



AAMI GOENKAR



Issue No 33

For Goans, Of Goans, By Goans

January, 2015

MAHASURYAKUMBHA - 2015

- A project of Solar Energy

We have heard and read about importance of use of Renewable Energy in the fight against Global warming and its consequent adverse impact on the humanity. Driven by concern over Global climate change, Keshav Srushti, a “not for profit” organization committed to propagate access to this “reliable energy” took initiative to hold Mahasuryakumbha - 2015 during the fortnight January 15th till 31st, 2015 with active participation of 15,000 children simultaneously making their own solar ovens and cooking food in it and in the process inspire millions other to celebrate sustainable living practices.



In the environment of possibilities, Keshav Srushti stepped in to make a difference by involving children and parents in one of the unique events of our times. Last year, on 4th, January 2014, it organized an event with participation of 3639 students and achieved an unique distinction for holding the largest solar cooking festival in the world and, incidentally made an entry in Guinness, Asia, India & Limca books of world records. The organization continued with its mission to propagate importance of the ‘Akshay Oorja’ for overall betterment of our society by inspiring people to adopt sustainable energy practices.

Inspired by the grand success of Suryakumbha 2014, and positive effects it created on the minds of children and youth, this year Keshav Srushti decided to organize an awareness drive on bigger scale by holding similar events concurrently at multiple locations with participation of many school. Mahasuryakumbha - 2015, is an outcome of this initiative on a much larger scale with participation of over 15,000 students across various schools in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai and rural areas of Thane District from 15th January till 31st January 2015. To make it more inclusive, Keshav Srushti took special efforts to reach out to tribal students from Javhar, Mokhada, Vikramgad and Shahapur. All these children were sponsored by some donors. (Cont. on page 2)



Enjoy traditional Goan experience in the heart of Mumbai with variety of Goan delicacies, music, cultural programmes, felicitations, competitions, exhibition cum sale of **GOAN THEME PRODUCTS** in the Goan Ambience.

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Aami Goenkar
wishes each and every Goenkar
a very Happy New Year

2015

PROGRAMME

GOA FESTIVAL 15 FEBRUARY 6 - 8, 2015

- February 6, 2015** 3:00pm - **Festival Inauguration** by Mrs Alka Kerkar Deputy Mayor Mumbai Mahanagar Palika (Exhibition area)
3:30pm to 6:00pm - **Mhane Soyare*** Sant Soyarobanath Ambiy musical program on the occasion of tricentenary celebration of Sant Soyaroba (Auditorium area)
6:30pm to 8:30pm - **Konkani Katram** by Nishank & group (Exhibition area)
- February 7, 2015** 11:00am - **Nayan Surile** a musical program of visually challenged girls presented by Arvind Kalayatan (Exhibition area)
3:00pm to 6:30pm - **Kheli Meli*** Marathi drama by Repertory company of Kala Academy, Goa (Auditorium area) & discussion with **Dwarkanath Sanzgiri** (Auditorium area)
6:45pm - **Take Care Of Your Heart - Prevent a Heart Attack** presentation by Dr Ghanashyam Kane, Consulting Cardiologist (Auditorium area)
7:30pm to 8:30pm - **Mallakhamb** live demonstration by students of Samarth Vyayam Mandir, Shivaji Park (Auditorium area)
8:30pm to 10:00pm - **Singing Competition** (Auditorium area)
- February 8, 2015** 11:00am to 1:00pm - **Classical Ragas** in 5 minute format by Shri Satyasheel Deshpande presented by Prafulla Dahanukar Art Foundation (Auditorium area)
1:30pm to 2:30pm - **Recipe Competition** (Exhibition area)
3:00pm to 6:00pm **Denem*** Konkani Tiatra, 2nd prize winner of Tiatra Competition, Kala Academy, Goa (Auditorium area)

Padmavibhushan Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar will be felicitated with "**GOENCHI SASAY**" award and felicitation of **Dr. Armida Fernandes, Smt. Suman Tulsiani and Shri. Ramdas Kamat** life time contribution award - Chief Guest Ramakrishna Naik, Social Worker.

