

REPORT ON 71stWILDLIFE WEEK, 2022

WILDLIFE & ECO-TOURISM (SOUTH), DIVISION, MARGAO - GOA





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1. INTRODUCTION

India is a biological hotspot, which means, it is home to a large variety of animal and plant species. India's flora and fauna are highly diversified and constitute more than 7 percent of the world's biodiversity. It also incredibly accounts for 7.4 per cent of the world's fauna. This highly biologically diversified country requires proper education and awareness to preserve this rich cover. Hence, the wildlife week was conceptualized.

This week is commemorated to increase the awareness among the common mass regarding the role of wildlife in maintaining nature's equilibrium. Any damage done to wildlife over a prolonged period of time endangers the entire ecosystem. So it is critical to protect it systematically, and through heart and soul. There is a symbiotic relationship between the forest, forest-dwelling animals, ecosystem services, and humans.

The Wildlife Week is celebrated from the **2nd to the 8th of October** every year in India. This week aims at protecting and preserving India's flora and fauna. Wildlife Week was conceptualized in 1952 with a long-term goal to safeguard the lives of the endangered and threatened species of animals.

The Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division, Margao, Goa Forest Department kick started by celebrating its 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 from 28th October. Being immersed in nature and wildlife, children are enthusiastic to learn more about the wildlife, the students had opportunities to showcase their talent and show great interest by participating at various workshops that were organized during the week.

Various offline competitions such Fancy dress, Rangoli, T-shirt painting, Clay art and Quiz were organized for the students of schools and colleges of South Goa only. Online competitions included Photography and Reel-making competition. The response was over-whelming.

2. EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 71ST WILDLIFE WEEK, 2022



3. GLIMPSES OF PRE-WILDLIFE WEEK ACTIVITIES



Participants for Fancy dress competition



Participants for Rangoli competition

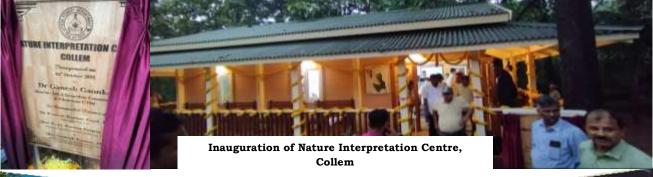
4. DAY-WISE ACTIVITIES

DAY 1(01.10.2022)

The inaugural function of the 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 was held at Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary, Collem on 1st October, 2022. The Chief Guest for this function was Dr. Ganesh Gaonkar, MLA Sanvordem and Chairman, GTDC who graced the occasion with his presence. At this function, Shri Mangirish Dharwadkar, Nodal Officer, Public Outreach Programme at the Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division, Margao, was felicitated at the hands of the Chief Guest for his contribution in protection and conservation in Wildlife of Goa. A poster on 'Marine Biodiversity of Goa' was also released at the hands of the Chief Guest who also inaugurated the Nature Interpretation Centre at Collem. Dignitaries from the Goa Forest department present for function were, Shri Rajiv Kumar Gupta IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri Santosh Kumar IFS, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Chief Wildlife Warden, Shri Saurabh Kumar IFS, Chief Conservator of Forests, Shri Dr. Dinesh Kannan IFS, Conservator of Forests, Dy. Conservator of Forests, Asst. Conservator of Forests, Range Officers and other senior forest officials.







DAY 2 (02.10.2022)

Awareness programs on 'Mitigation measures to prevent Man-animal conflicts' were undertaken in sensitive areas of Cotigao WLS and Netravali WLS wherein the villagers, panch members, NGOs and school students participated. Shri Ramesh Tawadkar, Hon'ble MLS and Speaker, Goa Legislative Assembly graced the occasion with his presence. Shri Kaviraj Gaonkar, Zonal Agriculture Officer, Canacona was also present. Solar kits were also distributed to the villagers of Cotigao village to reduce the dependency on forests.









ACF, WL&ET(S) conducting the awareness program



Felicitation of the Chief Guest and distribution of solar kits to villagers of Cotigao

Simultaneously, cleaning of Eco-tourism sites was carried out at Cotigao WLS and Netravali WLS.



