

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



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MGP**



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One Vision !

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One Voice !

The East Indian Magazine

One Village !

Email:eastindianvoice@gmail.com

SHIKSHAN SEVA ANI DEVASA AV

AAPLA SYLVESTER DSOUZA LA SAGLYAN BESAAV

EICA 2025 - Focus on Education, Service & Religious Traditions



Kaka Baptista East Indian of the Year 2025 - Sylvester Dsouza (Left)
Award Presenter - Justice Aloysius & Gloreen Aguiar
Award Sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd

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

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

Monday Closed

We Have
No Branch

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EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025

Appreciating The East Indian Way



St Gonsalo Garcia East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year - Warren Fernandes
Award presenter - Fr(Dr) Magi Murzello (Left)



Kaka Baptista East Indian Icon of the Year - ACP Mamta Lawrence D'Souza
Award presenter - Fr Vernon Aguiar (Right)
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



St Gonsalo Garcia East Indian Bank of the Year - Bassein Catholic Coop Bank Ltd
Award presenter - Fr(Dr) Magi Murzello (Left)
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Kaka Baptista East Indian Corporate of the Year - Janus International
Award presenter - Fr Vernon Aguiar (Right)
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Darryl Dmonte East Indian News Makers of the Year - Sequeira Brothers
Award presenter - Neil & Ingrid Creado (Right)
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Kaka Baptista East Indian Star of the Year - Glenn Remedios
Award presenter - Adv.Darryl & Rosenda Pereira (Left)
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Kaka Baptista East Indian Educationist of the Year - Regina Pereira (Centre)
Award presenter - Warren Fernandes & Colin Serpes
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Kaka Baptista East Indian Advocate of the Year - Adv.Beverly Fernandes
Award presenter - Justice Aloysius & Glorean Aguiar (Right)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Neville Pereira



St Gonsalo Garcia East Indian Principal of the Year - Fr Andrews Rodrigues
Award presenter - Lucia Drego (Left)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Signa & Elvira D'Mello



Fr Jude S Pereira East Indian Heritage Church of the Year - Mount Mary's Basilica
(Accepted by Fr Vernon Aguiar)
Award presenter - Fr Jervis D'Souza (Right)



Dr Faith M Pereira East Indian Doctor of the Year - Dr Marshall Cerejo
Award presenter - Walter & Benzie Murzello (Left)



Kaka Baptista East Indian Chartered Accountant of the Year - Dillon Pereira
Award presenter - Walter & Benzie Murzello (Left)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Neville Pereira



St Gonsalo Garcia East Indian Author of the Year - Dr Ablin Carneiro Alphonso
Award presenter - Savio & Charmaine D'Souza (Left)
Award sponsor - Sacha's Theraspice



Fr Benny Aguiar East Indian book of the Year - Pascal Lopes
Award presenter - Savio & Charmaine D'Souza (Left)
Award sponsor - Good Health Always



Clarissa D'Souza Banquet hall of the Year - Pioneer Hall (Accepted by Christopher Curzai)
Award presenter - Corina Fonseca (Left)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Alfred and Mary Magdalene D'Souza



Clarissa D'Souza Venue of the Year - Marshall Lawns (Received by Marius Dlima)
Award presenter - Roger & Lucia Drego (Left)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Alfred and Mary Magdalene D'Souza



Fr Benny Aguiar East Indian Social Worker of the Year - Charles Dango (Centre)
Award presenter - Cordelia & Ursula D'Souza
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Dennis L D'souza



St Gonsalo Garcia East Indian Priest of the Year - Fr Peter Dcunha
Award presenter - Fr. Leslie Almeida (Right)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Austin & Rita D'mello



Augustine Koli East Indian Project of the Year - Dr Louis Dsilva (Centre)
Award presenter - Bonny Pereira & James Fernandes
Award sponsor - New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd



Kaka Baptista East Indian MLA of the Year - Sanjay Upadhyay (Centre)
Award presenter - Fr Vernon Aguiar & Fr Jervis D'Souza
Award sponsor - East India House



Fr Larry Pereira East Indian Historian of the Year - Saviya Lopes (Accepted by Vijay Lopes)
Award presenter - Sandra Creado & Dr Marisa Dmello
Award sponsor - East India House



Theresa Fernandes East Indian Family Resort of the Year - Fonseca Resort - Gorai (Accepted by Ryan Fonseca)
Award presenter - Savio & Charmaine D'Souza
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Mr.Matthew & Mrs.Dorothy Rodrigues



Ashley Dmello East Indian Association of the year - Candol East Indian Sanghatna
Award presenter - Allwyn Gomes, Sandra Creado & Dr Marisa Dmello
Award sponsor - Melvin Fonseca



Hyginus Dlima East Indian Gaonthan of the Year - Matharpacady
Award presenter - Corina Fonseca & Adv.Urmila Pereira
Award sponsor - Melvin Fonseca



Kaka Baptista East Indian Culture Promoter of the Year - Rupas Bugree (Centre)
Award presenter - Anthonelle Dmello & Amelia Ferreira
Award is sponsored by - Vailankanni Textiles, Uttan



Fr.Benny Aguiar East Indian Graphic Designer of the Year - Chrysologus Dmello
Award presenter - Dr Cheryl Misquitta (Left)
Award sponsor - Melvin Fonseca



Sandra Gomes East Indian Videographer of the Year - Elroy Dsouza
Award presenter - Merck Dsilva (Left)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Allywn Fernandes



