



Address of

Shri P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

Honourable Governor of Goa

to the

Goa Legislative Assembly

16th January, 2023

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the Legislative Assembly

It gives me immense pleasure in welcoming each one of you to the third session of the Eighth Goa Legislative Assembly.

I would like to appreciate the people, Government and the State election machinery for the free, fair and successful conduct of Village Panchayat elections with full cooperation of various Departments.

Also, I would like to congratulate the Government for organising the FIFA Women's U-17 World Cup from 11th to 26th October 2022 successfully.

In this August House, I feel privileged to congratulate Chess Master Bhakti Kulkarni on being conferred with the prestigious Arjuna

award. She has become the first woman in Goa to receive this second highest sporting honour.

Today, I feel honoured to announce that for the first time, My Government has implemented/ initiated all the assurances made in the Budget Speech 2021-22.

As you all are aware, the socio economic indicators of the State as compared to other states of the country are very impressive. Goa has the highest estimated per capita income in the country, portraying a vigorous and healthy economy. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of the State for the year 2021-22 (Quick) is estimated at ₹ 82,603.70 crore at Current Price registering a growth rate of 9.11%. Similarly, the State GSDP for the years 2022-23 (Advanced estimates) and 2023-24 (Projected estimates) at Current prices have registered a growth rate of 9.73% and 10.33%. The State has been ranked

on 5th position in the India Innovation Index 2021 published by NITI Aayog under UT and City/State category.

My Government has been proactive in successfully implementing the UID/Aadhaar Project in the State with an impressive Aadhaar generation of over 100% and ranks fifth in the country with a network of 139 Permanent Aadhaar Enrolment Stations throughout the State extending Aadhaar enrolment and related services to the public. My Government has provided home enrolment facility to constrained senior citizens, bed ridden residents and Divyangs. The State has ranked seventh in the country in the implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the beneficiaries of 149 beneficiary oriented schemes.

The results that State Government obtained through the Swayampurna Goa 1.0

programme were very promising. To continue the mission of Antodaya, Sarvodaya and Gramodaya, which will lead every Goan to become a self-reliant individual contributing towards a self-sustainable Goa, the Swayampurna Goa 2.0 'Mission with Vision' has been launched in the State on 9th April 2022. Various theme Based webinars and live interaction for all sections of the Society were organised in order to sensitize Swayampurna Mitras, Taluka Nodal Officers, Sarpanch, Panch Members and general public at large in order to ensure last mile delivery so that no one is left behind in terms of benefits of Government Schemes.

I am glad to inform that Hon'ble Prime Minister has praised this programme and urged all Chief Ministers to replicate the same programme in their State. As a result, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra and Manipur

State Governments have shown their interest in understanding the programme.

I am happy that the State has been selected for hosting some of the events of G20 Summit which will give us an opportunity to portray our State's rich culture and hospitality. The event in the State which is the most preferred tourist destination in the country will provide a major boost to the State's economy, thereby handing an opportunity to showcase branding of Goan products at international platform.

My Government is committed to the security and safety of not only the citizens but the visiting tourists as well. This commitment is evidenced by the current detection rate of 84% of overall crime in the State. Government has intensified action against drug menace which has led to registration of one hundred eleven (111)

cases and seizure of 156.25 kg of drugs worth ₹ 361.21 lakh during the current financial year upto November 2022.

My Government is working round the clock to ensure accident free roads. During 2022-23 upto November 2022, Four lakh fifty eight thousand four hundred sixteen (4,58,416) cases were booked by the traffic police. Under the scheme “The Goa State Interim Compensation to Road Accident victims, 2020”, ₹ 54 lakh have been disbursed to 27 beneficiaries during the current financial year upto November, 2022.

The Fire service personnel have displayed exemplary performance in the field of firefighting and rescue operations. During the year 2022-23 upto November 2022, four thousand forty (4040) fire and emergency calls were attended during which 80 human lives and five hundred thirty two (532) animal lives were saved. Property worth

₹ 75.60 crore has been saved/salvaged due to timely action of the fire personnel.

