



# SOCIETY TO SAVE ROCKS

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume - 98: January - March 2021

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I'M THE GRANITE GHOST AND YET I'M THE ONE WHO'S SPOOKED BY OUR GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT OF OUR NATURAL HERITAGE.



Rohan Chakravarty,

[www.greenhumour.com](http://www.greenhumour.com)

is an environmentalist and illustrator who has designed our Silver Anniversary logo and contributed this comic strip which was first published in The Hindu, 2020.

WE WISH ALL OUR READERS HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2021



*A beautiful morning  
at Konda Gorre*



*Rock Walkers and Forest officials enjoying  
the rock formations of the future park*

## KONDA GORRE

*a walk embracing Nature's abundance*

**Padmini B Patell**

With a tag line that reads "The good, wild Earth" an invitation to the Konda Gorre Rewilding Project from P.Raghuvver, MD, TSFDC and A. Ravinder Reddy, General Manager, Telangana State Forest Development Corp. Ltd (TSFDC) could scarcely have been passed up by us Society members, all eager for a Covid escape ! Specially not on a bright cool Sunday in December and what with the opportunity to be one of the first visitors to the park that had a soft launch just two weeks prior.

A group of 13 Society members escorted by K.Shireesha, Divisional Manager and her team ventured into the park. Some chose to use the bicycles provided while others followed by foot. Of course, our eyes were mostly on the lookout for rocky outcrops which we soon found and scrambled up. Our member Vijay did his trademark bare hands bouldering much to the amusement of park authorities. The hosts soon realized that we were keen on rocks and they took us to two more rock sites which we thoroughly enjoyed. We visited the crystal clear pond, peaceful cycling paths, even the man made Shiva shrine with an interesting over hanging

rock formation that housed a swallow nest intricately designed in Mud. The two hour introduction to the park was sufficient to entice us to revisit. We were treated to a hot breakfast by our generous host which was followed by a formal introduction by Mr P.Raghuvver and interaction with the Project team on their upcoming plans.

Named after the four horned antelope that inhabits this area, Konda Gorre has been developed in the Lalgadi Malakpet Forest Block, Shameerpet in collaboration with the NGO Chitrak, with the aim of being completely sustainable. The natural landscape is being preserved,

rocks and water bodies conserved, no vehicles or plastics allowed. Anand Vishwanadha, Chief Sustainability Officer is focused on Konda Gorre providing livelihoods to people from the surrounding areas. He said, "we want to promote everything local and native to this area, be it planting more native trees or promoting local cuisine, craft and talent."

Well worth a visit, only 30 kms from Hyderabad, safe and eco friendly. Few rocks but in these covid times, nothing like the perfect outdoors for some soul time !

*You can go on cycle rides  
in the peaceful forest*







## SOCIETY'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY

Our Society clocks 25 long years of Rock protection and conservation on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021. We intend to celebrate this milestone as best possible in the present times.

Plans are on for a virtual warm up: do participate with a catchy Rock protection Slogan, a Selfie at any of the 25 Rock Heritage Precincts, a thought provoking Essay on why rocks must be conserved or bring out the poet in you with Rock Poetry. All these programmes besides our trademark Rock Quiz is open to Members and Non Members – Online Registration details will be posted shortly on our website.



Details of the contributory Society programme and lunch on 26<sup>th</sup> January will be intimated by email and WhatsApp.

### Office Assistant Required

The Society is still in search of an Office Assistant in a part-time capacity, to help with general administrative work. He/she should have computer knowledge and a good grasp of English. Own transportation would be an advantage.

Mail your resume to [secretary@saverocks.org](mailto:secretary@saverocks.org)

# Event



Hybiz in conversation with Society to Save Rocks  
on 10th October 2020

Members of the Society Sajid Mahmood, Sangeeta Varma and Anuradha Raju, had a lively session with Suresh Kottachil of Hybiz TV Channel about the goals, efforts and achievements of the Society to Save Rocks during their almost 25 years of existence. The dramatic backdrop of the main rock formation at Ghar-e-Mubarak (behind Taramati Baradari) emphasized the urgency of preserving these spectacular treasures of Nature. The talks covered topics from Rock conservation and the heritage value of rock formations, to the care for whole ecosystems to instilling love for nature in children and youngsters.

To watch the video of the interview, click on the facebook icon on the homepage of our website [www.saverocks.org](http://www.saverocks.org).

Rock Walks are conducted on the third Sunday of every month. They are announced in the press and social media and on our website. Everybody is welcome. Walking shoes and long pants should be worn. Please enroll with G.R.B. Pradeep at 9866752114. Participants are expected to follow adequate Covid 19 protection rules.

### Rock Walks in January - February - March 2021

Day and Date	Place	Time and Meeting Point
Sunday, Jan 17, 2021	Bodugutta near Ramoji Filmcity	8:15 a.m. Opp. Ramoji Film City, Vijayawada Highway 20 minutes special Pranayama session will be conducted Note: You are expected to bring lunch - Return at about 06:00 p.m.
Sunday, Feb 21, 2021	Ameenpur Lake	8:00 a.m. Miyapur Metro Station - Return at about 12:00 Noon
Sunday, Mar 21, 2021	Pahadi Shareef Rocks & Darga	8:00 a.m. Opp. Zeeshan Food Court, Chandrayanagutta Cross Roads - Return at about 12:00 noon

### Managing Committee

### Members

President:	Narendra Luther	9849 527 271	Padmini B. Patell	9912865299
Vice President:	Aparajita Sinha	9849 655 363	Dr. Sudheer Bhan	8106072537
Secretary:	Frauke Quader	9849 936 248	Dr. E. Sathya Prakash	9440057846
Joint Secretary:	Sangeeta Varma	9849 044 624	Amardeep Singh	9246150207
Treasurer:	G.R.B. Pradeep	9866 752 114	Sajid Mehmood	9810528070

The Managing Committee unanimously decided to raise the Membership Fees with effect from 01.04.2021. The new fees are as follows:

### Membership Fee

Class	Admission	Annual Subscription
Active (Single)	₹ 100.00	Raised from ₹ 200 to ₹ 500
Active (Couple)	₹ 100.00	Raised from ₹ 300 to ₹ 600
Student	₹ 100.00	Raised from ₹ 100 to ₹ 200
Life (Single)	₹ 3000.00 - Raised from ₹ 2000 to ₹ 3000	
Life (Couple)	₹ 5000.00 - Raised from ₹ 3000 to ₹ 5000	
Institution	₹ 10000.00	
Corporate	₹ 50000.00	

\* Student fees will be applicable till the age of 18 years.

### Memberships

We welcome our new member Akash M. Nair, Student.

Active Members Manjula Rao, Tariq Khan and Renu Singhal have converted to Life Membership.

Memberships which are in arrears for more than 3 years have been closed. Affected Members have been intimated. If they are interested in reviving their Membership they could contact the office at [secretary@saverocks.org](mailto:secretary@saverocks.org)



Bodugutta, Near Ramoji Filmcity