Sandra Gomes East Indian Photographer of the Year - Darryl Baptista
Award presenter - Julie Shinde & Genevieve Dsouza (Left)
Award sponsored - In Memory of Mr.Mathew & Mrs.Dorothy Rodrigues



Theresa Fernandes East Indian Decorator of the Year - Sunshine Decorators (Accepted by Sanale Dsouza)
Award presenter - Alphi Dsouza (Right)
Award is sponsored - In Memory of Nester & Tessie D'Souza



Sandra Gomes East Indian Bridal Designer of the Year - Lewis Vaz
Award presenter - Sandra Creado & Dr Marisa Dmello
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Lydia Rodrigues



Theresa Fernandes East Indian Compere of the Year - Gaston Dsouza (Accepted by Rovina D'Souza)
Award presenter - Savio & Charmaine D'Souza (Right)
Award is sponsored - in Memory of Sylvester & Dorothy Dsouza



East Indian Community Awards 2025 - Recipients



EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025

Appreciating The East Indian Way





EAST INDIAN NATEKAR

MGPs Matrimonial Project



GROOMS WANTED

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

BRIDES WANTED

*RC EI 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 EI 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 brandongpereira1997@gmail.com / bernardgpa@gmail.com, or Contact on 9890196841

*Seeking an Alliance for an RC EI 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 EI 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 EI 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 EI 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

*Seeking an alliance for an RC EI Bachelor, 32 years old, 5'9" residing in Mumbai. He has a degree in BSc Nautical Science & is currently working as a 3rd Officer with a Ship Management Ltd Co. If interested kindly share your profile with recent photographs on santosdahlin@ymail.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 EI bachelor, 25 years, 5'7" residing in Mumbai. He holds a Bachelor Degree in Electronics & a Master's Degree in Cyber Security. Currently working as a Cyber Security Professional. If interested kindly share your profile with photographs on [8433887390](tel:8433887390).

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**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.

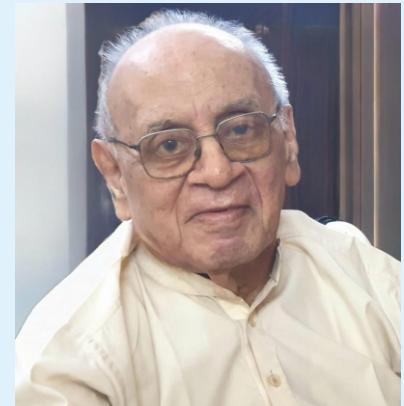
MY BROTHER, FR JUDE

Roger C B Pereira

We were exactly 10 years apart. He was born in 1929. I, in 1939. More than that, I might as well confess, he was my role model! I recited the same poems that he did at School Elocution Competitions – 10 years later! But there was one big difference: according to the staff at St. Stanislaus', he was a model school student. I was, probably, the opposite! Similarly, by birth, we were both born Scorpions. And, whilst I am almost a typical Scorpion, he was the opposite!

I possibly took to the stage, following in Jude's footsteps. Bandra had a very vibrant Theatre and Debating movement, in his time. There was Hyginus Correa, Roland Cardoz, Reggie Coelho, Aloy Gomes, Melville Mendes et al. And the Playwright cum Director was Dr Artie Pereira. Make-up by Josie Mendes and later, Roque Drego.

The debates were almost always at the Bandra Gymkhana. Every month. And in Ranwar, every week at the home of the Mendes! The host? Edward Mendes Sr. I guess this was a forerunner of the popular Zonals that were launched in 1950 for Athletics and in 1952 for Talent.



Fr Jude S. Pereira

When Jude was at Xavier's for his B.A. and M.A., his contemporaries and friends also included the much-admired Bobby (Sultan) Padamsee, Gerson and Sylvester da Cunha, Farrokh Mehta, Pheroza Cooper et al. But unlike me, Jude stayed with the Bandra stage of St Andrew's High School!

When Jude joined the Seminary on June 13, 1952, it seemed like the end of the world for me. I got inexplicably ill for 2 whole months. Poor Dr Henriques was at his wits end trying to get me back on my feet. No luck! What helped was that every second Sunday, was Visiting Sunday. First at Parel. And then, at Bandra.

Whilst at the Seminary, Jude continued his love for the theatre: acting, directing and producing plays for fellow Seminarians. But what was he like as a priest? I have received a series of tributes from bishops, fellow priests, former parishioners. Even from a non-Catholic, who had never even met him! At his Funeral Mass, Archbishop John in his sermon, Bishop Dominic Savio in his eulogy and Dr Luzito de Souza shared nuggets that even we as family members were not aware of! (for those interested, it's available on YouTube).

FR JUDE PEREIRA - TRIBUTE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BOMBAY

“Becoming a priest,” says Father Jude, “came naturally.” His sincere love for the Eucharist, even as a youth, was reflected in his service as an altar boy and attendance at daily Mass. Even before.

His own foundation in faith was, therefore, reinforced as he dedicatedly built a strong foundation for others. It is no wonder that the call of Jeremiah and Isaiah resonate so strongly with him.

Armed with a Bachelor's Degree in Education, a love for teaching scripture and new methods to teach it, he set to work and his achievements are now legacies.

He was the first to take the audio-visual route to communicate the faith in a lively and modern manner, travelling from parish to parish with his own equipment and so realising his dream to make the faith come alive. Fr Jude was also instrumental in changing the way Catechism and Confirmation classes were held and for this we must thank a dramatic encounter!

