Ministry of Culture
Government of India

Vigyan Connect

New Attraction

April-June, 2026

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Designed & Developed by

Goa Science Centre
(A unit of National Council of Science Museums)
Ministry of Culture, Government of India
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OPENING NOTE

Dear Members and Science Enthusiasts,

Greetings from Goa Science centre (GSC) and wish you happy vacations

We are proud to present the third edition of Vigyan connect - newsletter of GSC. You all have overcome the busy schedule of exams and now approaching to spend vacations in a creative way. This year marks a very special milestone for our Science centre as we celebrate our Silver Jubilee, completing 25 years of dedication, growth, and service. Over the past two and a half decades, our journey has been shaped by the commitment of our members, staff, and well-wishers who have continuously supported our vision and mission of promotion and popularisation of science.

The Silver Jubilee celebration is not only a time to look back with pride at our achievements, but also an opportunity to recognize the collective efforts that have helped us grow into a vibrant and dynamic institution. Various commemorative activities and engagements are being planned to mark this important occasion and to strengthen our connection with members and the community.

As we move forward, the coming months will also feature several meaningful observances that reflect our commitment to knowledge, sustainability, and innovation:

- Earth Day (22 April) – Activities will focus on promoting environmental awareness, sustainable practices, and encouraging responsible stewardship of our planet.
- National Technology Day (11 May) – This day will highlight the importance of technological advancement and innovation in shaping a better future.
- Vacations Creative Science Workshops – Packed with fun filled activities to satisfy your curiosity and experience to work in science.
- International Museum Day (18 May) – An opportunity to appreciate the role of museums in preserving culture, heritage, and knowledge.
- World Environment Day (5 June) – Programs and discussions will emphasize environmental protection, conservation efforts, and community participation in creating a greener future.

These events will provide opportunities for members to engage in discussions, activities, and awareness programs that reflect our shared values and commitment to society.

As we celebrate 25 years of excellence, we warmly invite all members and well-wishers to join us in these upcoming events and initiatives. Together, we look forward to continuing our journey with renewed enthusiasm, collaboration, and a shared vision for the future

Shri A.K. Bhelave
(Centre Head)

CONTENT

EXHIBIT AT THE CENTRE

Ferro Fluid

What to Do?

Rotate the knobs and observe the changes in the fluid pattern placed at the centre.

What You See?

As you move the knobs, you will see beautiful floral pattern form & disappear in the

How It Works?

The Central fluid is Ferro Fluid. Which is magnetic in nature. Two strong magnets are placed over and under it. When you turn the Knob the magnet moves up and down and because of their magnetic field spikes are formed in the fluid creating the floral patterns. The spikes show the invisible magnetic field lines of the magnets.

High-Voltage System for Pulsed Plasma Thrusters

Researchers at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras from the Department of Electrical Engineering have developed a compact high-voltage electronic system that powers pulsed plasma thrusters for small satellites, enabling efficient manoeuvring with minimal power. This system addresses a major challenge in satellite propulsion: the need for lightweight, efficient and reliable power sources.

Pulsed plasma thrusters are compact propulsion devices that generate thrust by converting electrical energy into high-voltage pulses that vaporise a solid propellant such as Teflon into plasma. Magnetic forces then accelerate the plasma, producing thousands of rapid pulses that allow satellites to make precise orbital adjustments while consuming very little power. Satellite propulsion systems also help the spacecraft to avoid collisions with debris and extend operational life.

The traditional propulsion systems often demand bulky hardware and high energy consumption, which is impractical for small satellites. The IIT-Madras innovation provides an electronic solution. It delivers pulses of up to –2.5 KV which are required to ignite the plasma; at 1,000 pulses per second, enabling smooth and precise manoeuvres. This system operates under 150 W while achieving over 90% efficiency which benefits in the long run. The major innovation of the system is its predictive variable-frequency control algorithm. It's a smart algorithm that predicts system behaviour and controls pulses automatically, eliminating bulky sensors and reducing the size, cost, and complexity of propulsion systems.

This research is expected to have wide-ranging applications in the small satellite sector. With the increasing demand for small satellites in scientific research, communication, defence and Earth observation, the ability to manoeuvre these satellites effectively is crucial. Although the system was primarily designed for satellite propulsion, researchers say the technology can also be used in other areas including water purification technologies, air pollution control systems, breaking down persistent pollutants like PFAS, ozone-based water treatment systems etc.

