

INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICE- 'ABOLIANCHEM FEST' A GOA DAY PROJECT.

'Goa Day' has been celebrated in Nirmala Institute of Education since 2001 with the objective of exposing our teacher trainees to the rich cultural heritage of Goa.

'Goa Day' has now been renamed as 'Abolianchem Fest' which aims at reviving the age old Goan, socio-cultural ethos by celebrating its music, dance, food, sports, arts, crafts and theatre of the bygone years. The objective of the festival is to document, generate knowledge sharing for a sustainable living of the present and future generation. Every year, the theme for the fest differs highlighting the different facet of Goa. In 2018, the emphasis of the fest was on the significance of the Abolim flower, whereas in 2019, the focus was on the coconut tree- it's socio-cultural and economic significance. The theme in 2020 was on Soil. The theme the year 2023 focused on, Water-the elixir of life, culture and society, highlighting the socio-economic, cultural, traditional, ecological and its agrarian significance.

The Objectives of Project Goa thus are:

- a. to inculcate a sense of rootedness among Goans,
- b. to inculcate a sensitivity to and respect for everything that belongs to the culture of the State of Goa.
- c. to see Goa in the Indian context, to visualize our role in strengthening the National fabric.
- d. to document by way of a 'report' their research, which will serve as a reference source for future teacher-trainees studying at the Nirmala Institute of Education.

The Dynamics of Project Goa

At the beginning of the academic year the teacher-trainees have a talents-display afternoon. During this presentation the entire teaching faculty carefully observe and note the strengths and talents of each trainee. Several months later, at the faculty meeting, topics for the Project Goa are discussed. The faculty then volunteer as to which topics they will pursue and convert into a viable project. The list of trainees' talents are now consulted and they are allotted to the different groups according to the topics decided upon for that particular year. In the past, some of the topics touched upon have been: Song & Dance, Manos, Fishing, Salt Pans, Mangroves, Impact of tourism on Goan lifestyles, Medicinal plants, Balcão, Natural Springs, Sacred Groves, Cuisine, World-famous Goan Personalities, Clothing, and the like.

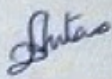
The Outcomes of Project Goa

The Project has always generated excitement among the teacher-trainees and faculty . The activities undertaken can be labelled as, 'things to know', 'things to do' and 'things to value'. These outcomes are realised by the fact that Project Goa requires

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trainees to: plan, do field work (research or data-gathering), evaluate the data and finally, publish the results of their 'search'. 'Publishing' requires that each group demonstrate what they have re-searched in an innovative and tangible way.

At the end of it all the teacher-trainee learns about team-work, problem-solving, cooperative learning, organizational and communication skills. Project Goa thus equips the future teacher with valuable life-skills while providing them with a wholesome view about Goan culture.


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ABOLIANCHEM FEST OVER THE YEARS

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THEMES



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LOCAL ARTS & CRAFTS



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES MUSIC / DANCE / THEATRE



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GAMES



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