

## **Ignite Young Minds and Challenge them to Create New Ideas : Dr. Mashelkar**

Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014

“Ignite young minds, and challenge them to create new ideas because they are the ones who will design the future of Goa ” exclaimed Eminent Scientist, Padma Vibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar in his keynote address for the awards ceremony of the first ICG-Goa University Essay Competition 2014 - “Ideas Unleashed” held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 at The International Centre Goa, Dona Paula. Also present on the dais were Dr. Satish Shetye, Vice Chancellor - Goa University, Mr. Yatin Kakodkar, President – ICG and Ms. Nandini Sahai, Director – ICG.

The Essay Competition based on the topic: **“Innovative Ideas for Raising Goa’s Human Development Index to the Very High Human Development Group Level By 2025: Role of Government and Society”** was launched on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and it was open to students enrolled with Goa University and its affiliated colleges in the age group of 18-25 years. Altogether 54 entries were received from 20 colleges. Dr. (Mrs.) Kiran Budkuley – Professor & Head of English Department at Goa University, Mr. Manohar Shetty – author, Ms. Patricia Sethi – award-winning journalist were the jury members for the competition. The initial screening of essays was undertaken by Dr. Isabel S R Vaz – English Lecturer & theatre personality.

Dr. Mashelkar spoke to an engrossed audience of special invitees including Life Trustees of ICG, dignitaries from government departments, university lecturers, college principals, teachers, participating students and other eminent persons. He congratulated ICG and Goa University for having launched this unique initiative; and having had the privilege to read the award-winning essays, he said that he was delighted with the innovative and extraordinary ideas put forth by the students. He concluded by encouraging the youth “to compare Goa’s indices not with the country but with that of developed world and to prove that the quality of young minds in Goa are next to none”.

Dr. Mashelkar presented the trophies and certificates to the winners. Divyarani S. Revankar, M.Sc Botany - Goa University was awarded first place, in second place was Trishala Sanzgiri, Second Year BBA - Sridora Caculo College of Commerce & Management Studies and in third place was Siddhesh Suresh Umarye, Third Year BE - Mechanical Engineering, Don Bosco College of Engineering, Fatorda. The award-winners also received cash prizes of Rs. 25,000/-, Rs. 20,000/- & Rs. 15,000/- respectively. The winners expressed their gratitude to the organizers and hoped that their ideas will reach appropriate authorities for necessary action.

The Publication No.1 of ICG Ideas Unleashed – ICG -Goa University Essay Competition consisting of the award-winning essays and messages from the President, ICG and mentors was officially released during the function.

The essay competition was supported by V M Salgaocar & Brothers Pvt. Ltd. (Hotel Division).

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