



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY- 2025 “Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development”

Every year ‘22nd May’ is celebrated worldwide as **International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB)** to commemorate the adaptation of the Convention on Biological Diversity at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. Celebrating IDB every year reaffirms our resolve and reflects on our responsibility to safeguard the precious heritage of bio resources for future generation.

This year’s IDB theme is **“Harmony with Nature and Sustainable Development”**.

This year, the Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) celebrated IDB 2025 with great enthusiasm and wide community participation on 22nd May 2025. The event was organized at Ravindra Bhavan, Sankhali, North Goa, with active involvement from local government bodies, Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), schools, and community groups.

The event commenced with the inauguration of a biodiversity exhibition, showcasing thematic stalls by BMCs and research organizations. These stalls highlighted Goa’s indigenous flora and fauna, traditional agricultural practices, natural resource-based livelihoods, and community-driven sustainable innovations. Attendees included school students, BMC members, scientists, citizens, and media personnel.



Inauguration of stalls and interaction with exhibitors

This was followed by a welcome song and the ceremonial escorting of dignitaries onto the dais. The dignitaries included Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Dr. Pramod Sawant; Shri Sachin Desai, Director, Department of Environment and Climate Change; Shri Sandeep Foldessai, Director, Department of Agriculture; Dr. Levinson Martins, IAS, Commissioner, Department of Labour and Employment; Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, GSBB; Smt. Siddhi Prabhu Porob, Chairperson, Sankhali Municipal Council & BMC; Shri Vijaykumar Natekar, Chairperson Bicholim Municipal Council; and two resource persons — Dr. Shridhar Thakur, a medical professional with a collection of rare, endemic, and threatened flora; and Dr. Archana Godbole, a renowned taxonomist and ethno-botanist.



Winners of Yuva Jagruti- 2025 (Pre- IDB event) presenting environmental song.



Dignitaries on dais



Dignitaries lighting the traditional lamp



Floral welcome

A traditional lamp-lighting ceremony and floral welcome were followed by the welcome address delivered by Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary of GSBB. He highlighted the Board's ongoing efforts in biodiversity conservation across the state, including the formation of 205 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs), the preparation and validation of People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs), and plantation initiatives under schemes like *Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam*.



Dr. Sarmokadam emphasized GSBB's role as the nodal agency for various climate and environmental mandates in Goa, including the State Climate Change Cell, the Goa State Wetland Authority and GoVan brand initiative. He also announced the release of the draft Goa State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (GSBSAP) for public consultation and invited stakeholders to contribute actively, with a consultation period of sixty days from the date of release. He concluded by stressing the importance of community-driven conservation and called for collective efforts toward a sustainable and biodiverse future for the state.

Smt. Siddhi Prabhu Porob, Chairperson, Sankhali Municipal Council & BMC, spoke about the importance of biodiversity, likening it to a sponge, and emphasized the need for utilizing open spaces for plantations. She appreciated the important role played by GSBB in biodiversity conservation.



The event also featured the release of a brochure and the launch of the Goa State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (GSBSAP) 2025–2030 for public input, with a consultation period of sixty days from the date of release. A **virtual inauguration** of Multiproduct Processing Centres under the **GoVan brand of GSBB** was conducted.



Release of annual brochure & virtual inauguration of Multiproduct Processing Centres under the GoVan brand of GSBB

Dr. Levinson Martins, IAS, Commissioner, Labour and Employment, also participated, coinciding with the Department's event for **distribution of sewing machines**. He mentioned the *Swayampurna* scheme, where participants who complete training receive a sewing machine as a livelihood tool.

Dr. Archana Godbole shared rich field experiences in taxonomy and ethnobotany and spoke about her inspiration from Goa and the biodiversity of the Western Ghats.

A special interaction session featured Dr. Shridhar Thakur, who has conserved over 700 species of rare, endemic, and threatened flora. He emphasized that Goa should not become a concrete jungle and called for a balanced approach between development and biodiversity.



Dr. Archana Godbole, addressing the gathering



A special interaction session by Dr. Shridhar Thakur

The **Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant**, in his keynote address, applauded GSBB's community-driven initiatives. He highlighted the formation of a Bonsai Garden at Raj Bhavan and praised the traditional *Kulagarcha* system, unique to Goa. He announced the inauguration of seven new Multipurpose Centres under GSBB's GoVan



initiative to link conservation with livelihoods. He stressed the promotion of local food through tourism, conservation of wetlands (particularly the Ramsar site Nanda Lake), and protection of sacred groves. He announced the revival of the salt pan scheme, to be implemented by GSBB with expert support, and launched a new Agroclinic course in Sankhali. As livelihood support, 150 sewing machines were distributed under the Labour and Employment Department. He concluded by reiterating the government's commitment to the four pillars of development — **Yuva (Youth), Nari (Women), Garib Kalyan (Welfare of the Poor), and Kisan (Farmers).**

The highlight of the event was the presentation of the prestigious **Goa State Biodiversity Conservation Awards 2024**, by GSBB in appreciation of exemplary contribution in the field of conservation of biodiversity, ecology and environment.