My Government intends to make the State self-sufficient in Agriculture and allied Sector which is undoubtedly the mainstay of a healthy and sustainable rural economy. The total cultivated area of the State is one lakh forty four thousand four hundred ninety eight (1,44,498) hectares. My Government is providing assistance to agriculture farmers from land preparation to the extent of marketing of the produce. Under various ongoing Agricultural schemes, ₹ 18.58 crore has been provided as subsidies to the farmers during the current financial year upto November, 2022.

State Government has notified “Agriculture Export Policy (AEP)”, in May, 2022 to promote Goa as India’s Agricultural Export Hub, create the necessary export - oriented infrastructure and

promote new indigenous, organic, traditional and non-traditional agricultural products for exports such as Cashew, Mancurad Mango, Moira Banana, Alsando and Korgut rice.

My Government is carrying out repairs and strengthening of notified khazan bunds to prevent ingress of saline water in low lying fields. Khazan land of nearly one hundred seventy eight (178) Hectares has been protected through repair of 3.04 km bunds incurring an expenditure of ₹ 1,092.08 lakh.

Under the scheme “Government Intervention for Control of Price Rise”, 16,736.38 tonnes of vegetables worth ₹ 45.62 crore and 430.27 tonnes of groceries worth ₹ 2.62 crore were sold to general public at subsidized rates through 1022 outlets of Goa State Horticulture Corporation Limited. 674.77 tonnes locally produced vegetables were procured by Goa

State Horticulture Corporation Limited worth ₹ 2.75 crore benefitting 926 farmers thereby giving boost for marketing.

My Government hosted a programme on Save Soil campaign in collaboration with ISHA foundation in the presence of Sadhguru at Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Stadium, Bambolim. On this occasion, the State executed the MoU with ISHA OUTREACH for collaboration for the purpose of achieving sustainable soil health management from the perspective of agricultural productivity and food security. To take the Save Soil movement forward, one more programme “Awareness campaign on Save Soil and Save Water” with bike ride starting from Pernem to Canacona was organised.

With an aim to encourage natural farming, My Government launched Prakrutik Kheti in the State under the guidance of Shri Acharya

Devarat-Ji, Governor of Gujarat. Farmers who are practicing natural farming were felicitated during the programme. The main objective of the event was to create awareness amongst the agriculture extension functionaries, farming community and to popularize the concept of natural farming in the State.

Taking into consideration that Goans have to travel out of the State to pursue Agriculture studies, My Government has set up Goa College of Agriculture at Ela, Old Goa under Goa University.

The State has been successful in controlling the outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) by undertaking immediate preventive vaccination and by purchasing medicines for treatment and control of LSD. A total of 21,895 vaccination were carried out in the State.

My Government is making efforts to increase the milk production in the State. Under **Kamdhenu (Sudharit) Scheme**, for the current financial year, 182 farmers have purchased 709 animals and ₹ 4.72 crore was released as subsidy. Under **Incentives to Milk Producers Scheme**, ₹ 20.72 crore was released to farmers as composite subsidy @ 40% on the proceeds of Milk supplied to Dairy Co-operative Society/Bachat Gat/Self Help Group. One thousand five hundred eighty seven (1587) number of beneficiaries were assisted under the Pashupalan scheme and ₹ 3.11 crore was released as subsidy.

My Government's effort is to enrich and empower our villages through Blue Revolution, i.e. work related to fisheries. Government of India has approved the State Action Plan 2022-23 under the flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) for an

amount of ₹ 3.08 crore as Central share. Administrative approval has been accorded to develop Amona Village in Bicholim taluka, Cola Village in Canacona taluka and Querim Village in Pernem taluka as Integrated Modern coastal villages under PMMSY.

Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world. My Government is keen to enhance the quality of education, improve infrastructure and introduce new technologies in the academic curriculum. State has already initiated the process of implementation of National Education Policy in phased manner. Government will implement 100% of the syllabus in higher education institutes along the lines of the National Education Policy from the next academic year. Goa was the first State which launched Coding and Robotics education from the academic year 2021-22. Sixty three thousand (63,000) students

have been benefitted during 2022-23 till November, 2022. Under the Skill Development programme two new age trade courses namely Drone Technician and Mechanic e-vehicle have been started in Government ITI at Cacora during the current financial year.

