



**SWAMI VIVEKANAND VIDYAPRASARAK MANDAL'S
COLLEGE OF COMMERCE**

SHISHIRE, BORIM, PONDA GOA

(Affiliated by Goa University, Recognized by UGC under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956)

In Association With

DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNMENT OF GOA

Organizes

TWO DAY NATIONAL WORKSHOP

On

**SMART TOOLS, SMARTER SERVICES: A HANDS – ON WORKSHOP FOR
LIBRARIANS**

On

19th - 20th January 2026

Organized by

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

&

INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

Venue

Multipurpose Hall

Department of Art and Culture

Patto Panjim Goa

REPORT ON WORKSHOP

The Department of Library and Information Science, in association with IQAC of Swami Vivekanand Vidyaprasarak Mandal's College of Commerce, Bori-Ponda, Goa, successfully organized a two-day National Level Workshop titled "Smart Tools, Smarter Services: A Hands-on Workshop for Librarians" in collaboration with the Directorate of Higher Education (DHE), Government of Goa with the objective of equipping library professionals with contemporary digital skills, innovative tools, and future-ready service models to meet the evolving demands of users in the digital era.

The inaugural programme commenced on an auspicious note with an invocation prayer, followed by the screening promotional video of the college, followed by the traditional Deep Prajwalan and the symbolic Jal Sinchan. The programme formally began with a warm welcome and inaugural address by the Principal of the College, Prof. Achut Pednekar, who emphasized the transforming role of librarians in the digital age and highlighted the importance of adopting smart technologies.

The dignitaries and guests for the inaugural ceremony were Shri Dilip Borkar, Dr. Sandesh Dessai, Dr. Nabi Hasan, Dr. Keshav Dhuri, Shri Prakash Prabhu, Shri Minanath Upadhye, Principal Professor (Dr.) Achut Pednekar, Dr. Bala Mandrekar, Dr. Nitesh Naik, Dr. Mallikarjun Angadi, Mrs. Gayatri Behare, Shri Ratnakar Desai, Mr. Sagar Bhat, Mr. Premanand Borkar, Mrs. Mamta Jamuni, and Mr. Shekhar Sawant. Mrs. Sonia Desai, Librarian of the College and Convener of the Workshop, presented a comprehensive overview of the workshop, outlining its objectives, structure, and the relevance in today's time.

The Guest of Honour, Dr. Sandesh Dessai, Librarian, Goa University, addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of continuous professional development for librarians to effectively respond to emerging technological challenges. The Chief Guest, Shri

Dilip Borkar, a distinguished Konkani author and Sahitya Akademi Award recipient, appreciated the initiative undertaken by the institution and encouraged librarians to nurture reading habits, stating that reading shapes perspectives and gives meaning to life. Mementos were presented to all dignitaries as a token of appreciation, and the inaugural program concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Mrs. Sonia Desai.

The inaugural technical and keynote speaker for the session on "Smart Tools, Technologies and Smarter Services in Today's Libraries" was conducted by Dr. Nabi Hasan, Head Librarian, IIT Delhi. He emphasized the shift from conventional libraries to smart, technology-driven knowledge centres, highlighting the role of Artificial Intelligence, cloud computing, data analytics, and digital repositories in improving access, efficiency, and user experience. Key areas discussed included AI-driven services, automated cataloguing, digital preservation, research data management, RFID technology, blockchain for data integrity, and inclusive library services, along with innovative concepts such as makerspaces, library labs, green initiatives, and user-friendly learning spaces.

The second session, "Skilling Library and Information Science Professionals in the Digital Era," focused on the need for continuous professional development, digital and data management skills, and user-centric service design. Dr. Hasan also stressed the importance of communication, leadership, collaboration, and change management, encouraging librarians to evolve as digital curators, research facilitators, and knowledge managers. The interactive session concluded with a quiz that reinforced the key takeaways.

The post-lunch session on "Essential LaTeX Skills for Library Professionals" was conducted by Dr. Nitesh D. Naik, Librarian, Vidya Prabodhini College of Commerce, Education, Computer and Management, Alto Porvorim. Dr. Naik introduced LaTeX as a powerful document preparation system widely used in academia and

research, explaining its advantages over conventional word processors in producing high-quality documents, managing large manuscripts, automating citations, and supporting collaborative writing. Participants were introduced to Overleaf, an online LaTeX platform that enables real-time collaboration and version control, and practical demonstrations helped participants understand document structuring, formatting, and reference management, making the session highly beneficial for librarians supporting academic and research activities.