This year the awards are conferred in Five categories namely awards for best **Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC)** Category, one each from North & South Goa, with a prize amount of Rs. 50,000/-, the **Individual** Category with prize amount of Rs. 25,000/-, for one individual each from North & South Goa, the **Biodiversity Enthusiast** Category with prize

amount of Rs. 15,000/-, for one individual each from North & South Goa, **Applied Biodiversity Researcher** Category with prize amount of Rs. 25,000/- for one individual from the State and **Green Journalism** Category with prize amount of Rs. 25,000/- for one individual only from the State of Goa.

The Awards were presented to the awardees at the hands of the dignitaries.

GSBB felicitated Secretaries and Chairpersons of selective BMCs with appreciation certificate, Memento and cash prize of Rupees Five thousand each.

List of Secretaries and Chairpersons of BMCs:

- Shri. Nitin Sawant (Secretary, Neura BMC)
- Smt. Ankita Dessai (Secretary, Curtorim BMC)
- Smt. Priya Almeida (Chairperson, Navelim BMC)
- Shri. Vinay Tubki (Chairperson, Shristhal BMC)
- Shri. Nanda Majik (Chairperson, Keri Sattari BMC)
- Shri. Eusebio Braganza (Secretary, Raia BMC)
- Shri. Mahesh Vaigankar (Chairperson, Harmal BMC)
- Shri. Alvito D'Silva (Chairperson, Pomburpa BMC)
- Shri. Naresh Shigaonkar (Member, Collem BMC)
- Shri. Yogiraj Gosavi (Ponda Municipal Council)
- Smt. Shitiza Naik (Secretary, Molcornem BMC)
- Shri. Devidas Velip (Chairperson, Barcem Quedem BMC)

Special Recognition certificate & Memento was presented to 8 individuals for contribution in the field of agrobiodiversity, ecology, environment & sustainable agricultural practice:

- Shri. Sakharam Parab
- Adv. Shashikant Naik
- Smt. Josefa Fernnades
- Adv. Govind Usno Bhohe
- Shri. Deepak Parab
- Smt. Vijayanti Prabhugaonkar
- Shri. Anand Mahadev Korgaonkar
- Shri. Jamito Soares
- Shri. Navso Parwar



Felicitations of Secretaries and Chairpersons



Special Recognition in the field of Biodiversity

➤ **GREEN JOURNALIST CATEGORY:**

- **Shri. Ganesh Shankar Shetkar:** A veteran photojournalist with over 19 years of experience, has been awarded the Green Journalist Award for his impactful environmental journalism and dedication to biodiversity awareness in Goa. Through powerful photo-stories and reports published in regional dailies like Lokmat, Goa Doot, and



Sunaparant, he has consistently highlighted critical ecological issues. His accolades include multiple awards for environmental photography and rural reporting, such as the Cyril D'Cunha Photojournalist Award and Goa State Journalist Awards. Beyond media, he has actively led tree plantations, cleanliness drives, and awareness programs, and as President of the Photojournalist Association of Goa, has organized state-level contests promoting sustainable themes. His work embodies the essence of green journalism, blending creative storytelling with grassroots environmental action.

- **APPRECIATION (Green Journalist Category):** is awarded to **Shri. Wahab Khan, Smt. Arti Das & Shri. Subhash Mahale** for their vast experience of reporting, writing on biodiversity and other related fields.

➤ **APPLIED BIODIVERSITY RESEARCHER CATEGORY:**

- **Dr. Sreekanth G.B.:** A leading fisheries scientist at ICAR-CCARI, Goa, has been awarded the Applied Biodiversity Researcher Award for his outstanding contributions to aquatic biodiversity conservation, research, and community engagement in Goa. Between 2014 and 2024, he led extensive surveys documenting 646 fish species across various



ecosystems and identified the Zuari-Mandovi estuary as a globally important site for sharks and rays. His achievements include creating a live gene bank of 45 indigenous species, developing a fish species database, modelling estuarine ecosystems, and promoting climate-resilient fish farming. He has also advanced ornamental fish breeding, eco-tourism, and inclusive outreach benefiting over 10,000 stakeholders. Through collaborations with NGOs and scientific bodies,

Dr. Sreekanth has effectively bridged science and grassroots action, playing a pivotal role in conserving Goa's aquatic biodiversity.

- **APPRECIATION (Applied Biodiversity Researcher Category)** – is also awarded to **Shri. Gopinath Vishnu Gawas, Shri. Mangirish Dharwadkar & Shri. Rahul Kulkarni** for their contribution towards applied biodiversity research, natural farming, forestry & conservation initiatives.



➤ **BIODIVERSITY ENTHUSIAST CATEGORY**

- **Shri. Kamalakant Savlo Tari:** A retired Planning Assistant from the Town and Country Planning Department, presently President of Gomantak Gausevak Mahasangh, has been awarded the Biodiversity Enthusiasts Award for his pioneering work in animal welfare and sustainable agriculture in Goa. His leadership has brought national acclaim to the Shikeri Goshala,



which was named Goa's Best Goshala during the 75th Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, and earned accolades like the Big Impact Award 2025 and the Innovative Farmers Award at Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela. A passionate environmentalist, Mr. Tari has championed community agriculture, organized Krishak Gaurav Mahotsavs, opposed harmful commercial establishments, and founded an NGO in 2015 to prevent cattle slaughter and reduce road accidents. His award recognizes a lifetime of grassroots activism and unwavering commitment to biodiversity conservation and sustainable living.

