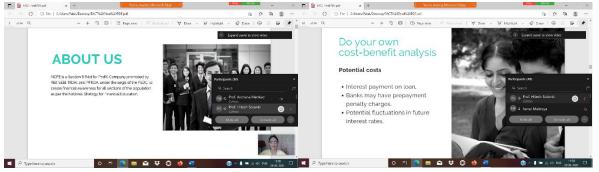
## **GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICAL SOCIETY**

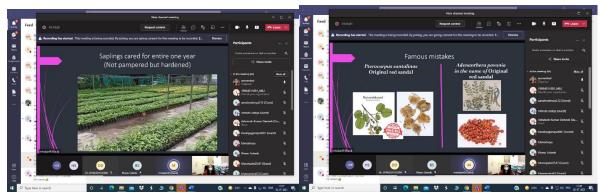
GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), organized an online workshop on Financial Awareness on Tuesday, 29th June 2021. Ms. Palak Lotiya, from National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE) SEBI empanelled Securities Market Trainer (SMART) was the Resource Person. National Centre for Financial Education (NCFE), is a body promoted by **RBI**, **SEBI**, **IRDAI** and **PFRDA** with the objective to promote Financial Education across India for all sections of the population. One of the key initiatives of NCFE is the Financial Awareness and Consumer Training (FACT) programme. This programme by NCFE provides financial education to young graduates and postgraduates, on topics relevant to them, which positively impact their financial well-being. The six topics covered in the session were:1. Identity theft protection: What measures can be taken to safeguard **Responsible use of credit card** : How to avoid your personal data in online transactions? 2. overusing credit card and get fraud purchase protection?3. **Education loan borrowing** principles : Relaxations and repayment strategies of education loan4. How to avoid impulse buying: How to make a proper budget before shopping?5. Let's go cashless : Different modes of digital payments and Know-how of these modes. 6. Your first pay cheque : How to manage your income? & How to set the Financial Goals ?



The programme was well attended by GUBS members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel.

GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), & Gujarat University Learned Alumni of Botany (GULAB) organized an Invited Talk on **Biodiversity of Gujarat – Then and Now by Dr. Minal Jani, Assistant Conservator of Forest, Devgadh Baria, Gujarat** on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 at 12 noon in the series of Online Invited Talks by Our distinguished Alumni on MSTEAMS. Dr. Minal gave a very inspiring and eye- opening presentation of the status and conservation initiatives of the Biodiversity of Gujarat.





The programme was well attended by Forest officials, guests, GUBS and GULAB members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel.

GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), & Gujarat University Learned Alumni of Botany (GULAB) organized an Invited Talk on **Healthy oceans and climate change by Dr. Suhas Vyas, Professor & Head, Department of Life Sciences, Bhakta Kavi Narsinh Mehta University, Junagadh, Gujarat** on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 12 noon in the series of Online Invited Talks by Our distinguished Alumni on MSTEAMS. Dr. Suhas presented a very informative and eye-opening talk highlighting the need to study oceans and prioritize the health of the oceans. Globally, the thrust has gradually been on identifying what is going wrong and how this is affecting the climate.



Dr. Suhas also gave numerous ideas of study that can be taken up for dissertation work as well as project work. The programme was well attended by scholars, guests, GUBS and GULAB

members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel.

GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), & Gujarat University Learned Alumni of Botany (GULAB) organized an Invited Talk on **DNA Techniques and Applications by Dr. Kalpesh Raval, Scientist,** Directorate of Forensic Science, Gujarat. Dr. Kalpesh Rawal explained the role of DNA techniques in forensic science. The various applications of DNA techniques were also amply explained by Dr. Kalpesh Rawal . The programme was well attended by scholars, guests, GUBS and GULAB members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel.

**Gujarat University Botanicals Society (GUBS)** organized an online **Teacher's Day Celebrations** on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.The programme began with a formal outline of the significance of Teacher's Day by Prof. Bharat Maitreya. Most of the GUBS members participated enthusiastically. They were given a choice to recite a poem, story, experience, share a memory, express freely on any of the topics like Why we celebrate the Teacher's day? /Remembering your teachers with gratitude /Thanking Teachers for teaching more than lessons in the book / Best reward for a teacher / My ideal teacher. The students who participated are: Sonakshi Srivastava, Kirti Pandya, Mahesh Jadav, Nirali Bhavsar, Malek Tabbasum, Aditi Malaviya, Priyanka Panchal, Krunalsinh Zala. Ms. Bhanu Solanki, President GUBS and Mr. Mohitgiri Goswami also shared their views on Teacher's day by thanking all teachers for their role in student's life.

