

International Rover Challenge 2025 showcases technical excellence

The International Rover Challenge (IRC) 2025, hosted by BITS Pilani, Goa Campus, was a resounding success, marking a significant milestone in the global robotics and space exploration community. With participation from top universities worldwide, the event showcased cutting-edge Mars rover technologies and fostered innovation among aspiring engineers and researchers.

The IRC 2025 brought together over 45 teams from different countries. The event featured multiple challenging tasks, including autonomously navigating, terrain traversal, object manipulation, and scientific analysis, all designed to simulate real-world extraterrestrial exploration scenarios.

Teams from the best Indian



Universities like BITS Pilani, IITs, IIITs, NITs, and International teams

from countries like Russia, Spain, Germany participated

in the challenge. The competition saw advancements in rover design, implementing state-of-the-art artificial intelligence, vision systems, and robotic arms for effective task execution. The organizing committee, led by Project Kratos and supported by faculty mentors, ensured smooth coordination of all aspects, from logistics to judging panels.

The event not only provided a platform for technical excellence but also strengthened international collaborations in the field of planetary exploration. The organizing team's dedication and meticulous planning played a crucial role in making the event a grand success, setting a high benchmark for future editions of the competition.

Government College, Quepem celebrates Women's Day by Honoring local voices



The Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem, through its Students' Welfare Committee, celebrated International Women's Day with the theme 'Accelerate Action', reinforcing its commitment to social equality and community empowerment. The event recognized the resilience, dedication, and achievements of local women, giving them a platform to share their journeys and inspire students.

This year, the college honoured Mili

Vasta Phadte, a makeup artist, Diksha Dilip Velip, a local jaggery producer, and Milagrien Fernandes, a local vendor, recognizing their efforts in preserving traditional skills, promoting self-reliance, and contributing to the local economy.

The event was held under the guidance of Dr Pravina Kerkar, officiating principal, and Dr Annie F D'Souza e Gomes, convener of the Students' Welfare Committee. Sneha Fotto Dessai, event coordinator, ensured the smooth execution of the program.

Sonia Shirsat to add Georgian as new language in her singing at music festival

Known as the Ambassador of Goan Music to the World, Sonia Shirsat has been practicing singing in Georgian language since the beginning of the year. Her dedication to singing is even more evident as she browsed through many songs to find the perfect folk song to present in Goa at this music festival.

After a gap of five years, the renowned Ketevan Music Festival will be held today March 21, at the Ruins of St Augustine, Old Goa from 7 pm onwards. This year, the festival has been spearheaded by the Embassy of Georgia in New Delhi, the Ministry of Culture of Georgia, and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), especially Vakhtang Jaoshvili, Ambassador of Georgia in India. The music festival will pay tribute to founding member and festival director, late Santiago Girelli.

The festival, curated by Showhouse, has a Gurjaani Georgian folk group especially flown in from Georgia. The seven-member ensemble's repertoire includes songs from all regions of Georgia, as well as traditional Georgian church chants. Unique polyphonic singing tradition including Mravaljameri, Tsintsqaro, Garekakhuri, Satrpialo and Lale will be performed.

Mandakini Trivedi is an Indian

dancer especially in Mohiniyattam classical dance for more than four decades. For the festival, she will be presenting three performances, one with her student, Aneri Sheth. "The three performances will be 'Cupid', 'Ganga' and thirdly, 'Goddess', which is a tribute to St Queen Ketevan. All three

Ketevan. All three



performances are based on the Mohiniattam from Kerala with a storytelling of feminine power. Aneri will be dancing with me on 'Cupid' and she is a very serious in her dancing. She's a solo performer and has been assisting me in the teaching," says Mandakini, who will be presenting her second performance in Goa.

Fadista of Goa, Sonia Shirsat takes Goa to the world and bring the world to Goa through her music. She left no stone unturned for this performance too, "I will be performing different types of folk music from different parts of the world. I will be singing one song from Georgia because St Ketevan was the queen of Georgia. For the first time, I'll be singing in Georgian, which is amazing

but not very easy. I'm adding one more language in my list of 16, so now it will become 17 of languages that I sing in. I met Nino, a girl from Georgia at a different show.

She helped me with the pronunciation and choice of song," says Sonia, who will also sing songs from Cape Verde, Alentejo, Minho, Beira Baixa and Goa.

"I have four musicians accompanying me, Alan Abreu on the keyboards, Roque Lazarus on the bass, Franz Schubert-Cotta on Portuguese guitar, violin and accordion and Prathamesh Chari on the drum kit. Sisters Rishona and Rihana Gomes from Nuven, will be joining me with the chorus singing," adds Sonia. The festival is free and open to all.