Clean up activities

DAY 3 (03.10.2022)

An interactive session on 'Marine Megafauna Strandings in Goa' was held at Cotigao WLS which was organized in association with ReefWatch Marine Conservation, Goa led by Shri Nester Fernandes, Research and Outreach Officer, Dr. Shashank, Veterinarian and Ms. Manisha Rao, Project Co-ordinator wherein the concerned stakeholders involved in beach tourism/ adventure activities, fishermen community, students from educational institutes, Drishti lifeguards and shack owners participated. Participation certificates were given to the participants.





Shri Nester Fernandes and Dr. Shashank interacting with the stakeholders



Group photo with ReefWatch Marine Conservation team

The session was followed by an Inter-tidal walk at Galgibag beach, Canacona for the students. Nester Fernandes, Research and Outreach Officer, ReefWatch explained about the marine ecology, intertidal habitats, as well as its inhabitants.



Shri Nester Fernandes explaining about the Marine ecology



Photos 1-4: © Nester Fernandes



Group photo with ReefWatch Marine Conservation team

DAY 4 (04.10.2022)

Guided nature walks/trails were conducted in Netravali WLS and Cotigao WLS for school and college students and teachers, naturalists, environmentalists, nature lovers and eco clubs to sensitize about conservation of wildlife and its habitat.





Nature trails with students at Netravali WLS





Nature trails with students at Cotigao WLS

DAY 5 (06.10.2022)

A session on 'Marine Life and its Conservation' in association with Coastal Impact was organized at Dr. Francisco Luis Gomes District Library, Navelim, Margao. Dignitaries present from the Forest Dept. were Shri Aniket P. Naik Gaonkar, Dy. Conservator of Forests, WL&ET (S) division, Shri Damodar Salelkar, Asst. Conservator of Forests, WL&ET (S) division, Range Forest Officer, Marine Cell and other forest officials. The Coastal Impact team was led by Shri Venkatesh Charloo, Founder/Trustee, Coastal Impact who was the speaker for the session.

The session witnessed participation of students from various Schools, Higher Secondary's, Colleges, naturalists and biodiversity enthusiasts. They had the opportunity to learn about the rich marine biodiversity found in Goa. They were also explained about the work being conducted by Coastal Impact for marine conservation in Goa including coral transplantation, beach clean-ups and raising awareness about marine life and climate change.







Shri Ventakesh Charloo explaining the audience rich marine biodiversity of Goa

Posters on 'Marine Biodiversity of Goa' which were released during the inaugural function of wildlife week at Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park, Collem were also distributed amongst the schools and colleges present.



Distribution of poster on 'Marine Biodiversity of Goa'

Towards the end of this interactive programme, participation certificates were awarded to the participants.





Group photos with school and college students

DAY 6 (07.10.2022)

A Quiz competition on the 'Forests and Wildlife of Western Ghats' was organized for the students of Std 9 – 12 and was held at Parvatibai Chowgule College Arts and Science (Autonomous), Gogol – Margao. In total, 07 teams appeared for the quiz of which top 05 teams were selected for the final round. The Quiz was conducted by Shri Damodar Salelkar, Asst. Conservator of Forests, WL&ET(S), Margao.



ACF, WL&ET(S) conducting quiz for students



Group photo with the winners

5. VALEDICTORY FUNCTION

The Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division celebrated the Valedictory function of 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 at Ravindra Bhavan, Fatorda, Margao. Shri Subhash Phal Dessai, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, River Navigation and Archives & Archeology graced the occasion with his presence as the Chief Guest.



Felicitation of the Chief Guest

Dignitaries present from the Forest department were Shri Aniket P. Naik Gaonkar, DCF, WL&ET(S) division, Shri Prem Kumar R. IFS, DCF(S) division, Shri Raju Dessai, DCF (Soil Conservation) division, Shri Damodar Salelkar, ACF, WL&ET(S) division and other senior forest officials. The Chief Guest felicitated the winners of various online and offline competitions with certificates and mementos. While addressing the gathering, the Chief Guest appreciated the level of awareness and enthusiasm in the young minds and expressed happiness and gratitude to all stake holders for being a part of this celebration. He also emphasized on the need of sensitization in participatory conservation efforts. Shri Aniket P. Naik Gaonkar, DCF, WL(S) proposed the vote of thanks during this function.

During the Valedictory function, Wildlife Evidence Collection kits were distributed to the Range Forest Officers of Netravali, Cotigao and Marine Cell (South) by Nirmal Kulkarni, Senior Consultant, Wildlife Conservation Society.







