

GOA FOREST NEWS



Vol. VII No. 1, December 2007

Wildlife Week Celebrations 2007



The Wildlife Week concluding function was held in the auditorium of the ESG at the Old GMC Complex, Panaji, at which prizes were distributed to the winners of the various Wildlife Week competitions, at the hands of the Hon'ble Ministers present. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Shri Digambar Kamat was the Chief Guest and the Hon'ble Minister for Forests, Shri Filipe Neri Rodrigues was the Guest of Honour. Competitions had been held earlier by the Wildlife Division in drawing, posters and essay writing. Nature camps for school children were held at Bondla and Cotigao and camp for nature guides was held at Molem. The Hornbill was selected as the mascot for Wildlife Week 2007.

Prize winners, parents of students, representatives of teaching institutions and officials of the Forest Department were present on the occasion. The guests were welcomed by the Dy. Conservator of Forest (Wildlife) and the Chief Conservator of Forests presented a report of the activities. On this occasion, a calendar, cap and T-shirt on the themes of Wildlife were released by the dignitaries. The calendar contains 12 selected drawings from the entries received for various competitions conducted as part of Wildlife Week celebrations. The vote of thanks was proposed by the assistant Conservator of Forests (Wildlife).

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THE GRAND FESTIVAL OF FORESTS

58th Vanamahotsava was celebrated at Sindhunagar, Curti, Ponda on 10th July 2007, by planting tall seedlings of various forestry species. Shri Ravi S. Naik, Hon'ble Minister for Home, Govt. of Goa, was the Chief Guest and Shri. Filipe Neri Rodrigues, Hon'ble Minister for Forests was the Guest of Honour. The Chief Guest stressed on the importance of planting local species of trees like jack and kokum and the role they play in the rural economy. Hon'ble Minister for Forests, exhorted the forest staff to be more vigilant in protection, and to be more diligent in nurturing the environment. The Sarpanch, Kurti village also exhorted the villagers to plant more trees. Earlier Shri Omkar Singh, IFS Chief Conservator of Forests welcomed the gathering and gave a brief account of the activities of the Forest Dept. Shri Rajesh, IFS Dy. Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division, Ponda proposed a vote of thanks.



Among the dignitaries were present Shri. Richard D'Souza, IFS, Managing Director, Goa Forest Development Corporation, other officials, Panchayat members, staff and students of the local school and college planted seedlings to mark the occasion.

BREAKING THE ICE



Shri. Filipe Neri Rodrigues, Hon'ble Minister for Forests held a closed chamber meeting with the Assistant Conservators of Forests and Range Forest Officers, on September 8, 2007 in the Conference Hall Ponda. Shri Omkar Singh, I.F.S. Chief Conservator of Forests and Shri C. A. Reddy, I.F.S. Conservator of Forests were also present. The Hon'ble Minister gave a patient hearing to the free and frank views expressed by the officers. The Hon'ble Minister was apprised of the

fact that Forest Officers were rigorously trained and performed an assortment of duties of the police in protection, revenue officials, agriculture, civil engineers and were custodians of the law, and yet were given lowest status. The acute need of communication means at the lowest level was stressed. The Hon'ble Minister promised to look into the suggestions. The meeting ended on a very cordial note. The Minister visited the wildlife sanctuary at Cotigao and interacted with the staff.



ELEPHANT RUMBLINGS IN NORTH GOA DIVISION.

The elephant has great mythological significance in India. The Pachyderm sacrificed its head for Lord Ganesha. The elephant headed god Lord Ganesha is greatly revered in Goa. Known as Airavata in Indian mythology, the king of elephants is the mount of god Indra. Airavata was also called Ardh-Matanga (Lord of the Clouds), Arkasodara (brother of the Sun) and Naga-Malla (the fighting elephant). Elephants were, in the past, visitors to our sanctuaries in Molem and Cotigao.

However, in 2005, a small herd of elephants displaced from their home elsewhere, entered North Goa, in search of pastures and perhaps a home. Unfortunately, they entered an area which is inhabited, and satiated their hunger by feeding in agricultural and horticultural plantations. A more detailed account of their presence will be featured in these columns shortly. But for now it appears that this magnificent creature has no place to call home.

TACKLING THE ELEPHANT PROBLEM

- A Meeting of the Director, Project Elephant and the Chief Wildlife Wardens of all the bordering States of Goa was held at Bondla Wild Life Sanctuary, to discuss the elephant incursion into border villages of North Goa from adjacent areas of Maharashtra.
- As a follow-up, a review meeting of the above officials was held in Ponda in February 2007,

wherein officers from Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa presented the problems faced by them, and how they were tackled.

