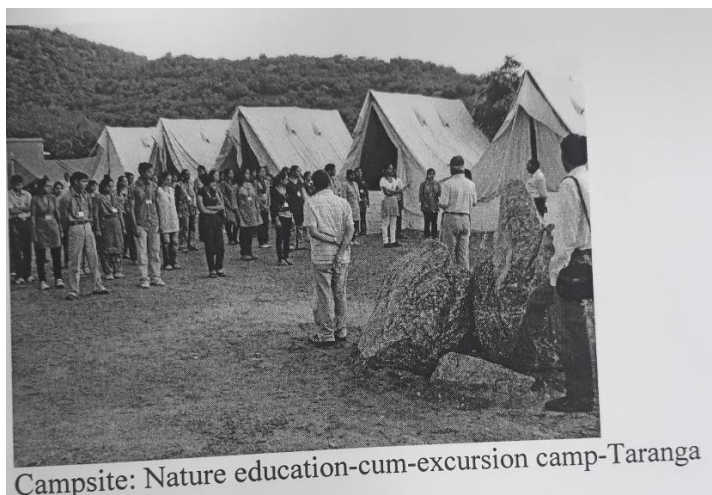


GUBS ACTIVITIES 2009-2010

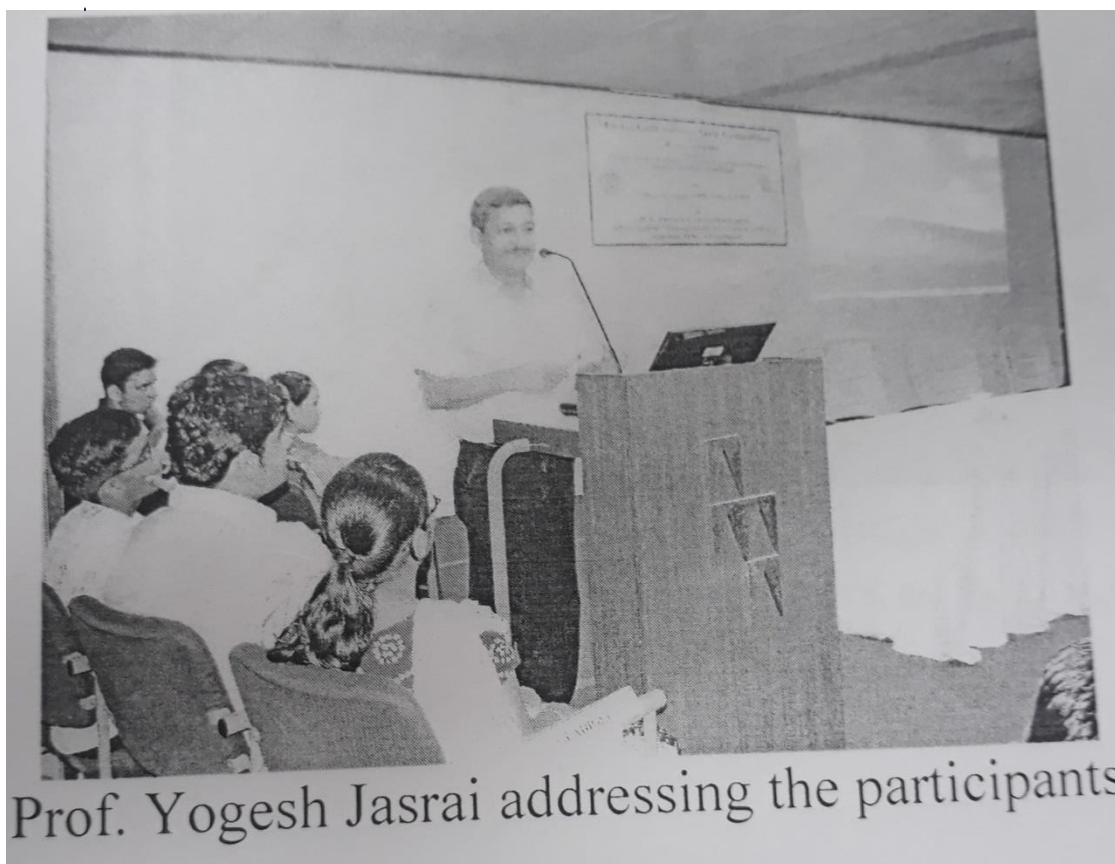
The Inaugural function of Gujarat University Botanical Society (GUBS) for the year 2009-2010 was held on Friday, 31st July, 2009. Prof. S. K. Menon, Director, University School of Sciences, was the chief guest. Prof. Yogesh Jasrai, Head of the Department of Botany and Patron-GUBS extended a warm welcome to the chief guest and the new incumbents — M Sc I of both Botany and Bioinformatics and M Phil students. Inaugurating the activities of GUBS, Prof. Menon aptly highlighted the need for application oriented learning that can act as a vital thrust for higher education. The Staff-in-charge of GUBS this year, Dr. Himanshu Pandya introduced the new team of office bearers of the society and each one of them was coroneted with a badge.