The project reflects India's ambition to strengthen its position in the global space industry. By developing indigenous space technology, the country reduces reliance on foreign systems and enhances self-reliance in critical space infrastructure. Furthermore, the innovation encourages academic institutions to contribute directly to national space missions and demonstrates the potential of academic research to produce practical solutions for real-world problems.

Image Source: https://encrypted-tbn0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcRAb7wACeDu163SDKkk611OraQP6BTEXxGVtN7CwQIWC8JI0Ov0iY1vARsi&s=10
Content source:
https://hindustanuniv.ac.in/assets/naac/CA/1_3_4/738_Kamalesh_T.pdf
https://www.indiandefensenews.in/2026/03/iit-madras-develops-indigenous-power.html

SciCraft

Chicken Sound

You will need

- Paper cup
- Thread
- Paper Clip
- water

What to do?

Step 1: Use the end of the paper clip to carefully poke a small hole right in the center of the cup's bottom.
Step 2: Push one end of the thread through the hole so it hangs down into the open part of the cup.
Step 3: Pull the thread all the way through until only a small bit is left at the bottom. Tie that end to your paper clip. This acts as a stopper to keep the thread from pulling out.
Step 4: Dip your thumb and index finger into the water. They need to be damp to create the right amount of friction.
Step 5: Hold the cup firmly in one hand. With your other hand, pinch the thread between your wet fingers near the base of the cup and pull downward in short, jerky motions.
Step 6: Observe the clucking or squawking sound that resonates from the cup!

Science behind it

Sliding your fingers down a string doesn't make much noise. However, because the string is attached to the bottom of the cup, the vibrations travel up the thread and cause the bottom of the cup to vibrate.The cup acts as a sound chamber, moving a much larger volume of air than the thin string could on its own. This amplifies the vibrations, turning a tiny "zip" into a loud "squawk!"

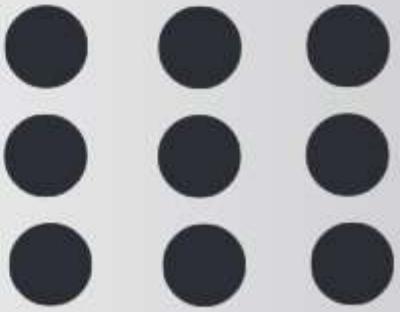
SciQ

Send your answers to
vigyanconnectgsc@gmail.com

Think Out of the Box!!

Quiz-Our Earth

1. When is the World Earth day celebrated?
2. Which is the most abundant gas present in the Earths atmosphere?
3. Which layer of Earth protects us from harmful UV rays
4. Which type of rock is formed from cooling of magma?
5. Which layer of Earth is responsible for plate tectonics.



Join the above all nine dots with four straight lines, without taking your pencil off the paper. You cannot go over any line twice

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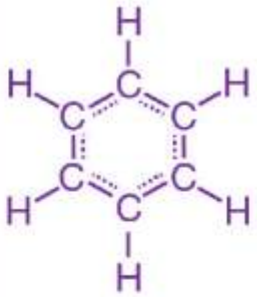
HISTORY OF SOLVING MYSTERY

Friedrich August Kekulé

In the mid-19th century, chemists were puzzled by benzene, a compound known to have the molecular formula C_6H_6. According to existing theories, such a formula suggested a highly unsaturated and reactive structure. However, benzene behaved unusually. It was far more stable than expected and did not readily undergo reactions typical of unsaturated compounds. This contradiction made benzene a scientific mystery.

Friedrich August Kekulé had been working for years trying to determine how six carbon atoms and six hydrogen atoms could be arranged in a stable structure. The breakthrough, as he later recounted, came in an almost mythical way. He described a dream in which he saw atoms dancing before his eyes, forming chains that twisted and turned. Suddenly, one of these chains coiled into a ring, resembling a snake biting its own tail—an ancient symbol known as the Ouroboros, representing a self-contained cycle. This vivid image sparked the idea that the carbon atoms in benzene might not form an open chain, but instead a closed loop.

Inspired by this insight, Kekulé proposed in 1865 that benzene consists of a ring of six carbon atoms, each bonded to one hydrogen atom. This cyclic structure explained both the molecular formula and the unexpected stability of benzene. across all six carbon atoms.



