

MIST LGBTQ NEWSLETTER



January 2025

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Mist LGBTQ Foundation and Tweet Foundation Host Successful Workshop Series on **Transgender Rights**

Pune, January 16, 2025: A series of one-day workshops on Transgender Community & Rights was recently conducted by Mist LGBTQ Foundation in collaboration with Tweet Foundation. The workshops, held from January 14-16, 2025, at Stories Cafe, Lohegaon, Pune, aimed to promote awareness and understanding of transgender issues, rights, and laws among various stakeholders.



A total of 138 participants, including media professionals, medical professionals, and educational institute representatives, attended the workshops.

Key topics covered included understanding sex, gender, and sexuality, problems faced by transgender persons, and landmark judgments related to transgender rights.





The workshops featured Guest Speaker Urmi from Tweet Foundation and representatives from Mist LGBTQ Foundation.

The event provided a platform for meaningful discussions and learning from experts in the field. Both organizations have expressed gratitude to all participants, speakers, and partners, and remain committed to promoting awareness, acceptance, and inclusivity of the LGBTQ+ community.



Click on the link to read more about our event!

<https://centralherald.in/lifestyle/mist-lgbtq-and-tweet-foundation-host-workshop-series-on-transgender-rights-and-community-empowerment/>

www.lgbtq.co.in



Workshop on **Mental Health Awareness** for First Responders Held in Pune



Pune, January 17: A workshop on mental health awareness, specifically tailored for first responders and caregivers, was conducted at Stories Cafe in Pune. The session, held in partnership with Mann Talks and supported by SAATHII, aimed to increase awareness and understanding of mental health issues.

The workshop, led by Neha Kathuria and Wardah from Mann Talks, focused on crucial topics such as crisis intervention, self-care, and stress management.

23 participants from various organizations and community groups attended the session, engaging in stimulating conversations, interactive activities, and sharing real-life experiences.

Key takeaways from the workshop included understanding the mental health triad, handling mental health in crisis situations, and stress-management techniques.

The session also emphasized the importance of prioritizing one's own mental health while assisting others.

The organizers expressed gratitude to all participants and facilitators, reaffirming their commitment to building a more resilient community.



Mist LGBTQ Foundation Takes UNDP-Supported Policy Brief to Goa

On January 25, 2025, Mist LGBTQ Foundation disseminated the UNDP-supported policy brief "Uniting Diversity - Shaping the Future of Legal Equality for LGBTQ+ in India" in Goa. The event provided a platform for the LGBTQ+ community and allies to share inputs and suggestions, followed by discussions. Building on the policy brief's actionable recommendations, the gathering aimed to further advance LGBTQ+ legal equality in India.



QueerBazaar Participates in Gulabi Mela 2025



On January 26, 2025, The Humsafar Trust's Gulabi Mela brought together the LGBTQ+ community for a fun-filled pre-Pride event. As part of the festivities, QueerBazaar, a proud LGBTQ+-owned business, set up shop at the flea market. Represented by Anil Malla, Senior Associate for Web Sales and Social Media, QueerBazaar showcased its unique merchandise, attracting a steady stream of customers.

The event proved to be a resounding success for QueerBazaar, with impressive sales and valuable connections made with potential new clients. By participating in Gulabi Mela, QueerBazaar demonstrated its commitment to promoting LGBTQ+ entrepreneurship and community building.

QueerBazaar Shines at Maya Bazaar Goa

On January 25–26, QueerBazaar, owned by Mist LGBTQ Foundation, participated in Maya Bazaar Goa, a unique inclusive festival celebrating diversity and inclusivity. The QueerBazaar team connected with potential clients, fellow queer businesses, and allies, fostering meaningful relationships and community building. As a proud LGBTQ+-owned business, QueerBazaar's presence at Maya Bazaar Goa highlighted its commitment to promoting queer entrepreneurship and visibility. The event was a resounding success, with QueerBazaar's stall attracting enthusiastic attendees and generating exciting opportunities.



CREATE IMPACT WITH MIST @ MAYABAZAAR?

Join us at Mayabazaar Goa on the 25th January and be part of the discussion to create impact on the Legal Future for LGBTQ+ in India. **Mist will cover your entry charges to the event, if you are interested to participate in the discussion!***

25 & 26
JANUARY 2025
04:00 PM - 06:00 PM
DON JOAO LAWNS, GOA

for more info: +919986011456 | @mistglgbt | www.lgbtq.co.in

* Conditions apply

Mist LGBTQ Foundation Concludes Successful Annual General Meeting in Goa



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Mist LGBTQ Foundation recently held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) from January 27–29, 2025, at Anjuna, Goa. The meeting brought together representatives from all departments, including QueerBazaar, Stories Cafe, Queertainment Private Limited, Finance, and Directors. The agenda focused on discussing plans for the fiscal year 2025–2026, including the organization of annual events such as Mr. Gay India, Out and Loud Pune International Queer Film Festival, and Pune Pride. Revenue-making strategies, targets, and sponsorship plans were also deliberated upon.