The staff and students of this department participated in a State level conference on **Ethnobotany and Biodiversity: The natural biological capital of the earth** on Saturday, 8th August 2009 at Shri U. P. Arts, Smt. M. G. Panchal Science and Shri. L. D. Commerce college, Pilvai. Prof. Y. T. Jasrai delivered an invited lecture apropos to the theme of the conference for the benefit of the students. Ms. Namrata Bhatt, M Sc-II, bagged the second prize for the poster on Plants in ancient literature with reference to Gujarat during the conference. Dr. H. A. Solanki accompanied Ms. Rashmi Bariya, Ms. Dipal Patel, Ms. Ishita Joshi, Ms. Amruta Badheka and Mr. Munjalsinh Parmar who also made presentations there.

The students of this department alongwith Prof. Yogesh Jasrai visited Taranga as part of the botanical excursion on 17-19th August, 2009. The group made botanical explorations in the nearby forest areas and studied the vegetation. The visit had an added advantage of the presence and guidance of the forest officials which made a huge impact and sensitized the botanists to the need for conservation and role any commoner can play in the same.



The First MINAXI LALIT SCIENCE QUIZ was held at H T Parekh Hall, AMA-Ahmedabad on Friday, 21st August, 2009 for the B Sc students from the science colleges affiliated to the Gujarat University-Ahmedabad. The Quiz organized by the Department of Botany under the aegis of Gujarat Science Academy created a lot of excitement with eight teams from science colleges of Ahmedabad. Each team comprising of three members were asked questions based on Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There were two rounds - question round (three questions) and visual round (two questions). The programme witnessed the usual last minute tie breakers before the final results. Bhavan's R. A. College of Science bagged the first prize and was awarded the rolling shield for the same. St. Xavier's College won the second prize. All participants received a certificate of participation while the first prize of Rs.1500/- and second prize of Rs.900/- was given to the winning teams by the Chief Guest of the function, Professor Abhijit Sen. The certificates to the winners of the MINAXI LALIT SCIENCE AWARD TEST, which was conducted earlier, were also distributed on the same day. The students were requested to come forward and become members of the academy and contribute meaningfully towards the cause of science education.



Prof. Yogesh Jasrai addressing the participants

The GUJCOST sponsored first State level **Science Perfection — 2009**: The On-the-Spot Poster making competition and Quiz competition on the Theme: **Understanding Planet Earth** was organized by the Department of Botany, Gujarat University; Ahmedabad'. The first phase of the event, an Intra-University competition was held on 5th December; 2009. Inaugurating the event the Honorable Vice Chancellor, Dr. Parimal H. Trivedi emphasized the need of sensitizing the youth towards the urgency to understand our planet earth and its climate change. Dr. Yogesh Jasrai, Chief Co-ordinator of the event appreciated the efforts of one and all in making the event a grand success. He also pointed out that similar competitions were simultaneously being held at all universities of Gujarat at that point of time with the help of local co-ordinators. Dr. H.A.Pandya, Co-ordinator of the event personally supervised all aspects of organization of the event. The participants were provided with refreshments.

With more than 250 participants for the poster making competition and more than 60 teams for the quiz competition, the event witnessed a lot of enthusiasm and excitement on the lawns of Gujarat University. The best

Posters in all three categories namely UG, PG and research were selected by a Panel of Judges. All the posters were put up on display till evening. Eight teams were selected after a preliminary screening for the Quiz competition. The Quiz-Master, Dr. Archana Mankad did the commendable task with Question rounds and Visual rounds including the usual excitement of the tie breaker rounds. The team from the Physics Department, Gujarat University came first. All the winners received cash prizes worth Rs.1000/- each. A certificate of participation was given to all registered participants. The second phase of the event, the Inter-University competition of State level

Science Perfection —2009: Poster making competition and Quiz competition on the theme-**Understanding Planet Earth** was held on Saturday, 19th December, 2009. Eight teams from eight universities of Gujarat participated in the event. The team from S.P. University won the Quiz competition. The participants from Gujarat University won the poster making competition in the UG and Research category while the participant from Kutch University won the same in PG category. The winners received Rs.1000/- alongwith a certificate while all participants received the certificate of participation.

