Shri Mangaldas Devshekar, Range Forest Officer was awarded the Chief Minister’s Medal by Dr. Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa on 19th December 2019 during the State function of the Goa Liberation Day at Panaji.

The citation and medal was bestowed on him for his commendable work in the field of training and education of innumerable number of field staff of the ranks of Forest Guards and Foresters.

This is the first occasion of a Forest Officer being awarded the Chief Minister’s Medal in the Goa Forest Department.
HON’BLE CHIEF MINISTER RECOGNITION FOR FOREST GUARD
COMMENDATION AWARD

Shri Ashok Velip, Forest Guard was given the commendation award by Dr. Pramod Sawant, Chief Minister of Goa on 19th December 2019 during the State function of the Goa Liberation Day at Panaji.

The citation and award was bestowed on him for his commendable work in the field of nursery management and for the excellent work done by him in the Goa State Medicinal Plant Board.
The Director General - Forests, Government of India Shri Sidhata Das visted the State of Goa. He was accompanied to Bondla Zoo by Shri Subhash Chandra, IFS Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and other senior officials of the Goa Forest Department. He later visited Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park.
A workshop for Indian Forest Service Officers from all over India was conducted by the Goa Forest Department on 21st and 22nd October 2019 on “Sustainable Management of Forests and Eco-Tourism through People’s Participation” and sponsored by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

Prominent personalities in the country were invited as Resource persons to give presentations on the topic. The workshop was attended by 20 Officers from the country.
One of the newly trained Forest Guards Shri Prashant Natoshe of the Goa Forest Department expired in a tragic event during his joining his place of posting. As the Forest Guard was from a very poor family from the village of Kalay adjacent to Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary, the staff of the Goa Forest Department contributed generously and presented an amount of Rs. 2,64,000 in Fixed Deposit and Rs. 11,500 cash to the bereaved family. The initiative of the enterprise was taken up by Shri Subhash Chandra, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.
The Goa Forest Department in association with the Goa Bird Conservation Network organised the 5th Bird walk at the Dr. Salim Ali Bird sanctuary, Chorao on 23rd November 2019 from 7 am onwards. It was attended by a large number of enthusiasts and bird lovers.
Shri Subhash Chandra, IFS, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests interacted with the probationers on the 23rd December 2019 of the 2018 batch of Indian Forest Service Officers who were on a study tour to the State of Goa. The meeting took place at Bondla Zoological Park in which the Officers were introduced to the wildlife management practices in the State of Goa.

The meeting was also attended by Shri Kuldeep Sharma, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, North Goa Division and Smt Deep Shikha Sharma, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Working Plan Division.
The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Goa Dr. Pramod Sawant launched on 2nd December 2019, the website for the 3rd Bird Festival of Goa which is scheduled to be held in January 2020 at the Forest Training School, Valpoi.

The website was designed for the on-line registration of the participation of the delegates and for providing information of the Bird Festival.
A workshop on turtle conservation was held at Morjim beach on 28th November 2019 by the Wildlife and Ecotourism (North Goa) Division to create awareness on the importance of nesting habitat of the olive ridley turtle nesting programme organised by the Goa Forest Department. It was attended by a large number of the public and students.
A workshop on the use of tranquilisation equipment was conducted on 16th December 2019 for the staff of the Wildlife Rescue Squad of the Goa Forest Department by the officials of the Bondla Zoo. The information on use of the tranquilising gun and other equipment was provided by the Zoo veterinarian and other staff. The programme was conducted for a period of one day.
## IMPORTANT EVENTS CONDUCTED DURING WILDLIFE WEEK