7:00pm - **Jala Deepasana** presented by Netra Group (Exhibition area)

- February 7, & 8** 10:00am to 10:00pm - **Exhibition cum sale of Paintings** by Prafulla Dahanukar Art Foundation (Madam Cama Hall)

Exhibition of Wildlife Photography of late Advt. Adhik Shirodkar (Above Music Hall)

NRI Commissionaire of Goa will be having a separate desk to provide assistance and information.

(*) Programs are sponsored by **Department of Art and Culture, Government of Goa.**

At
**Swatantryaveer
Savarkar Smarak
Complex, Shivaji
Park, Dadar (W)
Mumbai**

Aami Goenkar Welcomes New Members: Since October 2014

Patron Members:

1. Mr. Ashank Datta Desai, Mumbai
2. Mr. Atul M. Virginkar, Goa

Life Members:

1. Ms. Shruti Girish Sardesai, Mumbai
2. Mrs. Nina Suresh Rege, Mumbai
3. Mrs. Roopa Mulgaonker, Goa
4. Mrs. Lalita D. Trikanand, Goa
5. Dr. Dilip V. Shetye, Mumbai
6. Mr. Umesh R. Bhatikar, Mumbai
7. Mr. Narayan P. Naik, Margao, Goa
8. Ms. Arati Amonkar, Mumbai

Ordinary Members:

1. Mr. Kundan Naik, Mumbai

Ordinary to Life Membership:

1. Mrs. Neela Rammohan Koppalkar, Mumbai

(Cont. from page 1)



During this fortnight, people across the Globe witnessed an extraordinary event of thousands of students simultaneously cooking food in self assembled solar cookers at multiple locations at the same time.

This event was open for students of class 7th to 9th and all participants received a Certificate of Participation. The cost of the self assembled Solar Cooker at Rs 450/- with a working life of ~ 3 years was made available at a subsidized cost of Rs 300/-.

Whereas, this will send a strong message to the countrymen about Clean India Campaign as it will help cut down pollution and also will save the overused energy sources like gas, coal and wood.

Never before had so many people experienced the simplicity of harnessing solar energy, using ordinary materials and creating a festival out of it.

Dr. Asmita Hegde, the Managing Committee Member of Aami Goenkar was the event co-ordinator of the entire event.





Meeting with Dr. Wilfred M. Mesquita –
NRI Commissioner, Goa

On 10th October 2014, Managing Committee members hosted Dr. Wilfred M. Mesquita, NRI Commissioner, Goa. We appraised him about various initiatives and programs of Aami Goenkar. He appreciated work being done by our organization and offered to be an enabler in resolving issues and concerns of Non Resident Goans. He offered to make an appeal to Goa Government to set up a desk at upcoming Goa festival during February 6-8, 2015 so that Goans residing in Mumbai could approach representatives of Goa Government and present their problems and seek solutions. He also offered to be a facilitator to progress various proposals of our institution with Goa Government. We are thankful to Dr Mesquita for volunteering to help our institution resolve issues being faced by Goans residing outside Goa.

GOAN-BORN JOSEPH VAZ GRANTED SAINTHOOD BY POPE FRANCIS IN SRI LANKA

Pope Francis gave Sri Lanka its first saint on Wednesday at a Mass for hundreds of thousands of people packed on a Colombo oceanfront, in a climax to a 300-year campaign to recognise the holiness of Goan-born missionary Joseph Vaz.

Thousands of Indians travelled to Colombo to witness to canonization.

The pope told to the crowd that Vaz was an example of religious tolerance relevant to Sri Lanka.

"Saint Joseph shows us the importance of transcending religious divisions in the service of peace," he said, delivering a message resonant for the nation recovering from a long war between mainly Buddhist Sinhalese and Hindu Tamils.

Vaz, who was captured as a suspected spy after he crept into the tropical island in disguise was born in 1651 in India's Goa, then a Portuguese colony.

Francis, speaking slowly in English, said Christians should follow the example of Vaz to build peace, justice and reconciliation in Sri Lanka. Catholics make up about 7 percent of Sri Lanka's population, while 10 times as many people follow Buddhism.

