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Goa announces 10 names for higher education awards

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PANAJI: The directorate of higher education on Tuesday declared the names of five teachers each for the years 2020-21 and 2021-22 for the state teacher awards for excellence in higher education. They will each be awarded a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh, a memento and citation at a ceremony, date for which will be declared soon.

The state had constituted a committee under the chairmanship of former Goa University (GU) registrar M Sangodkar to select the awardees.

The other members on the committee were former GU professor Venkatesh Kamat, former principal of St Xavier's College, Mapusa, Fr Walter de Sa, former principal of GVM's College of Education, Ponda, Allan

Abreu, and director of higher education Prasad Lolayekar.

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The awardees for the academic year 2020-21 are M K Janarthanam, Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Pravin Bhende, Vrinda Borkar and Sushila Sawant Mendes.

Janarthanam is a professor in the department of Botany at Goa University and has undertaken research projects for several national bodies.

A professor of economics at GU, Pranab Mukhopadhyay is a visiting fellow/scholar at various foreign institutions. His areas of research are environment, development economics, and climate change.

Pravin Bhende is the principal of GVM's Gopal Govind Poy Raiturcar College of Commerce and Economics, Farmagudi, and has served as a member of various GU committees. Principal of Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, Vrinda P Borker, has published research papers in reputed national and international journals and has also won various awards and fellowships.

Sushila Sawant Mendes is a professor of history at the Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Quepem has extensive research work to her credit.

For the academic year 2021-22, the state award winners are Kaustubh Priolkar, Jyoti Pawar, F M Nadaf, Sanjay Sawant Dessai, and Dilecta D'Costa.

A professor of physics since 2014, Kaustubh Priolkar has won the Jawaharlal Nehru Foundation Prize, among other awards.

Jyoti Pawar is a professor of computer science and technology at GU's Goa Business School with 30 years of teaching experience.

A professor of geography at the Shree Mallikarjun College, Canacona, F M Nadaf is a well-published researcher.

Sanjay Sawant Dessai is the principal of the CES College of Arts and Commerce, Cuncolim, and is also a member of various boards and committees. Dilecta D'Costa is associate professor of microbiology, and head of department and postgraduate coordinator of microbiology at the Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Khandola, Marcela, and has many research publications to her credit.