 students and two coordinators were part of the trip. The Editor, Mr. Vijay De Sousa, and Mr. Gopi Kalwar, Administrator of *Navhind Times* and *Navprabha*, conducted the sessions for the students.



## 8. Converge 2.0 - Shiksha Udyojak Sangam Academia-Industry Summit

### “Developing Skills of Compering and Engaging the Audience”

The Department of English organised a session titled, “Developing Skills of Compering and Engaging the Audience” to enlighten the students on a career path of emceeing, public speaking and engaging the audience. The resource person was Mr. Elton Fernandes, a corporate coach, certified trainer and a prime International trainer of JCI. The session aimed to equip participants with essential skills for compering, focusing on confidence, spontaneity, and audience engagement.

Mr. Fernandes began by emphasizing the importance of preparation, including researching the event, understanding the audience, and structuring a compelling script. He highlighted the significance of voice modulation, body language, and clarity of speech in maintaining audience interest. Through interactive activities, he demonstrated techniques for improvisation, handling unexpected situations, and establishing a rapport with listeners.

Participants were given hands-on exercises to practice introducing speakers, making



smooth transitions, and using humor effectively. Mr. Fernandes also stressed the need for audience interaction, encouraging engagement through rhetorical questions, anecdotes, and energetic delivery.



### 9. 'Inkspire: A Poetry Affair,' an Intercollegiate Poetry-reading Competition

To commemorate World Poetry Day and celebrate the spirit of poetry, the Department of English organized 'Inkspire: A Poetry Affair,' an intercollegiate poetry reading competition, to highlight the profound influence of poetry on literary expression on 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2025. The event saw the participation of 25 colleges from across the state of Goa. The Chief Guest for the event was Ms. Clarinda Dias, Assistant professor of English, Dhempe College, Miramar, Goa.

The event was judged by Ms. Clarinda Dias and Assistant Professor William D'Souza.

- 🏆 **1st Place** – *Cainan Noronha*, Don Bosco College, Panjim
- 🏆 **2nd Place** – *Velbert Rodrigues*, Ganpat Parsekar College of Education
- 🏆 **3rd Place** – *Joseph Gonsalves*, Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar

