



MURGAON EDUCATION SOCIETY'S COLLEGE OF ARTS & COMMERCE

Zuarinagar, Goa – 403726

Affiliated to Goa University Accredited by NAAC with B+ Grade (4th cycle)

ACADEMIC YEAR 2022 – 2023

REPORT OF THE ACTIVITY: Kasturi series lecture_02

NATURE CLUB & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CELL

- Date: 27/02/2023 Time: 12.30 pm-1.45pm
- Platform: Offline
- Speaker for the Session: Dr. Priya D'Costa
- Audience: Students
- No. of participants: 67
- Report in brief:

The Nature Club & Resource Management Cell in association with the Foundation for Environment, Research & Conservation (FERC) conducted a Kasturi lecture series on 'Microplastics: The Invisible Pollutants' on 27th February 2023 in the B.B.A Hall of the college. The resource person for this lecture was Dr. Priya D'Costa, Assistant Professor in the Department of School of Earth, Ocean and atmospheric Sciences, at Goa University. The Principal of the college, Dr. Manasvi M. Kamat emphasized that sensitization to the topic was essential to protect our planet for our future generations.

The resource person stressed on the harmful effect of microplastics on marine ecosystem and terrestrial beings. She enlightened the audience to the fact that tons of plastic are dumped in the landfills, and accumulates in waters along the coast. Plastic waste, according to her is a global menace: indiscriminate usage, recalcitrance to breakdown, lack of effective recycling methods. In 2013, approximately 72% of plastic packaging materials was either dumped in landfills or released into the marine environment.

The resource person also said that according to a report by the National Geographic Planet (2016), over 900 million tons of plastic waste ends up in the oceans. The Great Pacific Patch consisted of 80000 tonnes of plastic waste floating inside an area of 1.6 million km. 'Planet or Plastic?' is National Geographic's multiyear effort to raise awareness about the global plastic trash crisis and aims to reduce the amount of single-use plastic that enters into the world's waterways. Scientists located microplastics all over the globe, from the floor of the Mariana Trench to the summit of Mount Everest. Moreover, she claimed that disease-causing microorganisms can grow on the surface of microplastics. She also believed that people need to act upon by consciously making a decision to reduce the plastic waste. The event coordinator, Ms. Cedila Pereira e Gomes, member of this club compered the session which was attended by 67 participants. Ms. Rochana Kharangate, Chairperson of the Nature Club & Resource Management Cell proposed the vote of thanks.

Remarks of the Coordinator:

- The resource person emphasized that management of microplastics was the key to curb this menace



Dr. Manasvi M. Kamat
Principal

Ms. Cedila Gomes
Coordinator

Ms. Rochan Kharangate
Chairperson
Nature Club & Resource Management Cell