



SIRO Organization



GJ/2018/0185365

Registered with the Ministry of
Corporate Affairs

CSR00013950

Annual Report

2024–2025



Gujarat Ecology Society

Synergy House, Subhanpura Vadodara - 390 023, Gujarat, India

Email: info@gesindia.org, Website: www.gesindia.org

Mobile: +91 76629 59875

THE ORGANISATION

Gujarat Ecology Society (GES) is a non-profit organization registered in January 1995 under the Bombay Public Trust Act and the Societies Registration Act. GES is being managed by prominent individuals from diverse disciplines with a proven commitment to environmental conservation and ecological restoration. GES derives its strength from networking and integrating the inputs from associates and eminent visiting scientists and specialists in distinct disciplines from various agencies in the country in general and Gujarat in particular.

Mission: “To pursue, promote and disseminate knowledge, information, and processes that enable conservation, restoration, and development of natural resources concerning their ecological sustainability”.

- Notified Under Section 35(1)(ii) of the Income-tax Act, 1961.
- Recognized as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Government of India
- Registered under The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976
- Member of the [International Union for Conservation of Nature](#)

BOARD MEMBERS

SHRI SAMIR PARIKH, CHAIRMAN

DR. VIREN J PATEL, VICE CHAIRMAN

SHRI PRADEEP KHANNA, BOG MEMBER

Dr. DATTA MADAMWAR, BOG MEMBER

PROF. ANJANA DESAI, BOG MEMBER

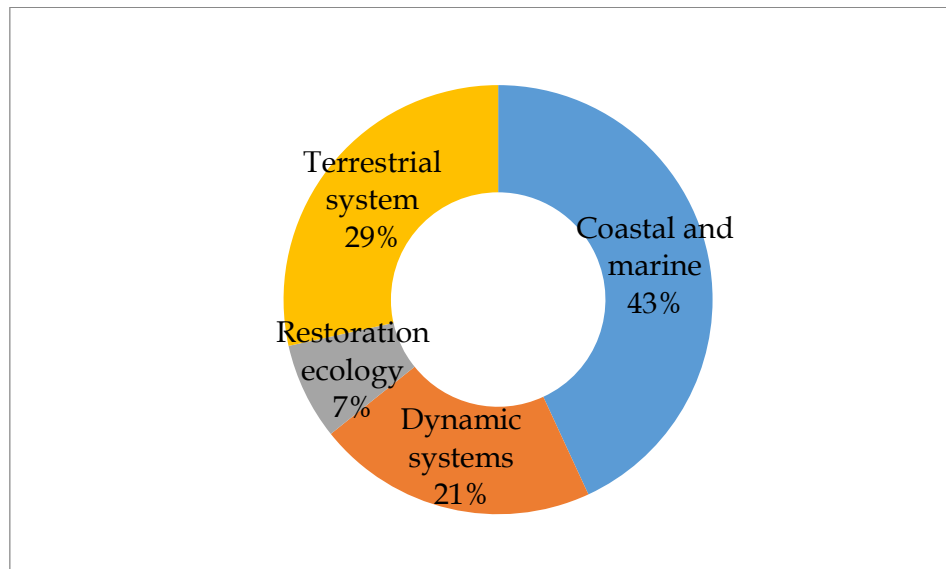
DR. DEEPA J GAVALL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THRUST AREAS

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Coastal and Marine Ecology
- Dynamic Ecology
- Restoration Ecology



Since its inception, GES has completed 120 projects addressing



OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

- Undertake ecological and environmental research, education, training, and extension activities
- Promote ecological and environmental awareness among the various stakeholders
- Undertake and implement programmes for ecological restoration projects
- Collaborate with local/state/National Institutions to fulfil the objectives of the Society

STRENGTH

Creating a multidisciplinary ecological database is considered one of the main components of all programs of GES. The Society has, on its rolls, a team of highly qualified and experienced professionals/scientists, on subjects like

- Environmental Sciences
- Marine Sciences
- Wildlife science
- Biostatistics
- Botany
- Zoology
- Geology
- Hydrogeology
- Aquatic sciences



CURRENT YEAR PROGRAMMES

The brief description of the Society's activity for the year 2024-25 under the various programs is described briefly below.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

IMPACT STUDY OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY ON BIODIVERSITY.

