

From Local Initiatives to Global Impact: SSESA's Science College Role in Aligning Education with Sustainable Development Goals

Institutional Distinctiveness





# Shri Shivaji Education Society Amravti's

# Science College, Congress, Nagpur

## **Institutional Distinctiveness**

From Local Initiatives to Global Impact: Shivaji Science College's Role in Aligning Education with Sustainable Development Goals

#### Introduction

The SSESA's Shivaji Science College, Nagpur, stands as a beacon of pioneering initiatives in the realm of educational technology and innovation. This institute has made remarkable strides not only within India but also across several African countries, solidifying its reputation as a leader in innovative educational tools and applications.

#### **Unique Institutional Features**

### 1. Talking Tree Application: Engaging Stakeholders in Environmental Education

One of the standout innovations of Shivaji Science College is the "Talking Tree" smartphone application developed by Dr. Sarang S. Dhote. This app provides detailed information about trees through QR codes in both audio and text formats, available in multiple languages. It has been successfully implemented across 23 institutions, including government, nongovernmental organizations, colleges, and private gardens. The app benefits various stakeholders by engaging them in environmental education.

### 2. International Expansion and Training for Talking Tree

Dr. Dhote's efforts go beyond local implementation. He has provided training to students from Shivaji Science College and abroad, resulting in eight students receiving Project Internship Certificates for the successful installation of the Talking Tree app at Tooro Botanical Garden, Uganda. This marked the college's first international project. Following this success, the college began offering consultancy services for app development, led by trained students.

The app has now been implemented in institutions across Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Egypt, and Zambia. Notable projects include:

**NUST Zimbabwe:** Under the guidance of Dr. Angie Chichinye (Head of Department, Forest Resource and Wildlife Management, NUST), and Dr. Sarang Dhote, seven students from NUST and 17 students from Shivaji Science College were involved. All participants received Project Internship Certificates.



Figure 1 Talking Tree @ NUST Zimbabwe



Figure 2: Talking Tree @ Tooro Botanical Garden Uganda

- Lagos State University, Nigeria: 15 students from Lagos State University, under the mentorship of Dr. Ewekeye Tolulope Seun (Senior Faculty, Department of Botany), along with 15 students from Shivaji Science College, are currently working on this project.
- **Beni Suef University, Egypt:** 10 students from Beni Suef University, led by Dr. Sameh Abouzid (Dean), and 36 students from Shivaji Science College are collaborating on this project.
- **Forestry College, Zambia:** Dr. Dhote continues to mentor students as part of ongoing projects, ensuring global collaboration and knowledge transfer.

### 3. Interactive Applications for Museums and Heritage Sites

Shivaji Science College, under Dr. Dhote's leadership, has developed interactive applications for museums and heritage sites. These applications offer visitors an enhanced, educational experience, providing interactive content about the historical and cultural significance of the sites.

## Projects include:

- Central Museum, Nagpur, and Sinddhkhed Raja Heritage Site, India: The first interactive app installations.
- **Kipsigis Museum, Kenya:** Installed with the guidance of Mr. Philip K. Cheruiyot (Curator, Kipsigis Museum) and six students.
- **Kigulu Museum, Uganda:** Installed under the supervision of Mr. Kitaulwa Abraham (President, UCOMA, Uganda) and nine students.
- **Kigulu Chiefdome Heritage Site, Uganda:** Supervised by Mr. Abraham and nine students. Each participant received a Project Internship Certificate.



Figure 3-The Hereditary Chiefs of Kigulu Chiefdom assembled for the launch @ Uganda



Figure 4- News In Uganda Newspaper

## 4. Internet Radio Station for Chemistry

A unique feature of the institution is the Internet Radio Station dedicated to chemistry topics. Various educational episodes are broadcasted, offering free access to students. As of now, over 404 listeners have engaged with this resource, enriching their understanding of chemistry.