A breath-taking video on the 'Waterfalls of Netravali WLS' was also released at the hands of the Chief Guest.



Release of video by the Chief Guest



Winners of Fancy Dress Competition (Std 1 - 4)



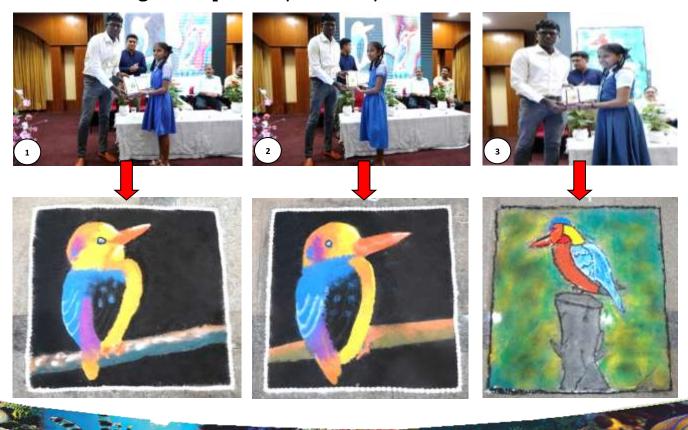
Winners of Fancy Dress Competition (Specially abled)



Winners of Rangoli Competition (Std 5-7)



Winners of Rangoli Competition (Std 8 - 10)



Winners of Rangoli Competition (Specially abled)



Winners of Online Photography Competition (Std 11 & 12)



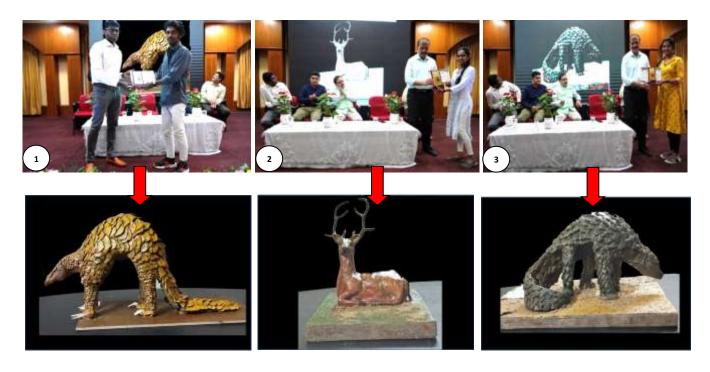
Winners of Reel-making Competition (Std 11 & 12)

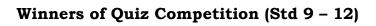


Winners of T-shirt painting Competition (College level)



Winners of Clay Art Competition (College level)











6. LIST OF WINNERS



GOA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) Division, Margao

RESULTS OF ONLINE AND OFFLINE COMPETITIONS HELD ON THE OCCASION OF 71ST WILDLIFE WEEK, 2022



Category: Std 7 - 4

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	Name	School (Std)
1	Mast. Anant Kunkolikar	Popular Primary School, Margao (Std 4)
2	Ms. Olicia Menezes	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour High School, Cortalim (Std 1)
3	Ms. Leona Menezes	Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Category: Specially Abled

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Meena Velip	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona
2	Ms. Saitri Kolekar	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona
3	Ms. Sallu Kolekar	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona

RANGOLI COMPETITION

Category: Std 5 - 7

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Aarvi Gaonkar	Shree Balaram Residential High School, Canacona (Std 6)
2	Ms. Sanvi Naik	Holy Cross Institute, Quepem (Std 7)
3	Ms. Anuradha Kumbhar	Holy Cross Institute, Quepem (Std 7)

Category: Std 8 - 10

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Sambhavi Gaonkar	Shree Balaram Residential High School, Canacona (Std 8)
2	Ms. Divisha Gaonkar	Shree Balaram Residential High School, Canacona (Std 8)
С	Ms. Yashasvi Gurav	Holy Cross Institute, Quepem (Std 8)

Category: Specially Abled

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Aksha Pagi	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona
2	Ms. Sankeeta Naik	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona
3	Ms. Sakshi Pagi	Lokvishwas Pratishthan's Special School, Canacona

