



Vidya Vikas Mandal's  
Shree Damodar College of Commerce & Economics

# E-Newsletter

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Mr. Gajanan Nial – Editor



## Diwali Celebration

5<sup>th</sup> November 18



The Recreation Cell of the College organized the celebration for Diwali on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 in the Smart Classroom. The celebration was attended by the President of Vidya Vikas Mandal, CA Mrs. Sheela Gaunekar, Treasurer of Vidya Vikas Mandal, CA U. N. Bene and all the

teaching and non-teaching staff of the college. Everyone was dressed in keeping with the festive theme and the room was beautifully decorated with rangoli and diyas.

To bring in the festive spirit, Dr. Maithili Naik, Mr. Mayuresh Adsul, Mrs. Ashwini Devari and Ms. Pallavi Shinde sang melodiously. Ms. Mamta Kumari 'puzzled' the audience.

The celebration ended with feasting on delicacies prepared by the staff such as kaandapohe, aambaadachatni, rosatlephov, ghodphov, chanyaachusali, karam and so on.

## Farewell Function

5<sup>th</sup> November 18

The Recreation Cell of the College organized the Farewell Function for the teachers retiring in the academic year 2018-19 - Ms. Lydia Menon, Associate Professor in Economics, Ms. Nirmala Gopinathan, Associate Professor in Commerce and Ms. Shilpa Mense, Associate Professor in Commerce. The function was held on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2018 at 11.00 a.m.

The Principal, Dr. Prita Mallya, welcomed the gathering and thanked the retiring teachers for their dedicated service to the College and wished them the very best for the next stage in their life. Students of TY B.Com Mr. Darwin Fernandes, Ms. Kanifa Cotta and Ms. Fezira Rogtao shared their experience with their teachers and bid farewell to them with a heavy heart.

The First Vice-President of Vidya Vikas Mandal, Mr. Nitin Kunkolienker expressed his gratitude to the retiring teachers for their immense contribution to the institution. The President of Vidya Vikas Mandal, CA Mrs. Sheela Gaunekar appreciated the retiring teachers for all their efforts and



contribution to the institution.

Dr. Lira Menezes Gama, Dr. Lina Sadekar and Mrs. Sharmila Kunde praised the retiring teachers for their sincere efforts and expressed that they will surely be missed in the staffroom.

The students of TY B.Com prepared a presentation compiling the photographs of the retiring teachers over the years. The teachers felt nostalgic watching the presentation. An ex-student Mr. Deepak Rao, a 2002 B.Com graduate, sent a video expressing his gratitude to the retiring teachers.

The President of Vidya Vikas Mandal, CA Mrs. Sheela Gaunekar, First Vice - President of Vidya Vikas Mandal, Mr. Nitin Kunkolienker, Chairman College Governing Council CA U. N. Bene, Principal, Dr. Prita D. Mallya and Vice Principal Dr. Rodney D'Silva presented a Citation and a Memento to the retiring teachers as a symbol of gratitude and appreciation. Later the retiring teachers addressed the gathering and expressed their gratitude towards the President and Management of Vidya Vikas Mandal, the Principal Dr. Prita Mallya and all the teaching and non-teaching staff for their support and cooperation all through the years. They also appreciated the efforts of the staff and students for organizing the farewell function.

Vice-Principal, Dr. Rodney D'Silva delivered the vote of thanks for the farewell function.



BBA(FS) Study Tour

12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> November 18

The BBA(FS) Department of the College organized a Study tour to Mumbai from 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2018.



40 students accompanied by 9 Faculty members participated in the study tour. The first visit was to India's oldest and biggest stock exchange - Bombay Stock Exchange where students attended a seminar conducted by Mr. Aditya Srinivas, Chief Operating Officer at BSE Brokers Forum. The session covered topics like recent volatility in Indian stock market, building the ideal equity

portfolio and others. He also highlighted the performance of the Indian stock market in comparison to the international market. The students were shown Live trading screen and also explained how actual trading works at BSE Brokers terminals.

