

***Hon'ble Speaker and Hon'ble Members of the  
Goa Legislative Assembly:***

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

2. This is my second address to this august House since I took over as the Governor of the State and I am very happy to be in your midst.

3. The State has recently seen the General Municipal Council Elections for eleven municipalities under the watchful eyes of the State Election Commission with coordinated support of all arms of the Government. I congratulate the Government for holding free, fair and peaceful elections.

4. I also congratulate the newly elected councilors and hope that each one of them would contribute to the progress of the State.

5. Hon'ble Members: It is a matter of pride that the State of Goa has been **adjudged the most competitive small State on the basis of its financial conditions, incentives and strategy by the Mint Financial Journal**. The Mint Award Jury considered the State of Goa to be strategically well placed in the Factors of Competitiveness, including Demand Conditions and Production Factors; not just the conventional factors of land, labour & capital but specialized factors of comparably better infrastructure and skilled manpower as well as Context for Firm Strategy and Supporting Industries.

6. I am pleased to say that, Panaji is amongst the 98 Cities recently selected for the Smart Cities Project by the Union Ministry of Urban Development for kick-starting the next wave of planned urbanization in India. The Smart City Project is being implemented by the Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation. The modalities of the project are being actively finalized in consultation with all the stakeholders

including the general public at large. Under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission, 50 buses have been purchased for KTC at a cost of Rs.12.32 crore during 2015-16.

7. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. Government of India under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, launched Swachh Bharat Mission on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2014 to create awareness in achieving the goal of clean India. During 2015-16, 590 individual toilets, 4 community toilets and 2 public toilets have been constructed at a cost of Rs.151.73 lakh.

8. Due to the sustained efforts of the Government and unassailable claim before the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission, the dawn of new era of co-operative federalism has ushered in under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji. Under the new dispensation of resources sharing, an additional 10 percent Central Funds would be devolved to the States under 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission Award. As a consequence, Goa's share in the

divisible pool has increased from 0.266 to 0.378 percentage points that translated into an additional Rs.1107 crore approximately to the State in 2015-16 over 2014-15. As regards the finances of the State is concerned, the total receipts estimated for the year 2014-15 were 19.81 percent more than the Revised Estimates of 2013-14 that is of the strenuous efforts indicative of the Government in mopping up the resources. The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) reflected a growth of 7.71 percent in 2013-14. The Primary, Secondary and Tertiary sectors grew by 9.86 percent; 5.60 percent and 8.64 percent respectively. The socio-economic indicators of the State, as compared to the other States of the country, are highly impressive.

9. Total Budget size for the financial year 2015-16 is Rs. 13,331.44 crore which is 26.48 percent more as compared to last year. The Plan Size is projected at Rs. 6,190.97 crore for the year 2015-16 as against Rs. 4,389.25 crore for the year 2014-15, showing an increase of 41.05 percent.

10. The Commercial Taxes contribute almost around 65-70% of the total revenue of the State. Commercial Taxes revenue has increased by 8.8 percent in 2014-15 as compared to 2013-14. Infrastructure of Commercial Taxes strengthened to be in step with nation-wide roll out of GST. Excise Revenue has increased by 13.69 percent in 2014-15 as compared to 2013-14. The Excise Department has won an Award for adopting Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for making operations transparent.

11. Hon'ble Members: Goa is an example of harmony and tranquility and my Government believes in strengthening the bonds of amity through peaceful resolution of disputes and differences through dialogue and discussions.

12. To enable the law enforcement agency to effectively discharge their duties and responsibilities, my Government has made all efforts in enhancing the capacities and capabilities of Goa Police through augmenting infrastructure and human resource

requirements. The scheme 'Modernization of Police Force' has been implemented towards the above goal.

13. As a result, we have been successful in reducing the growth in crime rate from 19.51 percent in 2013 to 3.57 percent in 2014 (as compared to previous years). 2514 crimes were detected in 2015 as against 3110 in 2014. Also, the crime detection rate has increased to 84 percent in 2015 as compared to 70 percent in 2014. Two Forensic mobile laboratories have been commissioned in order to fasten the investigations.

