

## **GSBB APPEALS FOR CONSERVATION WILD MUSHROOMS ‘ROEN ALAMI’**

**Panaji, July 9, 2025**

Taking cognizance of rampant consumption and over exploitation of wild edible mushrooms ‘Roan Alami’ Goa State Biodiversity Board has appealed people not to encourage consumption of wild mushrooms instead patronize much cheaper and nutritious, cleaner button and oyster mushrooms available in local markets.

GSBB has initiated awareness on conservation of Roan Alami since 2018. GSBB further said that, for thousands of years on ethical principles forest dwellers conserved wild mushroom species and never thought of marketing on a large scale. But in recent times people started exploiting mushrooms posing a threat to nature. Unethical approach of traditional pluckers degrading sensitive wild habitat thus causing erosion of biodiversity.

The Wildlife Protection Act 1972 has ensured protection of natural species of wild mushrooms in wildlife sanctuaries but still people enter secretly in the forest and pluck mushrooms.

GSBB has cautioned that, people are ignorant of the different species of wild mushrooms wherein people need to be careful with edible mushrooms which can be adulterated with look alike poisonous mushrooms.

Scientists are researching mushroom species for new drugs/ pharmaceuticals but, if wild species are destroyed in Goa then nothing will be left for scientific research.

GSBB has appealed to all people involved in plucking and roadside sale of Roan Alami to leave behind at least fifty percent young stages on the termite mounds for conservation of their bio diversity. People must completely avoid plucking and bringing very small mushrooms for marketing. Nobody should plunder rare smaller species found outside forest areas. Owners of private forests are also requested to take care of the Roan Alami species and conserve them. These include varieties known as khut or khutyaliolami, toshaliolami, sonyaliolami and chonchyaliolami. People must not over exploit non marketed smaller species of termitomyces locally known as Shiti, Shitololami found at the end of monsoon.

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