

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



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Public Trust Registration No: F-57349(MUMBAI)



22 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY



SUPPORT MGP



GAOTHAN VOICE DECEMBER 2025

Vol:GV 12/25

For Private circulation only

One Vision !

www.mobaikar.in

One Voice !

The East Indian Magazine

One Village !

Email: eastindianvoice@gmail.com

BHUMIPUTRANCHI SEVA KARNARA NIVRUYA HOUSHESI NAATAAL GAZUYA

Let's Review and Elect a Supportive Candidate



Bonny Pereira - Cardinal Care Trust, Orlem



MGP Annual Christmas Raffle 2025

Organised by - Mobai Gaothan Panchayat
Date of draw - 26th December 2025

1st Prize
2 gms gold coin

2nd prize
1 gm gold coin

10 Consolation Prizes
Amazon Gift Voucher
@Rs. 2000/- each -

Jewellery Partner -
Bhairav Jewellers,
Kalina - 9821979449

Buy Raffle Tickets - contact local MGP Team Member
Buy Raffle Book - Whatsapp 9820545302



Raffle
contribution
Rs.100/-

East Indian Gaothans – 100+ Villages ★ Readership – 50,000 ★



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Monday Closed

We Have
No Branch





NAATAAL

The East Indian Christmas Festival



SARVAJANIK KRIST JANMOTSAV 2025

The Ninth Mega Christmas Festival

100+ Gaothans! One Community Celebration!

This Christmas Festival will promote Unity in Diversity amongst all communities. There will be Celebrations at all levels - National, State, City and Gaothan

Highlights of SKJ 2025:

*This celebration is dedicated to Kaka Baptista, our Community Freedom Fighter who played an active role in organizing the Sarvajanic Ganeshotsav along with Lokmanya Tilak

*All Association and Groups who organize Christmas activities or make Community Cribbs can contact us as supporting groups in this Movement. We target around 100+ Gaothans to participate and support us

SKJ events and Initiatives planned :

Crib Competitions - planned on the national, state, city and Village level

Display Competitions - City and Gaothan level for Christmas display and decor

Christmas themed Decoration & competition and- Village level Decorations to give them a festive look

East Indian Naataal Baazaar - A Christmas themed Village Market at Velankanni Church compound, Irla on 20th December from 1pm to 8pm

Christmas Party - organised by MGP local units on a village level for children, senior citizens or all residents

Christmas Carol Singing - promotion of Christmas music

Christmas Hampers - a special Christmas gift to Needy, senior citizens & widows

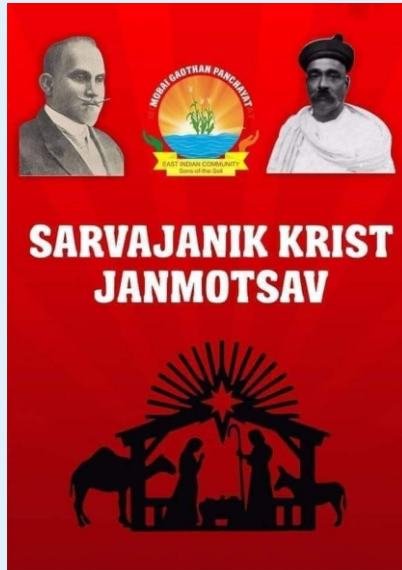
East Indian Calendar - The Official Community Calendar will be distributed across 125+ Gaothan & 15+ Nations

Christmas Raffle - sparkling prizes of gold coins and Amazon vouchers

Christmas online contest - Themed contests online with prizes to lucky winners

SKJ 2025 is an initiative by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, represented by the Native East Indian Community. For more details and sponsorship contact 9820545302

Submit your entries by 31st December 2025
at skj.mobai@gmail.com.



Christmas in the Gaothans



Photo courtesy - Brendan Dias, Bandra





Registered as Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Welfare Association, Registration no F-57349 (MUMBAI)

MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT

The Voice of The East Indian Community

C/o Alphi Dsouza, A 601, Krishna Towers, 56 Vakola Village, Santacruz (East), Mumbai 400 055. Mob: 9820087771



My Christmas Gift to MGP



1. Join us as a MGP Member or upgrade your membership - Platinum, Diamond, Gold & Silver.
2. Donate or sponsor an amount of your choice towards MGP projects and Activities.
3. Refer Corporates with CSR as Contributions towards Mobai Gaothan Panchayat are eligible for tax exemptions under 80G.
4. Join our Special Team of Ambassadors or Advisors to take our community forward.
5. Pray for MGP and the East Indian Community.








For more details you may contact
9820545302 or 9820087771.



MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT

Donor Membership Plan



YEARLY PLAN 1000/-	SILVER 5000/-	GOLD 10000/-	DIAMOND 25000/-	PLATINUM 100000/-
Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Umbrella - Rs. 300/-• Sukhala Bag - Rs. 100/-• Gaothan Voice @doorstep - Rs. 300/-• East Indian Calender - upto 1 worth Rs. 100/-	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vive Queimada - Rs. 500/-• Ei Books - Rs. 200/-• Umbrella - Rs. 300/-• Sukhala Bag - Rs. 100/-• Gaothan Voice @doorstep - Rs. 300/-• East Indian Calender - upto 5 worth Rs. 500/-• East Indian Merchandise - Rs. 100/-	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vive Queimada - Rs. 1000/-• Ei Books - Rs. 500/-• Umbrella - Rs. 300/-• Sukhala Bag - Rs. 100/-• Gaothan Voice @doorstep - Rs. 300/-• East Indian Calender - upto 10 worth Rs. 1000/-• East Indian Merchandise - Rs. 500/-	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vive Queimada - Rs. 1500/-• Ei Books - Rs. 1000/-• Umbrella - Rs. 400/-• Sukhala Bag - Rs. 100/-• Gaothan Voice @doorstep - Rs. 300/-• East Indian Calender - upto 25 worth Rs. 2500/-• East Indian Merchandise - Rs. 1000/-	Benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vive Queimada - Rs. 2500/-• Ei Books - Rs. 2000/-• Umbrella - Rs. 500/-• Sukhala Bag - Rs. 100/-• Gaothan Voice @doorstep - Rs. 300/-• East Indian Calender - upto 50 worth Rs. 5000/-• East Indian Merchandise - Rs. 2500/-
 Benefits Worth Rs. 800/-	 Benefits Worth Rs. 2000/-	 Benefits Worth Rs. 3700/-	 Benefits Worth Rs. 6800/-	 Benefits Worth Rs. 12900/-

Account Name - Mobai Gaothan Panchayat | Bank Name - Bassein Catholic Cooperative Bank | Branch - Kalina,
Saving Account Number - 032100100000791 | IFSC Code - BACB0000032



Feeling grateful and humbled to receive the EICA 2025 – East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year Award

What made the moment even more meaningful was receiving the award from the Rector Fr. Magi Murzello of St. Andrew's College — the college where I completed my B.Com in 1992. Life truly does come full circle.

As entrepreneurs, we often forget to thank the people who shaped us.

For me, the biggest credit goes to the two women in my life:

1. My Mother – Priscilla

I believe I was my father's pet, but I have my mother's traits. The spark of entrepreneurship came from her. She was a gifted tailor who stitched clothes for women and girls, and from her I learned hard work, discipline, and resilience.

2. My Wife – Debbie

My strongest support system. We did our MBAs together at NMIMS — she specialised in Finance, I in Marketing. She has been my anchor emotionally, mentally, and financially. They say Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was my business. Her support has been constant through every season.

Gratitude to a few others who guided my journey:

Maxy – for giving me career guidance in the early stages of my career

Dillon Pereira, CA – for his financial and strategic guidance

Milind Maloor – my first business partner and still a great friend

My teams in India (Stanton & team), New Zealand and the Philippines

Mrs. Indira Aarons – advisory board

This award is more than recognition — it is a reminder of the journey, the struggles, the blessings, and the people who walked with me.

Thank you, Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, for this honour. Grateful always.



Warren Fernandes

East Indian Author of the Year 2025

Thanks, Gleason, for a wonderful function today. It was truly meaningful and memorable, an event filled with moments we will always treasure. The entire programme was very well organized, including the culinary aspect as well.



Dr Ablin Carneiro Alphonso

ST GONSALO GARCIA EAST INDIAN PRIEST OF THE YEAR 2025 - FR ANDREW RODRIGUES

Today's MGP award programme (EICA 2025) was awesome. It was organised very well. Thanks and Congratulations to all organisers. I personally enjoyed meeting East Indian friends who were there for the programme. I enjoyed Music, singing, East Indian Band and dance. I met some of them for the first time and made friendship with them. I am from Nandakhal, Virar (west) where East Indian Culture is preserved. I worked in St. Peter's Church, Bandra and St. Stanislaus High school for 8 years. Last 16 years as a priest I am in touch with our East Indian Community in Mumbai and Vasai and enjoy our Culture. As East Indians when we meet and organise such programmes, we achieve

Our following core objectives Such as

To reignite and celebrate the richness of our East Indian heritage and traditions.

To bring together and unite the East Indian community as one family.

