

INCREDIBLE GOA

www.incrediblegoa.in

COVER STORY

CLOSURE OF GOA'S IRON ORE MINES

ITS IMPACT AND CONSEQUENCES

WOMEN
EMPOWERMENT



TREND SETTER



GOAN TALENT



BUSINESS GOA

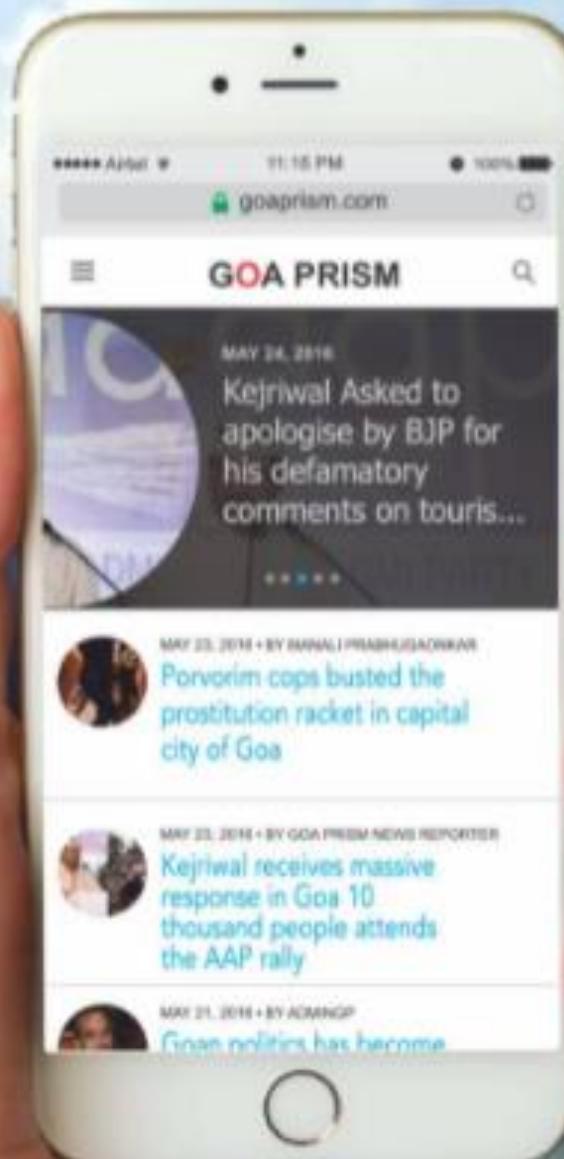


GOA PRISM

Now Goa's First 24X7 Newsline
Right on Your Fingertips

**Do Not Miss It !!!
Subscribe Today its
"FREE"**

Log on to <https://www.goaprism.com/newsletter/>



FAST

SECURE

RESPONSIVE

PARTY ALL NIGHT!!!



Club
 **TITO'S**

OPEN EVERY NIGHT
FREE ENTRY FOR LADIES

WEBSITE:
WWW.TITOSGOA.COM

+91 9822765002/9923586659



RETRO SATURDAYS @

The Crown GOA

Where hospitality is a tradition

VENUE: **hanginggarden** Goan restaurant

8 PM ONWARDS

- LIVE BAND
- LIVE BARBECUE COUNTERS
- BREATHTAKING VIEW
- EXOTIC COCKTAILS

Behind Old Secretariat, Panjim, Goa. Ph.: 888862520 / 7720047744

 [Thecrownagoa](https://www.facebook.com/Thecrownagoa)

 www.thecrownagoa.com



Goa Woodlands Hotel

Grand Maharaja

BANQUET



Features

Seating Capacity : 160 - 180 | Secretarial Assistance | Internet



Miguel Loyola Furtado Road, Opp. City Bus Stand,
Margao, Goa - 403601 Ph: +91 832 2715522
www.goawoodlandshotel.com

CONTENTS

INCREDIBLE GOA

APRIL 2018

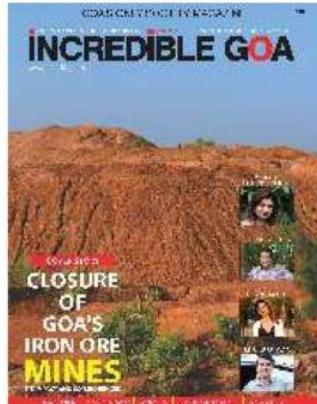
RNI : GOAENG/2016/66434

POSTAL LICENSE NO : G-2/RNP/GOA/28/2016-18



12

CLOSURE OF MINING ITS IMPACT & CONSEQUENCIES



FROM EDITOR'S DESK 08

TALK OF TOWN 10

IN FOCUS 18

FIRST EDITION OF IG AWARDS

Incredible Goa Magazine brings to you an exclusive Awards Night, and the primary motive behind the Awards is to encourage the incredible people of Goa who are incredibly talented and to put them in the spotlight to

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT 22

VARSHA USGAONKAR

The world needs no introduction to Varsha Usgaonkar. We all have enjoyed her performances in many hit Bollywood and Marathi movies. She has been part of the film fraternity for almost 28 years, contributing....

GOAN CUISINE 26

TREND SETTER 28

ALIRIO SALDANHA

A true Goan, a pure-hearted Samaritan and a staunch believer in God, Mr. Saldanha is firmly attached to his Goan roots and its people. His mission is to elevate the state of Goa and its people and provide career-oriented....

BUSINESS GOA 32

RAGHU SHETYE

Raghu Shetye's story begins with his fascination for automobiles. He did his engineering in automobiles and was bubbling with ideas. Belonging to a simple middle-class family, Shetye a son of a banker.....

GOAN TALENT 36

AUDREY D'SILVA

It does not matter if you stay in Goa or were born here, what matters the most is being connected and having your roots deep in the state to be Goan. Audrey is one such Goan and is the winner of a Femina Miss India Goa....

HOT PICKS 40

FITNESS 44

EVENT 46

FEATURE 48

YOUNG GOA 52

ANASTAZIA D'MELLO

What would you do if you were handed a pair of drumsticks at an age as early as 5 years? The innocence of that age will make you play

GOA BUZZ 55

CREDITS

Editor & Publisher
Rajesh Ghadge

Finance & Admin
Rajeshree Ghadge

Layouts & Design
Creative Comcepts

Sr. Content Writer
Nidhi Lal

Copy Editor
Arya Tiwari

Contributors
Norbert D'Souza
Rajeshree Ghadge

Circulations
Mark Fernandes
Ganesh Raj

© All rights are reserved. Reprinting, publishing whole or part without obtaining the express written permission of editor and publisher is strictly prohibited. All the images unless otherwise indicated are used for illustration purpose only. In case you feel that any image/s or content/s should not be there / needs due credits / having copyrights, you may please immediately inform the same to editor / publisher in written format, the

Publisher's Note:- Error is Human, although we take all due care while publishing the magazine to make sure that it is free from all the errors. Any omissions and erroneousness are entirely unintentional. Please do bring to our notice in case if you find any such things / items published incorrectly and any photography erroneously published, needed to be given credits. We also believe in publishing something which catches our attention and made available for the purpose of information to our readers. We also believe that people will take it sportingly and help us to make this publication even better and useful for our reader.

Printed, Published & Owned by Rajesh Ghadge. Printed at Printek Printers, and published at L-5, Alfran Plaza, M G Road, Panaji – Goa. 403001 India. Editor & Publisher: Rajesh Ghadge

50 VARIETIES IN ONE MEAL Just at Rs. 649

5% GST As Applicable
We Levy No Service Charge



Introducing a lavish buffet spread with live cooking stations &
lots more in daily buffet (Lunch & Dinner) at

Chilli 'n' Spice
CARNIVAL OF CUISINES

It's Time To Recognize The Incredible People of Goa



RAJESH GHADGE
Editor, Incredible Goa

- [!\[\]\(48a7667d09d5a06397e047ee4537bb6f_img.jpg\) rajeshghadge@gmail.com](mailto:rajeshghadge@gmail.com)
- [!\[\]\(3df135a685d1b545c4fa64a5f3516545_img.jpg\) rajghadgegoa](https://www.facebook.com/rajghadgegoa)
- [!\[\]\(de62294faded52808857591d246c2e7a_img.jpg\) @goaprismmag](https://twitter.com/goaprismmag)
- [!\[\]\(632b91ede65784e1fc241c52ebe20c23_img.jpg\) rajeshghadge](https://www.linkedin.com/in/rajeshghadge)
- [!\[\]\(9e570ad7bd1e47f5a8419f32768deae0_img.jpg\) rajeshrghadge](https://www.instagram.com/rajeshrghadge)

Incredible Goa has finally reached a point where people have started believing in its content and credibility. We have decided to take this publication to the next level by honouring the incredible people of Goa. The Incredible Goa Awards which will take place this month is one such initiative of the Incredible Goa Magazine to recognize these achievers.

Incredible Goa's journey began in the October 2015 as Goa's first and only society magazine and brought out many jewels from different parts of the State. Being a lone society magazine of Goa, its focus has always been on bringing out talent and giving it the best media platform - this was and is the magazine's first motto and we have tried to uphold it as best as we can. Today we have decided to have an award show for the incredible people of Goa, it is because we have had enough jewels in our basket whom we wanted to showcase on this platform.

In the two and a half years of its journey the Incredible Goa had recognized and showcased talents and people from various fields of the specialization that no other magazine has done before. The glittering ceremony was planned in the month of February is now about to come to reality. The event is about to take shape and go viral on social media in the next few days and of course, the next issue will have the complete story on the award show happening at one of the most recognised party spots in Goa.

I am sure that this awards night will become the talk of the town as prominent personalities of Goa will be in attendance and the ceremony will be hosted by the Femina Miss India Goa 2017 in the presence of honourable signatories and the heroes of the evening - the awardees.

The preparation of the list of the people whom we are going to honour was the most difficult task as we had a task of finalising the names of 22 people from the hundreds we have already featured in our magazine. But the help from above (God) and support from our team members who spent day in and out to finally bring the 22 most deserved winners.

This will be our first awards ceremony and I am sure that there will be scope for improvement in the future but one thing I can surely quote here is, Incredible Goa will be honouring the people who deserve the recognition, and most of them have not yet received it. Let us hope for the best as I am keeping my fingers crossed.

Do wait for the next issue which will bring out the heroes, the

CERTIFIED PET GROOMER **PIYALI** 7774086129

GOA'S MOST RECOMMENDED PET SALON-SPA



PET SALON - SPA

& PET BOARDING

- **Maintenance Grooming**
- **Skin Treatments** (Grooming Based)

- **FUNGAL**
- **HAIR SHEDDING**
- **BODY ODOUR**
- **TICK & FLEA**
- **DANDRUFF**



• **PORVORIM** • **COLVA** • **JAMSHEDPUR**

PICK UP & DROP SERVICE www.glampetz.com

DRONE TECHNOLOGY IN GOA



Artificial intelligence has begun invading our lives with various gadgets like Alexa (Amazon), Amazon Echo, Google Home; and then there are drones. These unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), are changing the course of technology in the world. Drone technology, if used in its truest application, has tremendous potential. Drones are treading and in use for capturing some never-seen-before footages for movies and documentaries as well as military surveillance, government infra services, and crisis

Drones in India

India is the hub of new-age technology and is aggressively proceeding towards the development of new and innovative gadgets like high-end drones. Several Indian companies are involved in the making of drones as they are envisioning more extensive applications and uses across industries. Many Indian start-ups have deep-dived into manufacturing and development of drone technologies.

The Drone Man from Goa

In the Indian context, the one name that stands out, and is behind some astonishing footages seen in videos and movies using drones is Varad Karmali. He is one of the few photographers in Goa who is using the new gizmo for capturing the most astonishing images. His passion for using drones has earned him assignments from all over India, ranging from music videos and EDM festivals to big-ticket Bollywood films. He plays phenomenally with the visuals and gives the movies an edge with respect to photography and cinematography. Varad has taken some striking aerial shots of the action sequences for the recently launched movie 'Baaghi 2' featuring Tiger Shroff and Disha Patani. Apart from big Bollywood films, the young artist has also bagged accolades for his work in advertisements and few south Indian blockbusters. Experimenting with drones for photography and filming, he is the man behind the brand 'Droneacharya'.

With Goa becoming a hub of events and films from across the world and drone photography the most desired mode for shoots, Varad and his 'Droneacharya' is becoming one of the most sought-after enterprises. Being one of the pioneers in the market, Varad believes that his know-how on the technology and his experience with drones is playing a significant role in getting large-scale projects for him. His future is soaring new heights.

DNA INTERNET SERVICE TAKES OVER THE GOA BY STORM



The Goa has been lacking the real high-speed broadband service in the state but the DNA Digital Network Associates (DNA)-Goa came to the rescue and started the high-speed broadband service in the state. The idea of the service provider was to take the internet service to each and every household in the state, and apart from that, the DNA has also plans of providing their internet service through the leased lines across Goa.

Although DNA has been brought to Goa by well known entrepreneur Mr. Raghu Shetye but it is an initiative of a Mumbai based company. "We are providing end-to-end optic fiber-based internet connection, which is called

'FTTH' technology, which no one in Goa is providing. Other internet service providers are using FTTB technology, wherein they take fiber to your building, but then use copper to give internet connection to your flat. On the other hand, DNA gives you end-to-end optical fiber cable whether you are an enterprise user or a retail user," said Mr. Sameer Sawant, one of the directors of DNA.