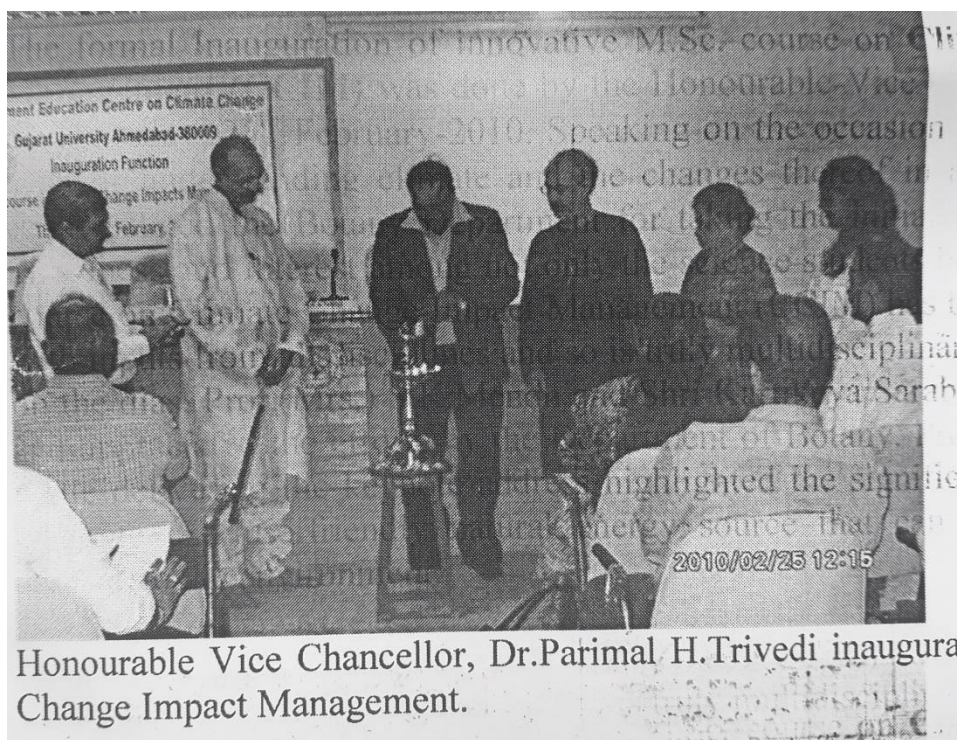
Sumesh Dudani, Ruby Patel, Sandhya Verma, Sonali Chauhan of the Department of Botany and all the students of Climate Change of the Department of Botany participated in a one day Workshop : **City Sustainable: Development Summit(CSDS)** organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Gujarat Ecological Education and Research (GEER) Foundation on 15th

December-2009. Besides Panel discussions, the group engaged themselves in group presentations and essay writing competition. Six students were selected for the **YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) Meet**.

Aparna Rathore, Sumesh Dudani, Satish Khadia, Vishal Patil, Pankti Patel and Bhumika Vaghela of the Department of Botany selected during City Sustainable Development Summit(CSDS) participated in the 2nd YUVA (Youth Unite for Voluntary Action) Meet at New Delhi on 2nd and 3rd February-2010. The theme of the workshop was Understanding Climate Change Through Social Glass and was organized by the British Council, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Regional Center of Expertise (RCE). There, the students participated in various activities like designing a transition campaign, discussing the Climate change and mitigation strategies enacting an environment for generating active awareness and involvement of one and all to address this global problem.

MEC-CC: The M.Sc. I Climate Change: **Recreate a** programme of creating awareness towards the various issues in a novel way on Wednesday, 17th February — 2010. The quick inauguration by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. H. Trivedi was followed by a panel Discussion by learned panelists including Presentations and evolving strategies to sensitize people towards issues pertaining Climate Change.

The formal Inauguration of innovative M.Sc. course: on Climate Change Impact and Management (CCIM) was done by the Honourable Vice Chancellor, Dr. P. H. Trivedi on Thursday, 25th February-2010. Speaking On the occasion, Dr. Trivedi emphasized the need of understanding climate and the changes thereof in a new perspective. He also congratulated the Botany Department for taking the initiative and generating so much awareness and interest among not only the science students but all in general. The M.Sc. course on Climate Change Impact Management (CCIM) has been appropriately designed with inputs from all disciplines and so is truly multidisciplinary in nature. The dignitaries on the dais, Prof (Mrs.) S.K.Menon and Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai addressed the gathering and appreciated the efforts by the Department of Botany. Prof. Anil Kane, Chief Guest, while delivering the keynote address highlighted the significance of wind energy as an alternate and userfriendly natural energy Source that can be exploited to minimize damage to the environment.



The Students of the department displayed exemplary courage and Disaster Management skills when they successfully averted a raging fire from engulfing the department. The Usual evening on 19th February 2010 witnessed a flurry of activity when a nondescript fire raged and almost engulfed all the plants in the backyard of the Department. The winds played the villainous role and the fire began spreading towards the Department. It was the timely action of the staff and the students who immediately limited the fire with water from all possible angles and almost drew a line thus, saving the Department. Kudos to Dr. Yogesh Jasrai and Dr. Hitesh Solanki for providing the students with the necessary leadership in that time of crisis.



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