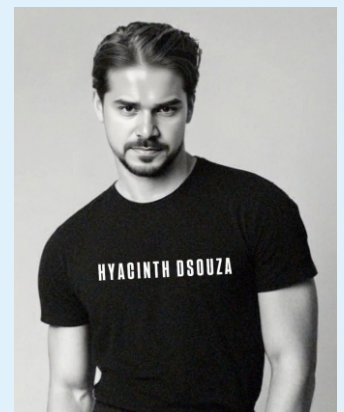
To reach out and support members of the East Indian and wider Catholic community in times of need. Enjoyed East Indian food, Specially hot hot fugias. Once again thanks to MGP TEAM for organising superb programme. God's abundant blessings upon us all with Best wishes and Prayers, Fr. Andrew Rodrigues SJ, principal, Holy Family High School and Jr. College, Chakala, Andheri.



Fr Andrew Rodrigues

East Indian Music Producer of the Year 2025

Thank you Gleason and the entire MGP team for the honour and the warm hospitality. It was inspiring to see the amazing initiatives planned for our East Indian community. Proud to be associated and always happy to support in whatever way I can.



Hyacinth D'Souza



MGP IN THE NEWS

Exclusive News Coverage



EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

MGP IN THE NEWS - FREE PRESS JOURNAL

Wednesday - 19th November 2025

Online edition & print edition - page 9

Wood carver family, ACP, educationist are East Indian newsmakers

Entrepreneurs, religious leaders, cultural icons felicitated by Mobai Gaothan Panchayat at their 15th awards ceremony

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

A family of wood carvers from Vasai, the Sequeira Brothers, whose sacred iconography forms the centre of worship in many Mumbai churches and shrines and religious institutions abroad, are the 'East Indian NewsMakers of the Year'. The family, which began the tradition in the 1920s, was also recently involved in the restoration of Mount Mary Basilica at the St. Andrew's Church in Bandra.

The awards, given by the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, were presented to entrepreneurs, religious leaders, educationists, and cultural icons from the East Indian community at the 15th ceremony held recently at St. Andrew's Auditorium in Bandra. The honours also recognised non-East Indians whose work impacted a community that is counted among the city's earliest residents.

Sylvester D'Souza, the chairman, founder, and managing trustee of St. Lawrence Educational and Charitable Trust, was presented the 'East Indian of the Year 2025' award. The trust runs schools that have shaped generations into responsible citizens. D'Souza is also the president of the East Indian People's Association, is associated with the St. Lawrence Church, Wagle Estate, Thane, and also runs cooperative credit societies.

The others honoured included the Baseline Catholic Cooperative Bank, founded in 1918 in Vasai, for its role in providing banking services to the community; Janus International Pvt Ltd, headed by brothers Denver and Janus Amarnath, a leading name in the packaging industry (East Indian Corporate of the Year); and Warren Fernandes, an entrepreneur whose print and graphic work straddles India and New Zealand (East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year).

The evening featured a live performance by New Boys Band from Uttan and a special East Indian lunch.

ACP Manta Lawrence D'Souza, The Sequeira family, Sylvester D'Souza

Indian icon of the Year. D'Souza joined the Maharashtra police in 1980 as a sub-inspector and has distinguished herself as an investigator, having been awarded the Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation, 2021, for her work that led to a life imprisonment conviction in a case of an assault on a child registered at Kamothe (Navi Mumbai) police station.

East Indian Community Awards 2025

Highlights

- * 34 Awards presented across Religious, businesses, professionals & services
- * LIVE Performance by New Boys Band Manori-Uttan
- * Specially curated East Indian Lunch by Psychedelic Caterers
- * World class sound & lights by Roger Drego, St Andrew's Auditorium - Bandra
- * Release of the East Indian Calendar 2026
- * Launch of MGPs new Education project in association with NZEA

For details/contributions to MGP or for nominations to East Indian Community Awards 2026 WhatsApp 9820545302

MGP & EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY - STAYS COMMITTED TO SUPPORT DIOCESE IN TIMES OF NEED



Flow of events:

- In July 2025, MGP sent a communication for review and change in the process of admissions to ensure quality education in Diocesan schools and colleges but received no reply.
- This incident is a wake-up call for the Archdiocesan Board of

Education to learn from Jesuits and Salesians.

- In this incident, a press reporter known to MGP for 10+ years contacted us as the original report seemed one-sided, hence the need for the school's viewpoint.
- The MGP team referred 2 clergymen in the know of the incident who, in turn, redirected to Fr. Nigel Barrett to ensure a balanced news report.
- Mobai Gaothan Panchayat has been coordinating and following up on East Indian Community issues with the Archbishop of Bombay for 15+ years with little or no success.
- The issues raised concern Housing, Representation, Language, Culture, Tradition, Heritage, History, Existence, and Identity.
- In this case, when the Church needed support, we even contacted the clergy and gave timely reference to ensure a timely response from our Diocesan spokesperson.