Prof. Himanshu Pandya also joined the celebrations and shared his best wishes to the members and hoped that someone someday would bring laurels to the subjects and University. His words always inspire and motivate students and staff alike. Prof. Hitesh Solanki also expressed his best wishes to the students. Dr. Nainesh Modi was delighted to listen to the students and expressed appreciation for them and all the same conveyed his best wishes. Dr. Saumya Patel also conveyed his best wishes to all GUBS members.

Prof. Archana Mankad summarized everyone's point of view and added that generally it is said that Teacher is a person who teaches specially in school but in fact it's the most significant phase for children as they are the formative years when children learn everything around themselves. A teacher not only helps in formal education but is also a person who develops skills, wisdom, inspires, motivates, encourages, listens, is unbiased, is knowledgeable, kind and understanding demonstrates give and take of respect, love and care. We learn from each other, from our experiences with other people, from circumstances and even from nature. A test is not a test for the pupils but also a test of the teacher. Teacher passes when students pass and fails when students fail. Let us learn to appreciate the good to bring out the best in everything.



GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized a National Webinar on Nurturing Nature – Indoors and Outdoors on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 12 noon. The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.

The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guests by Prof. Archana Mankad. The first Distinguished Resource person, Prof Alka Singh, Professor & Head, Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture, ASPEE College of Horticulture and Forestry, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari delivered a talk on Indoor Gardening. Madam justified the need of growing plants indoors and care needed to nurture them. She showed her YouTube video during her talk and showed dish terrariums made by her. Her slides very very informative and participants also interacted with her after the session. The second Distinguished Resource person, Dr. Mukesh Patel, Assistant Professor at Department of Floriculture and Landscape Architecture, ASPEE College of Horticulture and Forestry, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari gave a very informative and interesting insight into Rooftop Gardening. His session also highlighted on the need to understand various aspects before planning a roof top garden. The roof top garden making is challenging and needs expert help.

Prof. Bharat Maitreya presented the Formal Vote of Thanks. Technical support was provided by Director, Rolwala Computer Center and Mr. Dharmesh Sonagara. All participants received e- certificates.





WE4NATURE & GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS). Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat celebrated the International Ozone day by organizing a National Webinar on Ozone for Life: 36 Years of Ozone Layer Protection on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 12 noon. The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.

The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guests by Prof. Hitesh Solanki. The Distinguished Resource person, Prof. Varun Joshi, University School of Environmental Management, Guru Gobind Sinh Indraprastha University, Dwarka, New Delhi, delivered a talk on The Ozone Layer- its impact and implications on Environment. Sir emphasised the significance of Ozone like a house roof protects us from rain and sun likewise, Ozone protects our globe.



Global distribution of Ozone layer, it's role in absorbing UV radiations, measuring airborne ozone, Impacts of ozone depletion on biosphere and on climate was explained by Joshi sir with very informative presentation.Prof. Bharat Maitreya presented the Formal Vote of Thanks. Technical support was provided by Director, Rolwala Computer Center and Mr. Dharmesh Sonagara. All participants received e- certificates.

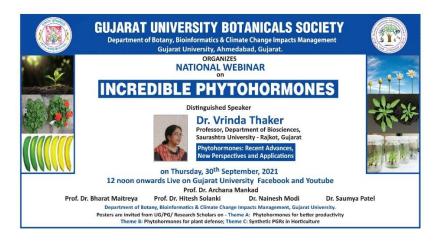
A training program on Capacity building on Electronic Waste (E-waste) management was conducted by Climate Change Department, GoG, Gujarat Cleaner Production Center (GCPC), Gujarat Energy Development Activity (GEDA), and Department of Climate Change, Gujarat University at Department of Botany, Bio-Informatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad on Thursday, 17th September 2021.

