

A Monthly Bulletin for the Villages, Gaothans and Koliwadadas of Mumbai, Thane, Vasai and Raigad District



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21<sup>ST</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY



Uplifting the Village Community

GAOVoice

गावठण वाईस्

21 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

GAOTHAN VOICE MARCH 2024

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One Vision !

www.mobaikar.com

One Voice !

The East Indian Magazine

One Village !

Email: eastindianvoice@gmail.com

## Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa CabEInet! MGP Launches The East Indian CabEInet



East Indian Conclave 2023

25th February 2024

St Andrew's Conference Room, Bandra

## East Indian Sann 2024



6<sup>th</sup> April - East Indian Baazaar @Bandra

20<sup>th</sup> April - East Indian Sola @Manori

4<sup>th</sup> May - East Indian Food Festival @Bandra

19<sup>th</sup> May - East Indians Day @Manori

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# East Indian CabEInet

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Raaj!



## EAST INDIAN CONCLAVE 2024 MGPs Way Forward – The East Indian Way



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Alpha D'Souza -  
MMR CEO (Mumbai Metropolitan Region -  
Chief Executive Officer) by Neil Creado (right)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Walter Murzello -  
Commissioner of Heritage & Customs by  
Charmaine Dsouza (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Gleason Barretto -  
Commissioner of Policy & Strategy by  
Savio Dsouza (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Sybil Rodrigues -  
Commissioner of Women Empowerment by  
Charmaine Dsouza (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Corina Misquitta -  
Commissioner of Education by  
Ingrid Creado (right)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Corina Pereira -  
Commissioner of Finance by  
Savio Dsouza (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Zenobia Gracias -  
Commissioner of Talent Promotion by  
Dr. Ablin Alphonso (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Sherline Barretto -  
Commissioner of Food Promotion by  
Rekha Jacinto (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Melody Ferreira -  
Commissioner of Youth Affairs by  
Adv. Urmila Pereira (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Vicky Misquitta -  
Commissioner of Social Justice by  
Neil Creado (right)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Royston Jacinto -  
Sports Commissioner by  
Merck Dsilva (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Bosco Patel -  
Spiritual Director by  
Dr. Ablin Alphonso (left)





# East Indian CabElnet

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Raaj!



## EAST INDIAN CONCLAVE 2024 MGP's Way Forward – The East Indian Way



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Joulyn Kenny –  
Director of Media Communications by  
Charmaine Dsouza (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Sunita Alphonso –  
Commissioner of Agriculture by  
Adv. Urmila Pereira (left)



MGP Leaders Kit presented to Belmira Miranda –  
Commissioner of Environment by  
Adv. Urmila Pereira (left)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to Ingrid  
and Neil Creado by Alphi Dsouza (centre)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to Savio  
and Charmaine Dsouza by Alphi Dsouza (centre)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to  
Adv. Urmila Pereira by Alphi Dsouza (left)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to  
Dr. Ablin Alphonso by Alphi Dsouza (left)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to  
Merck Dsilva by Alphi Dsouza (left)



MGP Sukhala Goodie Bag presented to  
Rekha Jacinto by Alphi Dsouza (left)



East Indian Conclave Participants  
during the first session



East Indian Conclave –  
Conducted by  
Gleason Barretto



Conclave Key  
Note Speaker –  
Neil Creado



East Indian CabElnet Leaders with  
their Appointment Certificate





# East Indian CabEInet

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Raaj!



## MGPS CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM The First List of Twenty Six Members

**Alphi D'Souza** - MMR CEO (Mumbai Metropolitan Region - Chief Executive Officer)

**Walter Murzello** - Commissioner of Heritage & Customs

**Gleason Barretto** - Commissioner of Policy & Strategy

**Sybil Rodrigues** - Commissioner of Women Empowerment

**Corina Misquitta** - Commissioner of Education

**James Fernandes** - Commissioner of Culture

**Vicky Misquitta** - Commissioner of Social Justice

**Joulyn Kenny** - Director of Media Communications

**Murphy Creado** - Commissioner of Housing

**Corina Pereira** - Commissioner of Finance

**Bosco Patel** - Spiritual Director

**Zenobia Gracias** - Commissioner of Talent Promotion

**Sherline Barretto** - Commissioner of Food Promotion

**Royston Jacinto** - Sports Commissioner

**Melody Ferreira** - Commissioner of Youth Affairs

**Alistair D'Souza** - Commissioner of Skill Development

**Amarylisa Gonsalves** - Director of Publications

**Belmira Miranda** - Commissioner of Environment

**Sunita Alphonso** - Commissioner of Agriculture

**Dr. Conrad Coelho** - Director of Business Affairs

**Bonaventure Soares** - Commissioner of Social Welfare

**Melanie D'Sa** - Director of International Studies

**Royston Dsilva** - Director of Music

**Arnold Rodrigues** - Director of Tourism

**Franco Patil** - Commissioner of Fisheries

**Jevio Almeida** - Commissioner of Law & Justice



**Mobai Gaothan Panchayat**  
*Congratulates*  
**The First list of 26 leaders**  
**On being appointed in the East Indian CabEInet**



