

## DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Dear Friends,  
Greetings !

As usual this has been a packed quarter, out of which a few events really stand out. The seminar on 'Empowerment of

Differently Aabled Persons: A Policy Review,' according to me was a very successful and timely seminar, because the policy was coming up for renewal and inputs were called for. Even if one of our suggestions and recommendations is accepted, we would have succeeded in our attempt to bring about change. Actually speaking all our seminars are geared for just that, especially the ones on Good Governance. In no way they should be looked at as criticism of the government—we provide a platform for a healthy debate and discussion, which is the cornerstone of democracy.

Another such panel discussion which generated a lot of heat was the one we did with the media and their role in good governance—three media stalwarts strongly argued and debated their point of view, with each one taking a different stance. Dilip Padgaonkar of Times of India, outrightly defended media becoming commercial and said that social responsibilities change with the changing times - we should not expect media to play the same role as it did during the independence movement. Good friend Vinod Dua of NDTV, preferred to sit on the fence and say that media should be an observer and not a player. This argument was torn to shreds by Vinita Deshmukh, ex Indian Express, who pleaded the cause of media's activism—all in all a very volatile session!



With Vinod Dua, Dilip Padgaonkar and Vinita Deshmukh

The third event was a pleasant surprise, even for us! We were told just three days prior to it that Justice Santosh Hegde is in town on a personal visit and would we like to call him? This was heaven sent, because just a day before that a new draft of the Lokayukta Bill had been presented and everyone was

confused about the fate of the old 2003 Draft. Justice Hegde in his inimitable way, as usual, very cogently presented both sides and gave a convincing argument to retain the old Draft which as you all know has finally happened. Viva Democracy, which allows such healthy debates to take place!

Yet another event, that was very successful was our seminar on the " Role of Youth in Political Decision Making " . We had a packed hall with students from different colleges from all over Goa. They were on the panel and the audience spoke their minds fearlessly. This was followed by a very interesting Q & A round.

I hope by the time you receive this newsletter, you would have attended Mr. J.M.Lyngdoh's, Former Chief Election Commissioner of India's lecture on the 8th. He very kindly agreed to deliver a talk on Electoral Reforms being an absolute necessity for good governance. Back to back with this we have Ms. Aruna Roy, member NAC and NCPRI and Nikhil Dey of NCPRI, with us on the 15th for an RTI workshop in the morning (all are welcome) and a talk on the Jan Lokpal and Lokpal bill in the evening. A not to be missed event!



With Aruna Roy

Of course keep watching this space for details on our Goa Arts and Literary Festival scheduled to be held from 17th to 21st of December. We have an astounding lineup of famous authors, poets and artists for you. Do visit our website [www.goartlitfest.com](http://www.goartlitfest.com) for more details.

The swimming pool complex is coming up as scheduled. Again an urgent appeal to all our members and well wishers to come forward and donate generously. All grants/ donations will be exempt from income tax under 80 G and you may send the same by cheque/DD favouring The International Centre Goa. As promised all donations above one lakh will be duly acknowledged by displaying your name on a placard at the site. I look forward to your very magnanimous support.

On this hopeful note, I look forward to seeing you all at ICG

*Nandini Sahai*

--NANDINI SAHAI

## ICG INITIATIVE ON “GOOD GOVERNANCE”

### III Panel Discussion on “Role of Media in Good Governance”



Seen (L –R): Ms. Nandini Sahai, Mr. Vinod Dua, Dr. Dilip Padgaonkar & Ms. Vinita Deshmukh



Seen (L-R): , Dr. M. Modassir, Mr. Sanjay Srivastava

Third in our Good Governance series was an interesting and a diverse Panel discussion on the “Role of Media in Good Governance” on August 7th, comprising of Dr. Dilip Padgaonkar - Eminent journalist, former Executive Managing Editor of Times of India; Mr. Vinod Dua - Anchor, Political Commentator, Election Analyst, Producer and Director; and Ms. Vinita Deshmukh – worked with Indian Express for 19 years and Founder Editor of Intelligent Pune. Mr. Dua said that the role of media is of an observer, critic and analyst but not a player.

