



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (Autonomous), PALAYAMKOTTAI – 627 002.

(Recognized as "College with Potential for Excellence" by UGC & Accredited at A⁺ Grade with a CGPA of 3.66 out of 4 in IV Cycle by NAAC)

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

CENTRE FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH IN PLANT SCIENCES (CARPS) (2016)

The Centre for Advanced Research in Plant Sciences (CARPS) was established in 2016 by Rev. Dr. A. Joseph, S.J., former Principal of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai, with the mission of advancing progress in the field of plant sciences. A dedicated space for the centre was provided and blessed by Rev. Dr. Antonysamy, S.J., Secretary of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai, on 19.01.2017. Dr. J. John Peter Paul, Assistant Professor of Botany, is the Director of CARPS and focuses on recent trends in plant sciences. A major research project titled "*Screening of Biochemical and Molecular Diversity of Selected Brown Algae*," sanctioned by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Department of Science and Technology (DST), New Delhi, was successfully completed in 2022.

Research scholar Mrs. M. Athi Lakshmi has submitted her Ph.D. thesis on the *Molecular Biological and Phytochemical Diversity of Marine Macroalgae* to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. Another Ph.D. research scholar, Ms. B. Abisha, is currently focusing her research on the same field. A total of six research articles were published in UGC-approved/peer-reviewed international research journals during the academic year 2024–2025. The Director and research scholars of CARPS have participated in and presented four research articles at various national and international conferences, symposia, and workshops, including those held at Standard Fireworks Rajarathnam College, Sivakasi, and Sarah Tucker College, Palayamkottai. Additionally, five *rbcL* sequences were deposited in the National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), Bethesda, Maryland.

Dr. J. John Peter Paul has been serving as an editorial board member for several research journals, including the *Bulletin of Environment, Pharmacology and Life Sciences*, *International Journal of Pharmaceutical Research and Bio-Science*, *International Journal of Advanced Research in Biological Sciences*, *Advanced Journal of Pharmacy and Life Science Research*, *International Journal of Research in Science and Technology*, *International Journal of Universal Science and Engineering*, *American Journal of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics*, *International Journal of Nanobiotechnology*, and *International Journal of Molecular Biotechnology*. He also acts as a reviewer for the *International Journal of British Biomedical Bulletin*.