E-Waste Management including collection of E-Waste, Segregation, Refurbishment, Reuse, Dismantle, Recycle and Recovery of metals was addressed. The program started at 10am with registration & tea. The Inaugural ceremony included a quick overview of the program by and Prayer with Lighting of the lamp by the distinguished guests on the dais namely, Shri. Shwetal Shah, Technical Advisor, Climate Change Department, Government of Gujarat, Prof. Hitesh Solanki, Department of Climate Change and Coordinator, Department of Environment Science, Gujarat University, Shri Naresh Thakar, Environment Communicator and Mr. Kunal Gadhavi, Section Officer, Climate Change Department, Government of Gujarat. Dr. Bharat Jain, Member Secretary GCPC gave the welcome speech and welcomed all the guests, students and their colleagues. The National Anthem was played at the end of the inaugural ceremony. The four speakers for this event were Dr. Bharat Jain (Member Secretary, GCPC), Shri Naresh Thakar (Environment Communicator), Shri Saurabh Gupta (Founder- Aavni Environment & Sustainability Consultancy, Haryana) and Shri Hemant Patel (MD- Maharana Industry Pvt Ltd, Ahmedabad).

The session started with the Introduction of E-Waste Management by Dr. Bharat Jain, Member Secretary, GCPC. During the pandemic the electronic devices were used in a vast number due to which the e-waste generation would also be very large. It is believed that tons of e-waste has more silver as compared to a silver ore. GEDA, GCPC, GPCB and Government of Gujarat also focusses on the e-waste generation and e-waste management. The second session was taken by Shri Naresh Thakar, Environment Communicator. Sir explained briefly about the practical approach of E-Waste management & Implementation. This session was followed by Lunch Break. The third session was taken by Shri Saurabh Gupta, Founder- Aavni Environment & Sustainability Consultancy, Haryana. He addressed about the need of E-Waste management and shared the E-Waste management process such as collection and segregation of E-Waste. He suggested that the three pillars which should be kept in mind are Socio-Economic, Global Warming, Climate Change. He also explained that the e-waste collected was used in the making of Olympics Medals. Thus, the metals used for making medals and such memorabilia were from the recycled E-waste. The fourth session and the last session was taken by Shri Hemant Patel, MD- Maharana Industry Pvt Limited based in Ahmedabad. He explained the Handling and Scientific disposal of E-Waste keeping the 17 SDGs in mind. He also mentioned that in old age homes, they provide second hand / used cell phones which can be operated by those people so that the disposal waste is less. Impacts of E-Waste Management are a step towards Sustainable technology, helping the society in generating employment. Reusing and recycling the e-waste benefits the environment by less mining of metals like copper, steel, aluminum, gold etc. and thus results in economic, social and environmental gains. At the end Question-Answer session was held where the students were given the opportunity to raise their questions and issues related to E-Waste Management. The training programme concluded with all participants benefitting with information gathered regarding E-Waste and its management. A great initiative taken at all levels contributes towards enhancing the Eco-Friendly Environment which directly saves the human beings and habitats from harmful radiation generated by Ewaste. It is important to remember that environmental conditions are for survival of living beings and E- waste can be Retreated, Reused and Recycled.



GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized a National Webinar on **INCREDIBLE PHYTOHORMONES** held online on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> September - 2021 at 12.00 noon **The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.** 



The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guests by Prof. Archana Mankad. Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Himanshu Pandya, was busy in a meeting and had conveyed his blessings for the webinar. Pro Vice Chancellor, Dr. Jagdish Bhavsar blessed the gathering and congratulated the TEAM GUBS for organizing such informative and significant webinars inviting distinguished faculty for the benefit of the students and research scholars. Professor Vrinda Thaker from Saurashtra University, the distinguished resource person delivered a very informative lecture on **Phytohormones: Recent Advances, New perspectives and Applications.** Her vast knowledge and rich research experiences in her presentation was acknowledged and appreciated by all participants in the webinar. Prof. Thaker explained the role of each phytohormone in plants and the synergistic effect on various growth and development phenomenon in plants. She also highlighted the immunological aspects of the phytohormones with experimental findings, thus providing insight into newer ideas that can be explored while studying phytohormones. The webinar also provided a platform for a poster competition for UG/PG and research scholars on three themes - **Theme A:** Phytohormones for better productivity; **Theme B:** Phytohormones for plant defence; **Theme C:** Synthetic PGRs in Horticulture. The UG/PG winners were awarded **Budding Researcher Award** while the Research Scholars winners were awarded the **Young Scientist Award**. Prof. Bharat Maitreya proposed the formal Vote of Thanks. All registered participants received e-Certificates for participation in the webinar.

