

GOA DIALOGUES

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, GOA

The International Centre Goa – Newsletter

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EDITOR'S LETTER



'It's Celebration Time' !!

Dear Friends, Greetings !

This last quarter of 2010 has been a really hectic one with three of major happenings, the Dastkari Haat Exhibition in October, the 7th Annual South Asia Media Summit in November and the first ever historic edition of the Goa Arts and Literary festival in December. As we gear up for 2011, let me give you a review of our achievements for 2010.

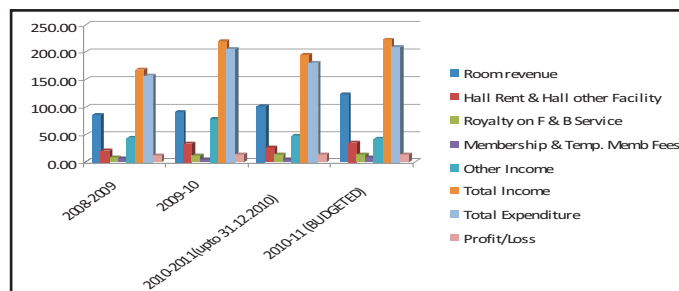
Our Programmes have been immensely successful in terms of content, participation and revenue generated, right from the Health series, Art Series, Book readings, Film festivals, Quizzes to seminars on Women in Media, Terrorism, CRZ Draft, Right to Information, Judiciary, Community Radio, South Asia Media Summit and first ever Goa Arts and Literary Festival, with participants crossing the 100 mark for every major programme organised by us. The Media both print and electronic have given us extensive coverage especially during the RTI, Judiciary, South Asia Media Summit, Dastkari Haat and Goa Arts and Literary festival. We are very grateful to them. Our partners - Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of Goa have been our pillars of support and we are immensely indebted to them for their financial support. The Goa government has also supported us in seminars like Media and Human Development : Media-Govt interface. The NIO supported us in Coastal Regulation Draft 2010. Some of the eminent people that were our

guests include: Mr. Arvind Kejriwal- RTI ; Justice AP Shah- Judiciary ; Mr. Ketan Mehta and Ms.

Deepa Sahi- Film workshop; Annirudha Bahal- Media & Terrorism ; Mr. Shishir Joshi and Dr. Alope Thakore- Journalism workshop ; Mr. Matanhy Saldanha- CRZ seminar ; Prof. U.R Ananthamurthy- Goa Arts and Literary festival. The quality of our programmes have been high consistently and we hope to continue the same

As part of our 'Clean Goa Green Goa' initiative, we were successful in installing a recycling cum composting unit. We are in the process of recharging our borewells and installing solar-wind hybrid stations. Our conference halls, our guestrooms have been renovated and equipped with state-of-the-art facilities.

Our revenue in terms of programme income (both organised by ICG and conference venues used by other people), room occupancy, reception venues, F&B income have broken all records of all 13 years ever since the centre was established. A brief about it is as follows :



Having said all this let me add that we are not resting on our laurels and will continue to break many more records. Watch out for this space same time next year – for ICG 's new achievements both in terms of revenue and quality programmes !

See you all at ICG !

Nandini Sahai
— NANDINI SAHAI

What's new on the Menu



Our members can now enjoy sumptuous meals at our multi-cuisine restaurant — Spices by availing 10% special discount on all à la Carte orders



ICG BUZZ

The International Centre Goa participated in the promotional activity of ITM Goa 2010 from October 14-17 in Panaji. This International Travel Mart was held for the first time in Goa.

SEMINARS & FESTIVALS

Seminar on 'Right to Information: Strengthening Participatory Democracy'



Lighting of the Traditional Lamp

A Seminar on 'Right to Information: Strengthening Participatory Democracy' was held on 12th & 13th October 2010 by ICG on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the implementation of the RTI Act. Magsaysay Awardee Arvind Kejriwal delivered the keynote address. The seminar was inaugurated by Shri. Ramakant Khalap, Chairman - Law Commission of Goa and former Law Minister of India. Goa State Chief Information Commissioner, Shri. Motilal Keny delivered the special address. Later a Public Hearing, the first ever in Goa was also organized.



Mr. Kejriwal and Adv. Albertina Almeida

Mr. Kejriwal said that RTI was critical to the existence and survival of representative democracy and that



Participants at the seminar

eradication of corruption was the by-product of RTI. He was also of the opinion that the biggest reason for the ineffective implementation of RTI was collapse of the appellate status envisaged in the legislation, which was broadly because of the reluctance of some of the State Information Commissioners to levy penalties to the erring Public Information Officials.

