

CCPI 2016 @ GOA

**17th CCPI National Conference :September 30 to
October 2, 2016**

**St. Joseph Vaz Spiritual Renewal Centre (Cruz dos
Milagres), Old Goa**

The 17th Annual Conference of the Catholic Psychologists of India (CCPI) took place from September 30 to October 2, 2016, at the St. Joseph Vaz Spiritual Renewal Centre (Cruz dos Milagres), Old Goa, a serene and spiritually significant venue located on the Boa Monte hillock. The site, known for the apparition of Our Lord in 1619 and associated with St. Joseph Vaz's Oratorian spirituality, provided an ideal backdrop for reflection and learning.

The conference focused on the theme "**Psycho-Social Care of the Earth, Children, and Peripheral Communities,**" inspired by Pope Francis's Year of Mercy. It called Catholic psychologists to extend compassionate care and psychological healing in alignment with the Church's call for mercy.

Three primary focus areas shaped the discussions:

Care of the Earth: Addressing environmental sustainability through environmental psychology and eco-spirituality.

Care of Children: Emphasizing child protection, safety skills, and legal measures, responding to Pope Francis's apostolic letter "As a Loving Mother" (2016).

Care of Marginalized Communities: Advocating for community psychology to empower socially excluded groups and promote participatory social change.

Sub-themes included **child abuse prevention, positive psychology at the community level, eco-spirituality, and care for marginalized populations.**

The conference also marked the **election of Father C. M. Joseph Cherukunnel SDB as the 4th President of CCPI.** A Licensed Clinical Psychologist with dual doctorates, Fr. Joseph succeeded Fr. Godfrey D'sa SDB and began his three-year leadership term on **January 1, 2017.** His election was widely appreciated for his expertise and commitment to the CCPI mission.