Structure of Benzene

Later refinements introduced the idea of alternating single and double bonds within the ring, though modern chemistry describes benzene as having a resonance structure, where electrons are delocalized evenly.

The benzene ring is now understood as a planar hexagonal structure with equal bond lengths, a hallmark of its unique electronic stability. This concept of delocalized electrons forms the basis of aromaticity, a fundamental principle in organic chemistry. Benzene and its derivatives play a crucial role in countless chemical processes, from industrial synthesis to biological systems.

Image Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/August_Kekul%C3%A9

HOW & WHY ?

Induction Cooktops

If the LPG cylinder gets over, & if you have a induction cooktop & specialized induction friendly cookwares then your day will be saved. But have you wondered how Induction cooktops works?

As the name suggests Induction cooktops work on the principle of Electromagnetic Induction. It contains a copper wire coil beneath the glass surface. When power is put on, the alternating current flows through the coil which creates a rapidly oscillating magnetic field that moves through the glass cooktop.

When the Ferromagnetic pan like cast Iron or Stainless steel sits on the surface, The magnetic field penetrates the metal & induces eddy currents (tiny swirling electrical whirlpools inside the bottom of the pan). Because the metal in the pan resists this electrical current, the energy is converted into heat which is called Joules heating.

In addition to eddy currents, due to AC, the magnetic field flips back & forth and every time this happens, the molecules in the magnetic cookware try to align with the field each time it flips. This rapid internal friction creates even more heat.

The Induction Cooktops works totally on Electricity and thus can be handy in the absence of LPG Gas.

Science & Technology Heritage of India

Konark Sun Temple

Konark Sun Temple is a 13th century Sun Temple at Konark, in Orissa. It was constructed from oxidised and weathered ferruginous sandstone by King Narasimhadeva I (1238-1250 CE) of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty. The temple is an example of Orissan architecture of Ganga dynasty. The temple is one of the most renowned temples in India and is a World Heritage Site. It is one of the Seven Wonders of India.

Legend has it that the temple was constructed by Samba, the son of Lord Krishna. It is said that Samba was afflicted by leprosy, brought about by his father's curse on him. After 12 years of penance, he was cured by Surya, the Sun God, in whose honour he built the magnificent Konark Sun Temple.

The name Konark is derived from the Sanskrit word Kona (meaning angle) and word Arka (meaning sun) in reference to the temple which was dedicated to the Sun God Surya.

The temple takes the form of the chariot of Surya (Arka), the Sun God, and is heavily decorated with stone carving. The entire complex was designed in the form of the God's huge chariot drawn by seven spirited horses on twelve pairs of exquisitely decorated wheels at its base. The huge wheels carved at the base of the temple are one of the major attractions.

The uniqueness of the temple lies in the fact that between every two stone pieces there lies an iron plate. The temples higher floors have been reinforced using massive iron beams. This magnet was the reason the entire edifice endured the harsh conditions for centuries without being affected. The main pratima (idol) was believed to be floating in the air because of the unique arrangements of the main magnets and other series of magnets.These magnets were later removed by the Britishers for acquiring the magnetic stone.

The Wheels as Sundials

The temple is designed as a colossal chariot for the Sun God, Surya, featuring 24 intricately carved wheels. These are not merely decorative; they are precise astronomical tools. The Wheels as Sundials ,Each wheel acts as a sundial the shadows cast by the central hub (axle) onto the spokes and the outer rim can tell the time with incredible accuracy—down to a few minutes. The 24 wheels represent the 24 fortnights of the year, while the 8 major spokes on each wheel represent the Prahars (three-hour segments) of a 24-hour day.The temple was originally designed so that the first rays of the rising sun would pass through the main entrance and strike the diamond placed in the center of the idol in the sanctum sanctorum.The uniqueness of the temple lies in the fact that between every two stone pieces there lies an iron plate. The temples higher floors have been reinforced using massive iron beams. This fantastic effort in human perseverance took 1200 workers about 12 years to complete.

In essence, the Konark Sun Temple is far more than a place of worship. It is a living example of how ancient India seamlessly blended science, technology, and art. Even today, it continues to inspire admiration and curiosity, reminding us of the rich scientific heritage that forms the foundation of our civilisation.