(Duration: March 2025 – February 2026, 1 year)

The project is sponsored by Rubamin Pvt. Ltd. with the main objectives: (i) to assess the impact of industrial activity on biodiversity at Halol and Nandesari plant, (ii) to create a baseline biodiversity status for the Delol plant and Art Museum location. (iii) Evaluate the impact of biodiversity conservation at Udaan.



COASTAL AND MARINE

MARINE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING FOR IN THE INSHORE WATERS OF GULF OF KHAMBHAT, OFF DAHEJ PLANT, SURROUNDING TO EFFLUENT DISCHARGE POINT OF HINDALCO INDUSTRIES LIMITED

(Duration: October 2024 - March 2025, 6 months)



Gujarat Ecology Society (GES) is engaged in regular monitoring of the marine environment around submarine outfalls and jetty installations of Hindalco Industries Ltd. (Unit: Birla Copper) since 2000.

Monitoring of water, sediment, and biological parameters was undertaken from upstream and downstream locations of the outfall point. The results followed the standards prescribed by GPCB.

DYNAMIC ECOLOGY

IMPACT OF PROPOSED WATER HARVESTING STRUCTURES IN 12 URBAN BODIES IN GUJARAT. Tenure 4 months (December 2024 – March 2025)

The project involves assessing the proposed structures as part of the groundwater aquifer recharge study sponsored by the Gujarat Urban Development Mission (GUDM) for 12 sites. The objective of the study includes assessing the Environmental and Social Impact of the proposed structures in the Urban Local Bodies (ULB) and preparation of the Environmental Management document.

The following activities were completed within the project: (i) Condition of the existing groundwater recharge structures in all the 12 ULBs, (ii) Interaction with the local community on the status of groundwater and problems faced, (iii) Preparation of Environment Social Impact document for the proposed structures.



CONSERVATION OF LAKE MOHAN, JHAGADIYA, BHARUCH DISTRICT

(Duration: October 2024 – November 2025, 1 year)

The project involved bank stabilization of Lake Mohan using vetiver grass and an awareness programme among the residents on the importance of wetlands and their conservation.

Vetiver grass was procured (20,000 tubers) and planted on the edge of the pond to stabilize the banks. The grass established and grew in tufts around the lake. The weeds were regularly removed from the plantation area. Orientation programme and drawing competition on the importance of the wetlands and its ecology among the residents of nearby societies.



RESTORATION ECOLOGY

INSTALLING SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS (STP) WITH THE NANO EFFLUENT TREATMENT SYSTEM IN THE TWO VILLAGES, NANDIDA & AKHOD (Duration: April 2024 - March 2025, 1 year)

The project was sponsored by Neogen Chemicals Ltd., Dahej, under the CER activities. The project aimed to include installing sewage treatment plants (STP) with the nano effluent treatment system in the two villages and reusing the water for other purposes.

The objective of the project included (i) to install sewage treatment plants in the two villages and reuse the water for other purposes. (ii) To monitor the water treated and the efficacy of the same to be used for other purposes.

The project involved active participation and coordination of the respective Panchayats and Swachh Bharat Mission, Vagra taluka. A 5 KLD STP plant was installed in both the villages, which had three step treatment facility. Herbal formulation was used in the last treatment phase, and the water quality post-treatment was monitored regularly. The treated water was found to be of good quality, useful for agricultural purposes. To achieve sustainability, the STP plants were run on solar installations, and the villages benefited from the STP installations.

Akhod village then increased the capacity of the STP plant to 7 KLD in response to demand from the new society in the village. The operation STP plant was visited by taluka-level and district-level officers of Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, and Narmada districts at various intervals.



PLANTATION AT NANDIDA VILAGE , TALUKA VAGRA

(Duration: April 2024 - March 2025, 1 year)

NEOGEN has assigned GES to carry out CER activities for the establishment of a 2200 Tree Plantation at Nandida village of Vagra Taluka, Bharuch District, Gujarat. The project includes tree plantation on the open lands of the Nandida village, to improve the green cover and enhance the roosting sites of the birds.

The project involved close association and coordination between the local community and GES. Following activities were carried out during the project implementation (i) removal of *Prosopis juliflora*, exotic invasive species from the common land identified for plantations (ii) Procurement of saplings of native species, and about 24 species were planted (iii) Plantations involving the school children and adults of the village (iv) Regular manuring, watering, and monitoring of the saplings. (v) Soil health was monitored throughout the project duration.