On his return from higher studies in Rome, and brimming over with ideas for catechesis, he visited one of the parish churches and knelt down on one of the rear pews to pray. It so happened that an elderly priest was taking Confirmation class in the church, and he wielded a cane to enforce his teaching!! That was when Fr Jude realised that if youth are to be guided to love the church, it would have to be done through lively interaction, through question and answer, through the wholehearted involvement of the priest. He promptly instituted training for the trainers.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation and the direction of souls hold a special place in Fr Jude's heart; he has spent many hours in the confessional and has been a confessor for generations. From this experience, counselling flows naturally and he offers guidance to anyone who seeks.

“A priest is not just a man for others, he is another Christ,” he tells us, “This is the beauty of priesthood.” We agree with you, Father Jude!



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

MOBAI GAO THAN 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 GAO THAN PANCHAYAT

Donor Membership Plan



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- East Indian Calender - upto 1 worth Rs. 100/-



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- East Indian Merchandise - Rs. 1000/-



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



EICA Notes

Brief on East Indian Community Awards Recipients



ST GONSALO GARCIA EAST INDIAN ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR - WARREN FERNANDES

Warren Fernandes is a visionary entrepreneur who has built strong bridges between India and New Zealand. Through innovation, education, and community spirit, he continues to inspire people across nations. His journey began in Mumbai, where his creativity and drive laid the foundation for global success. Today, he leads two thriving enterprises in New Zealand.

As Director of Repro Graphics NZ Limited, a 47-year-old print company, he has transformed it into a modern creative powerhouse. The company now excels in design, signage, uniforms, and promotional solutions.

As Founder and Director of New Zealand Education Advisors Limited, he pioneered the 'Study after 10th Standard in New Zealand' pathway. This initiative has opened doors for Indian students to begin their global journeys with clarity and confidence. He also introduced an innovative family-focused education model, empowering entire families to study, work, and thrive in New Zealand.



Beyond business, Warren passionately supports East Indian community initiatives, preserving heritage and culture abroad. During a visit to Japan, he made a pilgrimage to Nagasaki Hill, where St. Gonsalo Garcia was martyred. His heartfelt video from the site united East Indians worldwide in faith and pride.

Warren's story is one of entrepreneurial excellence, cultural pride, and global vision. Today, we proudly honour Mr. Warren Fernandes — for his leadership, innovation, and inspiration beyond borders.

ST GONSALO GARCIA BANK OF THE YEAR - BASSEIN CATHOLIC COOP BANK LTD



BASSEIN CATHOLIC CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

(SCHEDULED BANK)

Bassein Catholic Cooperative Bank Ltd (BCCB), founded in 1918 in Vasai, Maharashtra, has been a pillar of financial service and community support for over a century. Headquartered in Vasai, the bank has grown into a significant institution with a network of 63 branches, serving a large and diverse customer base. BCCB offers a wide range of services, including savings accounts, fixed deposits, online banking, and Forex business.

With a strong commitment to cooperative values, the bank promotes economic stability and financial inclusion across Mumbai, Thane, and Vasai regions. It emphasizes transparency, member benefits, and community engagement, demonstrating how cooperative banking blends service with social responsibility.

KAKA BAPTISTA EAST INDIAN CORPORATE OF THE YEAR - JANUS INTERNATIONAL

Brothers Denver and Janus Annunciation helm Janus International Pvt. Ltd., a family enterprise that has grown into one of India's most trusted names in packaging. Their journey began with wet-glue beer labels and evolved through bold innovation and vision. Seventeen years ago, they pioneered digital printing in India by investing in the country's first industrial digital press.



JANUS
INTERNATIONAL

Under their leadership, Janus International has become a creative force in packaging solutions. The company today offers labels, cartons, shrink sleeves, pouches, laminates, and digital packaging. Its diverse clientele spans food, wine, cosmetics, FMCG, pharmaceuticals, lubricants, and security printing. Denver brings over 25 years of expertise in strategy, finance, design, and automation. Together, the brothers embody innovation, quality, and a passion for excellence in every print.

KAKA BAPTISTA EAST INDIAN ICON OF THE YEAR - MAMTA DSOUZA

Assistant Commissioner of Police Smt. Mamta Lawrence D'Souza joined the Maharashtra Police Force in 1990 as a Police Sub-Inspector through the Maharashtra Public Service Commission at the age of 21. Over 36 years of distinguished service, she has served in key departments including Thane, Brihanmumbai, Navi Mumbai, Thane Rural, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Traffic, Crime, and Special Branch.

Known for her integrity and professionalism, ACP D'Souza has investigated numerous serious and sensitive crimes, including murder, rape, kidnapping, and corruption cases. Her exemplary investigation in a child assault case at Kamothe Police Station led to a life imprisonment conviction and earned her the Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation (2021).



She was honored with the President's Police Medal (2025) for her impeccable service and dedication to duty, and the Director General of Police Medal (2023) for outstanding performance. ACP D'Souza played a crucial role in maintaining peace during the 2019 elections in Bhiwandi and was recognized as a "Corona Warrior" by the Governor of Maharashtra for her service during the pandemic.

Internationally, she received the Global Sakhi International Women Achievers Award (2024) in Singapore. To date, she has received over 292 awards and multiple honors, including the Jijau, Woman Icon, Navrashtra, Navdurga, and Hirkanji Awards, celebrating her excellence in policing and women's empowerment.