Source:https://cintec.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Konark-Sun-Temple-3pg.pdf

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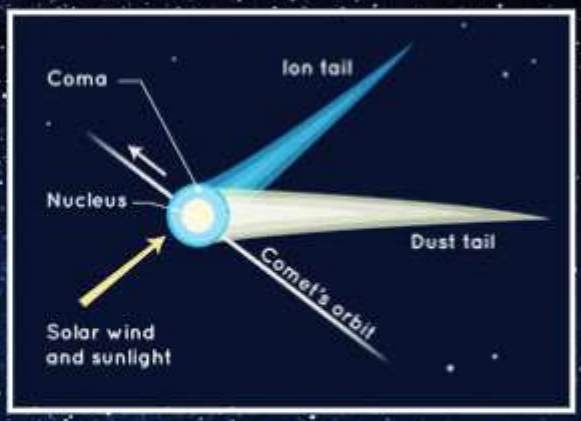
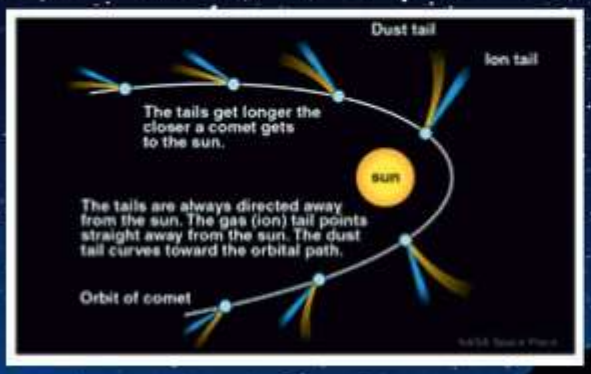
Eyes on the Solar System: Comet

Comets are often referred to as 'dirty snowballs' because they consist of a mixture of ices (both water and frozen gases) and dust. Scientists think that these bodies are made up of material left over from the formation of the solar system almost five billion years ago.
Astronomers believe that most comets reside in a vast sphere- shaped reservoir surrounding the Solar System called the Oort Cloud. The center of this region is a thousand times more distant than Pluto, about 50,000 astronomical units from Earth.

A typical comet has a tiny nucleus surrounded by a gaseous coma. Dust and ionized particles stream from the coma in two separate tails.

As the comet approaches the sun and inner Solar System, it feels an increase in heat. This vaporizes its long-frozen outer icy layers, which blow off a shell of gas and dust called the coma or head. It contains gas, dust, water, carbon dioxide and other substances. As this material streams out of the coma it creates the comets most spectacular feature its tail. The gas and dust in the comet's tails are forced away from the sun by radiation pressure and the solar wind.





Comet Orbits

Comets travel about the Sun in elongated, eccentric orbits. Comets with orbital periods of less than 200 years are called short-period comets. Their orbits lie completely among the planets orbits. They are probably gravitational captives of the giant planets. Comet Halley, with its 76-year period, is one such example.

Comet Halley: in 1705, Edmond Halley discovered that one comet kept returningabout every 76 years. When it came back on schedule after Halley's death, it wasnamed after him. The comet last visit was in 1986 and next is in 2061.

Comets hitting Earth may have provided the building blocks for life on our planet –Carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen. Observation of comet Halley in 1986 determined the presence of these materials in almost identical proportions as exist on Earth.

Source: Astronomy Guide by Robert Burnham, Alan Dyer, Jeff Kanipe

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Rooted in the Campus

THE MANGO TREE

The mango tree, often called the "king of fruits," is one of the most cherished trees in the world. Scientifically known as *Mangifera indica*, it is native to South Asia but is now widely cultivated across tropical and subtropical regions. Valued not only for its delicious fruits, the mango tree is also admired for its shade, beauty, and deep cultural significance. At the Goa Science Centre, 14 mango trees stand rooted within the campus, providing shade and serving as a living example of biodiversity for visitors and students.