## Etroz Celebration 2024



Organised by Vakola East Indian Association



Gracias Goth, Kharodi





# East Indian CabEInet

A Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Initiative



## Mumbai's Bhumi Putra East Indian Community Launches New Indigenous Concept Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Raaj!

*Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla*

### Objective

A Team created towards self-sustainability with an objective to Uplift and Empower the East Indian Community

### Reasoning

MGP has been connecting with the government and Archdiocesan authorities for more than 14 years with not much positive signs or success. The online Survey findings state that 88% want an East Indian Representative in the State Government administration to represent the Indigenous People of Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR).

### Highlights -

\*MGP will continue follow up with the authorities - Government for implementing the Mumbai Bhumi Putra Policy and Archdiocese for implementing the East Indian Samaj Archdiocese - EISA Policy

\*Idea is to Empower team and Boost performance of team members by assigning them a sector of importance to the community

\*The MGP Managing Committee will be called the East Indian CabEInet which will make decisions for the betterment of the East Indian community and the Gaothans

\*Each of the Unit heads have been assigned roles to encourage them to initiate projects and initiatives for the Community

\*The East Indian CabEInet team members will also be empowered to directly communicate and meet authorities

\*East Indian CabEInet meetings will be held every month with a special quarterly connect

\*Each CabEInet member has also been assigned a few of the 50+ MGP projects to lead, support or oversee for better implementation and impact

\*MGP will also appoint Special Ambassadors into its MSAT (MGP Special Ambassadors Team) who will double up as MGP promoters and advisors besides supporting some of its team members and projects

\*MGP also plans to induct community members into its MAP (MGP Advisory Panel) who will support us as advisors for our projects

### MMC Kit presented to East Indian CabEInet Members

Special Sukhala cloth Bags, Letter heads, Visiting cards, Certificate & Folder

### Top 5 Action Points – East Indian CabEInet

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Kaka Baptista East Indian Heritage Gardens | 2. OBC Certificate awareness |
| 3. East Indian Census                         | 5. Self Help Groups          |
| 4. Affordable Housing                         |                              |

**East Indian Voice**  
East Indian Singing

**Dance East Indians Dance**  
Dance Competition

**East Indian Comedy Master**  
Stand Up comedy

**East Indians Got Talent**  
showcasing talent including  
singing in other languages too



### Basic Competition rules

- \*Age limit - 12 years and above
- \*Time limit - video of less than 5 minutes
- \*Last date 20th March 2024
- \*Decision of the MGP Sola Jury is final
- \*Studio recording not allowed
- \*Email your entries at mee.eastindian@gmail.com

Winners will be awarded at the East Indian Sola and will also get an opportunity to perform LIVE

For Sponsorships and more details connect on 9820545302



## The EI groove

Within the East Indian community, we don't name dance steps, we demonstrate them. You'll see people waving a handkerchief in the air, or swaying in incomplete turns in a step referred to as half-circle. Witness the groove at Mobai Gaothan Panchayat's East Indian Sola in April. Zenobia Gracias, the event's director shared, "We are currently holding a dance competition where winners will perform at the Sola. The rule is to fuse EI culture, music and clothing with any dance style." Members can send entries to [mee.eastindian@gmail.com](mailto:mee.eastindian@gmail.com).



## MGP in the NEWS

**Midday - Page 4 - Saturday - 3rd February 2024**

### Embracing Tradition: East Indian Groove at Mobai Gaothan Panchayat's Sola.

One of the community's upcoming events, Mobai Gaothan Panchayat's East Indian Sola in April, promises to be a celebration of culture and tradition. Zenobia Gracias, the event's director, expressed enthusiasm about an ongoing dance competition where participants are encouraged to fuse East Indian culture, music, and attire with any dance style of their choice.

