



Government Arts College, Maninagar
In collaboration with
Government Science College, Maninagar
Proudly Announces

ONE DAY SYMPOSIUM ON

**FROM AWARENESS TO ACTION:
 YOUTH-DRIVEN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP**



25/02/2026

: Venue :

**College Auditorium,
 Shri KK Shastri Educational Campus,
 Khokhra, Ahmedabad**

: Sponsored by :

**Commissionerate of Higher Education
 and Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat**

Concept Note

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges faced by the world today. It affects the environment, economies, and communities everywhere. Young people are especially impacted by its effects. Although many young people understand the problem and are making efforts towards climate advocacy and creative sustainable solutions, there is still a gap between awareness and real, lasting action. This symposium aims to close that gap by giving young leaders the skills, support, and connections they need to turn their ideas into practical solutions that benefit their communities.

This seminar would serve as a catalytic platform to transform climate consciousness into coordinated, youth-led action. By amplifying youth voices and fostering collaboration, the symposium aims to nurture a new generation of climate leaders capable of shaping a resilient and sustainable future.

: PROGRAMME :

- Registration/ breakfast : 9 to 10 am
- Key note session : 10:30 am to 11:45 am
(Shri Uday Vora)(IFS)
- Plenary session 1 : 11:45 am to 12:30 Pm
(Shri Mahesh singh)(IFS)
- Poster presentations : 12:30 TO 1:30 PM
- Lunch break : 12: 30 to 1:30 PM
- Plenary session 2 : 2 to 3:30 pm
(Shri lokendra balasariya)
- Plenary session 3 : 3:30 pm to 4:30
(Dr . Janki shah)
- Valedictory Session : 4:30 to 5:30

: REGISTRATION :

Registration form link
<https://forms.gle/h1MfABmgJXxyXJx8>



: KEY NOTE SPEAKER :



SHRI UDAY VORA
Retd. IFS

Shri Uday Vora is a well-known wildlife expert among the officers of the Gujarat Forest Department. He superannuated as Chief Conservator of Forests from the Gujarat Forest Department in 2017 and was subsequently reappointed until 15 July 2019.

Mr. Vora played a pivotal role in the declaration of eight wetlands under the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) scheme titled "Wetlands of National Importance," as well as in securing the designation of

Nal Sarovar as a Ramsar Site. Since the inception of the biannual waterbird census in 1992, he served as the Technical Coordinator for all such censuses conducted at Nal Sarovar and Thol Bird Sanctuaries in Gujarat. He was also appointed as Expert Member (Ecology) on the National Wetland Committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), Government of India, serving from 2018 to 2021.

Currently, he serves as the National Chairman of the Environment Committee of the Youth Hostels Association of India.

: PLENARY SPEAKER :



MR. LOKENDRA BALASARIA
ARCHITECT, URBAN PLANNER & URBAN ECOLOGIST

Mr. Lokendra Balasaria is an architect, urban planner, and urban ecologist committed to advancing regenerative ecology in urban development. A graduate of CEPT University in Architecture (1990) with a Postgraduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning (1995), he spent three decades in design practice, founding and leading LaSpazio Design Consultancy until 2020.

Through his community initiative, TREEWALKS, he now works full-time on nature-based urban action programs across four cities in Gujarat. His work promotes regenerative soil practices, home food growing, microhabitats for biodiversity, rainwater consumption, and the use of natural healing plants, fostering ecologically resilient urban communities.

: PLENARY SPEAKER :



DR. JANKI SHAH
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR,
SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES AND TRADITIONS AT
CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION,
AHMEDABAD

Dr. Janki Shah is Programme Director – Sustainable Lifestyles and Traditions at the Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Ahmedabad. She holds a Ph.D. in Climate Change Adaptation and Sustainable Livelihoods from CEPT University and a Master's degree in Environmental Sciences.

With over 18 years of experience in the development sector, she has worked on

water and agriculture, climate change adaptation, biodiversity, and sustainability education. Her work focuses on promoting Indian traditional practices for climate resilience and sustainable development. She has co-authored books including Gujarat Ni Parampara: Climate-Friendly Practices of the State and Parampara Aur Paryavaran – Sustainability in Handloom Traditions of India, and serves as Associate Editor of the Journal of Education for Sustainable Development (JESD).

: PLENARY SPEAKER :



Mr. Mahesh Singh
Retd. IFS

Mr. Mahesh Singh is a distinguished Indian Forest Service officer recognized for his impactful leadership across forestry, urban development, water management, education, energy, and rural industries in Gujarat. He led the Gir Protected Area to national recognition as the "Best Managed Protected Area," played a key role in large-scale solid waste management and housing projects, and strengthened statewide drinking water supply systems benefiting millions. He has also contributed significantly to primary education reforms, power distribution excellence, promotion of handicrafts and agro-industries, and environmental sustainability initiatives. His career reflects a strong commitment to sustainable and inclusive development.