- A third meeting was held in Dandeli in November 2007, which was attended by the Conservator of Forests, Goa, and Dy. Conservator of Forests North Goa Division.

MICROCHIPPING OF DOMESTIC ELEPHANTS



The Indian elephant is facing a decline in population for various reasons. The domestication of elephants for work and for temples and other organizations is a major market for captured wild elephants. In order

to establish a foolproof identity of each elephant, it is made mandatory to insert microchips on all domesticated elephants. This objective is being met through Project Elephant. Microchips are inserted below the left ear of the elephant. The two elephants at Bondla have been injected with microchips. Shri A. A. Hebleker, RFO has attended the training conducted by Project Elephant at Guruvayoor in Kerala, for implanting of microchips.

Celebration:-

On April 16 2006 Bhagwan Mahaveer Jayanti was celebrated at the site of the statue which is installed in Molem National Park. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa was the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Minister for P.W.D, and Hon'ble MLA Sanvordem, Chief Secretary, Chief Conservator of Forests, Goa and officers of the Forest Department were present to grace the occasion.

Rescue of Leopard from Miramar area.

A fully grown male leopard was rescued on April 4 2006 from the premises of Ms. Menon, resident of Miramar-Panjim, by the staff and officers of the Forest Department. Attempts to tranquilize the leopard with xylazine, using a dart gun did not produce desired results. Finally, the efforts of the staff succeeded, at around 12.30 pm, when the leopard was trapped. It was shifted to Bondla zoo for observation and was treated for minor injuries in consultation with the Veterinary officer from the Veterinary Hospital. After 3 days the leopard was fit and was released in Molem National Park on April 8 2006.

RESEARCH AND UTILIZATION DIVISION



FOREST GUARDS UNDER TRAINING

A batch of 35 newly recruited Forest Guards were given training in the Forest Training School, Valpoi, from March 28 till September 28, 2007. 35 forest guards including eight ladies were given training. The trainees undertook three tours for hands-on study in the field at Hathipaul and Bondla of one week duration each. One tour was held in Karnataka to acquaint them of the types of forests found in our neighbour State. After successful completion of the training, the Forest Guards have been posted out in the various Divisions.

Dr. J. K. Jaisankar, IAS, Director, Project Elephant, IC Junior Instructors, T. K. D. A. S. Banaji, Sr. Instructors, R. E. S. J. V. S. Prasad, Principal, A. C. F., Shri. D. R. Choudhary, visiting Lecturer, Ravi A. C. F., Shri. Mohanlal Ag. S. Instructors, R. S. D.

Standing 1st Row: L-R-Mrs. Manali Tale, Mrs. Kavitha Nalk, Mrs. Kiranale Ganha, Mrs. Annapurna Jadhav Jha, Thakri Ganesh, Mrs. Shweta Rajk, Mrs. Saranya Kulkarni.

2nd Row: Shri. Gourishankar, Shri. Trishankar Vernekar, Shri. Sarvendra Fernandes, Shri. Shrikant Vally, Shri. Jyotesh Nalk, Shri. Smit Vally, Shri. Ramesh Mulgankar, Shri. Damodar Fernandes, Shri. Satyaji Phandekar, Shri. Mangesh Kuthankar, Shri. Satyawan Ganva, Shri. Gayatri Kharpatkar.

3rd Row: Shri. Prashant, Mrs. Shri. Shama, Ganha, Shri. Sagar Morje, Shri. Nayank Ganvade, Shri. Tuladaz Ganva, Shri. Vishwanath Ganha, Shri. Sahadur Ganha, Shri. Arjun Ganva, Shri. Nitish Varde, Shri. Pankaj Parivar, Shri. Prashanting Raut, Shri. Satish Ganva, Shri. Sushant Nalk, Shri. Nitish Tale, Shri. Uday Narayan, Shri. Jyoti Ganvade.

REFRESHER COURSES FOR FOREST GUARDS



As part of the endeavour of the Government to improve the skills of the executive staff and to upgrade their knowledge regular training courses are conducted in the Forest Training School at Valpoi. Four refresher courses each of two weeks' duration were held recently. At the end of each course, 20 trainees from the executive staff went richer with knowledge and experience.

The refresher course was held from 30.01.2006 to 12.02.2006. Which were inaugurated by Shri. A.K.Wahal, IFS Chief Conservator of Forests, and guidance was provided by Shri. O.V.R Reddy IFS Director of Forest Education. The course was coordinated by Shri. Suhas Vasta Principal, Forest Training School, and was helped by Shri. A.G. Samant R.F.O..

