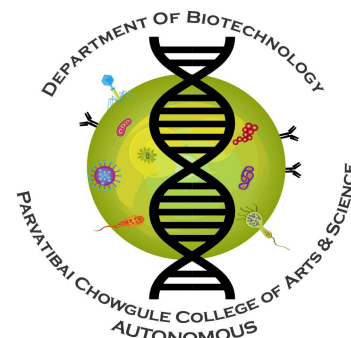




BIOBYTES



DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science, Autonomous

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- ❑ Bye - Bye Corona
- ❑ Virtual Fresher's Party
- ❑ Alumni talk Series
- ❑ Wake up before it's too late!

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EDITORIAL

It's the most wonderful time of the year!...

It's been a difficult year for all of us. Every day was challenge to survive amidst a global pandemic. The apprehensions and anxiety were real. But now as we are at a brink of the end of the year it is time to contemplate our many blessings. A new year is about to begin and with the vaccine almost ready let us all hope for a peaceful 2021.

The academic year was no less. The teachers and the students faced a whole set of new challenges with virtual education. But we humans have always adapted and I am sure we would all agree on this, that we ached it.

Even during a pandemic the world stops for no one. The college and our Department have been busy with a lot of activities. We bring to you the first newsletter of this year documenting the bunch of activities of the first quarter. Also do not miss out the article by our students on the burning issue of 'Save Mollem'.

ENJOY READING!!!!!!

- By, Ms. Vallanka Dias, Assistant Professors in Biotechnology

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

1. Ms. Madhavi M. Motankar attended 2 Hour Online Live Session on the topic 'Drug Discovery Technology - Insights of Protein-Ligand Interactions' on 24 October 2020 conducted by BDG Life Science (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. India.
2. Dr. Starlaine Mascarenhas had participated in a virtual workshop organised by 'DST and ACS' on 30th October 2020 entitled "DST and ACS virtual workshop on scholarly publishing, peer review, ethics, plagiarism, science communication and careers".

- Contributed by Dr Kanchana, HOD, and Edited By, Vallanka Dias, Asst. Prof. in Biotechnology

TYBSc 2020 STUDENTS RESULTS

The Department of Biotechnology is pleased to announce that the passing percentage for the academic year 2019-2020 was 96%. Most of our students have already taken their leap towards the next phase of their education. Students have enrolled for their Master's Degree at various institutes like Goa University, Vellore Institute of Technology (Vellore), Carmel's College for Women (Goa), St. Aloysius College (Mangalore), Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management (Visakhapatnam), NITTE University (Mangalore). The courses that the students are pursuing include Biotechnology, Food Technology, Biomedical Genetics etc. We truly wish our students all the best wishes for their future endeavours.

- By Vallanka Dias, Asst.Prof. in Biotechnology

STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

Young contributors from Chowgule College Goa in the World's first Sciotoon book titled 'Bye Bye Corona' towards Covid-19 awareness

The *World's first sciotoon book* titled 'Bye Bye Corona', authored by 'Sciotoonist' – Dr. Pradeep Srivastava, Father of Sciotoons, Former Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow was released on 29th October 2020 at a function held at Raj Bhawan, Lucknow, by her excellency Ms. Anandi Ben Patil, Governor of Uttar Pradesh. The book is published by Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous agency under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India. This Sciotoon book is an attempt to show how common man can be made aware about SARS-CoV-2 infection or COVID-19 disease with the help of colourful, interesting and eye-catching Sciotoons which has been outcome of the two DST, Goa sponsored 'National Workshops on Sciotoons' hands on training on creating Sciotoons organized by Department of Biotechnology in 2018 and 2020. Also, it's a matter of great pride to appreciate the young contributors, B.Sc. Biotechnology students and Sciotoonists of our college namely, Ms. Lakiesha Inacia Coelho E Costa, Ms. Priyanka Shanke, Ms. Bhomkar Shreesiddhi Vinod, Ms. Da Costa Maria Scimran Blossom, Ms. Prathamesh Pundalik Shetgaonkar, Ms. Samradni Rohit Paigankar and Ms. Selcea Savia Da'Costa who have utilized the create innovative sciotoons on present pandemic during the lockdown period in India.