#### \*East Indian Sola 2024\*

One special event of MGPs Annual Festival - I East Indian Sann 2024

Venue - Manori

Date - Saturday, 20th April 2024

\*East Indian Beat Group in attendance

\*East Indian Music Awards 2024

\*East Indian Voice 2024

\*Dance East Indians Dance 2024

\*East Indian Stand Up of the Year

\*East Indians Got Talent 2024

## MGP in the NEWS - Sunday Midday - Page 5 - 25th February 2024



### EAST INDIAN CABEINET

Disrupt! Divert! Decide! Drive!

Event - East Indian Conclave

Venue - Bandra

Date - Sunday, 25th February 2024

Time - 4pm to 7pm

\*East Indian CabEinet is an MGP initiative to empower the MGP Team members

\*27 Team members have been allotted units of importance for the East Indian Community & Gaothans

\*MGP Special Ambassadors have been chosen to promote and guide the East Indian cabEinet

\*As many have been asking about OBC, we plan to immediately initiate a helpline and a simplified process guide

MGP Team Congratulates all the 27 East Indian CabEinet team members and wish them the very best.





# EAST INDIAN CONCLAVE

## Report and Review



### **MGP's 11<sup>th</sup> EAST INDIAN CONCLAVE 2023: Shaping the Future with Vision and Action**

*by Joulyn Kenny*

Marking a pivotal moment for the East Indian community, Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) proudly hosted its 11<sup>th</sup> East Indian Conclave on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The gathering convened at the esteemed St. Andrew's College Conference Room in Bandra West, uniting community members under the theme "RISE Out of the Box – A Five Year Community Plan."

The agenda, meticulously crafted to foster discussion, collaboration, and decisive action, reflected the spirit of innovation and determination inherent in the East Indian ethos. Participants embarked on a journey guided by the principles of disruption, diversion, direction, and drive.

The proceedings commenced with a heartfelt introduction, followed by an opening prayer to set the tone for constructive dialogue. Emphasizing the significance of the conclave theme, attendees delved into discussions exploring the essence of East Indian identity and the transformative potential of collective action.

Central to the agenda was a series of insightful presentations and discussions, including brief introductions of all present, an exploration of the East Indian agenda, and invaluable insights shared by MGP Special Advisors. Deliberations also encompassed critical topics such as the East Indian CabEinet and a retrospective analysis of MGP's achievements over the past year.

An interactive session based on the top agenda points, derived from an online survey, provided a platform for community members to voice their priorities and aspirations. The spotlight then shifted to MGP's ambitious 50 projects brief and status update, underscoring the organization's unwavering commitment to community development.

Exciting announcements heralded the release of groundbreaking initiatives, including the East Indian CabEinet, East Indian Sann 2024, a Special Membership Drive, and the innovative Smart Gaothan Policy. These releases symbolized a paradigm shift in community governance, paving the way for inclusive growth and empowerment.

The conclave concluded with a call to action, as participants reaffirmed their dedication to the East Indian cause and offered valuable feedback and commitments. A heartfelt vote of thanks expressed gratitude to all involved, culminating in a memorable group photo capturing the collective spirit of the East Indian Conclave 2024.

As the conclave drew to a close, the visionaries of MGP looked ahead with optimism and resolve, embracing the East Indian way as they charted a course towards a brighter future for generations to come.

### **FEEDBACK ON EAST INDIAN CONCLAVE 2023 - DATE: 25TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

The 11th East Indian Conclave 2023 was conducted with great integrity enshrining the goals and values of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat.

#### **2 IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THE CONCLAVE APPRECIATED FROM MY END:**

- 1) Well strategized and organized with clearly defined themes showcasing the dedicated and committed vision.
- 2) Focus on preserving and enhancing the identity of the East Indian Community by formation of Special Committees.

#### **AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:**

- 1) Smaller discussions at various intervals can be conducted during the year leading to a bigger Conclave Participation
- 2) More participants at the Conclave with the East Indian Youth, especially the below 35 years category as they are the future. This can be achieved through a Meet and Greet Session on a particular day and announcements made in every Parish for youth encouragement.
- 3) Since many East Indians are marrying outside the Community, the Conclave next year can have an Intermingling aspect of utilising the Resources of other Members. So, Cosmopolitan area of interest can be identified without diluting the Objectives of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat but still creating a space of participation from outside. For example, an East Indian Club can be formed with East Indian Members & their families where the benefits are enjoyed by non-East Indians too.

**KUDOS TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT !!!**

*- Dr. Ablin Carneiro Alphonso*





# Reetin Reevaaz

The East Indian Culture Guide



## EAST INDIAN HERITAGE - FUGIYAS

*Amarylisa Gonsalves*

If we were asked a quick question about one East Indian delicacy, the first thing to probably pop into our minds is "Fugias." We East Indians can never get enough or be bored of fugiyas.

