

Annual Report 2017 -18

Mahatma Gandhi College, the institution in memory of the father of the nation, established in the year 1948, by Sri. Mannathu Padmanabhan is one of the leading institutions of higher education in Kerala. The College accredited by NAAC with an 'A' grade in 2004 was reaccredited in the second cycle again with an 'A' grade (CGPA 3.16). The institution was also one among the three colleges in Kerala and one in 40 Colleges in India to qualify for the second phase of CPE in 2016.

The college has 13 UG programmes, 10 PG programmes and seven Research Centers approved by the University of Kerala. The research committee organizes research augmenting activities for students and faculty. The College has a dynamic and enterprising faculty that numbers around 111 of whom 25 are Associate Professors and 86 are Assistant Professors. 79 of our teachers are PhD holders and 8 of them have M.Phil. degree. The vibrant student community hailing mostly from the outskirts of Trivandrum comes to 2365 in number. There are 121 students pursuing the PhD programme, 361 students in the PG programme (of which 306 are girls) and 1883 students (of which 1142 are girls) in the UG programme. Girl students far outnumber boy students in the campus.

As for the performance of our students in university examinations, the result analysis shows that the pass percentage is well above the University average. There has been delay in the publication of results by the University and this has adversely affected the student community.

The Admission process this year, as in the previous years, was carried out in strict accordance with the University and Government norms. 304 seats were earmarked for reservation category and that was strictly maintained.

Right from the beginning of this academic year Mahatma Gandhi College witnessed a plethora of events organized by the students and teachers of different departments of our College.

The World Environment Day is observed internationally on 5th June every year. This year, the Environment day celebrations at Mahatma Gandhi College were organized by all departments. The programme organized by the Postgraduate and Research Department of Zoology from 5th to 9th June was inaugurated by the Principal Dr. M.R. Sudarsanakumar by planting tree saplings in the campus. This was followed by a pledge on protecting the environment. There was an invited talk by Dr. Santhi S, a freelance ecologist and environmental educator; on the topic '*Reconnecting to Nature and Rediscovering Our Wild Soul*' and another by Dr. P. Manoharan Pillai, former Professor of N.S.S college, Kottiyam on "*Ecospiritality*". Further Quiz, Painting and Flash presentation competitions were held on 7th June 2017. Mr Balashankar, a forest officer from the Department of Forestry, gave an enlightening talk which dealt with the different types of forests, the need for conservation and human –wildlife conflicts.

Dr. Alex Mathew gave a talk on 'Self Motivation' on 06/06/2017 organized on behalf of 'Walk with Scholar' Programme.

21st June 2017 was observed as International Yoga Day by the Department of Psychology. There was a Yoga demonstration and workshop by Sri. Suneesh, an alumnus. The programme was a combined effort of the Department and the NSS unit of the College. Around 100 students attended the programme.

The Department of Economics had their students addressed by Dr. Arun Sudarsan, a post-doctoral fellow from the University of Singapore on 'Career Prospects after Graduation' on 24.06.2017. This was followed by a talk by Dr. C P Aravindakshan, Principal, University College on 'Education and Culture' as part of the valedictory function of 'Walk with Scholar' programme.

The Department of Hindi, in order to inspire students to read classics, observed, 'Vayana Varam' from 12/6/2017 to 19/6/2017. The Department of Malayalam also organized 'Vayana Varacharanam' from 19th July 2017. Sri. Ramachandran IAS, former Chief Secretary to the Government of Kerala, and also a scholar well versed in Kerala history and culture delivered a talk on the topic 'Two Hundred Years of Modern Formal Education in Travancore' to inaugurate the programme.

Induction programmes were arranged as part of motivating the new batch of I DC students. A talk by Dr. Ratheesh Krishnan was arranged for the I DC students of Chemistry on 10/08/2018 and a visit to the museum was organized for the I DC students of Zoology. As part of observing 'Ramayana Masacharanam' the Department of Malayalam arranged a talk by Prof. C G Rajagopal, former professor of Sanskrit, University of Sanskrit, Kalady.

