

## **BOTANY FEST 2018**

**A new innovative event to learn Botany and Nature. First time in India.**

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Sub-coordinators: Dr. Rinku Desai, Mr. Akash Vanzara, .....



**BOTANY FEST 2017:** Botany Fest was organized by South Dang Forest Division in collaboration with The Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Waghai Botanical Garden 2017, in which there was a grand blend of events on: Phyto hunt, Memory game, Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft), Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of plants with their natural smells), Botany ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany), Kaun banega best botanist (KBBC), Hulund mata ki kahani (unique story of plant conservation), Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation), This event was planned by initiatives of Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar (Asst. Professor) The Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara. and Dr. Dheeraj Mittal (IFS) South Dang Forest Division Ahwa, on Feb, 19-20, 2017 wherein students from 16 degree colleges of different zones of Gujarat from North-South and West-Center, participated and demonstrate their talents in the field of Botany. The Fest also was platform for the inauguration of E-Herbaria (Digitalization Dang herbaria) and Floral Safari (android base application for plants of Waghai Botanical Garden) the welfare of the society.

**REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST:** Registration started by 7:30 A.M on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2017 and continued even on the second day. Dr. Dharmendra Shah, Assist. Professor Department and volunteers put up a fantastic show and provided the smooth registrations to all the participative colleges. All the colleges were provided with separate teams where all the participants, team leaders and their friend put their efforts for making a strong competition. All the registered persons were given their kit containing bag with notepad, t-shirts, calendars, event scheduled and file, booklet checklist of plants. The registrations were smoothly done under the expert supervision of Dr. Dharmendra Shah and Dr. Kishore S. Rajput. The registered colleges with their teams were as follow:

Sr. No	Name of college	Zone	No. of participants
1.	The M.S.University Vadodara	Central Zone	10
2.	Navrachna University Vadodara	Central Zone	12
3.	Government Ayurvedic college Vadodara	Central Zone	6
4.	Navsari Agricultural University of Forestry	South Zone	10
5.	Veer Narmad South Gujarat University	South Zone	7
6.	Gujarat university	Central Zone	7
7	Govemernt of science college, songadh	South Zone	2
8	Indian institute of teacher education	East zone	6
9	Sahjeevan bhuj, Kachchh	North Zone	2
10	ASPEE college of horticulture and forestry	South Zone	8
11	Bahaudin science college, junagadh	West Zone	2
12	N. V. Patel college		15
13	Saurashtra university, Rajkot	West Zone	6
14	Vidhjadeep institute of science, surat	South Zone	3
15	Govemernt science college, Ghandinagar	Central Zone	7
16	JNM Patel science college, surat	West zone	6

**INAGURATION:** The guests where welcomed with a melodious tune being played in the backdrop. The guests were accompanied by the Honorable Chief Conservator of forest. Shri S. M. Patel. The guests got settled down on their respective places allotted on the Dias. Student coordinators managed prayer and the dignitaries lighted the lamp. As per the Indian tradition the guests were welcomed with bouquets and a memento of love. The inauguration ceremony was started by Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar and other dignitaries wherein all of them boosted the confidence of all the participants' and congratulated them for becoming a part of such a magnificent programme. He was more than happy to see so many young Botanist and talents being gathered in so much enthusiasm running down the spine. Dr. Kishore address motivated all the participants and insisted everybody to keep on sportsman spirit. Shri S.M.Patel, putting the Fest. Open and with his words: "I put the Fest open" the carnival of Botanist began and more than 109 students jump into action.



**Launching of applications:** During the first day of function there was inauguration of E-Herbaria (Digitalization Dang herbaria) and Floral Safari (An Android base application for plants of Waghai Botanical Garden) was officially launched by CCF of Valsad, Shri S M. Patel and Dr. Dheeraj Mittal.