According to the reports, DNA has quite a few attractive plans for the consumer of Goa, and one of the most sought-after plans is 2.5 Mbps speed net connection for just Rs. 599 a month. The company's management said that the internet speed does not come down with their plans no matter

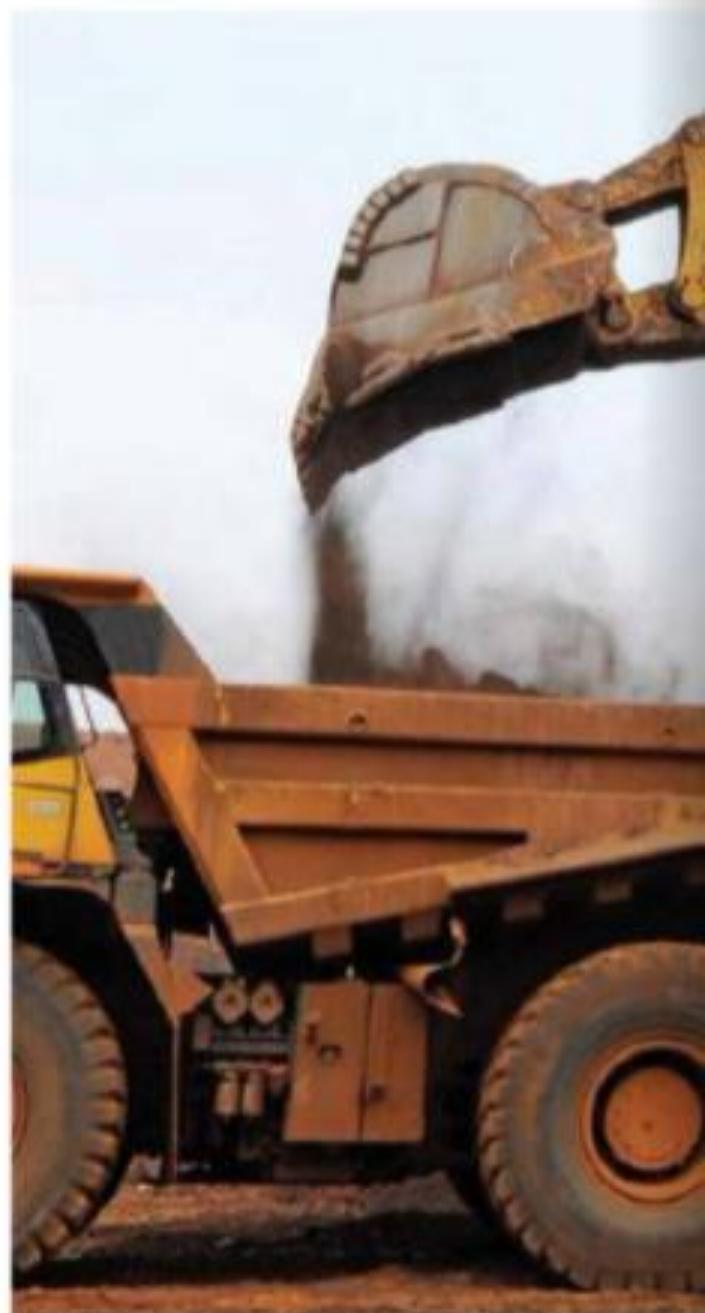
how much consumers download. Sawant continued, "We are partnered with internet giants like Google, Amazon, Netflix, Akamai and even Microsoft. Due to this, these giants offer content to our customer at the highest speed of 100 Mbps. Suppose a customer opts for 2.5 Mbps plan and he wants to watch an HD video on YouTube or a movie on Netflix or a web series of Amazon Prime, then he will be automatically allotted 100 Mbps at zero cost."

Vivekanand Naik, Chief Executive Officer, DNA, said, "We have a 24 X 7 call center, which works even on Sundays. All problems are solved within 24 hours of receiving complaints." Within just 3 months of the launch of its Goa office, DNA has already taken its presence to most urban areas of the state. Raghu Shetty, Partner, DNA-Goa, said, "Our idea is to connect all of Goa with the internet. Every house should have an internet connection. We want to take the high-quality internet to every nook and corner of the state."

DNA has brought in a lot of best practices in the internet space in Goa already. Sawant explained, "We are coming from Mumbai, which has helped us in implementing universal standards in Goa of keeping installation charges either flat or no installation charges at all. In cities like

CLOSURE OF GOA'S IRON ORE MINES ITS IMPACT AND CONSEQUENCES

Goa's iron ore mines had been a direct/indirect source of employment to almost 0.2 million people. The honorable Supreme Court announced the closure of iron ore extraction activity in the state with effect from March 15, 2018. The five-decade-old mining industry in Goa is facing the "biggest" mining ban coming into force which has been a key revenue generator for the





The Supreme Court nullified the second renewal of iron ore mining leases that were given to 88 companies in Goa in 2015 last month. With this, the state government came face to face with its worst fears of a vast population of Goa becoming unemployed that was previously working at various mining sites on different assignments.

The cabinet committee put forward a request to the Chief Minister Mr. Manohar Parrikar to file a request for reviewing the petition in the apex court as a last-ditch effort to save the industry and its stakeholders. The apex court had given the mining lease holders a deadline of March 15, 2018, to initiate the closure process with immediate effect. They were directed by the court to stop all mining operations with force from March 16, until the court gave a revised grant for mining leases and environmental clearances.

The Previous Scenario

The locals were dependent on the mines for employment and was the only source of income. The closure had an extremely unsettling impact on these locals and are seeing no signs of a resumption of the mining activity anytime soon.

The ban has been the second big blow to the industry that had faced a similar close down in 2012, as per Supreme Court directives. The court had also considered the cognizance of M. B. Shah commission report that

had claimed incidents of illegal mining of worth Rs. 350 billion between 2005 and 2012. Post this directive the industry remained shut for nearly 19 months from October 2012 to April 2014, impacting the economy of the state significantly. The government imposed restrictions on the amount of the ore that could be extracted bringing it down to 20 million metric tonnes, annually. On the contrary, the mines actually had the potential of tapping double the amount before the imposition of the court ban in 2012.

After the ban-lift in October 2015, the industry took 18 months to recover and actualize full functioning of the mines. The

industry struggled to revive to its full glory after the slump and could only extract about 7.2 million metric tonnes of metal during the fiscal year 2015-16. As per figures by the Mines and Geology department, the extraction totalled to an amount of 37.11 million metric tonnes from the time of lifting of the ban till the current date. The lowest in years, bringing in a revenue of about Rs. 12.43 billion approximately, for the industry.

The Impact of the previous and

current closures

Why was the industry not able to revive successfully? The primary reason was the lack of demand from big markets like China, which was one of the core buyers of the ore from Goa. The metal produced from these mines is of low quality and has no value in the international market. So even after the opening of these mines, the industry continued to suffer from the consequences of the long-term closure. The overall economy of the state has slowed down posing high dependency on



on the employment in mines are today in a state of panic. The ban affected not only the mining industry but also the connected businesses like transportation. The barge industry is expected to suffer due to the shutting down of the mines. At present, the industry comprises of 230 barges out of which the mining companies own 45 vessels, and the rest 185 have private ownership. Barge owners collectively have an outstanding loan amount of Rs. 109 crores owed to the banks and most of which are non-performing

assets. Data reveals that the barge owners who took loans during the period of the industry boom are still struggling with repayments. They are working towards a one-time settlement scheme and are arranging funds via asset reconstruction or re-education. Mining truck is another segment affected majorly due to the closure. The picture seems gloomy post the shutdown. If the mining doesn't resume, the overhead expenditure on truck owners will increase two-folds, amounting to a minimum of Rs

POINT OF VIEW

We asked Dr. Claude Alvares - Environmentalist and the Executive Secretary and Director at Goa Foundation - about his views on the impact of the mining and the closure over the environment as well as the economy of Goa. Here is what he had to say.

Q1. The ban on the mines in Goa has been a critical initiative concerning the environmental hazards it has caused. With so many years in action, to what extent has this activity exploited Goa's natural resources and how has it affected the ecological balance?

Natural resources, like minerals, forests and oceans including our beaches, are a shared inheritance. We are required to share them with our future generations, just as we inherited them from our ancestors. We must ensure our children receive this inheritance intact and in abundance. Mining in Goa has devastated our environment, the air, water sources, fields, our livelihoods, and our health. The excavation by the miners has destroyed over 100 sq.km of land. More the area is still under the excavated dumps or the so-called waste mountains, which have become 100 times the size of the Great Pyramids.

Apart from these disasters, economy wise, we have sold our mineral wealth, our family gold, for a pittance (Rs. 100 worth for less than Rs. 5). No wonder the miners were in such a hurry to push off the burden and sold our wealth for trifles.

Q2. Do we blame the industry for the disruption caused or is it because of poor governance that is responsible for the outcome? Were any

The Future Scenario

The industry has faced many challenges in the last 70 years with significant slowdown impacting the revenues. Be it sovereign, economic, political or societal; the impact of the ban has been widespread. It is now the third generation across Goa which is experiencing the big hit, building dependency and obligation to sustain and the stake stakeholders to persevere. It is a huge economic setback immediately, and the government along with the industry stakeholders are trying to figure a solution to overcome this downturn. The impact has created an enormous bucket of an unemployed population which has started to show its effect, especially when there is no clear picture on the way forward. Such repeated stoppage of mining activities has not just caused revenue depression and loss of employment opportunities within the state but also led to the loss of investor confidence which would affect Goa's economy long-term. Despite the fact that Goa complied with the SC directives which was higher and superior to any other state in India, yet Goa suffered in the hands of its own industry manipulators.



We must understand that in the 2014 judgment, the Supreme Court ruled that all mining that took place in Goa for a period of 5 years (2007 to 2012) was illegal. It permitted the resumption of mining only with new leases and new environment clearances. The legal consequences of illegal mining are clear – recovery of the ore or its value, plus penalty/jail terms for those involved. We estimated that Rs. 65,058 crores were recoverable from the mining leaseholders. Since there were no leases to bind them after the Supreme Court's judgment, the state had a unique opportunity to redesign its mining functions from scratch. We wrote in detail to the government about this. But the government did not seize the opportunity, being under the active influence of the dominant mining operators and investors.

Instead of recovering the loot from the crooks in this industry, and granting new leases & ECs, the government only renewed the contracts to the same individuals and companies that had caused the mining crisis in the first place. In fact, it backdated their renewals, thus handing over Rs. 1,44,000 crores to the same mining operators. We, along with other environmentalists and concerned groups, objected towards this entire activity. The SC concurred with our objections and also said that the "renewals are not fresh leases." When asked about if new ECs have been put in place he said (quoting the SC) - "It was observed by Justice Khehar in Natural Resources Allocation that material resources of the country should not be dissipated free of cost or at a considerably lower than their actual worth. Henceforth, the renewal of mining leases was done for a small payment on stamp duty and royalty. It is therefore clear that the considerations that weighed with the State were not for the people of Goa but for the mining leaseholders." Further, Dr. Alvares said, "...without making any serious attempt to recover such huge

amounts, the State government granted second renewal of mining leases and the MoEF, and played ball by lifting the abeyance order in respect of the environment clearances. The inferences drawn from the outcome is quite obvious." So though there were environmental controls available, the mining leaseholders were able to influence government not to enforce or implement them. Such indecisive and contradictory outcomes were bound to cause a crisis at some point, and it did.

Q3. Mining has been the 2nd most important source of revenue generation for the State, after Tourism? Was the closure a necessary move? Is the government taking necessary steps to resolve the crisis?

Royalty is nothing but the money received from the sale of our mineral wealth, our family gold. We should save every rupee in our permanent fund for our children and future generations. If there is some real income, then distribute it to everyone equally. Instead, we are treating royalty as income, like a drunkard does with his inheritance, and spending it. We have a unique opportunity to do a complete rethink of how we should be managing our mineral wealth.

If there are no valid leases, then why are we insisting on selling-off our resources? Is this the best time to sell it? How do we ensure there is no loss when we sell? And at last, most importantly, are we saving anything for our future generation and not consume their entire share? Aren't we cheating them if we are doing so? There is massive recovery to be conducted, but those can be done in sensible ways so that we can create employment opportunities, improve the environment by implementing the policies to ensure a safe and green environment for our future generations. But apparently, the government is focusing more on own benefits than about the repercussions of the mining crisis currently faced by the state and the

people of Goa.

Q4. How do we handle the unemployment issue of thousands of miners caused by the closure? Are any steps being taken to rehabilitate them?

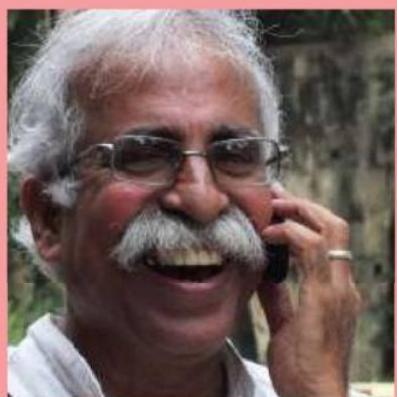
There are 750 million tonnes of dumps across the state, which are causing a substantial environmental hazard. Around 150 million tonnes of ore can be mined from these dumps and sold. Dump mining must be our priority to resolve the issue. It will take about 10 years at the current cap of 20 million tonnes imposed by the Supreme Court.

We need to accept the fact, none of the mines in the eco-sensitive zones, including some of the exhausted mines will not open. The 600 million tonnes of other dumps should be used to close and restore these mines. This activity can immediately create employment opportunities for the mining trucks.

A related activity that can start immediately is the de-silting of our rivers and fields – restore our fishing and rice cultivation, creating work for the trucks and barges.

Lastly, work must start immediately on repairing our aquifers and protecting our sources of water. Our springs must gush, auto-filling our wells naturally.

The scope of employment and recovery exists, but the will to work towards it is lacking. Today's generation does not realize that we are stealing and destroying the future



WHAT STANDS OUT,



GET IN TOUCH
WITH US AT

608, Unitech City Centre, M G Road Rd.,
Panaji - Goa, 403001. India.

CALL : 9665183739 / 9823211925
EMAIL : incrediblegoamedia@gmail.com

GETS NOTICED



Goa is a hub of talent in the field of art, music, design, architecture and so much more. It is buzzing with remarkable creativity and innovation in many areas, most of which go unnoticed. But, here is an opportunity for those who have made it big and are still going strong without being in the spotlight.

**THE FIRST EDITION
OF
INCREDIBLE GOA AWARDS
TO
HONOR
THE
INCREDIBLE PEOPLE OF GOA**

THE CEREMONY

Incredible Goa is organizing the awards category and the nomination in close consultation with an esteemed panel of judges. These categories highlight the core potential of the talent involved and promising future of the participants. The main award categories for the event will be:-

Young Talent of Goa
Best Artists
The Trendsetter
Business Person of the Year
Hotelier of the Year
Innovation in Cuisines
Best Contribution - Fashion
Best Contribution - Films
...and many more

THE EXPECTATIONS

These awards are being organized on a grand scale to provide a significant platform to the achievers. Expect the "Who's Who" of the Goan high-society - from prominent celebrities who have given a big name to Goa; to distinguished people from the field of Art, Business World, Fashion, Politics, and well-known faces from the Performing Arts industry. The emcee for the night will be – wait for it! – The Femina Miss India Contestant 2017 from Goa Audrey Di'silva. Do expect some amazing performances from well-known music bands and dance, and look forward to an eventful night.

IN FOCUS



ABOUT INCREDIBLE GOA

Incredible Goa is Goa's Society magazine connecting Goan lifestyle, tourism, and above all, the true essence of Goa with the outside world. The magazine has created a niche readership for itself amongst the people of goa who genuinely believe in this beautiful city and restoring the faith which might be getting lost with time. Incredible Goa aims to bridge Goans with each other too with those across the country and international boundaries.