Later students were taken to visit Sykes & Ray Equities India Ltd (SRE) Financial Planners and Stock broking firm. The students were briefed about the organisation and also shown the working of different departments such as Account opening and KYC, Order Management, Client Relationship Management and Trading. Interaction with the experts in this financial institution, the practical exposure of live trading screen and working of different departments enabled the students to widen their practical knowledge

The next visit was to Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Mr. Prasenjit, an Officer from SEBI gave a brief background of SEBI and its role as a regulator. Further he covered various topics like do's and don'ts of investing, various investment options and the role played by SEBI in protecting the interests of the investors. He stressed upon the recent reforms introduced by SEBI and its multifarious investment education activities. The session was extremely interactive. Mr. Prasenjit ended his talk by highlighting the main motto of SEBI viz. "To develop the market, regulate the market and to protect the interest of the investors".

On 14th November the students visited the National Stock Exchange (NSE). The education session started at 10:00 a.m. in the auditorium. Mr. Arvind B. Savant, Certified Financial Planner was the speaker for the session. Mr. Savant started the session by providing an example of how stock market investment is rewarding. Mr. Savant focused on providing valuable insights to the students regarding the basics of primary market and secondary market including the basics of initial public offer (IPO) and follow-on public offer (FPO). He exhibited the trading screen at NSE based on the online trading platform of NSE, the National Exchange for Automated Trading (NEAT). He also spoke on NSE Academy Certification in Financial Markets (NCFM). He mentioned important online programmes which would benefit the student community by being equipped with the necessary skills demanded by the financial sector. Overall, the session was enlightening since Mr. Savant made it very informative, interesting and interactive.

During the second half of the day the students visited National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL). The session began at 3:30 pm. The resource person for the session was Mr. Marlon Correia, Asst. Manager – Marketing & Corporate Communications at NSDL and Mr. Pravin Patel, Asst. Manager at NSDL. Mr. Marlon spoke on a variety of topics such as Role of NSDL, combining savings & investments, Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA), Tax Information Network (TIN), National Insurance Repository (NIR), National Pension System (NPS). Later Mr Pravin took over the session and he focused on a new project i.e. National Academic Depository (NAD) that has been launched by NSDL in collaboration with the UGC. He explained the purpose and benefits of the NAD project.



The sessions at different financial institutions, lively interactions with industry experts and practical exposure of live trading screen have enabled the students to widen their practical knowledge

of finance in general and stock markets in particular. The overall experience of the tour was very enlightening and informative.

## NSS Camp

14<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> November 18



Camping forms an integral part of National Service Scheme. It has special appeal to the youth as it provides unique opportunities to the students for group living, collective experience sharing and constant interaction with community. The theme of the NSS Camp 2018 was “Swacch Bharat Abhiyaan” with special focus on Waste Management and prevention of Open Defecation. The camp was held for a period of seven days at Shree Shantadurga Chamundeshwari Kudthari Mahamaya temple, Padde - Quepem. 23 NSS

volunteers and 4 NSS Programme Officers attended.

### Day 1: 14/11/2018

On 14th November 2018, the Camp was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Mr. Sudin Kamath, Secretary of the Shree Shantadurga Chamundeshwari Kudthari Mahamaya temple committee and alumnus of the College, Principal Dr. Prita D. Mallya, and Dr. Vishal Chari, Chief NSS Programme Officer of the College. The Program began with a welcome address by the Principal and was followed by Lamp

Lighting Ceremony by the Chief Guest, Principal, NSS Incharge, Mrs. Sharmila Kunde, NSS officer of SDCCE and a student volunteer. The Chief Guest shared his experience as an NSS volunteer and highlighted the objectives of the camp. After that the NSS programme officer gave a brief insight about the seven days programme. The function concluded with vote of thanks by Asst. Prof. Marjina Shaikh.