My Government has signed MoU with Smiles Foundation, Navi Mumbai for providing online support to deserving students from Standard fourth to twelfth for 3 academic years. Approximately two lakh BYJUs premium licenses will be provided totally free of cost to the students and teachers in the State. The project does not have any financial implications on the Government ex-chequer or the Students.

My Government is committed to provide nutritional food to the school children under Mid-Day meal scheme. One lakh sixty one thousand

two hundred sixty five (1,61,265) children have benefitted during 2022-23 till November, 2022.

State has developed a dedicated online e-content portal named Digital Integrated System for Holistic Teaching and Virtual Orientation (DISHTAVO) which is hosting e-content pertaining to Goa University (GU) syllabus in various higher education courses on Directorate of Higher Education Youtube Channel. As of now, more than twenty two thousand (22,000) videos are available on DISHTAVO in 8 disciplines. With a vision to develop world class researchers, provide research funding and fellowship and train researchers, My Government has established Goa State Research Foundation in August, 2022.

Development and excelling in the field of sports is one of the priority areas of my Government. A special emphasis has been laid

on Sport Infrastructure. 11 Major Sports Infrastructure projects amounting to ₹ 187.00 crore are being executed in the State of which 9 projects are completed and 2 projects are nearing completion.

Under the One State One Sport Scheme of Government of India, the discipline of Swimming has been entrusted to our State for promotion and progress of this sport by providing National Level Coaches.

Under “Khelo India State Centre of Excellence” scheme, 46 budding medal prospects for the Olympics 2024, 2028 and 2032 are being trained in the age group of 10-18 years in Table-Tennis, Badminton and Swimming. Peddem Sports Complex and Fatorda Sports Complex have been proposed as Khelo India District Centres of Excellence in the games of Hockey and Football and the coaches for these Centres have been appointed. Financial

assistance amounting to ₹ 23.12 lakh has been released to 52 Sportspersons in Indigent circumstances.

As rightly said by our Hon'ble Prime Minister "Connectivity will play a crucial role in India's development, creating air connectivity and new airports is the need of the hour", the first phase of the Mopa International Airport named as "Manohar International Airport" was inaugurated on 11th December, 2022 by our Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. This is going to be a game changer for tourism sector in the State. Air connectivity to Goa from within and outside India will improve significantly boosting tourism potential of the State. The airport can handle all types of aircraft including wide bodied aircraft. Airport has capacity to handle 4.4 million passengers initially which can be scaled upto 33 million per annum. Airport has cargo terminal to handle twenty five thousand

(25,000) metric tonnes per annum which can be increased to 1.5 lakh metric tonnes per annum. This will boost export. More than 6000 people will get direct and indirect employment. The airport has Aviation Skill Development Centre to train youth for employability.

My Government is also prioritizing road infrastructure in the State. I feel proud that 4 Lane RHS corridor of the Cable Stayed Zuari Bridge and approaches from Bambolim to Verna have been dedicated to the nation on 29th December, 2022. This will ease the traffic flow from North Goa to South Goa. The LHS corridor of the bridge is underway and is likely to be opened to traffic by end of 2023. The four laning of the National Highway from Patradevi to Margao Western Bypass is in progress and is likely to be completed by end of 2023.

The construction work of six lane expressway connecting NH-66 to Manohar International Airport, Mopa, is under progress and is scheduled to be completed by October 2023. ₹ 108.35 crore have been spent on improvement, widening, resurfacing/reconditioning, hotmixing and providing drainage to main road and internal road across the State.

My Government is committed to provide potable drinking water to all. I am happy to state that both the districts of the State have been declared as Har Ghar Jal certified districts. The work of setting up of 25 MLD Water Treatment Plant at Ganjem is 75% completed and that of 10 MLD Water Treatment plant at Pale is 85% completed. Both the projects are likely to be completed by end of this financial year.