While we, in MGP, representing the Indigenous People of Mumbai, East Indian Community, feel sad, hurt, pained, neglected, and rejected many times, we will do our best to stand by the Church in their times of need. We face these disappointing experiences across the Diocesan, Deanery, and Parish levels.

MGP has great faith and hope in God and His Church, irrespective of how we are treated by the clergy heads at the Parish, Diocesan, State, and National levels.

May God Bless the Church in India



MGP IN THE NEWS - MIDDAY

Thursday - 20th November 2025 - Page 4

East Indian Community Awards 2025

East Indian Icon of the Year 2025 - ACP Mamta Lawrence D'Souza

Highlights

- * 34 Awards presented across Religious, businesses, professionals & services
- * LIVE Performance by New Boys Band Manori-Uttan
- * Specially curated East Indian Lunch by Psychedelic Caterers
- * World class sound & lights by Roger Drego, St Andrew's Auditorium - Bandra
- * Release of the East Indian Calendar 2026
- * Launch of MGPs new Education project in association with NZEA

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MGP IN THE NEWS - MUMBAI MIRROR

Monday, 24th November 2025



MGPs EISA Policy clearly mentions that Church property should not be sold but instead used for the benefit of the East Indian Community

- * The Indigenous People of Mumbai, East Indian Community have donated large tracts of lands to the Archdiocese
- * We have received indications of "sale of lands by the Archdiocese of Bombay." recently a notice for sale of St. Stephen's Church, Cumballa Hill was reported
- * We demand the immediate scrapping of this notice & we at Mobai Gaothan Panchayat demand an unconditional apology from those involved and action against those who initiated this "sale of land" advertisement.
- * A sizable population of the East Indian Community have housing issues and the Diocese has not heeded our requests for the same.
- * Some East Indian families are even living on rent or in matchbox houses and it's time Archdiocese looks into this, like it was done decades ago for migrants from Goa and Mangalore.
- * All vacant unused land and redevelopment Projects should compulsorily be used for housing the East Indian Community

MGP has sent a reminder to the Archdiocese on the implementation of the EISA policy.



Reetin Reevaaz

Promoting Culture and Tradition



KASHE CHA SANN

Feast of St. Jerome's Church @ Kashmirira Village

1. St. Jerome's Church stands on a hill between these two Gaothans, Kashi(Cassi) and Mira (Mirem)
2. The present Church is the third structures, built on the same site, blessed and opened for public worship on 26th December 1926 which continues to be celebrated as the feast day though the actual feast of St. Jerome falls in September.
3. The Portuguese Franciscan Fathers selected this site at Kashmirira between two villages and built their first Church in the year 1595, a beautiful wooden structure made by the local carpenters and this Church lasted for 23 years, destroyed in a terrible cyclone in October 1618.
4. The second Church structure was built 1628 besides the ruins of the old Church. By 1630, the parish consisted of Gaothans - Kashi, Mira, Sanbojapal, Chene, Bandonli, Baroli and Tantoli. This church was destroyed in 1739 during the Maratha invasion.
5. The statue of St. Jerome was preserved and placed on the main altar of the 3rd Church Structure that was built 187 years later in the year 1926.
6. In front of the old ruined church is a cross about 386 years old and in 1926 a new cross was erected in front of the New Church.
7. On the feast day, a fair is held and is attended by thousands from all over Salsette, Bassein and Thane districts selling local farm produce, Sukelis(dry Bananas) and Ghumats
8. Irrespective of caste, creed and religion, people of all faith seek blessings at this church which has historic relevance. Several years ago a severe epidemic of plague gripped the region, people from all religion sought refuge in the church seeking divine intervention and were saved
9. Well decorated East Indian Reklas, Tongas and Gaaras are a common sight at the Kashmirira feast
10. This feast is one great way of celebrating an extended Christmas Celebration with the Erangal Feast/Baravi Cha Sann just about 2 weeks away.

BARAI CHA SANN – SAN BOITUR CHA SANN - ERGAL CHA SANN

Feast of the Church of St. Bonaventure, Erangal

The original inhabitants of Bombay, the East Indian Community have been visiting Erangal for centuries popularly known by the community as, "Ergal cha Sann" or "Baravi Cha Sann". St. Bonaventure Church is an historic Church. This Annual Feast is celebrated on the 2nd Sunday of January. Many of the families who visit still follow the tradition of settling down at a nearby wadi(open place) to cook and eat together as a family.