### **Day 2: 15/11/2018**

On the second day of Camp, Cleanliness drive “Shramadan” was organized in the temple premises and nearby areas to spread the message of hygiene, cleanliness and impacts on environment and to create awareness of the “Swacch Bharat Abhiyan”.

In the evening, a guest lecture was conducted for the students. The resource person was Mr. Kennedy D’silva, Former Principal of Don Bosco College. The session was on “Never Give Up in Life” wherein the resource person inspired the students by sharing his own real life story as to how he never stopped walking in spite of having a knee problem. The session was interesting; he also demonstrated the diverse styles of greeting in different countries. He left the students with two slogans to the volunteers, first was “I am the best! I am the Champion!” and the second was “I can do anything and everything through him who strengthens me!”

### **Day 3:16/11/2018**

On the 3rd day of the camp a survey of the village population was conducted by visiting every house to inquire and to educate the villagers about waste segregation, reducing the use of plastic and the problems of open defecation.

In the evening a session was conducted on the topic “I can do it” by Mr. Vishwanath Swar, Teacher at MES HSS. It was an interactive session wherein the resource person conducted activities like role play, meditation and some games. He also motivated the students to do things outside their comfort zone. In the end he shared his experience as a student and the point of change in this life.

### **Day 4:17/11/2018**

On the 4th day of the camp the students cleaned the Dining hall and the Function hall of the temple in the morning. Later on the students were sent to the village to invite the ladies from the village to attend a session on personal hygiene and cervical cancer which was scheduled at 5:30 in the evening for that day.

In the evening two sessions were conducted for the students. The first session was on “Mobile etiquette”. The resource person was Mr. John Silveira, a certified international trainer and currently on deputation at Directorate of Education. The resource person shared the Do’s and Don’ts while using mobile phones. He made the session attractive by playing some videos and sharing the awkward moments of his life with the students. He concluded the session with a request asking the students to use the phone only when required and being more social through physical touch and not

through electronic gadgets.

The second session was on “Personal Hygiene and Cervical Cancer” which was delivered by Dr. Suparna R. Borkar, Gynecologist and owner of Noble Hospital, Borda – Margao. The session was organized in partnership with Mrs. Nanda Kare, Secretary of Mahila Mandal, Margao and Mrs. Ranjita Pai, Treasurer of Mahila Mandal. This session was for the girl volunteers and some of the locals also attended the session. In this session the doctor advised the ladies to do regular checkups for breast cancer and cervical cancer. She also demonstrated the way for breast examination. In the end free samples of v-wash were distributed among the audience.

#### Day 5:18/11/2018

On 18th November the students cleaned the campus and the temple halls and also sorted and folded the sarees received by the temple. Later in the evening the students were taken for a hike to Chandreshwar Bhootnath temple. The students enthusiastically participated in the trek.

#### Day 6:19/11/2018

On 19th November 2018, the students cleaned the campus and the village area in the morning. Later in the evening a session was conducted on the topic “Personality Development”. The resource person for this session was Mr. Kunal Borkar. The resource person began with the session with a physical exercise. He also conducted various team games for the students and also made the students understand their strengths and weaknesses. In the end he shared his own story as to how he became a confident speaker. The students had campfire on the same night where Mr. Ajinkya Kurtadkar, sports director of SDCCE, had divided the students into teams and told them to act as tribal people from the jungles.

#### Day 7:20/11/2018

On 20th November 2018, the camp was concluded with a formal valedictory function. The chief guest for the closing ceremony was Dr.

Sanjay Sawant Dessai, Principal of CES College, Cuncolim and Ex Vice-Principal of this College. The NSS in charge Dr. Vishal Chari welcomed the chief guest and briefed him about all the activities conducted throughout the camp and requested the chief guest to share his valuable experience



with the students. The chief guest then took over the session and shared his experience as a NSS and NCC in charge and also highlighted the importance of organizing and attending such camps. He also asked the students about their experiences at the camp and what new things they learnt attending the camp. The programme ended with vote of thanks by a student.