14. My Government is committed to **Zero tolerance to women related crimes** and is more concerned for their safety and security. "Women Help Line" with a toll free number 1091 has been made functional at the 'Women and Children Protection Unit'. A web helpline 'womenhelp.goapolice@nic.co.in' has been launched for women in distress to lodge their complaints and also to file complaints to higher authorities in case certain police officials fail to

register their complaint. 'Women Help Desk' are being established at all the police stations.

15. Goa Police have also launched dedicated helpline Toll Free No. 1090 for Senior Citizens. To brief the security, the Goa highway police patrol has been made operational. My Government inaugurated the modern Central Jail at Colvale in May 2015. The Indira Gandhi National Open University Study Centre was also inaugurated at Central Jail, Colvale in November 2015 which provides correspondence education to the inmates free of cost. Till date, 35 inmates have enrolled their names for different courses.

16. My Government's endeavour to weed out corruption and extortion in its ranks including Police, a special email ID [goapolice.vigilance@nic.in](mailto:goapolice.vigilance@nic.in) and a dedicated mobile number 7030100000 has been launched. The verification of tenants, servants and strangers is conducted regularly to circumvent any untoward incidents. Constant

vigil is being maintained and assistance to tourist at different tourist places is provided regularly.

17. My Government is committed to the ideology of 'Zero Tolerance towards Corruption' and has put Information Technology to extensive use to bring transparency in the Government functioning by use of e-tendering, electronic clearance and strengthening of departmental as well as the State vigilance and anti-corruption mechanism.

18. The Information Technology will be further leveraged to achieve our objectives of good governance in all spheres by bringing in transparency in Government functioning and improving the efficiency of the public delivery systems.

19. As the Hon'ble Members are aware, the mining of iron ore resumed in the State in September 2015 with 89 Mining leases approved for grant of second renewal and 01 lease

approved for first renewal. Differential Global Positioning System Survey of 85 mining leases is completed till date with its authentication plans. 14 e-auctions were held in which 86,11,783 metric tonnes of iron ore was put up for bidding that realized a sale value of Rs. 831.15 crore. Out of sale value realized, the State received Royalty and Processing fees of Rs. 110.62 crore. In addition to this, the State has earned royalty amounting to Rs. 4.91 crore on account of production of iron ore and bauxite. Between April 2015 to December 2015, 750 transit pass books were issued for transportation of minor minerals and an amount of Rs. 1.02 crore was received towards royalty on minor minerals.

20. The other significant steps taken by the Government towards resumption of mining activity in the State included revocation of environmental clearance suspended by Government of India; air & water clearances; reduction of Export Duty on low grade ore from 30 percent to 10 percent by the Central Government; extensive use of ICT to dispense with irregularities/illegalities and under mining

through use of e-chalans for payment of royalty, online Sale, Export/Transit Permits; and Vehicle Tracking Machines.

21. In order to safeguard the families affected directly or indirectly, my Government had introduced 'Umbrella Scheme' under which financial relief of Rs.26.45 crore has been disbursed to 6,267 truck (tipper) owners engaged in mining operations in the affected areas during April to December 2015. Under the scheme, financial relief of an amount of Rs. 8.27 crore has been provided to 1,799 beneficiaries who lost their livelihood due to closure of mining. Under the **"Debt relief scheme for mining affected borrowers of Financial Institutions"**, an amount of Rs. 8.64 crore has been disbursed to 1,157 beneficiaries during April to December 2015.

22. I take pride in informing the Hon'ble Members of this august House that Goa is the first State to grant Ex-gratia Compensation of Rs.20 lakh to operational staff of the Fire and Emergency Services meeting with total/partial

disability. The Government has launched “**Fire Safe Goa App**” in April 2015 to facilitate direct interaction for reporting incidents and ready guidance.