The third course was inaugurated by Shri Pratapsing Raoji Rane, the then Chief Minister and Forest Minister of Goa on 13.09.2006. The valedictory function was held on 26.09.2006. The course was conceived and executed under the guidance of Shri J.L. Singh IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests and Shri O.V.R. Reddy IFS, Director of Forest Education. The Course was coordinated by Shri D.N. Chodankar Principal of Forest Training School, (Retd.) with the assistance of Shri A.G. Samant Range Forest Officer.

The fourth course was inaugurated on 05.12.2006 and ended on 18.12.2006. This course was inaugurated by Shri P.V. Sawant, IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests (Retd.) and Shri R.A. Mazalkar, IFS Conservator of Forests (Retd.) graced the occasion. Shri Omkar Singh, IFS Chief Conservator of Forests was the motivating force for the course, and Shri Santosh Kumar, IFS, Director of Forest Education was the guiding force.

20 Forest Guards were imparted instruction in modern trends in man-management and management of forests. Resource persons with rich experience and knowledge in the varied fields were invited to give presentation. The Resource persons included Shri P.V. Sawant IFS Chief Conservator of Forests, (Retd.); Shri Richard D'Souza, IFS, Managing Director, GFDC; Shri R.A. Mazalkar IFS, Conservator of Forests (Retd); Shri C.A. Reddy, IFS, Conservator of Forests; Dr. Arvind Untawale, Retd Scientist-NIO, Dr. Thangam, Smt. Priya Devi, Dr. Ramchandralu, all Scientists-ICAR, Dr. Janardhan, Dr. Krishnan, Dr. S. Krishnan Professors-Goa University, Shri Satish Tendulkar, Dy. Director of Agriculture, Shri. R. K. Singh IFS, Shri. C. V. C. Pandien IFS, Shri V.T. Thomas IFS (Retd), Shri D.N.F. Carvalho IFS, Shri F.X. Araujo IFS, Shri Rajesh IFS, Shri M. K. Bidi, all Dy. Conservators of Forests, Shri Jagdish Wagh NGO & Member WWF Goa, Shri Sujit Kumar Dongre, Environmentalist, Shri Nirmal Kulkarni, Shri Rajendra Kerkar, Shri. Amrut Singh, Shri Arnold Noronha, Shri Vivek Parodkar, all NGOs, Shri Jagdish R. Dessai, Smt Leena Vernekar, both of Sesa Goa, Shri Ashish Prabhugaonkar, Dr. F. L. Coelho, Shri S. K. Khanolkar, Shri Cedric D'Souza, Shri P. M. Kurdekar, Shri Suhas Vasta, Shri M. V. Karkhanis, Shri. D. N. Chodankar (Retd.), all ACF's, Shri Kamu Prakash, Shri N. D. Naik, Shri Raju B. Desai, Shri Amar Heblekar, Shri Paresh Porob, all R.F.O.s, Shri S. Laximipathy Forest Surveyor, Shri Mahanand Paryenkar Round Forester and Shri Sainath Shirodkar, Animal Attendant.

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Medicinal plants have gained importance lately, as alternative medicine is gaining popularity all over the globe. Medicines from plants do not produce side effects. Various alternate systems of medicine like Ayurveda, Unani, Amchi etc. use indigenous plants in their medicinal preparations. The National Medicinal Plants Board, is promoting local medicinal plants in a big way. Under its aegis the Goa State Medicinal Plants Board is also working in this direction.

Goa State Medicinal Plants Board

The Medicinal Plant Board Meeting at State level was held on 20th March 2007 in Forest Training School, Valpoi. The Meeting was chaired by Shri Pratapsing Raoji Rane, the then Chief Minister of Goa.

The Chairman laid stress on promoting local economic

medicinal species among the farmers. After in-depth discussions, the Board decided to hold an exhibition and a workshop on medicinal plants, by ensuring participation from farmers and pharmaceutical / cosmetic manufacturers. It was also decided that seedlings of medicinal plants should be supplied free of cost to farmers.

The Chief Conservator of Forests and Member Secretary of the Board, Shri Omkar Singh and members of the board Shri. Vinayak M. Khandeparkar, Dy. Director Agriculture, Dr. R. Desai Dy. Director Health, Dr. V. S. Korikanthimath, Director, ICAR, Dr. Sangram Keshari Das, HoD, Ayurveda College Shiroda, Shri. Kamlakant K. Naik, NGO attended the meeting. Conservator of Forests, Shri C. A. Reddy, Dy. Conservator of Forests, Research & Utilisation Shri F.

X. Araujo also took part in the discussions. The Ex-Principal, FTS Shri D. N. Chodankar, gave a presentation on the medicinal plants of Goa. Principal

FTS Shri. Vikas V. Dessai, Assistant Conservator of Forests Shri Anil Shetgaonkar, Range Forests Officer FTS Shri A. G. Samant & others were present.