- **Shri. Devesh Naik (South Goa):** currently working at Goa Medical College, has been awarded the **Biodiversity Enthusiasts Award** for his outstanding efforts in assisting Microbial Consultant of GSBB in documenting wild mushrooms across Goa. Since 2021, under a GSBB initiative, Mr. Naik has photographed/ video filmed and recorded over



600 mushroom species, including rare and medicinal varieties — some reported for the first time in India. His work, verified by microbial expert Dr. Nandkumar Kamat, has earned him

GSBB Appreciation Certificates for two consecutive years. An active member of the **Bandora Biodiversity Management Committee**, Devesh has also contributed to the local People's Biodiversity Register and encouraged community participation in biodiversity documentation. His unique time-lapse videos and photography have brought Goa's hidden fungal diversity to light. This recognition celebrates his dedication and sets an inspiring example for youth across the state.

- **APPRECIATION (Enthusiast Category)** – is awarded to **Shri. Zaheer Karmali & Shri. Domingos Arcadio Fernandes (North Goa)** and **Shri. Rajendra Velip, Shri. Roy Barreto, Shri. Nestor Fernandes & Shri. Pio Praxedes Julio Quadros (South Goa)** for their contribution in the field of biodiversity conservation.



GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AWARDS -2023 INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY:

- **Shri. Vitthal Anant Joshi (North Goa):** A retired Deputy Director of Agriculture from North Goa, has been honored with the Individual Biodiversity Award for his outstanding efforts in conserving and promoting stingless honey bees (SHB) in Goa. With an academic background in agriculture from UAS, Bangalore and GAU, Gujarat, Mr. Joshi dedicated 35 years to Goa's Agriculture Department and, post-retirement, has continued to educate communities on the ecological importance of SHBs. His initiatives include promoting non-lethal honey harvesting methods, conducting public training on SHB rearing for improved crop pollination, rescuing endangered bee colonies, and scientifically identifying rare SHB species. Promoting innovative techniques for non-destructive & sustainable honey harvesting and grassroots engagement have significantly contributed to biodiversity and sustainable agriculture, earning him recognition as a leader in environmental conservation. He had also participated in Karvi Mahotsav & identified traditional knowledge holders in his sector.



Shri. Dattarm Gopal Sardessai (South Goa): A retired government employee and passionate fruit farmer, has been honoured with the individual biodiversity award for his outstanding efforts in agrobiodiversity conservation. A former Director (Administration) at Goa Medical College and Additional Secretary (Health), Mr. Sardessai retired in October 2023 after a distinguished



public service career. Since 2008, he has been cultivating over 100 varieties (as per prima facie indications by him) of mangoes on his ancestral farms at Pazz-Shiroda and Agapur-Durbhat, contributing significantly to the conservation and promotion of diverse fruit species in Goa. His dedication to traditional farming and preservation of fruit diversity stands as a model for sustainable agriculture and biodiversity Stewardship. This award recognizes his silent yet impactful work in enriching and preserving Goa's horticultural heritage and could be inspiration for others.

APPRECIATION (In Individual Category) – is awarded to **Shri. Anand Melekar-Traditional Knowledge holder in Honey Bees** (North Goa) & **Smt. Lilavati Usgaonkar – traditional healer, Shri. Navo Pavano in forestry & Fr. Cyriac James** (South Goa) for their contribution in the field of Environment, Biodiversity or its traditional knowledge

BMC CATEGORY AWARD (prize amount of Rs. 50,000/- each):

- **Piligao BMC (North Goa):** The Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) of Piligao has been awarded the Biodiversity Management Committee Award in recognition of its exceptional efforts in promoting conservation, community participation, and sustainable development.



Under the leadership of Chairman Jayesh Valavalkar, Piligao BMC has undertaken numerous impactful initiatives including: Cleaning of Chamundeshwari Pond, enhancing local freshwater biodiversity, Distribution of medicinal and fruit-bearing saplings to villagers and farmers, Comprehensive surveys of Khazan lands to assess their ecological health, Collaboration with Persistent Systems Ltd to boost agricultural activities through CSR support, Promotion and documentation of organic farming practices in the village, featured in the upcoming edition of

Fish Curry and Rice by Goa Foundation, Hosting awareness programs, school exhibitions, and tree plantation drives, including the celebration of World Environment Day and the 300th birth anniversary of Ahilyabai Holkar.

The BMC also received the Appreciation Award from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, presented by Hon'ble Minister Ashwini Kumar Choubey, in the presence of Goa's Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant, for their outstanding contribution in biodiversity conservation and PBR preparation.

With the successful validation of their People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) and the near completion of a Multiproduct Processing Centre for livelihoods, Piligao BMC continues to be a model of community-driven ecological stewardship in Goa.

- **Bandora BMC (South Goa):** Bandora BMC honoured with State Award for Outstanding Biodiversity Conservation. The Bandora Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) has been awarded under the BMC Category for its exemplary work in biodiversity documentation, conservation, and community engagement.



Since its formation in 2019, the BMC has shown remarkable initiative in preparing a comprehensive People's Biodiversity Register (PBR). Over 1,000 community members actively contributed through ward-level meetings, traditional knowledge sharing, and awareness programs in schools and colleges.