Be it a cup of hot tea, or a spicy, tangy curry preparation, fugiyas can go along well with both equally well.

### What is Fugiyas?

Fugiya is a fried balloon bread made of all-purpose flour. It has a plain yet slightly sweet taste that goes well with curries as well as beverages like tea or coffee. It is also enjoyed as it is. Fugiyas are a must at all East Indian community celebrations as well as private feasts at home.

The delicacy is unique to the East Indian community and is enjoyed wholeheartedly by people of the community as well as other communities. At weddings, it is usually prepared with another kind of donut-shaped bread, known as Waryas.

### Fugiyas preparation

A runny batter made of maida, eggs, yeast, and sugar according to taste, is fermented overnight. This is done to ensure that the batter is well-risen to give it a balloon-like shape and a fluffy texture.

Small round balls of the batter are then deep-fried in hot oil until they are golden brown. Once fried they are best served hot.

## EAST INDIAN CALENDAR 2024

As East Indians observe the korezma, they also prepare for the lenten events and feasts that follow. The month of March mostly has lenten events, which are not celebrated with feasts but are religiously observed by East Indians.

The month of March also marks the Kaka Baptista Day.

### 17th March - Kaka Baptista Day

Joseph Baptista, also known as Kaka Baptista was a freedom fighter who was a close associate of Lokmanya Tilak during India's freedom struggle. Also regarded as the "Father of the Home Rule Movement," Kaka Baptista is remembered by East Indians every year on his birth anniversary which falls on the 17th of March.

### 24th March - Ramacha Pass

Palm Sunday, or what East Indians call 'Ramacha Pass' marks the beginning of the Holy Week. It begins with Ramacha Pass and ends with Pascocha Sann or Easter. The name derives its roots from the words 'Ramo' in Portuguese meaning a branch and 'Passo' meaning step. On this day branches of palms are blessed and distributed in the church. It is followed by a 'Paas' or Passo service including the Veronica singing and the depiction of Jesus and Mary's final meet.

### 31st March - Pascocha Sann

Easter Sunday, what East Indians call Pascocha Sann, falls on 31st March 2024 this year. It is a day of celebration and feasting among the people of the community. East Indians celebrate Pascocha Sann by attending the Easter night vigil on Easter Eve. Members of the family then pray the house blessing together at 12 noon on the day of Easter. This is followed by scrumptious meals and delicacies.

## EAST INDIAN LENTEN TRADITIONS

*Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla*

### Cursacha Vaat – Way of the cross

Cursacha Vaat has a mix of Portuguese and Marathi language. In Portuguese Cross is known as Cruz and in Marathi Way is known as Vaat. The Cursacha Vaat is conducted at Church or in the Gaothans. The Holy Crosses at junctions and entrances were installed to protect the East Indian villages centuries ago. These Holy Crosses are visited during Korezma for the Cursacha Vaat. Gaothans residents assemble in large numbers and participate in this prayerful journey.

Papiyas – Special Prayers and Hymns at Lenten time  
Papiya is a Marathi word which means Penitents. Papiyas or Devaats as they are called, are a group of devout Christians who move about from cross to cross at the dead of night, chanting prayers and imploring Christians to wake up from their sleep, get down on their knees and pray and ask for God's forgiveness. (Bhavando, utha tumche neezemanche, deemi ghala, lazaar kara, ek Amche Bapala.....) These groups become active from the Sunday night before Palm Sunday and their activity culminates in a crescendo on Maundy Thursday (The night of Jesus' Agony on the Mount of Olives). Papiyas organize themselves into groups of 10 to 20 persons, sometimes more. They shroud themselves in black or blue or brown tunics with a hood so they cannot be easily recognized. Their lamentable chants in tones similar to Gregorian chants are in East Indian dialect. Listening to their mournful chants can be a hair raising experience and can send shivers down one's spines, especially when one hears them at the dead of night.

Tradition has it that Papiyas from one village would visit the neighbouring village and vice versa. No two groups could come face with each other. If both groups had the occasion to travel and would cross paths, then the group that spotted the passing group would hide behind the bunds (baands) of the field till the other group passed by. People of the neighbourhood would keep a kettle of hot tea at the foot of the cross for the Papiyas. Papiyas are representative of the apostles Peter, James and John who accompanied Jesus to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus prayed and during the 'Agony' on the Mount of Olives.