Apart from all the activities above, the students were regularly taken for morning walks, prayers were also held in the morning and some physical exercise. The students were organized into different committees on a daily basis and had to perform the various tasks allotted to them.

## Bhutan Tour

8<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November 18

The Students' Council of Shree Damodar College of Commerce & Economics Margao organised a College tour to Bhutan from 8<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018. 62 students and 7 faculty members were part of the tour.

Bhutan, The Land of the Thunder Dragon was the perfect place to visit to enlarge the understanding of culture through the ideas, beautiful customs, traditions and the social behaviour of the people in Bhutan. The trip comprised of visits to various places both historical and mesmerising.

We started from Margao railway station at 3.15pm on 8th November 2018. We had a halt in Bangalore the following day before heading to Bhutan.

In Bangalore, we visited the Bannerghatta Biological Park. It is located about 22 Kms south of Bengaluru city. It is one among the few places in the world where wilderness is preserved so close to a big city. It comprises different units such as Zoo, Safari, Butterfly Park and Rescue Center (Conservation of captive animals). The zoo had a rich diversity of flora and fauna.



The journey to New Alipurduar was a two day train travel. Upon arrival we had to wait at the station until 5a.m. since buses are allowed to ply only after 5a.m.

## PHUNTESHOLING

It was a 1hr 45min drive from New Alipurduar to Phuntesholing, the border town of Southern Bhutan. It adjoins the Indian town of Jaigaon, and cross-border trade has resulted in a thriving local economy. Phuntesholing is uniquely more urban than other Bhutanese towns as it is Bhutan's financial, industrial and trading capital. After completing the immigration formalities we were free to explore the place.

Culture varies from society to society and the moment we entered Bhutan, we were pretty astounded to see the cultural variation. The visible attributes of culture such as artefacts, symbols, and the Bhutanese language contributed in bringing the essence of being in a different country.

We had a four and half hour drive to Paro. On our way we visited Kharbandi Gumpa, a monastery built in 1967 by the Royal Grandmother. The monastery contains paintings on the life of Buddha and statues of Shubdrung Nawang Namgyal and Guru Rinpochey. The view from the monastery garden of Phuntesholing and surrounding Indian plains was breathtaking.

### PHUNTESHOLING TO PARO

The drive to Paro was exhilarating indeed. All along the way, we were in awe with the scenery and the smooth double roads and the waterfalls. We stopped for lunch at a restaurant midway between Phuntesholing and Paro. It was a small restaurant with the usual Bhutanese charm.

### PARO

After spending the night at Paro, the students and faculty members started for an adventurous albeit tough hike to the famous Tiger's Nest Monastery. Legend has it that Guru Rinpoche first brought Buddhism here. He is said to have flown on the back of a tigress to meditate in a cave where Taktsang Monastery now stands. The Monastery is perched on the edge of a steep cliff, about 900 meters above Paro Valley. The Monastery is at 3180 ft altitude from base, and round trip distance is around 8 km. The trek is marked with trees and prayer flags. The captivating views of the Monastery motivated us to go on. After walking uphill along some very narrow and dusty path for about three hours, the group finally reached the Tiger's Nest. The journey was worth the destination. All the students as well as the faculty members were awed by the breathtaking structure and construction of the Monastery. The Tiger's Nest was the climax of the tour.

The next day was packed with a whole lot of local sightseeing. We began the day with a visit to Ta Dzong, once a fortified lookout tower that is now the National Museum. It has 4 sections a) masks - the ones used in dances b) paintings c) tea and tea pots d) natural history (mostly photos and videos and text about flora and fauna of Bhutan)



We then walked down the trail to visit the Rinpung Dzong meaning “fortress of the heap of jewels”. Next, we visited Kichu Lhakhang, the oldest temple in the country. We then drove to the Drugyal Dzong (Bhutan Victory

Fort) which was built in 1646 to commemorate Bhutan's victory over Tibetan invaders during the 1600s. We could see Mount Jumolhari, Bhutan's second highest mountain at 7314mts.