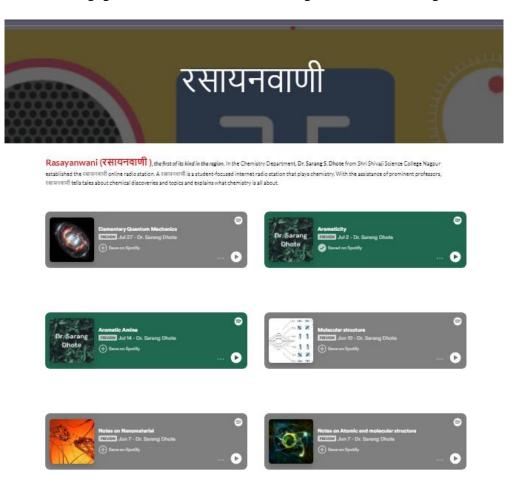
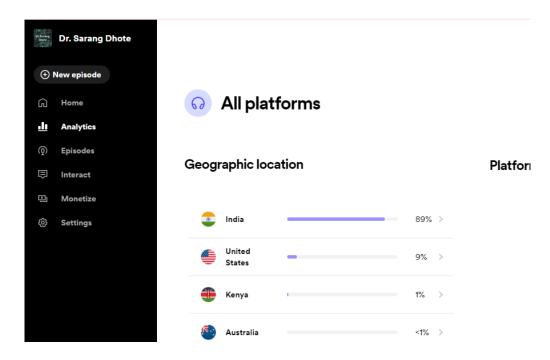


Figure 5- Official Radio portal with various Episodes of Chemistry



#### 5. Low-Cost Innovation: Craft Box Colorimeter

The institute encourages students to develop low-cost scientific instruments. One such innovation is the Craft Box Colorimeter, developed by undergraduate students in the Chemistry Department. This instrument, made using waste craft materials, is not only functional but also eco-friendly. Students from other colleges are trained in creating this low-cost colorimeter. This project won the RTM Nagpur University Avishkar 2024 competition, showcasing the college's dedication to fostering innovation.







Figure 7- Workshop on Craft Colorimeter

# 6. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Initiatives

Shivaji Science College has cultivated a culture of protecting intellectual property. In 2023, 100 students received copyright certificates from the Kenyan government, making Shivaji Science College the first institution with more than 150 IPRs, including patent publications, and copyrights from India and Kenya. The college's IPR cell supports students from other institutions, free of charge, resulting in 16 additional students securing their IPRs in 2024.



Figure 8- Celebration of 125 IPR

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## **Alignment with UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals**

All of these initiatives directly align with the UNESCO Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

- **SDG 4: Quality Education** Providing educational opportunities through innovative apps, interactive installations, and Internet Radio.
- **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation** Through student-led environmental projects like the Talking Tree app.
- **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** Fostering innovation through app development, low-cost instruments, and IPR protection.



These activities demonstrate Shivaji Science College's commitment to not only local but also global impact in education, innovation, and sustainability.

# **News Releases**

LOKMAT TIMES

#### LOKMAT TIMES • Anchor

# A touch of Nagpur in Africa

Uganda using Talking Tree app developed by city professor

RAMESH MARULKAR LOKMAT NEWS NETWORK

Nagpur: Trees, far away in the Republic of Uganda's Tooro Botanical Garden, will now speak about themselves thanks to an innovative crea-tion - an interactive app - de-veloped by visionary city pro-fessor, Dr Sarang Dhote of Shri Shivaji Science College here.

here.
Officials at the Tooro Botanical Garden in the East African nation have, three days ago, started placing QR code stickers on all trees in the garden giving them a voice. This is the first time that any country has preferred to install the app developed by the city professor.

The QR code sticker of the interactive smartphone app



QR code for the app



Dr Sarang Dhote

is displayed on the trees and after scanning, it gives infor-mation like the trees common name, scientific name, medic-inal application, general hab-itat like flowers, fruits, size, season etc.

itat like flowers, fruits, size, season etc.