PHOTGRAPHY COMPETITION

Category: 5td 11 & 12

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Jancia Da'Silva Almeida	Govt. Multipurpose HSS, Borda (Std 12)
2	Ms. Sweeta Gaunekar	Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Fatorda (Std 11)
3	Ms. Stuti Sawant	MES Higher Secondary School Zuarinagar, Sancoale (Std 11)

REEL-MAKING COMPETITION

Category: Std 11 & 12

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Jancia Da'Silva Almeida	Govt. Multipurpose HSS, Borda (Std 12)
2	Ms. Riya Rocha	Govt. Multipurpose HSS, Borda (Std 12)
3	Ms. Lacy Monteiro	Govt. Multipurpose HSS, Borda (Std 12)

T-SHIRT PAINTING COMPETITION

Category: FY, SY & TY

	Name	School (Std)
1	Ms. Lyza D'Costa	Parvatibhai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous)
2	Ms. Anjali Velip	Government College of Arts Commerce and Science, Quepern
3	Ms. Linoshka Dias	Parvatibhai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous)

CLAY-ART COMPETITION

Category: FY, 5Y & TY

	Name	School (Std)
1	Mast, Swed Gavnekar	Government College of Arts Commerce and Science, Quepern
2	Ms. Veda Dessai	Government College of Arts Commerce and Science, Quepern
3	Ms, Srujan Dessai	Government College of Arts Commerce and Science, Quepern



Category: Std 9 - 12

	Name	School/HSS (Std)
1	Mast. Staford Dias and Ms. Clarissa Monteiro	St. Joseph High School, Aquem
2	Mast. Rohit Desai and Mast. Pushpak Desai	Shree Mallikarjun Higher Secondary School of Arts Science and Commerce Canacona
3	Ms. Shriya Mestry and Mast. Makarand Velip	Balram-A Day Care School Mokhard Shristhal, Canacona





The Dy. Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division expressed sincere gratitude and felicitated all those who were associated with the 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 celebrations without whom the celebrations would not have been a success. Shri Dnyaneshwar Kudalkar, ACF (South) was also present for this function.

To begin with, Ms. Raksha Khobrekar, Incharge, Dr. Francisco Luis Gomes District Library, Navelim was kind enough to let us allow the Multipurpose Hall at to conduct the Fancy dress competition, Rangoli competition and a seminar on 'Marine life and its Conservation'.

Nester Fernandes and Dr. Shashank, ReefWatch Marine Conservation, Goa delivered a lecture on 'Marine Megafauna Strandings in Goa' to the students of various schools and colleges to spared awareness.

This division is grateful to Prof. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Gogol, Margao for letting us use the Auditorium to conduct the Quiz competition for Std 9 -12 category.

Shri Nirmal Kulkarni, Senior Consultant, Wildlife Conservation Society distributed Wildlife evidence kits to the Range Forest Officers of Netravali, Cotigao and Marine Cell (South).

Last but not the least, this division is thankful to Shri Videsh Naik, Theatre Incharge, Ravindra Bhavan, Margao for letting us conduct the Valedictory function in the Conference Hall.

















Ms. Raksha Khobrekar, Incharge, Dr. Francisco Luis Gomes District Library, Navelim, Margao.



Shri Nester Fernandes, ReefWatch Marine Conservation, Goa.



Prof. Nandini Vaz Fernandes, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science (Autonomous), Gogol – Margao.



Shri Nirmal Kulkarni, Senior Consultant, Wildlife Conservation Society.



Ms. Bindiya Vast, representative of Ravindra Bhavan, Margao.

दक्षिण गोवा

गुरुवार, १३ ऑक्टोबर २०२२

पर्यावरणाचा समतोल राखणे गरजेचे

<u>जाणेश जावकर मोले येथील भजवान महावीर राष्ट्रीय उद्यानात राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव सप्ताह साजर</u>

टीम गैनिक हेशान्त्र

कुके, दि. १२ : गांवा वनकाते अत्यंत धांगले काम करीत असून त्यांच्या विविध जयक्रमामुक्ते प्रयोक्तमासा शांपाळ होत जाहे व पर्यावरणावा सम्पतील राज्यापात मदल होता आहे. प्राचेक गोष्ट आपली स्थलाची असा ore firms underish house पर्याच्टम संभाजनी समय आहे. वनविभाग व वन विभागाच्या जवळपास रहणाचा लोकांशाती चांगती मैतीचे शंबंध उत्तराते अरचंत पहल्याचे आहे. त्यातून एक मांगला संदेश लोकांगध्ये जाईल व सकारी करण्याच्या संधी कमी होईल, उस्से यत आगदार तथा शोधा वर्षट्य विकास महामंडाकाचे अध्यक्ष गणेश मायकर सांनी मांडले.