Medicinal Plants Seller's Meet

As part of the continuing efforts to promote growing of medicinal plants, the medicinal plants seller's meets were organized by the Research and Utilization Division of the Forest Department of Goa, at Valpoi on 27 February 2007 and at Sanguem on 2nd March 2007.

Twentyseven farmers and growers attended the meet at Valpoi while forty farmers were present at Sanguem for the day long meet

The meets were organised by the Dy. Conservator of Forests, Research & Utilization Division Shri Santosh

Kumar IFS, Shri. Anil Shetgaonkar, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Shri Raju Dessai, Shri S.R. Prabhu, Shri A.G. Samant, Shri Govind Mashelkar, all RFOs. The Zonal Agriculture Officer Shri Pradeep Malik, Shri. N.G.P. Dabholkar, MCO Sattari, Shri. Satish Gore of Godrej Agrovet, Dr. S. C. Tiwari Banjarai Farm and other agriculturists of Goa. The findings of the meets were placed before the Goa State Medicinal Plants Board.

Gloriosa Superba



Gloriosa superba is a medicinal plant having high export potential. The plant is found in our territory only in the monsoon season. During the last monsoon season the Research Division has carried out a survey of the habit, intensity and locality factors affecting the plant. It is found that the plant populations are decreasing in areas close to habitations, since the flowers are used in Puja on Sundays



in many localities. Propagation of the plants under controlled conditions is being tried out.

WILD LIFE NEWS

'ARANYAK' A CAMPSITE IN NATURE

The mandate of promoting ecotourism was given a further boost by the creation of a new campsite in the Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park near the entry gate at Collem. The facility consists of three swiss cottage tents and four single pole tents. All the tents are provided with running water (24 hrs) and individual toilets. Ample parking space and dining facility has been provided. The campsite was inaugurated on 2nd March 2007 by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Pratapsingh R. Rane.

For booking and inquiries, contact the Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Eco-Tourism, Panaji (0832-2229701) or the Office of the Range Forest Officer, Wildlife, Molem, (0832-2602211).



Figure 1 Swiss Cottage Tent

WORKSHOP ON RESTRAINT, CAPTURE & HANDLING OF WILDLIFE

A one-day workshop was held at Bondla on 29th May, 2006 on the restraint, capture and handling of wildlife. The workshop was arranged through Dr. A. V. Belsare, a wildlife veterinarian based at Pune. He dealt with the leopard conflicts experienced in Maharashtra during 2003, and highlighted the standardization of a protocol for Wildlife emergencies. He detailed the procedures to be adopted for capture, handling during capture and release of wild animals.

The strong homing instincts of large cats and the problems encountered during their attempt to return to their original habitat after translocation were also discussed in detail. Dr. Belsare also elaborated the process of chemical restraint.

Mr. Abi Tamim Warak, a wildlife scientist, spoke on the need for wildlife managers and wildlife scientists to work together. Both are working towards a common goal but with different approaches. It is necessary that both come together for the common good. On the role of science in Wildlife Management, the use of Radio telemetry and other scientific developments in wildlife management were shown. It was conveyed that the best wildlife management could be achieved with the application of science.

Mr. Ashok Captain, an associate of Mr. Romulus Whitaker, spoke about the handling of snakes. He expressed the urgent need to educate the people on the