This seminar was organized in association with Media Information and Communication Centre of India and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung – India and Goa People's Forum, People's Movement for Civic Action, Goa Union of Journalists, 'Rudreshvar', Friendship Center, Goa Federation of Women Lawyers, V M Salgaocar College of Law, Dept. of Political Science (Goa University), All India Women's Conference (Goa), Youth Hostels Association of India, Jaycees of Goa, and Rotary Family of Goa.



Participants at the seminar

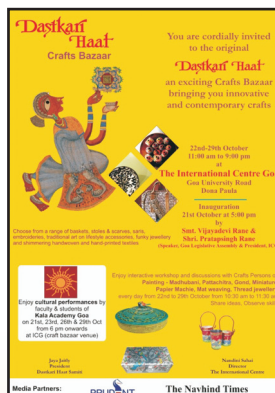
Some of the sessions were: RTI and Accountability in Governance, Major Challenges Facing RTI and Role of Media & NGOs in Promoting RTI.

One-day seminar on Success & Happiness

A One-day seminar on "Success & Happiness: by Dr. Hiru Bijlani was held on 20 October 2010.

Dr. Hiru Bijlani holds a Doctorate in Business Administration. He has over 30 years Management and consulting experience in diverse organizations worldwide. He is the author of numerous articles and five books published in English and other international languages. The seminar was attended by ICG staff and local people.

Dastkari Haat Crafts Bazaar



A craftsman displaying and selling crockery items

India is a land rich in art and crafts and this comes to fore in the various crafts fair held throughout the country. One such is the Dastkari Haat Crafts Bazaar which goes around the country. The last time it came to Goa was 6 years ago. They were invited this year by ICG and the bazaar was from 22nd to 29th October 2010. The Dastkari Haat Samiti headed by Ms. Jaya Jaitly, is a not-for-profit association based in New-Delhi and aims to be the collective movement of growth and economic empowerment for India's crafts people for sustainable livelihoods and to preserve India's cultural heritage.



Cultural performance

The Dastkari Haat Crafts Bazaar displayed wide range of crafts that use traditional and contemporary art like baskets, stoles and scarves, sarees, embroideries, shoes, traditional art on lifestyle accessories, jewellery and shimmering handwoven and hand-printed textiles. There were also stalls



Traditional Rajasthani toys and decoration

displaying and selling organic herbs, teas, herbal soaps and oils.

Along with the bazaar, there were lots of interactive workshop and discussions on all days with the crafts persons on Painting-Madhubani, Pattchitra, gond, Miniature, Papier Mache, Mat weaving and Thread jewellery. Kala Academy also organized various cultural programmes throughout the week.



Traditional Rajasthani "Katputli"- Puppet show



'Child-friendly' handmade toys

Smt. Vijayadevi Rane, Chairperson of the Handicraft Society & Shri Pratapsingh Rane, Speaker, Goa Legislative Assembly & President ICG, inaugurated the bazaar.



Seminar on Strengthening Democracy: Role of Judiciary



Mr. Pratapsingh Rane welcoming Justice A P Shah

Former Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and Madras High Court, Justice Ajit Prakash Shah inaugurated the seminar on 'Strengthening Democracy: Role of Judiciary' held on Saturday, 13-14 November 2010. Justice Shah delivered the Keynote Address on Accountability v/s Independence of Judiciary. Expressing growing concern over safety and security of people acting against corruption in public life using RTI legislation, Justice Shah said that every citizen who gets information for public use be treated as a whistle-blower and accorded necessary protection.



Justice A P Shah delivering his Keynote address



Adv. Prashant Bhshan and Adv. Satish Sonak

Speaking on judicial appointments, he said that 'Our current appointment systems is out of step with democratic culture primarily because it lacks transparency and provides for no oversight. Adv. Prashant Bhushan Advocate, Supreme Court of India was one of the speakers for the session on 'Accountability Vs Independence of Judiciary'

Some of other sessions were on: Judiciary: Partner in Societal Development?, Judiciary and Media in India, Relationship between Judiciary and Parliament and Translating Dream of Zero Pending Cases into Reality: Need for Faster dispensation of Justice.



Participants at the seminar

The two-day seminar was organised in association with Media Information and Communication Centre of India & Friedrich Ebert Foundation - India and the Goa High Court Bar Association.

7th Annual South Asia Media Summit - 2010



Governor lighting the Traditional lamp at the Inaugural Ceremony

The 7th Annual South Asia Media Summit held from 22nd – 25th November 2010 was inaugurated by His Excellency Dr. Shivinder Singh Sidhu, the Governor of



Governor addressing the participants

Goa. The theme was "Women in Media in South Asia: Partners in Development". The South Asian countries that participated were Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri-Lanka.



Participants at the summit

Two important objectives in organizing the South Asia Women's Media Summit was to highlight the role of women in media in certain key areas of common concern; and to strengthen the networking among them across South Asia so that they can collectively play their role more effectively.

