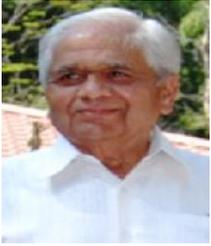




## INDIAN ROSE FEDERATION

### MONTHLY ELECTRONIC - NEWSLETTER – VOLUME – 24.



#### Presidents Page

Dear Rosarians,

My trip to Kolkata was quite hectic, with a visit to Shanti Park then getting busy with the All India Convention and Rose Show, it was a pleasure meeting so many of my rose friends and growers from our Country and abroad, we Indians are not lagging behind at all, even in far off countries, we have a name to reckon with, take the instance of Mr. Suresh Prabhu from United States, it was great to hear his ardent love for roses and that he is regular on the show benches winning accolades, I personally thank him for being with us, Kelvin Trimper and Helga Brichet too were bewildered to see the pots of roses loaded up with brilliant high quality blooms, which they both agreed that it was something unique. A meeting was held on the evening of 6<sup>th</sup> January between WFRS – IRF and AHSI, since AHSI will be holding the World Regional Conference in 2020, already sanctioned by WFRS, quite a lot of deliberations took place which were very fruitful.

Coming back to Pune I got busy with the arrangements for the Annual Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Show of the Empress Garden, which is headed by me, this show is attended by a huge crowd of approximately 75,000 during the four days, it started off on 26<sup>th</sup> of January to 29<sup>th</sup> of January - 2017. between this show I dashed off to Hyderabad as my very dear Ahmed Alam Khan had kept a show on the 28<sup>th</sup> January - 2017, this show was class by itself, a live show of the garden itself, no cut flowers on the benches, but on the plants and in the garden, this was followed by the grand lunch in a true nawabi style, which he had hosted for invitees, over here too I met rose lovers coming from all over India . Lastly I congratulate the MP Rose Society team for organizing a visit to rose gardens of Bhopal, such trips I must say build very strong bonds of friendship

Warm regards,

Suresh Pingale

## EDITORIAL.



Hello Members,

Good news for the members Andhra Rose Society has finalized the dates of the Convention and have already forwarded the letter of confirmation for the 2018 Convention, it will be Vijayawada, the next destination for forth coming 36<sup>th</sup> All India Rose Convention and the dates are 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of December - 2017, quite a lot of work has been done by the members of the newly formed Society, one rose garden is already complete, with due support coming from the Honorable Chief Minister of Andhra, Shri. Chandra Babu Naidu, an ardent lover of nature and one more rose garden in the pipeline, Andhra Rose Society is being managed by a group of 50 ladies, that is remarkable at last the ladies have taken up the mantle, I wish them all the best for a successful Convention and rose show.

I came across my school days friend who has shifted to Iran after selling his Irani Hotel and bakery, he gave me a surprise visit to my office and it was pleasure meeting him after twenty long years, he brought with him a box of sweets, which he offered it to me, the box contained "Mashghati" which is a famous Halwa made out of rose petals, rose water, jaggery and covered with pistachios, it was delight having the delicacy with the strong aroma of roses, though very sweet but delicious and a bottle of Iran rose water, Parvez my friend discussed with me at length how important roses are out there in their daily life, the rose water is used in practically all the sweet dishes made in Iran.

Well this reminds me of a show Mumbai Rose Society and Dadar Bhagini Samaj, had organized together where some 57 delicacies were kept in a competition and was judged by the Chefs of Leela Hotels, as also at the Pune Rose Society show where cuisines made with roses were kept, I think we should collect the recipes from the participants and come out with a booklet on this aspect.

regards

Arshad Bhiwandiwalla.

## THE 35<sup>TH</sup> ALL INDIA ROSE CONVENTION & ROSE SHOW - KOLKATA 2017

Report by M. B. GUIN (35<sup>th</sup> All India Rose Convention & Rose show's Organising Secretary)

The 35<sup>th</sup> All India Rose Convention of the IRF was organised from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> January 2017 by the Bengal Rose Society in collaboration with the Agri Horticultural Society of India at the latter's establishment at 1, Alipore, Kolkata – 700 027.

The President and Hon. Secretary of the IRF with other office bearers respectively made the occasion ornate with their presence. So did 297 delegates, mostly from various parts of our country. Delegates attended from Bhopal, Nagpur, Pune, Mumbai, Haryana, Amaravati, Chandigarh, Ooty, Ranchi & Jamshedpur, International participation from Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Italy, Australia and United States.

A good number of social media friends of the BRS also joined this wonderful convention, which is trend a new. The icing of the cake was the presence of Mr. Kelvin Trimper, the President of the WFRS and Madam Helga Bricet, Chairperson Convention Liaison of WFRS was accompanied by our own, the President Emeritus of the IRF as well as WFRS, Vice President – Central Asia, Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan. Receiving prizes from their hands at the twilight zone on 6<sup>th</sup> instant appeared to be a lifetime experience and great honour for the contestants.

Around 1,600 cut roses from different parts of the country entered the competition in 8 Divisions, divided in 70 Classes. There were 10 classes for floral art and a class for rose photographs was also assigned. 387 pot roses entered the fray in 4 Divisions as well as 35 Classes.

- King of the show - BLUE OCEAN by Ashish More.
- Queen of the show - BOGOTTI by Swasti Samanta.
- Prince of the show - SUMMER SNOW by Ashish More.
- Princess of the show - CHATILLON Rose by Ashish More.
- Best Indian Rose of the show - MIDNAPORE DELIGHT by Basudeb Chatterjee.
- MONALISA took the honour of best large flowered pot (at a time about 157 flowers) by Nilesh Mojumder.
- FANTASIA became the best clustered flowered one by Jayanta Pait.
- BAHURUPI won the ribbon for best Indian bred rose by Jayanta Pait.

