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Botany Departmental Newsletter



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Botany Department Newsletter

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Dear Reader's,

I am having mixed feeling's while bringing out this March 21 edition of Newsletter to you all. Last year exactly during this time we started hearing about Corona Virus-19 Pandemic and lockdown. The restrictions to be put forward by Government to protect us from getting this Coronavirus as there was very limited information about it's entire system of infection, causes, symptoms and treatment. Many succumbed to this infection and social distancing was the only way to protect ourselves from this deadly virus. Many of us were very much disturbed emotionally hearing the depressing news worldwide because of this virus causing Havoc. Some were worried, some were feeling low, hopeless, tired, lonely, and stressed. There were some among us who braved the situation and came over all the problems and accomplished the things. They channelized their energies in doing something positive and were surprised to find their own talents. As put forward by Ms. Apoorva is that Lockdown taught her to use the resources at minimum and value it. It is during this time many webinars came into existence. Online workshops, classes, competitions etc. were organized by many organizations. Many participated into this workshops, competitions, webinars and learnt many new things sitting at home. As for myself, I got some opportunities to be a part of Organising committee as well as participate in **International Indian science 20-21** festival as jury for women conclave and entrepreneurship competition on traditional food recipes. As secretary of Pradnya Shakti Goa Unit, organised an workshop for youth as Yuva Shakti Abhiyan for seven days. I congratulate Ms. Apoorva Lolyekar for exploring her talent in gardening and also Ms. Kalekar Lakshada and Mr. Nachiket Naik for contributing in this Newsletter with their Internship experiences.



Certificate of participation in International Indian science festival for women conclave and entrepreneurship.



Certificate of appreciation from international Indian science festival as jury for women conclave and entrepreneurship competition on traditional food recipes.

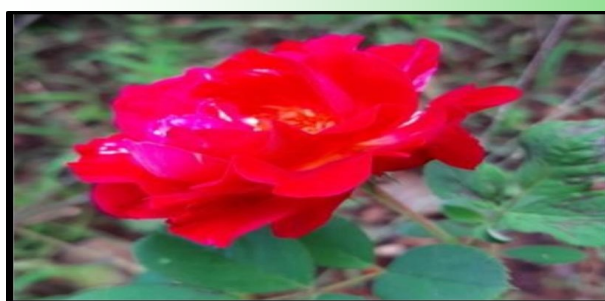
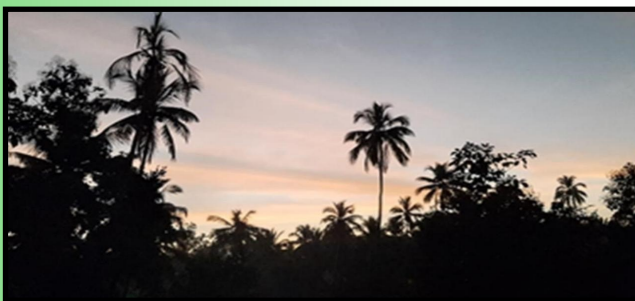


Certificate of appreciation for organizing Yuva Shakti Abhiyan workshop on youth transformation program as secretary of Pradnya Shakti Goa under the banner of National Shakti

“My experience during lockdown”

-Ms. Lolyekar Apoorva, T.Y.B.Sc

My experience of lockdown as a student has had the ups and downs as any others could imagine. Being limited to our homes with no outside social interactions with friends was tough. Nothing compares with going to College and experiencing the on campus student life of interacting with friends and lecturers. The global Covid-19 pandemic unexpectedly entered our lives and put everything to a halt. It affected the lives of people around the world bringing a flood of tension and worries followed by negative thoughts.



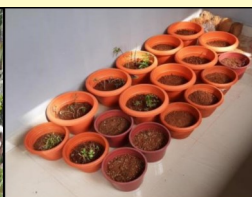
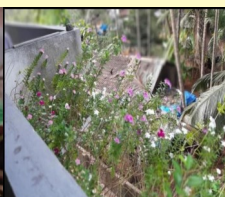
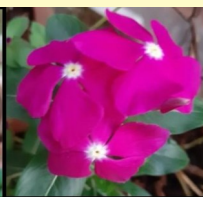
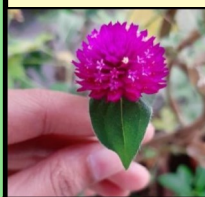
A morning scene during pandemic

The best outcome of this situation has been that the virus has made us aware of valuing food, water, fruits and other essential items along with benefits of yoga and exercises followed by intake of herbs and healthy food. It gave us lot of time to work on our skills, passion and develop new hobbies. I worked to improve my skills by reading books and articles, trying new recipes to boost my cooking.

Usually time used to go running when I worked on changes in my balcony garden which required lot of help due to negligence. Long hours at home provided me time to care for my plants, redecorate it with flowers and other necessary plants. On the other hand, it also gave us a new experience of life by participating in online classes, wherein we had interactions with our lecturers and classmates alongside learning new methods of giving exams online.

It has also taught us the importance of spending times with one's family and exploring ourselves. Thankful for the modern technology, learning something new was just on our finger tips. Connecting to people far was just a matter of seconds. Time flew by as I chitchat with my mom and younger brother, playing games and rearranging stuff at home. I am able to spend more time with my family helping them in daily chores. We continuously missed our dad, since he worked as a frontline warrior during this pandemic. Feeling of being proud of him also accompanied with worries about his health.