Simplicity is the essence of the way the magazine is put up, retaining the elegance and style throughout.

Join us to make this event even more splendid in every way. Be connected to our website for more details that will be coming up soon.

ANTA
Jewellers

*Innovation is our
passion.
Design is our
style*

Shop No. 74, Francisco Loyola Road,
Margao, Goa- 403 601
Tel :- 0832-2732905
aditya.antajewellers@gmail.com
Web :- antajewellery.com





NRB GROUP[®]

Our growth is
dedicated to our
Values of Integrity
&
Social
Responsibility

A leading business group in Goa, NRB has always stayed true to its core values of integrity and social responsibility. Today these values extend into our hospitality chain-Palmetto Hotels, our manufacturing division-Bandekar Speciality Valves Corporation (BSVC), retail, wellness, fitness and entertainment businesses. In short our transparent business associations, professional employee relations and strong commitment to community welfare make NRB a modern dynamic company with good old fashioned values. The NRB Group also has expanded into the international markets and is the first Indian conglomerate to establish presence in Zambia with their NRB Pharma manufacturing unit.

22182210195

BSVC

NRB PHARMA

3W DISTRACTIONS

NRG-Northstar
fitness studio

10 CALANGUTE
An Exchange Boutique Hotel

HQ
Where it All Happens

MINING & EXPORT | MANUFACTURING | HOSPITALITY | EVENTS & CONCEPTS | WELLNESS | WELLNESS

Regd. Office: 501, 6th Floor, Dr. Daler Forum, Near St. Andrews Church, P.O. Box 31, Vagator, Goa-403 802. T: +91-8322-2512563 / 2848 F: +91-8322-2501997 www.rebgroup.biz

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT





VARSHA USGAONKAR MAKING A COMEBACK WITH A BANG TO HER HOMELAND

The world needs no introduction to Varsha Usgaonkar. We all have enjoyed her performances in many hit Bollywood and Marathi movies. She has been part of the film fraternity for almost 28 years, contributing to almost 35 films. Varsha did not restrict herself to just Bollywood and Marathi films. She spread her wings wider and worked films in Rajasthani, Bengali, Goan, Chhattisgarhi, and even in English. After a reign of success in both TV and films, she decided to focus on family after getting married. Now with her plans on making a comeback, Varsha opens her heart to us and

Varsha is originally from Goa. Born into a highly respected family, she is the daughter of Goa's former Deputy Speaker A. K. S. Usgaonkar. She has two siblings Dr. Mrs. Tosha Kurade and Mrs. Manisha Tarcar. Born and brought in this beautiful coastal city, Varsha has a special place in her heart for Goa and Goans. She has spent her entire childhood and did her education here. Although she moved to Mumbai because of work, her connection with her roots is still strong. Varsha got married in March 2000 to Ajay Sharma, son of Indian film music director Ravishankar Sharma after reaching the peak of success in her acting career. She continued working post marriage and did few Hindi films but rejected most of the offers as they were not what she aspired for. She continued contributing to Marathi cinema as an actor and even received an award for Best Actor in a Comedy role from the Maharashtra Government in 2015 for the film – *Hututu*.

The Onset of a New Star – The Golden Era of the 90's

Varsha always had an inclination towards acting and wanted to pursue the same. She decided to join the Goan film fraternity. Since she couldn't find many opportunities here as the industry was still in the nascent stage, she relocated to Mumbai in search of better roles. Then, there was no stopping her. After a long course of a struggle, Varsha managed to bag some good roles as a lead actress. She started in 1982 as the lead actress in the super hit Marathi stage play *Brahmachari*. Consequently, she rose to become one of the top actresses in the Marathi film industry bagging more hit films like - *Gammat Jammat*, *Hamal De Dhamal*, *Saglikade Bombabomb*, *Sawat Majhi Ladki*, *Shejari Shejari*, *Ek Hota Vidushak*, *Lapandaay*, and others.

She also started receiving offers from

She gained a lot of praises for her performance in the movie *Mangal Pandey: The Rising* in the year 2005. She made an appearance in other movies like *Mr. ya Miss* as a supporting actress and also in *Faisal-Saif* directed controversial Hindi film, *Jigyaasa* where she played the role of a mother to *Hrishitaa Bhatt*. Varsha also worked in television serials in 1988. To begin with, she starred in the most successful epic TV series – *B. R Chopra's Mahabharata* – where she played the role of *Uttara*, wife of *Abhimanyu* and mother of *Parikshit*. It has been one of the most successful series in the history of television. This role in *Mahabharata* paved way for her entry *Bollywood*. She also played the role of *Roopmati* in another hit tele-series *Chandrakanta* in 1994, along with other serials namely *Alvida Darling*, *Tanha*, and *Anhonee*. Thereafter she appeared in the Marathi shows *Aakash Zep* and *Eka Mekansathi*.

One of her most prominent performances still talked about was in TV serial - *Jhansi Ki Rani* in 1990s which aired on *Doordarshan*. She played the lead character of *Rani Lakshmi Bai*, a significant performance and was admired by many from industry biggies to the masses.

The Goan Film Industry

Varsha feels that the Goan film industry has come a long way and has started to mature gradually. She is very keen on working in a Konkani movie. She says, "I am very comfortable with Konkani, as it is my mother language. I can get up from my sleep and speak the dialogues. It comes naturally to me." Varsha has observed that from the last 5-6 years the industry has been making good attempts in Goan and Konkani Cinema. She feels that Konkani cinema has come of age and is moving into mainstream cinema. In fact, it is also making its presence felt at the national level by receiving a number of awards. Varsha feels that it's the right time to dedicate herself

to the Goan cinema. She is now considering offers from Konkani movies and decisively working on strong stories with good directors. She believes everything happens for a reason and at the right time. "When man proposes, God disposes – that is when you grab the opportunity." She recently worked in a Konkani movie called *Jawayii No.1*. "The role came to me at the right time and I just grabbed the opportunity", she said. The movie has been directed by a successful film director from the Marathi and Konkani film arena - Harry Fernandes. He has to his credit another well-directed movies - *Sofiyaa* and *Nashibacho Khel*. The Goa film industry is gradually developing but the directors still choose stars from outside of the state. Varsha adds to this – "Since the fraternity is still work in progress, they need get the technique and talent from Maharashtra. The best movies like *Nachuya Kupasar* in a Konkani movie but the team behind this movie is majorly from Marathi industry. It is essential because the films should appeal to a national audience and should be marketable. But as far as production and other techniques are concerned with the camera, the crew, or lights are yet not available in Goa. Hence, they have to be brought in from either Mumbai or Kolhapur."

Varsha also addresses the question on low budgets in Goan Cinema. She says, "I will never charge more than my market price of Goan Cinema. It is my love and passion for this art and for Konkani films that I really not work for them. The directors here will also not ask me to work for free as they understand that we are all professionals. First and foremost I see Goan film fraternity as my own. So my criteria working for them will be quiet different what I do for Hindi films or a Marathi film. You can't compare the budget of those!" Varsha, considering a comeback, has already started work in Konkani films. She feels comfortable and the love of her hometown inspires her, even

more, to contribute towards the Konkani film fraternity.

The Comeback

The Goan industry is now looking for talent like Varsha who can contribute to Goa film industry in a large way and help it grow further. Varsha has already started work here and she wished to focus on working as an actor rather than any other field of filmmaking. She feels going into direction is not really her forte and would like to jump to another side of the wagon for some more time. She will take it up when she feels the time is right. She mentions, "I can contribute as an actor and I certainly long to be a part of the Goan film industry in a big way. In fact, I have decided to dedicate myself to the Goan film industry for the next few years. I want to do more Konkani films. I have already contributed a lot to Marathi film industry in my own way, but now I really want to concentrate on Konkani films. So I will focus on films with good content and appeals to the Goans in a big way. It should not be a copy of any Bollywood or Marathi film. It should be an authentic and original Goan film. "When asked if she wishes to venture into producing a film, she said, "I would not like to because I am not that adventures and we all think producing a film is a big game. It comes with its own pros and cons. So I don't think that I am ready for it yet. But yes as far as promotions of the films are concerned I will do it in my own way."

In her message to the Goan Film Industry, she said, "I want to encourage directors here to make films which are culturally rich and showcase the true essence of Goa in a big way. Don't ever miss it. I do understand to make a film commercially viable you need big star cast to make it successful in the market. But let the film be truly Goan. Let it look like a regional film and fully display the culture of Goa. The dialogues have to be very good and colloquial along with a spectacular screenplay. So I really advise the filmmakers here to concentrate on

“ Spread across 36000 sq ft area makes it India's biggest gym facility”

Norbert's fitness studio



Resistance Training
Cardio Workouts
Weight Loss
Core & Abdominal Training

+91 9822120180

norbert9822120180@gmail.com / www.nobertfitnessgoa.com

Panjim , Porvorim , Vasco , Mapusa , Margao , Candolim , Miramar , Donapaula

ALIRIO SALDANHA

CLICKING HIS WAY TO GLORY

Alirio Saldanha is a name that needs no introduction. He is well-known in the photography fraternity of Goa and around the world. He has to his credit a membership of many prestigious creative and commercial photography institutions that make him a celebrated personality. A qualified commercial photographer with an honorary degree of excellence achieved from The American Image Press, Mr. Saldanha is recognised internationally and has won multiple prestigious national and international awards for his contribution to the art of photography. An avid and passionate photographer, his work speaks volumes about his love for this profession. Combining passion with hard work reaps the fruit of success. Alirio Saldanha's success story attests this.

A true Goan, a pure-hearted Samaritan and a staunch believer in God, Mr. Saldanha is firmly attached to his Goan roots and its people. His mission is to elevate the state of Goa and its people and provide career-oriented training through his inheritance of the academic institute – Stenodac Institute for Career Training and Professional Education. Stenodac came into existence in 1971, founded by his parents - Patricio and Rosita Saldanha. After inheriting this legacy, Mr. Saldanha took charge and has transformed the face of professionally trained careers. He has helped thousands of youngsters in Goa by providing quality and contemporary skilled education. They have benefited immensely by getting employed through institute placement to prestigious firms in Goa and across national borders.

Mr. Saldanha has travelled widely and covered more than 65 countries. His love for travel takes him to places either in search of new trends and

innovation in photography, or purely for his passion to travel. If he is not travelling, he diverts all his focus towards training students who are aspiring photographers, hobbyists or amateurs and wish to excel in this field. He gets great satisfaction in sharing his passion with others who show equal enthusiasm in learning the art. He enjoys imparting his vast reservoir of knowledge with his students and involves himself thoroughly till they can find ground in this art and beyond. Many photographers of various professional levels have benefited from his training methodology. For Mr. Saldanha, it is not just a business venture; it is his life passion and mission which he shares with others. **Shaping Passion into Profession**

After acquiring prestigious degrees of excellence in photography from around the world, Mr. Saldanha decided to work on his dream project – providing training in creative photography. He worked with renowned brands and advertising

firms and conducted multiple photo shoots and even led films. He has been also the man behind the launch of many successful careers in modeling and fashion. While speaking to him about his passion, Mr. Saldanha shares that, "Photography is one of the most widely chosen hobbies in the world." He adds, "You will not find one family anywhere in the world, who is not inclined towards photography. There would always be at least one person in the family who would be passionate about this art and owns atleast a basic camera or cell phone camera to capture moments. Even with the popularity of video-making, nothing compares to capturing a moment through the lenses that gets frozen in time. Look around you. What do you see? You see pictures, photographs, graphics, illustrated images everywhere. Photographs bring people and places from every corner of the globe into our living rooms. Pictures are a timeless treasure that everyone owns and



this being an art form, the single most important factor behind a great picture is the photographer. And by gaining at least basic knowledge of the principles of photography, an individual can take full advantage of everything this art has to offer. With the onset of new trends and technologies, it has become essential for photographers to understand and use them. But, we must not forget that such devices are only tools. Without the skills and artistry to see the picture, such electronic marvels are worthless. Eventually, it is the person behind the lens, who primarily and finally produces that beautiful piece of art." He encourages all his students to transform their passion into a profession. Then they don't need to work for success; their passion will bring success to them.

Today, Mr. Saldanha is one of the pioneers of the art of photography in Goa. To propagate this art in Goa, he launched the "Stenodac Academy of Photography and Digital Imaging" in May 2001. The academy is the first fully equipped professional Photography Institute in the State. It is an extension of the 47-year-old Stenodac Education Group.

The academy trains aspiring students on international standards, using state-of-the-art equipment, facilities, and training techniques. Being a qualified teacher of photography himself, Mr. Saldanha shares his vast in-depth knowledge and experience in professional commercial photography to coach his students in a very contemporary way. He has the

most advanced photography studio in Goa which has a ceiling-mounted pentagram and the courseware and studio equipment is upgraded on a regular basis. At the academy, Mr. Saldanha coaches his students by using the latest DSLR and the new generation DSLM (mirrorless) cameras. Stenodac Academy is the only Institute in India that provides cameras and lenses and all related equipment to each student during the course of training. Today the academy stands as Goa's premier professional training institute in photography. Mr. Saldanha is living his passion while making his dream a reality. He aims at taking this legacy forward to the new generation.

The Man behind the Lens

Mr. Saldanha is a member of prestigious Indian and International photography related organisations. He has associated himself with the

top faculty of institutes like Brookes Institute of Photography in California, and underwent specialised training from India's top Institutions - Shari Academy of Professional Photography, Mumbai and the Light & Life Academy, Ooty, India. He was also the spokesperson for Canon India at the time of the launch of Canon Digital Cameras in India.

Mr. Saldanha is invited as the speaker to photography conferences, talk

shows and renowned social groups to talk about this art. He is also an exclusive columnist for many newspapers and e-zines covering subjects on the newest international trends in digital and creative photography.

He engages in collaborating with various photography-promoting programs, bringing together the

photography fraternity from all around the world onto one platform to communicate their ideas and views. He is also actively organizing many contests of photography and is invited to judge international and national level events.

The Perks of Dedicating His Life Time Service in Education

Awarded the Best International Standards Institute in India at the International Excellence awards held in Thailand on January 28th 2018, handed over by famed Bollywood Actress Madhuri Dixit.

Awarded the International Quality Award for International standards in Education on 17th January 2016, handed by former Ms. Universe, Sushmita Sen.

Awarded the national Icon of the Year Award 2015 by Mr. Amar Singh (Politician) and Goa's Dy. Chief Minister Mr. Francis D'Souza in the distinguished presence of the legendary athlete Mr. Milkha Singh, on 9th of October 2015.