मोले : राष्ट्रीय पन्यजीय समाहानिमित्त नेधर इंटरप्रिटेशन मेंटरचे प्रदूषाटन करताना गणेश गायकर, शोवत राजीव

गांवा वनकारपातके बोले येथील वा राष्ट्रीय बन्यजीव साराह साजरा पाहचे या नाल्याने बोलत होते. चनवान महाचीर राष्ट्रीय वादागात कर - कारण्यात आला. वावेजी ते प्रमुख

अरलेल्या नेकर इंटरप्रिटेशन सेंटरचे वक्षादन करण्यात आले.

интеллебия: minalt mentions. DUDA वनसंस्थक राजीव गुप्ता, अतिरिक्त प्रधान मुख्य वन्तरक्षक संतीप कुमार, मुख्य संस्थक सीध्य कुमार उपवनसंख्या आनंद जाधव, अभिकेश गामकर, कुळे पंचायतीचे सर्गत्र गोविंद्र जिलासकर, प्रयासरांच नेहा महसाईकर, पंच सदस्य अश्विनी देशाई, मोले पंचायतीचे सरवंध कपिल नाईक आधी वपस्थित होते.

सारोजी नेपर गाउँव माणून प्रक्रिक्त पूर्व केलेल्या सुमारे ४० quaries audit fitness account भारते. कनस्क्राध्यामध्ये महत्त्वाचे flokeur

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strengure, arring, fibration rown पावणे व गङ्गाल क्षेत्रकर वांचा सम्मान क्षण्यात आत. यावेवी अध्यक्ष thrian first major system with माहिती असलेल्या तीन अध्यास पुरसक्ते प्रकाशन करण्यात आहे.

दर वर्षी ५ ते ७ ऑक्ट्रॉबर राष्ट्रीय बन्यजीव सम्राह श्हापून साजना केला जातो. नामशेष होत बाललेखा वन्यजीव व प्रशासद्भः लोकांनध्ये जागृती करने. त्यांचे महत्त्व नागरिकांपच्ये पटवून देणे श त्यामानमा मुख्य वर्देश असाते, असे आपल्या स्थानात्त्वर भाषणात प्रदान मुख्य वनसंस्थान राजीत गुत म्हणाने, अतिरिक्त बनसंस्क्राह परेश धरब यांनी कार्यक्रमाचे शूक्तचालन केले छर आसंद जावब धानी आचार

वार्ता

वन अधिकारी, लोकांमध्ये मैत्रीचे संबंध आवश्यक!

आमदार गणेश गावकर: मोलेत नेचर इन्स्पिरेशन सेंटरचे उद्घाटन

प्रतिनिधी। गोवन वार्ता

धारबांदीडा : गोवा वन खाते अत्यंत चांगले काम करीत असून त्यांच्या विविध उपक्रमांमुळे पर्यावरणांचा सांभाळ होत असून पर्यावरणाचा समतोल राखण्यात मदत होत आहे. प्रत्येक गोष्ट आपली आहे, असा विचार प्रत्येकाने केल्यास पर्यावरण सांभाळणे शक्य आहे. वन अधिकारी व लोकांमध्ये मैत्रीचे संबंध असणे अत्यंत महत्त्वाचे आहे. त्यातून एक चांगला संदेश लोकांमध्ये जाईल व तकारी करण्याच्या संधी कमी होतील, असे मत आमदार तथा गोवा पर्यटन विकास महामंडळाचे अध्यक्ष गणेश गावकर यांनी मांडले.

गोवा वनखात्यातर्फे मोले येथील भगवान महावीर राष्ट्रीय उद्यानात ७१ वा राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव सप्ताह साजरा करण्यात आला. यावेळी गावकर प्रमुख पाहुणे म्हणून बोलत होते. त्यांच्या हस्ते नव्याने



मोलेत नेचर इन्स्पिरेशन सेंटरचे उद्घाटन केल्पानंतर गोवा पर्यटन विकास महामंडळाचे अध्यक्ष गणेश गावकर व इतर.