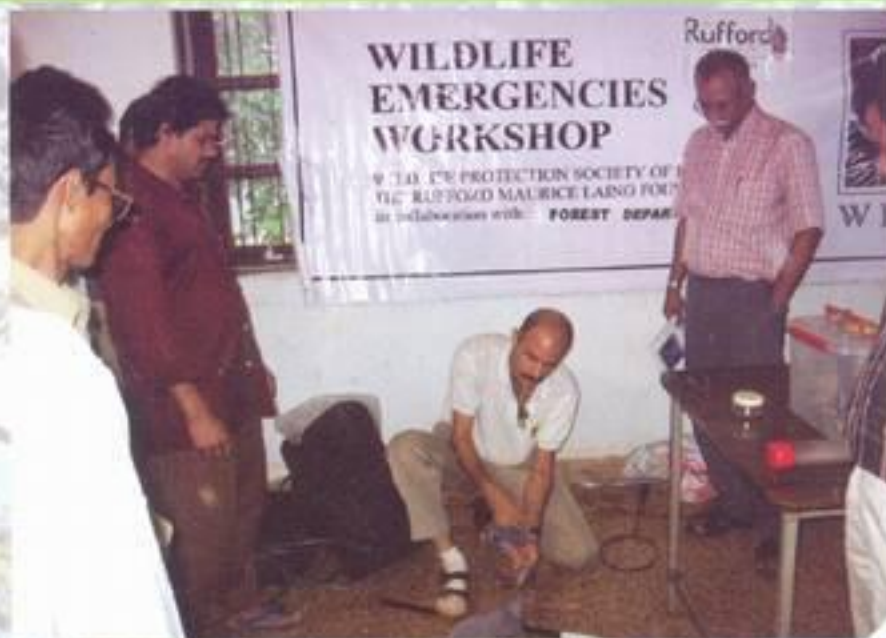


Figure 2 Mr. Ashok Captain demonstrating the capture of snake

taxonomy of snakes. It is a fact that ignorance in distinguishing between poisonous and non-poisonous snakes is the major cause of killing of all snakes. He advocated the need to institute a small reward for saving snakes. He demonstrated the use of the various handling devices to capture and handle snakes.

The workshop was attended by the senior officials of the department and the staff involved in rescue operations. Dr. Belsare presented a blowpipe to the Department at the conclusion of the workshop.

WORKSHOP ON LEGAL PROCEDURES AND OFFENCES UNDER WILDLIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972 AND ANCILLIARY ACTS.



A workshop on legal awareness in wildlife conservation was conducted at Bondla on 27th and 28th October, 2006 by a team from Wildlife Trust of India. Being a special criminal Act, the provisions and interpretations of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 were generally misunderstood by the legal practitioners, judiciary and enforcement agencies. This results in accused persons getting off with light punishments, even though the amendments have made the Act very stringent. Besides the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the relevant provisions of the ancillary Acts like Evidence Act, Criminal Procedure Code, etc. were discussed.

The field procedures for drawing of First Offence Report, Panchanamas, conducting of searches and effecting

seizures were explained in detail. Citations from judgements were also quoted to familiarize the participants with the interpretations and relevance of various sections of the Acts.

A quiz was conducted during the final session to assess the effectiveness of the workshop. It was observed that the knowledge of the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, was very good. However, the procedural aspect for implementing these provisions was found wanting. It was greatly felt by all that there should be a follow-up of this workshop to promote effective implementation of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

This workshop was special in that besides Range Forest Officers and Assistant Conservator of Forests of the Forest Department, the Asst. Public Prosecutors of the Sanguem and Canacona Courts were also present. Their presence has greatly helped in the prosecution of wildlife offences in the respective Courts. The Assistant Public Prosecutors brought out the difficulties faced during trial of offences and the field staff have been advised on the action required to be taken to avoid such difficulties.

A follow-up workshop was conducted on 28th and 29th November, 2007 at Conference Hall of North Goa Division at Ponda which was attended by the police officials and Assistant Public Prosecutors, alongwith forest officials.

We would like you to know!



Our Forest Minister
Hon'ble Minister Shri Filipe Neri Rodrigues has taken over the Forest Portfolio in June 2007. He was born on 19th October 1962 in Chinchinim, Salcete-Goa. He holds a Diploma in Civil Engineering, and at the beginning of his career, he has served 8 years as Junior Engineer in P.W.D., Roads and Bridges Division. So he is no stranger to the Government Procedures and norms. Shri Rodrigues entered politics in

1994 and he was elected by the people of Velim Constituency to represent them in the Assembly 1999. Thereafter he has been elected in 2002 and in 2007. He was inducted as Minister for Tourism, Rural Development & Legal Metrology in 2002 and thereafter has also held the portfolio of Water Resources. For a brief period he held the position of Dy. Chief Minister of Goa.

As Forest Minister within the short period he has taken over he has very capably taken to the work and has interacted with the employees. His vision is to preserve the ecology of our tiny State for our children and future generations, so that they can enjoy the same ethos and popularity in the world as we do.

At the personal level, Shri Filipe Neri Rodrigues is supported by his spouse, Myra and together they enjoy bringing up their 3 children.



Our Secretary Forests.

Shri. Raajiv Yaduvanshi is our new Secretary Forests. He belongs to the AGMUT Cadre of the IAS 1989 Batch. Born on 27th January 1963, he graduated with Honours in Chemistry, and did his MBA in Marketing and Finance Management. He has served in the state of Arunachal Pradesh, as

Secretary to Governor, Dy. Commissioner, Lower Subansiri District, and Dy. Commissioner, Itanagar. He has served the Govt. of Delhi from 1997 as Addl. Secretary (Urban Development), Dy Commissioner, South West District, Delhi and Secretary, Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board. From 2003 onwards, he has been with the State of Goa and has held positions as Secretary (Transport), Ports, Inland Water Transport, Labour, Panchayats, Factories & Boilers, and Craftsmen Training. From 2004 he has held positions as Commissioner & Secretary - Ports, Panchayats, Transport, (IWT), (Revenue), and as Chief Electoral Officer. His hobbies and areas of interest are management, playing squash, badminton and swimming.