Ms. Deshmukh was of the opinion that Media should move towards activism and take up issues of civic interests – of the common man. While Dr. Padgaonkar felt that newspapers reflect what people want to read, so news on entertainment as front page news should also be accepted. He felt that as Media is in a highly competitive market, it cannot afford to devote all its pages to valiant causes or it will sink. The speakers also had an exclusive interaction with the journalists and students of journalism and mass communication in the morning.



Q & A round



The participants at the lecture

### IV Seminar on the “Proposed Goa Lokayukta Bill”

On a personal visit to Goa, Justice (Retd.) N. Santosh Hegde, former Justice - Supreme Court; former Lokayukta of Karnataka and Hon. Member of Jan Lokpal Bill Drafting Committee took time to come to ICG and addressed a seminar on the “Proposed Goa Lokayukta Bill” on September 25th. Justice Hegde said that Goa should have its Lokayukta in place in wake of raging controversies like illegal mining and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) violations in the state. He also urged the State

government to go ahead with the notification of the first Goa Lokayukta Bill 2003 after making the necessary changes rather than working on a fresh draft which would take two or more years to see the light of day. He felt that the Bill is not to be debated by the legislative members on their own suggestions or objections, but it’s a duty of each constituency representative to reach out to the people opting for their recommendations or objections, which could be later debated in the assembly.



The participants at the lecture



Justice Hegde delivering his lecture. Also seen: Ms. Nandini Sahai

## CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

### Workshop on 'Creating Positivity Within'



Mr. Amey Hegde. Also seen: Ms. Nandini Sahai

A workshop on 'Creating Positivity Within' was organised on July 9th. The workshop was conducted by Mr. Amey Hegde, an International Meta Mind Management Trainer, Management Consultant & corporate Behavioral Trainer with 11 years of experience in various MNCs in Europe & India and was working at Wipro Technologies, Bangalore. The workshop was well attended by over 70 participants - Directors, GMs, managers, plant heads, teachers, parents and students from different parts of the state.



Participants at the Workshop

### Interactive Session on "Look at Me: A Disability Awareness Session"



Ms. Sahani, briefing the audience

Trinayani (A Mumbai-based disability awareness welfare trust) in association with Disability Rights Association of Goa (DRAG) and us, organised an interactive session on "Look at Me: A Disability Awareness Session" with Ritika Sahani, founder Trustee of Trinayani on August 17th.

Ms. Sahani said that "More than their physical disabilities, architectural and environmental barriers prevent participation of persons with disabilities in society". She urged people to refrain from using terms like retarded, suffering from polio, crippled, physically challenged.

### Seminar on 'Empowerment of Differently Abled Persons: Policy Review'



Launch of DRAG newsletter . Seen (L-R) Mr. Avelino D'Souza, Mr. Ramkrishna Dhavlikar and Ms. Nandini Sahai

A one-day seminar on "Empowerment of Differently Abled Persons: A Policy Review" was organised on August 18th, in association with Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of Goa and Disability Rights Association of Goa (DRAG). The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Ramkrishna Dhavlikar, Minister for Transport, Government of Goa. DRAG website was re-launched at the seminar. Dr. R. Rangasayee, Director of Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai was a special invitee.



The participants at the seminar



Dr. R. Rangasayee addressing the participants.

Also seen (L-R) Mr. Avelino D'Souza and Adv. Jamshed Mistry

Some of the suggestions and recommendations of the seminar are:

1. The non disabled Population should get proper training and educate themselves about disabled population.
2. There should regularly be radio shows aired on community radios, regular films pertaining to disability.
3. Govt. should provide proper Audiological equipments and trained professionals to conduct these camps.
4. Ensure that children with disabilities have access to appropriate pre school, primary and secondary school level education.
5. Make school (building approaches, toilets, play grounds, laboratory, library, etc) barrier free and accessible for all types of disabilities.

6. Special B.Ed training for teachers who can become special educators.
7. To ensure that differently abled persons in both Urban and Rural areas have equal opportunities for productive and gainful employment.
8. Lay special emphasis on promoting self employment of differently abled persons by providing credits at preferential rates of interest and necessary training.
9. Schemes to provide incentives to the Employer of disabled Persons.
10. Increase in Rehabilitation and training centres with proper infrastructure.
11. Recruitment of trained Therapist for Resource rooms.
12. Disaster Management Plan for disabled.
13. Acknowledgement /Publicity for special children excelling in sports.
14. State transport undertaking should ensure disabled friendly features in their vehicles, both at the production as well as operation stages.