### Krist Puran – Special Hymns for Good Friday

The Good Friday Service Preparation and Veneration is managed by the East Indian Community Member Church Groups called Irmous (In Portuguese for Brothers and Sisters of Christ), Konfrat (In Portuguese for Confraternity) or Sodality. During the Service and veneration the East Indian Community members sing the Krist Puran (means sacred writings of ancient times) is a centuries old document on the Passion of Christ.





# EAST INDIAN SANN 2024

MGP Annual Community Festival



## EAST INDIAN BAAZAAR

The East Indian Community Market

**Date** - Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Time** - 5.00 pm to 9.00 pm

**Venue** - St. Andrew's College Cafeteria, Bandra



### Sponsor rates

**Main sponsor - 20,000/- Co-sponsor - 10,000/-  
Gold Sponsor - 5,000 Banner display - 1,000/-**

Partner sponsors - sponsors of cost related to Baazaar - Sound, Refreshments, lights, tables & chairs, water, printing, displays, take aways, award trophies, contest prizes and lots more

### Baazaar Highlights

- \*An initiative to revive our local village market.
- \*East Indian food specialty will be on sale ranging from starters, curries and desserts
- \*East Indian Bottle Masala and pickles available
- \*Lugras, imitation jewellery and accessories
- \*East Indian Merchandise, Cookery and History books
- \*Stalls at affordable rates to encourage community businesses

Entry FREE

## EAST INDIAN SOLA

Celebrate The East Indian Way

**Date** - Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Time** - 8.00 pm onwards **Venue** - Manori



### Sponsor Rates

**Main sponsor - 1,00,000/- Co-sponsor - 50,000/-  
Gold Sponsor - 25,000/- Silver Sponsor - 10,000/-  
Bronze sponsor - 5,000/- Banner display - 2,000/-**

Partner sponsors - Sponsors of cost related to Sola - Sound, Refreshments, lights, stage, LED screen, tables & chairs, water, printing, displays, take aways, award trophies, contest prizes and lots more

### Highlights :

- \*East Indian Music Awards - EIMA 2024
- \*East Indian Food & art stalls
- \*Music performances by some of the best singers
- \*Special Performances by winners of East Indian Voice, Dance East Indians Dance, East Indian Stand Up and East Indians Got Talent
- \*LiVE Band in attendance - Jesus Band, Uttan
- \*Special Stay package at the Resort for Sola
- \*East Indian Dinner Buffet
- \*Entry fee starting at Rs. 100/-

## EAST INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL 2024

The Biggest East Indian Food Fest of the Year  
Bhandari Food - Kumbi Food - Koli Food - Agri Food

**Date** - Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Time** - 5.00 pm onwards

**Venue** - St. Andrews Quadrangle, Bandra

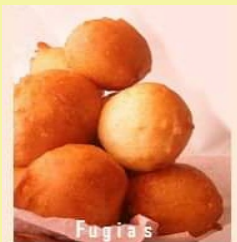
Food Speciality of Indigenous People of Mumbai - Kunbis, Agris, Kolis and Bhandaris

In association with St. Andrew's Institute

### Sponsor Rates

**Main Sponsor - Rs. 50,000/-  
Co-Sponsor - Rs. 20,000/-  
Stall section sponsor - Rs. 15,000/-**

Partner Sponsors welcome  
Sponsors in Kind - Token of appreciation, gift hamper, refreshments, water, sound system



### Food Fest Highlights

- \*East Indian starters like Potato chops, tongue roast, Fugyas and varyas,
- \*Special fish stall selling the best of Koli food
- \*Introducing the East Indian Thali, Special Buffet and the EI Box
- \*East Indian Bottle masala and pickles
- \*Lugras, imitation Jewellery and lots more
- \*East Indian merchandise stall selling a variety of things to treasure in an East Indian homes
- \*East Indian Cookery and history books
- \*Performances by the best East Indian talent

Entry FREE

\*Limited stalls. Book today - Call 9820087771\*

## EAST INDIANS DAY 2024

AAPLAA GAAV! AAPLAA DIS!