Under Tillari Irrigation Project (TIP), an interstate project, Work of “Augmentation of

Right Bank main canal of Tillari by pumping water from Kalna River” is being implemented at a cost of ₹ 25 crore. This will provide immediate relief to 30 MLD water treatment plant at Chandel, 5 MLD at Mopa airport and 30 MLD at Dhargal in Pernem taluka. The work is in progress. The rejuvenation of Colva creek has been completed. My Government has implemented the project of using mining pit water in Bicholim and Sattari for community farming, drinking and groundwater recharge.

Under Amrit Sarovar Mission, My Government has identified 176 water bodies of 2000 square meters in size and having storage of about 5000 cubic meters of water in the State for their development and rejuvenation of which works of 30 lakes have been completed. Works of 30 more lakes are in various stages of implementation and are likely to be completed in this financial year.

My Government has accorded top most priority for improving the power supply availability, quality and reliability to the consumers. Goa State Electricity Department has been the second Government utility in the country to launch the Dynamic QR code as a fast and secure method for payments of Electricity Bills. Also, it stood second in the country in terms of number of digital transactions.

My Government has approved the “One Time Settlement Scheme, 2022” for power consumers having accumulated arrears for Active, Temporarily Disconnected, Permanently Disconnected and Revenue Recovery Cases and also for the consumers with billing disputes pending in various courts in order to enable prompt recovery of such outstanding dues. Pursuant to the passing of the Goa Public Lighting Duty Act, 2021, the Goa Public Lighting Duty Rules, 2021 were notified in April 2022

wherein all the Streetlights, High Masts, Facade lighting etc, including that have been installed by the other Departments such as Public Works Department, Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation, Tourism, Forest, Goa State Urban Development Agency will be maintained by the Electricity Department.

Two State of Art, Ultra-modern 2x20 MVA, 33/11 KV substations were commissioned at Panaji and Calangute. The substations will cater to about 1.5 lakh consumers in Panaji and about 20 thousand consumers along the coastal belt of Calangute. The State of Art, 2x6.3 MVA, 33/11 KV substation was commissioned at Sal in Bicholim to further enhance power supply availability in these areas. The power supply by Sal sub-station will cater to about one lakh consumers in Bicholim Taluka.

The work related to supply of 6 MW power to Konkan Railway Traction sub-station at Sirsaim-Tivim in North Goa at 110 KV has been completed thereby enabling 100% electrification of Konkan Railway route and also flagging off an Electric train from Margao Railway Station. Further, the 220 KV work related to supply of 6 MW power to Konkan Railway Traction sub-station at Balli in South Goa at 220 KV is on verge of completion.

The work of conversion of 33 KV Overhead line (Chandel feeder) to High current capacity HTLS Conductor from Thivim sub-station to Sukekulan for supplying power to the Manohar International Airport at Mopa has been completed in record time thereby ensuring reliable power to the Airport and the surrounding infrastructure projects such as the Ayush Hospital, Sports complex, etc. A number of projects for conversion of the overhead network

to underground cabling have been completed at various locations for increasing power supply availability and reliability.

To promote green energy, Rural Village Electrification of 151 houses has been done, Solar Water Heating Systems to 195 beneficiaries have been provided with release of subsidy amounting to ₹ 10.02 lakh. Under the scheme, promoting of Electric Vehicles in the State of Goa, subsidy of ₹ 397.90 lakh for 332 beneficiaries has been disbursed.

Since 1st April, 2022, Solid Waste Management Facility at Saligao, North Goa has successfully treated forty seven thousand nine hundred fourteen (47,914) metric tons of waste till 30th November, 2022. The facility has generated sixty four lakh forty one thousand five hundred eighty one (64,41,581) units of electricity of which approximately forty thousand

(40,000) units are fed to the electricity grid of GED. The work of setting up of 100 TPD Solid Waste Management Facility at Cacora is completed. The facility is under trial operations and is due for inauguration shortly. Common Bio-medical waste treatment and disposal facility has been operationalised at Kundaim. A total of 1110.27 tonnes of waste has been collected and treated during this financial year upto November, 2022.

My Government is committed to ensure quality healthcare to all. Under Deen Dayal Swasthya Seva Yojana, which provides health coverage to the entire resident population of the State, who reside in Goa for five years and more, claims amounting to ₹ 29.99 crore for thirteen thousand nine hundred eighty three (13,983) beneficiaries have been settled. Total active cards for policy year 2022-23 till November, 2022 is two lakh ninety four thousand two hundred sixty four (2,94,264).