Our Chief Conservator of Forests.

Shri Omkar Singh, IFS, the current Chief Conservator of Forests of Goa has taken charge from September 2006. Shri Omkar Singh was born on 27th June 1960 and belongs to the 1982 batch of the Indian Forest Service (AGMUT) cadre. He served in Andaman & Nicobar Islands as ACF & DCF from 1986 to 1990. Since then he has served as Senior Research Officer and Head of Non-wood Forest Products Division in the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun and as General Manager, Arunachal Pradesh Forest Development Corporation. He has served as Director, (Judicial) in the Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi and thereafter as Director Forest Education in the Directorate of Forest Education, Dehra Dun. He also served as Conservator of Forests and Chief Wild Life

Warden, Forest Department, NCT Delhi until September 2006 after which he has taken over reins of the Goa Forest Department.

He did Post Graduate Diploma in Geo Informatics, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun in 2005..

At present he is Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wild Life Warden.



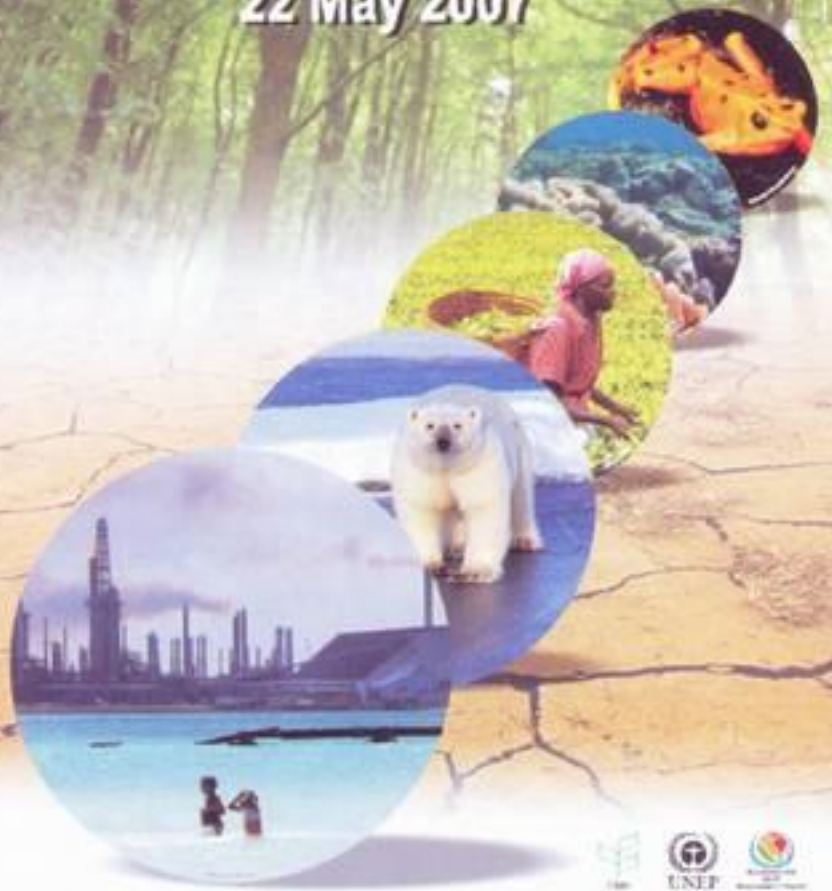
INDUCTION IN IFS

Shri. Francisco Xavier de Araujo, inducted into IFS, in August 2005. On induction he did the mandatory Upgradation of Skills course of 10 weeks duration in Dehra Dun from August to October 2006.

International Day For Biological Diversity

BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

22 May 2007



World Environment Day

World Environment Day was celebrated by the Forests Guard Trainees. Along with Range Forest Officer, Bondla on June 5 2007. The Day was celebrated by planting trees at Bondla. A Debate was also conducted on the importance of the need of planting trees & conservation of environment for the next generations. The occasion was attended by Principal, Forests Training School, Valpoi Shri Vikas V. Dessai, Range Forests Officer, Bondla Shri P. B. Veremkar, Range Forest Officer, Shri A. G. Samant, Shri Mohammad Aga & trainees of F. T. S. Valpoi.

International Day for Biological Diversity

May 22 2007 is designated as the International Day of Biological Diversity by the United Nations. The Day was celebrated at the Forest Training School, Valpoi, Director of Forest Training School Goa & Dy. Conservator of Forests Research & Utilisation Division Shri F. X. Araujo was the Chief Guest. The Director gave a power point presentation on the subject highlighting the importance of biological diversity to combat climate change in the context of Goa.