A fully grown mango tree can reach a height of 10 to 40 meters, with a broad canopy of lush green leaves. Its bark is rough, supported by a strong central taproot and an extensive network of lateral roots. The tree produces small, fragrant flowers that grow in clusters, which later develop into the juicy, golden fruits. Mango trees thrive best in tropical and subtropical climates, requiring warm temperatures, abundant sunlight, and well-drained soil. With proper care, they continue to produce sweet, juicy fruits year after year. Each mango offers a unique flavour ranging from sweet to mildly tangy and is packed with essential vitamins such as A, C, and E, making it both delicious and nutritious.

Beyond its fruit, the mango tree has many practical uses. Its wood is strong and durable and is commonly used for making furniture and tools. The leaves hold cultural importance in countries like India, where they are used in religious ceremonies and symbolize prosperity and good fortune.

Source:https://share.google/5YBvnf6nj1spN9FV6

The sweet, juicy mango fruits are eaten fresh, made into juices, pickles, and desserts. Moreover, the tree provides shelter and food for birds and insects, contributing to the ecosystem.

Among its many varieties, the Goa Mankurad mango locally known as Mankurad aamo stands out as a prized cultivar. Celebrated for its tender texture and perfectly balanced sweetness, it has been a beloved part of Goan households for generations. In 2023, this variety received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, recognizing its unique origin and protecting its identity.

The mango tree also holds a special place in literature, folklore, and festivals. Its presence in poems, stories, and songs reflects its cultural importance and the joy it brings to people's lives. Sitting under the shade of a mango tree on a warm day, enjoying its delicious fruit, is a simple pleasure cherished across generations.More than just a fruit-bearing plant, the mango tree symbolizes life, nourishment, and community. Planting and caring for mango trees not only provide us with delightful fruits but also enrich the environment, making the world greener, healthier, and sweeter.

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Indian Vaigyanic

Janaki Ammal – Indian Woman Botanist

- First Indian woman to receive a doctorate (D.Sc.) in botany in the U.S. (University of Michigan, 1931).
- First female scientist employed by the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley, UK.
- Awarded the Padma Shri in 1977 for her outstanding contributions to science.

Janaki Ammal – Indian Woman BotanistJanaki Ammal (1897–1984) was one of the most distinguished Indian women scientists in the field of botany and cytogenetics.

She made significant contributions to plant breeding, genetics, and the study of plant chromosomes. Her research helped improve several crop varieties, especially sugarcane, which was important for increasing agricultural productivity in India. She worked in several research institutions in India and abroad, including the Royal Horticultural Society in the United Kingdom. Her studies on chromosome numbers in plants helped scientists better understand plant evolution and hybridization.

Janaki Ammal also showed great interest in preserving the rich plant diversity of the Western Ghats. Because of her outstanding contributions to science, she was honored with the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 1977.She is remembered as a pioneer who inspired many women to pursue careers in science and botany.

Source: thebetterindia.Com

Sci-Word Mix

How well do you know the plant cell?

G	A	H	I	G	O	P	O	L	V	Y	G	L	X
O	M	N	C	C	E	L	L	W	A	L	L	B	Z
L	V	I	Y	H	K	I	C	N	C	B	C	S	E
G	R	M	T	L	N	P	P	X	U	I	P	B	P
I	C	T	O	O	U	R	I	B	O	S	O	M	E
A	P	R	P	R	C	M	B	M	L	P	V	M	R
P	S	P	L	O	L	H	P	O	E	P	N	V	O
P	N	U	A	P	E	N	O	M	B	C	I	R	X
A	Z	P	S	L	U	B	L	N	G	P	W	U	I
R	Y	O	M	A	S	M	D	N	D	W	S	M	S
A	D	X	N	S	M	V	S	Z	N	R	B	F	O
T	Z	E	N	T	E	N	D	M	B	R	I	B	M
U	F	N	K	A	N	M	K	G	S	L	E	A	E
S	A	C	E	L	L	M	B	R	A	N	E	D	E

CHLOROPLAST
PEROXISOME
CYTOPLASM
MITOCHONDRIA
CELL MEMBRANE
GOLGI APPARATUS
NUCLEUS
RIBOSOME
CELL WALL
VACUOLE

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IN THE LAST QUARTER

January

National Youth Day celebration in collaboration with Dhempe college, Miramar & Atria University

Outreach Activity: Liquid Nirogen Show at Dr. K. B. Hedgewar school as a part of VVM state level camp