**BEGINNING OF THE FEST:** Throughout the two days of fest. Garden became witness of lively performances almost in eight bigger categories: Phyto hunt, Memory game, Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft), Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of plants with their natural smells), Botany ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany), Kaun banega best botanist (KBBC), Hulund mata ki kahani (unique story of plant conservation), Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation), These eight broader categories were having different events into them.

### Categories of events:

1. **Phyto Hunt:** Plants are identified with their morphology and phenological characters. In this event Phyto hunt is addresses plant search by plant clue type of event, in this event all the team which had given a clue to find out plant with its unique characters. All the participants were divided in their respective groups.



2. **Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft):** Plant craft event address all the innovative ideas, how plants can be utilized to make craft by using seeds fruits stems and dried leaves. Task was given to all participants with different themes, to make craft, in which all the participants made very beautiful and innovative crafts





3. **Mujhe pehchano me hu kaun (Identification on the basis of taste):** This event was specially organized for all the participants. Some plants have their unique tastes. So task was given to identify the plant samples on the basis of their taste. Wining Points were given on scientific name of the plant with respect to their family, genus and species.



4. **Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of different plants with their natural smells):** Some plants are well known for their aroma. In this event the plants having aromatic smells were given to the participants. Task was given to identify plants sample on the basis of their aroma. Total 5 no. of aromatic plant samples was given to the participants.



5. **Botany ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany):** In Botany Ki Loksabha all the participants got a chance to become highly decorated ministries. The task was given with respect to their department. The event points were focused on how they will help the government with their service, do justice and utilize funds for the public welfare.



6. **Kaun banega best botanist (KBBC):** This event is well known on the line of format the television show KBC. In this event questions were asked to the participants, especially in the field of Botany



7. **Kahani Hulund Mata ki (Unique story of plant conservation):** During the Fest one dramatic act was played by the students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University namely, Mr. Karan Rana, Mrs. Mannu Diwedi, Mr. Akash Vanzara, Mr. Jaydeep Sharam, and Mrs. Pallavi Patel with support of Dr. P S. Nagar and Dr. Kishore S. Rajput. The concept of the act was to promote and protect one of the sacred and rare plant *Vigna vexillata* locally known as Hulund mata ka plant.



1. **Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation):** During the fest, plantation of more than 120 plants was done by all dignitaries and participants. Certificates were signed for the plantation of rare and endangered species at valedictory function



2. **FOLK DANCE (Dangi Dance):** Folk dances are performed for every possible occasion like celebration of the arrival of seasons, family occasions and festivals. During the night time of the fest, folk dance was performed by Dangi tribal's, for the celebration of the new event "Botany Fest 2017"





### 3. VALEDICTORY CEREMONY



**PRIZE DISTRIBUTION:** Finally the most awaited moment of the evening had arrived with everyone present right there wanted to know the results of who got rewarded for all the hard works of



two days. The winners of various events were declared and felicitated with trophies,

#### **PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK:**

The stage was open for all to give feedback; Mr. Anand Kumar DCF North Dang Forest Division took the opportunity to express his sincere gratitude to the organizers. He said “I congratulate the host institute who has given platform to all the talent through all the hardships viz. events managements, scheduling and accommodation, food etc. Furthermore, he congratulated the organizing committee members: Dr. Dheeraj Mittal, Dr. P. S. Nagar, and his team who have gone through exhausted days and sleepless nights in putting up this show to grand success.” Few participants also took opportunities and give their feedback

#### **VOTE OF THANKS:**

Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar gave vote of thanks to end up the valedictory ceremony and expressed his gratitude to all those who on the stage or off the stage had given effort to make this event a grand success. He thanked not only to Forest Department but also to the colleges and different faculties and teachers for allowing their students to come forward for the energetic participation. Dr. Dheeraj mittal also put words with votes of thank to team Waghai Botanical Garden and its

management. This marked the end of the ceremony as well as the end of this huge mass of Botany fest 2017. At last Dr. Nagar gave a word to everybody present there coming in unity and praising the name of the motherland with words “JAI HIND” echoing in the entire dome making the event a great success.