A unique feature of Bandora BMC's approach includes the use of a WhatsApp group to crowdsource biodiversity data — from mushrooms and butterflies to local festivals — and incorporating it into the PBR. The BMC has also taken a proactive role in conservation, most notably in the identification and documentation of the Malabar Gliding Frog, a species endemic to the Western Ghats.

Other key efforts include the establishment of Goa's second Community Seed Bank, regular biodiversity exhibitions, and the identification of three potential Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS). This award recognizes Bandora BMC's innovative, inclusive, and impactful work in promoting grassroots-level biodiversity conservation in Goa.

- **APPRECIATION (BMC Category)** - is awarded to **Chandor-Covorim BMC, Cavellossim BMC and Verna BMC** from South Goa for their contribution towards biodiversity conservation activities, preparation of PBR and other initiatives.

Following the Biodiversity Conservation Awards, prizes were distributed for the State-level Creative Competition held in Nov–Dec 2024 to suggest a Name, Logo, and Motto for the upcoming **Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) under Goa’s Blended Finance Initiative for a “Climate & Disaster-Resilient Greener Goa.”**

Out of 20 entries evaluated by a jury of senior officials and experts, the winners are:

- SPV Name (₹2,500 each): Ms. Chaitrali G. Korde & Ms. Shruti Naik – Green Shield Goa
- SPV Logo (₹10,000): Ms. Chaitrali G. Korde
- SPV Motto (₹5,000): Ms. Chaitrali G. Korde – “Adapt today, Sustain tomorrow”



Ms. Shruti Naik- winner of SPV Name



Ms. Chaitrali G. Korde- Winner of SPV logo & Moto

The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Shri Sachin Desai, Director, Environment & Climate Change, followed by the National Anthem.

Dignitaries and participants then visited the exhibition stalls, directly engaging with local innovators, traditional knowledge holders, and grassroots conservation champions.

Short video clips of the Award winners were displayed. The entire program was compeered by Shri. Shirish Pai.

The entire program was streamed live on YouTube channel of GSBB. <https://www.youtube.com/live/msnQLkiCX04>

Glimpses of Biodiversity Stalls



Chief Minister unveils vision for Goa as model biodiversity hub

THE GOAN NETWORK

BICHOLIM

Describing Goa as a treasure trove of biodiversity, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Thursday said plans are afoot to make Goa a model biodiversity state and announced the opening of seven biodiversity centres in Goa.

The chief minister was speaking at a program organised in Sanquelim on the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity.

Speaking further, Sawant emphasised the need to preserve



Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and other dignitaries along with those honoured with the biodiversity awards.

rare plants and animals, and said the cooperation of every person in the State is important for its conservation and revival.

Expressing fear that local pulses, leafy vegetables and medicinal plants found in various parts of Goa are disappearing, the chief minister ap-

pealed to the new generation to make a special contribution to its conservation.

"It is necessary to maintain biodiversity reserves to attract people to visit sanctuaries in Goa and to introduce Goa, a treasure trove of biological wealth, to a new identity," he said.

गोवा राज्य जैवविविधतेचा खजिना

मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत : साखळीत आंतरराष्ट्रीय जैवविविधता दिनी पुरस्कार वितरण

बिचोलिम

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गोव्याला जागतिक पातळीवरील जैवसंपन्न राज्य करणार!

बिचोलिम

गोवा ही पूर्ण जैवविविधता भूखंडात एक अत्यंत समृद्ध प्रदेश आहे. यात अनेक प्रकारचे जैवविविधता संपत्ती आहेत. या संपत्तीचा योग्य वापर करून गोवाला जागतिक पातळीवरील जैवसंपन्न राज्य बनवण्याचे मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांचा निर्धार आहे.



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निसर्ग संपत्तीचे महत्त्व जाणवता येईल अशा ७ जागांना पुरस्कार देण्यात येईल

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गोंय संवसारांत आदर्श जैवविविधता राज्य करपाचो संकल्प: मुख्यमंत्री

साखळे जैवविविधता दिसा राज्य पुरस्कार भेटयले

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Chief Minister unveils vision for Goa as model biodiversity hub

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'New scheme to revive Goa's salt pans

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Announcing support schemes for grassroots conservation using People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) and community-led biodiversity actions, Sawant lauded projects like GoVán, Green Skilling and revival of traditional crops like Patni rice and Patni watermelon, which, he said, are empowering the local communities and protecting Goa's legacy.

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contributing towards it he said.

Stressing on preservation of Goa's natural wealth, the Chief Minister said from 'khas farming to 'kolgaris', a sacred goose, biodiver-

Sawant appealed to citizens to avoid plastic and urged them to work towards green Goa.

An exhibition showing the biological wealth of Goa was organised on the occasion.

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Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and other dignitaries along with those honoured with the biodiversity awards.

निसर्ग संपत्तीचे महत्त्व जाणवता येईल अशा ७ जागांना पुरस्कार देण्यात येईल

गोवा ही पूर्ण जैवविविधता भूखंडात एक अत्यंत समृद्ध प्रदेश आहे. यात अनेक प्रकारचे जैवविविधता संपत्ती आहेत. या संपत्तीचा योग्य वापर करून गोवाला जागतिक पातळीवरील जैवसंपन्न राज्य बनवण्याचे मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांचा निर्धार आहे.

मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांनी आज बिचोलिम येथे आयोजित झालेल्या कार्यक्रमात या ७ जागांना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले. या पुरस्कारांचे वितरण मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आले.

मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांनी आज बिचोलिम येथे आयोजित झालेल्या कार्यक्रमात या ७ जागांना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले. या पुरस्कारांचे वितरण मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या हस्ते करण्यात आले.



गोव्याच्या जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करा!

मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांचे आवाहन : साखळी येथे राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा उत्साहात

संवादन - गोवा राज्याच्या जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही आमच्या सर्वांच्या जबाबदारी आहे. आजच्या काळात जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही एक आव्हानात्मक बाब आहे. त्यासाठी आम्हाला एकत्र येऊन काम करावे लागेल. यावेळी प्रमुख अतिथी म्हणून मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या उपस्थितीत राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा साखळी येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला. यावेळी अनेक क्षेत्रातील व्यक्तींना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले. मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांनी आपले संबोधन देताना म्हणले की, जैवविविधता ही आपल्या सभ्यतेची आधारभूत आहे. ती नष्ट झाल्यास आपल्या जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही आमच्या सर्वांच्या जबाबदारी आहे. त्यासाठी आम्हाला एकत्र येऊन काम करावे लागेल. यावेळी प्रमुख अतिथी म्हणून मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या उपस्थितीत राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा साखळी येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला. यावेळी अनेक क्षेत्रातील व्यक्तींना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले.



मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या उपस्थितीत राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा साखळी येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला.

पर्यावरण - पर्यावरण ही जैवविविधतेची आधारभूत आहे. पर्यावरण नष्ट झाल्यास जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही आमच्या सर्वांच्या जबाबदारी आहे. त्यासाठी आम्हाला एकत्र येऊन काम करावे लागेल. यावेळी प्रमुख अतिथी म्हणून मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या उपस्थितीत राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा साखळी येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला. यावेळी अनेक क्षेत्रातील व्यक्तींना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले.

संवादन - गोवा राज्याच्या जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही आमच्या सर्वांच्या जबाबदारी आहे. आजच्या काळात जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे ही एक आव्हानात्मक बाब आहे. त्यासाठी आम्हाला एकत्र येऊन काम करावे लागेल. यावेळी प्रमुख अतिथी म्हणून मुख्यमंत्री प्रमोद सावंत यांच्या उपस्थितीत राज्य जैवविविधता पुरस्कार वितरण सोहळा साखळी येथे आयोजित करण्यात आला. यावेळी अनेक क्षेत्रातील व्यक्तींना पुरस्कार देण्यात आले.

Proud moment



Wahab Khan, The Navhind Times' Senior Reporter, received a Special Appreciation award under the Green Journalist category at the Goa State Biodiversity Conservation Awards 2024, in recognition of his extensive reporting on biodiversity and related fields. The award was presented by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant at an event held in Sankhali on Thursday to mark International Biodiversity Day. The selection was made by the Awards Scrutiny Committee constituted by Goa State Biodiversity Board.



माननीय पर्यावरण व हवामान बदल मंत्री, गोवा सरकार, अध्यक्ष, गोवा राज्य जैवविविधता मंडळ (जीएसबीबी)

श्री. आलेक्स सिक्वेरा

माननीय पर्यावरण व हवामान बदल मंत्री, गोवा सरकार, अध्यक्ष, गोवा राज्य जैवविविधता मंडळ (जीएसबीबी)



जैवविविधतेसाठीचा आंतरराष्ट्रीय दिन २०२५ च्या

निमित्ताने जैवविविधतेसाठीचा आंतरराष्ट्रीय दिन (आयडीबी) २०२५ च्या निमित्ताने माझ्या सर्व प्रिय गोमंतकीयांना हार्दिक शुभेच्छा. ह्या वर्षाची संकल्पना आहे "निसर्गाशी सामंजस्य व सातत्यपूर्ण विकास" निसर्गाशी सामंजस्याने सातत्यपूर्ण नातेसंबंध ठेवून आम्ही मानवाच्या कल्याणासाठी, आरोग्यदायी ग्रहासाठी व सर्व लोकांच्या आर्थिक सुबत्तेसाठी प्रयत्नरत राहू शकतो आम्ही जैवविविधतेच्या कन्व्हेन्शनवरील मसुद्याला मे २२ १९९२ (सीबीडी) अंगिकारण्यासाठी तसेच त्याचे पालन करण्यासाठी आयडीबी साजरा करतो.

