

## **Buildings are the Chief Cause of Global Warming**

Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2014

Commemorating World Earth Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, The International Centre Goa organised a Talk on Green Buildings and Earthships by Mr. Bijon Shaha.

Beginning his talk by invoking Confucius, the Chinese and Pacha-Mama Goddess worshipped in the Andes. For 200 years we have been conquering nature.

He says that buildings are the chief cause of global warming, their maintenance consumes 40% of world energy, 65% of all electricity and 40% of raw materials. Buildings and construction activities generate huge amount of solid wastes and effluents into the atmosphere.

The question that faces us is how to minimise the negative impact on the environment without inconveniencing its occupants.

Elaborating on the topic of green buildings he defined them as self sufficient building rely on natural principles instead of mechanical to provide non polluting heating and cooling.

He says that he has had the privilege to visit The CII Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre in Hyderabad which is the only first certified green building in India. Here there is no air-conditioning required till 1pm and no light required till 6pm.

This year The World Earth Day is based on the theme of Green Cities and there are two Green cities coming up in Abu Dhabi & South Korea.