A video circulated by the UNEP on the consequences of climate change around the world was screened for the information of the audience. A poster circulated also by the UNEP, marking the day was printed and released at the function.

The Guest & invitees were welcomed by the Principal of Forest Training School Shri Vikas V. Dessai, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Research & Utilisation Division Shri Anil Shetgaonkar, Ex-Principal FTS Shri D. N. Chodankar, also spoke on the occasion. The occasion was attended by officers of the Department, staff and trainees of the Forest Training School, Valpoi.

Vote of thanks by Range Forest Officer Shri A. G. Samant concluded the function.

World Day to Combat Desertification

June 17 is declared by the United Nations as World Day to Combat Desertification and the Day was celebrated in Forest Training School, Valpoi. On the occasion, the tradition lamp of Goa was lighted to spread the message "Desertification and Climate Change - One Global Challenge."

The Chief Guest of the function was the Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri Omkar Singh. To mark the occasion seedlings were planted. At the outset, seedling was planted by Smt. Omkar Singh and then by the officers, trainees, press and members of the public.

The Chief Guest Shri Omkar Singh in his address spoke about the threats to the environment due to loss of forests. Conservator of Forests Shri C. A. Reddy, reminded that foresters should lead the people in afforestation programmes. Assistant Conservators Shri Subhash Henriques (North Division), Shri Milind. Karkhanis, (Legal Cell), Shri Raju B. Dessai, Range Forest Officer, Research also spoke on the occasion.



Director of Forest Training School Shri F. X. Araujo, gave a power point presentation on the subject. Dy. Conservator of Forest, Working Plan Division, Shri. G. T. Kumar, all Assistant Conservators, and Range forest Officers attended the function. Principal, Forest Training School, Valpoi Shri Vikas V. Dessai, I/c Instructor, Shri A. G. Samant thanked the participants.

SPORTS

At the All India Forest Sports Meet was held in Jaipur from 6th to 10th February 2007, The Goa Forest Department came away with the Bronze Medal. Goa scored over Chattisgarh, by two goals, in the Quarter Finals, but lost to Meghalaya in the Semi-Finals, by 5 goals. In the play off for the 3rd place Goa beat Kerala by one goal. The Scorers for Goa were Subha Naik (2), and Sopan Khandolkar (1). The Football Team who brought the laurels were Abhijeet

Verekar (Goal keeper), Joseph Fernandes (Stopper back), Anil Gaonkar (Stopper back), Sebastiao Rodrigues (Right back), Mohammad Aga (Left back), Jose Colaco (Half), Deepak Pednekar (Forward), Pranay Naik (Half), Nandkumar Parab (Half), Sopan Khandolkar (Forward), Subha Naik (Forward), Narayan Vaigankar (Half), Eusebio Braganza (Forward), Deepak Betquikar (Sub. Goalkeeper), Minguel Fernandes (Forward).



Can You Identify This Creature From The Photograph?

POSTED TO GOA

1	Shri Santosh Kumar, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forests Planning & Statistics, Panaji
2	Shri Debendra Dalai, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forests Wildlife & Eco-tourism, Panaji
3	Shri G. T. Kumar, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forests Working Plan, Panaji
4	Shri Mahesh K. Shambhu, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forests North Goa, Ponda
5	Smt. Surabhi Rai, IFS	Probationer

POSTED OUT OF GOA

1	Shri J.L. Singh, IFS	Chief Conservator of Forests
2	Shri Jitendra Kumar, IFS	Conservator of Forests
3	Shri C.D. Singh, IFS	-do-
4	Shri Rajesh, IFS	-do-
5	Shri O.V. R. Reddy, IFS	Dy. Conservator of Forests

PROMOTIONS

1	Smt. Dora C. Lobo e Fernandes Junior Stenographer	Senior Stenographer
2	Smt. Rosaria Fernandes Junior Stenographer	Head Clerk
3	Shri R. K. Phadte Dy. Range Forest Officer	Range Forest Officer
4	Shri Arun N. S. Talwadkar Dy. Range Forest Officer	Range Forest Officer Ad hoc basis
5	Shri Mohammad Aga Dy. Range Forest Officer	Range Forest Officer Ad hoc basis
6	Shri Dyyaneshwar M. Kudalkar Round Forester	Dy. Range Forest Officer Ad hoc basis
7	Shri Mohanlal G. Phadte Round Forester	Dy. Range Forest Officer Ad hoc basis
8	Shri Vilas S. Vernekar Round Forester	Dy. Range Forest Officer Ad hoc basis
9	Shri Vithal Laximan Naik Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
10	Shri Tulshidas Narshgiv Naik Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
11	Shri Paresh M. Mirashi Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
12	Shri Vassu Sagun Sawant Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
13	Shri Krishna B. Gawas Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
14	Shri Ramakant B. Deuli Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
15	Shri Vithal L. Porob Forest Guard	Round Forester Ad hoc basis
16	Shri Dharma K. Gaonkar Upper Division Clerk	Head Clerk