नामशेष होत चाललेल्या वन्यजीव व पक्ष्यांबद्दल लोकांमध्ये जागृती करणे, त्यांचे महत्त्व नागरिकांना पटवून देणे यासाठी राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव सप्ताह साजरा केला जातो, असे मुख्य वनसंरक्षक राजीव गुप्ता यांनी सांगितले.

उभारण्यात आलेल्या नेचर इन्स्पिरेशन सेंटरचे उद्घाटन करण्यात आले.

यावेळी प्रधान मुख्य वनसंरक्षक राजीव गुप्ता, अतिरिक्त प्रधान मुख्य वनसंरक्षक संतोष कुमार, मुख्य संरक्षक

सौरव कुमार, उपवनसंरक्षक आनंद जाधव, अनिकेत गावकर, कुळे सरपंच गोविंद शिगावकर, उपसरपंच नेहा मडकर्डकर, पंच अश्विनी देसाई, मोले सरपंच कपिल नाईक उपस्थित होते.

यावेळी नेचर गाईड म्हणून प्रशिक्षण पूर्ण केलेल्या सुमारे चाळीस युवकांना कार्डचे वितरण करण्यात आले. वन खात्यामध्ये महत्त्वाचे योगदान दिलेल्या मंगिरीष धारवाडकर आनंद विज्ञाल गावस, पावणे व नकुल केरकर यांचा सन्मान करण्यात आला. यावेळी आमदार गणेश गावकर यांच्या हस्ते प्रभाची माहिती असलेल्या तीन अभ्यास पस्तकांचे प्रकाशन करण्यात आले.

वनक्षेत्रांतील लोकांसाठी सरकारने योजना राबवाव्यात

सभापती रमेश तवडकर : आर्गोद येथे वन्य जीव संरक्षण सप्ताह कार्यक्रम : अनेक समस्या सुटणार

टीथ दैनिक हेशल्ड

आगोंद, दि. ५ । अध्यारण्य कर्मतील स्थानिक य वनवारमार्थे अधिकारी यांचे संबंध घनिष्ठ होत आहेत ही आनंदाची बाब आहे ल्यानिकांना बनस्काल्याच्या आचक नियमामुळे बरेद कर होतात ही वस्त्रस्थिती कोणीय नाकारू शकत परिस्थितीनुरूप या ठिकाली राहणारे स्थानिक व स्थानिकांच्या प्यातील सनस्येचा वेच घेऊल त्या दृष्टीने सरवारता आखणी करावी लागेल. वनस्रारयातफॅ स्थानिकांना रोजगार मिळवून दिल्याण अनेक



खोतियात : कार्यक्रमात बोलतामा समापती रमेश तबडका, वाजूस अनिकेत गाईक गावकर, कीर्तीराज गाईक गावकर व भी. सालेलकर.

समस्था सुटशार आहेत. सरकारने म्यानिकांसाती योजना राज्यात्यात

असे विचार समावती रमेश तवडकर मांनी समा केले.

वन खारपातक ऑक्टोबर महिल्याचा पहिला समाह बल्य जीव

संरक्षण सामाह प्रापृत दश्वणी साजरा केला जात आहे. त्यानिमित बनव्यात्यातके हती पाऊल, वनावारेण या ठिवल्पी नहके, कुल्के, वेंड्रे आदी वनक्षेत्राल राहणाऱ्या स्थानिकांसाठी एका कार्यक्रमाचे आयोजन करण्यात आले होते. या कार्यक्रमाचे प्रमुख पाहुचे म्हणून समापती तबद्रकर मार्गदर्शन करत

वावेळी व्यासपीतागर त्यांच्यासह प्रधान मुख्य वन संस्थात अनिकेत नाईक गावकर, सहायाक वन संस्थाव सालेतकर, वृत्ती अधिकारी कीर्तीराज नाईक गावकर आदी जपस्थित शेते.