Kampus Snippet

ACADEMIA-INDUSTRY SUMMIT 'CONVERGE 2.0' BRIDGES SKILL GAP



The Training Internship and Placement (TIP) Cell and Institution Innovation Council (IIC) of Sant Sohirobanath Ambiyee Government College of Arts and Commerce, in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) and the Goa State Higher Education Council (GSHEC), successfully organized the 'Converge 2.0' Shiksha Udyojak Sangam—an Academia-Industry Summit. The event, held at the college premises, aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

With the theme 'Skill-Up, Scale-Up, Succeed: Empowering the Workforce of Tomorrow,' the event facilitated direct engagement with industry

experts, created internship and employment opportunities, and encouraged student entrepreneurship. The summit commenced with an inaugural function, with Gaurav Pokle as the chief guest and Dr Mahesh Pai as guest of honour, Prof Juao Costa, Dr Lucy James and Dr Mrunali Jambotkar. The event featured insightful entrepreneurship and technology talks from seven industry experts Rohir Naik, Anil Augustine, Milind Anvekar, Sonam Bhagat, Shivraj Subhash Naik, Nikhil Malgi and Sarvesh Velip. The event also included two hands-on skill-based workshops by Sharad Kumbhar and Leekhani Naik.

CHUBBY CHEEKS PRE-SCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES ANNUAL DAY



The annual day program of Chubby Cheeks Preschool and Primary School, 'Animal Kingdom' was held at the Socorro Panchayat hall, Porvorim in the presence of the founder and manager of Chubby Cheeks, Dr Selena Maria D'Souza who praised the support of the parents and commitment of the teachers.

The highlight of the event was the recognition of the exceptional performers.

The display of talents and skills featured through dances, singing and themed musical.

The Preschool highlighted the love for Mother Nature and how it is an individual responsibility to care for it. The Primary School through the musical show depicted that true and impervious leadership comes from taking responsibility and facing challenges without a least deter and loving support of family and true friends. Parents were in high praise and applauded all through.

The Vote of Thanks was proposed by the Preschool Coordinator Gina Pinto.

SANJAY CENTRE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS PERFORM AT FIRST TECH CHALLENGE



The students of Sanjay Centre for Special Education, Goa had a fruitful encounter at the First Tech Challenge (FTC) which was held at Pune. There were 46 teams from all over India as well as countries like Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka and United Arab Emirates (UAE). Each team had to play 6 matches, wherein Goa team 25250 'Curious Minds' won 3 out of 6 matches. The competition was uphill battle, but team curious minds were more dominant than their alliance teams. The team ranked 27 out of 46 teams, but it did not

deter their ambition but added another feather to their cap to further vanquish their task in the future.

This flight of accomplishment was not possible without the support and mentoring given by Saieesh Gandhi, SCERT, Guruprasad Pawaskar, the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Sidharth S Kuncalienkar, Chariman, Sanjay Centre for Special Education, Goa, Neetal Amonkar, Member Secretary (SCSEG), Tatu Kudalkar, Headmaster (SCSEG), teaching and non-teaching staff and parents.

Herald Gaming Console

Dilbert



Garfield



Wizard of id



crossword 4798

ACROSS

1- Orgs.; 6- Brazilian soccer star; 10- Serpents; 14- Infield fly; 15- Sight organs; 16- Red sign; 17- Actress Verdugo; 18- Smell; 19- Spanish appetizer; 20- Jiff; 21- Harder to find; 23- Oozes; 24- Perfect; 26- Ahead of time; 27- Prizes; 29- Annie of "Designing Women"; 31- Soft drink choice; 32- Big name in insurance; 33- Contend; 36- In spite of; 40- Dreyer's partner in ice cream; 41- Cream-filled cookies; 42- ___ to differ; 43- Agenda entries; 44- Frightens; 46- Pond scum; 48- Hot stuff; 49- Mall frequenters; 50- More competent; 52- Alley-___; 55- Inventor Rubik; 56- Adopted son of Claudius; 57- Chavez or Romero; 59- Person who is liable to tell untruths; 60- Historical periods; 61- Bring together; 62- ___majesty; 63- Lavish affection (on); 64- Fresh-mouthed;

DOWN

1- Simians; 2- Boot bottom; 3- Fort; 4- "Sister Act" extra; 5- Was merciful to; 6- Bit of wisdom; 7- Jane ___; 8- Shakespearean king; 9- Body shop fig.; 10- Late bloomers; 11- Madame de ___; 12- Opium flower; 13- Pampering places; 22- Small batteries; 23- The devil; 25- Sketch; 26- Sicilian mount; 27- Skin disorder; 28- Timber; 29- Mexican money; 30- Ed and Mel of baseball; 32- Throat-

clearing sound; 33- Venereal disease of cattle; 34- Arrow poison; 35- Breakfast staple; 37- Bits; 38- Family diagram; 39- Old phone buttons; 43- Refrain from noticing; 44- ___ loves you, yeah, yeah, yeah; 45- Performing animal show; 46- Eagle's nest; 47- Home and Olin; 48- Hard to call; 49- Narrate; 50- Dynamic beginning; 51- Spoiled child; 53- Wild ones are sown; 54- One hunted; 56- Homer's TV neighbor; 58- Bambi's aunt;

solution 4797

HULA STATE EXAM
ELAM TAMER AMIE
ANNO AIMTO SALT
RAGU BLOODLESS
NAB NEE
UPSTAIRS SNARE
SUE SNEER AREST
ENDS GNATS NATO
SCENT GLEANED
HROSS ETEEMED
ATE UTA
SURRENDER SOME
INNO ENOLA TBAR
LEET OUVET EONS
SERS SIEVE REST

sudoku 4798

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

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 4797

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