DARRYL DMONTE EAST INDIAN NEWS MAKERS OF THE YEAR - SEQUEIRA BROTHERS

The story of the Sequeira Brothers is one of faith, devotion, and artistic mastery carried forward through four generations. It began with Michael Sequeira, a gifted carpenter and sculptor whose remarkable work - including the intricate Face of Jesus crafted during Lent in the early 1920s, laid the foundation of a legacy rooted in sacred art.

After his passing in 1965, his sons continued this vision, dedicating their lives to crafting, restoring, and preserving religious statues and altars for churches across Mumbai and beyond. Their sculptures have since reached churches and institutions across the USA, UK, Spain, Italy, Scotland, Bahrain, Qatar, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and throughout India.



Today, the Sequeira Brothers carry this mission forward through significant altar and restoration work, with recent projects at Our Lady of Grace Church, Mount Mary Basilica, St. Andrew's Church, and major sites in Goa, Daman, and Silvassa.

What began with one man's devotion has grown into a timeless tradition of faith and artistry, with the Sequeira Brothers standing as custodians of a sacred heritage—preserving the beauty of the Church for generations, and ensuring their work continues to inspire long after words fall silent.

KAKA BAPTISTA EAST INDIAN STAR OF THE YEAR - GLENN REMEDIOS

Glenn Remedios, from Vasai, has an engineering background and a diverse career spanning pharmaceutical machinery, real estate, and his family business, Dons Farm Products. Passionate about classics, music, and literature, he has developed a distinctive style of non-contemporary writing. His debut historical fiction novel, Tides of Times, is the first in a sequel of four-hundred pages. The manuscript is under contract with a leading literary agent, with potential for traditional publishing and a movie adaptation.





EICA 2025 RECIPIENTS

34 Awards! 3 Categories! One East Indian Community!



AWARD TITLE	RECIPIENT
East Indian of the Year	Sylvester Dsouza
East Indian Entrepreneur of the Year	Warren Fernandes
East Indian Icon of the Year	Mamta Dsouza
East Indian Bank of the Year	Bassein Catholic Coop Bank Ltd
East Indian Corporate of the Year	Janus International
East Indian News Makers of the Year	Sequeira Brothers
East Indian Star of the Year	Glenn Remedious
East Indian Educationist of the Year	Regina Pereira
East Indian Advocate of the Year	Adv.Beverly Fernandes
East Indian Principal of the Year	Fr Andrew Rodrigues
East Indian Heritage Church of the Year	Mount Mary's church
East Indian Priest of the Year	Fr Peter Dcunha
East Indian Doctor of the Year	Dr Marshall Cerejo
East Indian Chartered Accountant of the Year	Dillon Pereira
East Indian Author of the Year	Dr. Albin Alphonso
East Indian Book of the Year	Pascal Lopes
Banquet Hall of the Year	Pioneer Hall
East Indian Venue of the Year	Marshall Lawns
East Indian Social Worker of the Year	Charles Dango
East Indian MLA of the Year	Sanjay Upadhyay
East Indian Historian of the Year	Saviya Lopes
East Indian Family Resort of the Year	Fonseca Resort - Gorai
East Indian Association of the Year	Candol East Indian Sanghatna
East Indian International Association of the Year	East Indian Americas
East Indian Gaothan of the Year	Matharpacady
East Indian Journalist of the Year	Dipti Singh
East Indian Culture Promoter of the Year	Rupas Bugree
East Indian Graphic Designer of the Year	Chrysologus Dmello
East Indian Bridal Designer of the Year	Levis Vaz
East Indian Interior Designer of the Year	Ralph Sampey
East Indian Videographer of the Year	Elroy Dsouza
East Indian Photographer of the Year	Darryl Baptista
East Indian Compere of the Year	Gaston Dsouza
East Indian Decorator of the Year	Sunshine Decorators



MOBAI CHE HIREY

The East Indian Star



SYLVESTER DSOUZA East Indian of the Year 2025

Written by - Rekha Jacinto, Vakola

Mr. Sylvester D'Souza stands as a shining example of dedication, vision, and selfless service — a man whose life has been beautifully intertwined with the cause of education and the upliftment of the community.

As the Chairman, Founder, and Managing Trustee of the St. Lawrence Educational & Charitable Trust, Mr. D'Souza has been the guiding light of the institution since its inception in 1990. With unwavering commitment and heartfelt passion, he has nurtured the Trust from its humble beginnings to an inspiring educational movement. Under his remarkable leadership, the Trust has blossomed into a family of institutions, including St. Lawrence Kindergarten, Primary School, High School, Junior College, and the CBSE-affiliated St. Lawrence International School. Through these institutions, he has helped shape countless young minds, instilling in them values, discipline, and excellence, and preparing them to become compassionate and responsible citizens of tomorrow.



Mr. D'Souza's influence extends far beyond the classroom. His tireless work for the betterment of society is reflected through his service as President of Lawrence Krishna Co-operative Credit Society, Director of Sankalp Siddhi Co-operative Credit Society, President of the East Indian People's Association, and as a committed member of the Finance Committee at St. Lawrence Church, Wagle Estate, Thane. Whether promoting financial empowerment or safeguarding cultural heritage, he has remained steadfast in his mission to serve and uplift the community.

In recognition of his extraordinary contributions, Mr. D'Souza has been honoured with several prestigious accolades, including the Rastriya Rattan Award, Certificate of Glorious School, Best Performer School Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award bestowed by the East Indian Community. Each honour stands as a testament to his visionary leadership, profound dedication, and transformative impact on society.

With gratitude and pride, we celebrate Mr. Sylvester D'Souza — a beacon of inspiration, a pillar of service, and a true architect of change.