My Government is targeting to achieve Malaria elimination (Zero Indigenous cases and zero deaths due to Malaria) by 2023. Also, the State is awaiting for elimination of Filaria certificate from the Government of India. Goa State Aids Control Society has been ranked first for 2021-22 as per evaluation conducted by National Aids Control Organisation.

The work of expansion of existing hospital of Institute of Psychiatry and Human Behaviour by another 100 beds is under construction. Super Speciality Block at Goa Medical College has been commenced and it is a centre of excellence in areas like Nephrology, Neurology, Neuro Surgery, Paediatric Surgery, Burns and Plastic Surgery, Cardiology, CVTS, Urology, Endocrinology, Geriatric Medicine, Department of Medical Gastroenterology and unit of Surgical Oncology. Carotid stenting has been started in

the Department of Cardiology and four procedures have been done this year.

Government of India has sanctioned an amount of ₹ 1.85 crore for Goa Medical College under National Emergency life support for construction and starting of Skill Centre for training Doctors and Nurses. The Skill Centre is likely to be commissioned by end of this financial year.

As a step towards expansion of infrastructure and promotion of research in traditional medicine, All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Goa, at Dhargal in Pernem Taluka was inaugurated on 11th December, 2022 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), Goa will work to provide the highest quality facilities for UG, PG and post-doctoral streams in the aspects of education, research and patient care services

through Ayurveda system of medicine. My Government has decided to develop this as a wellness hub of Ayurveda promoting Medical Value Travel (MVT) and model centre for international and national collaboration for academic & research purposes.

My Government is committed for upliftment and welfare of the people. Three thousand six hundred thirty five (3,635) Unique Disability Identity Cards (UDID) have been issued to Persons with Disability during the year 2022-23 as on November, 2022 and four thousand five hundred fifty seven (4,557) Senior Citizen Identity Cards have been issued to the beneficiaries for availing the benefits under Government Schemes. Under My Government's flagship scheme "Deendayal Social Security Scheme" financial assistance has been provided to one lakh thirty six thousand nine hundred forty

three (1,36,943) beneficiaries incurring an expenditure of ₹ 26,308.93 lakh.

My Government has introduced the scheme “Mukhyamantri Dev Darshan Yatra Yojana” to provide one time travel assistance on pilgrimage to resident of Goa who are above the age of 50 years along with one attendant to visit sacred holy places outside Goa as per the itineraries decided by the Government of Goa from time to time. The scheme has been implemented from November, 2022 and till date, 5 trips to pilgrimage/holy places have been conducted benefiting five thousand one hundred thirty one (5,131) pilgrims and incurring an expenditure of ₹ 600.35 lakh.

Under Atal Asra Yojana, financial assistance is provided for construction, reconstruction and repairs of houses to Economically Weaker Section (EWS) including

ST, SC and OBC. An expenditure of ₹ 92.05 lakh has been incurred to release financial assistance to 73 EWS/SC/OBC beneficiaries whereas 749 ST beneficiaries have been sanctioned an amount of ₹ 1125.00 lakh.

Under various scholarship schemes, an expenditure of ₹ 793.51 lakh has been incurred benefiting seven thousand five hundred eleven (7,511) SC/OBC students during the year 2022-23 upto November 2022. Under ST category, six thousand fifty (6,050) students have benefitted incurring an expenditure of ₹ 634.37 lakh.

Jan Jatiya Gaurav Divas was celebrated in the State from 15th – 22nd November, 2022 in order to commemorate the contribution of Tribal freedom fighter Bhagawan Birsa Munda. Under the Forest Right Act, 2006, during the current financial year, 446 claims have been approved by the District level committees and 296 titles

have been distributed to the Forest Right beneficiaries.