Block Coding workshop through peer learning

Sci-Birthday celebration

Science demonstration lecture

Mobile Science Exhibition to Tiswadi Taluka

Republic Day celebration

Innovation Hub Activity

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IN THE LAST QUARTER

February

International day for Women & Girls in Science

Mobile Science Exhibition to Ponda Taluka

Outreach activity: SDL Exploring Physics at Purshottam Walwalkar Higher Secondary School

Science Fiesta 2026

Innauguration

Science Expo

Meet the Scientist from NPCIL

Kokedama Workshop

Demonstration Forensic Science

Astronomy Slide Show

Sir C V Raman Memorial Lecture

Valediction & Prize Distribution

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IN THE LAST QUARTER

March

CSW- Kitchen Chemistry

CSW- Exploring Soap Bubbles

CSW- Aeromodelling

Teachers Training Programme

CSW- Tinker Robo

CSW- Bio Informatics

International Women's Day programme

Inter School science Quiz

Sc-Birthday Celebration

World Water Day Celebration

Innovation Hub activity

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Science Wonderland

Goa Science Centre is a constituent unit of National Council of Science Museums functioning under Ministry of Culture, Government of India. It is a place of edu-tainment in Science & Technology. Its Main objective is to inculcate a scientific temper & bring the excitement of science to the common public. It provides a perfect environment for exploring science through sci-fi exhibit.

Galleries

- Fun Science
- Science of Ocean
- Mirror Magic

Science Park

Pre-histrorik Animal Park

Digital Planetarium

3D Show

Science Show

Sky Observation Program

Upcoming Events

April 2026
- World Health Day
- World Earth Day

May 2026
- National Technology Day
- Creative Science Workshop
- International Museum Day

June
- World Environment Day
- International Yoga Day

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General Information

Entry Fee Per Visitor to Science Centre

Particulars	Amount
Entry Ticket to Science Centre Only	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.50/-
◊ Group of Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.30/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.10/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.5/-
Planetarium/Taramandal Shows	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.50/-
◊ Group Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.40/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.15/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.10/-
3D Science Show	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.40/-
◊ Group Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.30/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.10/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.5/-
Science Film Show	**Rs.20/-**
Science show	**Rs.20/-**
Special Packages	
Package Ticket toScience Centre, Planetarium & 3D Show	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.120/-
◊ Group of Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.80/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.30/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.20/-
Package Ticket toScience Centre & Planetarium	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.90/-
◊ Group of Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.60/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.25/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.15/-
Package Ticket to Science Centre& 3D Show	
◊ General Visitors	Rs.80/-
◊ Group of Visitors (15 or more)	Rs.50/-
◊ Students in Organized Group with Authority Letter	Rs.20/-
◊ Students from Govt./Municipal School with Authority Letter	Rs.10/-
Family Packages	
Science Centre, Plantenarium, 3DShow	
◊ Family of 4 Members	Rs.350/-
◊ Family of 6 Members	Rs.500/-

Membership Program

Innovation Hub Membership

- Eligibility: Students of class 5th & above
- Benefits: Access to the innovation hub for one year, can work on own innovative projects under the guidance of experts, free entry to the galleries, invitation to education programmes and activities.
- Annual Membership Fee: Rs.1000/-

Science Centre Membership

- Eligibility: Individuals above 3 years of age
- Benefits: Free entry to the galleries, invitation to education programmes and activities.
- Annual Membership Fee:
  Rs.200/- for students
  Rs.400/- for Teachers
  Rs.500/- for other individuals

To avail membership please contact Education section GSCP.

Sci-Birthday

- Celebrate your birthday at Goa Science Centre in a sci-fun way!!
- Package includes guided gallery tour, 3D show, planetarium show and hand-on activities with full-on edutainment.
- The contents is designed as per the age group.
- Air-conditioned activity room.
- Prior booking necessary

Package Rates:(Children & adult included)
up to 25 people -Rs.5000/-
up-to 50 people- Rs.7500/-

To booking please contact Education section GSCP.