The Formal Inauguration of Gujarat University Botanical Society was delayed due to Covid relate guidelines but was held on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021. It marks the beginning of the activities of GUBS. Prof. Rakesh Rawal, Professor & Head, Department of Life Science was the Chief Guest for the function. Honourable Vice Chancellor, Gujarat University, Prof. Himanshu Pandya was busy but conveyed his blessings for the GUBS events for the year 2021-21. All faculty members were present along with students. The programme started with a recap of last year's events in the form of a video show. Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya as Professor- In-Charge welcomed all and gave a quick overview of GUBS activities. Rawal sir coronated the Office Bearers with badges. The incoming new students were also welcomed. The programme ended with Vote of Thanks by Secretary GUBS, Ms. Anusha Maitreya. The Master of Ceremonies was Ms. Riya Kadia from M Sc Botany. Everyone enjoyed the informal introduction followed with creative games and ice breaking session planned for the freshers by the seniors.





The Research Scholars from Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management participated in the "**181 Women Safety training and awareness session**" on 23rd December 2021 organized by American Global Shapers (World Economic Forum) and American Corner (An initiative of US Consulate in India), in partnership with 181 Abhayam Women's Helpline of Gujarat State, with the objective to create awareness among WDC cells of the Universities of Ahmedabad. The Resource persons for the session were Ms. Sheetalben, an officer of 181 Women Helpline, GVK EMRI, and Ms. Rupalben, Lady Police Officers, Government of Gujarat.

The program started with an opening remark delivered by Mr. Krunal Shah, Vice-curator, Ahmedabad Global Shapers, followed by a welcome address from Ms. Tejal Vasavada, Administrator/ Outreach Coordinator, Indo American Education Society. Considering the increased rate of atrocities on women, cybercrime, increasing molestation, domestic violence in current times, Ms. Sheetalben talked about the current situation of women's safety in Gujarat State. She talked about Gujarat being the first state where women helpline has been started and any woman living in the whole state of Gujarat can take benefits out of this service. She also mentioned that the major complaints they receive are of domestic violence, post-marital relationships, sexual harassment, molestation. Besides this, she has also highlighted the drawbacks of live-in relationship agreement. Through this 24\*7 Helpline, they are trying to quickly solve issues as mentioned earlier, and help women in need. Telephonic Counselling is provided by 181 without revealing the identities. She encouraged every woman and student to download the 181 app on their phones. With the help of so many cases, she made listeners believe and not fear any circumstances. Over 30 representatives of Ahmedabad University, Gujarat University, GLS University, Indus University, Swarnim University, Nirma University and other institutes attended this training program.



Educational Visit to Sardarkrushinagar Agriculture University, Dantiwada

The M Sc and PG Diploma students of **Bioinformatics** alongwith faculty members visited Sardasrkrushinagar Agricultural University at Dantiwada. The visit was facilitated with permission and logistic support by Vice Chancellor- SDAU, Dr. R.M.Chauhan. **Dr. Saumya Patel** accompanied the group. There was an introductory and interactive session about Production, Quality compromises, biofortification, Mutational breeding, and variety selection of *Pigeon pea* in the ongoing project by **Dr. Vineet Kaswani** (Asst. Prof. & Head of the **Department**). This was followed by Laboratory visit to Department of Biotechnology and Session about green nanotechnology and Explanation of Horiba nano partica, nanoparticles analyser (SZ-100V2) by **Dr. Karan P. Pachchigar**. There are three ongoing projects there. **Dr. Anuj Kumar, Plant Physiologist** gave an informative overview of the same. R.K.V.Y. Sponsored Project on **Establishment of biofertilizer production unit for research and entrepreneurship development**; ICAR- RKVY funded Project on **Nano-priming: A new vista for seed germination and crop improvement**; R.K.V.Y. Sponsored Project on **Selection of aptamers against profenofos for developing rapid sensing system**. The group also visited the Pulses Research Station and Dantiwada dam.







# Educational Visit to Jawaharlal Nehru Herbal Botanical Garden & GEER Foundation

The M Sc students of **Botany and Horticulture Science Garden Management** alongwith Research Scholars & faculty members visited **Jawaharlal Nehru Herbal Botanical Garden** and **GEER Foundation** at Gandhinagar on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. Prof. Bharat Maitreya, accompanied the group.