The heritage Church at Erangal was built in the year 1575 by the Portuguese and destroyed by the Marathas in 1739. This Church was left in ruins and roofless until the 1950s. Repairs and renovations with donations from well-wishers were carried out including a roof and a new Altar. The Parish Priest of Our Lady of the Sea, Madh Island takes care of this Church.

The wide seashore in front of the Erangal church is transformed into a huge mela or fair with entertainment like giant wheel, merry-go-rounds, game stalls, horse rides and a variety of stalls selling local produce and food specialties. All the wadis from Madh to Erangal are occupied by pilgrims and their families who come by bus or their private vehicles that have replaced the traditional bullock carts. Some horse drawn 'Reklas' continue to visits the Annual fest. The air is filled with the aroma of East Indian curries cooked by pilgrims for their afternoon meals on makeshift 'chulas'. The Festival celebrations are in full swing with sound of music and dancing everywhere with the accompaniment of the Ghumat, a Traditional East Indian musical instrument. At this annual mela there are many East Indian speciality foods, musical instruments and music CD's up on sale.

There were other families around and quick neighborly are planned to meet relatives from other villages. These Church feasts also provided eligible bachelors and spinsters an opportunity for proposals and friendships, many of which ended up in marriage. Families gathered together in celebrate with music and dance accompanied with a Ghumat. Khimad, the official community drink is served followed by a traditional East Indian Lunch. The families then pack their belonging to return home but before this they have their rounds at the stalls to buy shingaras, kasras, tallas(shoots of tadgola) and the famous Ghumat!

Killa Cha Sann - St Gonsalo Garcia Church Feast - Vasai Fort Bhartiya Maha Sant

*Killa Cha Sann is celebrated on the 1st or 2nd Sunday of January at the St Gonsalo Garcia Church) formerly Church of Holy Name) at Vasai Fort



*This is the Indigenous and Annual Village Festival dedicated to Native Saint - St. Gonsalo Garcia

*The custom of a celebration of this feast in Bassein Fort was started by Rev. Fr. Peter Fernandez

*It was in and around this church that the Saint had spent his childhood and learned in the college which is attached to the church

*Father Stephan Thomas who has written the Krista Puran in Marathi also stayed here for a while

*The foundation of the St. Sabestine Citadel in Vasai Fort was done in the fort in the Month of January as well in the 16th century.

MGP will be sending a communication to the authorities for Restoration of the Church and the Vasai Fort besides requesting for a Museum and a Memorial dedicated to Maharashtra's Native Saint & India's Patron Saint.

MGP is working on the East Indian Religious Traditional Festivals Project, Kristaav to Research, Revive, Restore and Promote our Indigenous People Village Festivals held at - Vasai, Erangal, Kashmirira, Bandra, Kurla, Kondivita, Ghodbunder, Trindaz, Manpesar, Velankanni, Nasik and Jhansi

To join our St Gonsalo Garcia Promotion Project whatsapp us on 9820545302



PC • James Fernandes, Vasai



EAST INDIAN NATEKAR

MGP's Matrimonial Project



GROOMS WANTED

*RC, El Spinster looking for a suitable alliance, 27 years old, 5'6" residing in Mumbai. She is a B.COM Graduate currently working as a specialist in Accounting. If interested kindly share profile & recent photographs on celestegomes779@gmail.com.

*Alliance needed for an RC El Spinster, 36 years old, 5' 8" residing in Mumbai. She is a Masters in Information Management. Currently working as an Associate Manager. If interested kindly share your profile & recent photographs on barrowvenishka@gmail.com.

*Alliance needed for an RC El Spinster, 26 years old, 5'2" residing in Mumbai. She is a MBBS Doctor. Currently working for a reputed Hospital in Mumbai. Kindly reply with profile & recent full size photograph on marydsouza620@gmail.com.

*Alliance needed for an RC El Spinster, 37 yrs old, 5'0" residing in Mumbai. She is a Masters in Education & currently working as a Lecturer. If interested kindly share your profile & recent photographs on raffon17@gmail.com

BRIDES WANTED

*RC El Bachelor 28 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. Having a degree in ITM -IHM (Bachelor of Arts in International Hospitality & Tourism Management). Currently working in Caribbean Cruises as a Head Butler. Kindly share details (profile with recent photographs on rocky64dsouza@gmail.com.

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El Bachelor, 28 years, 5,9" residing in Pune. He has a MBA degree & currently employed as a Logistics Coordinator in an MNC Swedish Company in Pune. Kindly reply with profile & recent photographs on brandonpereira1997@gmail.com / bernardgba@gmail.com, or Contact on 9890196841

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'7" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in Bachelor of Engineering Information Technology. Currently working as a Senior IT Project Manager in a MNC. Those interested in this alliance kindly share your profile with recent photographs on clint.tix@gmail.com.