23. Tourism industry is the backbone of Goan economy. The tourist arrival is more than three folds of the Goan population. In order to provide better infrastructure and attract more and more quality tourists, domestic as well as foreign, and also to avoid congestion at Dabolim airport, a Greenfield airport at Mopa has been proposed. The Cabinet has approved the Request for Proposal. The construction work is expected to start by September 2016. The actual construction of first phase of the project will take 36 months and project is likely to be commissioned in 2019.

24. Hon'ble Members: As you are aware the flourishing tourism sector has opened many avenues of employment and self-employment to the people of the State. As a result, the share of agriculture to GSDP had declined to 2.8 percent

in 2011-12 from as high as 13.82 percent in 1980-81. This led to neglect of agriculture activities in the State. In an effort to encourage farmers and unemployed youth to take up agriculture in a big way, my Government has initiated large number of agriculture development schemes and programmes in the State. Greater thrust has been laid on Horticulture Development, creation of enhanced irrigation potential and its usage, agriculture mechanization, development of khazan land, providing assured prices for major crops and agriculture training and education to the youth. Simultaneously, my Government enhanced the agricultural sector outlay by 88 percent in 2014-15 to Rs.149.76 crore. The major initiatives such as providing 100 percent subsidy on poly-houses for cultivation of flowers and vegetables, interest subsidy, minimum support prices to large number of agricultural commodities, supply of free high yielding seeds, protection of khazan lands, electric farm fencing, subsidy of farm equipment and machinery, strengthening of agriculture extension services, organizing krishi melas, issue of krishi cards and supply of free fruit saplings, have been

undertaken. The above initiatives resulted in agriculture growth of 4.51 percent in 2013-14 from (-)3.84 percent in 2012-13.

25. My Government intends to make the State self-sufficient in milk production. To achieve this objective, schemes such as Sudharit Kamadhenu, Incentives to milk producers, Dairy equipment, Pashupalan and Fodder development scheme have been under implementation. The Government spent substantial money on dairy development and as a result, milk production increased by 80 percent benefitting as many as 8648 dairy farmers. The total milk production increased from 35,000 litres to 65,000 litres per day.

26. My Government has made continuous efforts for the growth of the fishing industry in the State by providing financial assistance for various needs of the fishermen in Goa. The objective of my Government is to enhance socio-economic conditions of the fishing community by utilizing the available aquatic resources of the State while

creating gainful employment opportunities to the people of the State.

27. In order to provide better infrastructure to the fishing industry, up-gradation of various fish landing centres has been taken up. Open sea cage culture for culturing high value fish has been taken up in the State. My Government intends to utilize the potential of the open sea cage culture by taking it up on a larger scale. In order to provide good quality fish at reasonable rates to the public, 5 mobile fish stalls have been operating at designated places in Goa.

28. With steady and continuous efforts made by the Government, the share of manufacturing sector is around 40 percent to the GSDP. Goa Investment Policy was adopted in 2014 under which "Goa Investment Promotion & Facilitation Board" has been set up to attract investment in the State. It was expected to create 50,000 jobs and attract new investment worth Rs. 25,000 crore over next five years.

29. The thrust areas for new investment include Knowledge based industry, Pharmaceuticals & Bio-technology, Integrated Educational Hubs, Light Engineering, Aviation, Aerospace and Defence, Information Technology (IT) Hardware and Electronics and Agro-based and Food Processing Industries, have been identified. Till date, 46 proposals have been cleared with potential investment of Rs. 3,700 crore and nearly 9,000 jobs.

30. To encourage the youth to take up entrepreneurship, my Government has enhanced quantum of financial assistance substantially from Rs. 4 lakh to Rs. 15 lakh for non-technical persons and from Rs. 6 lakh in 2012-13 to Rs. 20 lakh in 2015-16 for professional persons under Dr. Verghese Kurien Rojgar Yojana. Under the scheme, 1,630 beneficiaries benefitted since 2012-13. My Government also approved an additional incentive of 25 percent subsidy on assistance granted towards fixed capital investment in 2015.