Jawaharlal Nehru Herbal Botanical Garden, Gandhinagar is in Sector-19 in Gandhinagar. The garden is spread over 30 acres of land consisting of a wide range of medicinal herbs, shrubs and trees. Each plant is well-labelled mentioning its botanical name, common name, family, a picture of the plant in the flowering season, as well as the uses and/or the useful parts of it. With the evolving world of technology, each plant label was enabled with a QR code which can be used by one to search more on the internet about the specific plant. Prof Maitreya shared insights on Why Students Must Go On A Field Trip and What Should They Do. The students were guided through the garden with the assistance of the research scholars and Ms Krishna Panchal, Superintendent. Medicinally important plants like Adhatoda vasica, Aloe vera, Zingiber officinalis, Phyllanthus emblica, Operculina turpethum, Gymnena sylvestre, Asparagus racemosus, Cissus quadrangularis, Piper betel, Piper nigrum, various species of Ocimum, Bryophyllum, Pterocarpus, among others were observed and studied by the students. At the end of the visit, the JNHBG team gifted the students 15 saplings of various invaluable plants like Ocimum, Adhatoda, Pterocarpus and Aloe vera to be planted in the department's botanical garden. The entire team of Department of Botany thanked the Botanical Garden team for allowing the students to gain field knowledge about medicinal plants and providing them great support and guidance throughout the visit.



### **GEER Foundation Botanical Park, Gandhinagar**

Deer Park, or Indroda Nature Park, is well-maintained and managed by the Gujarat Ecological Education and Research (GEER) Foundation and is situated near Ch-0 on J-Road of Gandhinagar is one of the well visited parks in Gujarat. It is spread over 400 hectares of land near the banks of river Sabarmati. The group started their trip from the Dinosaur Fossil Park where they learned about the Geological Time-Scale board, which was displayed there and elaborated by Ms Riddhi Rathore, Research Scholar. The students enjoyed 'walking with the dinosaurs' through the statues, illustrating their physical appearances, and learning about their existence and lifestyle through the information boards. The students thereafter went to the Botanical Garden where they took a deeper dive in the exploration of the huge variety of plant species from herbs, shrubs, climbers to trees. Several common as well as unique plant species like Tephrosia purpurea, Saccharum spontaneum, Duranta erecta, Citrus maxima, Caryota urens, Pursea americana (Avocado), to name a few were witnessed. The angiosperm families such as Lauraceae, Rutaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Convolvulaceae, Verbenanceae, Fabaceae, Caesalpiniaceae, Nyctaginaceae, Arecaceae (Palmae), Poaceae (Graminae), etc. were found in abundance. Many Bougainvillea and Chrysanthemum of different colours were also a point of attraction among the group. Each species was well labelled with the botanical and common names along with its family. Mr Jaivin Patel, Research Scholar helped the students in understanding how to identify plant species on the basis of the external morphology and their importance.



The group at the Dinosaur Fossil Park

The *Cactus Garden* consisted of around 100 species of well-maintained cacti. Moreover, there was another quite a rare setup in the botanical garden, which was a artificially created

environment for growing Mangroves. Prof. Dr. Maitreya along with Mr. Chandrakant Damor, Garden Superintendent, explained the functioning of the system and the botanical significance of Mangroves. The group was very delighted to see the magnificent organisation of the garden with such amazing techniques of rearing plants in an ex-situ environment. The day then continued at the adjoining zoological part of the park, the Zoo. Watching animals in a zoo is always a fascinating sight and the students too enjoyed the leisure time spent watching the animals, various snakes and birds. Mr Irshad, an animal expert at the zoo, took the group of students on to a forest trail where he gave a few tips for understanding animal behaviour and identifying animals or birds based on their trail marks or feathers.



Memorable Moments

The M Sc Climate Change Impacts Management students alongwith faculty members visited GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar on 29th December 2021. The visit was facilitated with permission and logistic support by Director, GEER Foundation, Shri U. D. Singh, IFS. Dr. Dhara Rajput, Teaching Associate and Ms. Prachi Talsania, Research Scholar of the department, accompanied the group. The visit was planned to get knowledge about GEER foundation and its projects. GEER Foundation has diverse projects on environment, biodiversity, and climate change impact study in different sectors. They have completed 400 projects till now and still working on many more. The group had an interactive session with Dr. Vibha, Deputy Director, Dr. Sweta Rajpurohit, Manager, Dr. Meghal Shah, Project Officer. GEER Foundation has various projects and opportunities for the students to learn. The students were also motivated to join for future research work while identifying knowledge gaps in applied subjects. The current scenario of climate change and its future perspectives, importance, and urgent action that needs to be taken was also discussed in detail. After a quick lunch break, the group got an opportunity to visit the Indroda Nature Parkto explore nature and its diverse biodiversity. A visit to the dinosaur and fossil park, animal and bird enclosures and snake house was very exciting. The group got to see the White Tiger, crocodiles, turtles and skeleton of Blue Whale.