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC El bachelor, 37 years old, 5'11" residing in Mumbai. He is a BSc Graduate. Currently working as a Manager in a reputed Hotel. If interested in this alliance kindly share your profile with recent photographs on ryanagomes@gmail.com.

*Seeking a life partner for RC El Bachelor, 35 years old, 5'4" residing in Mumbai. He is a Bachelor in Arts & Currently working as an Procurement Officer in a reputed firm. Those seeking an alliance kindly share profile with recent photographs on joselyn.norris14@gmail.com.

*Seeking a suitable match for an RC El Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. He is a BMS graduate & currently working as an WFM Scheduling Analyst at Teleperformance. If interested in this alliance kindly share profile with recent photographs on jacksonkoli@gmail.com.

*RC East Indian Bachelor 33 years old, 5'5" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in Bachelors in Commerce & currently working as an Investment Banking Operations Manager. If interested in this alliance kindly share your profile & recent photographs on sheldonsutari123@gmail.com.

*Seeking an Alliance for an El bachelor, 25 years, 5'7" residing in Mumbai. He holds a Bachelor Degree in Electronics & a Masters Degree in Cyber Security. Currently working as a Cyber Security Professional. If interested kindly share your profile with photographs on 8433887390.

*Seeking an Alliance for an El bachelor, 40 years, 5'5". Qualification :12th. He is currently working on a cruise line & residing at Palghar. If anyone interested in this profile kindly share your profile with recent photographs on xavierjacinto16@gmail.com or 7506361330.



**Students.. Housewives .
Senior Citizens.. Language
Experts..**

East Indian Dictionary - 2nd Edition

1000 Copies of 1st Edition - SOLD OUT

The Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) is calling for support team members for the 2nd edition of the East Indian Dictionary, slated for release by 2026. Here are the details:

Support Team Roles

- **Overall Coordinator:** Oversee the entire project
- **Editorial Team Member:** Assist with editing and compiling dictionary content
- **Edits Coordinator:** Manage and implement edits
- **Finance Manager:** Handle financial aspects of the project
- **Logistics Manager:** Coordinate logistics for the project
- **Mailing List Coordinator:** Manage mailing lists for promotions and updates
- **Photo Coordinator:** Handle photography-related tasks

How to Support

If you're interested in supporting the 2nd edition of the East Indian Dictionary, you can:

- **WhatsApp:** Contact MGP at 9820545302
- **Donate:** Contribute to the project through bank cheques drawn in favor of "Mobai Gaothan Panchayat" (donations in INR only)

Project Background

The East Indian Dictionary project aims to promote and preserve the East Indian dialect. The first edition was released on January 12, 2019, and the MGP plans to release new editions with updated words and informative content. The organization also engages in language awareness initiatives through music and entertainment.





Mumbai Bhumiputra Policy

The Rights of the Indigenous People



Drafted by - Gleason Barretto

HOUSING

- * Housing Quota on MHADA projects for East Indians
- * A special Bhumi Putra Housing Scheme to be initiated
- * Gaothan expansion policy to be implemented by allotting lands towards East Indian community housing projects in lieu of land unavailable around gaothans

INFRA COMPENSATION

The community lands were taken away under various laws like Land Acquisition Act, Land to tiller Act, Urban Land Ceiling Act and the original owners were never compensated. These lands which were taken for infra projects are now today converted to commercial projects hence a compensation for these need to be given especially for the below mentioned projects which are on lands with East Indians as original owners

- * Sahar International Airport and Santacruz Domestic Airport
- * Bandra Kurla Complex
- * Kalina University
- * Aarey
- * Railways
- * Juhu Aerodrome

TAX

The East Indians as Indigenous People should not be taxed

- * No Municipal Property and Water Tax for all houses in the Gaothans owned before 1960
- * Electricity with a special scheme basis consumption where those upto a specific consumption get it for free

CULTURE PROMOTION

- * East Indian Bhavan in Mumbai-Thane-Vasai and Raigad
- * Special permissions for time limit to be given for Umbrachapani and Christmas midnight mass
- * Space to be allotted for Community Centre at each East Indian Gaothan
- Self government

CASTE CERTIFICATE

- * Simplified OBC certificate process for East Indian Community
- * East Indian Community to be granted Schedule Tribe Status

JOBS

- * Special job reservations for East Indian community in public and private corporates
- * Local tourism projects to be allotted only to Indigenous People
- * Infra projects on East Indian owned lands like Airport and Railways to have a quota for jobs to Bhumi putras

