## Institutional Distinctiveness

Srinivassa Sinai Dempo College of Commerce & Economics is one of the oldest colleges of Commerce in the state of Goa. It has brilliantly adapted to the changing needs of its stakeholders and continues to be one of the most preferred educational institutions in the state of Goa. Over the years, its flagship BCom program which is aided by the state government, has emerged as a program of repute and attracts students from all over the state. The program has seen an enrollment of over 90% over the last five years. The institution is an inclusive one which showcases a notable 37.08% adherence to the reservation policy and a striking urban-rural combination. Even though we are a single faculty college we provide an extensive array of electives. All students are covered under a Mentorship programme and we have a good mentor-mentee ratio of around 29:1. The foresight and leadership provided by Principals, the dedication of experienced faculty members and the enthusiasm of young, dynamic teaching staff have contributed significantly to the stature of the College. The college has successfully implemented the robust Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) and continues to offer a wide range of electives.

One of the areas of priority and thrust has been expansion beyond the flagship BCom programme to (i) new programmes in commerce and management, (ii) innovative programmes and (iii) skill-based short-duration courses, in response to the emerging needs of the industrial/services sector. The performance of the college in this thrust area has been commendable considering its ability to design and offer some unique programmes in niche domains.

## **Innovative Educational Programs: An Area of Thrust and Priority**

The college offers undergraduate programs in Business Administration (BBA) and postgraduate programs in Commerce (MCom). The college also focuses on innovative programs to meet the human resource needs of specific sectors of the economy. One such program is the Master of Travel and Tourism Management (MTTM) introduced in 2018 to provide skilled human resources to the Travel and Tourism industry. It is currently the only master's degree program in Goa catering to this industry. The college is also an authorized center for International Air Transport Association (IATA) certification, a globally recognized employment-oriented certification.

Post Graduate Diploma in Management (PGDM) (Event Management) is another unique program that the college has designed and offered, after it was initially offered under the UGC Innovative Programs scheme as PGDBA–Event

Management in 2010-11. In the past few years, the PGDM-Event Management program has been strengthened considering the emergence of Goa as an event destination. The PGDM (EM) programme has gained much credibility and employability on account of its regular association with high- profile events such as the International Film Festival of India and Serendipity Arts Festival. Students of this innovative programme are gainfully employed either in the various event management companies in and outside the state, or as successful entrepreneurs in this domain.

## **Integrated Masters in Commerce (IMCom) – a unique program**

Another innovative and unique programme, is the Four-Year Integrated Masters in Commerce (IMCom) program introduced in 2018a highly specialized program developed by the college faculty in consultation with practicing Chartered Accountants and Company Secretaries, designed specifically for advanced learners aspiring for careers in Accounting and Finance, the programme has a built-in training component to prepare students for certification by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), and Institute of Cost and Works Accountants of India (ICWAI). This course is one-of-its-kind and draws extensively on the domain-specific skills of practicing CA/CS professionals, as well as the practical experience of pursuing 'articleship' with professionals.

The success of this unique programme is evidenced by the ability of the students to qualify at various levels of certification. As of June 2022, 47 students have qualified at various levels in CA examinations. (CA Foundation - 21 Students, CA Intermediate - 11 Students, CS Entrance - 14 Students and 1 student has qualified at CMA Foundation). Presently, 11 I.M.Com students are pursuing CA articleship with prominent auditing firms in Goa.

## **Dempo Centre for Skill Development**

The college is committed to staying relevant and meeting the needs of the industry by offering practical, hands-on training in addition to theoretical knowledge. It aims to support the Skill India Mission by offering skill development certificate courses and training workshops through the Dempo Centre for Skill Development. The center focuses on identifying skill gaps and developing content to bridge them, while also building confidence and direction in individuals. The skill sets provided are in the areas of Accounting, Finance and Taxation, Business Intelligence, IT & Graphics, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship. Language and communication skills are also emphasized to provide a competitive edge to learners.

The institute is centrally located in Cujira, Bambolim, which has proven to be advantageous to various stakeholders. Due to its convenient location, varied and innovative programmes, resources and infrastructure, the institute is committed to sharing its strengths for the benefit of all strata of society. This has been evident through the use of physical facilities that have led to the setting up of the Goa University Admission Ranking Test (GU ART) center for examinations (a permanent feature), and the institute being a center for competitive examinations such as Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Goa Public Service Commission(GPSC).

The Goa Institute of Management (GIM) conducted their PGDM Part Time Program out of the premises of the college.

The performance of the college in the thrust areas has been creditable, considering its ability to design and offer programmes that are innovative and exclusive. Further, its emphasis on skill enhancement has led to a perceptible increase in the participation of students in the skill-based courses. The college intends to keep this focus and moving forward, and has plans to offer more certificate/diploma courses which have a high degree of skill component and potential for employment.