- Contributed by Ms. Madhavi Motankar, Asst. Prof. , and Edited By, Vallanka Dias, Asst. Prof. in Biotechnology

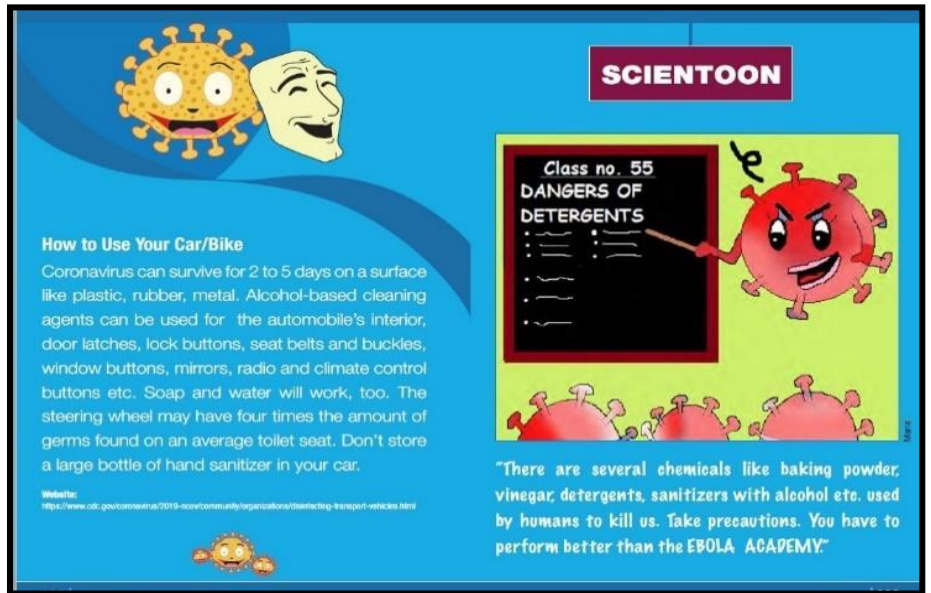


Figure 1 & 2: The *World's first scientoon book* titled 'Bye Bye Corona'.

Young contributors from Chowgule College Goa in the World's first Scientoon book titled 'Bye Bye Corona' towards Covid-19 awareness

चौले महाराष्ट्रामात्रात सर्वांग प्रकाशन कार्यसंघाचे नानासुत अभिनन्दन आण आभार व्यक्त केले आहेत. या पुस्तकसाठी योगदान दिलेल्याचे कोतुकर करून अभिमान वाटत असल्याचे बाबोदेवनाथीजी विभागेने म्हटले आहे. या पुस्तकसाठी महाराष्ट्रालाचे विद्याजी आण क्वाणिष्क लढीक्षा इनासिया कुयेकोई की कोस्टा, ईशान्क शंके, श्रीसिद्धी विनाद भोम्बकर, मासिया शिमन दा कोस्टा ब्रासिम, प्रमथेरा पुस्तिक शेवाकराकर, सखादीनी रौहित पादगवणकर, सेर सल्लिया दा कोस्टा यांचे योगदान लाभले आहे.

डा. नकुल पराशर वैज्ञान प्रसार गोथा सरकारच्या विज्ञान आणि कथ
संचालक आणि निमिश कपूर, वैज्ञानिक तंत्रज्ञान या विभागाने या कार्यशाळा जाग

तरुण भारत Sat, 07 November 2020
<https://epaper.tarunbharat.com/c/56234561>

पहिल्या 'सायंटून' पुस्तकात चौगुले कॉलेजचे योगदान

‘बाय बाय कोरोना’ पुस्तकातून जागरूकता, कोरोनाविषयी इत्यंभूत माहिती व छायाचित्रांचा समावेश

