

Joseph Fernandes

he annual Diocesan Day of Reparation at the Miraculous Cross atop Nandgad Hill was observed with great devotion. The Bishop of Belagavi, Most Rev Derek Fernandes, was the main celebrant for the solemn Mass accompanied by several priests

Thousands of faithful from across Goa, Karnataka, and Maharashtra-belonging to different religions—gathered to venerate the Cross. Many placed their petitions at its base, seeking blessings and healing.

"The Miraculous Cross was erected in 1888 by Goans who had migrated towards the Belagavi Ghats. They were suffering from deadly diseases, especially severe plagues, and were dying. In their desperation, they prayed before the Holy Cross for healing, vowing that if they were cured, they would return each year to praise and thank the Lord. Since then, the feast of the Miraculous

Cross at Nandgad has been celebrated every year on December 29," said Bishop Derek Fernandes.

"We are on Nandgad Hill in the Diocese of Belagavi. The Cross here dates back over a hundred years, and the devotion to it has continued ever since," he added.

Bishop Fernandes also shared that around 25 years ago, efforts were made to better organize and promote devotion at the site. The Cross was refurbished, and installations of the Stations of the Cross and the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary were added, leading to a rise in monthly

The day began with the Way of the Cross and Masses in various languages. The Diocesan Day of Reparation is observed annually on a Friday during Lent, just before Holy Week. Pilgrims from neighboring states make their way to the Cross, some even undertaking the journey on foot as a form of penance and prayer.

The program included themed preaching, confession, anointing of the sick, and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist in multiple languages. A highlight of the day was a Passion Play performed by the youth atop the hill, reenacting the suffering and crucifixion of Christ.

Ascend 2025: A resounding success at Shree Damodar College



ie BBA Programme at Shree Damodar College of Commerce & Economics successfully hosted Ascend 2025, a prestigious national-level management event that brought together bright minds from across India. The event was inaugurated by officiating principal, Professor Sanjay Sawant Dessai, followed by a keynote address from chief guest, Lalit Saraswat, CEO of Sancoale, who discussed the disruption caused by AI and opportunities in entrepreneurship, HR, marketing, and sales.

The theme of Ascend 2025, 'Stratovation'—a

fusion of strategy and innovationencouraged participants to merge structured business planning with creative problem-solving. The competition saw teams from ten colleges, both local and outstation, including institutions from Bangalore, Hubli, and Belgaum, competing not only for victory but

also to gain industry insights, foster collaborations, and develop critical corporate skills.

After a day of intense competition across various categories—HR, Finance, Marketing, Best Manager, and Teamwork—the event concluded with an impactful valedictory ceremony. The closing address celebrated the event's success and acknowledged the contributions of participants, faculty, and organizers. The winning team from Don Bosco College, Panjim, and the runners-up from KLE College, Hubli, were recognized for their exceptional performances. All round winners and runners-up were also felicitated.

Swami Vivekanand College of Commerce hosted its annual prize distribution ceremony

wami Vivekanand College of Commerce, Bori-Ponda, celebrated its annual prize distribution ceremony with great pride and enthusiasm at the college auditorium. The event recognized student achievements in academics, sports, and extracurricular activities for the academic year 2024-2025.

The ceremony began with a welcome address and the presentation of the annual report by Principal Dr Shekhar Sawant, followed by a vibrant cultural performance by students. Distinguished guests included Prakash Prabhu, president of Swami Vivekanand Vidyaprasarak Mandal; Minanath Upadhye, chairman of the Local Managing Committee; Chief Guest Prof Dr Sunder Dhuri, Registrar of Goa University; and Guest of Honour Ramesh Vaskar, retired teacher.

Dr Dhuri delivered an inspiring address, urging students to pursue excellence across all fields. On the occasion, the college also released Volume III of its library brochure (2023–2025). Awards and certificates were presented to academic toppers, inter-collegiate competition winners, community service contributors, and the best outgoing student. Special honours were also given to alumni recognized for their work in environmental conservation.

Chef Amit Kumar conducts masterclass for students



nviroskills Academy recently hosted Chef Amit Kumar, a culinary stalwart with over 24 years of experience in the world of gastronomy. Chef Kumar visited the academy to conduct an exclusive masterclass for students, during which he shared his extensive knowledge of various culinary techniques, including intricate sculpture making and the delicate art of dessert preparation.

He also explored the fundamentals of plating and presentation, offering invaluable insights into how the visual appeal of a dish plays a crucial role in the overall dining experience. His hands-on demonstrations were both engaging and highly educational.

The session was more than just a lesson in cooking techniques—it was a holistic learning experience. Chef Kumar's approach was both informative and inspiring, encouraging students to push the boundaries of their creativity while maintaining a focus on precision and presentation. Drawing from his extensive industry experience, he offered practical tips and shared personal anecdotes from his career, leaving students with a wealth of knowledge to apply in their own culinary journeys.

Kampus Snippet

MES VASANT JOSHI COLLEGE HOSTS PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'ENTREPRENEURSHIP'



MES Vasant Joshi College of Arts & Commerce, in collaboration with BNI Foundation – BNI Goa Region – Mou Partner, IIC, IQAC, and the Entrepreneurship Hub, recently organised an engaging panel discussion on 'Entrepreneurship' at Principal MS Kamat Seminar Hall. The event was moderated by Dr Yaseer Hussain, assistant professor at MES Vasant Joshi College, and featured an esteemed panel of successful entrepreneurs.