**Date** - Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Time** - 10.00 am East Indian Holy Mass followed by Fun, Games, Music and Lunch

**Venue** - Kaka Baptista East Indian Museum, Theresa Villa Complex, Manori

### Sponsor Rates

**Main Sponsor - Rs. 50,000/-  
Co-Sponsor - Rs. 10,000/-**

Partner Sponsors welcome  
Sponsors in Kind - Token of appreciation, gift hamper, lunch, desserts, water, snacks, soft drinks, prizes, decorators, sound system

### East Indian Day Highlights

- \*Lunch passes will be on sale soon
- \*Holy Mass will be in the East Indian Dialect followed by presentations
- \*East Indian Brass band in attendance with LIVE performances
- \*East Indian Lunch followed by Games and spot prizes



**Contact :**

**Alphi Dsouza on 9820087771**





# EAST INDIAN AGENDA 2024

**Demands of the East Indian Community: Agris-Kolis-Bhandaris-Kunbis**



## **CENTRAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT**

1. East Indian Representative to be appointed with Special representation in the State on behalf of the Sons-of-Soil community
2. Simplified repair permissions for Gaothans
3. Special job reservations for East Indian community in public and private corporates
4. Special permissions for time limit to be given for Umbrachapani and Christmas midnight mass
5. Simplified OBC certificate process for East Indian Community
6. Housing Benefits for East Indians as Indigenous People
7. No Municipal Property and Water Tax for all houses in the Gaothans owned before 1960
8. Manori-Gorai-Uttan Tourism Plan and Bridge Project to be scrapped
9. East Indians Day to be observed and recognized by the Government
10. An East Indian Community welfare fund to be instituted through funds allocated from land income on East Indian owned acquired lands like airport, BKC, University, industrial and infrastructure projects
11. Gaothan expansion policy to be implemented by allotting lands towards East Indian community housing projects in lieu of land unavailable around gaothans
12. East Indian Bhavan in Bombay-Thane-Vasai and Raigad
13. Specific DC Rules for planned development in Gaothans
14. Regular special trains to be started from Bombay to Velankanni twice a week
15. Ground plus SITU development to be permitted in Gaothans
16. Special Tour subsidies for Travel to Holy Places and Pilgrimage Shrines

## **MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

1. Regularization of all Holy Crosses in the East Indian Gaothans and their vicinity
2. Harassment by BMC officers to be immediately stopped during house repairs
3. No tax to be charged for gaothan homes
4. East Indian Municipal Corporator to be nominated to represent the city basis elections amongst the East Indian Community
5. Space to be allotted for Community Centre at each East Indian Gaothan
6. Gaothan Infrastructure to be improved
7. Heritage homes in gaothans to be given a special incentive for maintaining their structure.
8. Roads bylanes and street furniture within the gaothans to be designed to maintain the village look
9. East Indian Food stalls to be approved for each Municipal ward
10. Local community association heads to be authorized to suggest Gaothan civic projects





# EAST INDIAN AGENDA 2024

**Demands of the East Indian Community: Agris-Kolis-Bhandaris-Kunbis**



## **ARCHDIOCESE**

1. Properties donated by East Indians should not be sold, if parish cannot develop or use for the betterment of the community they must be returned back to the original owners
2. The Word "East Indian Catholic" to be written in remarks column without visit to Archbishops house to be done as per recommendation by local East Indian association heads or professionals
3. Special discounts and reservation of beds at Catholic Hospitals
4. Halls and grounds provided for occasion to be given at discounted rates for East Indians
5. Special East Indian Community Member to be appointed in the Parish Council to protect and preserve East Indian traditions and heritage
6. Preference to East Indians for jobs opportunities in the Parish, Church organisations and institutions
7. Housing schemes for East Indians on vacant church properties and existing properties going for redevelopment
8. Mass and Hymns in the East Indian dialect every week
9. Land to be allotted for the East Indian Bhavan
10. Stalls to be allotted at the Bandra Fair to the East Indian Community
11. East Indians to be appointed on the finance and property committees
12. Church announcements should be made about activities organized by East Indian Groups
13. St.Gonsalo Garcia Day to be made official and a Church in Bombay to be dedicated to the Saint
14. Monthly open meets with the East Indian community and Bishops
15. East Indian Associations to be given premises without hire charges for activities and meetings
16. Space to be provided for East Indian businesses on parish property
17. Halls Grounds and Awards to be dedicated to Cardinal Simon Pimenta in each parish with East Indian majority
18. Ten percent of proceeds on hired premises to be allocated towards the East Indian Community welfare fund
19. Development projects/Monopoly for hired halls/quadrangles and grounds only to East Indian businesses

## **EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS AND ACTIVISTS**

1. Education support through scholarships and discounts in courses
2. Medical support through full or partial assistance
3. Ration scheme for poor East Indian families
4. East Indian food restaurant to be opened
5. Signages to be installed at all East Indian Gaothans giving information and history on the Gaothan
6. Sports projects to be launched to promote talented youngsters
7. Business network to be encouraged to promote East Indian businesses
8. East Indian Village office to be set up to assist locals in various projects and matters
9. Special and Exclusive East Indian Community Television and Radio Channel
10. Promotional books and CDs to be released to promote East Indian culture and tradition





# EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat



## Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa CabEinnet! MGP Launches The East Indian CabEinnet

*Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla*

**C**reating Units focusing on important sectors to take our community forward is the need of the hour. We have identified more than 30 such units which we refer as MinEistry and have appointed 26 team members to lead these units. The number 26 has a great significance to us as our community patron saint, St. Gonsalo Garcia was one of the 26 martyrs who sacrificed themselves by being crucified on the Nagasaki hill. The chosen 26 CabEinnet members need to sacrifice their time and talent, to take our community to greater heights. Each of the 26 units have been well thought and can surely bring the change we wish to see in our community.

**A**ctivities and projects will be driven by the East Indian CabEinnet in association with the larger MGP Team. MGP now has 50 projects dedicated for the East Indian Community and each of the CabEinnet members will participate in these MGP Projects as a chief, active or supporting coordinator. Mapping of these projects basis the units assigned in the East Indian CabEinnet is under process for smoother functioning and giving a greater relevance to the task on hand. MGP Core team will do their best to take the community projects to the next steps with an objective to reach greater heights of community upliftment and empowerment.

**B**reaking the straight path and moving towards alternative directions will be the plan going forward. MGP has tried it's best to use a straight path but with little or no success. The situation now demands MGP to take an alternate path of self sustainability while continuing to follow up with the authorities. A fresh round of connects with the authorities will be initiated through the newly formed East Indian CabEinnet who will present the specially drafted Policy basis online survey amongst the Indigenous People of Mumbai. Unlike before, MGP will have less dependability and expectations from these authorities who have been in touch for more than a decade.

**E**ncouraging new faces with greater challenges will be the key strategy with the East Indian CabEinnet. Meetings will be held every fortnight or even weekly depending on the need of the times. One to one team connects will be initiated every day or on alternate days. The idea is to drive all round activity to witness a better level of success and ownership. The East Indian CabEinnet will also have rights to make key decisions though online polls almost every week.

**I**nitiating projects in different ways to achieve success will be the new focus. MGP has categorised it's Projects into 5 sections to help us drive the projects better. Once the projects are allocated to the MGP Team members, these projects will be driven by the East Indian CabEinnet leaders who will be empowered to make decisions and move forward in their own way. This empowerment to the CabEinnet members will be considered as "The East Indian Way." The project teams will do their very best for the community, learn from their mistakes and celebrate their successes.

**N**ew structures create newer energies and strengths, this is what The East Indian CabEinnet stands for. MGP has now included this new core team in the hierarchy to create a vibrant group of decision makers and grass root workers. If each Core team member does this bit basis the unit assigned, this will surely translate our East Indian Community to be a force to reckon with. The road seems challenging but if all take on the mantle, the community will be looked upon like never before. The new structure will undergo continuous change as needed to make it more inclusive and participative.

**E**mpowering our community members is the key to see our community grow in the near future. The East Indian CabEinnet leaders have been empowered to take decisions and actively participate in MGP functioning. MGP also has an interesting line up of empowerment projects which has a great potential to make our community self sustainable. Innovative methods of empowerment will redefine the East Indian Community and a team of like-minded community members is the need of the hour to mentor and guide us.

**T**ogether we can make a great difference and that's what a majority in our community should strive for. Each community members should join atleast one local or global East Indian group to help fulfill the ultimate East Indian dream. MGP will now grow into a larger network of team members, many of whom will also form the local Village or Gaothan units. Onboarding of MGP Special Ambassadors Team(MSAT) and the MGP Advisory Panel(MAP) is driven towards having an active support base if mentors and advisors. MGPs East Indian CabEinnet now moves forward to embrace everything they can to see the community grow. Every hand that joins us, supports us and prays for us Matters.





# EAST INDIAN MASALA

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## MGP MAI BOLI CONTEST # 12 For School and College students Only

There are 6 East Indian words related to the Korezma hidden in this Crossword. Find them and send them to us at [eastindianvoice@gmail.com](mailto:eastindianvoice@gmail.com) by 15th April 2024.