पुस्तकाच्या माध्यमांतून दर्शविण्यात आले आहे. पुस्तकात रंगीतरीती, मनोरंजक आणि स्वतःची सायंट्रुस्ट्या उपरोक्त करण्यात आलेला आहे. कोरोनावर आजपर्यंत औषधांभार करण्यवाही कोषतीही औषध किंवा लस उपलब्ध झालेला नाही. त्यामुळे लोकांना जागरूक करणे हाच एकमेव मार्ग आहे. कोरोनामासूत बचाव करणे, रोगप्रसूत जागरूकता आणि स्वतःची कळखीही ही रोकड्या करण्याची सर्वोत्तम साधन आहे. हे पुस्तकातून स्पष्ट करण्यात आले आहे.

डा. नकुल पराशर वैज्ञान प्रसार गोथा सरकारच्या विज्ञान आणि कथ
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Figure 3&4: Newspaper clippings from Tarun bharat on on November, 6th 2020 and Herald Goa on November, 7th 2020

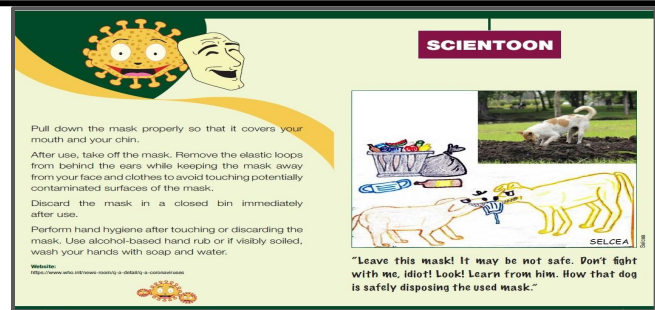


Figure 5.6.7 & 8: Sciencetoons by Our Students

FRESHER'S PARTY

A virtual fresher's party was held on google meet by the second and third-year students of the Department of Biotechnology on the 23rd of November 2020 to welcome the first-year students. The theme for the fresher's party was Diwali. It started off with online interactive games such as guess it and Pictionary with a spot prize to keep up the enthusiasm. It was followed by two beautiful and funny poems recited by Swati from 2nd year, following which, more spot prizes and interactive games were held. To make the ending of this fun filled party a memorable one, a song was sung by Marilyn from 2nd year. The first-years had a nice fun filled time and it was indeed a very fruitful and interactive session between them and their seniors.

- By Mr Stanford lloyd Fernandes

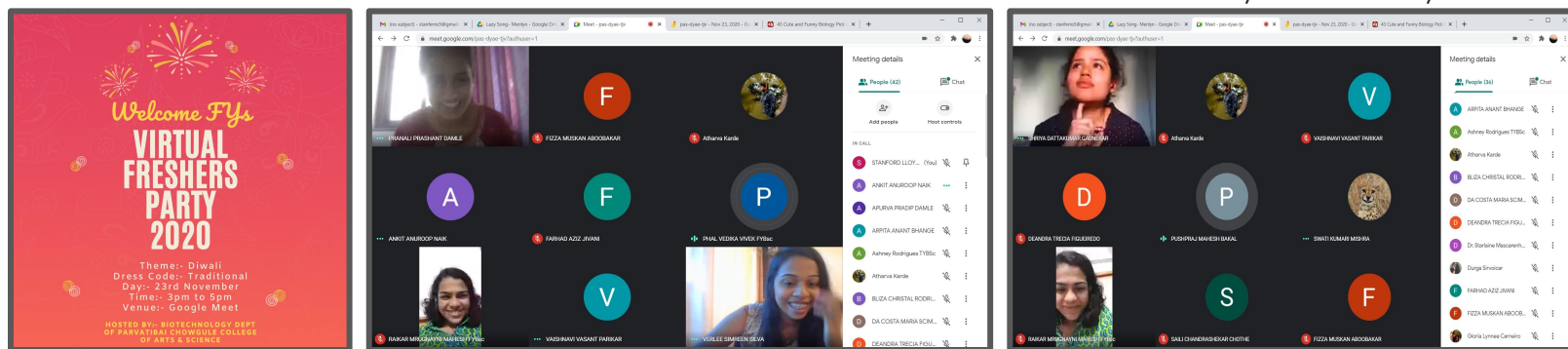


Figure 9 & 10: Fresher's Party

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Alumni Talk series: The One with Divya Naik