Dr. M. G. Sasibhooshan, renowned historian gave a talk on the topic 'Indian Nationalism and Kerala' and Dr. Ajayapuram Jyothishkumar of the Department of Malayalam of this college, delivered a talk on 'Indian Freedom Struggle and Malayalam Literature' on 17/08/2017.

Selected students from the Department of Psychology attended a talk show on Asianet News on 11/08/2017.

On 14th August 2017, the Department of Hindi organized 'Sodh Munch', a platform for Research Scholars to present papers on their area of research. The Department of Hindi also observed the birth anniversary of the great Hindi poet Premchand and the research scholars presented research papers on Premchand's fiction.

The Synergy School of Business Skills conducted 'Career Cracker - Talent Hunt 17' at the Department of Commerce from 14th to 17th August 2017.

In order to enlighten the students and teachers on GST, the Department of Sociology organized a talk by Dr. N. Ramalingam, Associate Professor from the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation on 21/08/2017.

MG College teachers and students celebrated Onam with colourful cultural events on 29th and 30th August 2017. The occasion was graced by the presence of the eminent artist and singer Sri. Kavalam Sreekumar.

The Department of Commerce organized a seminar on the topic 'Bombay Stock Exchange Investor's Protection Fund' on 4th September 2017. The seminar was inaugurated by Mr. Rajeev K R, Share Wealth Securities, Trivandrum.

September 11th to 15th was observed as suicide prevention week. The Department of Psychology organized a talk by Aswini Anand and Nishad K C from Disha, a Central Government Project for ‘Suicide Prevention’.

On September 27, Dr. Salahuddin Kunju former Principal, University College delivered a talk on ‘The Hazards of Ozone Depletion’ for the students of the Department of Chemistry.

The Department of Physics celebrated ‘World Space Week’ from 04/10/2017 to 10/10/2017. ‘Zvezda’ – a space expo was also organized this week. Dr. Deepa M, Assistant Professor, VTMNSS College delivered a lecture on ‘Atmosphere – A Thin Cozy Blanket’ on the occasion.

The Department of Commerce jointly with the Bombay Stock Exchange - Investor's Protection Fund (BSE - IPF) conducted an Investor Education Program (IEP) on 4th October 2017.

October 10th 2017, was observed as Mental Health day. Dr. Adithi N, former HOD and Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, MG College inaugurated the blog and released [the book written by Dr. Shubha Sachithanand](#). A full day Exhibition was also held.

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The Department of English organized a three-day literary fest ‘IRIDISCENTIA’ from 18/10/2017 to 21/10/2017. The three-day programme was inaugurated by Professor Khyrunnisa A, renowned writer of children’s fiction, academician and columnist with a talk on ‘Creative Writing’. The fest continued with a literary quiz, language games, book exhibition, other competitions and concluded with the enactment of the murder scene of Shakespeare’s *Julius Ceaser*, performed by the Theatre Club members.

Mol Day, observed on 23/10/2017 was inaugurated by Dr. M.R.Sudarsanakumar. Dr. Renjith, a Scientist from the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology gave a talk. Poster presentation, mol problems, mol jokes and mol cartoon competition was conducted.

‘Ramanuja Vedi’ an organization of the Department of Mathematics, Mahatma Gandhi College organized a three-day programme comprising of seminars and exhibition from 25th to 27th of October 2017. As part of the programme, Professor Mitre Costa Dourado, from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, delivered a talk on the ‘Main Problems of Graph Convexities’ for the students of the Department of Mathematics. An exhibition of innovative working models ‘Aryabhadiyam’ was also arranged.

There were a series of programmes in November as well. ‘Kerala Piravi’ was observed by the Department of Malayalam with ‘Thudi’ - a Malayalam programme that was inaugurated by a scholarly talk on ‘Kerala Culture’ by Dr. Vilakudi Rajendran, Director, Kerala Language Institute. ‘Mathru Bhasha Varacharanam’ was also observed by the Department along with an exhibition of books on Kerala Culture. A documentary titled ‘Ekanthathayude Chandrolsavangal’ was also shown. The script and direction of the documentary were done by Anas N S, a PG student of the Department of Malayalam. It was edited by Vishnu Mohan, another PG student of the same Department. An intercollegiate quiz competition was also part of the programme. The three-day programme concluded with ‘Mozhi Azhak’ – a talk by the eminent scholar Sri. Vattaparambil Peethambaran. The valedictory session included cultural events by the student artists of the same department.

