

INAUGURATION OF THE GOA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PARK UNIT

Panaji: September 19, 2024

Goa University proudly inaugurated its highly anticipated Research Park Unit on **September 18**, 2024, at the auspicious hands of the Chief Minister of Goa, Dr. Pramod Sawant and in the august presence of Shri Prasad Lolayekar, IAS, Secretary, Education, Govt. of Goa and Prof. Harilal Menon, Vice Chancellor. Also, present on the dais are Prof. V. S. Nadkarni, Registrar, Goa University and Professor Sandeep Garg, Director, DI3P. The Programme was attended by Shri Bhushan Savaikar, Director, Directorate of Higher Education and other Officials from DHE, Principals of the Colleges, Executive Committee Members of Goa University, Deans, Officers, and teaching and non-teaching staff of Goa University.

The event commenced with the cutting of the ribbon by the Chief Minister at the Life Science Wing in the presence of esteemed guests and faculty members. The new Research Park Unit features state-of-the-art facilities, including Bio-incubator, a Health incubator, an IT incubator, a meeting cum conference room, and an Electronics cum Fabrication Room. Goa University has marked a significant milestone with the inauguration of its pioneering Goa University Research Park Unit (GURU). This cutting-edge facility is poised to become a hub for fostering innovation and entrepreneurial ventures across various sectors, including biotechnology, health, information technology, and electronics.

Following the ribbon-cutting, Dr. Sawant and the dignitaries toured the facilities, learning about the advancements Goa University is making to foster innovation, research, and start-up ecosystems in various domains. The ceremony progressed with the lighting of the lamp and a welcome address by Goa University's Vice Chancellor, Senior Prof. Harilal B. Menon, who highlighted the university's commitment towards fostering an academic environment that encourages research and entrepreneurial growth.

One of the key moments of the event was the honouring of 10 teams selected under the Handholding and Start-up Scheme 2023-24. These teams, which represent innovative projects ranging from sustainable agriculture to energy-efficient technologies, are set to benefit from the university's support in transforming their ideas into impactful ventures. The beneficiaries of the Scheme include Kaushal Prabhudesai, Sai Rane, Dr. Andrew D'Souza, Komal Salkar, Leo D'Souza, Suhaana Nadaf, Yuvradnyee Naik, and Pritesh Khobrekhar.

Chief Minister, Dr Pramod Sawant, in his speech, emphasised the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in driving Goa's economic growth. He appreciated the authorities of Goa University for their efforts in launching this groundbreaking initiative. Dr. Sawant reaffirmed the Government of Goa's commitment, through the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), to support the next generation of researchers and entrepreneurs and also emphasised how these incubators will lead to the goal of sustainable development and making Swayampurna Goa. The state-of-the-art facilities at GURU will further enhance Goa's reputation as a hub for scientific research and global innovation, aligning with the Government's vision outlined in its startup policy. Goa is emerging as a prime destination for leading startups and young entrepreneurs

The book on Goa University Flora entitled 'Nature's Palette', written by Dr. Siddhi Jalmi, Assistant Professor of Botany along with Ms Ashweta Gaude, Research Scholar. The ceremony concluded with a vote of thanks by Senior Prof. V.S. Nadkarni, the Registrar of Goa University. This inauguration marks a new chapter for the university, as it continues to make significant strides in research and innovation, contributing to Goa's growth as a hub for scientific and technological progress.

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