The department of Biotechnology organised a webinar on 7th November 2020 at 11.45 am as part of the Alumni talk series titled 'The One with Divya Naik'. The resource person was our Alumnus Ms. Divya Naik. Divya Naik is currently working as a Senior Research Fellow at the Mazumdar Institute of Translational research, her area of study being oncology. Ms. Vallanka, Asst Prof. from the Department of Biotechnology introduced the speaker of the webinar. Ms. Divya spoke about her journey after Bachelor's in Biotechnology and advised the students in various career opportunities in the field of genetics. The students also extensively interacted with Ms Divya regarding their career choices. Overall the session was a very fruitful one.

- By Vallanka Dias, Asst.Prof. in Biotechnology

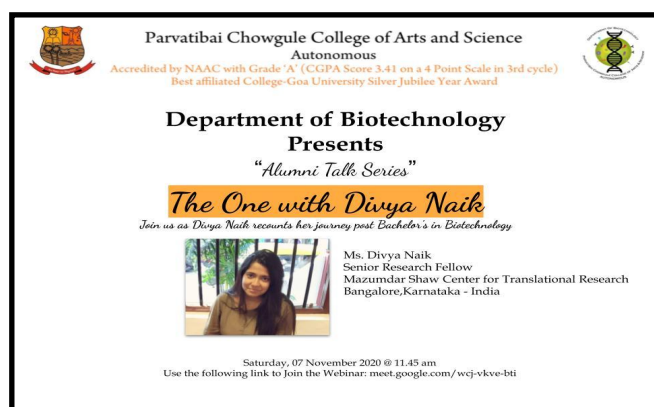


Figure 11: a) Poster; b) Ms. Divya Naik

Biochrome - Biotechnology Club activities

The nomination of the Biotechnology class representatives 2020-21 for 2020-21 for Third Year - Miss. Scimran Maria DaCosta; Second Year - Master. Stanford Lloyd Fernandes and First Year - Miss. Verlee Simreen Silva was announced on 18th September 2020.

Biotechnology club 'Biochrome' conducted the following Biochrome activities through Google classrooms;

1) Online Biotechnology Painting/Art Competition on the theme 'Role of Biotechnology in Environmental Clean-up' was conducted on 10th October 2020. The first and second prizes were bagged by F.Y.B.Sc. Biotech student, Ms. Bliza Christal Rodrigues and T.Y.B.Sc. Biotech student Ms. Scimran Maria Da Costa respectively.

2) Online Scientoon competition on the following theme's: - Social life Post Covid-19; Education system Post Covid-19 and Future trends in Biotechnology was conducted on 14th November 2020. The first prize was bagged by T.Y.B.Sc. Biotech student, Ms. Selcea Savia D'Costa and the Second prize was bagged by S.Y.B.Sc. Biotech students Mr. Prathamesh Pundalik Shetgaonkar

The Department of Biotechnology congratulates the participants and winners and wishing you good luck for the forthcoming exciting Biochrome activities.

