

BRIEF PROFILES OF THE SPEAKERS

B S Choudri

Dr. B.S. Choudri is a Fellow at TERI. His Ph.D is on Environmental Management and his special interests have been environmental pollution issues and its risks related to developmental activities. He has provided research guidance for M.Tech/ M.Sc thesis and also has many publications to his credit. He has tremendous experience in the mining sector, both prior to his joining TERI as well as during his tenure in TERI. He has also worked in the EU sponsored COASTIN project and has also been a team member in other EU sponsored projects. He has experience on use of remote sensing and GIS techniques for integrating the spatial information and data. He has been involved in watershed development programmes and resource management through participatory approaches with communities as stakeholders and associated in the integrated community development programmes.

Charles Damian Bonifacio

Mr. Charles Damian Bonifacio is the Chief Executive of Alfran group of Hotels, Vice-Chairman of the Goa Unit of HCIMA (Hotel and Catering International Management Association) and member of the Goa Planning Board constituted by Government of Goa. Recently he is elected as the Vice-President of SKAL INTERNATIONAL, Goa a body of tourism professionals with its headquarters in Spain. Mr. Bonifacio is a postgraduate in commerce from the University of Bombay, Certified Associate of All India Institute of Bankers (CAIIB) and has a diploma in Hotel Management with first class Honours. He was instrumental in procuring Charter business for Goa. During his tenure as President of Travel and Tourism Association of Goa (TTAG) from 2002-06, he supported sustainable tourism that encompasses not only physical definition but also the socio cultural economic milieu.

Dean D'Cruz

Mr. Dean D'Cruz has been practicing in Goa for the past 18 years and has been the recipient of many awards. His architecture seeks to capture the vernacular, using local materials that are economical and eco-friendly like the local stone hewn out of the site itself and coconut rafters, a renewable source of wood. It tries to recall traditional construction techniques like stone corbels, arches, walls and domes and wooden brackets and trusses. It also explores new materials like steel, blending it in to soften the architecture. Thus keeping tradition and the vernacular in mind, it attempts to find a new direction, not copying the past but re-interpreting it. It is an architecture that cannot be read instantly, as one only discovers it while moving through it.

Jagdish Wagh

Jagdish Wagh is a senior journalist with long association and experience in News agency journalism coupled with print and electronic media for the past 43 years. Besides, journalism, Mr. Wagh is intimately associated with

organizations like the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the State Wild Life Advisory Board, the Mangrove Committee, and the Conservation Committee. The Goa Government honoured him with a State Award in 1985 for his pioneering efforts to popularise environmental education through Nature Clubs in various educational institutions. He has to his credit several illustrated publications on nature conservation titled Dudhasagar, Cothigao, Choraio, Harmal, Vagheri and Kesarval. He was also the first editor of NRI publication launched by NRI Facilitation Centre, Goa.

Peter deSouza

Prof. Peter deSouza is the Chairman of Knowledge Commission of Goa and is a Visiting Senior Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS). He is Co-director of the Lokniti programme and is currently coordinating the State of Democracy in South Asia (SDSA) project. Prof. deSouza taught in the Political Science Department at Goa University for 16 years and has worked as a consultant to the World Bank, the Ford Foundation and the International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International-IDEA).

Preetu Nair & Peter de Souza

Ms. Preetu Nair & Mr. Peter de Souza are journalists and currently working as correspondents with Gomantak Times in Goa.

Ramesh Negi (IAS)

Mr. Ramesh Negi is the Commissioner and Secretary – Finance, Government of Goa. He joined as IAS in 1984 in AGMUT Cadre after doing his graduation in Law. Prior to this position, he held important positions in the Government such as Secretary of Chief Minister of Delhi; Director of Census Operations, Chandigarh & Harayana Administration; and Managing Director of Delhi Tourism Development Corporation.

Shaila Desouza

Ms. Shaila Desouza is with the Centre for Women's Studies, Goa University and has been for nearly 15 years involved in research, teaching/ training, advocacy and extension. She is currently also a Member of the Goa State Commission for Women. Ms. Desouza is the Editor of a book titled 'Women's Health in Goa: A Holistic Approach' published by Concept in 2006 and 'The Situational Analysis of Women and Girls in Goa', published by the National Commission for Women in 2005. She has written numerous academic as well as journalistic articles on various aspects related to women's rights. Ms. Desouza was the recipient of the Shastri Indo Canadian - Women and Development award 2000-2001 and was affiliated to the Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. She was a fellow at the Salzburg Seminar, Austria on Women and Governance in 2006.