The participants at the seminar



Students at the Seminar



Speakers of Session 1



One of the Speaker

## Seminar on 'Role of Youth in Political Decision Making'



Inaugural function

Seen: Ms. Nandini Sahai, Mr. Rajeshwar Dyal and Dr. Rahul Tripathi

A Seminar on "Role of Youth in Political Decision Making" was held on September 18th. The seminar was organised in association with FES-India and MICCI.

Mr. Rajeshwar Dyal, senior advisor –FES India, maintained that the nation's young are mobilized and promised employment during election campaigns and then marginalized. He stated that youth are excluded in productive debates and decision making although more than 90 percent of youth (till the age of 35 years) are successful in the corporate sectors.

The seminar which went on for the entire day saw a gathering of youth representatives from ten Goan colleges. These speakers voiced their opinion on the matter and agreed that the youth are utilized for political purposes when needed.

## Workshop on "Innovative Marketing Approaches for Goa's Farmers Clubs and Small Farmers"

A workshop on "Innovative Marketing Approaches for Goa's Farmers Clubs and Small Farmers" was held on September 20th. The workshop was organised by NABARD, Botanical Society of Goa, Green Essentials and ICG, to address the problem that farmers face in achieving profitability for marketing of their produce.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. Satish Tendulkar, Director of Agriculture and Nodal officer for Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana in Goa, said that the Directorate of Agriculture has drawn up schemes to support "Farmers Bazaars in addition to the existing scheme to support vegetable production. The workshop was attended by 140 farmers from all over Goa.

## OUR OTHER ACTIVITIES

### FRIDAY HEALTH TALKS

#### 1. 'Screening for Gynecological Malignancies'



The participants at the talk

As part of our Friday health series, a talk on 'Screening for Gynecological Malignancies' was held on July 8th by Dr. Vidya Sawant, Consultant Gynaecologist & Obstetrician, Manipal Hospital Goa.

#### 2. 'Allergies'

Continuing with our health series, a presentation on 'Allergies' by Dr. Anita Kamath Dudhane, Consultant Allergist & Clinical Immunologist was held on July 15th.

#### 3. 'Dietary & Lifestyle Modifications in Controlling Diabetes'



The participants at the table

A talk on 'Dietary & Lifestyle Modifications in Controlling Diabetes' by Ms. Zenya D'Lima, Dietician, was held on July 22nd.

#### 4. 'Know more about Jaundice'



The participants at the talk

A presentation on 'Know more about Jaundice' by Dr. Amit S Kalangutkar was held on August 12th.

#### 5. 'Dental Care for Diabetics'

A talk on 'Dental Care for Diabetics' by Dr. Rashmi Naik was organized on August 19th.



Dr. Naik giving her presentation

#### 6. 'Prevention in Dentistry'



Dr. Gregory Pereira giving his presentation

A talk on 'Prevention in Dentistry' by Dr. Gregory Pereira was held on August 26th.

#### 7. 'Celebrating World Alzheimer's Day - Know more about Alzheimer's Disease'

A talk on 'Celebrating World Alzheimer's Day - Know more about Alzheimer's Disease' by Dr. Chicot Vas, Consultant Neurologist, Head of Department, Goa Medical College [B.Sc, M.D. (N.U.I.), F.R.C.P. (London)] was held on September 9th.

#### 8. 'Arthritis and its Management'

A talk on 'Arthritis and its Management' by Dr. Vinay Kumar was held on September 23rd.



The participants at the talk

## Staging of Historical hit play "Chanakya"



Centre : Mr. Manoj Joshi as Arya Chanakya

The life and times of one of India's greatest thinkers and advisor to the Mauryan empire, Arya 'Chanakya', was staged at Kala Academy, Panaji on July 16th. This Historical hit play is directed by film and television actor Manoj Joshi, who plays the main protagonist himself. The play is written by Mihir Bhuta and was organized in association with Directorate of Arts & Culture, Govt. of Goa and Mr. Jackie Shroff. The play highlighted the major incidents in the life of Arya Chanakya.