31. Infrastructure development and maintenance works amounting to Rs. 26.24 crore have been taken up during 2015-16 in various Industrial Estates. Waste Treatment storage Facility at Pissurlem Industrial Estate and Biomedical Waste Treatment in Kundaim Industrial Estate have been created. Road network at Kundaim Industrial Estate has been completed.

32. Information Technology (IT) is a very important tool of development of our times. In today's world, everything is linked to Information Technology. Having realized the importance of IT Sector, my Government unveiled the IT Investment Policy 2015 in order to boost this sector by attracting various multi-national IT companies to establish their units and help in generate employment opportunities for the people of the State. Promoting Investment in the IT/ EMC sector for the State of Goa is our objective and initiated setting up of Electronic Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) for the Electronic

System Design Manufacturing (ESDM) at Tuem, Pernem, over an area of around 5,97,124 Square meters under the EMC scheme of the Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and setting up of IT Park at the Kadamba Plateau, Tiswadi, over an area of around 2,69,890 Square meters.

33. Under Goa Broad Band Network, 734 more locations (which also includes 150 Government Departments, Public Sector undertakings, Educational institutes and Corporations) have been completed. The SWAN Project has been taken up under National e- Governance Plan to enhance the Voice / Video communication over the GBBN Network.

34. Under the IT Mass Literacy (DISHA) Scheme, students are imparted IT training at the IT knowledge centres across the State.

35. In order to strengthen e-Governance, it is the endeavor of my Government to use IT

extensively by developing cloud based applications under various sectors and sub sectors. One of such cloud based application is developed in health sector and is being put to use at District hospital, Mapusa.

36. I am happy to inform the Hon'ble Members, that the State of Goa has been adjudged the **Best State in the Education category by the India Today Magazine**. Quality education is the backbone for development of any nation. In order to provide quality education, my Government has taken few new initiatives that include strengthening of Computer Labs in all High and Higher Secondary Schools; the National Skill Qualification Framework courses substantially expanded to 15 trades in 76 Government Schools in 2015-16; Introduction of a Certificate Course in Financial Literacy in collaboration with National Stock Exchange (NSE) for Std. XI and XII by the Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Training of Teachers by NSE; Digital Evaluation of answer paper for Std. X and XII on pilot basis;

provision of separate toilets for girls and boys in all schools and opening of new schools. 111 schools have been newly constructed/renovated.

37. As many as 15,000 students have been provided during 2014-15 with laptops with requisite hardware and software to aid learning and acquiring knowledge using internet. Likewise, in order to transport students to schools, my Government has provided 505 buses for which a grant of Rs. 3.50 lakh per bus per annum has been provided for fuel, driver and attendant's salary and maintenance.

38. My Government also deployed 45 Counselors in High Schools and 12 Supervisors in 63 Higher Secondary Schools to provide counseling to the students undergoing mental and physical stress, lack of confidence, fear and anxiety related to the studies and peer pressure. More than 10,000 students have been benefitted by these Counselors.

39. Under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, out of the 151 separate toilets for Boys and Girls sanctioned, 103 toilets have been completed. The State Government promises to provide nutritious and healthy food to the school children as per the choice of the parents and likes and dislikes of the students. At present, 111 Self Help Groups / Mahila Mandals and 5 Parent Teacher Associations supply Mid-Day meals. During 2015-16, approximately 1,57,089 students are being benefitted by the scheme.

40. Similarly, 54,630 students of Class II, III and IV of Government and Government Aided Schools and 13,000 students of Class I to III of Government Primary Schools have been supplied with raincoats and uniforms.

41. Under Rashtriya Shiksha Abhiyan, **National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF)** has been launched from the academic year 2014-15. Three new colleges, one agriculture and another two

integrated B.Sc. B.Ed. & B.A. B.Ed. programmes in the academic year 2015-16 have been opened and started.

42. My Government supported Visiting Research Professors Programme with seven Research Chairs in the areas of Marathi Sahitya, Traditional Music, Fine Art, Comparative literature, etc.