Government has amended the scheme “Financial assistance to participate and organise exhibition cum sale, fairs and workshop camp” as “Udyog Adhar Yojana”. Under this scheme financial assistance of ₹ 10,000/- per annum to individuals and ₹ 1.00 lakh per annum to NGOs will be sanctioned for participating in the exhibition/fairs/sale. For the financial year 2022-23, upto November, 2022, 350 individual beneficiaries and 6 NGOs have been provided benefits amounting to ₹ 30.49 lakh. For the benefit of ST students, My Government has notified a new scheme “Eklavya Prashikshan Yojana Coaching to Scheduled Tribe students studying in class Xth, XIth and XIIth” for providing coaching to ST students to take admission in the Professional Courses/Colleges.

Under financial assistance for “Medical treatment for infertility among ST couple by Invitro fertilization (IVF)/ Intra Uterine Insemination (IUI) – Matrutva Yojana” 31 cases have been sanctioned amounting to ₹ 155.00 lakh during the year 2022-23 upto November, 2022.

My Government has organised “Purple Fest” from 4th – 8th January, 2023 which was first of its kind “National inclusive event” celebrating diversity and had Music concerts, experience zones, heritage tours, standup comedy, a blind navigator car rally and para table tennis championship for Persons with Disabilities.

Providing quality nutrition to Women and children has been the topmost priority of My Government. Under Supplementary Nutrition Programme, sixty nine thousand three hundred sixty one (69,361) beneficiaries received

Supplementary Nutrition; This include thirteen thousand two hundred fifty three (13,253) pregnant and lactating women, thirty seven thousand three hundred ninety six (37,396) children in the age group of 6 months – 3 years and eighteen thousand seven hundred twelve (18,712) children in the age group of 3 – 6 years. An expenditure of ₹ 1,124.66 lakh has been incurred upto November, 2022.

‘Poshan Maah’ was celebrated in September, 2022, wherein, nine thousand three hundred ninety six (9,396) awareness activities have been carried out at Anganwadi Centres with a focus on identification and tracking of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and plantation drive for promotion of kitchen garden. 855 children with SAM have been identified and 175 kitchen gardens have been setup at Anganwadi Centres. Under “Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana around three thousand

eighty three (3,083) beneficiaries have been enrolled and expenditure of ₹ 124.72 lakh has been incurred during the year 2022-23 upto November, 2022.

To improve the Child sex ratio, My Government is implementing the scheme “Mamta” wherein financial assistance of ₹ 10,000 is provided to Mothers who deliver a Girl Child. During the year 2022-23, upto November, 2022, 494 beneficiaries have received benefits incurring an expenditure of ₹ 49.40 lakh.

In order to empower women and to address the problem of spiralling prices, Griha Aadhar Scheme is being implemented by My Government. One lakh twenty six thousand one hundred three (1,26,103) eligible beneficiaries have been provided assistance of ₹ 1,500/- per month incurring an expenditure of

₹ 16,262.85 lakh during the year 2022-23 upto November, 2022.

“Daughters are not burden, they are our pride”. With this intention in mind My Government is implementing “Laadli Laxmi Scheme”. Around two thousand nine hundred ninety seven (2,997) applications of eligible beneficiaries are sanctioned and an expenditure of ₹ 1000.00 lakh is incurred toward providing ₹ 1.00 lakh financial assistance to 1000 beneficiaries during the year 2022-23 upto November, 2022.

Goa’s Tourism sector is a big source of revenue for the State. My Government believes in responsible and sustainable tourism. Government is expecting unprecedented tourist numbers (pre-pandemic level) in this season that fully opens after Covid pandemic. Our State

machinery is fully geared-up to handle the big influx of tourist in this season.

My Government hosted the 9th edition of the World Ayurveda Congress (WAC) & Arogya Expo which will boost the prospects of the State in Medical and Hinterland Tourism.

Goa Tourism has been witnessing steady growth in tourist arrivals especially after Covid pandemic. In the year 2021, approximately 33.08 lakh domestic and 0.22 lakh Foreign Tourists preferred Goa as their tourist destination and during the year 2022 (upto the month of September, 2022), approximately 49.55 lakh Domestic and 0.95 lakh Foreign Tourists visited the State.

My Government has reduced the documentary requirements by 60% for the following Touristic services i.e. Hotel registration,

Travel agent registration, Water sports registration, Tourist guide registration, Photographer registration, Deck beds & umbrellas registration, Temporary huts/shacks registration, Dealer registration, Adventure sports registration, Spice plantation registration, Online service provider registration and Homestay registration.