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Murzello & Alphi Dsouza

Compere - Alistair D'Souza

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EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY AWARDS 2025 EICA 2025



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CELEBRATING A REVIVAL: A TRIBUTE TO MGP'S VISIONARY LEADERS

Ingrid and Neil Creado - Juhu

We are very honoured and grateful for your invitation to every function that you have for MGP. To all of you I would like to say a few words in continuation of what I said on the microphone at St Andrews Auditorium yesterday.

The three MGP founder members have created history for the entire East Indian Community. Something that was never thought of or even done for many decades. The last journal of the East Indian Community was printed in 1937 on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee giving details of names of personalities in the Community, sometimes of family members also and who they were, what they had achieved in life and done for the East Indian Community in various villages and towns of Bombay and the suburbs

Today many members of the Community, especially the younger generation, have moved out from their ancestral homes, have studied diligently and have established their own firms and businesses and have become renowned entrepreneurs not only in Bombay but in various districts towns cities and even abroad. And despite this change you have diligently located resident Els in many Countries to represent the Community, contact East Indians in various towns, engage with them, endeavour to discover their stories and do your utmost to get the whole Community together regardless of Country, County or work ethic and constantly reminding all of us in your texts, your functions and your get-togethers of our very special ancestry and heritage and history and who and what we are, connecting all of us in one grand global body to get us together to get to know each other and to assist one other in all our endeavours...

Every one of these gatherings brings out the best in them on the stage. You acclaim and present them with a token for their achievements, get people together, arrange East Indian Music Bands, East Indian food, umbrellas, shirts, lugras, calendars, an East Indian dictionary, etc...

And now you have set out about 52 new Ventures which you plan to make operative in the near future: MGP connections with banks, El Natekar for marriages, our religious and other customs such as marriage and El music EISTA, El food, the Kaka Baptista museum, sports, Business Council, our very talented Village Bands, your outreach to Els abroad, our El village Gaotans, etc.

What a wonderful vision...

Ingrid and I are genuinely enthused and delighted to be part of this amazing revival of the East Indian Community. We are confident that all three of you and your dedicated Team will be immensely successful in every one of your endeavours for the El Community

We hope and pray that this history ancestry and legacy customs and language will be inculcated and preserved and handed down to generation after generation and kept alive, vibrant and healthy for many centuries. And it is for each one of us in the community to support you in any manner that we can to achieve our East Indian Community objectives

May the Lord bless each one of you abundantly and give you the strength the courage and the determination and provide the wherewithal to continue your wonderful journey for this Community

Stay well and safe





EAST INDIAN PUNCH

The Mouthpiece of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat



SHIKSHAN SEVA ANI DEVASA AV

AAPLA SYLVESTER D'SOUZA LA SAGLYAN BESAAV

EICA 2025 - Focus on Education, Service & Religious Traditions

Gleason Barretto, Old Kurla

Selfless service to the society is one of the biggest highlights of the East Indian Community for generations. East Indian Community Awards is MGPs initiative to appreciate and honour community members who have been of great service across social, charitable, civic, professional, Entrepreneurial, religious & heritage platforms. Sylvester D'Souza who was named the East Indian of the Year 2025 is a true example of service to society across the education, social, civic, political & the East Indian Community. MGP Team focuses on being of selfless service to the East Indian Community & Gaothans through the 50+ MGP projects. For centuries & decades the East Indian Community was known for dedicated support to the Archdiocese & Maharashtra state but sadly we have not been acknowledged for our great contributions.

Education is the core factor if we want our community to grow to greater heights. ACP Mamta Lawrence D'Souza specified the importance of creating awareness for higher studies especially mentorship for IAS examinations. Warren Fernandes through New Zealand Education Advisors Ltd has launched the NZEA MGP Education fund to support potential and needy students in our community who wish to study in New Zealand. MGPs Shikshan project strives to create awareness about higher education and career opportunities and a renewed strategy and action plan is being worked out. The East Indian Community Fund initiated by MGP supports needy school & college children with financial support towards fees and education needs.

Religious traditions should be revived & restored in the Indigenous East Indian Way. The current trend is the toning down, change or cancellation of our traditional ancestral religious practices. The community hymns sung at special feasts have been restricted or stopped being sung with the support of clergy and lay heads. Procession routes are being changed or discontinued with unjustified reasons by the Parish council. The situation overall for indigenous people religious traditions in terms of language, practices, heritage & history is a concern and it's time we as a community address these issues with likeminded clergy and lay heads. On the religious side, MGP awarded Fr Peter Dcunha, Fr Andrew Rodrigues & Mount Mary's Basilica for their Initiatives & projects.

Vibrant Gaothan initiatives to protect and preserve our native residential areas is a must today. The eyes of builders and politicians is on our Gaothans and various unjust schemes like SRA are being targeted at us. MGP will review and focus on the drafts for the Gaothan Development Policy, Gaothan Housing Policy, East Indian Samaj Archdiocese - EISA Policy, Mumbai Bhumiputra Policy & Gaothan Restoration Plan along with like minded community members included in the MGP Advisory board. By 2026 year end, MGP plans to have 100+ advisors across sections like professionals, entrepreneurs, activists & religious. Meetings across with political leaders and government authorities will be lined up to resolve the long standing issues of the East Indian Community and Gaothans.