Mist LGBTQ Foundation Participates in **Sarathya Swabhiman Hubba** Event in Goa

On January 28, 2025, Mist LGBTQ Foundation was invited to participate in the Sarathya Swabhiman Hubba event in Goa. Founder and CEO Shyam Konnur and Executive Director Sriram Sridhar were guest speakers, sharing their personal experience of getting married in Denmark.

They discussed the future of same-sex marriage rights in India, engaging in a Q&A session with judges from Karwar in attendance. The event focused on empowering marginalized LGBTQ+ communities, including Koti, double-decker, and bisexual individuals.



Support Mist LGBTQ Foundation: Donate Now to Sustain Critical Operations Amidst Uncertain Times

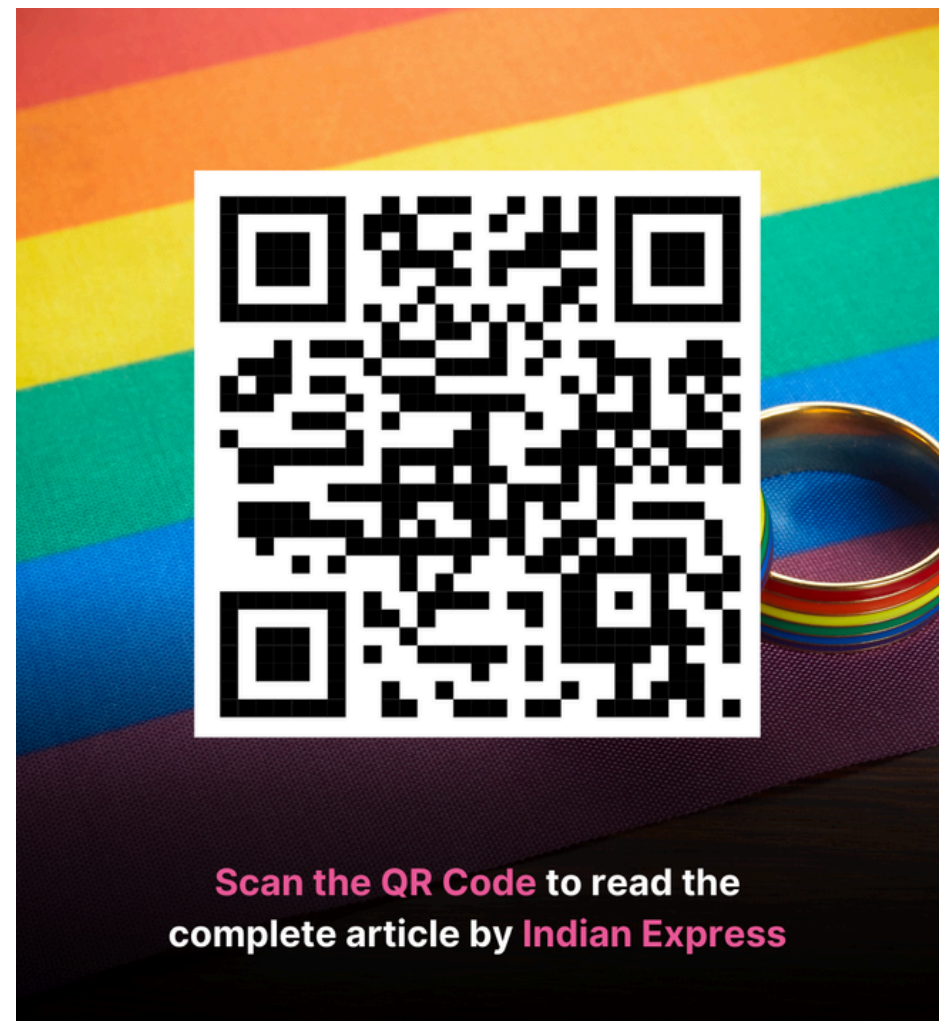


The recent U.S. executive order rolling back federal support for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives has sent shockwaves globally, threatening the progress made by LGBTQ+ organizations like Mist LGBTQ Foundation. For years, corporate DEI funding has been instrumental in supporting our initiatives, but with federal backing eliminated, we risk losing vital resources.

This decision jeopardizes our hard-earned progress, corporate accountability, and global investments in LGBTQ+ rights.

In India, where LGBTQ+ rights are still evolving, and legal protections are limited, the withdrawal of corporate support could set back many community-driven initiatives that rely on external funding.

As we face uncertain times, we rely on your support to sustain our operations. Mist LGBTQ Foundation has been at the forefront of promoting LGBTQ+ rights and inclusivity in India. Donate to us today and help us continue our critical work, including advocacy, community support, and education. Your contribution will make a tangible difference in the lives of LGBTQ+ individuals in India.



Account Name - Mist LGBTQ Foundation

Account No - 921010049487188

Bank - AXIS Bank

Branch - Majestic, Bangalore [KT],

Bangalore - 560001

IFS Code - UTIB00000009

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