

Name of the Department: Botany

- **A. Title of the Workshop/Activity:** National Level Fungal Photography Competition 2022: Mesmerising Fungi
- **B. Background:** The 'Mesmerising Fungi' photography competition was an exciting event held on World Fungus Day, 2nd October 2022, organised by the department of Botany in collaboration with Association of Fungal Biologists (AFB), bringing together photography enthusiasts and nature lovers from all corners of India. The competition was kept open to participants two weeks before the results were declared on World Fungus Day. The department also conducted Webinar lectures along with declaration of result for the photography competition on the same day.

Fungi, often overlooked and underappreciated, took centre stage during this competition, offering a unique opportunity to explore their extraordinary beauty and diversity through the lens of a camera. The competition aimed to showcase the captivating world of fungi, encouraging participants to capture stunning images that revealed the mesmerizing forms, vibrant colours, intricate textures, and intriguing habitats of these often-misunderstood organisms.

Participants were encouraged to unleash their creativity, using various photography techniques to capture the essence of fungi. Whether it was macro photography highlighting the intricate details of mushroom caps, wide-angle shots showcasing the vastness of fungal colonies, or artistic compositions revealing the interplay of light and shadow.

The 'Mesmerising Fungi' competition served as a platform for photographers to share their passion for nature and fungi. It aimed to foster a deeper appreciation for fungi, illuminating their importance in ecological processes such as decomposition, nutrient cycling, and symbiotic relationships. The captivating images captured during the competition provided valuable visual data for researchers studying fungi and their habitats, enabling a better understanding of their distribution, biodiversity, and ecological roles.

- C. Aims/Objectives: The objective of the photography competition titled 'Mesmerising Fungi' conducted on World Fungus Day was to celebrate the beauty and diversity of fungi through captivating visual storytelling. The competition aimed to encourage photographers from around the world to showcase their artistic skills and highlight the fascinating world of fungi. By capturing the mesmerizing forms, vibrant colors, intricate textures, and unique habitats of fungi, this competition sought to raise awareness about the importance of fungi in our ecosystem and their significant role in nature's balance. Through the power of photography, participants were invited to uncover the hidden enchantment of fungi and inspire a deeper appreciation for these often-overlooked organisms.
- **D.** Location: MS Teams (Online)
- **E.** Target audience/participants with expected number: Students (UG and PG), Research Scholars, Faculty and Scientists; Expected number: 90
- **F. Date of the activity:** Start of Competition: 15/09/2022; Declaration of Result: 02/10/2022
- **G. Name of Resource Persons:** The following eminent personalities were invited to judge the photography competition:
 - Dr. Shilpa Verekar (Head, Central Quality Assurance Laboratory, Parle Agro Pvt. Ltd.)
 - Dr. Parvish Pandya (Trainer & Visiting Faculty at Consultant in IB, CIE & AP Curricula; Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, Bhavan's College Andheri)
- **H. Outcome/Feedback:** The photography competition received an overwhelming response from researchers, scientists, students and faculty alike. Participants showcased their incredible talent and artistic vision, capturing the captivating beauty and diversity of fungi.

The competition judges faced the delightful challenge of evaluating a vast array of exceptional entries. They were impressed by the level of creativity, technical skill, and attention to detail demonstrated by the participants.

The winning photographs were a testament to the power of photography in revealing the hidden enchantment of fungi. The winners were decided from each category which comprised of Category A of Students, Category B of Researchers Scholars, and Category C of Faculty / Scientists. As the competition was online, all the photographs were shown to the participants and attendees of the World Fungus Day webinar lecture series, through a PowerPoint presentation.

The winners were as follows:

Category A (Students):

- 1st Prize: Sakshi Viraj Save (Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune)
- 2nd Prize: Tazeen Akbar Ali Khan (Maharashtra College of Arts Science and Commerce, Mumbai)

Category B (Research Scholars):

- 1st Prize: Medha Timmanna Bhat (Davangere University, Karnataka)
- 2nd Prize: Arya C. P. [Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (JNTBGRI)]

Category C (Faculty / Scientists):

- 1st Prize: Kuldeep Janardan Mhatre (Seva Sadan's R K Talreja College of Arts, Science and Commerce-Ulhasnagar)
- 2nd Prize: Paras Nath Singh (Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra)

Additionally, several entries received honourable mentions for their exceptional creativity, unique perspectives, and artistic interpretation of the theme.