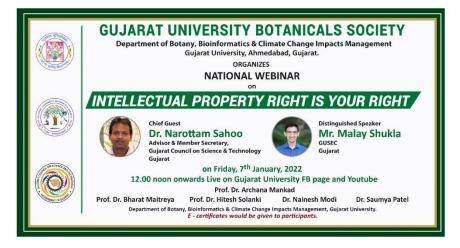


## Celebrating UNWIND 2022: Celebrating Togetherness

The members of GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat welcomed the new year with fun and excitement during the first week of January. Games and competitions added to the spirit of togetherness.

GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized a National Webinar on **Intellectual Property Right is your right** on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12 noon. **The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.** 

The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guests by Prof. Archana Mankad. Dr. Narottam Sahoo, Advisor and Member Secretary, GUJCOST joined the webinar as Chief Guest and Mr. Malay Shukla, Vice President, Gujarat University Startup Incubator, GUSEC, Gujarat University, was the distinguished Resource Person for the webinar.



The session generated a lot of interest and provided an insight into the new perspectives and significance of IPR. Sahoo sir very rightly explained the need to identify Intellectual Property

as the most significant property to be owned. Malay sir gave a very informative presentation while giving examples from day-to-day experiences and highlighting the various aspects of IPR all the same illustrating the support by GUSEC. Prof. Bharat Maitreya gave the formal Vote of Thanks. Mr Sagar Panchal, GUSEC provided technical support while Dr. B.S. Aggrawal, Director, Rolwala Computer Center, Gujarat University facilitated live streaming of the webinar on University FB page and YouTube. The session was anchored by Ms. Riddhi Rathore. All participants received e-certificates.

Gujarat University Botanicals Society (GUBS) & Gujarat University Learned Alumni of Botany (GULAB) organized an Invited Talk on **Plant identification:** *Pehchaan kaun* by Dr. Rupesh Maurya, Assistant Professor, Bioscience Department, Indrashil University, Kadi, Gujarat on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12 noon in the series of Online Invited Talks by Our distinguished Alumni live on Gujarat University FB and Youtube. Dr. Archana Mankad welcomed the guests formally. Prof. Bharti Dave, Dean, School of Science, Indrashil University and Chief Guest for the event inspired and blessed the students.



Dr. Rupesh Maurya outlined the various ways of identifying plants and explained in a very simplified way, the terminologies used while describing the plants. Ms. Dhruva Jani anchored the session. The programme was well attended by scholars, guests, GUBS and GULAB members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel. All participants received e-certificates.

GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized a National Webinar on **Bioinformatics for Healthcare** on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12 noon. **The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.** The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guest by Prof. Archana Mankad. Prof. Rakesh Rawal, Professor & Head, Department of Life Science, School of Science, Gujarat University was the Distinguished Resource Person.





National webinar on Bioinformatics for Healthcare

Healthcare has always been a thrust area of research, more so, after the Covid Pandemic. Integrating, Bioinformatics research, with basic research, can, not only, give us a unique insight into the disease, but also lead us, towards its cure. Professor Rakesh Rawal gave a very lucid presentation explain the various aspects of Bioinformatics and all the same justifying how it can help in better health. Sir also gave useful insights into the research areas for the students and outlined what skills and expertise they must be equipped with to take up such exciting ventures. A poster competition was announced alongside for PG/Research Scholars.

Prof. Bharat Maitreya gave the formal Vote of Thanks. Mr Sagar Panchal, GUSEC provided technical support while Dr. B.S. Aggrawal, Director, Rolwala Computer Center, Gujarat University facilitated live streaming of the webinar on University FB page and YouTube. The session was anchored by Ms. Harshida Gadhavi. All participants received e-certificates.

WE4NATURE & GUJARAT UNIVERSITY BOTANICALS SOCIETY (GUBS), Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat organized a National Webinar on **Wetlands - versatile**, **valuable and vulnerable** on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022 at 12 noon. **The webinar was live on Gujarat University Facebook and YouTube.** The Inaugural session began with the University Song and a formal welcome of the guest by Prof. Archana Mankad. Dr. Ketan Tatu, Senior Scientist, GEER Foundation was the Distinguished Resource Person. ACF Ms. Vibha Goswami, Deputy Director GEER Foundation was the Chief Guest. Dr. P.M. Patel, Registrar, Gujarat University & Guest of Honour addressed the participants.