To ensure protection and involvement of the local community post completion of the project, orientation and awareness camps were conducted for the school children and the pastoral community of the village. A drawing competition and seed ball camp were also conducted as part of the project activity.

The project benefited from the greening of the area and the improvement in the biodiversity of the village. Additionally, the removal of *Prosopis* led to the development of good grass cover, which the local community collected from the intervention area.



HASMUKH SHAH MEMORIAL AWARDS AND LECTURE EVENTS

Hasmukh Shah Memorial Awards, a total of 79 applications were received. The short-listed candidates made a final presentation on 27th September 2024 before the esteemed judges. The Naman House team provided technical assistance to host the online presentations of 12 candidates, which went off hassle-free and within the time scheduled.

To celebrate the legacy and vision of our founder Chairman, Late Shri Hasmukh Shah, the Third lecture of the Hasmukh Shah Memorial Lecture Series was organized on the 9th of November at the FGI Auditorium by the Gujarat Ecology Society. The keynote speech for this event was given by Dr. Anish Shah, Group CEO and MD of Mahindra Group. Dr. Shah delivered a lecture on “Sustainability – Climate Change and Biodiversity”. The prominent academican, columnist, and Author Prof. Vidyut Joshi Chaired the session.



Following the lecture, 4 researchers and 4 practitioners from different parts of India were awarded this year's Hasmukh Shah Memorial Awards for ecological studies for their excellent contributions in the field of ecology.

WINNERS -RESEARCH CATEGORY

1. **Hariprasad V M**, from IIT Bombay, Topic *“Linear infrastructures, protected areas and wildlife policies from 1994–2024: Understanding the multiple impacts of linear infrastructure intrusions passing through protected areas in India”*
2. **Milda David** from SACON, Topic, *“Coimbatore Mapping critical corridors of large mammals to foster human–wildlife coexistence”*

JURY RECOGNITION -RESEARCH CATEGORY

1. **Devanshi Joshi**, from GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Topic, *“Impact Assessment of Coral Reef Ecosystem with Special Reference to Climate Change and Carbon Sequestration”*
2. **Sayali Narukar**, from Srushity Foundation, Pune, Topic, *“Konkan's Coastal Guardians: Inspiring Marine Conservation Stewardship”*

WINNERS -PRACTITIONER CATEGORY

1. **Rajesh Shah**, from VIKAS Centre for Development, Ahmedabad, Topic, *“Great Green Wall of Gujarat: Combating Climate Change through Establishing a community-led Bio-shield along the coast of Gujarat, India”*
2. **Sanjay Patil**, from BAIF Foundation, Pune, Topic, *“Community-led Conservation & Management of Agrobiodiversity for Climate Change, Nutritional Security and Livelihood”*

JURY RECOGNITION -PRACTITIONER CATEGORY

1. **Prachi Kshirsagar**, from Modern College of Arts, Topic, *“ Science and Commerce, Ganeshkhind, Pune Restoring the ecological balance of Pushkarni (Kund) and Ramnadi near Pashan-Baner, Someshwar Temple complex, Pune”*
2. **Usha Rajgopalan**, from PNLIT, Bengaluru, Topic, *“PUTTENAHALLI LAKE: A Successful Model of Citizen Participation in Urban Lake Conservation”*

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were achieved through various projects.



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development



Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss.



Achieving a better and more sustainable future for all.

WEBINARS ORGANISED

Gujarat Ecology Society has launched a monthly webinar series on ecology and nature conservation, inviting experts to deliver lectures on their areas of expertise.

- 1 *"India's Wetlands – Lifelines of Our Future"* to celebrate World Wetland Day on 3rd February 2025 by Dr. Jayendra Lakhmapurkar, Director (Acting), Gujarat Ecology Society
- 2 *"Conservation Technology: Emerging Practices and Career"* to celebrate World Wildlife Day on 11 March 2025, Dr. Arpit Deomurari, Conservation Scientist

INVOLVEMENT AS AN EXPERT

1. Dr. Deepa Gavali was invited by the Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management, Gandhinagar to deliver a lecture on *Nature-based solutions (nbs) for cyclone risk reduction* as part of the Virtual training program on “Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for Cyclone Risk Reduction” on 27th May 2024.
2. Dr. Deepa Gavali was invited by the Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management, Gandhinagar to deliver a lecture on *Understanding Coastal Vulnerabilities* as part of the Virtual Training Program On “Strengthening Coastal Resilience in Gujarat” on 30th September 2024.
3. Dr. Deepa Gavali was invited by the Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management, Gandhinagar, to deliver a lecture on “Understanding Integrated Coastal Zone Management”, Residential Training Program, DRR in ICZM: Enhancing resilience and sustainability in Coastal Gujarat.