The competition's impact extended beyond the realm of art and photography. The stunning images served as a visual reminder of the intricate connections between humans, nature. Through the competition, more individuals developed a curiosity and appreciation for fungi, leading to increased efforts in research, conservation, and education about these remarkable organisms. Overall, the outcome of the 'Mesmerising Fungi' photography competition left a lasting impact, illuminating the beauty and importance of fungi while nurturing a global community of photographers and nature enthusiasts dedicated to capturing the wonders of the natural world.

I. Funding if any: (Mention the name of the funding agency and amount received): NA

J. Annexures:

i. List of Participants

Sr. No.		Name of the Participant	Affiliation	Category
1.	Dr.	Paras Nath Singh	Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra India	С
2.	Mr.	Siddhesh Sanjay Kajrolkar	Amity Institute of Biotechnology, Mumbai	A
3.	Ms.	K. Tamil Vani	Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College,Sivakasi.	A
4.	Ms.	Komal Ravindra Gaikwad	B.N. Bandodkar College of Science (Autonomous)	С
5.	Mrs.	Beena Gore	Beena Gore	В
6.	Mr.	Pravin Udaram Dulare	Bhalerao Science College Saoner	С
7.	Dr.	Dr. Kamal Prasad	Biox Absolute Biologicals	A
8.	Mr.	Amitkumar Ramdhan Maurya	BN Bandodkar College of Science	A
9.	Ms.	Sakshi Panwar	Chaudary Charan Singh University, Meerut	A

10.	Ms.	Manya Bhutani	Chaudhary Charan Singh University	A
11.	Ms.	Pranjal Tyagi	Chaudhary Charan Singh University	A
12.	Mr.	Shagun Rana	Chaudhary Charan Singh University	A
13.	Mr.	Anirudh Goyal	Chaudhary Charan Singh University	A
14.	Ms.	Deeksha Gupta	Chaudhary Charan Singh University	A
15.	Ms.	Farooqui Batul Shafique Ahmed	D.G Ruparel	A
16.	Ms.	Medha Timmanna Bhat	Davangere University	В
17.	Mr.	Narendrababu B N	Davangere University	В
18.	Dr.	Archana Sandip Gupte	G.M.Momin Women's College, Bhiwandi	С
19.	Ms.	Pranali Sunil Dhabale	Guru Nanak Khalasa College	A
20.	Ms.	Shaikh Nazreen Banu Shafiq Ahmed	Guru Nanak Khalsa College	A
21.	Ms.	Shaikh Rifaya	Guru Nanak Khalsa College	A
22.	Ms.	Debarati Mukhopadhyay	Guru Nanak Khalsa College of Arts Science and Commerce	A
23.	Mr.	N.Moinudheen	Independent Researcher	В
24.	Ms.	Arya.Cp	Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanic Garden and Research Institute (Jntbgri)	В
25.	Ms.	Bhagyashree V Kammar	K.L. E Society's P.C.Jabin Science College Hubli	A
26.	Mr.	Shivaraj V Sangannavar	Kle's P.C.Jabin Science College, Hubli	A
27.	Ms.	P.Sivakami	KMCH College Of Nursing, Coimbatore	A
28.	Ms.	Tazeen Akbar Ali Khan	Maharashtra College Of Arts Science and Commerce	A
29.	Dr.	Gokul Shankar Sabesan	Manipal University College Malaysia	С

30.	Mr.	Chintan Hasmukh Bhatt	MIT WPU Pune	В
31.	Mr.	Naman Kaji	Mithibai College	A
32.	Mr.	Jitendra Kalu Ram Kumawat	Myoworks Private Limited	A
33.	Ms.	Qureshi Rukaiya Md Mujaffar	N. G Acharya and D K Maratha College Chembur Mumbai 400071	A
34.	Mr.	Nitesh N Oradu	N. G. Acharya D. K. Marathe College	A
35.	Mr.	Jaitul Bharatbhai Patel	N.B. Mehta (Valwada) Science College,Bordi	A
36.	Ms.	Vidhi Manoj Karbhari	N.B. Mehta Science and Commerce College	A
37.	Ms.	Dhruvi Vinod Thakur	N.B. Mehta Science and Commerce College Bordi	A
38.	Mr.	Avadhesh Shashi Dhar	N.B.Mehta Science College, Bordi	С
39.	Mrs.	Nirali Santosh Patel	N.B.Metha (Valwada) Science College	A
40.	Mr.	Akash V R	P. C Jabin Science College, Hubballi	A
41.	Mr.	Jithin Prasad E	Pondicherry University	A
42.	Ms.	Priya Prajapati	Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur	A
43.	Mr.	Suraj Subhairam Maurya	R.K.Talreja College	A
44.	Ms.	Pinky Shivbabu Tiwari	R.K.Talreja College Of Arts Science And Commerce	A
45.	Ms.	Stanislaus Nimosha	S.I.E.S College	A
46.	Ms.	Pooja Gaikwad	S.P. Dnyansadhna College Thane	A
47.	Mr.	Rutik Baban Bharti Tambe	S.P.Dnyanasadhana College Thane	A
48.	Mr.	Diptesh Sawant	Satish Pradhan Dnyan Asatana College.Thane	A
49.	Ms.	Deepa A Pacharaney	Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College	A