Awarded the Education Excellence Award by Mr. Prahlad Kakkar, the Ad Guru, on 13th of April 2013. It was for the first time that an institute from Goa won a national level honorary award.

He has been selected to receive a prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award at a ceremony to be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, on June 2018.

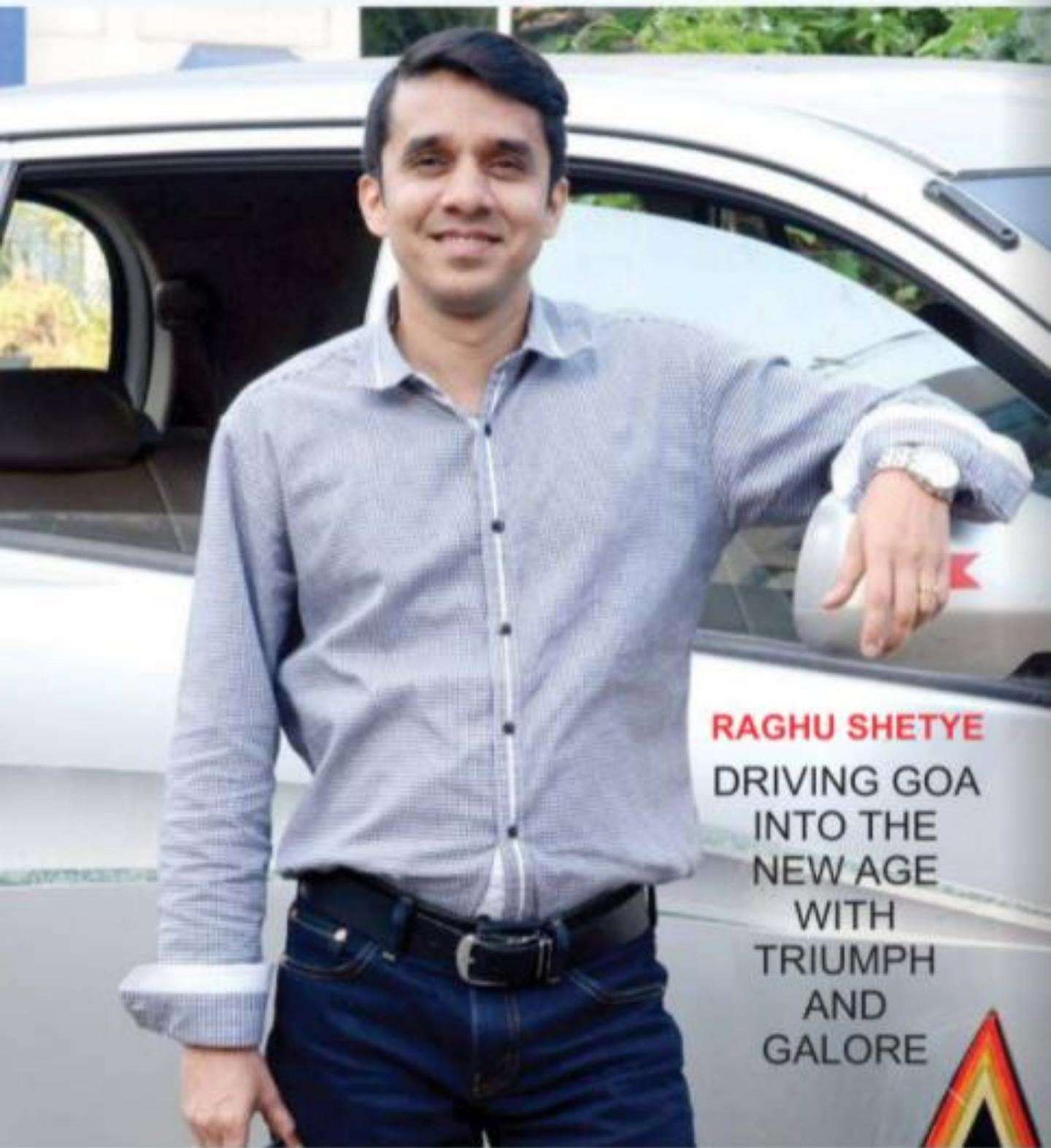
Alirio Saldanha has a vision, and he sends out a strong message to the Youth of Goa. He says, "In today's world, the most sensible advice I wish to offer every young person is to "invest in yourself". Recognising your dream and living it, is the best way to be successful and happy in life. Pursuing your passion as your profession makes you want to work hard and specialize in it. Henceforth, the knowledge you acquire in the process along with the qualifications builds your way up the success ladder. Nobody can ever take that from you. Whatever may happen in the years ahead, a trained person who is qualified has the power to make it big. And they will." He ends on an important note - "Never let

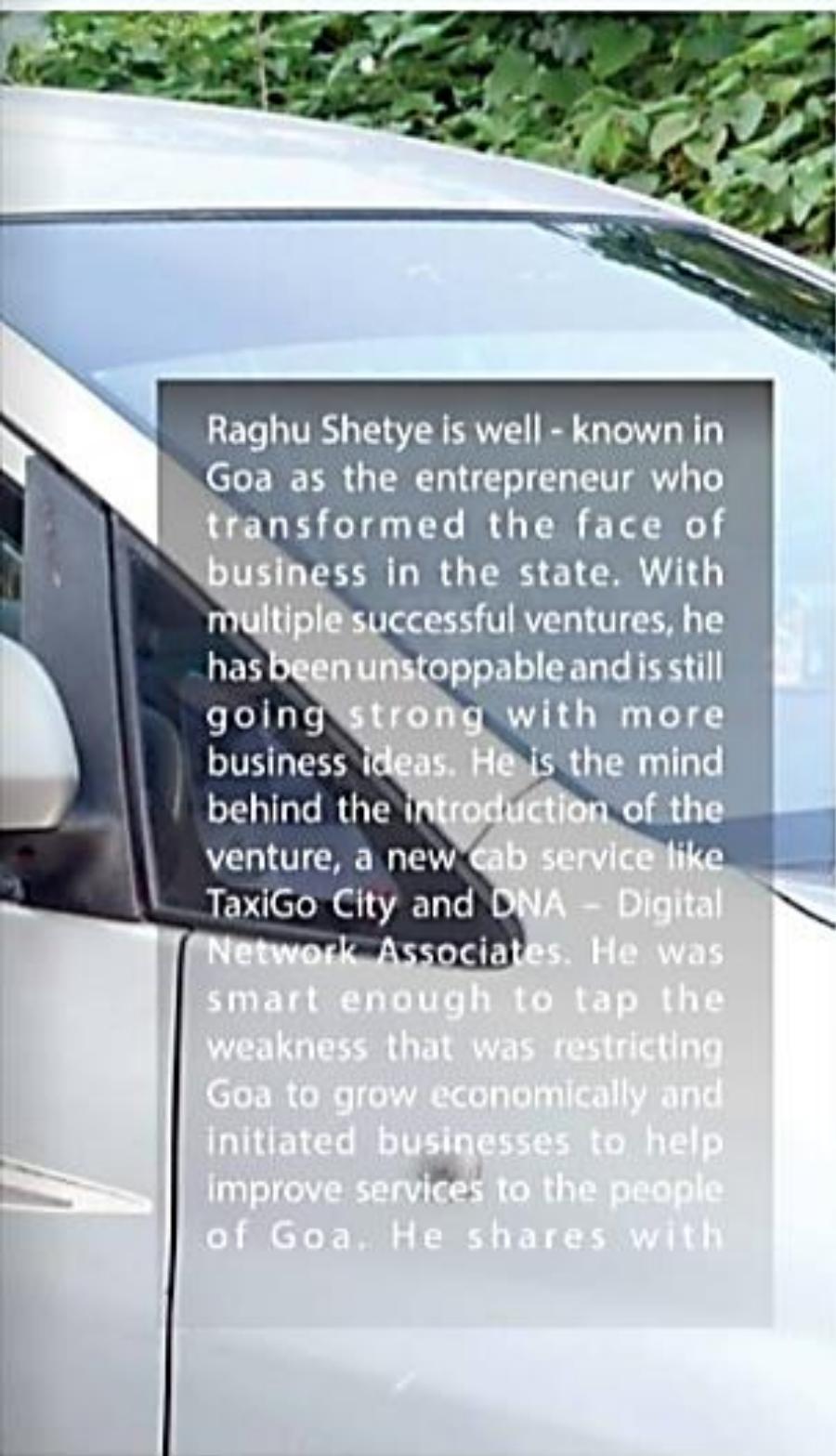


PROPERTIES IN GOA



**CALL
922 590 3930**





Raghu Shetye is well-known in Goa as the entrepreneur who transformed the face of business in the state. With multiple successful ventures, he has been unstoppable and is still going strong with more business ideas. He is the mind behind the introduction of the venture, a new cab service like TaxiGo City and DNA – Digital Network Associates. He was smart enough to tap the weakness that was restricting Goa to grow economically and initiated businesses to help improve services to the people of Goa. He shares with

Raghu Shetye's story begins with his fascination for automobiles. He did his engineering in automobiles and was bubbling with ideas. Belonging to a simple middle-class family, Shetye a son of a banker was expected to follow his father's league. But his dreams were different. After completing his engineering, he was called for interviews in various big companies like Maruti Suzuki, Tata Automobiles, Kinetic Honda in Pune, etc. His aspirations were different and being employed by someone was never his game plan. He returned to his hometown Goa and joined his father in his family business of timber. The business was quite successful and he continued managing the same for some time.

Raghu has been ambitious since the beginning and it had been his dream to do something that would add value to the society, his home state, and the country. Since he was an environmentally conscious person, he never liked working in a business that was destroying natural resources. Although he never physically cut trees, the family business used to import timber from countries like Africa, Burma, Malaysia, etc. The fact that troubled him deeply was that the green cover was being cut down and was being reduced to nothing.

In 1999 he decided to leave the family business and start planning his own venture. Raghu approached his father for financial help to start his own business in real estate. His business picked up and he received his first construction project in Mandre for a Naval Officer. Later, he bagged a bigger project for a building in Mapusa. Eventually, his hard work paid off and there was no stopping him. He continued to get bigger and better projects from places like SantaCruz, and more in Mapusa. He received tremendous support from his friends who have been with him for the past 20 years - Sameer Kakodkar, Rajesh, June Parriera, Dominic, and Mohnish.

Birth of TaxiGo

Seeing his real estate business gaining momentum, Raghu decided to start working on his dream business of automobiles - taxi service to be precise. Raghu's family, especially his wife feels that he must have been a freedom fighter in his previous life, always working for his state his country and his people. And it shows in his actions. He always wanted to contribute to the society through his actions, his ideas, and his work. So, when he observed that Goa's reputation was getting tarnished because of highly manipulative and wrong attitude of the taxi operators, Shetye decided to step up and start a taxi service that would help tourists as well as locals to commute easily and at affordable prices. That's how 'Taxigo City' was born.

His primary intention behind starting a taxi service was not to avenge anyone, but to make fellow taxi

operators aware of their wrongdoing while providing quality and hassle-free services to people. He says, "TaxiGo is definitely a business but there is this strong belief that I follow - 'providing good service to all'. People can see for themselves how much profit I could earn with a fare of just Rs 199. My philosophy is to help and give employment opportunity to my local taxi owners and at the same time provide comfortable and affordable services. People should not compare this service with Ola or Uber. This is a local service with a similar kind of technology and our aim is to serve each and every citizen of Goa." Raghu emphasizes on the fact that Goa is known for its hospitality and good service all over the world. If people try to destroy it, he as true Goankar should take on the challenge to make his people aware and correct them in the best possible way. So when TaxiGo came into the market, there

were many revolts and opposition from the taxi operators. The competition even tried to destroy his taxis and send out threatening calls to him. First people thought that it was like Ola or Uber and wanted to enter the Goan land to shut down local taxi services. But Raghu very clearly explained the intention behind TaxiGo and that his services were to benefit people and not bring them down. TaxiGo is not a radio taxi and does not operate on a similar model. In fact, he explained, that such a model would not work for a city like Goa because the distances people travel to (the longest ride) does not even come close to the distances that are traveled in metros like Delhi or Mumbai. Hence he provides TaxiGo at per kilometer cost which is fair and justified.

The Success and future of TaxiGo

TaxiGo has a huge fleet under its banner now. Raghu emphasizes that his business model does not include



NEOMISTM
SALON & SPA



SENSE OF ETHEREAL
SINCE 1997

Miramar | Le Meridien | Calangute | Ponda
7774006591/92 | 7774006014/15 | 7774006594 | 77740006595

team, bringing their own vehicles to expand the service. He is even enthusiastic about providing assistance to the ones who want to start their own business in the same field of transport. Raghu, when asked for future plans for TaxiGo said, "I want to start technology-based digital transport service if am able to get everyone's support. I believe that it will be better than Ola and Uber and we will then operate at a national level. He is also working towards eradicating this misconception about digitised services and make people understand the benefits of such advanced services. The agitation is primarily coming from taxi operators rather than the locals. The operators need to understand that usage of technology like GPS system, digital meters for speed rectification and control and the SOS panic button that is an essential form of safety, and comfort point of view. Technology is meant to make life easier, not difficult. He wants to send out the right message across that it is the concept of high-quality service that is important because not everything should be about money.

Raghu proudly expresses his feeling of joy about the success of TaxiGo and today it runs smoothly and provides services all over Goa.

The new venture – DNA

We are all using the internet service by DNA – Digital Network Associate. Raghu Shetye's second big venture which was started with a vision to digitize Goa. His aim was to connect every Goan with high-speed internet and move along with the digital

world. DNA was established in collaboration with Chandan Group Goa, providing high-speed internet service at low cost.

Raghu says that DNA was actually the brainchild of his long-time friend - Iqbaal Hoda. They both observed that Goa was in a way disconnected with rest of India and the world with poor or no internet service. This was a handicap and it didn't allow business

handling such situations and was able to overcome it in no time.

Today he is receiving a lot of support from the government in putting fiber-optic cable all over Goa. He has also come up with a project where he will be providing free Wi-Fi connection to all Police Stations in Goa. This will help the Police to handle complains online as well and streamline the handling of critical and emergency situations much faster.