During one of the scenes



Seen (L-R): Mr. Manoj Joshi, Ms. Nandini Sahai, Mr. Jackie Shroff

## Tri-Continental Film Festival

A Tri-Continental Film Festival was organised in association with Moving Images and BreakThrough, New Delhi from July 22nd -24th. The core theme of the films screened was on human rights



The audience during the film screening

## "Fold- Origami Unlimited" Workshop



The various paper models of using Origami art



Children learning the different folds

"Fold- Origami Unlimited", the origami workshop was held from July 30th -31st. The workshop was conducted by origamist Shivararam Narayanan and was open for all above 8 years of age. Besides an introduction to the Japanese paper folding craft, the two day workshop practically explored basic folds and traditional models. The final products were that of flowers, birds and animals.

## Screening of 'Aftershocks: The Rough Guide to Democracy'



The panelists  
Seen (L-R):  
Ms. Nandini Sahai,  
Dr. Claude Alvares,  
Mr. Rajendra Kerkar,  
Mr. Ramesh Gawas and  
Mr. Rakesh Sharma

Rakesh Sharma's film 'Aftershocks: The Rough Guide to Democracy' was screened on August 13th. The screening was followed by an interaction with the filmmaker, Rakesh Sharma and a panel discussion, chaired by Dr. Claude Alvares, renowned environmentalist. The film is about acquisition/ displacement of two quake-affected villages in Kutch (Gujarat, India) for lignite mining and power generation.

## Incredible India Quiz

The Incredible India Quiz was held in two categories - School Edition (upto 12 Std. students) and Open Quiz (open for all) on August 15th, Independence Day. The quiz was organised in association with Sunday Evening Quiz Club (SEQC) in partnership with Ministry of Tourism, Government of Goa, who sponsored the prizes and certificates.



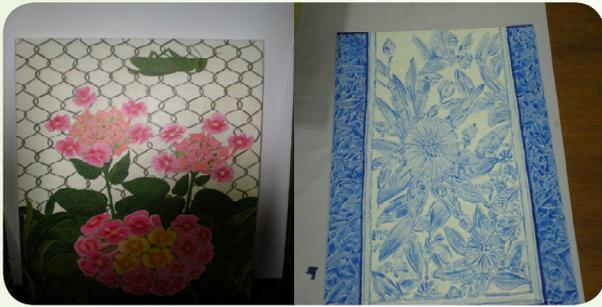
Prize distribution for school edition



Students during the Quiz

The School Edition was conducted by SEQC founder member, Mr. Annirudha Sen Gupta and the Open Edition was conducted by Dr. V. Muralidharan.

## First Art Camp on " Wild Flowers of Dona Paula"



The paintings

A First Art Camp on 'Wild Flowers of Dona Paula' with renowned artists from Goa was organised from August 19th -21st. The artists were Subodh Kerkar, Nirupa Naik, Shilpa Mayekar, Viraj Naik, Rajshree Thakker, Harshada Kerkar, Vitesh Naik, Yolanda Souza, Shripad Gurav, Naguesh Sardesai, Sonia Sabarwal, Kranti Chari, Vinita Chenvenkar, Sadguru Chenvenkar, Vijay Bhandari, Shridhar Kamat Bambolker and Shalini Shrivastav. This camp was organized in order to document the pristine magnificence of natural flora in paintings.



A painting



The artists

## Interactive Session on 'Kids are worth it - Learning how to bring up Caring, Responsible Children'

An Interactive Session on 'Kids are worth it - learning how to bring up Caring, Responsible Children' by Karl Pinto de Souza – Counsellor & Psychotherapist was held on August 24<sup>th</sup>, in association with Listening Ear Counselling Clinic.



The participants at the Interactive session

## Lecture cum Interactive Session on 'How prepared is India to meet China's Military and Economic Challenge?'



Gen Saighal giving his talk

A Lecture cum Interactive Session on 'How prepared is India to meet China's Military and Economic Challenge?' was held on August 31st. The lecture was delivered by Major General (Retd.) Vinod Saighal, Executive Director of Eco Monitors Society, New Delhi and former Director General of Military Training. The lecture was organized in association with Goa University and Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industries and was Chaired by Dr. V. A. Pai Panandiker, Vice President- ICG.

Gen. Saighal said that the burgeoning Chinese economy and strategic gains made by China have increased India's vulnerability tenfold. He made observations that there is corruption in China too, but they are surging ahead because when it comes to national interest, the Chinese are single-minded, cohesive and uncompromising. He opined that China was also using water as a weapon of war, with construction of over a hundred dams.