National webinar on Wetlands: Versatile, Valuable & Valnerable

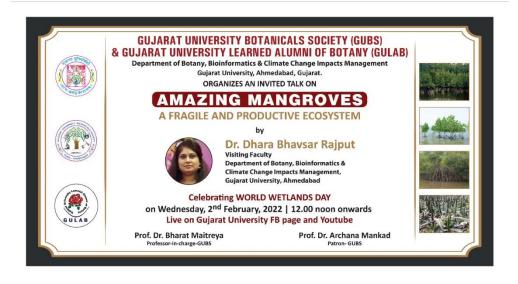
Patel Sir expressed his delight and congratulated the team GUBS for organizing informative webinars for the students. Vibha Ma'am explained the need to conserve wetlands and prioritize research on its vulnerability and strategize mitigation.

The significance of wetlands, are innumerable. Apart from preventing shoreline erosion, they provide habitat for thousands of aquatic flora and fauna. Anthropogenic pressures have seriously impacted the wetlands. Dr. Ketan Tatu explained the various kinds of wetlands in Gujarat in detail. He emphasised on the versatile nature of the wetlands, the value of wetlands and further the vulnerability of the wetlands. After the wonderful session there were curious

questions from the students and in all it was a very good interactive experience. A poster competition was announced alongside for UG/PG/Research Scholars.

Prof. Bharat Maitreya gave the formal Vote of Thanks. Mr Sagar Panchal, GUSEC provided technical support while Dr. B.S. Aggrawal, Director, Rolwala Computer Center, Gujarat University facilitated live streaming of the webinar on University FB page and YouTube. The session was anchored by Ms. Ashma Kazi. All participants received e-certificates.

Gujarat University Botanicals Society (GUBS) & Gujarat University Learned Alumni of Botany (GULAB) organized an Invited Talk on **Amazing Mangroves: A fragile and productive ecosystem** by Dr. Dhara Bhavsar Rajput, Visiting Faculty, Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management, Gujarat University on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 at 12 noon in the series of Online Invited Talks by Our distinguished Alumni live on Gujarat University FB and Youtube. Dr. Archana Mankad welcomed the guests formally.



Dr. P. M. Patel, Registrar Gujarat University congratulated the team at Department of Botany for organizing such events thus generating awareness about this fragile but very significant ecosystem. He also recollected that Celebrating World Wetlands Day, a year ago the students of Climate Change Impacts Management had taken a novel initiative of cleaning the wetlands in Ahmedabad by collecting the plastic waste from there.



An Talk on Amazing Mangroves, A Fragile and Productive Ecosystem



An Talk on Amazing Mangroves, A Fragile and Productive Ecosystem

The distinguished resource person, Dr. Dhara Bhavsar Rajput outlined the types and habitat of mangroves. She also outlined Mangrove species and Associate species explaining their adaptations forming the unique ecosystem. Apart from global diversity and prevalence, the session focussed on the Species diversity in Gujarat, its regeneration efforts by the Forest Department and other conservation strategies.



An Talk on Amazing Mangroves, A Fragile and Productive Ecosystem

Coastal Wetlands are important and have a predominance of Mangroves. The significance of Mangroves, are innumerable. Apart from preventing shoreline erosion, they provide habitat for thousands of aquatic flora and fauna. Anthropogenic pressures have seriously impacted the Mangroves. It is time to protect this unique ecosystem.

The session ended with questions from students. Ms. Priyanka Pati anchored the session. The programme was well attended by scholars, guests, GUBS and GULAB members and coordinated by Prof. Dr. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Dr. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi & Dr. Saumya Patel. All participants received e-certificates.

# Training on "Campus to Corporate" by Gujarat University Placement Cell (GUPC)

Gujarat University every year trains numerous brilliant students in a plethora of fields who can ace the job interviews with correct guidance. Gujarat University Placement Cell (GUPC) every year takes a marvelous initiative for students on the campus. The online training session was arranged during 2<sup>nd</sup> March-5<sup>th</sup> March for end semester students from **Department of Botany** and Department of Microbiology. The 4-days online training session for outgoing M.Sc. students facilitated in upskilling them for the employment sector and making them Career-ready. The training session was led by Mr. Vijay Bachu, a professional trainer from Hyderabad associated with 'Training partnerz'.

