

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY PARVATIBAI CHOWGULE COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCE (AUTONOMOUS) MARGAO GOA

Research, Consultancy and Extension activities

Objectives of the Practise:

- 1. To encourage faculty and students to undertake research.
- 2. Apply to various funding agencies to avail research grants.
- 3. To upgrade facilities and infrastructure to augment research and consultancy in the department.
- 4. To collaborate with various department and institution to foster research and extension activities..

The Context:

- a) Being the only department in the state of Goa offering PG program in Geography, it was essential to provide vertical mobility to the students by providing a platform to pursue Ph.D Program under Goa University.
- b) Create curriculum that integrate research as an integral part at undergraduate and postgraduate level. Students have compulsory course at undergraduate nd Post graduate level in research writing, research methodology and dissertation at the final year.
- c) Open discussion amongst the faculty to understand potential of each faculty to explore possibilities of identifying research domains and encourage faculty to undertake research.
- d) Encourage faculty to undertake research and consultancy by assisting in Identifying funding agencies, preparing draft proposals, wetting the proposal from experts and then applying to various agencies.

e) Developing in house expertise to provide consultancy in the domain areas of GIS, surveying, report writing etc.

<u>The Practice</u>

One of the core focus of higher education, apart from teaching learning, is research, consultancy and extension activities. The department of Geography of this college has been at the forefront in research, consultancy and extension activities and would be prudent to considered as "Flagship department" in the context.

A meticulous perspective and strategic planning has been the key. However, to achieve this milestone – initial efforts focused on recognition of the department as research center, Secondly, empower faculty to undertake research and even participate in workshops related to research methodology etc. Few of the constraints were as follows-

- a) To keep the focus of the faculty to undertake research and consultancy.
- b) Putting extra efforts to prepare quality proposal and send within stipulated time to various funding agencies.
- c) Co-ordination with collaborating institutions, departments and experts to yield the best.

Evidences of success

- 1. Only department in the college to have a research centre and four students registered as research scholars.
- 2. Two faculty recognised as research guides under Goa University.
- 3. Only department to conduct summer/winter training programmes.
- 4. Highest number of research project undertaken/completed in last five years. Total projects completed 06 and two research project ongoing.
- 5. Faculty awarded international exchange programme for research & teaching (Plus Programme under European Union, National Research Council Thailand).
- 6. Faculty actively involved in consultancy work (Surveying, preparation of People's Biodiversity Report for State Biodiversity Board, Mapping for Bondla Management Plan)