The view of the Paro Airport (the only one in Bhutan) was amazing. It is also counted among the 10



most challenging airports in the world, that only 8 pilots are certified to land the flights here. The surrounding peaks as high as 5000m makes it a bit of challenge. The view of the vibrant green valley with the gushing sound of the Paro river below, the stunning blue sky above, and high mountains around the Paro valley makes it an enchanting picture.

We decided to take a peek in the Paro market in the evening. It was a bustling and colourful market with some good handicraft and souvenir shops.

#### THIMPU

We travelled down the slopes of Paro to head to Thimpu. Home to the Royal Family, Thimpu, the capital of Bhutan, is a mountain of touristic treasures. From the Tashichhoe Dzong, which houses the government officials, to the National and Textile Museums, the capital city has much to offer.

The highlight of the day was the visit to Buddha point, a Monastery. The centrepiece of Buddha Point is the 51-meter bronze statue of the Buddha sitting on top of Kuensel Phodrang hill facing the Himalayas. It was constructed in 2015 to mark the 60th anniversary of fourth King Jigme Singye Wangchuk. The view was indeed blissful. The paintings on the walls of the monastery told several stories of the life of Buddha and his teachings.

On the way back, the students and the faculty members got a chance to experience the local ambience and cuisine.

#### WANGDUE- PUNAKHA

It was a two and half hour drive from Thimpu to Punakha. We started off with a visit to Dochula Pass (3080mts above sea level) that heralds the most enchanting views of Bhutan. With the captivating views of the snow clad Himalayas, you would feel you've reached heaven. Dochula Pass, was created in honor of 108 Bhutanese soldiers who died in a 2003 military operation. It is a concentration of 108 memorial stupas known as "Druk Wangyal Chortens." This place tells an interesting story of spirituality, bravery, and Bhutanese culture.

Later, we visited the Punakha Dzong or the Palace of Great Happiness built on the confluence of the Phu Chhu (male) and Mo Chhu (female) rivers. The rivers were calm and the water as clear as crystal. Walking over the suspension bridge was a thrilling experience. This 160 metres suspension bridge is the longest in Bhutan. The bridge is stable and provided a good view of the river and valley, with the mountain as background.

As we drove back to the hotel, all of us felt a pinch of sadness as it was the last night of our stay in Bhutan.

After dinner the students danced to the beats of Bollywood music, joined by the hotel staff. After what seemed like an hour of dancing and singing, it was finally time to wrap things up and get some rest.



It was a 6 hour drive to the station in New Alipurduar. After a 12 hour train journey we reached Kolkata, our final tour spot. In Kolkata, we paid a visit to Victoria Memorial, a large marble building which was built between 1906 and 1921. It is dedicated to the memory of Queen Victoria (1819–1901) and is now a museum and tourist destination under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture.

We also visited the famous Science City, an iconic institution combining education and entertainment in sharp contrast to the science museums existing elsewhere in the country. The cable car rides, science on the sphere, the outdoor science park were some of the key attractions. The rest of the day was spent in shopping the streets of Kolkata and tasting the local food and of course the famous Roshgullas!

As the day came to an end, our bags were packed and we were ready to leave.

To Conclude...

Every place we visited in Bhutan, left us amazed not only by its natural beauty, but also how they could retain or blend tradition with modernity without affecting its authenticity. This educational tour to Bhutan has not only stunned us with its natural beauty but has also made us question ourselves in many aspects of our ways of living, as to how



each of these culture and sub-culture play a significant role in our lives. By visiting different countries and understanding different cultures, there is always a space for us to reflect on our own culture and if given a chance this can give us the opportunity to help our society be better.

*Dear Readers,*

*The month of November had some interesting and important activities including the international tour to Bhutan and seven days NSS Camp.*

*We are delighted to present the reports of the above in this edition of the newsletter.*

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