

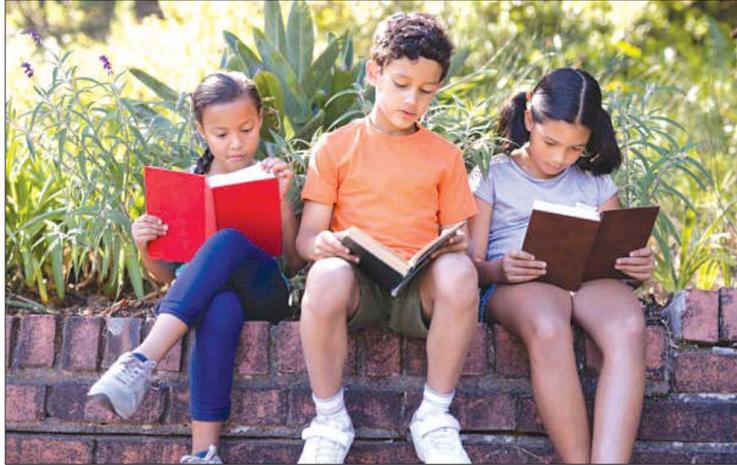
# Why reading is important in today's digital world

Manali Acharya

In today's world, where everyone is glued to screens, the habit of reading is slowly disappearing. But reading is still very important and offers many benefits we tend to forget. Reading helps us learn and understand new things. Books, whether they are stories or factual works, teach us about different cultures, ideas, and experiences. Unlike short online content, books let us explore topics deeply and think critically.

To bring back the joy of reading, visit libraries, join book clubs, or set a screen-free time to read. By starting small and choosing what interests you, reading can easily become a daily habit, enriching your life in ways technology cannot. Make the New Year more fulfilling and rewarding and keep reading.

(Manali Acharya is the college librarian of St Joseph Vaz College, Cortalim)



**READING IS ALSO GOOD FOR MENTAL HEALTH**  
It can help reduce stress, improve focus, and make us more understanding toward others. When we read stories, we imagine ourselves in someone else's place, which helps us become kinder and more empathetic. On the other hand, spending too much time on social media or watching videos can make us feel anxious and distracted.

**MAKING IT A HABIT**  
Making reading a daily habit doesn't have to be hard. You can start by reading for just 10 minutes every day. Whether it's a novel, a magazine, or a newspaper, setting aside this small amount of time can slowly turn into a routine. Over time, these 10 minutes can grow into longer, more meaningful reading sessions.

**SHARPEN YOUR BRAIN**  
Reading also makes our brains sharper. It improves our vocabulary, memory, and problem-solving skills. Unlike watching videos, reading keeps our minds active and engaged.

**NO AGE BAR**  
When a child reads, it helps them learn new words, think creatively, and focus better. It also helps them understand others, do well in school, and have fun while learning about the world. For youth, staying updated by reading newspapers is one of the best ways to stay informed, helping them crack competitive exams and interviews. For the elderly, reading a book can be a companion along the way, offering solace and enjoyment.

**BE INFORMED THROUGH READING**  
Reading magazines and newspapers is another great way to stay informed and entertained. They provide updated information on topics like science,

technology, health, and current events. Magazines often have short, engaging articles that are perfect for a quick read. They also inspire creativity and can introduce you to new hobbies or ideas.

## Alexyz's film screening

'A Multi-coloured Cartoonist', a documentary by Kurt Fernandes on Alexyz, a world renowned cartoonist with many talents will be screened with an evening filled with different activities. Melanie Pereira will talk on Goan Khazans followed by Amanda Marie's performance and will conclude with the screening of the documentary.

**Venue:** Manovikas School, Auditorium Room, Margao  
**Date:** January 10  
**Time:** 4.30 pm onwards

## Book reading of Little Lhasa

Literati will organise a reading by Tsering Namgyal Khortsa, author of 'Little Lhasa - Reflections in Exiled Tibet'. After over seventy years of being in exile, a whole generation of Tibetans have come of age in a land far from home. In 'Little Lhasa', Tsering writes comprehensively about the different aspects of their life today to becoming writers who write and publish in the English language.

**Venue:** Literati Bookshop & Cafe, Calangute  
**Date:** January 10  
**Time:** 6 pm

## Environmental talk

WWF-India Goa State Office will hold a conversation about Goa's environment and its future. The session will be on 'Where have all the Flowers on Our Plateaus Gone?' with Dr Ashish Prabhugaonkar and Miguel Braganza as panellists and Arti Das as moderator. Entry is free.