राष्ट्र म्हणून जैवविविधतेचे संवर्धन करणे, जैवविविधतेवरील कन्व्हेन्शनचे स्वाक्षरीकर्ते म्हणून जबाबदारी निभावणे व सातत्यपूर्ण कृती करणे सुरु आहे आमच्या राष्ट्रीय जैवविविधता धोरणाचे व कृती आराखड्याचे अनावरण झाल्यानंतर आमचा गोवा राज्य जैवविविधता धोरण व कृती आराखडा तयार करण्यात आला ज्यामध्ये ५० पेसा जास्त स्थानिक तज्ञानी, सहभाग घेतला व १६ उपसमित्या कार्यरत होत्या सार्वजनिक अभिप्रायासाठी पहिला मसुदा प्रकाशित करण्यात आला आहे. कुन्मिंग-मॉन्ट्रीयल ग्लोबल बायोडायव्हर्सिटी फ्रेमवर्क (केएमजीबीएफ) ची ३० कृती घेणे सातत्यपूर्ण विकासासाठीच्या २०३० अजेंड्याशी व त्यांचे १७ एसडीजी यांच्याशी निगडित आहेत. त्यांच्याद्वारे सदर कामगिरीला सहाय्य होणार आहे. सदर धोरण स्तरावरील दस्तऐवजाला समाजाच्या सर्व स्तरामधून कमाल प्रतिसादमते आवश्यक आहेत व तो लोकांचा आराखडा ठरला पाहिजे जो अंतिमतः प्रत्यक्षपणे कार्यान्वित होणार आहे. मी सर्वांना आवाहन करतो की त्यांनी आमच्या आराखड्याचा भाग व्हावे व निसर्गाशी सामंजस्यपूर्ण नाते टिकवण्यासाठी सातत्याने सहयोग द्यावा. "पर्यावरणासाठी जीवनशैली-अभियान जीवन" ही मोहीम आपले माननीय पंतप्रधान श्री. नरेंद्र मोदीजी यांनी सुरु केली असून ज्याद्वारे निसर्गाशी सामंजस्यपूर्ण नातेसंबंध राखायला हवेत. आमचे माननीय मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. प्रमोद सावंत यांनी "स्वयंपूर्ण गोवा" हे धोरण "आत्मनिर्भर भारताच्या" धर्तीवर सुरु केले असून सातत्य व सामंजस्य यामध्ये समतोल राखण्याचे ते उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण आहे. आम्ही प्रत्येकाने यामध्ये कृतीयुक्त सहभाग घेतला पाहिजे कारण आमची सर्वांची जीवने त्या निसर्गाशी जोडलेली आहेत.

गोव्यात आमच्या पूर्वजांनी खाजण शेत, कुळागाराचे एकात्मिक क्षेत्र व निसर्गाशी सह अस्तित्व राखण्याचे उदाहरण देऊन अर्धे वारसा निर्माण केला आहे त्यांनी पवित्र वृक्षवल्ली व पर्यावरणपूरक जीवनशैलीचे वरदान दिले आहे. आमच्या प्रत्येक कृतीमध्ये निसर्गाशी सातत्य व सामंजस्य राखण्यास प्राधान्य असले पाहिजे. त्यासाठी आणखी तज्ञांची आवश्यकता भासू शकते निसर्गातील अन्य जीवशास्त्री सौहार्दपूर्ण सहअस्तित्व राखण्यासाठी त्यांचे नियोजन व उत्तेजन याकरिता लोकांच्या जैवविविधता रजिस्टरचे एकात्मिकरण झाले पाहिजे. आमच्या जैवविविधता व्यवस्थापन समिती (बीएमसी) ह्या बदलासाठी प्रयत्नरत असून प्रत्येकाने हातभार लावणे आवश्यक आहे आमचे बीएमसीज व गोव्याच्या जन्मोसह आम्ही जीएसबीबी आयडीबी २०२५ च्या संकल्पनेच्या यशासाठी ह्या वर्षी सर्वतोपरी प्रयत्नरत आहोत.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIODIVERSITY



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIODIVERSITY

भोवमानादीक मंत्री, पर्यावरण आनी हवामान बदल
गोंय सरकार, अल्फा, गोंय राज्य जैववैविध्यताय मंडळ (जिएसबीबी) हांचो संदेश





श्री. आलेक्स सिक्वेरा
 भोवमानादीक मंत्री, पर्यावरण आनी हवामान बदल
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आंतरराष्ट्रीय जैव विविधताय दीस 2025च्या निमतान

भायजा सगल्या मोगाक गोंयकारांक 'आंतरराष्ट्रीय जैव विविधताय दीस (आयडीबी) 2025' निमतान उज्वळीत परवी. अंतुची संकल्पना 'दीस कडेन मेळ आनी शाश्वत विकास' आसा. सैमा कडेन सुरवात आनी शाश्वत संबंद निर्माण करपा खातीर काम करुन, आमी मनेस कल्याण, निरोगी व्हड आनी सगल्या लोकां खातीर अर्थीक सफुटी खातीर यत्न करुया. 22 मे 1992 दिसा कन्व्हेन्शन ऑन बायोलॉजिकल डायव्हर्सिटी (सीबीडी)चो मजकूर बिकारपाच्या संरक्षण आनी आयडीबी पाळटाळ आनी मजबूतता.