43. Under the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan, financial assistance of Rs. 20 crore was provided to Goa University and Rs. 2 crore each to 8 Colleges for infrastructure development. Government College, Quepem was allotted Rs. 4 crore for its up-gradation to a Model College. The Roadmap for Growth of Higher Education in Goa was prepared and notified.

44. Hon'ble Members: I am pleased to inform you that Hon'ble Chief Minister is one of the members of the Chief Ministers' Sub-Group on Skill Development, constituted by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The report drafted by the Chief

Ministers' sub-Group covers various dimensions of skilling space and is an exhaustive manual on the subject for future guidance in this crucially important area.

45. My Government has taken steps to scale up Goa's Skill Development Initiatives in tune with the national perspective of providing skills on a scale and at a speed commensurate with the requirements of the young populace. After extensive drive to revive and expand the Apprenticeship Training coverage, the capacity increased from 1,000 odd seats to about 2,700 seats across industries and sectors available in the State.

46. I am happy to say that, Goa Shipyard Limited would absorb 300 apprentice pass-outs every year for next five years.

47. Greater emphasis would be laid on imparting training under National Skill Development Initiative with training duration ranging from 100

to 1000 hours and above through Vocational Training Providers.

48. My Government has spent Rs.4.51 crore on strengthening infrastructure and logistics requirements of the Skilled Development Institutes i.e., ITIs across the State.

49. I am pleased to state that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, adjudged Goa as the **Best State for Outpatient services** in the country for the year 2014-15.

50. As we all know, 'Health is Wealth' and hence my Government is consciously making efforts in providing best health services to the people of Goa. The entire machinery has been delivering quality services which can be adjudged through vital health indicators. No cases of Japanese Encephalitis has been reported. In 2015, Cardiac surgeries, Bypass surgeries, valve replacement surgeries for congenital heart diseases, thoracic surgeries, fistula surgeries were conducted for the

first time in Goa. Renal transplants continued successfully. Till date 874 cardiac surgeries and 1250 Angioplasty surgeries have been successfully performed. The number of patients tested for HIV has increased from 57,180 in 2013 to 62,821 in 2014. The positivity of HIV cases has declined from 0.93 percent in 2013 to 0.75 percent in 2014 and further decreased to 0.55 percent in 2015. Malaria cases declined by 61.50 percent from 1,187 cases in 2011 to 457 in 2015. Under "Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram", 2,17,848 children were screened; out of which 27,216 were referred to the health facilities for treatment during 2014-15.

51. The North Goa district hospital has been adjudged for '**Kayakalp**' **National award** under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India for public health facilities that demonstrate high levels of cleanliness, hygiene and infection control.

52. "Girl Child is Griha Lakshmi". In order to improve birth sex ratio, I am pleased to inform

that '**Beti bachao beti padhao scheme**' has been implemented by the Government in the State and is systematically monitoring Birth Sex Ratio. The Birth Sex ratio of the State of Goa has improved from 951 during 2013 to 953 during 2014.

53. In addition to these steps, I am glad to note that my Government is implementing a 'Medicclaim Scheme' for economically weaker sections for treatment of major ailments like cardio-vascular diseases, kidney transplants, cancer and neurosurgery. Under this scheme, Rs.6.47 crore has been spent benefitting 354 patients till October 2015.

54. My Government has taken care of the people living with HIV by creating awareness, providing financial assistance, free medical treatment and 50 percent concession to travel on public transport system. Due to continuous efforts, the number of HIV+ve cases detected in the State has declined from 475 in 2014 to 346 in 2015. One more Care Support Centre "**Vihaan**" has also been started

at St. Cruz for establishing the linkages of PLHIVs with various service providers and to assist the Anti-Retroviral Therapy Centre in tracking the missing /lost patients.

55. My Government has accorded top most priority for providing good infrastructure for health institutions. Patient Wards, Cath Lab Equipment for Cardiology Department, Staff Rest Rooms, Lecture Hall having capacity of 950 seats and Girls hostels for 208 students have been constructed/upgraded and an amount of Rs. 48.90 crore has been spent. The construction work of extension block of Primary Health Centre, Quepem is completed and the new building of Primary Health Centre, Shiroda is nearing completion.