He bent Church rules and dispensed with a regulation that normally requires a second miracle to be attributed to a candidate for sainthood. Vaz was beatified by Pope John Paul during a visit to Sri Lanka 20 years ago.

Vaz remained in Kandy until his death in 1711, by which time the Church says he had converted 30,000 people and created a network of priests, almost single handedly re-establishing Catholicism in Ceylon.





We congratulate **MANOHAR PARRIKAR – BHAI** on his induction into the Council of Ministers of the Union Government on November 9, 2014, and for being appointed as the Defense Minister. He endeared himself to the people of Goa with his personal rapport and dedication to the cause. He is a simple person with high education, integrity, an astute administrator and has demonstrated good governance in public life. He is a role model of many. He was Chief Minister of Goa, first from 2000 to 2005, and later from March 2012 to November 2014. He was born in a Gaud Saraswat Brahmin family at Mapusa, Goa. He is originally from nearby village Parra as indicated in his name "Parrikar." He studied at Loyola High School, Margao. He completed his secondary education in Marathi and went on to graduate in metallurgical engineering from IIT Bombay in 1978. He is the first IIT graduate to become the Chief Minister of any Indian state. He was awarded by IIT Bombay with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2001. During his tenure as Chief Minister, the State of Goa witnessed significant involvement of youngsters in politics. He was reluctant to leave Goa and move to Delhi, and had to take a tough decision to accept persuasive request of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has highest regards for Parrikar's abilities and to manage crucial portfolio of Defense. We all feel safe with Bhai, as our nation's security is in competent hands.



We congratulate **CA SURESH PRABHU** son-in-law of Goa, for his induction into the Council of Ministers on November 9, 2014 and for being appointed as Railway Minister of India. Suresh Prabhu completed his high school from Sharadashram Vidya Mandir, Dadar, Mumbai, followed by a Bachelor in Commerce with Honours from M.L. Dahanukar College, Vile Parle, Mumbai. He received a Bachelor in Law degree from the New Law College, Mumbai. Suresh Prabhu is a Chartered Accountant with a rank in CA exam. He is concurrently working on two Ph.D. programs in Climate Change from Freie University Berlin and Public Finance from Mumbai University.

Suresh Prabhu has held several government and semi government positions, which includes chairmanship of Maharashtra State Finance Commission, Saraswat Co-operative Bank, Member of the Maharashtra Tourism Development Board, among others. Suresh Prabhu has travelled to more than 100 countries. He is working with 16 global organizations and on 9 strategic dialogues. He was Cabinet Minister in Atal Bihari Vajpaaee's Government at various times during 1998 to 2004 as Industry Minister, Minister of Environment and Forests, Minister of Fertilizers & Chemicals, Power, Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises. As the Union Minister for Power he won praise for his performance. As Minister of Power, Suresh Prabhu introduced major reforms in India's power sector. He is credited with championing and enacting the Electricity Act of 2003 and



the reforms that created securitization of dues from the states. He was also Chairman of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers with a status and rank of Union Cabinet Minister. He was elected a member of the World Bank parliamentary network and chaired the South Asia Water regional group of the World Bank. Asiaweek rated him as one of

We congratulate **LAXMIKANT PARSEKAR** on his appointment as 11th Chief Minister of State of Goa, on November 8, 2014. He is the member of the Goa Legislative Assembly from Mandrem constituency. Laxmikant Parsekar was born at Harmal village, Pernem taluk of Goa. He has done his M.Sc (1980) and B.Ed (1981) from Centre of Post Graduate Instruction & Research, Panaji, Goa, (then Bombay University). He was the principal of Harmal Panchakroshi Secondary School, Harmal, Goa. He served as the Goa Health Minister at the time of being appointed Chief Minister. He was instrumental in building the BJP's support base along with political veterans like Manohar Parrikar, Rajendra Arlekar, now Goa Assembly Speaker, and Shripad Naik, Union Minister for Tourism.



