



Goa University

Discipline of English, Shenoj Goembab School of Languages and Literature

One-day Workshop on *Disability Empowerment*

1. Title of the Event/Activity/Program	One-day Workshop on <i>Disability Empowerment</i>
2. Date and Time	18th October 2024, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)	Physical
4. School/Directorate/Section	Shenoj Goembab School of Languages and Literature
5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate	-
6. Detail the Resource Person (Brief biodata)	Mr. Vishant Nagvekar is a research assistant in the Forest Department of Goa. He has been appointed as the Purple Ambassador for the International Purple Fest 2024. Possessing a post-graduate diploma in Applied Statistics, Mr. Nagvekar has excelled in both academics and sports, earning laurels in state-level championships in badminton, table tennis and swimming; alongside succeeding in national-level wheelchair cricket, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair tennis. His social work is highlighted by his presence as a member of the Disability Committee for North Goa District, the Committee for Research on Disability, and is also an advisory committee member for the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. Mr. Nagvekar has conducted more than 50 awareness workshops on disability in Goa and is a vociferous advocate for accessibility, education, employment, reservation in jobs and promotions, and accessible transport for the past 15 years. His professional experience as a government employee in various government departments spans 22 years.
7. Number of Faculty attended/participated	1
8. Number of Student attended/participated	23
9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants	NA
10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event	a) To develop awareness and literacy regarding disability and accessibility by understanding the physical, sensory and communicative dimensions of accessibility.

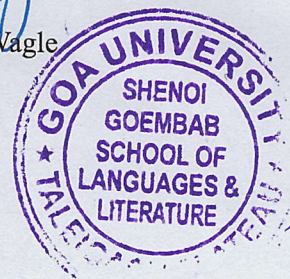
	b) To identify common barriers that individuals with disabilities face daily and recognise how universal design principles can create inclusive spaces that are beneficial for everyone. c) To reframe disability through the lens of empowerment by shifting perspectives from medical or charity models of disability to the social model, with an emphasis on autonomy and self-advocacy. d) To identify and evaluate accessibility barriers and formulate inclusion strategies for systemic accessibility for which participants can effectively advocate within their organisations or communities.
11. Description of the Program/activity/event	The workshop featured an impactful session by Mr. Vishant Nagvekar. The focus was on disability awareness, physical accessibility and the cultivation of empathy with action. The highlight of the event was an immersive practical segment wherein non-disabled students were invited to use wheelchairs in order to navigate and access the institution's designated restroom for persons with disabilities. Through this exercise, the participants experienced the actual physical barriers that people with disabilities experience on a daily basis. With the guidance of Mr. Nagvekar, the students were able to recognise a critical issue—namely that despite being labelled as accessible, the restroom was not genuinely designed to meet the accessibility requirements. This simulation triggered a sincere reflection and enabled students to identify the gap between theoretical compliance and actual functional accessibility.
12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event	a) Participants gained a firsthand understanding of how infrastructure disables people with mobility differences. b) The workshop exposed the gap between compliance and real accessibility, revealing that facilities labelled “accessible” may fail to meet functional needs. c) Participants identified critical flaws in architectural design, thereby gaining a better understanding of spatial barriers. d) Mr. Nagvekar's session produced a perspective shift in the participants by provoking them to rethink design by consulting with and involving people with disabilities when planning and designing infrastructure.
13. Enclosure with report	Brochure, geotagged photos, attendance of students, bionote of resource person.

Signature:

Convenor: Dr. Anjali Chaubey
Discipline of English

Signature:

Dean: Prof. Anuradha Wagle
Seal of the School



Goa University
Shenoi Goembab School of Languages and Literature
Discipline of English

ATTENDANCE SHEET

Topic: "Disability Empowerment" by Shri Vishant Nagvekar

Dated: 18/10/2024

Timing 2.00 P.M. onwards

Sr. No.	Name	Contact	Discipline	Signature
1	Shanalee Torge	9763643115	English	<u>George</u>
2	Shrutika Naik	8421014225	English	<u>Shrutika</u>
3	Karishma Gawde	7498246834	English	<u>Gawde</u>
4	Pradnya D. Naik	8408899243	English	<u>Naik</u>
5	Prasiddhi P. Khosjwekar	7768822814	English	<u>Prasiddhi</u>
6	Naaz Sanadi	8080152636	English	<u>Sanadi</u>
7	Diksha P. Gaunkar	9067429538	English	<u>Gaunkar</u>
8	Simran Parodkar	9284811409	English	<u>Parodkar</u>
9	Bhakti Shetkar	9370823959	English	<u>Bhakti</u>
10	Sneha Gaunkar	7066180080	English	<u>JPanik</u>
11	Rovella Barreto	7028439660	English	<u>Rovella</u>
12	Priyanka Bansode	9156012739	English	<u>Bansode</u>
13	Pruva Ayare	7507231988	English II	<u>Pruva</u>
14	Anchana A. Vekkar	7498723920	English II	<u>AV</u>
15	Pragwal K. Malik	9158983192	English II	<u>Pratik</u>
16	Snesha S. Borkar	9403575477	English	<u>Sorkar</u>
17	Gayathri S	9421155091	English II	<u>Gayathri</u>
18	Mitali D. Shiradkar	8830048265	English II	<u>Mitali</u>
19	Esha Patkar	7066567170	English II	<u>Patkar</u>
20	Vedha Gawade	9405686413	English II	<u>Vedha</u>
21	Naghiral Alvares	9767952918	English II	<u>Naghiral</u>
22	Nidhi Naik	9527883336	English II	<u>Nidhi</u>
23	Kesia D. Prabhu Desai	8007987915	English II	<u>Desai</u>

