

QUALITATIVE COMPONENT: CRITERION III – RESEARCH, INNOVATIONS AND EXTENSION

3.6 EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

3.6.1 Extension activities are carried out in the neighbourhood community, sensitising students to social issues, for their holistic development, and impact thereof during the last five years

In pursuit to add value to education and make the students more responsible, departmental activities and participation in NCC, NSS and sports has given the needed impetus to develop life skills - self-confidence, ethics, team work, time management leadership and sensitiveness to societal issues. This ensures holistic development of the students (Refer Mindmap uploaded).

For Holistic development:

1. Industry Academia Linkages: Various Departments organize Industry-Academic lectures/seminars to bridge the industry-academia gap. Internships are a compulsory component for students to enhance their employability skills.

2. MoUs and Linkages: MoUs and linkages were initiated with institutions and companies, for encouraging research activities, resource and expertise sharing. Accordingly, Collaborative workshops, seminars, conferences and activities were conducted.

3. Student Club Activities/ events: There are more than 40 student activity clubs. Besides this, departments too have subject specific student managed clubs such as 'Birders club', 'G-L-O-BE', 'Nebula', 'Club H-U-M-A-N', enabling students to take responsibilities and exhibit leadership skills, enhance organizing skills and foster team spirit.

4. Academic and Cultural Exchange Programmes (ACEP) : ACEP is a flag ship programme that provides global exposure to students through initiatives like international exchange programmes. More than 250 students benefited from this programme. International faculty also visits the campus to share their expertise.

For sensitising students to social issues: Strategic plan of sensitising students towards environmental and societal issues include measures to contribute to the society through various community outreach activities and extensions works.

5. Green Initiatives on the campus/surroundings:

1. Butterfly garden: It harbors host plants to propagate butterflies on the campus. Presence of many species of butterflies on our campus is an indication that the Chowgule college campus is clean and healthy.

2. Bird houses: were installed on the campus to promote bird diversity.

3. Composting: The campus harbors a shredder and composting unit for degrading the organic material produced on campus. Canteen waste is also composted by Vermicomposting.

4. Awareness initiatives for Energy and water conservation: Students have stuck posters to sensitize individuals to save electricity and water.

6. Community outreach:

Besides the NSS and Departments, carry out community outreach activities. As a consequence, the community outreach activities increased from 25-35/year to 65-75/year. Some of the activities conducted are:

1. Colva Beach cleaning with 'Kamfar' Environmental solutions, Mumbai.

2. Directorate of Health Sciences: As a part of Institutional social responsibility, the Faculty of Department of Zoology participates in annual 'National Deworming Day (NDD) and Mop Up Day (MUD)' programme of Directorate of Health Science, Govt. of Goa.

3. Honorary services: are offered to government bodies and Institutions. PCCAS is identified as 'Technical Support Group' by the Goa State Biodiversity Board, and has helped in preparation of Policy document to declare Curtorim Village as 'Biodiversity Heritage Site' the first BHS in Goa. IQAC also conducts workshops for neighboring colleges for knowledge and resource sharing.

4. Awareness Programmes: Various awareness programmes related to health and environment were conducted as part of social responsibility towards the community. Other initiatives for Community: For instilling environment concern, various awareness programmes on Garbage disposal, Single use plastic, pollution of aquatic habitats, composting etc.