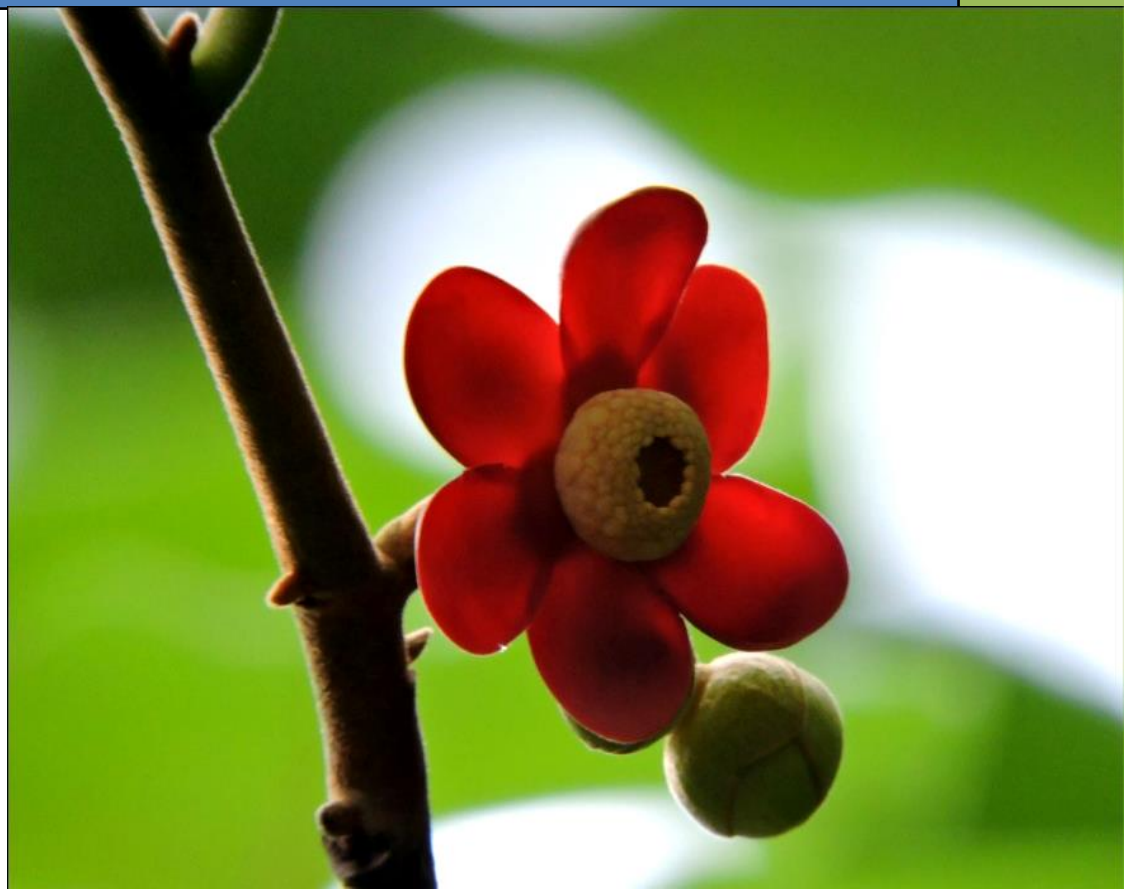


Botany Fest 2018



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07/02/2018 to 08/02/2018

Jointly Organized by:

South Dangs Forest Division Ahwa- Dangs.
&The Maharaja Sayajirao University of
Baroda Vadodara.

BOTANY FEST 2018

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

Akash Vanzara, Roshan Parmar, Ilesh Katara, Dr. Rinku Desai, Dr. Padamnabhi.S.Nagar*,
Dr. Dheeraj Mittal*, Mr. Dinesh Rabari*, Dr. Kishore S. Rajput*, Dr. Dharmendra G. Shah*.