The Department of History organized a one-day programme on ‘Nation Salutes Sardar Vallabhai Patel’ on 31/10/2017. An elocution competition on the ‘Relevance of Sardar Patel in today’s India’ was also organized. In the second session, a talk was delivered by Dr. Robinson Jose, Department of History, University College. Thiruvananthapuram on ‘Sardar Valabhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.’

The Department of Sociology has conducted a fest ‘Sarvasamyaath’ 2017, on 6th & 7th of November 2017. The chief guest was Mrs. Soorya Abhilash, a social activist and there was an interactive session between Soorya and the students.

A Workshop on ‘Interview Skills’ was organized for B.Sc. Psychology and BA Economics students on 10/11/2017. Mr. Sundar and Mr. Shekar (from Chennai) handled

sessions on 'Facing Interviews' for the students and around 100 students participated in the programme.

The Department of Economics organized a three-day Eco fest from 09.11.2017. A seminar session with a talk by planning board member K N Harilal was organized on 09.11.2017 and Professor Vivekanandan, former Professor, Jawaharlal University delivered a talk on 10.11.2017.

The Department of Hindi organized a fest 'Samanyaya-2017' from 20.11.2017. Dr. R Jayachandran, Registrar in charge of University of Kerala was the Chief Guest of the function. As part of the fest, the Hindi Department conducted a 'Food Fest'; an exhibition based on Hindi Language and Literature and released a documentary – 'Charithravedhiyile Nithya Vismayam'.

An industrial visit to Mysore Sandal Soap factory, Bangalore was organized by the Department of Commerce for the students of PG on 11 November 2017.

The Department of Sociology conducted a field trip on the first week of December to Karunasai Psycho Park and Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre. The students organized various cultural activities and interactive sessions with the inmates.

National Energy Conservation day was celebrated, in association with the NSS unit of the College on December 2017 to create awareness on conservation of energy and the need for a limited use of energy for a better future. The Department of Physics also organized a Lecture series on 'Microprocessors' by Dr. Prince P R.

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The New Year came accompanied by a new flush of activities. Another field visit was arranged by the Department of Sociology to Jwala Foundation on 03/01/2018 and 04/01/2018. The students participated in an Adalat conducted by the Panchayat and organized noon meal programme for the aged people.

A talk was organized on the Kerala State Service Rules for the administrative staff of the College on 08.01.2018.

The Department of Chemistry organized a workshop on 'Structure Refinement of SXR Data' on 6th January 2018 for research scholars. The resource person invited

for the occasion was Dr. M R Prathapachandra Kurup, Professor and Head, School of Chemistry, Central University of Kerala, Kasaragod.

Bibin Anohar, ICSI, conducted a session on Career Awareness for the students of Department of Commerce on 23rd January 2018. It was followed by an awareness class on 14th February 2018 on the topic 'MBA Education' by TIME institute, Trivandrum. On 28 January 2018, Global Tech, Trivandrum conducted a seminar on the topic 'Computer Education for Digitalisation' for the students of Commerce

A seminar series was initiated by the Department of chemistry from January 2018, in honour of Dr. Sudharsana Kumar, our Principal on the occasion of his impending retirement. The first talk was presented by Dr. C G Ramachandran Nair, former Head and Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Kerala on the topic 'Shape of Molecules, for UG and PG students. The second topic on the seminar series was on 20.01.2018 by Dr. Salahuddin Kunju on 'Group Theory' for PG students. The Third of the seminar series was held on 06.03.2018. The morning session 09.30 to 11.00 was a talk on 'Ultra-fast Process in Chemical and Biological Systems' by Dr. Mahesh Hariharan, Associate Professor and Head, School of Chemistry, IISER, Thiruvananthapuram. The second session on the same day from 11.30 to 01.30 was led by Dr. V Haridas, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, IIT Delhi on the topic- 'Structure Chemistry' from Molecules to Beyond Molecules'. The seminar series concluded with an interactive session by Dr. M R Sudarsana Kumar.