TRAINING ORGANIZED

The seed ball preparation camp was organized for the school children at Nandita village using local grass and compost. The seed balls were then broadcast in the restoration sites.

DISSERTATION AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAMMES

DISSERTATION

1. Harcsh Kumar, MURP, MS University of Baroda, completed his dissertation on “*Biophilic Urbanism: Integrating Nature-based solutions to address Air Quality: New Delhi*”, guided by Neha Sarwate (M S University) and Deepa Gavali

INTERNSHIP

Gujarat Ecology Society encourages summer internship programmes as part of its extension activities, and five students have benefited from them.

1. Ms Divya Jadav, Ms Ankita Jena and Ms Kausar Pathan, BSc (Zoology), 2nd year, M S University of Baroda

MEDIA COVERAGE

લોક ઉપયોગ માટે સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ પ્લાન્ટ વસાવતું ગુજરાત ના બે ગામ અખોર અને નંદીદા

ભરૂચ ના SDM શ્રીમતી નૈતિકા પટેલ ના હસ્તે સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ પ્લાન્ટ વિધિવત રીતે મુહર્ત કરાયું



વાગરા તાલુકા ના ગામ અખોર અને નંદીદા માં નવતર પ્રયોગ

ભરૂચ, શિખર સંદેશ નક્કી કરી ગામ પંચાયત માં મુહર્ત કરવા માં આવ્યું. આ એ શુભ મુહર્ત જોઈ ઉદઘાટન કરવા માં આવ્યું

વાગરા તાલુકાના બે ગામ અખોર ઠરાવ લઈ સરકાર પાસે માંગ સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ પ્લાન્ટ થી ગામ આખા નું ગંદુ પાણી જે નકામું જેમાં મુખ્ય અતિથિ ભરૂચ અને નંદીદા માં સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ મૂકી. સાથે સાથે ગામ ના વિકાસ ને ગામ ને સુંદર બનાવવા ના વહી જતું હતું તેને કિલ્ટર કરી જિલ્લા એસ ડી એમ શ્રીમતી પ્લાન્ટ ગામના સરપંચ શ્રી ને ગામ ને ભાગ રૂપે ગામની બાજુ માં ગામ ના ખેડૂતો વાપરી શકે, નૈતિકા પટેલ નિયોજન કંપની નરેન્દ્રસિંહ એ યુ ટ્યુબ માં નિયોજન કંપની અને એસ આર પખાજન ગુજરાત ઇન્કોલોજી ગામ ના ગંદા પાણી નો નિકાલ સી અંતર્ગત કામ કરતી સંસ્થા ગામ ના તલાટી કે એને લોકઉપયોગ માં કરી રીતે ગુજરાત ઇન્કોલોજી વડોદરા ના કમ મંત્રી કિશ્રાબેન હલપાતી એમને પોતાના જ ગામ ના ગંદા સહિયારા પ્રયાસ ને આજ રોજ ગામ ના બહાર ગંદા પાણી ના ગામ ના સરપંચ. પરેશભાઈ વિચાર્યું અને એ માટે સુએજ કાંસ ઉપર સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ ગામ ની બહાર ગંદા પાણી ના પરમાર ગામ લોકો ઉપસ્થિત ટ્રીટમેન્ટ પ્લાન્ટ વિકસાવવા નું પ્લાન્ટ મૂકી તેનું વિધિવત રીતે રહી સુએજ ટ્રીટમેન્ટ પ્લાન્ટ નું મુહર્ત કરવા માં આવ્યું.

THE STAFF

Name	Designation
Dr. Jayendra J Lakhmapurkar	Acting Director
Dr. Deepa J Gavali	Deputy Director
Dr. Sonia Thadani	Assistant Director
Shri Bipin Gala	Accountant
Shri Bhupindra Patel	Field associate
Shri Mansingh	Field Assistant

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to Rubamin Pvt.Ltd, Birla Copper, Say Tress, and Neogen Chemicals for funding research studies carried out during the year.