वनबेजात शहनाऱ्या स्थानिकांसाठी रन स्वात्यातके बन्धजीय व श्वानिक यांच्यामध्ये तकाव का ? वनस्पती स्थानिकांना या संदर्भात काव सुविधा देक सकते? वाविषयी विश्वांकधून मार्गदर्शन करण्यात अपने तरीथ बाणनोण कृषी अधिकारी कीतींराज नाईक गावकर

यांनी शेती संदर्भात मागदर्शन केले. यावेळी जपस्थित स्थानिक यावेळी उपस्थित स्थानिक लोवांना बोलर लेन्टन प्रमुख पाहुपे रामापती तबहरूर बांच्या हरते प्रदान करण्यात आते. प्रधान मुख्य वन संस्कृत नाईक गावकर वांनी स्थागत व आधार धानले.

Marine Life and its Conservation

On the occasion of the 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 Goa Forest Department, Wildlife and Eco-Tourism (South) Division, Margao, will organise a session on Marine Life and its Conservation' by Venkatesh Charloo, founder/trustee, Coastal Impact. School and college students, naturalists and biodiversity lovers can gain great knowledge from the session. nue: Dr Francisco Luis

Games District Library, Navelim, Margao Date: October 6 Time: 10 am to 12 pm



Marine Life and its Conservation

On the occasion of the 71st Wildlife Week, 2022, the Goa Forest Department, Wildlife & Eco-Tourism (South) Division. Margao in association with Coastal Impact organised a session on 'Marine Life and its Conservation' at Dr Francisco Luis Gomes District Library, Navelim, Margao. The Coastal Impact team was lead by Venkatesh Charloo, Founder/ Trustee, Coastal Impact, the speaker for the session.

The session was held in the presence of Aniket Naik Gaonkar Deputy Conservator of Forests. WLBET (S) division, Damodar Salelkar, Assistant Conservator of Forests, WL&ET (S) division, Range Forest Officer, Marine Cell and other forest officials.

The session witnessed



participation of students from various schools, higher secondary schools, colleges, naturalists and biodiversity enthusiasts. They had the opportunity to learn about the rich marine biodiversity found in Goa. They were also explained about the work being conducted by Coastal Impact for marine conservation in Goa including coral transplantation, beach clean-

ups and raising awareness about marine life and climate change. Posters on 'Marine Biodiversity of Goa' which were released during the inaugural function of Wildlife Week at Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park, Collem, was also distributed amongst the schools and colleges present. Participation certificates were awarded to the participants.

Get closer to the wild to celebrate Goa's biodiversity

The 71st National Wildlife Week is being celebrated across the country from October 2 to 8. In Goa, awareness about conserving the sanctity of wildlife starts from a young age as school students are exposed to various workshops and programmes in the state

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the State Hount Department



Wildlife Week celebrations in Goa



The Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division kick started with the 71st Wildlife Week celebrations on September 28 with various online and offline events such as fancy dress, rangoli, reel-making, pho-tography, t-shirt painting, clay-art and quiz for schools and colleges of South Goa. The response was over-whelming. Various awareness programs and seminars in association with ReefWatch Marine Conservation, Goa and Coastal Impact were also organized which also included the release of a post-er on 'Marine Biodiversity of Goa' during the inaugural function of Wildlife Week at Bhagwan Maha-veer National Park, Collem.

The Wildlife & Eco-tourism (South) division celebrated the Valedictory function of 71st Wildlife Week, 2022 on October & at Ravindra Bhavan, Fatorda, Margao. Subhash Phal Dessai, Minister for So-cial Welfare, River Navigation and Archives and Archeology was the chief guest. Dignitaries present from the Forest department were Aniket P Naik Gaonkar, DCF, WL&ET(S) division, Prem Kumar R IFS, DCF(S) division, Raju Dessai, DCF (Soil Conservation) division, Damodar Salelkar, ACF, WL&ET (S) division and other senior forest officials.



During the Valedictory function, Wildlife Evidence Collection kits were distributed to the Range Forest Officers of Netravali, Cotigao and Marine Cell (South) by Nirmal Kulkarni, Senior Consultant, Wildlife Conservation Society, followed by the release of a breath-taking video on the 'Waterfalls of Netravali WLS'.

Subhash Phal Dessai also felicitated the winners of various competitions with certificates and me-mentos. While addressing the gathering, he appreciated the level of awareness and enthusiasm in the young minds and expressed happiness and gratitude to all stake holders for being a part of this celebration. He also emphasized on the need of sensitization in participatory conservation efforts. Aniket P Naik Gaonkar, DCF, WL(S) proposed the vote of thanks during this function.