The Summit was organised in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) - India, Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India and in association with Media Information and Communication Centre of India (MICCI) and Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.



Cultural performance

Some of the sessions at the summit were:

- Livelihood, Development and the Environment
- Peace, Security and Conflict Prevention
- Strengthening Democracy through Networking and Shared Cultural Values
- Education and Health
- Nutrition and Food Security





Speakers for Session 1



Participants at the summit

The South Asian Women's Network for media called as "SWAN" (www.swaninterface.net) was also launched at the hands of the Governor of Goa. SWAN will be a central hub to all the other seven South Asian Women's networks.



First Ever Goa Arts & Literary Festival 2010



Litterateurs, glitterati make it memorable

The Arts and Literary Festival similar to the Jaipur Literary Festival and Hay Festival in Trivandrum is a regular gathering of writers, poets, literature experts, painters, artists and readers, typically held on an annual basis in a particular city. It usually features a variety of presentations and readings by various authors, as well as other events, delivered over a period of several days, with the primary

objectives of promoting the authors /artists works like books, paintings, handicrafts, poems etc fostering a love for literature, writing and art.

The International Centre Goa in partnership with Sahitya Akademi, Goa Writers Group, Goa Konkani Akademi, Gomantak Marathi Akademi, Alliance Française, CLP Instituto Camões and Heritage Jazz organised the first ever Goa Arts & Literary Festival from 12th to 14th December 2010. Department of Tourism - Government of Goa was the principal sponsor of the Festival.



The Festival was inaugurated by Jnanpith and Rajyotsava Awardee Padma Bhushan Prof. U R Ananthamurthy. Mr. Pratapsingh Rane, Speaker Goa Legislative Assembly and President, ICG was the Guest of Honour.

During the inauguration, ICG also launched its new initiative for this year "I Care for Goa", where issues

concerning the people of Goa in general and the government, media, civil society in particular will be taken up for discussion and debate. The initiative will facilitate understanding the dynamics of the issues related to improving the image of Goa, which lately has been negatively portrayed by the media and come up with concrete suggestions or recommendations on those issues.



Launching of 'I Care for Goa'

Eminent authors, artists, photographers like Jerry Pinto, Saeed Mirza, Sudeep Chakravarti, Aniruddha Bahal, Subodh Kerkar, Maria Aurora Couto, Damodar Mauzo, Charles Correa, Remo Fernandes, Venita Coelho, Mridula Garg, Manikuntala Bhattacharya, Dilip D'Souza, Wendell Rodricks and Pablo Bartholomew participated in the festival.



The Authors



Book Release



Poem Session

The main aim of this first ever historic edition was to promote the talents of writers, poets, literature experts and creative artists from Goa, India and abroad. This festival gave access to the people of Goa especially students to interact on a one to one basis with world famous authors and artists. Visit www.goartlitfest.com for more details.



Photography Session



Participants

ACTIVITIES

Interactive Session and Book Reading – ‘Relevance of Gandhi’



Participants during the book reading

An interactive session and book reading on ‘Relevance of Gandhi’ was held on Friday, 1st October 2010. In this session Gandhian ideology was read, particularly on relevance of non-violence in the present age of terrorism and violence. Books that were discussed were ‘Hind Swaraj’ (1909), ‘The Story of My Experiments with Truth’ (1927) and ‘India of My Dreams’ (1947). This session was coordinated by Shri. Dinesh Vaghela, an ICG Member

Various books by celebrated and influential writers are taken up at a time for reading and discussion at ICG once a month. Participants are welcome to recommend their favourite book or author for the same.

Interactive Session on Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

An Interactive Session on Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) with Dr. Vijay Naik, MD (Internal Medicine) in association with Manipal Hospital was held on 8 October 2010. This was a part of ICG’s health series.

Tai Chi Workshop

The International Centre Goa in association with Tai Chi practitioner Mr. Satyakam Gupta launched its first ever Tai Chi workshop from 9th October onwards with sessions once every week. In the workshop Satyakam focused on the art of balancing the good and bad energies through 24 forms of Tai Chi with various sounds and breathing practices.

Interactive Session on Arthritis

Interactive Session on ‘Everything you wanted to know about Arthritis’ was held with Dr. Mahendra Kudchadkar, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon in association with Manipal Hospital, on 15 October 2010. Around 25 people including ICG staff attended the talk.

Italian Film Festival

Commissioner for NRI Affairs, Mr. Eduardo Faleiro inaugurated the 3-day Italian Film Festival in association

with the Indo-Italian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and The International Centre Goa on 22nd October, 2010. The festival was organized on occasion of the 10th World Italian Language week

Sublime Expressions – Art Initiative Series 6



Prof. Singh in action

Prof. S Pranam Singh – Artist & Professor, Faculty of Fine Arts, Benaras Hindu University, Varanasi demonstrated his artistic strokes, followed by an Interactive Session with him, on 28th October 2010.