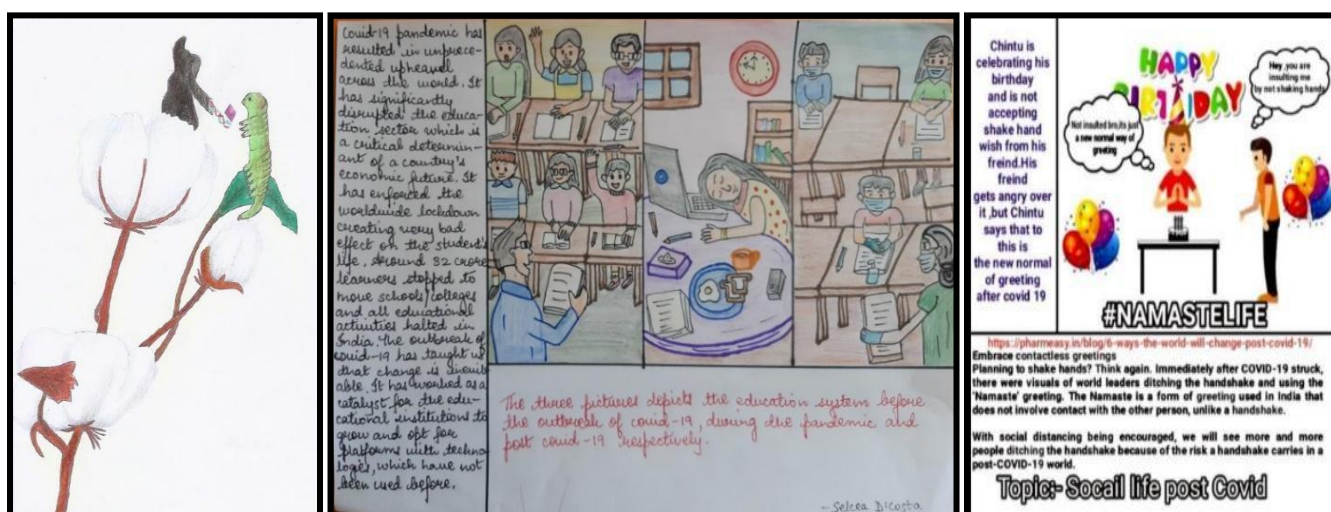


Figure 12: a) Painting by Bliza Rodrigues, b) Scientoon by Ms Selcea Da Costa, c) Scientoon by Mr Prathamesh Pundalik Shetgaonkar

- Contributed by Ms. Madhavi Motankar, Asst. Prof., and Edited By, Vallanka Dias, Asst. Prof. in Biotechnology

WAKE UP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

Living in a world with technology at its best, we have seen many environmental issues being raised because of harm caused to the nature. Goa has been known as “India’s pocket-sized paradise”, with its tall green trees and sandy beaches.

Today, the trees of Goa are at risk. Mollem National Park and Bhagvan Mahavir Wildlife are under a grave threat. There are a lot of species of flora and fauna, some which are endemic that means that they are only found in Goa and nowhere else in the world, there are some which are endangered, some which are vulnerable.

The government has proposed to carve these ecological sensitive areas by double-tracking of railway lines, widening of national highway NH -4A to four lanes and laying a 400kv transmission line. The project will affect thousands of hectares of forest land and will result in felling of about 70,000 trees. These projects were approved to increase coal transportation across the state, turning our beautiful Goa into a dangerous coal hub. Since there will be deforestation of nearly 70,000 trees which are set out to lose many species which are not even discovered. Since there is hill cutting there will be a great danger of landslides.

Dudhsagar which is one of Goa's main tourism hotspots will be majorly impacted and its essence will be forever lost. Furthermore, health will be at risk, as deforestation is linked to an increase in zoonotic disease. Coal will have an impact on respiratory system, they cause diseases such as pneumoconiosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and asthma.

As a result, people have raised their voice about this issue through social media, protests, etc. Jerusalema challenge was also used to popularize and educate people about this issue.

We as citizens of Goa should voice out our opinions. We must educate more people about this issue. This can be done by using social media platforms and having conversations with people about the same. We must also attend protests and meetings and speak against this injustice and save our green Goa. So, wake up before it's too late!



Figure 13: Verlee Silva

- By Verlee Silva, FYBSc Biotechnology

Editor: Ms. Vallanka Dias; Asst. Professor in the Department of Biotechnology

Reports and pictures of the activities contributed by Dr. R.Kanchana, Ms. Madhavi M. Motankar, Miss Vallanka Dias, Dr. Starlaine Mascarenhas, Ms. Hashma Mujawar (Faculty of the Department of Biotechnology)