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D R H Z G U Y H R Z R R N A A
I G R X W R T U D A A I N W Y
N L O N N S P J M E R N Q J I
O A U N N A S A H C O C S A P
L J R A T C C Y M L W W Z F A
N F Q S M H U F U G Y U I U P
M X I X A I G I Y N V V A M X
L R V P I V H K J V S P M W S
K V A Y Z A L K H Y V O E M V
K S T F P A G K U L S S H K B
S D N N B T X I D D U Y M P S
B O L Z G D D L V I P A I O W
F X O B F E X C T M Y W H Q I
    
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Crossword by Amarylisa Gonsalves - Juhu

## Chilly Fry Of Sukhi Kardi (Dry Prawns) And Vegetables In East Indian Spicy Fish Masala



### Ingredients

- \* 1/2 cup prawns to be soaked in warm water 2 big onions sliced
- \* 2 potatoes cut lengthwise thick pieces
- \* 1 capsicum sliced
- \* 3 green chillies cut into 2
- \* 4 flakes of garlic whole
- \* 2 tomatoes into pieces
- \* 3 small brinjals into 4 pieces
- \* 3 tbsp oil
- \* 1 tbsp fish masala (You can use chilly powder or bottle masala as a substitute for fish masala)
- \* Salt to taste

### Method

- \* Heat oil and add the sliced onion, prawns, slit green chillies, and garlic.
- \* Fry till it turns soft. Next add the vegetables potatoes, capsicum, and tomatoes.
- \* Cook on slow flame not adding any water.
- \* When it's half cooked add the brinjals, bottle masala, and salt and cook till done. Enjoy with roti

Recipe by Sybil Rodrigues

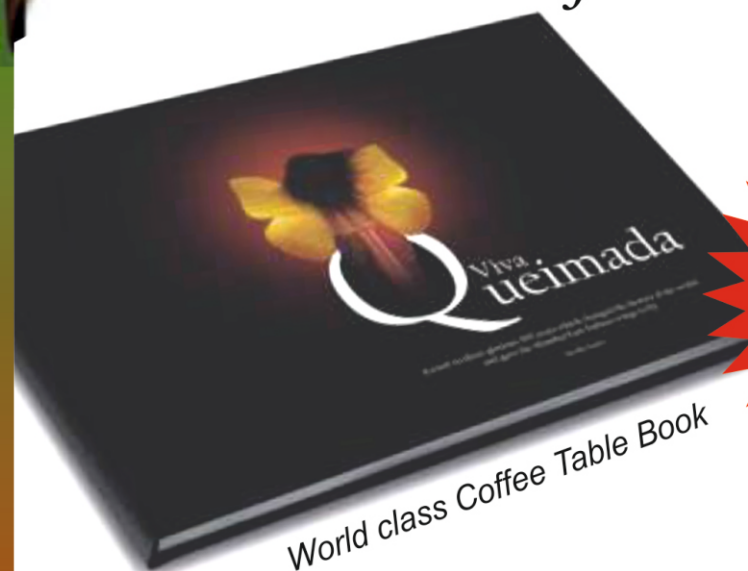
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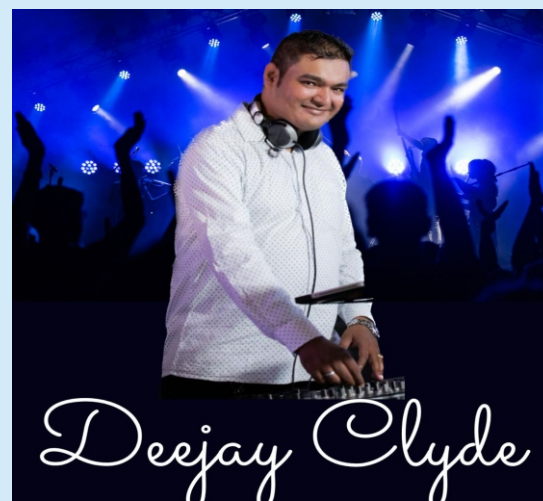
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## AN APPEAL

Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) is happy to announce its initiative in building the first religious structure in the Diocese of Mumbai dedicated to our East Indian Native and Patron Saint..

### ST. GONSALO GARCIA CHAPEL Aaplaa GAAV! Aapla Devool!

Proposed site Mumbai City, Mumbai Suburb, Dharavi Beth, Thane & Raigad.

#### Highlights

- \*The First Religious structure in Bombay Archdiocese to be dedicated to our Native Saint.
- \*The Chapel is likely to be inaugurated in the year 2023.
- \*We look forward for Support from Experts (Designers, architects, Sculptors, fabricators, etc) in building this Chapel.
- \*Contributions by Cheque or in kind are welcome.
- \*We plan to get relics from Japan and promote pilgrimage to Nagasaki.
- \*Well known Altar designers to be a part of the project interiors.
- \*The boat on which the Chapel will be built will be made by a well-known boat maker.



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