BUSINESS

- * East Indian Food stalls to be approved for each Municipal ward
- * All mega infra projects like Airports and Railways should allot special stalls to promote East Indian food specialty and handicrafts
- * Each Metro station should have stalls earmarked for promotion East Indian food and handicrafts





Mumbai Bhumi Putra Policy

The Rights of the Indigenous People



REPRESENTATION

- * East Indian Representative to be appointed with Special representation in Maharashtra State on behalf of the Sons-of-Soil community
- * East Indian Municipal Corporator to be nominated to represent the city basis elections amongst the East Indian Community
- * Local community association heads to be authorised to suggest Gaothan civic projects

RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

- * Regular special trains to be started from Mumbai to Velankanni twice a week
- * Special Tour subsidies for Travel to Holy Places and Pilgrimage Shrines
- * Regularisation of all Holy Crosses in the East Indian gaothans and their vicinity

TOURISM

- * Manori-Gorai-Uttan Tourism Plan and Bridge Project to be scrapped and locals to be allowed to set up their local tourism businesses
- * All tourism related projects should have an East Indian connect in the form of cultural centre, food stalls, handicraft shops and community theme centres

LANGUAGE AND DIALECT

- * The East Indian Dialect to be recognised by the Central and State Government

COMMUNITY WELFARE

- * 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

HISTORY

- * East Indians Day to be observed and recognised by the Government
- * All mega projects like Airports, Metro and Railways should mention History of the city and the local area
- * All Gaothans to mention the local history at its entrances
- * Metro and Railway Stations should also mention the original local names along with a brief history
- * Naming of streets and roads with the names of prominent East Indians
- * Naming of streets and roads with the names of prominent East Indians

GAOTHANS AND HERITAGE

- * Simplified repair permissions for Gaothans
- * Ground plus SITU development to be permitted in Gaothans
- * Specific DC Rules for planned development in Gaothans
- * Harassment by BMC officers to be immediately stopped during house repairs
- * Heritage homes in gaothans to be given a special incentive for maintaining their structure.
- * Gaothan Infrastructure to be improved
- * Roads, bylanes and street furniture within the gaothans to be designed to maintain the village look

Mumbai Bhumi Putra Policy - Version 2026

Drafted by -

Gleason Barretto

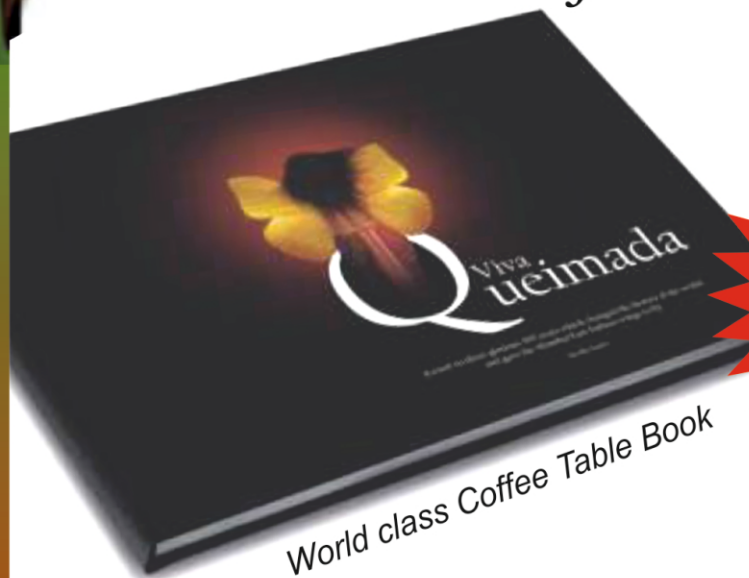
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BHUMIPUTRANCHI SEVA KARNARA NIVRUYA HOUSHESI NAATAAL GAZUYA

Let's Review and Elect a Supportive Candidate

Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla

Review the current condition of our community and the Gaothans today. The civic conditions in many Gaothans seem ignored inspite of reminders from local activists and groups. It calls for change in strategy to ensure the Gaothans are not only protected and maintained well but also restored and revived. MGPs Gaothan Restoration project will be reviewed and pressurised on an active note. Many Gaothans are a common sight to uneven roads, overflowing drains, litter and garbage. Apathy from civic authorities and political leaders is one of the main reasons however it's also our duty to safeguard and presence our Gaothans. Activists and groups heads need to actively coordinate and ensure the Gaothans are well maintained on all fronts.