**Venue:** WWF-INDIA Goa State Office, Behind Goa Science Centre, Miramar  
**Date:** January 10  
**Time:** 4.45 pm - 6 pm

## PM Shri GHS Morpirla visits Hyderabad on educational tour

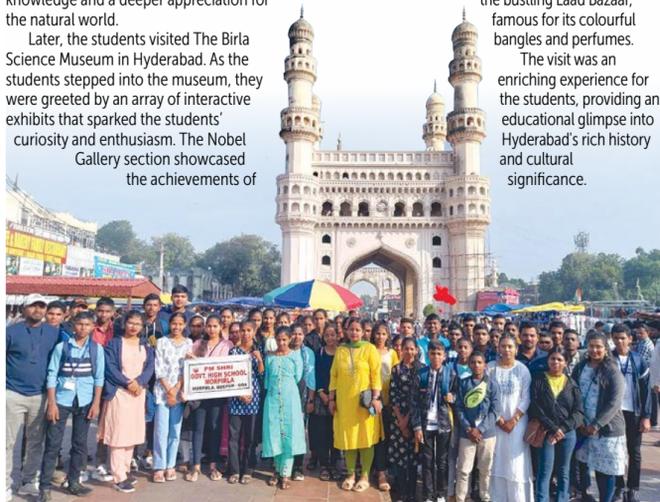
The students and teachers of PM SHRI GHS, Morpirla visited Hyderabad for an educational school tour, Prashikshan Yatra of Directorate of Tribal Welfare Goa. After travelling by train to Hyderabad, the students visited the Nehru Zoological Park which is home to various species of animals, birds, and reptiles. Students had the thrilling experience of learning various animals up close. The park's natural habitats and enclosures provided a unique glimpse into the lives of these fascinating creatures and it was an unforgettable experience which provided a unique blend of learning scientific exploration, and wildlife encounters. Students were left with newfound knowledge and a deeper appreciation for the natural world.

Later, the students visited The Birla Science Museum in Hyderabad. As the students stepped into the museum, they were greeted by an array of interactive exhibits that sparked the students' curiosity and enthusiasm. The Nobel Gallery section showcased the achievements of

Nobel laureates and their contributions to science and humanity. The Birla Science Museum offered a unique learning experience that went beyond the confines of a traditional classroom.

The next day was entirely dedicated to exploring the famous Ramoji Film City which was an exciting and educational experience. The world's largest integrated film city, it offered a fascinating glimpse into the Indian film industry. The students visited various studios, sets, and attractions of the film city. The following day the students visited the iconic Charminar monument in Hyderabad. The monument is adorned with intricate carvings and ornate balconies. Students learned about the monument's rich history. Students also explored the bustling Laad Bazaar,

famous for its colourful bangles and perfumes. The visit was an enriching experience for the students, providing an educational glimpse into Hyderabad's rich history and cultural significance.



## Kampus Snippet

### TWILIGHT SYMPHONY 2024 HELD AT PILERNE



The annual day programme 'Twilight Symphony 2024' entitled 'Nishabd - Silent Cries' of Spring Valley Higher Secondary School and Chubby Cheeks Spring Valley High School, Pilerne, was held at The Emerald Lawns, Parra. The event was graced by Gopal Chandra Pradhan, associate professor, SCERT, as the chief guest. He shared words of wisdom and encouragement, while aligning with the principles of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The headmistress, Selena D'Souza, further emphasized the importance of holistic education and the role of character building in shaping students future.

A key highlight of the event was the prize distribution ceremony, where outstanding students were recognized for their academic achievements and exceptional performance in various co-curricular fields. The Vote of Thanks was delivered by the assistant headmistress, Jyothi Pereira. The evening's cultural extravaganza was a testament to the immense talent of the students. It featured mesmerizing dances, melodious musical performances, and a thought-provoking play that highlighted the significance of good parenting and the moral choices we face between good and evil.

### DON BOSCO STUDENTS SHINE AS REGIONAL FILM CHAMPIONS

The Awakening, a short film by students of Don Bosco College Panjim, has been named the South Asia Regional Category Winner at the Don Bosco Global Youth Film Festival, recently held at the Loretto Theatre in the USA. Three exceptional films from Goa were officially selected to be screened at the festival. Alongside these were 'The Awakening' directed by Rameez Shaikh, 'Echoes of the Earth' by Abin Francis and 'A Wish for a Change' by Prathit Fernandes. 'The Awakening', featuring Rameez Shaikh, boasts a talented crew: Numair Khan as writer and cinematographer, Sharvi Dhond as producer, Cyrus Fernandes as music producer and actor, Varun Kashyap as editor, and actress Siya Chodanker.



'A Wish for a Change', created by Prathit Fernandes, also earned recognition as a South Asia

Regional Winner. The theme of the Don Bosco Global Film Festival 2024 was 'I Have A Dream: Youth and Climate Change - Making Mother Earth Cleaner and Greener'. The festival received an impressive 1,287 submissions from 136 countries, ultimately selecting 120 films for the grand finale in the USA. The films were simultaneously screened at various Don Bosco institutions around the world.