Even though the pandemic had many drastic negative effects on people's life, I feel it had many positive ones in mine. From spending time with family to enhancing skills along with increasing knowledge and importance of medicinal plants for building good health, it helped me in many ways. Showing us the importance of cleanliness and good immunity, it also had positive impact on environment by reducing pollution, improving air and water quality and giving time for fauna flora to rejuvenate. With this positive outlook, I pray to God that this virus find its end way and our life continues in regular pace.



Some flowers grown during lockdown (From left to right: Rose, Ghomphera and Vinca)

Pictures of my balcony garden

Vegetable grown in my balcony garden (From left: Bitter Gourd and Tomatoes)

Internship In Environment Conservation And Research Organisation At Chicalim And Borim For PBR and BMC

—Ms. Kalekar Lakshda, T.Y.B.Sc.

I did my internship in ECRO (Environment Conservation and Research Organisation) which was established on 17 August 2015 and has been registered under the societies registration act, 1860 as a national NGO (Non-governmental organization) based in Goa. ECRO has been steadily involved in many programs and interventions in the domain of Environment Conservation, primarily through research and analysis, community involvement and conservation initiatives and hence thereby gradually making its presence being felt throughout the state of Goa. ECRO aims towards achieving environment conservation through research based actions by working in Environment Research and Conservation, Environment Education (EE), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Biodiversity Documentation, Research and Conservation, People's Biodiversity Registers (PBR), Biodiversity Management Committees(BMC), Wildlife Documentation, Geographical Information System (GIS), Remote Sensing (RS), Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and in Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation.

The objective of this organization is to promote research and conservation in the field of environment on a national level through scientific documentation, presentations, publications, nature interpretation etc; systematic collection and compilation of various natural, cultural heritages and other ancient relics; to create awareness about wildlife and other socio-environmental aspects amongst the local masses through photography exhibition, treks, rescue & rehabilitation etc; to symbiotically associate with other agencies, groups or individuals working for a socio- environmental cause; to collect data on Biodiversity of Goa and then relate it with the changes in coming years for the environmental purpose.

I, along with my 12 classmates did our internship in ECRO under the guidance of the of our teacher, Dr. Uma Masur, the Asst. Professor at Chowgule college from the department of Botany. Our internship was done in a month from 16 December 2019 to 17 January 2020 where in we all travelled to Chicalim, Vasco, Goa and worked from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. This internship was all about documentation and identification of floral and faunal species of the study area and systematic data compilation into specified formats using Microsoft Excel as a tool. Our study area's were mainly villages of Borim and Chicalim. Our internship president, Sir Mr. Dattaram Phadte assigned different work to us. Some were told to compile the data, some were told to create formats for compilation of data's, some were told to systematically arrange the data of flora and fauna present in that area, some were told to read some literature on biodiversity of that area and identify the species, and some were sent on field work and for survey work. Some were also assigned to do some work at home and MS Excel sheets and Data compilation was done in Chicalim village. The villagers and our internship president were very friendly and helped us throughout our internship.

Doing an internship at undergraduate level in an environmental organisation helped me a lot because I am a nature lover and I always wanted to explore more about Biodiversity of Goa. This internship helped me in learning more about scientific names and faunal species along with their uses and local names. I have learnt the systematic arrangement of the floral and faunal data using computational method which will definitely help me in future. This internship made me more responsible, has increased my knowledge in Botany Field and has also helped me in the growth of my personality overall. It was great working with a team, discovering about the faunal species of Goa, identifying and knowing about them.



RAIA INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

-Mr. Naik Nachiket ,T.Y.B.Sc.

Dr. Uma Masur Asst. Prof. from Department of Botany, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Gogol, Margao alongwith Geography Department undertook Medicinal Plant Cultivation Project for Gold Shield Real Estate Pvt. Ltd. The project was conducted on a plot at Raia. This plot is situated in Raia Panchayat of Salcete Taluka in South Goa, 8 km from Margao city. The estimated total plot area is approx. 75,000 Sq. M. Around 1644 trees of 32 species were present on the plot. The objective of the project was to study the flora in the given area, survey the plot, record the number of trees present in the plot, collect details (Height and Girth of trees), Soil sample testing, gather information about each species along with its medicinal properties, harvesting methods and cultivation details and compiling the data in files. Being Botany students it was a big opportunity for us to be a part of it as an Intern students. In total 6 students participated in this Internship. It was a hilly area with lot of rocks and rough terrain. Wild thorny bushes had grown all over the plot and in some areas, it was difficult to reach because of hilly area. Rains made it more difficult to conduct the survey since it was difficult to climb such terrain. Because of highspeed winds during rains, many trees fell down making it difficult to identify and note the other details. We had to cut the thorny bushes by ourselves since it was difficult to reach in some areas. We learned a lot of new ways to tackle such situations. Since the area was big and we were 6 of us, we divided ourselves in 2 groups of 3 each. We divided the work amongst us and completed the given work. We learned what is team work and how to do it efficiently. We surveyed around 1644 plants of 32 different species. We got to learn a lot about these different species. We also learned a lot of new things like soil testing, Soil collection, measuring distance using laser machines etc.



EDITORIAL TEAM:

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The opinion and news appearing herein are those of the editors and not necessarily those of Principal or The Management. Contact us: uam001@chowgules.ac.in