Interactive Health Session with Dr. Shekhar Salkar

Breast Cancer is one disease that is currently prevalent among a large sector of women of all ages. This type of cancer can prove fatal if not diagnosed properly.



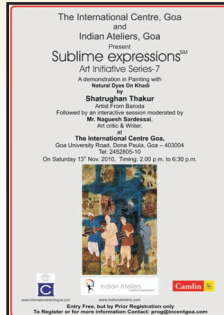
Dr. Salkar interacting with the audience

Awareness about breast cancer has proved to be a life saver and to aim for a higher level of an aware citizenry ICG hosted an Interactive Session with Dr. Shekhar Salkar, renowned oncologist on 'Breast Cancer' on 30 October 2010. This was a part of the Health Series organized by ICG once a month.

Sublime Expressions – Art Initiative Series 7



Mr. Thakur interacting with the participants



Mr. Shatrughan Thakur, a well known artist from Baroda, Gujarat demonstrated Painting using pigments created by him from various natural sources like vegetables on Khadi material, on 13 November 2010. This was organized by The International Centre Goa in association with Indian Ateliers. This was followed by an Interactive Session with more than 40 participants.

Reading & Discussion on the book 'Lok Swaraj'

A Reading & Discussion on the book 'Lok Swaraj' in Hindi and 'Swaraj for the People' in English by Jayprakash Narayan was held on 19 November 2010. It was coordinated by Shri. Dinesh Vaghela.

Venuyatra - Journey with the Bamboo Flute

The International Centre Goa launched 'Friday Rendevous' on 26 Nov 2010. The first program organized was 'Venuyatra - Journey with the Bamboo Flute' in association with Sur Malhar Music;

Flute recital by Sameer Rao (disciple of Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia) accompanied by Trilochan Kampli on the Tabla.

Interactive session on India's Second War of Independence: Making Infrastructure Happen



Mr. Krishna addressing the audience

An Interactive session on 'India's Second War of Independence: Making Infrastructure Happen' with Mr. Srivatsa Krishna (IAS), visiting Professor at IIM, Bangalore, PhD Research Scholar at IIT,

Chennai was held on 15 December 2010.

Mr. Krishna is a member of the Government of Andhra Pradesh's core IT and infrastructure strategy team in India and prior to that worked with UNDP and USAID on various aspects of public sector reforms. He is also

an invited member of McKinsey and Company's Global Infrastructure Advisory Board. He writes regularly for The Economic Times, Wall Street Journal, Business Today, Financial Times and Outlook. He is working on a book to be published by Penguin shortly and is a Visiting Professor at IIM, Bangalore.

Goa Open 2010 quiz

Sunday Evening Quiz Club (SEQC) organised 'The Goa Open 2010' quiz in association with The International Centre Goa on 18 December 2010 as a part of the one week Goa Libre celebrations. Around 45 students participated for the quiz. Mr. Anirudha Sen Gupta was the quizmaster. Goa Open is planned to be an annual event.

SEQC's Twenty Paces - Solo Knock-Out Quiz

The SEQC's Twenty Paces - Solo Knock-Out Quiz (Round 1 – 2nd Set) was organised in association with Sunday Evening Quiz Club (SEQC) on 19 December 2010. Mr. Rajiv D'Silva was the quizmaster

Goa Libre celebrated



Director hoisting the national flag



Staff singing the National Anthem

On the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Goa Liberation, ICG celebrated by organizing Flag hoisting, speeches by students and seed plantation at ICG's organic vegetable garden.



Planting of seeds in ICG's Organic vegetable garden 'Shak Bhag'

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * 7th January 2011- Friday Rendezvous: Venuyatra (Journey with the Bamboo Flute)- Panchabhuta.
- * 8th January 2011- Interactive session/workshop on ‘Special Provision and status for Goa’ with Mr. Matahny Saldanha (Former Minister for Tourism, Goa).
- * 12th January 2011 – Intercollege debate competition on ‘50 years of Goa’s Liberation: Are the Youth abandoning their responsibility towards Goa?’.
- * 27th January 2011 – One day workshop on ‘Falling Sex Ratio and the Girl Child’.

Other Events

- ☆ Book Discussion/Reading Session- ‘Gitanjali’ by Rabindranath Tagore.
- ☆ Exhibition of Painting by Kathryn Myers and Hanuman Kambli.
- ☆ Pageturners Book Club.
- ☆ Annual South Asia Media Summit – November 2011.
- ☆ Annual Goa Arts and Literary Festival – December 2011.



For details about membership, please visit our website : www.internationalcentregoa.com

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