BOTANY FEST 2018: With huge success of earlier event Botany Fest 2017, and with lots of appreciations from the participants of different colleges and faculties, it was for the first time organizing committee has decided to take step further and make this event at National level in Gujarat, India. Thought behind event, was not only state students got benefited but also national colleges, students can grab this opportunity by participating in the event to understand subject, nature in more of a practical manner. There for 18 degree colleges of different zones of Gujarat and India were invited to participate and demonstrate their talents in the field of Botany. Event was organized by South Dang Forest Division Ahwa - Dnags. in collaboration with The Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara in Waghai Botanical Garden, in which there was a grand blend of events on: Phyto hunt (Finding of the different plants with given clues), Bhujotojane (Tag the state/National/World Trees), Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of plants with their natural smells), Chief of the Botany (Collecting plants from natural resources and making food in more of a natural way) Pushpa Sheraz (to perform an act on plant morphology, without speaking.) Enlightenment under Pragvad (Story of an ancient Indian tree Pragvad), Nagme Phool ki Yado ke (Identification of different plants by rhythms of songs, and video), (Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft), Prakruti ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany), Hulund- An untold story (Documentary on sacred plant of Dangs *Vigna vexilata*), Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation), apart from this events there was Presentations took by experts during night hours, Dr. Rinku Desai. on Ghas ke Ghare Raz- (awareness and Uses of Grasses and sedges in Gujarat) and second presentation was on Eternal world of plants (Anatomy of different lianas and climbers) by Dr. Kishore S. Rajput. This event was planned by initiatives of Dr. Dheeraj Mittal (IFS), Mr. Dinesh Rabari (ACF) South Dang Forest Division Ahwa, and Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar (Assist. Professor) The Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara. The fest was scheduled on 7th and 8th of Feb, 2018. Shri. Agneeshwar vyas (DCF) North Dangs Forest Division Ahwa-Dangs. Was the chief guest of the programme he inaugurated this beautiful event cooperatively by Mr. Dinesh rabari (ACF) South Dangs Forest Division Ahwa- Dangs and Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar, Shri Vinod Maina Arid Zone Regional Centre, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, and Dr. Kishore S. Rajput, Dr. Dharmendra Shah The Maharaja Sayajirao University

Vadodara. Dignitaries has launched a Book on Exclusive trees of Waghai Botanical Garden during the inauguration programme this book will mainly focused on some unique plants which are exclusively found in Waghai Botanical Garden with colorful photography and some important information this will mainly help to the students, visitors and forest officials.

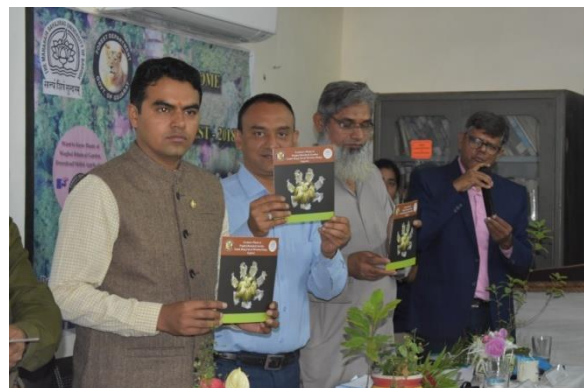
REGISTRATIONS & BREAKFAST: Registration started by 7:30 A.M on 07th Feb, 2018 and continued even on the second day. Dr. Rinku Desai, (Researcher, The M. S. University Vadodara), Ms. Mittal Bhatt, Research scholar and other volunteers put up a fantastic show and provided the smooth registrations to all the participative colleges. All the registered persons were given their kit containing bag with notepad, t-shirts, Booklet, event scheduled and brochure. The registrations were smoothly done under the expert supervision of Dr. Dharmendra Shah and Dr. Kishore S. Rajput. The registered colleges with their teams including their faculty were as follow:

Sr. No	Name of college	Zone	No. of participants
1.	The Maharaja Sayajirao University Vadodara	Central Zone-Gujarat.	10
2.	Government Ayurvedic college Vadodara	Central Zone-Gujarat.	6
3.	College of Agriculture and Forestry, Navsari Agriculture University	South Zone-Gujarat.	10
4.	Government science college, Idar	North Zone-Gujarat.	10
5	Bahaudin science college, Junagadh	West Zone-Gujarat.	5
6	Department of Bioscience Saurashtra University, Rajkot	West Zone-Gujarat.	6
7	Shri R. R. Lalan College, Bhuj	North Zone-Gujarat.	5
8	Department of science, Hemchandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan	North Zone-Gujarat.	10
9	Government science college, Chikhli, Navsari	South Zone-Gujarat.	9
10	Smt. S. M. Panchal Science College, Talod	North Zone-Gujarat.	4
11	Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Government College, Silvassa	South Zone-Gujarat.	1
12	Navrachna University Vadodara.	Central Zone-Gujarat.	2
13	Junagadh Agriculture University	East Zone-Gujarat.	4
14	Tolani college of arts & science, Adipur		10
15	IPCT & RA CAU Campus, Jamnagar	East Zone-Gujarat.	6
16	Ramnarain Rui Autonomous college, Mumbai	Mumbai	8
17	Jamanaben Narattambhai Matriram Patel science college, Surat	South Zone -Gujarat.	5
18	Shree Swaminarayan Ayurvedic college, Kalol	Central Zone-Gujarat.	5

INAGURATION: The guests where welcomed with a melodious tune being played in the backdrop. The guests were accompanied by the Deputy Conservator of forest. Shri Agneshvar Vyas North Dangs Forest Division Ahwa- Dangs. 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 tilak, bouquets and a memento of love. The inauguration ceremony was remarked with wonderful welcoming dance performance by Ty Bsc. Student. Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar and other dignitaries boosted the confidence of all the participants' and congratulated. Shri Agneshvar Vyas was happier to see so many young Botanist and talents being gathered in so much enthusiasm running down the spine. Mr. Dinesh Rabari (ACF) South Dang Forest Division Ahwa- Dangs, address motivated all the participants and insisted everybody to keep on sportsman spirit. Shri Agneshvar Vyas, 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 Book: Shri Agneshvar Vyas, Mr. Dinesh Rabari, Dr. Padamnabhi S. Nagar and other dignitaries from the dias, has launched a book on Exclusive plants of Waghai Botanical Garden. During the inauguration programme. Dr. Nagar addresses few words "this book compiled all the information about uniqueness of the garden, it includes information on some unique plants which are exclusively found in Waghai Botanical Garden with quality of good photographs and some other information *iz.* Scientific name, local name, origin, and distribution in the Garden. He said it will not only help to the students, research scholars, but it also help to the Forest officials, Bhagats, and to the visitors who willing to know or have interest in plants and nature. Book consists in details of all the recent develops and activities



of the Waghai Botanical Garden. It also includes a brief report on Botany Fest 2017.

BEGINNING OF THE FEST: Throughout the two days of fest. Garden became witness of lively performances almost in eleven bigger categories: Phyto hunt (Finding of the different plants with given clues), Bhujo to jane (Tag the state/National/World Trees), Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of plants with their natural smells), Chief of the Botany (Collecting plants from natural resources and making food in more of a natural way) Pushpa Sheraz (to perform an act on plant morphology, without speaking.) Enlightenment under Pragvad (Story of an ancient Indian tree Pragvad), Nagme Phool ki Yado ke (Identification of different plants by rhythms of songs, and video), Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft), Prakruti ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany), Hulund- An untold story (Documentary on sacred plant of Dangs *Vigna vexilata*), Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation), These eleven broader categories were having different events into them.

Categories of events:

- 1. Uniqueness of Waghai Botanical Garden:** Waghai Botanical Garden is rich in plant diversity it is estimated that total of 1200 different plant species were found in Waghai botanical garden. During the fest Dr. Nagar has addresses some uniqueness of Waghai Botanical Garden according to his word It is largest garden in Gujarat spreads over an area of 24 Hectares The Botanical Garden is divided into 12 different plots, which represent all forest types occurring in India as classified by Champion and Seth. He has delivered talk on some recent development *iz.* Orchid plots, E-herbaria (Digitization of Herbarium), Floral safari (an android based software), and Floristic Diversity of Waghai Botanical Garde to the audiences. He has shown some unique trees which are exclusively found in Waghai Botanical Garden.