Yet another field visit was conducted for the students of the Department of Sociology to Kottur forest area to know the socio-economic conditions and educational status of tribal children on 02/02/2018 and 03/02/2018. The students also attended the maintenance tribunal Adalat for the welfare of elderly people to assist the Govt for collecting data with Jwala foundation on the request of deputy collector Dr. Divya S Iyer on 08/01/2018.

Dr. Jaya, D.S. Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Science, University of Kerala delivered a lecture on "Wetlands in Kerala and its Importance", as part of celebrating 'World Wetlands Day'. The programme was arranged by the Post Graduate Department and Research Centre of Botany.

The Department of Zoology celebrated their zoo fest-Parinaam on 15th February 2018. A new butterfly garden was inaugurated on February 2018. The butterfly garden layout and designing were done by the zoology students. The technical support was given by KFRI, Peechi.

The Department of Commerce conducted 'Com Fest' on 12/03/2018.

On 14 March 2018, ICC along with the Department of English arranged a talk on 'Feminae Juris: A talk on Women's Law' by Sri. Dinil J K, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Fort Sub Division, Thiruvananthapuram.

A National research conference was conducted on 16/02/2018 and 17/02/2018. This was a mega event in the college with seminars being organised by the 7-research department of the college.

As part of the National Research Conference, the invited lectures in the Department of Zoology include the talks by Dr. A. Biju Kumar, Dean of Science and Head of Department of Aquatic Biology, Kerala university and Dr. Sanal Kumar, Member of Senate and Assistant Professor of Zoology from N.S.S. College, Pandalam. There were oral and poster presentations by research students. The sessions were chaired by Dr. Nandakumar, Assistant Professor, N.S.S. College, Pandalam and Dr. Kurian, Assistant Professor, Dept of Statistics, University of Kerala. Prizes were awarded for the best poster and oral presentations.

A National Seminar was also organized as part of the National Research Conference by the Postgraduate Department of Botany on 16/02/2018. Dr. Radhamany, Syndicate Member of Kerala University and former Head of the Department of Botany, University of Kerala delivered a lecture on 'Future Trends in Biological Research'. There were several oral and poster presentations. Dr. N. Senthil Kumar, Scientist E, Institute of Forest Genetics and Tree Breeding, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu delivered a talk on 'Bio-prospecting, Scope, Challenges and Prospects' on 17/02/2018. In addition to the invited talk, about two oral presentations were also carried out.

The Department of Commerce organised a National Seminar (MITC 2018) on 16th and 17th of February 2018 on the theme 'Modernism, Inventiveness and Trends in Commerce.' There were three technical sessions and 67 papers were presented.

The Department of English arranged for their students an interactive session with the Kenyan Woman Activist Monica Wanchiru on 22/02/2018.

All the Departments in the College have published Newsletters.

Students of the Department of Physics released three short films

1. Syzgy
2.
3. The Culprit

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Script, Direction, Screen Play and Artists were all UG students from the Department of Physics.

The College was sanctioned an amount of Rs. 1, 30, 00,000/- (Rupees One Crore and Thirty lakhs only) for CPE II phase. The amount is in the process of being utilized.

Every year Mahatma Gandhi College organises a Merit Day to honour those who brings laurels to the institution. This year, the Merit Day was held on 20th March 2018. Professor. R.Prasannakumar, Secretary, NSS Colleges' Central Committee inaugurated the programme and distributed the awards. Three endowment cash awards were newly constituted this year in addition to the two endowments already existing. The newly constituted endowments are

1. Professor Kanakavally Amma Memorial Endowment Cash Award offered in memory of Professor Kanakavally Amma (Former Principal, MG College, Thiruvananthapuram) by her three sons by endowing Rs, 150000/- so that an amount of Rs. 10000/- can be awarded annually for the topper in MSc. Zoology examinations.
2. Professor Sreekumar Memorial Endowment Cash Award offered in memory of Professor Sreekumar (Former HOD, Department of Commerce) by his wife Professor Sreelatha and daughter Ms. Prasanthi by endowing Rs.150000/- for

providing cash awards worth Rs.5000/- each for toppers in M Com. And B Com. Degree Examinations.

3. Radhamony Memorial Endowment Cash Award offered by Smt. Lalithambika, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics in memory of her late mother.

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