Future Plans

Raghu has plans to bring a revolution in the education sector as well. His idea involves putting up an internet hub that will give an area Wi-Fi connectivity. So everyone, including children will have ease of access to the internet. Nowadays everyone is using mobiles, laptop, kindles, and tablets to read books, connect with people of social media and even study. Making the city Wi-Fi enabled will only do good. It will also help enterprises and all other fields of trade to grow and help them connect with outside world easily and quickly. "This is what the concept of Digital

India is and I want to make Goa also Digital," as quoted by Raghu Shetye. Raghu Shetye is a strong believer in God and his ambition is to contribute as much as he can to the society and make his state and country great. He wants to send out a message to his fellow Goans that we all should work together collectively, removing all biases and discrimination, to make our state even greater in every way possible. He encourages young entrepreneurs to come forward with ideas, and work towards making themselves and also the state successful. He values education, moral values, and hard work and believes if one all these then there is



and other areas to grow and flourish. The service providers that were existing were charging an exorbitant amount for low-quality service. With the introduction of DNA, they first provided free installation of the services at premises, along with a nominal monthly fee. People acknowledged this and experienced good internet speed which they never got before. It was a breakthrough which apparently changed how people could connect easily through the internet for work and other things. This business also came with its own consequences – threats and damage to property by competitors. But Raghu is adept in

A black and white close-up portrait of a woman with long dark hair, smiling broadly. She has dark eyes and is wearing a small pearl earring. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on her face and dark shadows.

AUDREY D'SILVA
THE GOAN
FIRECRACKER
OF A WOMAN

It does not matter if you stay in Goa or were born here, what matters the most is being connected and having your roots deep in the state to be Goan. Audrey is one such Goan and is the winner of a Femina Miss India Goa 2017. According to her, although she was born and brought up in Mumbai, she has her roots in Goa. Audrey's grandfather was a Portuguese national and when he got married to her grandmother they decided to shift to Mumbai. Although Audrey is Mumbaikar by birth her heart will always be in Goa and that is what made her participate in the Femina Miss India contest which she won.

I met Audrey when she was in Goa to attend an award function in south Goa and after talking to her I decided to write about her interesting life. According to Audrey, although she does not stay in Goa she never misses an opportunity to visit, and this time when she was in Goa she decided to visit her uncle who stays in the state. "In fact yesterday I met my uncle after nineteen years, so I have my roots from goa. My grandfather and my dad are related to Goa, that's how I am Goan too." When I asked Audrey about participating in the Miss India contest from Goa she said that she had an option to select the Mumbai as her hometown to appear for Miss India Pageant but she wanted to make Goans proud of her achievements and decided to take part in the contest from Goa. "When I decided to participate from Goa I came across their terms which said that I can only participate from Goa provided I have some connection in Goa, either I had done my studies in Goa or working in this state or I needed to have a family roots in Goa and that is where I got the chance to represent my state in the Femina Miss India Beauty Pageant," she averred.

When Audrey decided to participate in Femina Miss India content from Goa she was not a novice in the field



Mumbai and other states in India. Adding, "I could not go to Face of International Beauty pageant in Taipei due to my visa, the International Director didn't give me the letter, and I feel that my lack of a knowledge is also a reason behind it," she said.

Audrey D'Silva is a model by profession now, but she worked in journalism since her mother and father both are journalists by profession. Audrey always aspired to be model. "For me Miss India was always my dream, and I always wanted to go for it," she said adding that she had been observing Aishwarya Rai and Priyanka Chopra winning the Miss India titles and that made her feel "Mai Miss India banna chahti hoon" (I want to become Miss India) "I studied Journalism because I had seen my parents, and I had seen people getting scared of journalists. According to me, the media has power, and that made me take up my education in that direction." According to Audrey, the education is as much important as the career. "I really thank my parents for being so supportive towards all my initiatives. I am not the someone who wants to get into Bollywood and become an actress like most models." Audrey does not believe in becoming Miss India for the sake of entering into the film industry but it sure will open a door of opportunities for many things. "First of all it is a very proud moment for anyone to go with country's name; the second thing is with the title you have lots of opportunities to do lots of things, apart from just going to Bollywood," she said.

When I asked Audrey, now that she has become Miss Goa what future plans does she have relating to Goa, she informed me about her association with the Cori Foundation. "I really want to do a lot for Goa, provided that I get a right opportunity," she said adding that if she gets an opportunity she will help in promoting Goa tourism to the world. Besides being into modeling

Audrey has also worked in a few of the TV serials. When I asked her about the same she said that she had tried her hands in many things. "I want to tell you one thing about myself, I love experimenting with new things, presently I am busy in modeling, anchoring, and TV serials - about the Bollywood dreams, they will happen when the right time comes. According to me, Bollywood needs either luck or lots of struggle. I have many friends in the film industry and I have seen them struggling a lot



but without any luck," she said adding that television connects more to the audience today compared to films.

Audrey says becoming Miss Goa is not an easy task at all. "In fact, to become anything in the world, you need to be very hardworking. Beauty

isn't the only criteria to becoming a model, Miss Goa or Miss India, you also need to be intelligent. You need to work consistently towards your passion, Just like an athlete works towards his goal of winning the race," said Audrey adding that "Nowadays people think that if you are tall and pretty then you can opt for modeling but that is not correct, you need to be smart and have awareness too. In my case, while appearing for auditions, I had to study a lot of politics and general knowledge about the state I was going to represent." Audrey indeed did a study about Goa because when you represent the state, you need to know a lot about that place. "Another thing is diet, "I had worked very hard. I remember being on diet without sugar and salt, and I was not consuming the rice and chapattis too, the only thing I had to eat boiled chicken and eggs, so much so that now I have started to hate the eggs," she said laughing. If you want to achieve any of your dreams, the first thing you need is the moral support of your near and dear ones and for Audrey, it was no different. Her parents were her strongest support system throughout her struggle with Miss India. "I love my parents more than anything. They dream for me and I work to fulfill them. Whatever I had dreamed till now, my parents worked hard for that."

Audrey spends lots of her time in social work. She frequently visits an old age home, and she likes to work for people dealing with the drug rehabilitation. Audrey has a dream of making it to the top of whatever she is doing. "I have decided that in the next three years, I want to be the big name in India. You may be surprised to know that Audrey has decided to not get married but she wants to adopt a kid, because, according to Audrey "I think there is no man in the world who can handle me. According to me, it is very difficult to get a good looking man with good knowledge. Secondly, if they are good looking, and they have good knowledge, they

FOUR HOT PROPERTIES! AT VERY COOL PRICES!

Animal Lover's Paradise - Assagao



Situated in a calm place, residing on the hill top at a distance from the Mapusa city overlooking the picturesque village of Assagao. Surrounded by amazing greenery, our project is the ideal place for families who seek to live in a breezy environment.

Church View Residency - Moira



Situated in a cozy village of Moira that lies a few miles away from Mapusa city. The project is located near the church of Our Lady of Immaculate Conception & opposite the road to "Godgoddeanchokhuris".

Mother Agnes Field View - Aldona



Situated on located in the quaint little village of Verla at a distance of about 40kms from Dabolim airport. A charming project with 1BHK apartments with 2 toilets. The project is set away from the city, with a terrace overlooking lush greenery.

Mother Agnes & Marynian Residency Verla Canca



Situated on the main road of connecting Mapusa- Aldona, next to St. Thomas Boy's High School and a few minutes away from the primary section, overlooking the fields. It is an urbanized village with all modern facilities of the city, developed with infrastructure of roads, electricity and water.

1 & 2 BHK APARTMENTS | READY TO MOVE & UNDER CONSTRUCTION | SPECIAL DISCOUNTS |
LAUNCH OFFER



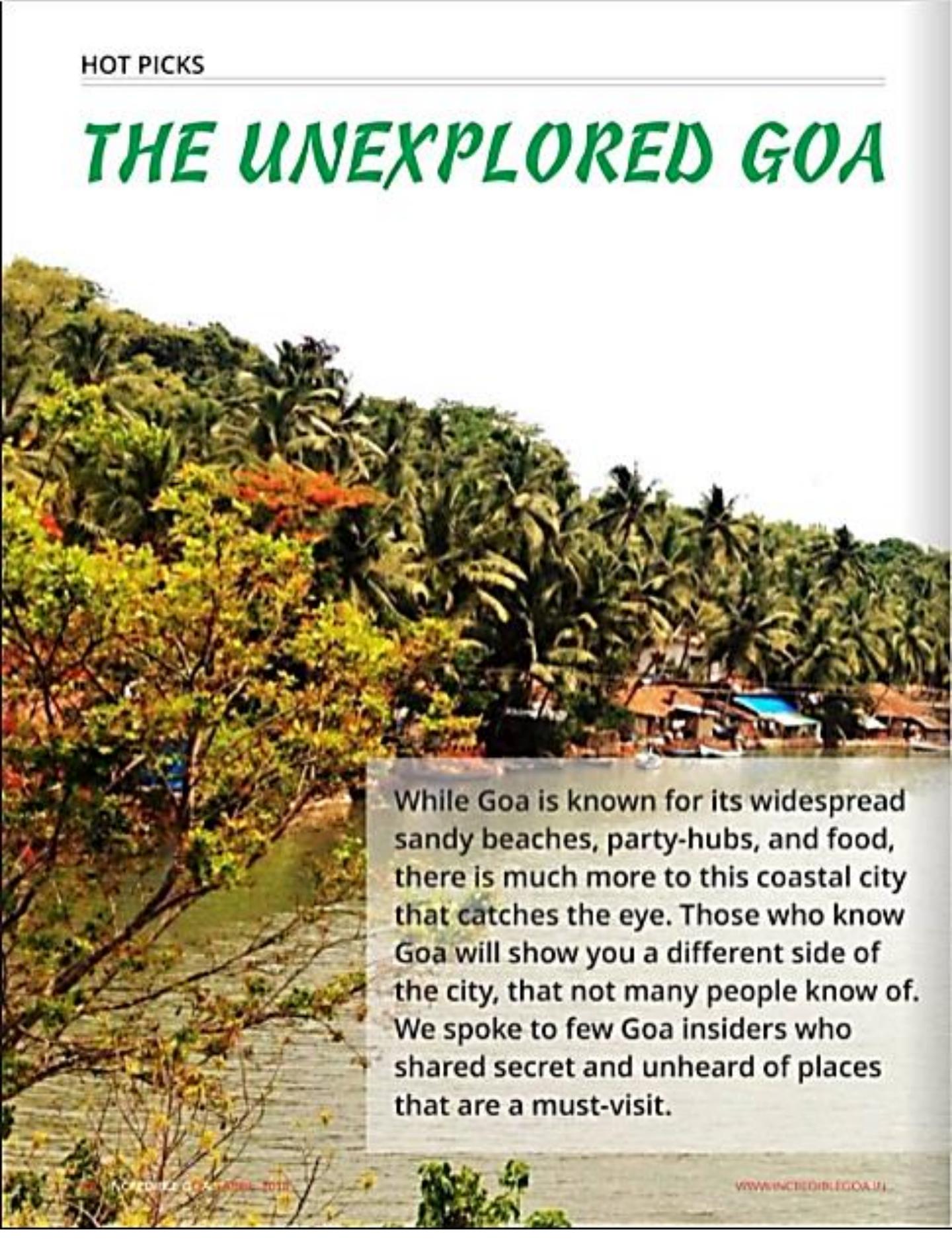
MEGA STRUCTURES REALESTATE LIMITED

Tel: 0832-2254647 / 8805126868 / 7066608462,

Office No. 301, 302, 305 & 306, On the 3rd Floor, Commerce Center Building,
Opp. Mapusa Municipality, Mapusa, Bardez, North - Goa. 403 503.

E-mail: salesmsre@gmail.com / megastructuresre@gmail.com Web: www.megastructuresrealestate.com

THE UNEXPLORED GOA



While Goa is known for its widespread sandy beaches, party-hubs, and food, there is much more to this coastal city that catches the eye. Those who know Goa will show you a different side of the city, that not many people know of. We spoke to few Goa insiders who shared secret and unheard of places that are a must-visit.

The St Augustine's Tower complex

A heritage monument belonging to the 16th Century that is part of the World Heritage Site is made of churches and convents of Goa. With a height of 46 meters, St Augustine Tower served as a belfry and formed part of the facade of a great Church. Located at Monte Santo (Holy Hill) in Velha Goa, this complex was the site for the monastery of the Augustinian order, attached to which was an enormous church of Nossa Senhora da Graca (Our Lady of Grace). This remnant of the building is all that stands today of what once was one of the largest buildings in Goa – The Augustinian Monastery.

Museum of Christian Art - Convent of Santa Monica

The Museum is considered to be one-of-its-kind in Asia and located in the Convent of Santa Monica, Old Goa, in the vicinity of World Heritage Monuments. The Museum is a project of the Archdiocese and has enriched the cultural heritage and history of Goa. Every object displayed in the museum reflects the richness of the Indo-Portuguese Christian Art and the immense wealth of the Churches of Goa.

Basilica of Bom Jesus

Located at Old Goa, 10 kilometers east of Panaji, the Bom Jesus Basilica is a World Heritage Monument. The Bom Jesus Basilica, is the most revered by Christians worldwide is a model of simplicity and elegance, and a beautiful example of Jesuit architecture. The church is called "Bom Jesus" which means 'good Jesus' or 'infant Jesus'. The façade on top has the letters, "HIS," engraved which are the first three letters of Jesus in Greek. This beautiful architecture is a must-visit purely for its beautiful

WWW.INCREDIBLEGOA.IN

ornate interiors.

Three Kings Church

Three Church, officially Our Lady of Remedios Chapel, is located in a plush village of Goa called Chandor situated atop a hill in Cuelim, 15 km east of Margao. The church stands atop a hillock opening to a divine view of Majorda beach. On the foot of the hill is the vast expanse of fields, salt pans, and islands — painting a real Goa. Today, it is also famous for being one of the most haunted places in Goa. But regardless of the stories being circulated, it is one the most visited place by the Goans and few travelers who know about it.

Cumbarjua Canal

If you wish to add adventure to your Goa travel, visit Cumbarjua Canal. The canal is located near the Zuari River and is known for crocodile sighting in their natural habitat. The narrow creek is one of the unknown places in Goa as not many people venture into the muddy waters and thick mangrove for a sight of sunbathing crocodiles. The crocodiles here are a unique species that have adapted to the salt water habitat in Goa. On a typical trip, you can expect a good number of crocodiles in addition to a variety birds like the kingfishers, shanks, storks, kites, etc.

Netravali – Bubbling Lake

The bubbling lake, as the name suggests, is a geographical phenomenon that makes the water in the lake bubble in a rhythmic manner. This little pond located in Sanguem Taluka is must-see place amongst the hidden places in Goa. It is famous for it is mysterious activity - if you clap your hands or plod on the steps, there is an immediate reaction from the water.

The reason behind the bubble is the accumulation of methane gas from the vegetation underwater which escapes at the subtlest of movements. In fact, you can get yourself a natural fish pedicure by dipping in feet for long enough.