It is worth mentioning here that Dr Dhote provided this app free of cost to the African nation because it is not that developed a country either financially or technologically. He sent the app link on WhatsApp to the director of Tooro Botanical Garden, Godfrey Ruyonga. Dr Dhote and his students fed the data about the trees. It is a joint venture of Shri Shivaji Science Innova-

The QR code sticker of the interactive smartphone app is displayed on the trees and after scanning, it gives information like the trees common name, scientific name, medicinal application, general habitat like flowers, fruits, size, season etc

tion and Incubation Centre at the college in collaboration with Uganda's botanical garden. Giving this information to Lokmat Times here on Monday, Dr Dhote said, the App for "Talking Tree" represents a pioneering leap forward in the world of botanical exploration and environmental education. Unlike any other application of its kind, it can be effortlessly downloaded and installed on a wide array of devices, including Android IOS and Window platforms. Visitors to Tooro Botanical Garden can simply scan QR codes located throughout the Contd on Page 5 tion and Incubation Centre at

Nagpur First Page No. 1 Sep 26, 2023 Powered by: erelego.com



News In Uganda Newspaper

## नागपूरच्या डॉ. सारंग धोटेंद्वारे नाविन्यपूर्ण 'स्मार्टफोन ॲप्लिकेशन' विकसित

# केनिया, युगांडा येथील संग्रहालये आता 'बोलकी' होणार

लोकसत्ता विशेष प्रतिनिधी

**नागप्र:** भारतातीलच नाही तर परदेशातील देखील संग्रहालये आता बोलकी होणार आहेत. गुरुवार, १८ मे रोजी आंतरराष्टीय संग्रहालय दिनी म राजा आतरराष्ट्रीय सहालवादना केनिया आणि युगांडा येथील किस्सिगिस म्युझियम आहे' आणि 'किगुजु म्युझियम' ही दोन क्रांतिकारी संग्रहालये पर्यटकांशी संवाद साधतील. नागपूर येथील श्री शिवाजी विज्ञान महाविद्यालयात रसायनशास्त्र विभागातील सहाव्यक प्राध्यापक डॉ. सारंग धोटे यांनी ही नाविन्यपूर्ण 'स्मार्टफो ॲप्लिकेशन' तयार केली आहे. 'स्मार्टफोन



महाविद्यालयात फेब्रुवारी २०२० महागिवधालगात फब्रुवारा २०२० मध्ये डॉ. घोटे यांनी सुरुवात करोल्या टॉकिंग ट्री' संकल्पनेच्या उल्लेखनीय प्रतिकृती आहेत. 'अंड्रॉइड' वापरकर्ते 'इंटरनेट' जोडणीशिवाय देखील ते वापरू शकतात. २०२२ मध्ये त्या संबंधित देशात 'कॉपीराइट' करण्यात आल्या



. मागील वर्ष येथील नागपर मध्यवर्ती संग्रहालयासाठी एक संवादात्मक 'ॲप्लिकेशन' विकसित केले. पर्यटकांना 'क्यूआर कोड स्कॅन' करून संग्रहालयातील प्रतिकृतीशी संवाद साधता येतो. या दोन नवीन 'ॲप्लिकेशन'चा अत्याधुनिक पयोगात 'किप्सिगिस' लोकांचा



विज्ञान समाविष्ट आहे, पर्यटकांना त्यांचा भौतिक वारसा या माध्यमातून जाणून घेता येणार आहे. केरिचो जिल्ह्यातील दोलायमान

कपकाटेट वसाहतीमध्ये स्थित, संग्रहालय केनियामधील 'किप्सिगिस' समुदायाच्या दृढ भावनेचा आणि म्हणजे 'किप्सिगिस'च्या पुरुष केवळ स्थानिकांनाच लाभ ढेणार नाही तर परदेशी पर्यटकांसाठी बेखील एक मौल्यवान संधी प्रदान करेल. ज्यामुळे त्यांना 'किप्सिगस' लोकांच्या अद्वितीय वारशाची प्रशंसा करता येईल.