My Government has developed a Mobile app for reporting of illegal activities such as illegal deck beds, tables, umbrellas, touting, and movement of placement of hawkers. The complaints received are redressed by the flying squads. During the year 2022-23, upto November, 2022, 289 people were rescued from drowning by the Life Guards.

The work of commissioning of the sound and light show for tourism and heritage promotion created with combination of immersive

story telling, advanced multimedia, animation technology and projection making at Fort Aguada Jail museum is under process. 60% of the work is completed till November, 2022.

My Government has taken a progressive decision of reducing the VAT on aviation turbine fuel from 18% to 8%. This is likely to elevate the position of the State as prime gateway to India.

My Government efforts to resume mining have finally borne fruits. I am happy to state that permission is given to auction the dump/rejected ore which will initiate the process of starting of full-fledged mining in the State. A new era has begun for the mining sector in Goa. This is a major step to ensure employment to locals and ending the hardship faced by the mining dependent workers. Four iron ore mining blocks have been auctioned i.e. three in Bicholim and one in Sanguem taluka in the first Notice Inviting

Tender (NIT) with an auction premium of 63.55%, 99.25%, 111.28% and 86.40%. The auction process concluded on 21st December, 2022. All the successful bidders have made the upfront payment of 20% i.e. ₹ 43.19 crore.

Goa State Industrial Growth & Investment Promotion Policy, has been notified on 3rd October, 2022 which envisages creating 30,000 jobs and bringing investments worth INR 20,000 crore in the State over a period of 5 years.

The State Government has been closely monitoring the Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) report released by World Bank (WB) each year. Among the various pillars/areas identified under WB EoDB, the State has been working towards reducing the timelines of various services required to run a business. The State is undertaking a massive exercise to reduce the timeline of all pre-establishment and pre-

operation clearances to less than 30 days. In order to attract investment and boost export, Government is in process of implementing 261 business reforms and 91 citizen reform points. State has been in the forefront in implementation of Gati Shakti Yojana. Out of 28 data layers required to be integrated in the National Master Plan, 27 layers including land records have been integrated.

Under the scheme “Prime Minister’s Formalization of Micro Food Processing Industries (PM-FME Scheme)”, credit is provided to micro food processing units to set up new units or expand the existing unit by purchasing new machinery. A subsidy of 35% of the capital expenditure is provided to each beneficiary unit upto a maximum of ₹ 10.00 lakh. Under this part, subsidy is provided to 23 beneficiaries disbursing an amount of ₹ 7.77 lakh. Seed capital is also provided to individuals belonging to Self-help

groups involved in food processing at the rate of ₹ 40,000 per member. Total beneficiaries under this part of the scheme are 641 and amount disbursed is ₹ 218.16 lakh.

Goa has taken different initiatives to make the unemployed youth eligible for employment in the job market, as well as generating self-employment. A mega job fair was organized during the year 2022. Five hundred fifty seven (557) unemployed youth have been provided Offer letters till date. Goa Human Resource Development Corporation is providing skills and training for different types of jobs, as per the requirement in the public as well as private sector.

Swayampurna Chaturthi Bazar was organised across the State at 22 locations with an aim to provide platform for women, so as to

inculcate the habit of entrepreneurship among the women and motivate them to start their own business. Approximately 372 vendors participated in this Bazar. My Government's flagship programme "Sarkar Tumchya Dari" has been held at Netravali, Sanguem so as to provide benefit of various Government schemes at the doorsteps of the people.

My Government has launched the Drone Policy in December, 2022 with a vision to harness the opportunities to promote manufacturing, sustainable innovation, generate employment and provide value added services in the State.

Once again, on this occasion I would like to mention that My Government works on the principle of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka

Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, so as to accelerate the pace of progress of our State and the Nation.

ॐ सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः।

सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः।

सर्वे भद्राणि पश्यन्तु।

मा कश्चित् दुःख भाग्भवेत्॥

सत्यमेव जयते

Jai Hind.

Jai Goa.