Chorla Ghats

If you think that Goa is only about beaches and sand the ocean, wait till you visit these majestic Chorla Ghats. Located on the north-eastern side of Goa-Karnataka-Maharashtra border, Chorla is a stunning tropical forest. The Ghats have a stunning view, and if visiting during the monsoon, the view is spectacular. The Nature Conservation Facility has been established at Chorla Ghats to facilitate research and long-term monitoring of the Western Ghats of the Sahyadris region and their biodiversity. It is meant to provide a platform for ecologists and wildlife biologists.

Harvalem Falls

People have heard a lot about the Dudhsagar falls, but no one outside of Goa is aware of this 50 meters high waterfall. Located at a short distance from the regional town of Bicholim, along the road from Mayem Lake, is the village of Sanquelim. Not many people know about this isolated little waterfall where you can spend some quiet and peaceful time amidst the sight of the greens and the sound of water.

Arvalem Caves

Located in the Bicholim town of North Goa, the Arvalem Caves are ancient rock-cut caves that give us a chance to step into the mythological tales. The origin of these caves dates back to the 6th century. Popularly known as the Pandava Caves, these caves have

exile. The presence of five compartments and Shivlingas in the cave complex provides relevance of this fact. However, the caves have also been claimed to be of Buddhist origin due to the presence of a colossal statue of Buddha near the place. The architectural style of the caves also speaks loud of the Buddhist possession.

Rivona

With Christianity as the predominant religion of the state, did you know that Goa is also known for its rich Buddhist history!

The Rivona Caves are a living example of that, and these caves are said to be the seat of a Buddhist Monk. The cave has a stone sculpture of Buddha in 'Bhumisparsha' posture, carved out of a laterite rock, belonging to the Mahayana Sect. The caves were said to have been occupied by Buddhist monks, who settled here sometime in the 6th or 7th century AD.

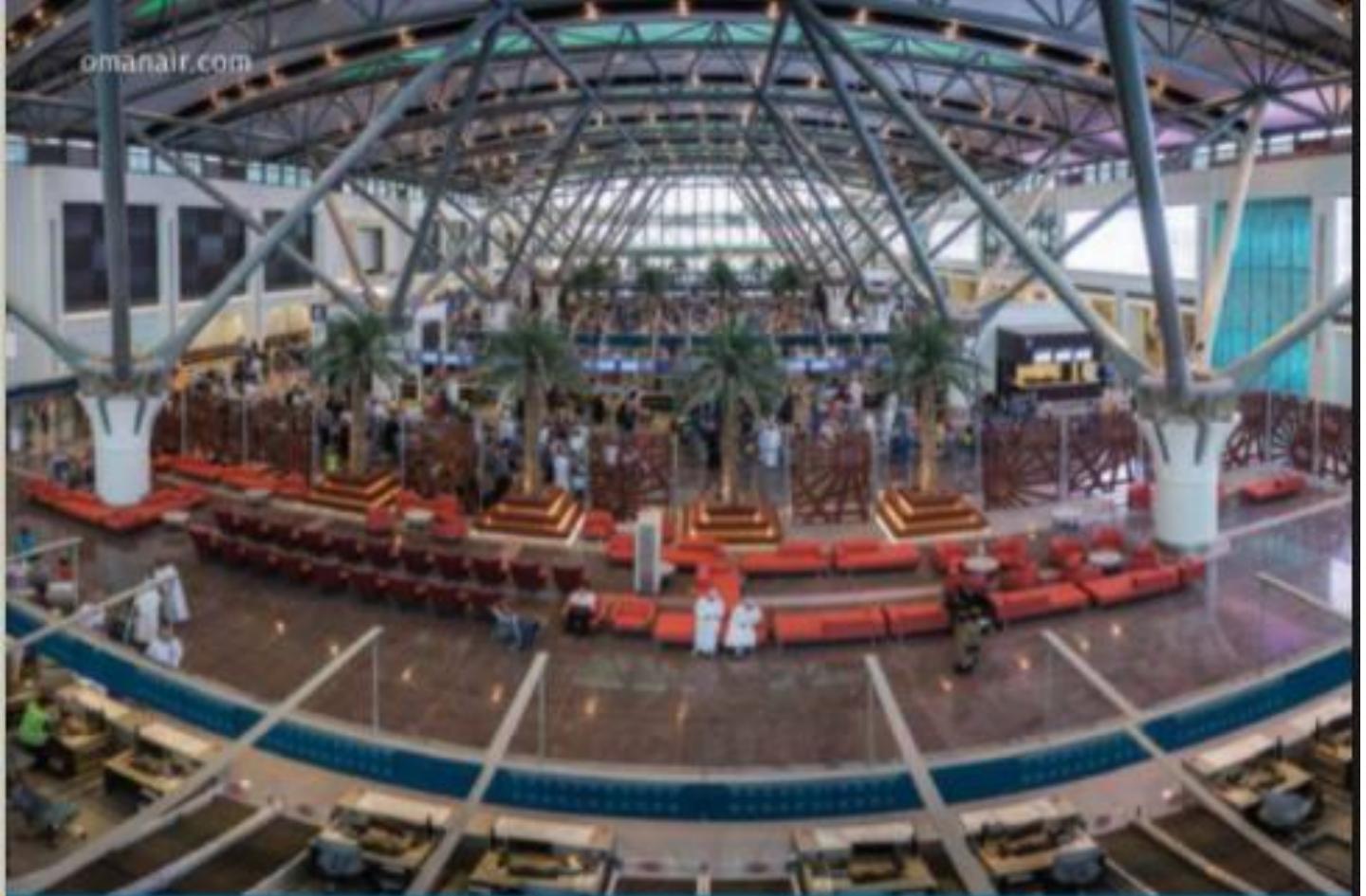
Fort Tiracol

Also known as Terekhol Fort, this fort sits on the northern tip of Goa at the mouth of the Tiracol River. It

can be reached by a ferry from Querim, 42 km North of Panaji. The fort was built in the 17th century by Maharaja Khem Sawant Bhonsle, the Raja of Sawantwadi. The site chosen was a hillock on the northern (right) bank of the river, which gave it a commanding view of the Arabian Sea. It is now converted into one of Goa's well-maintained heritage assets and represents Goa's cultural wealth.

If you have more such underrated, but must-visit places in Goa, let us know by writing to us at





Welcome to the new gateway of Oman

Oman Air commences operations from the New Passenger Terminal Building at Muscat International Airport.

The new world-class airport is an architectural wonder with even more check-in counters, e-gates, restaurants, cafes and an amazing Duty Free shopping area. Enjoy the awesome experience.

Magnum Centre, Shop No 9-12 | 1st Floor, M.G. Road, Near Hotel Mandovi | Panjim, Goa 403001
Tel: +91-832-2430103/4/5/6/7



World's Leading Safety
Branding Year 2011



World's Best Country Safety
Branding Year 2011



World's Best Country Safety
Branding Year 2012-2013



World's Best Country Safety
Branding Year 2012-2013

الطيران العمانى
OMAN AIR



CAN EXERCISE MAKE YOU LIVE LONGER?

Exercise may be defined as action of the body, whereby organs and their functions are kept in good health. A recent study conducted by Steven Blair, PED, of the institute of aerobics research in Dallas documented the fact that relatively modest amount of exercise has a significant effect on the mortality rate of both men and women. As we begin to age, various organs and systems begin to display deterioration. The effects of this deterioration present themselves as heart disease, arthritis, high blood pressure and low back problems, etc. many of these adverse effects of aging can be reversed or slowed with the intervention of a proper and regular exercise routine. The higher the fitness level, the lower the death rate. Regular exercise can play a key role in reducing your risk of medical problems and in decreasing your ultimate costs of healthcare. Unfortunately many people fail to recognize the extraordinary benefits of exercise in prevention of medical problems. Listed below are medical problems and health related conditions that

Arthritis: by forcing a skeletal joint to move, exercise induces the manufacture of synovial fluid, which helps to distribute it over the cartilage and forces it to circulate throughout the joint space.

Back pain: exercise helps to both strengthen the abdominal muscles and the lower back extensor muscles and stretch the hamstring muscle.

Cholesterol: exercise helps to raise HDL (the "good" cholesterol) levels in the blood and lower LDL (the undesirable lipoprotein) levels.

Diabetes: exercise helps lower excess blood sugar levels, strengthen muscles and heart, improve circulation, and reduce stress.

Heart disease: exercise helps promote many changes that collectively lower the risk of heart disease - decrease in body fat, a decrease in LDL, an increase in the efficiency of the heart and lungs, a lowered heart rate.

High blood pressure: exercise reduces the level of stress related chemicals in the bloodstream that

constrict arteries and veins, increases the release of endorphins, raises the level of HDL in the blood stream, lowers resting heart rate, improves the responsiveness of blood vessels and helps reduce blood pressure through body weight maintenance. An exercise program doesn't have to mean lifting weights, or using some exercise machines. There is variety of options available. Almost anyone can

participate in some form of sport; many can take to

swimming or exercise in water. The minimum recommended 'moderate' activity for good health is 30 minutes, four to five days a week; moderate



Norbert D'souza

EXERCISE BENEFITS

- strengthens your heart and lungs
- can strengthen your bones, slowing down the process of osteoporosis
- helps you move about more easily by keeping joints, tendons, and ligaments more flexible
- can help you lose weight (when combined with good eating habits) or maintain ideal weight by burning excess calories
- promotes a sense of well-being



heart rate". For beginners I suggest brisk walking because it's less daunting for those who were sedentary and needs no fancy equipment apart from supportive shoes. Others should determine what type of physical activity best suits their lifestyle. You should work your way up to regular aerobic exercise, such as brisk walking, jogging or swimming.

Remember, exercise does not stop the biological clock but it can slow it considerably. In other words exercise does not eliminate the risk of diseases but it minimizes it. A study done at Stanford university, USA says regular walkers or joggers lived a

longer live and had less pain and disability or disease than sedentary persons in older age. In this study the regular exercisers were leaner, needed less medication and had fewer joint problems than non

exercisers of the same age. This evidence is proof enough that living an active life is beneficial. Exercise not only prevents diseases and untimely death but also improves the

quality of one's life. No one wants to just survive everyone wants to live fully. Regular exercise will foster this goal. Today, exercise is the closest thing we have to an anti aging pill. The myth of aging is, as you get older you naturally become more fragile but look at the bones of regular

exercisers, they have minimal loss of bone, and in short if we remain active our bones will remain strong. Adults who live a sedentary existence lose bone density and increase their risk of fracturing bones in accidents. Very few die of old age most die from the result of diseases such as cancer and heart disease. Many health experts believe we die as a result of making poor health choices. Today we have knowledge and resources available to make healthy choices. It was not too long ago that older adults were discouraged from exercise and told to just sit in their rocking chairs. Today, experts agree that exercise is one of those healthy choices that each of us can make, no matter what our physical condition is. Experts are continually discovering that health related issues ranging from childbirth to heart disease can be improved by the intervention of exercise. Study after study demonstrates that proper exercise in addition to making us look and feel



INVESTMENTS



- Mutual Funds
- Pension Plan
- Retirement Solution
- Child Education
- Life Insurance
- Mediclaim
- FD, PPP & Bonds



One STOP
solution
For All Your
Business
And
Financial Needs

Call Preeti to schedule an appointment

8087522433 8806886633 9422446633

Emerald Towers, 3rd Floor, Opp. SBI Zonal Office, M.G. Road, St. Inez, Panjim, Goa

website: www.maheshpai.in | Email: mahesh@maheshpai.in



**Mahesh Pai's
Financial Hub**

(ISO 9001 : 2015 Certified Company)

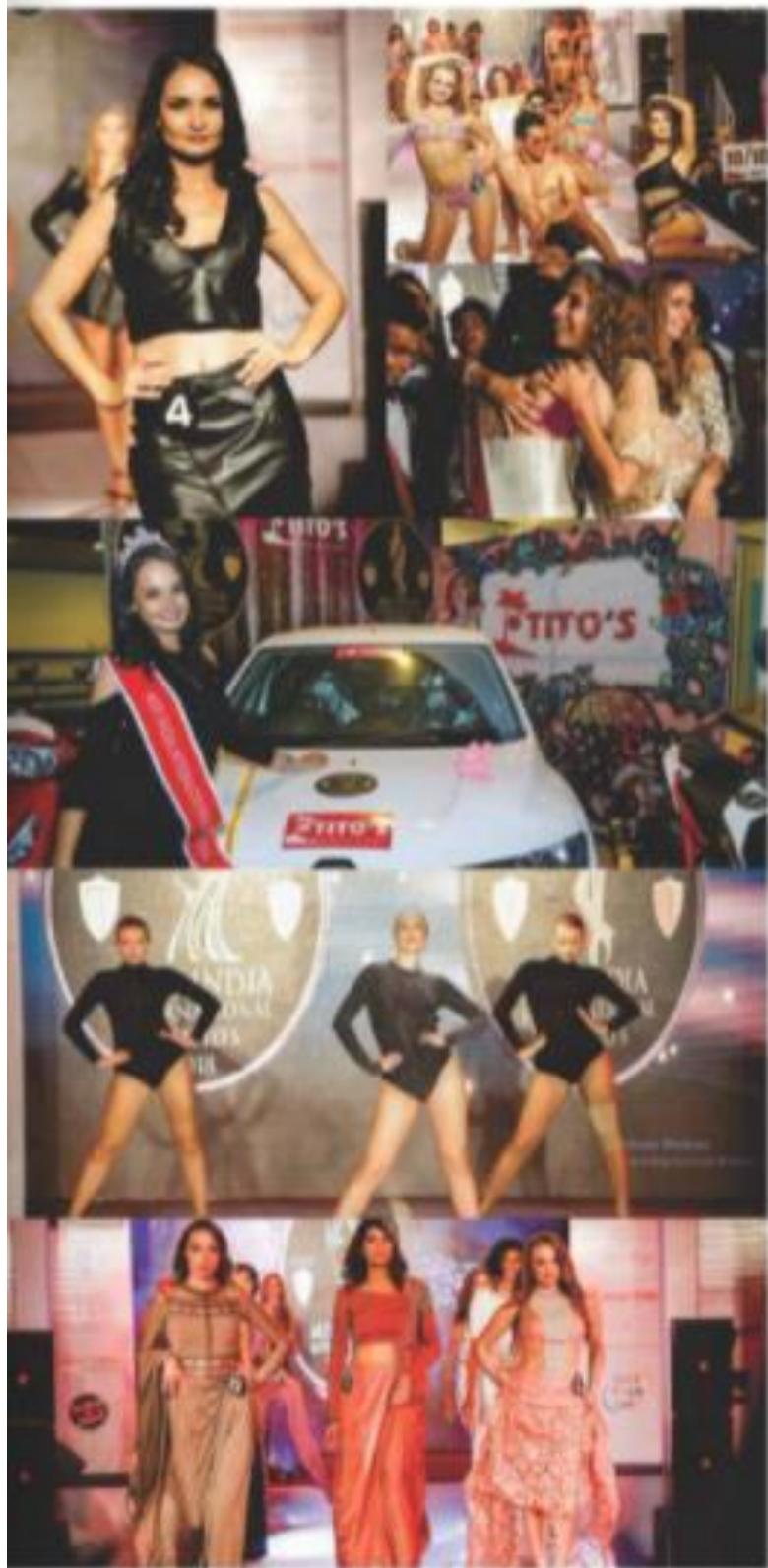
Portfolio Management | Loans | Business Consultancy

MISS & MR INDIA INTERNATIONAL BY TITO'S 2018



The Finale of Miss & Mr International by Tito's was on 25th of January. The 10 shortlisted contestants brushed up their choreography skills in the morning and then towards evening got ready for hair and makeup which was done by the very talented Snip and Shine design team. The event started by 8 pm at Tito's Arena. The place was crowded with press, media, top designers and celebrities alike.