The panelists included Samrudhi Kunkolienkar Dhond, Anjali Madkaiker, Savio Fernandes and Aaron Cruz Rodrigues. The program began with a welcome address by Dr Manasvi M Kamat, followed by a floral tribute presented to the resource persons by the principal. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Seltan Gomes. A total of 65 students from various streams actively participated in the panel discussion

ROSARY COLLEGE'S DEPT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS HOSTS ANNUAL IT EXHIBITION



he annual IT Project Exhibition competition. organised by the Department of Computer Applications at Rosary College, was held in the College Seminar Hall. The event was convened by Asst. Prof. Sonia Mashal. A total of 11 exhibits from 6 colleges participated in the event, namely: Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem; Don Bosco College of Engineering, Fatorda; VVM's Shree Damodar College of Commerce and Economics, Margao; MES's Vasant Joshi College of Arts and Commerce, Zuarinagar; Christ (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru; and Rosary College of Commerce and Arts, Navelim.

The exhibits ranged from software to hardware and included projects such as an Al-Powered Real-Time Accident and Crime Monitoring System, Smart Urban Farming System (IoT), Offline CAD Application, Secured Voting System Using Blockchain, and Sign Language

Using Machine Learning. The judges for the event were Mr. Prajyot Mainkar (Founder & CEO of Sofueled Pvt. Ltd) and Mr. Pranay Vernekar (Tech Lead at Creative Capsule).

The Principal, Prof. Helic Barretto, welcomed the judges and students from various colleges to the event. He mentioned that the event would provide a valuable learning experience for students, foster innovation, encourage industryacademia collaboration, and create potential employment opportunities. He also expressed gratitude to the Principals of other colleges for deputing their students to participate in the event.

The first place was awarded to Mr. Samaan Sayed and Mr. Ankush Uday Naik of Government College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem, for their project titled "Offline CAD Desktop Application." The runner-up position was secured by Mr. Kapil Patil and Mr. Sandeep Sawant of Don Bosco College of Engineering, Fatorda.

HOLY CROSS INSTITUTE, CAVELOSSIM **ACHIEVES 100 PERCENT RESULTS**



oly Cross Institute, Cavelossim, has once again achieved a remarkable 100 percent pass rate in the Goa Board SSC March 2025 examinations, marking the 10th consecutive year of this outstanding achievement. A total of 5 students from the school earned distinctions, while 11 students secured first class and 11 students attained second class. Shaish Bandodkar topped the school with

an impressive 85.16 percent, opting for Mathematics Level 1. Larissa Barretto followed closely in second place with 80.33 percent, while Wyanet Dias secured third place with 79.5 percent. Manager Fr Ubaldo Fernandes and headmistress Viliana Rodrigues extended their congratulations to the students, teachers, and parents for their collective efforts that contributed to this remarkable milestone.

Herald Gaming Console

Dilbert







Garfield







Wizard of id







ACROSS

1- Sir ___ Newton was an English mathematician; 6- Perfect, something to aspire to; 11standstill; 14- Vice ___; 15-Nabisco's ___ Wafers; 16- Chat room chuckle; 17- Wipe out; 18-Titled women; 19- Prizm maker; 20- Leaves port; 22- Surgery souvenirs; 24- Montgomery's state; 28- Edmonton team; 29-Numerical symbol; 30- Trio; 32- ___-Tass (Russian news agency); 33- Begat; 35- What ___ mind reader?; 39- Nevada senator Harry; 40- Dressing ingredient; 41- Tirade; 42- Sea eagle; 43- Stable compartment; 45- Words to Brutus; 46- Country in the Himalayas; 48- Expulsion; 50- Goddess of wisdom; 53-Tank; 54- I ___ vacation!; 55-"Goodnight" girl; 57- Santa ____, CA; 58- Doled (out); 60- Abu ____; 65- Syr. neighbor; 66-Borden bovine; 67- We're Off the Wizard; 68- Was ahead; 69- Big cats; 70- Alternate;

DOWN

seen everything! 1- Now Sun. talk; 3- First name in Notre Dame football; 4-Donkey; 5- Roman general; 6- Gandhi's land; 7- Clock face; Shade trees; 9- Bass, e.g.; 10- Timmy's dog; 11- Aquarium buildup; 12- ___ is human; 13- At ___ for words; 21- lowa city; 23- Most lucid; 24- Ablaze; 25- Unit of volume; 26- Once

more; 27- Weighted; 28- Old California fort; 30- Experiment; 31- Hades; 34- Very small quantity; 36- Dull finish; 37-___ alia; 38- Take ___ for the worse; 43- Health resort; 44-Pork cut; 47- Tooth covering; 49- Familiar with; 50- For want ___...; 51- High-strung; Listened; 53- Gives up; 55- Wishing won't make 56- Bridle part; 59- Whitney;

61- Sexy; 62- Powdery residue

with cloth

63- Fuzzy buzzer; 64- Suffix

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sudoku 4822

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Instructions for Sudoku

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

	2	6	8	3	1	4	7	9	5
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h l of l	7	8	4	5	3	6	9	2	1
	9	3	2	7	8	1	6	5	4
	5	1	6	9	4	2	80	7	3
f	4	7	5	2	9	3	1	6	8
	6	9	3	1	5	8	2	4	7
	8	2	1	4	6	7	5	3	9