एक वेळ म्हणून जैववैविध्यतायेचे संरक्षण करप, जैवीक विविधताये बयल्या कारणांचेर सय करप आनी शाश्वत कृती सुनिश्चित करप हाचे खातीर आमची वचन बद्धताय कायम आसा. आसपी राष्ट्रीय जैववैविध्यताय रणनीति आनी कृती आराखडो जाहीर केल्या उपरांत आमची गोंय राज्य जैववैविध्यताय रणनीति आनी कृती येवजण 6 चप सभिका बरवी 50 परस अदीक बजाव्य तज्ञांची आस्पाव करुन तयार केल्या. पयलो मसुदो भौतीक सल्लेसल्ले खातीर प्रसिद केल्या. कुनमिपमॉन्ट्रियल प्लोव्हल ब्योव्होयर्सिटी फ्रेमवर्क (केएमजीबीएफ)चे 23 कृती लक्ष शाश्वत विकासा खातीर 2030 एजेण्डा आनी ताच्या 17 एसडीजी कडेन सुसंगत आसात आनी तांच्या सावदायेत योगदान दितात. ह्या धोरणात्मक दस्तऐवजांत समाजच्या सगल्या पांवड्यांतल्यान बद्दलत बद्द सभ्याय गरजेचो आसा आनी ही लोकांचे येवजण आसुंक जाय. जी निमतान जमनीचेर कार्यान्वीत जातली. ह्या सगल्यांक आपचे येवजणेचो भाग जावपाचो आनी सैमा कडेन सुसंवादात्मक संबंद तिथीक व्हरपाक हातांत हात घालपाचे आव्हान करतो.

आमचे भोवमानादीक प्रधानमंत्री श्री. नरेंद्र मोदीजी हांचो मंडोले "पर्यावरण खातीर जिणे शैली - मिशन लायफ" हे अभियान सैमा कडेन आशिल्ल्या सुसंवादाच्या संवादाचे गाभे आसा. आनी "आत्मनिर्भर भारत" खाता आमचे भोवमानादीक मूळमंत्राचे व्हड प्रभेद सांगत हांगी सुरत केल्लो "स्वयंपूर्ण गोंय" हो उपक्रम शाश्वत आनी सुसंगत हांचे मदीं संतुलन सादपाचे सर्वोत्कृष्ट वेव्हार आसा. आमी सगळे जिणेचे खाळयेचे भाग आशिल्ल्यान, कृती आमचें दवरकल्या काळ्यान सुरू जावपाक जाय.

गोंयांत, कमळा घुंटांनी खेळान शैलीची अल्प आनी धमाक न्हय. कुडगराचो एकात्मिक मॉडेल आनी पवित्र जाड आनी पर्यावरणाक अनुकूल समाधानी जिणे शैली तयार करुन सैमा कडेन सजवतिसाच्या पॅरन्चेचे एक घट्टूट मुजबण घालता. आमच्या धोरणांत दर एका कृतींत शाश्वतताय आनी सैमा कडेन सुरवात हाका प्रधान्य दिकाचें वेळ आयल्या. ते खातीर अदीक तज्ञांचो सहभाग, हेर जाली आनी कसल्ले प्रजाती सयत सजवतिसाचे निवोडन आनी प्रोत्साहन दिवपाक लोकांच्या जैववैविध्यताय मॉडीचे एकत्रीकरण करपाची गरज आसूं येता. आमचो जैववैविध्यताय वेवस्थापन समिती (बीएससी) बद्दलाने बालक जावपाचो यत्न करतल आनी लोकां सगल्यांचो वेळो जाय.

अंतु आयडीबी 2025 ह्या संवसराचें वेस मेळोवप खातीर आमी जैववैविध्यताय हातुंत आमच्या बीएससी आनी गोंयांतल्या लोकां सयत बळोवपक यत्न करुया.

Message from the Hon'ble. Minister, Environment & Climate Change Government of Goa, Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)





Shri. Aleixo Sequeira
 Hon'ble. Minister, Environment & Climate Change Government of Goa,
 Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)

On the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity 2025

Hearty greetings to all my beloved Goans on 'The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB)- 2025'. This year's theme is "Harmony with nature and sustainable development". By working towards harmonious and sustainable relationships with nature, we shall strive towards human well-being, a healthy planet, and economic prosperity for all people. We observe and celebrate IDB to commemorate the adoption of the text of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on 22 May 1992.

Our commitment to conserving biodiversity as a country, being a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and ensuring sustainable actions have been continuous. After releasing our National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, our Goa State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is prepared by involving over 50 local experts through 16 subcommittees. The first draft is released for public consultation. The 23 action targets of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) are aligned with the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its 17 SDGs and contribute to their achievement. This policy-level document needs maximum input from all levels of society and this should be the people's plan, which will ultimately get operationalized on the ground. I appeal to everyone to be a part of our plan and join hands in sustaining a harmonious relationship with nature.

The mission "Lifestyle for Environment -Mission LIFE" envisaged by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi is core to the harmonious relationship with nature. And the initiative of "Swayampurn Goa" by our Hon'ble Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant in line with "Atmanirbhar Bharat" is the best example of achieving balance between Sustainability and Harmony. The actions should start from each one of us and since we are all part of web of life.

In Goa, our ancestors have laid down a strong foundation with an exemplary and heritage system of Khazan farming, an integrated model of Kulagar and traditions of coexistence with nature by creating sacred groves and an eco-friendly contented lifestyle. It's time that our policy prioritises sustainability and harmony with nature in every action. It might need the involvement of more experts, integration of People's Biodiversity Registers in planning and promoting coexistence with other species of fauna and flora. Our Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) are trying to be the drivers of change and need support from everyone.

We at GSBB will make maximum efforts to achieve the success of the theme of IDB 2025 in this year along with our BMCs and the people of Goa.

Pre IDB -2025 event

“RASTRIYA YUVA JAGRUTI”, a Youth National Festival held from 12th January to 08th February 2025.

Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB), in collaboration with Abhivyaktee, organized the “RASTRIYA YUVA JAGRUTI”, a Youth Festival from 12th January to 08th February 2025.



Inaugural function of Rastriya Yuva Jagruti:

Virtual inaugural function held on 12th January 2025 to mark Shri. Swami Vivekanand’s birth anniversary which is celebrated as ‘Youth Day’.

The themes of all competitions of Yuva Jagruti were in line with Swami Vivekananda’s principles of the youth’s social responsibility towards the well-being of the environment and our planet as a whole.

The competitions were in hybrid mode: Online and physical.

Following are the details of the competitions held at National level: and Digi- tell (Digital Poster)

1. *Shoot- Voot (Photography)*

This competition was for the age group of 16 - 35 years and the theme was ‘Water Bodies’ or ‘Impact of development on Earth’.

Shri Nirmal Kulkarni and Dr Sanjay Todkar were the judges.

Prizes:

- 1st place- Mahima Sandeep Sinai Priolkar - Goa
- 2nd place- Vishant Ghadi - Goa
- 3rd place- Madhumita Kundu – West Bengal
- 1st Consolation- Ayush Sah – West Bengal
- 2nd Consolation- Manthan Vadkar- Goa

2. *Digi – TELL (DIGITAL POSTER DESIGN)*

This competition was for the age group of 16 - 35 years and the theme was ‘Remedies to reduce Carbon Footprint’ OR ‘Impact of Plastic waste on Oceans’

Shri Venkatesh Lagji and Shri Shashank Natu were the judges.

Prizes:

- 1st place- Poonam Bind - Goa
- 2nd place- Diksha Rajesh Mahale - Goa
- 3rd place -Manya Pande – UP
- 1st consolation- Gautam S. Naik - Goa
- 2nd consolation- Arya Dinesh Karpe - Goa

Goa Yuva Jagruti

Inaugural:

Goa Yuva Jagruti was inaugurated on 08th Feb 2025 at 9:30 AM at Institute Menezes Braganza's main hall in the presence of Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam (Member Secretary Goa State Biodiversity Board), Shri Dashrath Parab (Member Secretary, Institute Menezes Braganza) and Ms Geeta Mangueshkar (Secretary of Abhivyaktee).

Member Secretary Goa State Biodiversity Board declared the event open.



Inaugural Function

Following are the details of the competitions held at State level (Physical):

1. Color – BILLAR (POSTERMAKING)

This competition was for school level and the theme was 'Plastic Pollution'.

Ms Kranti Chari & Mr Dilesh Hazare were the judges.



Prizes:

- 1st place- Sarvodaya Educational Society's High School, Curchorem
- 2nd place- Bethany Convent High School, Sao Jose de Areal, Salcete

- 3rd place- Little flower of Jesus High School, Calangute
- 1st Consolation- Vidya Vihar High School, Cortalim
- 2nd Consolation – Dr K.B.Hedgewar High School, Cujira



Winners of Color- Billar

2. Shabd – SWAR (NON-FILMY GROUP SINGING COMPETITION)

This competition was for school level and the theme was पर्यावरण रक्षय - Safeguarding our Environment

Ms Tanmayee Bhide & Mr Nitin Korgaonkar were the judges.



Prizes:

- First place- Sarvodaya Educational Society's High School, Curchorem
- Second place- Little Flower of Jesus High School, Calangute
- Third place – Bal Bharati Vidya Mandir, Ribandar
- Consolation (1st) – Vidya Vihar High School, Cortalim
- Consolation (2) Mushtifund High School, Cujira
- Best Melody (for new song) : Little Flower of Jesus High School, Calangute
- Best Lyrics (for new song) : Sarvodaya Educational Society's High School, Curchorem



Winners of Shabd- Swar

3. Zor – SHOR (STREET PLAY COMPETITION)

This competition was for Higher Secondary School & College level and the theme was ‘जल जीवन है’ OR ‘स्वयंपूर्ण Goa’

Prof Hemant Ayya & Shri Sanjay Mapari were the judges



Prizes:

- First place- Kala Academy Goa’s College of Theatre Arts
- b. Second place- Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce Sanquelim
- c. Third place - Nirmala Institute of Education, Altinho Panaji
- d. Consolation (1) – Don Bosco College
- e. Consolation (2) – St Michael Higher Secondary School



Winners of Zor Shor

Concluding function:

The concluding function began at 12:30 noon at the IMB main hall amidst a large gathering of participants, Teachers and Parents.

A special 'UKTI MAACHI' was held which presented young talents in a non-competitive nature. Classical dance, Music, Poetry recitation and Monologues were performed.



Ukti Maachi performances

Valedictory:

Prizes were declared and distributed by the Chief Guest – Shri Parag Rangnekar, Board Member GSBB, in the presence of Guest of Honour – Shri Dashrath Parab (Chairman, IMB) and Project In charge, Yuva Jagruti – Dr Saish Deshpande.

Yuva Jagruti coordinator, Ms Veda Manerikar read the project report followed by encouraging Speeches of Shri Dashrath Parab and the Chief Guest Shri Parag Rangnekar.

Prize winners of online contests were declared and their prize-winning entries projected on screen. Vote of thanks was offered by Dr Saish Deshpande. All of the off line winners were given cash prizes and certificates. The event was Compeered by Miss Antara Bhide.

***** Thank you*****