The first Round was the Swimwear one, followed by the first launch of beautiful leather outfits made by Hema Nagverkar under the brand name Label by Ricardo. The cocktail dress round by Bani Couture and the Men's formal round by Nitin Singh was astonishing and not only wooed the judges by the audience as well. The contestants looked amazing in each and every outfit which made the decision for the judges pretty difficult.

The Question Answer Round was held where contestants had to answer a few questions posed by the judges where the top 5 were selected. Between the rounds the talented dancers from Charizma Entertainment put on a fire show and some lovely dances which kept all eyes on the stage. Tito's Arena was packed with the Crème de la crème of not only Goans but foreigners and other elite crowd as well. Every move was captured on camera.

After a difficult discussion the judges finally chose the Winner of Mr India International by Tito's - Angelo Sandri from Italy/ And the Winner of Miss India International by Tito's - Dzhamilia Shakirova from Russia. The First Runner up in the Men's category was Trevon Dias and the second runner up Siddharth Kerkar. In the Ladies category the first runner up was Aishwarya Deonani and the second Katrina Zviodkina.

The Winner of Mr India India International by Tito's was given a KTM Sports bike and the Miss India International by Tito's Winner won a lovely Kwid Car. The runner ups for Male were given Laptops and a Tab and the runner ups for ladies received two non-gearied bikes. The other contestants got 50 000 Rupees worth Vouchers to spend on Tito's Property, they also walked away with Tito's Merchandise.

Male Winners

Winner for Mr India International by Tito's 2018 is Angelo Sandri. First runner up - Trevon Dias. Second runner up - Siddharth Kerkar.

Sub Titles for Male Winners: Mr. Best Physique - Angelo Sandri. Mr Talented - Dylan Fernandes. Mr Personality - Trevon Dias. Mr. Photogenic - Gaurav Sial. Mr Popular - Siddharth Kerkar.

Female Winners:

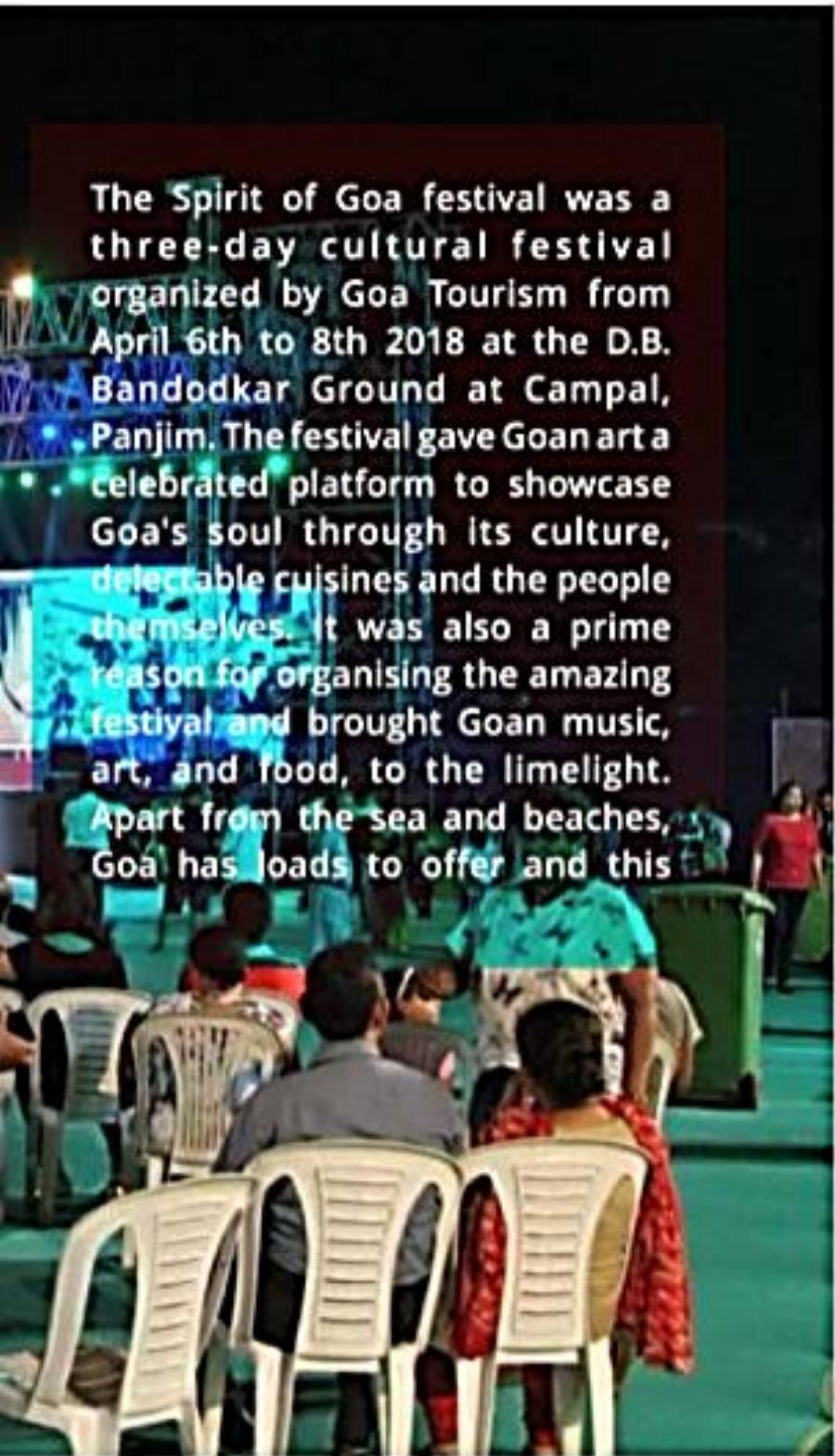
Winner of the title miss India international by Tito's 2018 is Dzhamilia Shakirova. First runner up - Aishwarya Deonani. Second runner up - Katrina Zviodkina.

Subtitles in female category: Miss Popular - Aishwarya Deonani. Miss Petsonality - Andrea Monteiro. Miss Congeniality - Alexa Kulesh. Miss Tito's Diva - Katrina Zviodkina. Miss Photogenic - Christina Rekalo. Miss Beautiful Body - Vera Rodina. Miss Talented - Aishwarya Deonani. Miss Catwalk - Luanna Fernandes.

SPIRIT OF GOA FESTIVAL

BRINGING GOANS TOGETHER, CULTURALLY





The Spirit of Goa festival was a three-day cultural festival organized by Goa Tourism from April 6th to 8th 2018 at the D.B. Bandodkar Ground at Campal, Panjim. The festival gave Goan art a celebrated platform to showcase Goa's soul through its culture, delectable cuisines and the people themselves. It was also a prime reason for organising the amazing festival and brought Goan music, art, and food, to the limelight. Apart from the sea and beaches, Goa has loads to offer and this

The festival revolved around Goa's coconut and cashew crops used in a variety of products, cuisine, beverages, and handicrafts. People were given a taste of some amazing delicacies made with coconut and cashew as the key ingredient used in various ways. Experts showed live distilling of cashew and coconut juice, also known as Feni - Goa's heritage brew. Tourists who attended the event experienced a Goa they usually wouldn't have. People rode on the Hop-On-Hop-Off (HOHO) buses - the best way to explore Goa. Apart from exploring flavours of Goa, there was a selection of interesting entertainment programs. The audience enjoyed some everlasting Konkani and Portuguese classics along with contemporary English Latin mix styles along with a never-seen-before brass section on stage.

The Stars Descended on the Ground

Day 1 featured Lulu Fortes from Rhythm & Blues belting out some good old Latin and Konkani hits. And the most admired and hit performance was by Goa's own legend, Lorna Cordeiro, a prominent

the Goan Nightingale. Her show was accompanied by a large format ensemble with mesmerizing dances during her act.

Day 2 was a little more exciting. It featured Goa's very own Goenchim Noketram troupe with an 18 member ensemble that brought out

action packed and saw acts from a 22 member ensemble put together by Latin Connection & Sonia Jaffer's Beaumont Dance Company that featured classic Konkani and Portuguese hits. The Beaumont Dance Company brought in their Latin & Traditional Funk dance moves. Some of the singers featured

featured Goa's youngest female drummer Anastazia D'mello who has a Grade 8 certification from the Rock School of Music.

The finale was a day full of mind-blowing performances. It featured a young talented group of Goan Musicians called 'Coffee Cats' who are known for their unique renditions of some of the famous Latin covers including Konkani classics. The Coffee Cats also

presented a large format ensemble complete with full brass section. It was an unforgettable show. Later, the stage was set for Goa's prominent Konkani Pop Star O'luv. His act featured an aerial dance to spread the message of

world peace. It moved the audience to bits with their applause echoing the arena. The pop star's act also included the veteran drummer Carlos and keyboard artist Mukesh Gatwal.



authentic Goan music from Dekhnis to Mando and Classic hits. The live act was accompanied by authentic Goan dances featuring various ethnic Goan costumes. The second day of the event was

were Celia Lawson from Portugal, a Eurovision finalist, Daniella Rodrigues, Celiz Pinto, Akshada Talaulikar, Nadia Rebelo, Seby Fernandes & Zezinho Fernandes. The event also

Goa's Professional Real Estate Brokers

Fast Safe and Secured Deals:
Buying Selling Marketing Properties



Villas



Agricultural Properties



Apartment



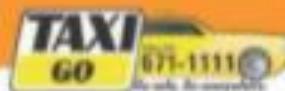
Visit us at:
www.hellopatrao.com

Office: G/C, Neeramai Arcades, Dr. A B Road, Panaji, GOA - 403001 Ph: +91 832 6711111 - 8
Office: Sri Venatesh, SalientSpot, Mercedes St, Old Goa Ph: +91 832 2448255
Email: chandangroup1@gmail.com Website: www.hellopatrao.com

SAVE THIS NUMBER BEFORE YOU FORGET
671-1111

Goa's First Professional Taxi Network is here

CHOR Market, Temple Beach, Office, Mat. Soc., KTC, Railway Station
Taxis Half Day / Full Day, Night-Service
For all 600+ Monasteries, Grottoes
Caves, Temples, Beaches, Hills



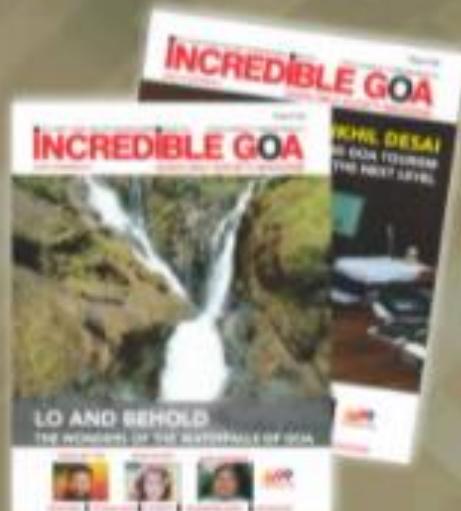
Log on to: www.taxigo.in

Take your time! ONE, TWO, THREE years!

Subscribe now and
Save Upto 45%

NOW WITH FREE POSTING

TERM	News - Stand Price	You Pay Only	Mega Saving
1 YEAR	1200	900	25% - 300
2 YEAR	2400	1680	30% - 720
3 YEAR	3600	2340	35% - 1220
4 YEAR	4800	2880	40% - 1920
5 YEAR	6000	3300	45% - 2700



INCREDIBLE GOA
GOA'S ONLY SOCIETY MAGAZINE

Just send your Subscription Request to incrediblegoamedia@gmail.com or Whatsapp it on +91 9665183739

Our Help Desk Will Get in Touch with you to complete the subscription formalities.



ANASTAZIA D'MELLO

PASSION AND HARD WORK CAN TAKE YOU PLACES

Anastasia D'Mello, the little drummer, as everyone calls her lovingly in Goa, is one of the youngest and most talented drumming artist. She is well known in Goa's Performing Arts and music fraternity. With a certificate 8 level distinction from the Rock School of Music, this young and charming artist is all set to conquer the music world. She specialises in the western classical genre. A soft-spoken and humble young artist, she

"What would you do if you were handed a pair of drumsticks at an age as early as 5 years? The innocence of that age will make you play around with the sticks making every object your drum kit," she shares laughingly. But not Anastasia- she knew at the onset that the sticks were important and she just started off hitting the drums, surprisingly in rhythm. It was her father's aspiration that his children should learn music, which made him hand over the drumsticks to Anastasia and let her explore. Music runs in her family; her father San Antonio D'Mello is the founder of the prestigious, well-known music school – Taught to Teach Music School in Mapusa. She has two siblings Felicia D'Souza and Cidalia D'Mello – contributing relentlessly to music and making a name for themselves. In fact, Felicia is a known bass guitarist in the Goan music arena. She is the first artist in Goa and India to clear Level 6 in music performance (LRS) from the

Rock School of Music. Anastasia loves traveling, and her love for music pulls her to places of musical importance. She is currently pursuing a course in music – ATCL (Associateship diploma) – from the Trinity College, London. This would open doors of opportunities for her at an international level. Anastasia learned to play the drums under the guidance of her father. She showed the inclination towards the instrument at a young age of nine. She shared, "It all began with the participation in a few music competitions in Mapusa where I won first place for my solo performance. The rewards inspired me and made me realise my love for the drums. And that's how my journey began." Since then, with dedicated efforts and increasing passion for the drums, she started training herself to specialise in them.