TREASURE TROVE OF CHILDREN'S KONKANI LITERARY ITEMS RELEASED



Konkani Bhasha Mandal (KBM) has enriched children's literature in Konkani by releasing '**PETTUL**' (Piggy Bank) of children's literature. It includes two Konkani primers, a book of children's poems, colourful charts and two CDs of nursery rhymes written by eminent Konkani poets.



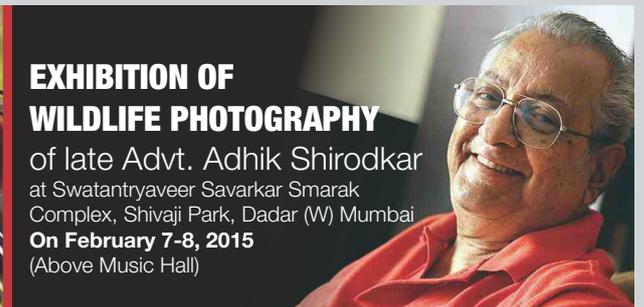
EXHIBITION CUM SALE OF PAINTINGS by Prafulla Dahanukar Art Foundation

at Swatantryaveer Savarkar Smarak Complex
Shivaji Park, Dadar (W) Mumbai
On February 7-8, 2015 (Madam Cama Hall)



EXHIBITION OF WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

of late Advt. Adhik Shirodkar
at Swatantryaveer Savarkar Smarak
Complex, Shivaji Park, Dadar (W) Mumbai
On February 7-8, 2015
(Above Music Hall)



O B I T U A R I E S



MADHAVI SARDESAI passed away on 22nd December 2014, just 3 days after she was declared as chosen for the prestigious **Sahitya Akademi** award for her book of essays '**Manthan**'.

She was the editor of the Konkani literary journal '**Jaag**' & also a scholar, publisher & writer who worked mainly in the Konkani language in Goa.

She headed the Goa university's Konkani department.

She had earlier bagged the **Sahitya Akademi** award for the translation of her book **Eka Vicharachi Jivit Katha** on the life of Mahatma Gandhi. Her work includes **Bhasabhas** a book on linguistic, **Mankullo Raj Kunvor**, a translation of children's novelette 'The little prince' from French to Konkani & several poems, essays, short stories & research papers on Konkani language.

May her soul rest in peace.



RAGHUVIR NEVREKAR Senior Marathi and Kokani actor, director passed away on 23rd November 2014, at the age of 85 after a brief illness.

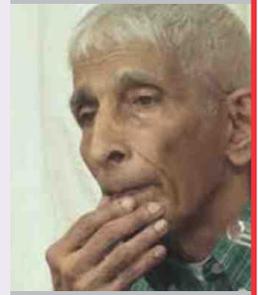
His character **Falgunrao**, in Marathi musical play **Saunshay kallol** was well known. He even starred in first Marathi T.V. serial **Shwetambara** in the 1980s. He was also one of the earliest playwrights for konkani radio plays. His konkani play **Poppe Babali Mumbai** was popular for its humorous characterization of the 'poppe bab's' visit to Mumbai.

Nevrekar was active member of the Goa Hindu Association. He was also the uncle of well known actor Ashok Saraf.

May his soul rest in peace.

PADMABHUSHAN DR. JOSE PEREIRA, USA, eminent Sanskrit scholar, historian, musicologist, writer, linguist and artist, passed away in USA after prolonged illness. He was 84.

Dr. Pereira was hailed from Curtorim in Salcete taluka of Goa.



He graduated with Honours in Sanskrit in 1951 from Siddharth College and obtained PhD in Ancient History and Culture from St Xavier's College in 1949.

Dr. Jose Pereira has to his credit 145 research articles and papers on several issues and 24 books on diverse subjects in literature, architecture, theology, music etc, like 'Hindu Theology', 'Monolithic Jinas', 'Konkani Mandakini', 'Songs of Goa (Mando)' and 'Golden Goa's Art'.

Dr. Juse Pereira was a strong proponent of Konkani as a language. Government of India had conferred on him the Padma Bhushan in 2012, recognizing his contribution to Indian history and literature.

May his soul rest in peace.