Dr. Anjali Chaudhary
Coordinator



GOA UNIVERSITY

Shenoi Goembab School of Languages and Literature

Disability Empowerment

Discipline of English

SPEAKER

Mr. Vishant Nagvekar

Research Assistant, Forest Department

Purple Ambassador, International Purple Fest 2024

Member, Disability Committee for North Goa

District Member, Committee for Research on

Disability Advisory Committee Member, State

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities



18 Oct 2024



2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

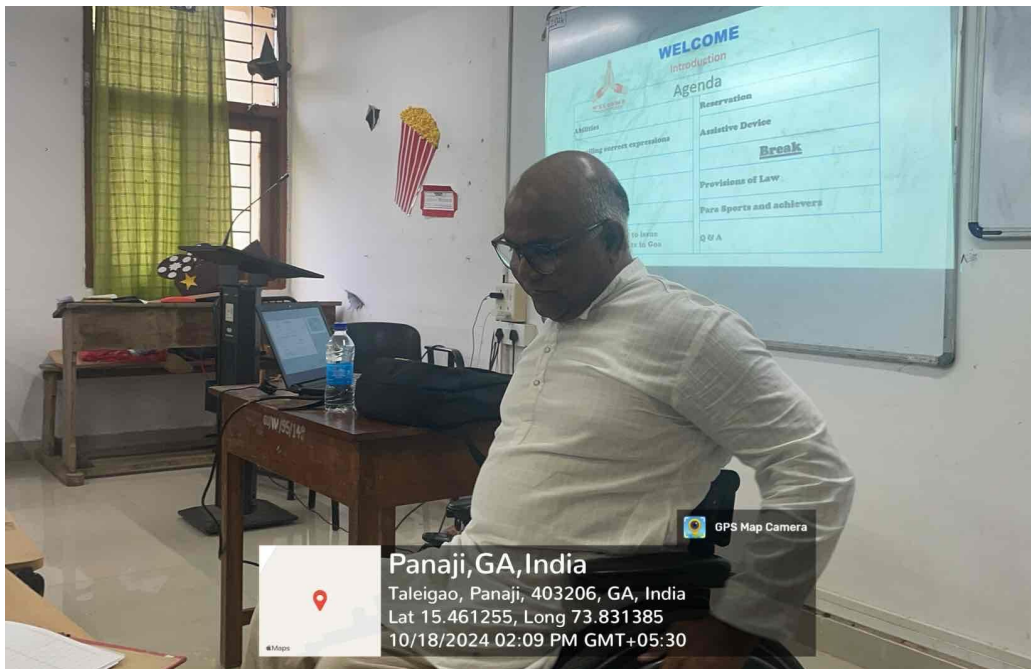


English
Lecture Hall

MS. POORWA NAIK
Programme Director

DR. ANJALI CHAUBEY
Convenor

PROF. ANURADHA WAGLE
Dean



Mr. Vishant Nagvekar addressing the participants during the “Disability Empowerment” workshop, sharing insights on disability awareness, accessibility, and the lived experiences of persons with disabilities.



Students engage in an experiential wheelchair-accessibility exercise, guided by Mr. Vishant Nagvekar, reflecting on the gap between designated accessibility and genuine functional access.



Participants of the “Disability Empowerment” workshop with the resource person, Mr. Vishant Nagvekar, whose session encouraged critical reflection on accessibility and inclusion.

Bio-note of Mr. Vishant Nagvekar

Mr. Vishant Nagvekar works as a Research Assistant and is currently posted in the Forest Department, Goa. He has over 22 years of experience in various government departments. He holds a B.Com. degree and a postgraduate diploma in Applied Statistics from Goa University (2022). Mr. Nagvekar is an accomplished sportsperson, succeeding at the state level in badminton, table tennis, and swimming. He has also excelled at the national level in wheelchair cricket, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair tennis. He was appointed as the Purple Ambassador for the International Purple Fest 2024.

For the past 15 years, Mr. Nagvekar has been actively involved in disability advocacy and social work and has conducted over 50 awareness workshops on disability in Goa, focusing on issues such as accessibility, education, employment, reservation in jobs and promotions and accessible transport. He is a member of the Disability Committee for North Goa District and the Committee for Research on Disability. He also serves as a member of the Advisory Committee for the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

Mr. Nagvekar strives for the promotion of greater awareness, accessibility and empowerment for people with disabilities through his sustained advocacy for their rights and inclusion within the community.