



GOA STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

Autonomous body registered under Societies Registration Act 1860.

Reg. no.:156/GOA/2024

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No. GSCERT/STSE/019/2025/ 4149

Date: 07/01/2026

To

The Headmasters/Principals of all Central and State Govt., Govt. Aided & Unaided High Schools and Hr. Sec. Schools in Goa

Sub: Science Talent Search Examination (STSE) 2025-26

Ref. No. GSCERT/STSE/019/2025/4036 and GSCERT/STSE/019/2025/4037 both dated 01/01/2026

Sir/Madam,

In continuation to the letters referred above, following detail guidelines are issued in respect of Science Talent Search Examination (STSE) 2025-26.

1. The Science Talent Search Examination (STSE) 2025-26 for all Classes (i.e. VIII, IX, X, XI and XII) will be held on **1st February (Sunday) 2026** from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon.
2. The students studying in these Classes VIII, IX, X, XI & XII during academic year 2025-26 having obtained the percentage of Marks/Grades as specified in the Table below are eligible to appear at the examinations.

| Category | Class - VIII | Class - IX | Classes - X | Class - XI | Class - XII |
|------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| Unreserved | Minimum 61% marks or equivalent Grade each in Science and Mathematics in Class - VII | Minimum 61% marks or 'D' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - VIII | Minimum 61% marks or 'D' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - IX | Minimum 61% marks or 'D' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - X | Minimum 61% marks or 'D' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics in Class - XI |
| SC/ST | Minimum 51% marks or equivalent Grade each in Science and Mathematics in Class - VII | Minimum 51% marks or 'E' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - VIII | Minimum 51% marks or 'E' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - IX | Minimum 51% marks or 'E' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Science and Mathematics in Class - X | Minimum 51% marks or 'E' Grade in a 9-point Scale each in Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics in Class - XI |

3. Total number of cash awards available under the scheme is 200 @ Rs. 2,500/- per awardee student. Class- Wise and Category-Wise breakup of the number of cash awards is as follows:

| Category | Class - VIII | Class - IX | Class - X | Class - XI | Class - XII |
|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Unreserved | 43 | 43 | 43 | 21 | 21 |
| SC | 01 | 01 | 01 | 01 | 01 |
| ST | 06 | 06 | 06 | 03 | 03 |
| Total | 50 | 50 | 50 | 25 | 25 |

4. The award is for the top rankers of each of the Classes at the STSE 2025-26 in each category. In case of tie for the last position, the student scoring highest score in Science (in case of Classes VIII, IX & X) or combined score in Physics and Chemistry (in case of Classes XI & XII) shall be given the award. In case the marks obtained by the students in Science or Physics and Chemistry (as the case may be) also the same, then the amount of Rs. 2,500/- shall be equally distributed between/among all the awardees of the last position.
5. In case the SC/ST students are not available/not eligible, the award will be given to Unreserved Category students.
6. The STSE 2025-26 for all Classes will be conducted in English Medium only.
7. The STSE 2025-26 for Classes VIII, IX and X will have 100 questions each all objective type test items (Multiple Choice Questions) with 75 in Science and 25 in Mathematics. Questions measuring Remembering, Understanding, Applying and Analyzing/Evaluating will be included in the tests. The detail break –up of number of Questions is as follows:

| | VIII | IX | X |
|-------------|------|-----|-----|
| Physics | 34 | 32 | 30 |
| Chemistry | 20 | 19 | 21 |
| Biology | 21 | 24 | 24 |
| Mathematics | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Total | 100 | 100 | 100 |

8. The examination for Classes XI & XII will be conducted in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. Questions measuring Remembering, Understanding, Applying and Analyzing/Evaluating/Creating will be included in the tests. A student can choose either Physics, Chemistry & Biology (PCB) or Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) as the subject for STSE 2025-26. There will be in all 130 Multiple Choices Questions, 35 questions each in Physics and Chemistry and 30 questions each in Biology & Mathematics. Each student is required to answer 100 questions. Question Nos. 1 to 70 (Physics and Chemistry) will be common for all students. In addition to this, students are required to answer either question Nos. 71 to 100 if opted for Biology or Question Nos. 101 to 130 if opted for Mathematics.
9. The duration of the STSE 2025-26 will be of 2 hours. Students have to take their seats 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the examination.
10. No candidates (students) will be allowed to enter the examination center/hall after commencement of the examination.
11. There will be separate Test Booklet and answer sheet (**OMR sheet**). Students have to mark their answer on the OMR sheet using dark (blue/black) ballpoint pen. Use of gel pen or ink pen shall **NOT** be allowed.
12. The STSE 2025-26 will be conducted at Taluka/Block Headquarters only. Exact venue of the examination will be communicated to the schools along with seat numbers of students in due course of time.

13. The Syllabus for STSE for Classes VIII and IX in both the Subjects (Science and Mathematics) is the same as entire syllabus of the respective previous Classes and the first 70% of the Syllabus (topics/Chapters/units) of the respective Classes as prescribed by Goa Board/GSCERT/Directorate of Education. The STSE syllabus for Class – X is the same as the entire syllabus in Science and Mathematics of Classes IX and X prescribed by Goa Board.
14. The syllabus for STSE for Classes XI is the same as the entire Science and Mathematics Syllabus of Class X and the first 70% of the Syllabus (Topics/Chapters/Units) of Class – XI in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. The syllabus for STSE for Class XII in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics is the same as the entire syllabus in these four subjects of both the Classes XI and XII.
15. The ratio of weightage of previous Class syllabus and the respective present Class Syllabus shall be **40:60**. **For Example:** For the STSE of Class - IX, 40% of the questions will be from the syllabus of Class – VIII and 60% will be from the syllabus of Class – IX.
16. To be eligible for consideration into the merit list, a student from unreserved category has to obtain minimum of 70% score at the STSE 2025-26. In the case of a student from SC/ST category, the minimum score is 60%.
17. Each student qualified for award will also get a Certificate of Merit.
18. Candidates/Students must have Valid ID issued by the respective schools to be produced at the examination center.
19. Students belonging to SC/ST category must provide the valid caste certificate details through nomination form (excel format), and should submit an attested copy of the valid Caste Certificate issued by Dy. Collector/SDM, Govt. of Goa to this Council as if selected for the award.
20. The Heads of schools shall submit nomination of students who fulfil the requirements of their respective schools for STSE 2025-26 to GSCERT in **on-line mode** only. There is no provision for receiving of nomination in any other mode (off-line mode/hard copy or through e-mail) or after the prescribed last date, i.e. **14th January 2026**.
21. The Heads of schools have to ensure that the nominated students fulfill the prescribed conditions. For any discrepancy /inaccuracy of information provided, the Heads of Schools shall be solely responsible. GSCERT shall have no responsibility for any such discrepancy/inaccuracy of information about any student nominated by the schools.
22. Any student found involved in any form of malpractice shall be debarred from appearing STSE 2025-26.

You are requested to give wide publicity of the above content among all the stakeholders.


 (Meghana Shetgaonkar)
 Director - GSCERT

Copy to:

1. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Alto-Porvorim-Goa.
2. The Director, Department of Science, Technology & Environment, 1st Floor, Pandit Deendayal Upadhaya Bhavan, Porvorim.
3. The State Project Director, Goa Smagra Shiksha, Porvorim.
4. Secretary, Goa Board of Sec. & Hr. Sec. Education, Porvorim
5. The Dy. Director of Education of NEZ, CEZ and SEZ at Mapusa, Panaji & Margao.
6. A.D.E. I.'s of all Talukas.
7. MIS, GSCERT (for uploading at the official website)
8. Office File
9. Guard File