Influential Community leaders need to be projected as an inspiration or as role model. MGP will work on initiative to achieve this objective to connect with those who can help us make a difference to the community. Many of our award recipients over the last 15 years have excelled and continue to reach great heights. While they are hard pressed on time, we will try to requested them to sacrifice sometime for the community. Our international team will also be activate to get us advisory connects to build a better future for our community. We will appeal to our community members not to forget their roots and the culture practiced by their ancestors for generations.

Community markets and business platforms will encourage entrepreneurship which needs a dedicated approach to uplift and empower potential members. East Indian Business Council (EIBCo) will be reviewed and revived to promote and mentor interested entrepreneurs to launch startups. A team to plan strategy for community members to take more business initiatives will be announced. The cultural space for business themed on lugras and imitation jewellery is a welcome inclusion and we will appeal for healthy competition. The East Indian Baazaar concept has grown over the year and we plan to take it to the next level. Mobaikar Gaothan Store is yet to get active and efforts will be made to revive it across all models - online and outlets.

Entertainment though social events can help bridge the gap amongst our community and unite us in celebration. East Indian social events get a impressive response and efforts to get this same response for community issues will be taken. MGP plans to revive and promote all its entertainment themed projects like YouTube channel, music awards, food festival & East Indian day. Local groups play an important role with their annual social get-togethers and this needs to be preserved for future generations. Government support will be sought for promoting culture on the city, state and national level. Archdiocese will be requested to support all groups that approach to organise East Indian themed events. The year 2026 will be an interesting year for MGP as we enter our 16th year with loads of initiatives and projects for the betterment of the East Indian Community. The core mission will continue to be promotion and preservation of East Indian language, Culture, Tradition, Heritage, History, Existence and Identity. Your prayers and support will surely make a difference.

MGP IN THE NEWS - FREE PRESS JOURNAL

Tuesday, 7th October 2025 - Page 8
Detailed report in FPJ epaper (online)

Agera festival this year was celebrated across in a much bigger way and we thank all local Parishes, representatives and Groups who organised the festivities

We need to continue with this momentum to ensure that all within the community and outside know about the Harvest Festival of the Indigenous People of Mumbai, Bhumiputra East Indian Samaj

The FPJ online version also mentions Archbishop John Rodrigues special Agera message

MGP's target is that Agera should be covered in all prominent English and Marathi newspapers hence we appeal to all like-minded individuals and groups to support us in this plan so that all across Mumbai Metropolitan Region are aware about Agera, not just East Indians

For suggestions and feedback please WhatsApp us on 9820545302 or mail us at mgpmobai@gmail.com

East Indians celebrate Agera harvest festival

FPJ News Service
MUMBAI

East Indians, one of Mumbai's indigenous communities, celebrated Agera, their annual harvest festival, on Sunday.

In places like Gorai and Manori, where the community still preserves its agricultural and fishing traditions, the festival was marked with processions carrying a holy cross to a paddy field where the priest cut a few sheaves of paddy waiting to be harvested. In churches located in the city, the celebrations were organised with paddy brought from the villages.

People dressed in traditional attire, accompanied by a traditional brass band, carried bundles of paddy to church for a blessing. The families go back home and affix the paddy on their entrance door or place it on the altar, followed by a traditional meal and thanksgiving prayer, said Gleason Barreto, founder trustee of Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, a community association reviving traditions that were fading away.

MGP IN THE NEWS - MIDDAY

Wednesday, 8th October 2025 - Page 4

The Mobai Gaothan Panchayat (MGP) is working to promote the Agera festival, a harvest festival celebrated by the East Indian community in Mumbai. This year, the festival saw bigger celebrations across various local parishes and groups.



THE East Indian community in Mumbai celebrated the 2025 edition of Agera, a native Harvest Festival on October 5. The celebration featured over 140 Gaothans from 14 parishes and more than five lakh members of the Catholic community. "Agera is celebrated to showcase the rich cultural heritage of our community. It is held across the city, including in Andheri, Kandivali, Thane and Vasai," this district learned from Alphi D'Souza, chief of the Mobai Gaothan Panchayat, who facilitated the festival. "There is a procession where people, with a priest, fetch paddy from fields, and take it back to the nearest churches to the priest, as a form of gratitude for the harvest."

MGP's Goals:

- Increase Awareness: MGP aims to increase awareness about Agera beyond the East Indian community, targeting prominent English and Marathi newspapers for coverage.
- Community Engagement: They appeal to like-minded individuals and groups to support their plan and help spread the word about Agera.

How to Get Involved:

- Feedback and Suggestions: You can share your suggestions and feedback with MGP via WhatsApp on 9820545302 or email at mgpmobai@gmail.com.

The MGP's efforts are part of a larger movement to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of Mumbai's indigenous communities, including the East Indians. By celebrating Agera and other festivals, MGP aims to raise awareness about the community's history, culture, and contributions.

Special thanks to all parishes and groups who promoted and celebrated Agera this year.

MGP IN THE NEWS - FREE PRESS JOURNAL

Wednesday, 8th October 2025 - Page 8
Detailed report in FPJ epaper (online)

Now, name game for city airport

FPJ News Service
MUMBAI

With the state government deciding to name the Navi Mumbai International Airport after late local leader DB Patil, there is a demand to rename the domestic terminal of the Mumbai airport after freedom fighter Joseph Baptista, a member of the East Indian community, one of the original inhabitants of the city.

The East Indians have pointed out parallels in the story behind the acquisition of land for the two airports. The Navi Mumbai airport was constructed on land acquired from Agris, Kolis, and other castes. Similarly, the Mumbai airport was built on farmland belonging to East Indians who

are converts to Roman Catholicism from the same castes.