The final session on "Library Chatbots and Live Chat in Digital Reference Services" was conducted by Dr. Mallikarjun Angadi, Librarian, Central Library, National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal. The session focused on the application of AI-powered chatbots and live chat services in modern digital reference systems, highlighting their role in providing round-the-clock assistance, handling frequently asked queries, guiding users to information resources, and enhancing service efficiency. Practical examples demonstrated how chatbots can be integrated into library websites and digital platforms, and the session concluded by emphasizing that chatbot technologies complement librarians by enabling them to focus on more complex and value-added services.

The day 1 concluded on a highly successful note, having provided participants with valuable insights, hands-on exposure to smart tools, emerging technologies, and innovative service models.

The second day of the workshop began with a recap of Day 1 proceedings presented by Ms. Karishma Satarkar, helping participants connect earlier concepts with the sessions planned for the day. A floral welcome was extended to the resource person, Dr. Prasanna Kumar B. M. T., by Mrs. Sonia Dessai, followed by the formal introduction of the speaker Dr. Prasanna Kumar, who is University Librarian at BLDE (Deemed to be University), Vijayapura.

Dr. Prasanna Kumar conducted the first session titled "Reimagining Library Services with Artificial Intelligence," focusing on the role of AI in modern libraries. The session highlighted the AI-assisted research lifecycle, ethical use of AI, and demonstrated tools such as ChatGPT, Notebook LM, ChatPDF, Napkin, and Google Scholar for enhancing research and library workflows.

The second session by Dr. Prasanna Kumar, titled "Write, Submit, publish: Practical Strategies for Journal Articles," focused on academic writing and publication processes. The session emphasized selecting the right journal based on relevance and fit rather than prestige and highlighted the danger zones and red flags associated with predatory journals, along with guidance on manuscript submission and peer review.

The programme also featured a promotional talk by Mr. Abhishek Sharma from Trestle Labs, who explained how digital resources can be made accessible using the Kibo application, highlighting its role in improving inclusive access to information for users with print disabilities.

Post lunch began with an entertaining Konkani song by Mr. Milind Gawas, Librarian of PES college, Farmagudi followed by the session on "Transforming User Satisfaction to User Delight: Innovative Ways for Enhancing User Experiences in Libraries" was delivered by Ms. Sangeeta Kaul, Director, DELNET-Developing library Network, New Delhi. The talk highlighted how modern libraries can move beyond meeting basic user needs to create engaging and delightful experiences through innovation, technology integration, and user-centric services. Ms. Kaul also provided an overview of DELNET, emphasizing its role in resource sharing, networking of libraries, and support for academic and research communities across India.

The final session titled "Visionaries of Inclusion for Librarians" was conducted to highlight inclusive library practices for persons with visual impairment. The programme featured Mr. Sajosh K. S.,

Computer Trainer for the Visually Impaired at the National Association for the Blind, Goa State Branch, who spoke on the use of assistive technologies and digital accessibility in libraries, and Mr. Mahadev Sawant, Executive Member of NAB Goa State Branch and Advisory Member to the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, who emphasized disability rights and the need for barrier-free information access. The session sensitized librarians to their role in creating inclusive, accessible, and user-friendly library services.

The Valedictory Function of the two-day workshop was held in the august presence of several dignitaries, including Dr. Sunder Dhuri, Registrar, Goa University and Chief Guest; Ms. Sulaksha Kolmule, Special Invitee; Shri Prakash Prabhu, Chairman of SVVM; Shri Minanath Upadhye, Manager of SVVM; Prof. Achut Pednekar, Principal; Dr. Keshav Dhuri, DHE Nominee; Shri Vasant Parwar, Member of SVVM; Dr. Takappa, Member of the Advisory Board; and Shri Prashant Phadte, Senior Librarian, Goa Central Library. The programme began with a floral welcome to all dignitaries. In his address, the Principal reflected on the outcomes of the workshop and acknowledged Ms. Sangeeta Kaul's remarks with reference to a quote by Mahatma Gandhi. Ms. Sonia Desai presented a detailed report of the workshop, followed by feedback shared by two librarian participants. The Chief Guest, Dr. Sunder Dhuri, highlighted the evolving role of libraries, emphasizing scholarly journals, digital tools, and modern library services. Certificates were then distributed to the participants. The program concluded with a vote of thanks proposed by Ms. Sonia Desai and the singing of the National Anthem. The two-day workshop, which saw the active participation of 147 participants, was efficiently compered by Mr. Kunal Borkar.

Sonia

Mrs. Sonia Desai

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Achut Pednekar
Prof. Achut Pednekar

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