- फिलिप चेरुयोट अभिरक्षक, किप्सिमिस म्युड्सियम

जागतिक संग्रहालय दिनानिमत्त ही दोन नाविन्यपूर्ण 'स्मार्टफोन जागतिक संग्रहालय दिगाविनित ही बोन गाविन्यपूर्ण 'स्मार्टफोन ऑप्टिकेशन्स' पर्वटकांसाठी सुरू करनामा अतिशय आनंद होत आहे. 'मी किप्सिनित्म मुझियम आहे' आणि 'किमुलु मुस्कियम' ही अनुक्रने किनेया आणि युगांडामधील अन्यागतांसाठी संग्रहालयाच्या अनुमवात क्रांती घडवून आणण्यासाठी तथार आहे. . - डॉ . सारं म धोटे. सहायक प्रध्यापक रसायनशस्त्र विभाग, श्री शिवाजी विज्ञान महाविद्यालय

पूर्वी 'किगिलुं च्या प्रमुखाच्या मालकोच्या प्रतिष्ठित इमारतींपैकी एका हमारतीत असलेले संबाहालय 'बसोगा'च्या पारंपरिक उपासना पद्धती स्थानिक पाककृती, औषधीङ्गान आणि त्यांच्या संस्कृतीबद्दल अंतर्दृष्टी प्रदान करते. ही मौल्यवान माहिती आता तरुण पिढीला सहजसांगता येणार आहे. यातून सांस्कृतिक वारसा जतन केला जाऊ शकतो.

- **अब्राहक किटौलवा** , अध्यक्ष, युगांडा कम्युनिटी म्युङ्गियन असोशिएशन

विलक्षण योगदानाचा दाखला आहे. 'मी किप्सिगिस म्यझियम आहे' या

'ॲप्लिकेशन'च्या माध्यमातून अभ्यागतांना 'किप्सिगस' स्थानिक आणि आंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्कृतीला जाणून घेता येणार आहे



**०ठोक्यता** Thu, 18 May 2023 ♦कोक्यता https://epaper.loksatta.com/c/72449777

प्रकृति के संतुलन को बनाए रखने हर हर नागरिक

🚧 महाराष्ट्रातील पहिला प्रयोग: 'टॉकिंग सालइबन' ॲप विकसित 🕫

## ऐतिहासिक वारसा आणि झाडं झालीत बोलकी!





Sr. No.	Name of Activity	Link
1	Talking Tree	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/DisplayDeptPage.aspx?p age=eaemc&ItemID=eagac&nDeptID=ka
2	Talking Tree NUST Zimbabwe	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/TT_ZIM_final_report.pdf
3	Talking Tree Tooro Botanical Garden	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/Tooro_Garden_Report.pdf
4	Kipsigis Museum, Kenya	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/Two_Revolutionary_Museum_Apps.pdf
5	Kigulu Chiefdome Heritage Site, Uganda	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/Kigulu_Chiefdompdf
6	Kigulu Museum, Uganda	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/Kigulu_Chiefdompdf
7	Talking Tree Beni Suef University Egypt	https://sites.google.com/view/bsutt/home
8	125 IPRS	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Innovation%20and%20Incubation/Final_Final_IPR_Reports.pdf
9	Craft Colorimeter Workshop	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Chemistry/Final_Craft_Colorimeter.pdf
10	Talking Tree Zambia	https://sites.google.com/view/talking-tree-zfc-zambia/home
11	Interactive App Development for GSI	https://sscnagpur.ac.in/Department/Geology/QR_Coding_of_ GSI_samples.pdf

# **Outcomes**

Name of Activity	Numbers
Talking Tree Install In India	23
Interactive apps for museum in India	2
Intearctive app for Heritage Site In India	1
No. of Talking Tree in African Countries	4
No. of Interactive apps for Museum and Heritage site	3
Total No. of Radio Episodes listen by students	404
No. of Recourse Person Generated from Students	2
NO. Of IPR for College Students	200
NO. Of IPR for other College Students	16

Dr. A. A. Halder IQAC Coordinator S.S.E.S.A's Science College, Nagpur Dr. O. S. Deshmukh Principal S. S. E. S. Amravati's Science College, Nagpur.