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<th>Day &amp; Date</th>
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| 02.10.2019 | **NORTH GOA**
|            | 1) Wildlife Awareness bicycle rally for High School level students:-
|            | a) From St. Joseph High School, Takwada, Usgao - Goa to Pali Tisk, — Usgao Circle and back at Bondla.
|            | b) From Maloli — Office to Chidambaram temple at Madei.
|            | 2) Walk in the wild for youth & general public at Bondla, Madei & Mollem Sanctuaries. |
|            | **SOUTH GOA**
|            | 3) Swachh Bharat Campaign - cleanliness and plastic free drive by Forest Department staff and students at school premises, playground and surrounding road sides of Valkini village and at Govt. High School, Valkini, Bhati, Potrem Round, Barazan and Bhati colony within the jurisdiction of the Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary. |
|            | 4) Swachh Bharat Campaign by Department staff and students at Government Middle and Primary School, Amona, road leading to N.H. 17 from Eco – Tourism Complex at Hatipaul of Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary. |
|            | 5) Bicycle rally on wildlife awareness for students and teachers of Government Higher Secondary School, Canacona. |
|            | 6) Walk in the wild for youth and general public of Edda village in Bela – Tirval forest area of Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary. |
| 03.10.2019 | **NORTH GOA**
|            | 1) On the spot Painting / Drawing competition with crayons for Primary and Middle Schools at Panaji, Mapusa, Ponda & Valpoi. |
|            | 2) Essay Writing Competition at District level in three languages (English, Konkani & Marathi) for Middle & High Schools in North Goa. |
|            | **SOUTH GOA**
|            | 3) 'On the Spot Drawing Competition' for Primary and Middle |
School students of Salcete, Quepem, Mormugao, Canacona and Sanguem Talukas conducted at Loyala High School, Margao, New Educational Institute, Curchorem, Govt. High School (Vasco Main), St. Tereza of Jesus High School, Canacona and Miracles High School, Sanguem respectively.

4) 'On the Spot Drawing Competition' for Specially Abled Students in 07 Special schools of South Goa District.
5) Bicycle rally on wildlife awareness by the staff of Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary and students of Govt. High School, Netravali.

04/10/2019 NORTH GOA
1) Poster Competition for Higher Secondary School at Campal Range.
2) Quiz Competition organized at College Level at Swami Vivekanand Hall, Junta House, Panaji.

SOUTH GOA
3) 'Walk in the wild' for students and teachers by Range Forest Office, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary towards Mainapi waterfall.
4) Swachh Bharat Campaign at surrounding area of Mainapi waterfall.
5) 'Walk in the wild' inside Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary for students and teachers of Balram Higher Secondary School, Ordho fond - Canacona.

05.10.2019 NORTH GOA
1) 'Walkathon'.
2) Bicycle rally at Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary High School, Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary, Mollem.

SOUTH GOA
3) Swachh Bharat Campaign by staff of Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary within Range Forest Office, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary premises and along the road going to Verlem and Salgini villages.
4) Quiz Competition for College students of South Goa District in Auditorium of Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science, Margao.
5) Poster Drawing competition at Loyala School, Margao Higher
Secondary school students of South Goa District.

06.10.2019
NORTH GOA
1) Full day nature camp for school students.
2) Film show on wildlife theme at High School Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary & Madei Wildlife Sanctuary.

SOUTH GOA

07.10.2019
NORTH GOA
1) Full day walk in the wild for students and teachers of nearby High Schools / Colleges / University held at Bondla, Madei and Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary.

SOUTH GOA
2) Walk in Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary for youth and public.
4) Film show on wildlife theme for students and teachers of Shree Mallikarjun College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Canacona.

08.10.2019
NORTH GOA
1) Full day nature camp for School Students.
2) Film show at Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary and Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary on wildlife theme for High School level students.
PHOTO FEATURE OF WILDLIFE WEEK CELEBRATIONS
XXV IUFRO CONGRESS IN BRAZIL ATTENDED

Smt. Deep Shikha Sharma, IFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests (Working Plan) attended XXV IUFRO Congress between 28th September to 5th October 2019 at Curitiba, Brazil. She participated in Forest Landscape Reclamation, side event and presented a poster on “Reclamation of Pissurlem mine site, Cumarconda beat, North Goa”