AVADHOOT NARVEKAR,

a Mumbai based freedom fighter of Goa Liberation movement passed away in Mumbai in January, 2015.

May his soul rest in peace.



PROFESSIONAL CORNER



- No Capital Gains on Sale of FSI by housing societies, rules High Court.

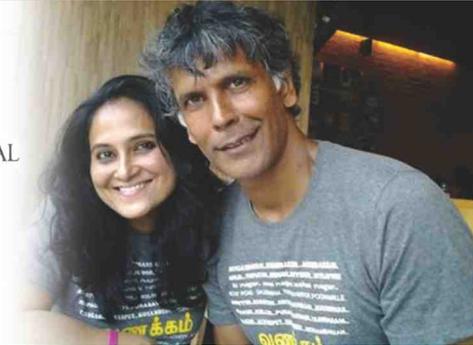
■ A housing society does not have to pay capital gains tax when it sells additional FSI to a builder, says a recent Bombay high court order. Development Control regulation, 1991, provide for grant of additional FSI if an existing building is redeveloped. The society can utilize it either for extension of the existing

building, construction of a new building or even sell it to a builder.

- The favourable order will bring cheer to many old housing societies that have entered into redevelopment agreements or plan to do so.
- Above HC tax order on FSI sale is set to boost redevelopment.



PINKATHON
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S
10K RUN



Pinkathon's ethos is to get more women to run for their wellbeing and for the betterment of society.

Sharmila Kamat Munj, of Goan origin, is Mumbai runner and lead ambassador for the Pinkathon women's run.

Pinkathon, also supports breast cancer prevention.

Running was transformational for Sharmila, bringing a fresh dose of self-belief and positivity into her life amidst a sea of personal challenges.

"I discovered I was a different person. There was something happening within me, and I thought if I could rub it off on to other women, we would be a great society." She says.

Sharmila Says further - "You have to believe in people, tell them what you want, spread the message and extend the opportunity. And that has been the magic of Pinkathon".

What India really needs is a healthier society.

WALK. JOG. RUN.

**DR. P.S. RAMANI,
77 YEARS
YOUNG DOCTOR
RAN FOUR
MARATHONS**



DR. P. S. RAMANI run four marathon this year including Satara Hill Marathon (10.5 Km climbing up and then coming down) Coimbtore, Pune and Mumbai Standard Chartered Marathon. Now he is looking to run his own Marathon in Goa on 15th February 2015.



ANNOUNCEMENT COMPETITION

Following competitions shall be held during Goa Festival. Participants are required to contact on under mentioned telephone nos. and register their respective entries on or before **6th Feb, 2015**.

A. Singing Competition shall be held in the following three categories

- Age upto 18 years
- Age from 18 years upto 45 years
- Age from 45 and above

Date : February 7, 2015

Time : 8:30pm to 10:00pm

Venue: Auditorium Area 4th Floor

B. Goan Recipe Competition Limited strictly to Goan recipes (Categories: Veg., Non-Veg. & Goan Dessert)

Date : February 8, 2015

Time : 1:30pm to 2:30pm

Venue: Exhibition Area



Reach out to Mr. Vivek Prabhu Desai

99205 16016, 98211 67456, 98922 48492, 98211 51068

Goa Liberation Day



Mrs. Aditi M. Panandikar, M. D. Indoco Remedies Ltd.

Goa Liberation Day is an important annual event of AAMI GOENKAR. This year, Aami Goenkar celebrated Goa Liberation Day on December 19, 2014 at Gomantak Seva Snagh Hall, Vileparle (E), Mumbai -400057, in the presence of about 175, Goans.

Mrs. Aditi M. Panandikar, M. D. Indoco Remedies Ltd. was the chief guest, who appreciated in high esteem the efforts of Aami Goenkar in various social welfare projects. Two Goa Freedom fighters namely **Mr. Jagannath Pednekar** and **Mr. Anand Naik** were felicitated on the occasion of Goa Liberation Day.

The celebration continued with soothing music program by Mr. Hemant Barve & Group and the event ended with Dinner with many Goan Families together.



Aami Goenkar

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BOOK POST