Baptista, popularly known as Kaka Baptista, an associate of Lokmanya Tilak, served as the city's mayor and as a lawyer in the Bombay High Court. Vicky Misquita, of Mobai Gaothan Panchayat's Mumbai East Indian Bhumiputra Rights project, said by renaming one of the two terminals of the airport after Baptista, the government can pay a fitting tribute to an unsung hero and acknowledge the contributions of the East Indian community to the city's development, including giving up their ancestral land for the airport and the University of Mumbai's Kalina campus.

Top 5 reasons why Santacruz Domestic Airport should be named after Kaka Baptista

- **Freedom Fighter Legacy:** Kaka Baptista was a prominent freedom fighter and close associate of Lokmanya Tilak, playing a pivotal role in India's struggle for independence. He was also a key figure in the Home Rule Movement, advocating for self-government in India.

- **Unsung Hero:** Despite his significant contributions, Baptista remains an unsung hero, deserving recognition for his unwavering commitment to the cause of freedom. Naming the airport after him would be a fitting tribute to his legacy.

- **Community Representation:** The East Indian community, to which Baptista belonged, has a rich history and significant contributions to Mumbai's growth and development. Renaming the airport after him would acknowledge the community's sacrifices, including giving up ancestral land for urban development projects.

- **Leadership and Service:** Baptista served as the Mayor of Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1925 and worked tirelessly for the betterment of society. He also successfully pushed for reforms allowing tax-paying tenants to cast their vote in municipal elections.

- **Inspirational Figure:** As a lawyer and labor leader, Baptista inspired generations with his courage and conviction. He defended notable figures like Tilak and Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, and his legacy continues to inspire people today. Naming the airport after him would inspire future generations to learn about his life and contributions.

Released at MGP's East Indian Community Awards - EICA 2025..

EAST INDIAN CALENDAR 2026

The Official Community Calendar
An MGP Publications Special Release

Calendar theme - East Indian Jewellery

Recipe Theme - Grandmothers Traditional Recipe

*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 NOTICE BOARD

The Announcements for the East Indian Community



MGP requests renaming Santacruz Domestic Airport after Kaka Baptista Bhumiputra East Indian Samaj - Agera Harvest Festival release

The Mobai Gaonthan Panchayat (MGP) paid tribute to the legendary freedom fighter Kaka Baptista on Kaka Baptista Memorial Day, September 18, 2025. On this occasion, MGP Core Team decided to demand that the Santacruz Domestic Airport in Mumbai be renamed in honor of Kaka Baptista, a stalwart from the East Indian Community.

The East Indian Community has a rich history, and their ancestral lands, including those in the Mumbai airport, are a testament to their significant contributions to the city as Indigenous People of Mumbai. The 7/12 extracts serve as proof of their ownership and connection to the land.

MGP commends the Aagri community's efforts to name the Navi Mumbai airport after DB Patil and urges the authorities to consider the immense value Kaka Baptista brought to the nation's struggle for independence.

Ten Highlights on Kaka Baptista:

Freedom Fighter Extraordinaire: Kaka Baptista played a pivotal role in India's fight for freedom.

East Indian Community Icon: He was a prominent figure in the East Indian Community, inspiring generations with his courage and conviction.

Contributions to Indian Independence: Kaka Baptista's efforts, alongside other freedom fighters like Veer Savarkar and Lokmanya Tilak, paved the way for India's independence.

Unwavering Commitment: His dedication to the cause of freedom was unwavering, making him a respected leader.

Legacy Lives On: Kaka Baptista's legacy continues to inspire people, especially the East Indian Community.

Unsung Hero: Despite his significant contributions, Kaka Baptista remains an unsung hero, deserving of recognition.

Inspiration for Future Generations: His life and achievements serve as a beacon of inspiration for future generations.

Symbol of Courage: Kaka Baptista's bravery in the face of adversity makes him a symbol of courage.

Community Leader: As a community leader, he worked tirelessly for the betterment of society.

Enduring Impact: His impact on Indian history is enduring, and his name deserves to be immortalized in the country's memory.

By renaming the Santacruz Domestic Airport after Kaka Baptista, the government can pay a fitting tribute to this unsung hero and acknowledge the significant contributions of the East Indian Community to Mumbai's growth and development.

MGP requests that the authorities consider this proposal and take necessary steps to honor Kaka Baptista's memory.

The press release was done on the occasion of Agera, the harvest festival of Mumbai's Bhumiputra East Indian Samaj. The community owned large tracts of land on the area which now occupies the Santacruz Domestic airport and the Sahar international airport. The lands were forcibly taken for the Second world war by the British with an assurance to be returned back which never happened.

Agera 2025

Aaplaa Gaav! Aaplaa Sann!

Thanks to all who made the celebrations Bigger and Better this year

Agera 2025 Highlights

A Mobai Gaonthan Panchayat Release

1. Agera celebrated at 125+ Gaonthans in Mumbai Metropolitan Region by 5 lac+ community members
2. Community Get Togethers held at 30+ Gaonthans
3. Special Video Message released by Archbishop John Rodrigues and prominent community members
4. MGP announced special press release to rename Santacruz Domestic airport after East Indian freedom fighter - Kaka Baptista
5. Majority of parishes celebrated the special Agera holy mass in state language Marathi or the community dialect East Indian
6. MGP released a special edition of the 3-fold Satir for sale
7. Attractions include Agera parade, beat groups, brass bands, food festival, traditional meals and much more
8. Traditional procession with Reklas, bullock carts and brass bands
9. Community members dressed at the traditional best especially Lugras in Reds and Greens
10. Fresh farm vegetables and fruits offered during the religious service to celebrate the Harvest Festival

MGP - Protect! Promote! Preserve!