The first day kicked off with introductory session on career planning, Long/short term goal setting, SWOT analysis of oneself and resume/CV writing tips. The second day was more of the practical application of the knowledge. After a basic theory session on DO's and DON'T's of Group discussion, the students did a mock round of group discussions while Mr. Vijay Bachu evaluated their mistakes and gave them necessary guidance. After the mock rounds of GD, students were familiarized with basics of personal interview and some common interview questions like "Tell me about yourself", "Why should we hire you?", etc. and were also guided

on how to answer these questions effectively. Third day focused on Business communication skills, Body language tips, Presentation making tips and also Platform tips on how to effectively deliver the presentation to the audience. The trainer gave the students practical examples of poorly - and well - prepared slides and also showed some lesser known powerpoint functions, that may prove to be very useful for the students. The last day focused mainly on the problem solving and decision-making skills that students require after landing the jobs. After theoretical session, students were given mock problems to solve and their decision-making ability was evaluated by Mr. Vijay Bachu.

Towards the end of the workshop, Mr. Vijay also evaluated the resume of students and commented on how to improve them to make them look more polished. A few students took the initiative to interact and learn during the session. Mr. Mohitgiri Goswami and Ms. Vrunda Rathod M Sc Semester IV Botany students from Department of Botany were seen proactively participating all through the sessions.Students expressed gratitude to Dr. Kinjal Desai, Gujarat University Placement Cell (GUPC) for organizing a very useful training session. All participants received e-certificates.

# Participation in Science Exhibition: Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate

The Staff and Students of Department of Botany, Bioinformatics & Climate Change Impacts Management participated in the Science Exhibition: *Vigyan Sarvatre Pujyate* during 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Thematic exhibits, Posters and live demonstrations were specially designed to inspire the young minds while thought provoking ideas for small projects was showcased in the form of posters. Learning and popularization of science can be best achieved by involving the students in quiz, puzzles and fun games aimed at making the learner take interest in science. **Shri Jitubhai Vaghani**, Cabinet Minister of Education, Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat, visited the Exhibition Hall and took special interest to see all exhibits, posters, games and live demonstrations. The hall witnessed enthusiastic participation from school children and college students. The excitement and satisfaction of learning was evident on their happy faces. Research Scholars of the Department alongwith Semester IV students shouldered the responsibility very well.





The exhibition was open from 22<sup>nd</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> February between 9.00a.m. and 5.00 p.m. The research scholars and students of the department took turns to remain present every day and ignite the young minds. The weeklong event was abuzz with school children lining up every day to understand science through live demonstrations, exhibits, games, puzzles and video show. The scholars and students developed their communication skills and confidence to excel as science communicator.

The Annual function of Gujarat University Botanicals Society (GUBS) was held on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April,2022. Prof. Meenu Saraf, Director, School of Science was invited as the Chief guest. A video show was presented to highlight the various event organised and student participation during the year. The winners and participants received certificates of appreciation. The Semester 2 students also bid farewell to the Semester 4 students and class wise group photographs were taken. Meenu Ma'am shared an interesting story to bring home the fact that students must define their priorities' in life so as to gain maximum satisfaction and happiness.



Dr. Archana Mankad announced the most awaited Golden Petal awards as under:

Golden Petal Award for Academic Achievement to Riddhi Rathore, Sanjukta Rajhans, Bhanu Solanki, Hitesh Kumarkhaniya, Chaitali Pandya, Mohitgiri Goswami, Jensi Thumar, Shweta Tiwari, Reeya Mehta, Shaivin Parikh, Krishna Sodha, Roshni Patel, Jaivin Patel, Dhruva Jani, Prachi Talsania, Rachana Suthar, Priyanka Pati, Mukesh Thakor, Het Soni, Harsh Patel, Aditi Malaviya, Golden Petal Award for Excellence in Management of Departmental events to Bhanu Solanki, Sandhya Verma, Smit Bhavsar, Dr. Dhara Rajput, Dr. Milan Vala, Golden Petal Award for Excellence in Videography of Departmental events to Pavan Patel, Almas Mansuri, Golden Petal Award for Outstanding Achievement to Mohitgiri Goswami, Himanshi Thacker, Shubham Dabgar, Riya Kadia, Minal Patel,Golden Petal Award for Researcher of the Year goes to Naman Mangukia, Toral Manvar. Golden Petal Award for Excellence in Academic Outreach to Prof. Hitesh Solanki, Prof. Bharat Maitreya, Dr. Nainesh Modi, Dr. Saumya Patel,Golden Petal Award for Faculty of the Year goes to Dr. Saumya Patel, Golden Petal Award for the Excellent Personality of the Year to Our Honourable Vice Chancellor, Prof. Himanshu Pandya.