Whereas the laurel which was reserved for the best tiny rose went to "LIBBI" by Debnath Banerjee.

The emerald lawn of the Agri Horticultural Society was glittering with Bengal's, famous soilless pot roses. Not less than 123 pots were there with more than 100 blooms in each at the same time, sparkling in the sun. It was looking quite magnificent and everyone was really amazed by its beauty which was glazed through everyone's eyes.

We are happy to proclaim that this program couldn't have been possible without our rose

master and of course pride of our Nation, Mr. Sanjay Mukherjee. After 10 years of hard work, dedication he has achieved a lot in the field. The Rose show event planning, graphic design, inviting and receiving guest, he made it possible with his small team. He alone did it. He is a true one man army.

Sanjay Mukherjee had visited 80% of the growers places personally himself and had also set a feeding plan for the plants. which he is doing since 2006. Maximum growers were under his guidance as well and all the displayed potted roses were pruned by him.

Mr. Debasish Bal, Mr. Tapan Das and Mr. Amit Dey. Mr. Tushar K. Mehta, Dr. B. Saha, Dr. Debasish Roy also played an important and responsible role.

Our special guest of the event Mr. Kelvin Trimper (President of World Federation of Rose Society) gave a heart - warming speech at the dais. He said, "To all my Indian friends, thank you for your heart warming welcome at your convention and rose show. The potted roses on display are among the best I have ever seen anywhere in the World. Congratulations Sanjay Mukherjee and I hope we can share your skills with the rest of the World"

As per tradition, a seminar was arranged on the second morning where qualified speakers elucidated different aspects of Rose breeding, culture, rosafari and Rose commerce. The speakers helped a lot of people through their speech and some were also quite motivated by their speeches. The seminar was very well attended with appreciative delegates. The seminar was next to impossible to take place without our respected members, Dr. Kalyan Chakrabarty and Mr. Amitava Mukherjee.

The day of the convention started pretty early. The opening ceremony was held at 4.00 pm. The Honourable Governor, His Excellency, Mr. Kesharinath Tripathy, Convention Chairman, Mr. Sumit Mazumder and Convention President, Mr. S. B. Mookherjee arrived and began the ribbon cutting ceremony, the convention was started by him along with foreign guests. Mr. Pranabir Maity received the Vijay Pokarna Gold Medal award 2017 and Mr. B. S. Thipse received the Gurubaksh Singh Gold Medal award 2017 from the Hon'ble Governor Mr. Kesharinath Tripathy.

The second day of the event was free for School / College / Autistic children's. We arranged a Sit & Draw Competition, too. It was free for them because the children of new generation should know about it and also care about it. It also had two major events. The first event was the prize giving ceremony of the potted rose growers. The prizes were given by the respected and honourable guests, Mr. Kelvin Trimper, Madam Helga Brichet, Mr. Ahmed Alam Khan, Dr. Satish Prabhu, Mr. & Mrs. Viraraghavan and Mr. Suresh Pingale. The second and the last event of the day was held at the night. It had a presentation on How to judge roses and it was presented by Americans Rose Society's honourable judge, Dr. Satish Prabhu.

The third and final day was earmarked for a nursery visit. The willing delegates were transported to Jakpur, which was arranged by the BRS, to one of the prominent nursery belts in Bengal. The nursery is called Pushpanjali which was visited by almost 80 members

and delegates. There were also 78 members and delegates who visited Eco Park which is located in Kolkata. The arrangement was held there so that they could notice the daily activities in the rose nurseries and the local flower show. There everyone could see the environment of the nursery as well as how carefully the roses were bred.

It was quite sad to end this beautiful convention. People were enjoying this wonderful convention so much but they had to say goodbye to this beautiful event. It had to end at last but the feeling remains, this is no end, actually it's a usher of a new beginning. This convention will always remain in everyone's heart and soul.



Inaugural Address by President Emeritus Ahmed Alam Khan with IRF President Suresh Pingale and Chairperson Convention Liaison, WFRS, Mrs. Helga Brichet.



President IRF, Suresh Pingale releasing the newly bred rose named after the President of India, christened as "President Pranab"





"Suvra Mukherjee" released at the occasion in memory of the Late wife of President of India.

Some Exhibits



A view of Show area



Photos Courtesy Mr. Ashok Ghosh

## M. P. Rose Society a Report by Vice President, Mr. S. S. Gadre

Past President of M. P. Rose Society, Mr. Sushil Prakash proposed that we should organise a visit to Best Gardens of Bhopal for Executive Members and the competitors of Garden competition held during the Rose show, which will help the fellowship and will bring togetherness. This was accepted and accordingly a visit was organised on Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> February - 2017. A bus was arranged in which around 30 members visited 7 Best gardens of Bhopal including the prestigious Vidhan Sabha Garden, which is normally NOT open for public. At the end of the visit lunch was also served by the Society.

This was very much appreciated by one and all members. The result was that it was decided that this should be made as a yearly mandatory event and the scope may be increased. We hope that this idea of visiting the Gardens may be useful for other Rose Societies as well.

This initiative to promote fellowship and friendship amongst the members while giving them information and instructions on roses is praiseworthy. I request my colleagues and office bearers in numerous rose societies to follow and emulate this method to promote fellowship and bonhomie through such visits to gardens.



A Painting in China Museum Past Presidents of WFRS