Anastasia received a lot of encouragement and support from her family from the beginning. She

said, "Initially I was apprehensive because drums were an instrument meant only for boys. So even in school, when I used to go for my music classes, I was the only girl who would pick up the drumsticks. At that time I was laughed at, and it made me very feel nervous and embarrassed. I had almost given up playing because of this experience. But with time and support from my family, I gained confidence, I was determined to continue." She adds, "My father has been a pillar of support throughout - not only to me but even to my sisters who also learned music from him. It is because of him that I am where I am and I completely owe my success to him." She also added, "I give a lot of the credit of my success to my music teacher Lester Godinho who saw the enthusiasm in me and taught me different styles and to control the sound on the drums. He helped me polish my skills and take it to a world-class level. I have been able to perform at international

Being an active musician in school – Spring Valley High School - and in college – St. Xavier – Anastazia won many competitions and received laurels for her institution and herself. She works hard with dedication to polish her skills as a drummer and practices 2 hours every day which often go up to 5-6 hours during her performances or examinations. But all throughout her education, she never ignored her academics. Not only is she an ace drummer, but she also learned to play the piano, guitar, and saxophone. She was also part of the college band at St. Xavier and participated in various inter-college events. Today, Anastazia teaches children to play the drums at Taught to Teach Music School. Her profound interest in spreading the art of music to others, especially girls, made her become a music teacher.

Anastazia's dream is to impart her knowledge to young talent who otherwise had no inspiration or platform to learn or excel in the field of music. She wishes to set an example to all girls who are keen on learning this art. She says, "I want girls to understand that there is no field in which they cannot contribute to, even if it is a male-dominant one. If you have the passion and dedication to move forward, don't stop. You will always find someone who will hold your hand and encourage you to move ahead. Always believe in yourself

and keep saying to yourself – you can do it."

Anastazia has been a teacher for over 14 years now and has taught close to a hundred students. "Kids today show so much eagerness and enthusiasm towards music. And because they are fortunate to have multiple platforms at their

learning music either spent an enormous amount to get admitted to those schools and leave the Goan land. Our institution will not only provide them training in music in their homeland but also give them an opportunity to participate in shows and competitions at a national and international level."

Anastazia has been participating in many national level events where she got a lot of recognition. Her performance won her an award while playing with an all-women fusion band at the Paschim Rang Festival, a Western-Indian music festival held on Women's Day in Margao. She also got lot fame for her spellbinding performance at the International Jazz Day in Goa where she performed along with Colin Cruz and Jason. A pre-recording of her drum solo 'Island Magic' went viral on YouTube and her performance at the Spirit of Goa Festival in April mesmerised the crowd. She is a



discretion, they want to learn everything very quickly. It is a joy to teach them and to see them grow. I have so many students who have progressed so well and won laurels for themselves. I feel proud," she shared with a sparkle in her eyes. When asked about her future plans, she said – "I am planning to open a college of music here in Goa that will give a platform for young talents to learn and grow. Most of the good music schools are outside of Goa and the children who are keen on

sensation.

Anastazia D'Mello has set a benchmark for the new generation, especially girls to live their dream. She has created a stage for many young girl-drummers to come forward and become a star. She believes in girl power and sends out this strong, inspiring message to all girls in Goa and around the country, "If you believe in yourself, you can achieve it."

GOA GOVT TO LAUNCH APP-BASED TAXI SERVICE BY MAY-END

The Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) is almost ready with its app-based taxi service, which is likely to roll out by the end of the month of May. With this, the government is hopeful of solving the exasperated tourist taxi issue that has been troubling the state's tourism sector for several years.

The GTDC had announced the app to be



implemented two months ago as a result of the tourist taxi operators' strike. The chairman of GTDC Niles Cabral mentioned that all the taxi operators registered with the Goa transport department will be at liberty to join the app, subjected to the condition of all documentation being in order. The government notified the taxi rates and would be made applicable.

Confirming the launch of the taxi service that will have operational features almost similar to that of Uber and other such professional taxi services that have a presence in other parts of the country, GTDC managing director

Nikhil Desai said that the launch was scheduled for May-end so that the service would get time to adapt and stabilise with new implementations by the time the tourist kicks-off again in September.

The taxi operators had been opposing the entry of outside players like Ola/ Uber because of the heavy fees of up to 20% they are able to charge to travellers. Since this is a government initiative hence the operators will not be charged for anything. President North Goa Tourist Taxi Association Vasudev Arlekar suggested that

GTDC should provide business to all 20,000 taxi operators through their app, otherwise, it would lead to rising of conflicts between taxi operators. He said that the government uses the taxis and operate them on rental basis on contract. He also pointed that if a taxi operator from Panaji registered with the GTDC app, comes to Candolim to pick up the customer then others will not allow this.

The GTDC is now waiting to gauge how many people are willing to join the platform.

TERRORISTS MAY BE USING SEA ROUTES TO ENTER GOA INDIA??

The state government issued an alert last week to all the vessels and casinos operating off the state's coast following an intelligence input about possible arrival of terrorists on board a fishing trawler.

State's Ports Minister Jayesh Salgaonkar told PTI that his department has issued a warning to all the off shore casinos, water sports operators and barges to be alert as the Indian Coast Guard has shared an intelligence input about a possible terror attack on the western coast. The alert is not specific to Goa. It can be even to Mumbai or Gujarat coast, but we have alerted the vessels and concerned agencies.

A fishing trawler from India which was seized by Pakistan has been released and there is intelligence input that on its way back, it may carry terrorists, the minister said. They had received intelligence input from District Coast Guard that anti-national elements have boarded an apprehended Indian fishing boat in Karachi and are likely to land on Indian coast and attack vital installations, as pointed by the Captain of Ports James Braganza to Goa's tourism department and all the water sports operators, casinos, and cruise vessels and barges.

All vessels to increase security and report any sighting or untoward movement to concerned authorities, the letter states.

CONGRESS TO MEET GOVERNOR OVER GOA CM'S ABSENCE

The Congress is likely to meet Goa governor Mridula Sinha next week to express concern over chief minister Manohar Parrikar's continued absence from the state. They are concerned over the fact that there is no government in the state ever since the CM has been absent due to ill-health. Goa Congress president Shantaram Naik also shared that Parrikar has over 20 portfolios there no clearance whether they been assigned to anyone yet. Even his party colleagues and his cabinet members are unaware of his health.

Meanwhile, a day ahead of the token day-long fast that BJP MPs will observe across the country, Naik said that BJP was to be blamed for the impasse in Parliament. He passed on the blame to PM Narendra Modi for the lack of governance and said that he was only capable of giving good speeches but can't answer opposition benches and give point-by-point responses to criticism from the Congress. That is why he does not allow Parliament to function, adding that the BJP had disrupted proceedings even when it was in the opposition during the UPA government's tenure.

GOA LIKELY TO WITNESS E-COMMERCE STARTUP BOOM

According to recent news on economic developments and companies planning investments in Goa, growth is being witnessed in context to the number of startup springing up. A 40-pager report - 'Your Story', prepared by Mumbai-based IT company provides a detailed review of the Startup Ecosystem of Goa. It highlights key factors of development along with startup policies.

The report points out that the state already has a fully-functional spread of startups, incubators and IT academia. Most of these enterprises were established by locals and rest have relocated from the metros. These firms are working in cognizant with top e-commerce companies like

Amazon, Flipkart, PayTM, eBay. Approximately 20% startup belong to the e-commerce industry making it the widely favoured sector for entrepreneurs, whereas IT marketing stands at 16%.

Goa stands at an advantage showing a mix of startups in varied sectors like travel & hospitality at 12%, logistics at 12%, education at 10% and rest of the firms springing-up in technology-based education, security and infra services. The report also indicates location preference for these enterprises. Panaji is the capital town, and with better infra facilities, the majority of the startups chose to be in close proximity. Panaji is the preferred place for establishments that stands at 42%, followed by

Porvorim at 14%, Dona Paula and Margao at 12%, Mapusa at 6% and remaining in startups in Verna and other areas.

According to the Goa Technology Association (GTA), there are more than 100 IT units currently operating, and out of them, 70 qualify as startups as per the definition in the startup policy. Hence, to be eligible as a startup, a unit should not be less than 7 years old with a recorded turnover of no more than 25 crores. Bringing this data into perspective, the state government is endeavouring to make Goa feature in the Top 25 Startup Destinations of Asia by 2025. The aim is to target employment generation of atleast 5000 Goans from creating about 100

GOVT. APPROVES THE PROPOSAL FOR SETTING UP CITIZEN SERVICES CENTER IN MARGAO

In an effort to deliver various citizen-centric services of different government departments and make them available within reach of the citizens, the state government has approved the proposal of setting up the Citizen Services Centre (CSC). The CSCs will be front-ending these delivery centres for all government services. Initially, the Citizen Services Centre will be set up on the ground floor of the Mathany Saldanha Administrative complex in Margao, Salcete taluka. All people availing services from the office of the Collector of North and South, subordinate offices and the Directorate of Settlement, the land records will be distributed exclusively through the designated CSC centres. The applicant/people from Salcete

taluka are called to avail the desired services through the Citizen Services Centre only. Some documents of the revenue department can be availed at this centre following payment of the fixed fees, ranging from Rs 45 to Rs 2,500 per document, depending upon the credibility of the document.

The Residence Certificate, Domicile Certificate, Mediclaim Certificate, Divergence Certificate, Caste Certificate and Sound Permission is available for Rs 50 each. No fees is chargeable for online applications filed by the applicant requesting these certificates. It is further informed that no services in the form of a certificate or the services, which are processed through the e-district module, will be issued from the

GARBAGE ISSUE DOMINATES PARRA GRAM SABHA

The garbage issue dominated the Parra Gram Sabha on April 29th, 2018. Villagers have proposed to the Village Panchayat to ban the sale of plastic bags in business establishments to tackle the menace in the village. The Gram Sabha was informed about the request received from the waste management plant to instruct the garbage contractor to segregate plastic depending on its microns. Delilah requested the Parra communicate to allocate a small piece of land for this purpose. Villagers suggested to bring in awareness and education to that residents to maintain hygiene and cleanliness of their surroundings and reduce the work of the garbage contractor. They have asked for atleast four bins to be provided to

LICENCE RENEWAL: HC DECLINES INTERIM RELIEF TO CASINOS

In an appeal to the court by the Golden Globe Hotels Pvt Ltd to increase casino licence renewal fee are in for some unpleasant news. The High Court of Bombay at Goa has denied interim relief to the petitioner Golden Globe Hotels Pvt Ltd who had appealed against the increase in casino licence renewal fee and had asked the company to deposit the fee by April 27. The company in its petition had contended that earlier it was supposed to pay Rs 11 crore as the fee for casino licence renewal. But, according to latest hike by Goa government, it has been asked to pay Rs 30 crore. The company has pleaded for allowing them to pay Rs 11 crore as of now and remaining Rs 19 crore in instalments as interim relief. However, the state government in reply said that if a temporary relief is granted to make part payment to the petitioner company, then other casino companies too will not make full payments, which would not be good for the state exchequer.

The court, during the previous hearing, had asked the state government to clarify on the steps it will take in case the casinos defy paying licence fee by the deadline of April 27. The state government had informed the High Court that the government would issue show cause notice to the company and action will follow if the revised fee is not paid by April 27.

The state government informed the court that the notification is in effect for 15 casinos and an order by the court will have implications for substantial revenue loss to the state.

REGULARISATION OF UNAUTHORISED HOUSES GET ONE-MONTH EXTENSION PERIOD

The state government will soon promulgate an ordinance granting one month's extension for the applications of regularization of illegal houses built in private property. An official shared that the issuance of the ordinance will imply with immediate effect, the moment the state cabinet agrees to the draft. The draft of the ordinance is approved by the Revenue Minister Rohan Khaunte and Revenue Secretary Sudhir Mahajan, vetted by the law department.

The legislation allows regularization of residential or commercial unauthorised construction in one's own property, or carried out by a co-owner with the written consent of other owners in joint property, or dwelling houses by mundkars.

The ordinance amending the Goa Regularisation of Unauthorised Construction Act 2014, which is likely to be issued in the next fortnight, will allow people, who missed the deadline, to submit their applications. The cut-off date of February 28, 2014, for considering applications for legalising structures will not be changed, the official said. The deadline was extended twice in the past, and the revenue department has received 4,850 applications so far.

PHATA DEMANDS PROBE INTO LICENCES GIVEN TO STREET FOOD VENDORS IN THE CITY

The Panaji Hotel and Traders Association (PHATA) on April 26th, 2018, had demanded an inquiry into the permissions and licenses given by the CCP to the street food vendors. They threatened the officials of the government as well as Corporation of the City of Panaji with the show of their strength if its demands including probe are not met at the earliest.

In a press note issued by Rebello stated that the CCP was directed by the Urban Development Minister to stop all illegal food stalls serving cooked food, which do not comply with the hotel guidelines, immediately after the meeting ended. And just to satisfy the minister, the CCP Commissioner and the PHATA, conducted raids on gaddas and street vendors.

PHATA had asked for a probe in the permissions and licenses given illegally by the CCP after manipulations of records. The agitation of PHATA will continue till the CCP and government meet all the issues and demands of PHATA. These demands include a reduction in trade license fees, signboard tax, garbage fees, and house tax. It was also stated that traders and hoteliers in the city would not pay any renewal fees for the current year till action is taken on gaddas serving food, and all stalls are removed and adhere to the licensing policy.

BEAUTY HAS A NEW ADDRESS



96110 56069 07108 10000
by Anupama Naik

1st Floor PINKZ Bungalow,
Behind Caculo Mall,
Next to HDFC HeadOffice,
Sri Inner, Panjim, Goa - 403001
Phone: 075060 62930



FOR ALL YOUR COMMERCIAL PRINTING REQUIREMENT

- ✓ Menu Card / Diaries
- ✓ Brochure / Leaflets
- ✓ Book & Magazine
- ✓ Office stationery
- ✓ Product Catalog
- ✓ Letterhead pad
- ✓ Table Calendar
- ✓ Invitation Card
- ✓ Annual Report
- ✓ Cahs Memo
- ✓ Bill/Challan
- ✓ Office File
- ✓ Voucher
- ✓ Booklet
- ✓ Posters
- ✓ Envelop



PAPERAMA INDIA

PUBLICATION TRADING MANUFACTURING
U.S. ALFRAI PLAZA, M G ROAD, PANAJI - GOA, 403001
PHONE: 999985172 / 9665163739
Email: Info@paperama@gmail.com

GOA PRISM

The Transparent & Fearless News Weekly



Coming Soon !