2. **Bhujo to Jane:** Every state and nation has their own native and state representative trees. In this event every participants are provided map of India and world. Task was given to identify given trees with its scientific name or local name and have to tag them with their representative state and nation within given time points are decide based on identification of plant, scientific name of the plant or local name of the plant and tagging them to the right state or nation.



3. **Phyto Hunt:** Plants are identified with their morphological and phenological characters. In this event some clues were made and concealing under or over to branches, or any part of the suspected trees, a participant has to search all the clues and reach on the wining point within given time. All the participants were divided in their respective groups. Marks are based on, how they solve all the clues within minimum time and have to reach on winning point.



4. Mahek hamari pehchan tumhari (Identification of different plants with their natural smells and taste):

Some plants having presence of natural aroma. In this event some of the aromatic plants was given to the participants. Task was to identify plants sample on the basis of their aroma and test and feel. Total 5 no. of aromatic plant samples was given to the participants. Wining Points were given on scientific name of the plant with respect to their family, genus and species.



5. Pushpa sheraz: This event is similar to the famous game Dumb Charades, in this event name of some plants was given to the representative participants of each group they have to act accordingly and team mates has to guess the scientific name or local name of that plant. In this event a person who is going to act is not allowed to talk and is required to act



out the phrase/name by using different gestures, facial expressions, and body language. Coordinator has managed 3 round of this game, one other round is feel of plant, in which they kept a box in which they put plant material iz. Seeds, fruits, leaves, typical branches. A participant has to identify plant material by touching of plant without seeing.

6. Master Chef of Jungle: This event is similar to the famous Indian competitive cooking show Master chef of India. In this event, participant has to collect all the edible plant material from the wild and verify it with experts first for edibility purposes. They have to made food in natural manner without any facilities. They are provided with spices and oil, rest



of the food will be made in the natural form. Different themes were given to participant for making food accordingly. Shri. Vinod Maina Scientist 'D' Arid Zone Regional Centre, Jodhpur, Rajesthan was judge of this event he tasted all the stuffs made by participants and also gave review and marks to them.

7. **Kudrat ka kahajana (Plant Craft):** Plant craft event address all the innovative ideas, how dried and waste plant material can be utilized for making crafts, using different seeds fruits stems and dried leaves. Different themes were given to all the participants for making craft, in which all the participants made very beautiful and innovative crafts. Judges gave deciding points according to themes, whether participants had justified given task or not.



8. **Botany ki loksabha (Parliament of Botany):** In this event all the participants got a chance to play a role of highly decorated ministries. The task was given with respect to their department. Organizers and coordinators gave agenda and few points of discussion for the loksabha. The points were focused on how they will help the government with their service, do justice and utilize funds for the public welfare.



9. **Hulund – an untold story:** In inauguration programme, one documentary was shown to all the audience. Title of the documentary was Hulund – an untold story, concept of this documentary was to protect one of the sacred and rare plant of the Dang district, *Vigna vexillata* locally known as Hulund. This plant is a major resource of food, medicine and. According to the locals and Bhagats while there was draught locally known as chappaniyo dushkal, because of this plant they had survived and from that to till date many of the oldsters do worship to this plant. As day by day passes, new generation has forgotten about this unique and sacred plant. Focus of the documentary is aware to locals, students and scholars and forest officials, about this rare and unique plant so they can conserve and protect for the coming future and generations.



10. **Plant for the planet (Rare and Endangered tree plantation):** During the fest, plantation of more than 50 plants was done by all dignitaries and participants.



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, winner of this two days programme:



- **Winners:** Team- R (The Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara)
- **Runner up:** Team- J (Aspee College of agriculture and forestry, Navsari Agriculture University, Navsari)

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK: The stage was open for all to give feedback; Dr. Sudhakar reddy Scientist-SF National Remote Sensing Centre NRSC Department of Space Hyderabad, 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 to all the organizing committee members. Mr. Dinesh Rabari took opportunity to thank each and every participants and faculty members for participating and showing their interest to the Fest. He also thanked not only forest team also gives sincere gratitude to 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 work hard on and 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, different faculties and teachers for allowing their students to come forward for the energetic participation. Mr. Dinesh Rabari 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 2018. 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.