The audience at the lecture Seen (L-R)  
Dr. R. P. Pradhan  
Mr. Sanjay Srivastava,  
Col.Subodh Mulugund



## An Evening with Mr. Keki Daruwalla

Mr. Daruwalla



Sahitya Akademi Awardee, and eminent poet and novelist Mr. Keki Daruwalla, read some of his work and interacted with literature lovers, writers and poets of Goa on September 15th. "An Evening with Keki Daruwalla" was organised in association with Goa Writers Group. Mr. Daruwala was in Goa to deliver Dr. Manoharrai Sardesai's memorial lecture organized by Konkani Bhasha Mandal. In addition to poetry, Mr. Daruwalla has written a novel "For Pepper and Christ", published by Penguin India.

The audience



## Talk on 'From Mind to Super Mind: Patanjli's Yoga Sutras'

A Talk on 'From Mind to Super Mind: Patanjli's Yoga Sutras' by Dr. Bhaskaran Pillai, Creator, MindScience was held on September 17th. Dr. Pillai is an international teacher, spiritual leader, humanitarian and scholar-mystic from Southern India. Through his educational and humanitarian initiatives, Dr. Pillai's mission is to alleviate human pain and suffering in all forms.

## Guest Comments

1. Dr. Mohan Agashe- film and theatre personality- "This place is excellent. I would love to come back"
2. Mr. Jiban Baruah – "I am very happy with the helpfulness of your staff"
3. S. Winston Cruz – "I would like to visit again"
4. Priyadarshan Patarkar – "Great location, friendly staff, really enjoyed my stay here"

Our members can enjoy sumptuous meals at our multi-cuisine restaurant - Spices by availing 10% special discount on all à la Carte orders by showing their membership cards.



## ICG BUZZ

New room tariffs from January 2012. Rates to be published shortly.  
ICG to participate in Goa International Travel Mart – 2011  
Unveiling of Children's Park shortly- Watch this space  
Swimming Pool Complex opening shortly - Watch this space

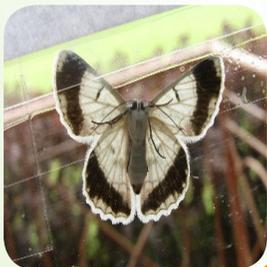
## Updates on our rainwater harvesting cum groundwater recharging unit

In the last three months of Monsoon, we have collected around 18 lakh litres of water in the unit

Our renovated reception has books on Goa, also postcards, prints & illustrations by world famous Cartoonist, Mr. Mario Miranda, for sale

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- \* October 2nd – SEQC monthly Quiz
- \* October 6th – Louise Hay workshop "Love yourself Heal your Life", by Asma D'Souza, Clinical Hypnotherapist, Tarot card reader, Theta Healing Professional, Heal Your Life workshop facilitator and life coach
- \* October 7th – Facts & Myths about Ayurvedic Treatment
- \* **October 8th – "Good Governance: Need for Electoral Reforms", lecture by Mr. J. M. Lyngdoh, former Election Commissioner of India**
- \* October 8th and 9th – Warli Painting workshop
- \* October 12th – Interactive session on "Conserving Environment and Mitigating Disasters n Coastal Zones: The U.S. perspectives"
- \* October 13th – Interactive session on "Trafficking in Person"
- \* **October 15th & 16th – Regional Convention on "Five years of Right to Information and its role in strengthening democracy"**  
**Special Guests - Ms. Aruna Roy of NAC & NCPRI and Mr. Nikhil Dey of NCPRI**  
**A Public Lecture by Ms. Aruna Roy on " Good Governance : The Challenge of fighting Corruption and redressing grievances"**
- \* October 21st – Age related disorders and geriatrics in Ayurveda - Dr. Gautam Khandeparkar , MD (Ayurveda)
- \* October 29th & 30th – Origami workshop
- \* November 23rd – 25th – 8th Annual South Asia Media Summit
- \* December 17th – 21st – Goa Arts and Literary Festival 2011
- \* December 31st - New Years's Eve Party



For details about membership, programmes and facilities please visit our website: [www.internationalcentregoa.com](http://www.internationalcentregoa.com)  
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