Election time is an opportunity to choose a candidate who has or can make a difference. MGP will release version 2026 of the Mumbai Bhumi Putra Policy this month. Initiatives to link with these important elections to the municipality will be announced. MGP appeals to community members to support candidates who will serve our Gaothans and not for parties. Even independent candidates can be supported provided they are potential candidates who will serve irrespective of the results. MGP team will meet political leaders and contesting candidates with the new Mumbai Bhumi Putra Policy. The MGP Team will support candidates after getting the due approval from the Core team basis past track record or potential.

Village Existence and Identity needs to be preserved with Historical & Religious references. Every Gaothan with our community roots will have multiple holy crosses especially at prominent locations like entrance, junctions and village squares. In the current demographic changes it's important to preserve and restore our heritage Gaothan crosses which give our villages a perfect Christian identity. History boards need to be placed at all Gaothans with a brief on their past and interesting aspects which many would love to know about the Gaothan. Religious practices should be preserved and practiced as they have a great connect to the history in the form of procession and community prayer gatherings. There are subtle efforts by various authorities and a section of migrants to erase our East Indian Existence and Identity and we need to ensure this agenda is defeated.

Initiatives this festive season to give the Gaothan a Christmas feeling is urgently needed. In recent times we see a rise of Gaothans lit up with decorations as many have realised the importance to showcase our traditions and festivals. Christmas themed art installations are seen across in the form of stars, cribs and Christmas symbols. Christmas is a great opportunity for us to create awareness about the presence for christians for generations in the Gaothans. Each bylane and area groups should celebrate in the Traditional ways as passes on by our ancestors. The sharing of the kuswar with traditional sweets needs to be encouraged before they are forgotten by the future generations.

Variety of project offerings with an objective to cover all aspects of the community is what MGP aims to achieve. MGP currently has 50+ projects covering majority of the needs of our community across fields to protect, presence and promote our culture and tradition. The year ahead will see some of our projects actively revived and promoted to ensure the community is acknowledged and recognised as the Indigenous People of Mumbai under a name that will easily identify our status.

Indigenous people rights and benefits will take centrestage as we project ourselves as Bhumi Putra Samaj of Mumbai Metropolitan Region. Aaplaa Gaav, Aaplaa Raaj will see a major revival as we Boldy emphasise that as Indigenous People we have the first right in Mumbai as founders of this city. We will not request but demand as Bhumi Putra Samaj or first citizen community of Mumbai. If the system ignores us we will create our in-house leadership platform to ensure we succeed in our mission with alternate strategies.

Empower and encourage the East Indian Community to reach greater heights is what we will strive to achieve. Lesser dependency on church Hierarchy and government authorities will be the focus as our past experience has been disappointing. Self-sustainability is what we will plan to promote as an ideal solution going forward. Education amongst our youth through awareness and career counselling will be initiated. East Indian Business Council - EIBCo our business promotion project will actively plan to network and support businesses registered with us. Our theme released on MGPs 15th anniversary will continue its focus on Promotion and Preservation of East Indian Language, Culture, Tradition, Heritage, History, Existence and Identity. We look forward to the coming year with positivity and your prayers will surely help us achieve our goals.



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EAST INDIAN CALENDAR 2026

The Official Community Calendar



EAST INDIAN CALENDAR 2026

125+ Gaothans! 15+ Nations! One East Indian Community

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Planning & Administration - Alphi Dsouza, Vakola
Chief Coordinator - Rekha Jacinto, Vakola
Design Consultant - Anora Coutinho, Germany
Recipe Coordinator - Belmira Miranda, Vakola, Sybil Rodrigues - Kalina & Sherline Barretto, Sion
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Photo shoot - Bhairav Jewellers, Kalina

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East Indian Calendar 2026
 A MGP Publications Special Release

Calendar theme - East Indian Jewellery*
Recipe Theme - Grandmothers Traditional Recipe*
Released on - 15th November 2025
Event - East Indian Community Awards - EICA 2025
Venue - St Andrew's Auditorium, Bandra

*Will be on sale at Gaothans where we have MGP Team members
 *Local Gaothan supporters and activists can collect their complimentary calendars from MGP Team members
 *Complimentary copies for Donor Members and MGP Project team members
 *Set of 2 - Complimentary copies for the religious priests/nuns and their parents
 *Internationally the East Indian Calendar 2026 targets to reach 125+ Gaothans & 15+ nations
 *Calendar is also available at some Gaothans, Mobaikar stores and newspaper stalls at Rs.100/- per copy

For more details, donor memberships, sponsorships WhatsApp us on 9820545302/9820087771

MGP - Protect Preserve Promote

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 Belmira Miranda - Santacruz
 Dorres Isaac Pereira - Kalina
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