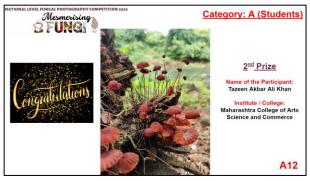
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50.	Ms.	Pooja Atul Ugale	Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana College Thane	A
51.	Ms.	Komal Ghude	Satish Pradhan Dnyansadhana College	A
52.	Ms.	Samiksha Vishwas Patil	Satish Pradhan Dnyansadhana College	A
53.	Ms.	Dhanashri Ravindra Patil	Satish Pradhan Dnyansadhna College	A
54.	Mrs.	Sapana Bipin Gond	Satish Pradhan Dyanasadhana College	A
55.	Ms.	Madhura K	SDM College (Autonomous), Ujire	A
56.	Ms.	Shweta Madhukar Waydande	SIES College Of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous)Sion (W) Mumbai 400022	A
57.	Ms.	Sukanthi Chandrasekar	Sies College Of Arts, Science and Commerce (Sion -West), Mumbai	A
58.	Ms.	Nargis Rais Khan	SIES College Of Arts, Science and Commerce Autonomous Sion(W)400022	A
59.	Ms.	Arockia Brightny Jeyakumar Juliet	SIES College Of Arts, Science and Commerce	A
60.	Ms.	Nithyashree. S	St Joseph's University	A
61.	Ms.	Libina Babu	St. Joseph's Collage, Bangalore	A
62.	Ms.	Geetha N Maney	St. Joseph's University	A
63.	Ms.	Rashi Kaushal	St. Joseph's University	A
64.	Ms.	Aishwarya Suresh	St. Joseph's University, Bangalore	A
65.	Ms.	Jasna Shaji	Suresh Gyan Vihar University	A
66.	Ms.	Jayanti Shree	Suresh Gyan Vihar University	A
67.	Ms.	Deepanshi	Suresh Gyan Vihar University	A
68.	Ms.	Meenu Singh	Suresh Gyan Vihar University	A
69.	Ms.	Pooja Jinger	Suresh Gyan Vihar University	A
70.	Dr.	Sameer Ahmed Shamsuddin Mapari	VIVA College	С
71.	Ms.	Shivani Gupta	Satish Pradhan DNYANSADHNA COLLEGE	A
72.	Ms.	Ankita Chauhan	SIES College Of Arts, Science and Commerce	A
73.	Ms.	Khan Kahekasha Mohd Sajjad	SIES College Of Arts, Science and Commerce	A
74.	Mrs.	Khan Ayesha Aafrin Khalil Ahmed	The Institute of Science (Mumbai)	В
75.	Mr.	Nilesh Bhagirathi Sharma	Satish Pradhan Dnyansadhna College Thane	A
76.	Mr.	Haritejas Iyer	FSU, Jena	A
77.	Mrs.	Bind Munju Rameshram	Guru Nanak Khalsa College, (Matunga)	A
78.	Ms.	Roshni Israhil Khan	Guru Nanak Khalsa College	C

79.	Ms.	Shah Shama Parveen Nazakat	Smt.CHM College Ulhasnagar	В
80.	Mr.	Kuldeep Janardan Mhatre	Seva Sadan's R K Talreja College of Arts, Science and Commerce-Ulhasnagar	С
81.	Mr.	Nishant Rajan Sarmalkar	D. G. Ruparel College of Arts, Science and Commerce	A
82.	Ms.	Saee Bobhate	Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College	A
83.	Mr.	Shubham Shivaji Burande	Institute Of Science	В
84.	Dr.	Aasawari Tak Shenwai	Satish Pradhan Dnysadhana College, Thane	С
85.	Dr.	Sandeep Singh	Kmv Jalandhar	С
86.	Ms.	Nivedita Mahajan	SVKM's Mithibai College	A
87.	Mrs.	Shubhangi Ramesh Tayde	The Institute of Science	В
88.	Ms.	Vidushi Jaiswal	K.J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce.	A
89.	Ms.	Sakshi Viraj Save	Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune	A

ii. Photographs (Geotagged)















Signature of HOD

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