Goa Science Centre is open to public every day including Sundays & public Holidays throughout the year except on Holi & Diwali

Opening Hours
9.30am to 6.00pm
Ticket Counter Timing
9.30am to 5.30pm

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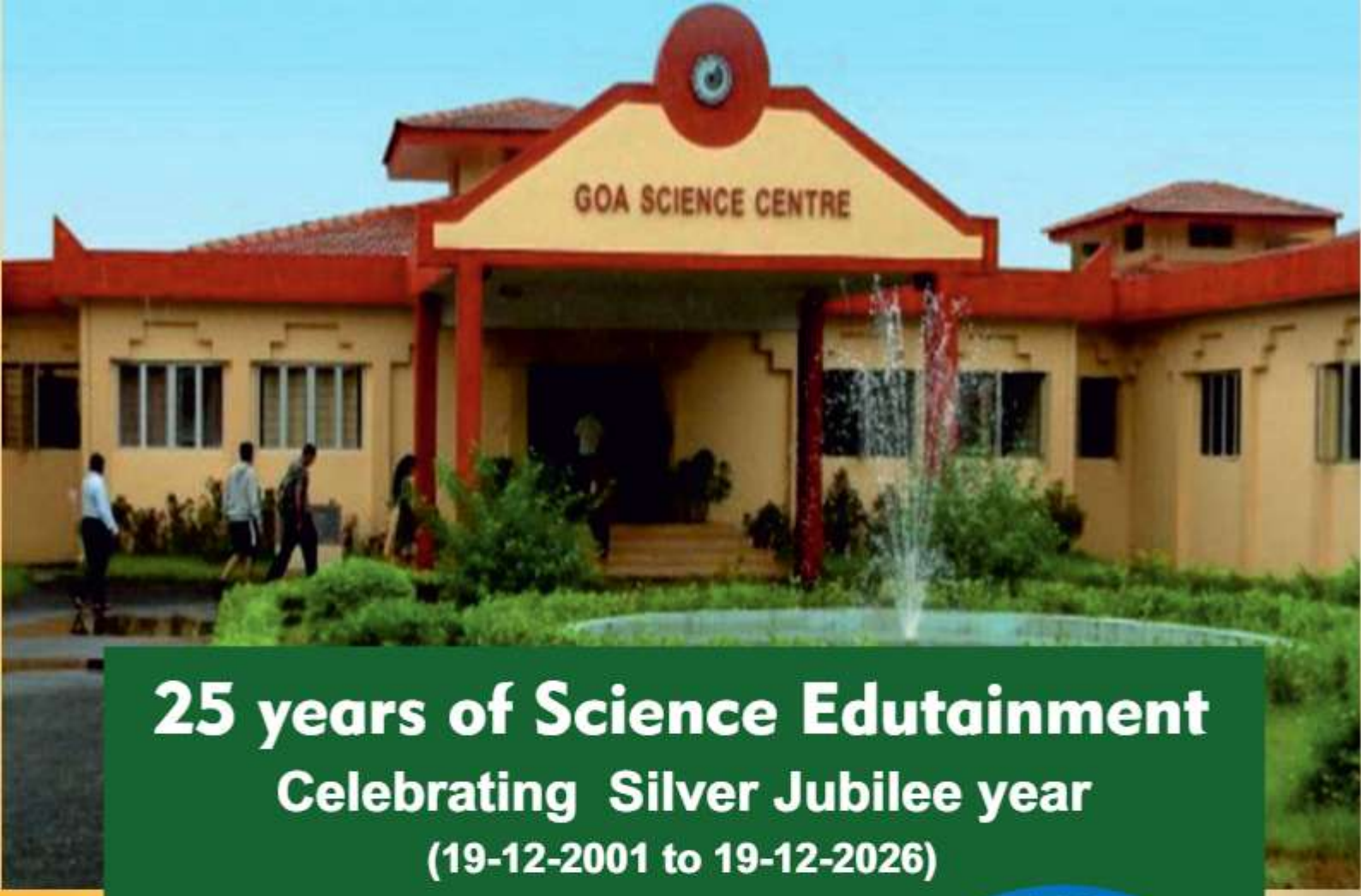

25 years of Science Edutainment

Celebrating Silver Jubilee year

(19-12-2001 to 19-12-2026)

As we complete 25 years of wonder, we want to hear your stories. Whether it was your first school trip in 2001, a family afternoon in the Science Park, or the moment you first gazed at the stars in our Planetarium—your memories are our history.Please share your photos, stories, and messages with us at *gscsilverjubilee@gmail.com*

Designed & Developed by

Goa Science Centre & Planetarium

(A unit of National Council of Science Museums)
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India
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