

**Report on -**  
**British Council Climate Skills – Seeds for Transition India**  
**ReEarth Social Action Showcase Programme**

**Venue:** Green Technology Auditorium and National Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology,  
Vidyanagari Campus, University of Mumbai, Kalina, Mumbai.

**Date:** February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The Climate Skills – Seeds for Transition India “ReEarth” Social Action Showcase Programme was organized by University of Mumbai in collaboration with British Council and HSBC, aiming to foster climate awareness, sustainability practices, and youth-led environmental action. The event brought together academic leaders, environmental experts, industry professionals, and students to showcase innovative climate action projects, plans and recognize outstanding contributions.

The programme was structured into three major segments:

1. Presentation and Exhibition
2. Inaugural Function
3. Valedictory Function

### **Programme Schedule**

#### **1. Presentation and Exhibition (10:00 am – 1:30 pm)**

The day commenced with presentations and exhibitions by participating colleges. Students displayed innovative climate action projects under the “ReEarth” theme, focusing on sustainability, environmental conservation, and climate resilience. Delegates, evaluators, and guests interacted with students, appreciating their research, creativity, and commitment to environmental stewardship. Representing our college, Dr. Swarupa Agnihotri and Mr. Amol Choughule presented the Social Action Plan through a poster presentation.

#### **2. Inaugural Function (2:15 pm – 3:15 pm)**

The inaugural ceremony began with a warm welcome to the dignitaries and audience. The formal proceedings included: Welcoming the audience, National Anthem, Maharashtra State Song, University of Mumbai song, Screening of the documentary on the British Council Climate Skill Programme, Welcoming of guests and presentation of mementos

### **Dignitaries Present on the dais**

**Chief Guest:** Shri. Bipin Shah (President, Thane Belapur Industries Association, Navi Mumbai)

**Guest of Honor:** Mr. Niranjana Diwakar, IFS (Deputy Conservator of Forest, Palghar)

**Special Guests:**

Mr. Nandkumar Gurav (Retired Assistant Secretary Technical and Technical Advisor, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board),

Mr. D. B. Patil (Technical Advisor, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)

Ms. Rashi Jain (Area Director West India and Country Business Development Lead, British Council)

Dr. Nandkishor Joshi (Director, Padmaja Aerobiological Pvt. Ltd.)

**President:** Prof. Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni (Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai)

**Guest of Honor:** Dr. Ajay Bhamare (Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai)

The dignitaries addressed the gathering, emphasizing the importance of climate literacy, sustainable development, youth participation, and collaborative environmental governance by quoting various examples and case studies. A significant highlight of the inaugural function was the **launch of a documentary on Micro Plastics** by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni. After Prof. Indu George proposed the Vote of Thanks during the Inaugural Function. Concluding her address, she reiterated the importance of collective responsibility in addressing climate challenges and expressed hope that the "ReEarth" initiative would continue to inspire meaningful environmental action among the youth.

**Delegate Visit to Exhibition (3:30 pm – 4:30 pm)**

Following the high tea, delegates and dignitaries visited the showcase area, engaging directly with students. They appreciated the innovative ideas and practical solutions presented under the climate action projects and encouraged students to continue working towards sustainable transformation.

**3. Valedictory Function (4:30 pm – 6:00 pm)**

The valedictory session commenced with welcoming and felicitation of dignitaries.

**Dignitaries Present on the dais**

**Chief Guest:** Mr. Ravindra Wankhede (Retired IFS Officer, associated with Biodiversity Board)

**Guest of Honor:** Ms. Cameli Pawar (General Manager, Safety, Health & Environment, Hindustan Unilever Ltd.)

**Special Guests:** Dr. Rahul Gawai (Deputy Conservator of Forest, Thane) – Speaker

Ms. Rashi Jain (Area Director West India and Country Business Development Lead, British Council)

Dr. Nandkishor Joshi (Director, Padmaja Aerobiological Pvt. Ltd.)

**President:** Prof. Dr. Ravindra Kulkarni (Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai)

**Guest of Honor:** Dr. Ajay Bhamare (Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Mumbai)

**Felicitations Ceremony**

Judges, Master Trainers, Facilitators, Youth Evaluators, and Programme Leads were felicitated for their invaluable contribution to the successful execution of the programme.

### Announcement of Results

A proud moment for the institution came with the announcement that out of 71 participated institution, 10 colleges were awarded seed money of Rs. 80,000 each for their climate action projects. Our VPM's B. N. Bandodkar College of Science (Autonomous), Thane (W), was one of the selected institutions. The award was received by the participating students, Facilitators- Dr. Swarupa Agnihotri, Dr. Nilesh Jawalkar and Green Club Coordinator- Dr. Akanksha Shinde The award was presented by the auspicious hands of all the esteemed guests and dignitaries.

Dr. Aparna Phadke delivered the Vote of Thanks during the Valedictory Function. In her concluding remarks, she congratulated the ten colleges awarded seed funding of Rs. 80,000 each and encouraged all participants to continue transforming ideas into impactful climate solutions. She reaffirmed that the Seeds for Transition initiative is not just a programme, but a movement toward building climate-ready youth and sustainable communities.

### Conclusion

The British Council Climate Skills – Seeds for Transition India “ReEarth” Social Action Showcase Programme successfully highlighted the critical role of youth in driving climate action. The event served as a powerful platform for collaboration between academia, industry, and environmental governance bodies.

The recognition received by VPM's B. N. Bandodkar College of Science (Autonomous), Thane (W), stands as a testament to its commitment to sustainability and excellence in environmental initiatives. The programme not only celebrated innovative ideas but also reinforced the collective responsibility to work towards a greener and more sustainable future.

### Geotag Photos:

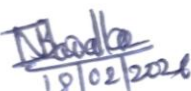


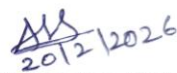


**Teachers and students participated in the program:**

| Sr. No. | Name of the Teacher/ Student | Designation/ Class                                 | Subject     |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1.      | Dr. Swarupa V. Agnihotri     | Facilitator- British Council Climate Skill Program | Botany      |
| 2.      | Dr. Nilesh B. Jawalkar       | Facilitator- British Council Climate Skill Program | Zoology     |
| 3.      | Dr. Akanksha Shinde          | Co-ordinator, Green Club                           | Mathematics |
| 4.      | Sanskriti Dhananjay Panchal  | SYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 5.      | Prathamesh Prasad Parab      | FYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 6.      | Kaustubh Anil Gaikwad        | FYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 7.      | Vighnesh Vilas Bhoye         | FYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 8.      | Pratik Anil Kamble           | FYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 9.      | Anisha Chandrakant More      | FYBSc                                              | Botany      |
| 10.     | Amol Arun Choughule          | TYBSc                                              | Zoology     |
| 11.     | Vedant Prashant Sawant       | TYBSc                                              | Zoology     |
| 12.     | Mayuresh Ranjit Karjavkar    | TYBSc                                              | Zoology     |
| 13.     | Vrushali Chandrakant Bate    | SYBSc                                              | Mathematics |
| 14.     | Shreya Hemant Salvi          | SYBSc                                              | Mathematics |

  
**Dr. Swarupa V. Agnihotri**  
 Facilitator- British Council  
 Climate Skill Program

  
**Dr. Nilesh B. Jawalkar**  
 Facilitator- British Council  
 Climate Skill Program

  
**Dr. Akanksha Shinde**  
 Co-ordinator, Green Club