RETIREMENT

1	Shri Tulshidas N. Mishal Round Forester	Retired on superannuation	31-12-2005
3	Shri Gurudas N. L. Dessai Forest Guard	-do-	31-10-2005
4	Shri Shiva M. Naik Forest Guard	-do-	30-11-2005
5	Shri Ganesh Hinde Forest Guard	-do-	31-12-2005
6	Shri Vithal P. Naik Forest Guard	-do-	31-01-2006
7	Shri Appa G. N. Betkekar Forest Guard	-do-	31-05-2006
8	Shri Vishnu A. Sawant Peon	-do-	31-10-2005
9	Shri Arjun S. Shetkar Animal attendant	-do-	31-10-2005
10	Smt. Jyoti L. Kulkarni Head Clerk	-do-	31-05-2006
11	Smt. Augusta A. Fernandes Aval Karkun	-do-	31-05-2006
12	Shri Somnath S. Naik Round Forester	-do-	31-05-2006
13	Shri Gopalkrishna V. Fatarpekar Mali	-do-	30-06-2006
14	Shri Mariano C. Fernandes, Peon	-do-	30-04-2007
15	Shri Narayan P. Naik Dessai, Forest Guard	-do-	31-07-2007
16	Shri Arjun D. Naik, Forest Guard	-do-	31-08-2007

DEATH

1	Shri Mohan V. Kaskar Mali	Expired	11-04-2006
2	Shri Domingo Fernandes Forest Guard	-do-	14-04-2006
3	Shri V. S. Kuttapan, Forest Guard	-do-	17-05-2007
4	Shri Vilas V. Verenkar, Dy. Range Forest Officer	-do-	24-07-2007
5	Shri Narsinva M. Naik Forest Guard	-do-	30-08-2007

APPOINTMENT

1	Smt. Nirmala B. Malik	Junior Stenographer	06-01-2006
2	Shri Melwyn DSouza	Lower Division Clerk	01-06-2006
3	Shri Chandrashekar J. Shet	Driver	16-01-2006
4	Shri Sameer Hari Gaonkar	-do-	-do-
5	Shri Eknath Babusso Naik	-do-	-do-
6	Shri Subha Pandu Naik	-do-	-do-
7	Shri Ganesh B. Amonkar	-do-	-do-
8	Shri Rajendra A. Patil	-do-	-do-
9	Shri Santosh V. Naik	-do-	-do-
10	Shri Nitish Govend Shetye	-do-	-do-
11	Shri Samir S. Sawant	-do-	-do-
12	Shri Vijay F. Naik	-do-	-do-
13	Shri Devanand V. Deusecar	-do-	-do-
14	Shri Dnyaneshwar V. Khot	-do-	-do-
15	Shri Dayanand L. Chari	-do-	-do-
16	Shri Anil K. Gaonkar	-do-	-do-
17	Shri Manoj Nanda Painginkar	-do-	-do-
18	Shri Mahamad Rafic Khan	-do-	-do-
19	Shri Sandesh D. Vaigankar	-do-	-do-
20	Shri Sanjay Krishna Gaonkar	-do-	-do-
21	Shri Satosh G. Gaude	-do-	-do-
22	Shri Deepak G. Kerkar	-do-	-do-
23	Shri Mahesh K. Kunkalkar	Forest Guard	14-06-2007
24	Shri Mohan H. Hadkonkar	-do-	- do-
25	Shri Sandeep M. Gaonkar	-do-	- do-
26	Shri Shripad S. Gaonkar	-do-	- do-
27	Kum. Sufal P. Gaonkar	-do-	- do-
28	Kum. Vanita Yadu Ga wade	-do-	- do-
29	Shri Sachin Shrikant Sawant	-do-	- do-
30	Shri Samir Madhu Gaonkar	-do-	- do-
31	Shri Akshay Anant Gawas	-do-	- do-
32	Shri Sainath Vassudev Shirodkar	Animal Housekeeper	24-08-2007
33	Smt. Jayanti J. Varak	Peon	12-06-2007
34	Smt. Vijayanti Anil Kumar	-do-	14-06-2007
35	Shri Jitendra A. Haldankar	-do-	17-08-2007