

## **Vintage Bike and Car festival 2016 organized by Goa Tourism and Goa Tourism Development Corporation a grand success**

Panjim, Oct 1: The Vintage Bike and Car festival 2016 is all set to be an annual event as the first edition organized by Goa Tourism and Goa Tourism Development Corporation here in Panjim today was a huge success.

A record participation of 83 vintage cars and 40 vintage bikes set the streets of the capital city roaring as the vintage automobiles made their way down memory lanes on a two hour long rally. People lined up the rally route and cheered as the convoy of vintage vehicles drove past.

Minister for Tourism, Mr. Dilip Parulekar flagged off the rally at Paryatan Bhavan this morning in the presence of Mr. Nilesh Cabral, Chairman of GTDC and other dignitaries and officials.

Mr. Dilip Parulekar in his speech said, "It is overwhelming to see such a huge participation at the Vintage Bike and Car festival 2016 and should be an annual event that will boost tourism in the State of Goa. Goa Tourism and GTDC organize such unique events in the State to promote tourism and the Vintage Bike and Car festival will help boost heritage tourism in a big way."

Mr. Nilesh Cabral said, "We are elated by the success of the Vintage Bike and Car festival 2016 and the participation has been better than expected. I have to thank all those who worked hard to make this event a memorable one and we will definitely see that this festival continues as an annual festival and be a part of the tourism calendar."

During the day the Vintage bikes and cars were on display at the INOX Courtyard where thousands of tourists and locals viewed some of the oldest and grandest automobiles dated from 1921 to 1970.

Cameras and videos rolled all day as the classic models were a sight to behold!

Vintage bike and car owners travelled distances with their vehicles to partake in the day-long event and have appealed to Goa Tourism to organize the event annually.

The festival saw in attendance automobile dealers, vintage car curators, media from leading automobile magazines, publications, electronic media and key persons from the travel and tourism industry.

The Director of Tourism, Mr. Sanjeev C Gauns Dessai, Managing Director, Mr. Nikhil Desai, Board of Directors of the Goa Tourism Development Corporation and

Mr. Francisco Braganza and Mr. Ralph D'Souza from the Travel and Tourism Association of Goa were present for the flag off of the rally at Paryatan Bhavan. They were also present at the award ceremony later in the evening.

A jazz musical show was also organized at the INOX Courtyard. An art competition and a variety of other entertainment were organized to add more festivity.

Prizes were given to the following vintage vehicles in different categories:

Awards for Long distance travelled vintage cars went to a 1946 Ford Jeep, 1965 Mercedes Benz, 1965 VFJ Jonga and 1964 Standard Herald. An award for the Long distance travelled vintage bike was a 1965 BMW RSO.

Awards for Best restored vintage car went to a 1921 Citroen, Best restored vintage bike to a 1942 Norton 16H, Best restored classic car to a 1961 FIAT 500 D and Best restored classic bike to a 1965 Lambretta LI 150 series. The Best Indian heritage car went to a 1964 Standard Herald, Best India heritage bike to a 1962 Jawa and awards for Best show cars went to a 1968 Volkswagon 1600 L and Best show bike to a 1952 Lambretta.

Awards for the Most unique car went to a 1941 Ford Artillery Truck, Most unique bike to a 1962 Escort Runabout, most original classic car to a 1959 Morris mini manor, Most original classic bike to a 1958 BSA shooting star.

These prizes were distributed by Mr. Nilesh Cabral, Chairman GTDC in the distinguished presence of Mr. Ralph D'Souza, Gaurish Dhond, Director of Tourism, Mr. Sanjeev C. Gauns Dessai, Managing Director of GTDC, Mr. Nikhil Desai and jury members for the Vintage Bike and Car contest.

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