### DEMPO COLLEGE ORGANIZES WEBINAR ON STOCK MARKETS AND FINANCIAL PLANNING



Dr Srinivasa Sinai Dempo College of Commerce and Economics PGDM (Banking & Finance) and BBA Department Finance club Financetory organized a webinar for empowering future investors on 'Stock Markets and Understanding the Need for Financial Planning at an Early Age' for the BBA and PGDM (Banking & Finance) students. The session was conducted by Suhas Rajput, a SEBI empanelled securities market

trainer with over 20 years of experience. Suhas explained SEBI's core mandates—investor protection, market development, and regulation—along with its contributions to transparency and efficiency. Students learned the importance of investing early to achieve financial goals, beat inflation, and build discipline. The session also covered mutual funds, market types, due diligence, and safe practices like engaging only with SEBI-registered entities.

### INDIAN SYMPOSIUM ON MACHINE LEARNING (INDO ML) HELD AT BITS PILANI

The Fifth Indian Symposium on Machine Learning (IndoML 2024) recently concluded at the BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus. IndoML 2024 was jointly organized by Anuradha and Prashanth Palakurthi Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research (APPCAIR), Dept of CSIS, BITS Pilani K K Birla Goa Campus and the Directorate of Higher Education, Government of Goa. The symposium brought together leading minds in machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) for an engaging and collaborative event.

Around 75 posters by Graduate Forum participants showcased innovative research in core ML areas. The symposium also included Datathon - An engaging event where participants collaboratively tackled challenging ML problems. A distinguished panel of stalwarts from the academic research community and practitioners took part in an engaging and relevant discussion on 'Computing at scale in the era of AI: Challenges, opportunities and the road ahead'.

## Herald Gaming Console

### Dilbert



### Garfield



### Wizard of id



### crossword 4738

**ACROSS**  
1- Composer Khachaturian; 5- Filthy place; 8- Miles away; 12- Queue; 13- Madame de \_\_\_\_; 15- Solitary; 16- Palindromic address; 17- Rich cake; 18- Moon goddess; 19- An organization; 22- Composer Rorem; 23- Fleming who created Bond; 24- Social misfit; 26- Former monetary unit of Finland; 29- Mischievous person; 31- Witticism; 32- Spine-tingling; 34- Spud; 36- Tolkien tree creatures; 38- Harder to find; 40- Construction locale; 41- Skyliit lobbies; 43- Man and Wight; 45- Cereal grass; 46- Hebrew liturgical prayer; 48- Soundless; 50- 'Barton Fink' director; 51- Hair stuff; 52- Aardvark snack; 54- Praiseworthy; 61- Vaporize; 63- Hit the road; 64- Follow; 65- Deep affection; 66- Inquired; 67- Writer Bombeck; 68- Just manages, with 'out'; 69- DDE opponent; 70- College bigwig;

**DOWN**  
1- \_\_\_\_ mater; 2- Narrow inlets; 3- Collections of anecdotes; 4- Autobiography; 5- Greek portico; 6- Fruit-filled pie; 7- Himalayan legend; 8- The works; 9- Basis; 10- Actress Heche; 11- Interpret; 13- Skunk, e.g.; 14- Hotelier Helmsley; 20- Birthday treat; 21- Robin's digs; 25- Some VCRs; 26- One-

**solution 4737**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G | O | A | T | I | S | I | N | G | O | T | O |
| I | R | R | E | G | R | A | R | E | R | H | E |
| E | A | T | E | N | I | R | A | T | E | A | P |
| U | N | E | A | R | T | H | I | S | A | G | R |
| N | E | A | T | E | R | I | S | R | A | E | L |
| H | A | R | T | O | R | E | T | E | R | S | E |
| T | I | T | T | O | E | S | A | T | E | L | S |
| P | O | O | R | A | R | I | S | E | I | T | A |
| N | O | T | O | N | A | D | N | A | T | E |   |
| A | S | S | E | R | T | R | I | G | G | E | R |
| T | A | N | Y | A | L | E | O | N | A |   |   |
| E | N | E | T | R | I | P | E | T | A | L |   |
| A | T | E | E | U | L | E | R | E | R | A | S |
| M | A | R | D | E | T | E | R | R | A | I | S |

### sudoku 4738

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 9 |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | 5 |   | 4 |   | 2 |   |   | 7 |
|   | 6 |   |   |   | 5 | 4 |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 1 | 3 |   |   | 5 |
|   |   | 9 |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |
| 6 |   |   | 8 | 4 |   |   |   |   |
|   | 7 | 3 |   |   |   |   | 4 |   |
| 9 |   |   | 2 |   | 4 |   | 7 |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 2 | 9 |

### Instructions for Sudoku

9 x 9 letter: To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every number from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes

### solution 4737

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 5 |
| 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 3 |
| 5 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 8 |
| 4 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 7 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 9 |