MGP Team Policy - Municipal Elections

Support a Candidate irrespective of political party

Mumbai Bhumiputra Policy, a document with East Indian Community demands in MMR region, will be handed over the political leadership on a city/state/central level. Top demands will also be listed in the covering letter with MGPs major demands for the Indigenous People of Mumbai Metropolitan Region

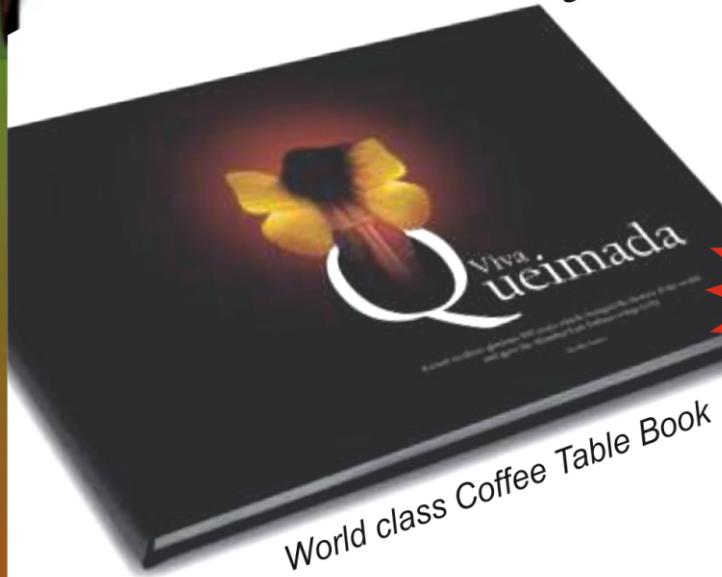
On the Municipal ward level, MGPs MAC (Municipal Area Coordinators) will connect with regional MGP Team members for their views and accordingly handover support letters or handover the Mumbai Bhumiputra Policy with regional Demands.

Team members have been requested to support a candidate that will support the future of our community, city, state and country irrespective of the political party they represent. MGP Team members can also issue a support letter in their personal capacity along with names of like-minded local team members. All members who wish to support a candidate need to inform the East Indian Core Working Team and also share a copy of the support letter. We also respect views of team members who wish to remain apolitical and don't want to support any candidate.

Support to a candidate will be purely on the lines of local projects and initiatives by the candidate or their immediate party representatives. Support may also be based on the future potential of the candidate or their immediate representatives. MGP will make a social media Announcement with candidate names who our regional team plans to support

Let's pray that the candidate and a party that is best for our community, city, state and country wins this Election.

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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 Fund generation will be actively initiated once the land is purchased or donated
- *The Chapel is likely to be opened by next year
- *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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MGP - Promoting Native Devotions



A MGP Project





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MOBAIKAR

THE GAOTHAN STORE

A Mobai Gaothan Panchayat Initiative



MOBAI GAOTHAN PANCHAYAT
EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY CHILDREN OF THE SOIL

EAST INDIAN COMMUNITY

For Gaothan Store at the museum
Collet Kinny 9167130921

Vailankanni Textile

Lugra Hai aple "East Indian chi Shaan"

- * East Indian Lugras
- * Sonkari Lugra
- * 6mtr Lugras Sarees
- * Lugra Shirts
- * Kurta & Dress Material
- * Pure Cotton Lugras



Palmira Dalmet
Mob.: 9930745461
Instagram: d_palmira28

Case De Graca, St. Francis Nagar, Karaipada, Uttan Pali Road, Bhayander (W)

KAKA BAPTISTA EAST INDIAN MUSEUM

East Indian Books & Merchandise on sale




Address -
Theresa Villa, Manori - Gorai Rd, Manori Village, Malad West, Mumbai, Maharashtra 400095

Good Shepherd Caterers

Articles on sale - East Indian food



Sunita Alphonso
9892613407



John Building, 102, Near Income Tax Office, Above Raghuvil Hotel, Naupada, Teen Hath Naka, Thane West - 400602

Vailankanni Food Cart

(BABA'S Burgers Wraps & Fries)

Articles On Sale -
Vindaloo, Sorpotel, Roast, Potato Chops, Pan Rolls, Cutlets, Burgers, Wraps, Sandwiches And Fries



Clarence Rodrigs - 8551024915
Opp Lawrence Park, Near little Rose Nursery School, Naigaon (West).

AN INVITE TO BE A PART OF MOBAIKAR GAOTHAN STORE

- * Can be operated from home, shop, festival stalls or on wheels
- * Owner can also sell things prepared or manufactured on their own or procure articles from locals for sale
- * MGP will provide books, Merchandise, home made products prepared by Self help groups and other products as decided from time to time
- * MGP will try to give around 20% against each article on sale
- * Monthly sale updates to be given by this Gaothan shop owners
- * Self help groups especially those local ones can use this mode actively
- * Owners to display the board provided by MGP to promote this Gaothan store concept
- * Product list to be provided by MGP monthly or as needed from time to time
- * A Display board will be provided by MGP
- * MGP will also provide support for promotion material and promote the concept on social media platforms and its monthly magazine

Those interested in being a part of the Mobaikar store concept or the Self Help Group can WhatsApp us on 8886225903 / 9820545302



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