56. Under the National AYUSH Mission, State AYUSH Society Goa has been established and registered in June, 2015. Land for various AYUSH projects have been identified; 5 acres of land has been allocated at Macazana for setting up of 100 bedded South Goa AYUSH Hospital and

5 acres of land at Macazana for setting up Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine, 22 acres of land at Chimbhel for setting up of All India Institute of AYUSH Sciences and 20 acres of land belonging to the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs identified at Dhargal for setting up of National Institute of Naturopathy & Research Centre.

57. Under the Innovations of the Record of Proceedings 2015-16, two new proposals have been approved, i.e Rs. 1.00 crore to be given to the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Goa, for setting up of the Bio-Medical Waste Treatment Plant at Madkai, and 23 Post Graduate specialists to be engaged to serve in the Goa Medical College as well as provide specialist care at the peripheral hospitals of Directorate of Health Services in rural areas are sanctioned and are in the process of implementation.

58. My Government has approved the proposal for up-gradation of the existing Food and Drugs Testing Laboratory at Bambolim for undertaking

analysis for pesticide identification in fruits, vegetables and soft drinks as well as microbiological analysis of food and drugs samples and allotted office premises at the Old Collectorate Building in Margao for setting up of the branch office of the Directorate for the benefit of citizens in South Goa. All efforts are being made to make the same operational during 2015-16.

59. "Service to human being is service to God". My Government has given top priority to social sector and allocated maximum plan funds under social services sector. My Government has released an amount of Rs. 290 crore in 2014-15 and Rs. 236 crore in 2015-16 (till October 2015) benefitting more than 1.35 lakh beneficiaries under **Dayanand Social Security Scheme (Freedom from Hunger)**. During 2014-15, various schemes for students belonging to under privileged communities were implemented and provided financial support for an amount of Rs. 9.31 crore benefitting 12,222 students. My Government has also taken care of minority communities and sanctioned Pre-matric

scholarships for an amount of Rs. 7.96 crore for 7,958 students. An amount of Rs. 30 lakh has been spent for 627 disabled persons towards Financial Assistance for physically disabled people by way of Scholarships / Stipends, Awards for marriages with disabled persons and rehabilitation.

60. My Government has introduced **Ladli Laxmi Scheme** in 2012 with the intention to ensure that the girl child does not become a burden for the parent or guardian for her marriage. Under the scheme, a "Gift" of Rs. 1,00,000/- is given to every Girl on attaining 18 years or on the occasion of her marriage, and applicable to girls between 18 and 40 years of age and the scheme is expanded to higher education or entrepreneurship this year onwards. Till date, 29,880 beneficiaries availed the scheme and an amount of Rs.298.80 crore has been spent.

61. In order to address the problem of spiraling prices and to offer support to the Housewives/homemakers from middle, lower

middle and poor section of society, my Government has introduced **Griha Aadhar Scheme**. Initially, Rs. 1,000/- was offered, which was further enhanced to Rs. 1,200/- from June 2014 onwards. Till date, 1,25,923 house wives are being benefitted under this scheme and an amount of Rs. 151.28 crore has been spent.

62. **Mamata** scheme has been modified and launched to align it with the laudable objectives of nurturing and cherishing the girl child through substantial enhancement of the cash benefits from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- but with disbursal linked to 5 stages of Rs.5,000/- each at birth, full immunization, completion of secondary education, completion of higher secondary, and finally completion of college degree has been launched.

63. Providing social security/welfare for Scheduled Tribes community is utmost priority of my Government. During 2014-15, Pre /post Matric Meritorious Scholarships have been sanctioned to 13,887 students. Under Kanya

Dhan (Vidya Laxmi) scheme, 647 girl students have been benefitted. Under Atal Asra Yojana, during 2014-15, 1659 persons have benefitted and an amount of Rs. 19.14 crore has been spent. During last 3 years, under the Gagan Bharari Scheme, Rs. 6.53 crore has been disbursed to 8,622 Scheduled Tribe students.

64. Hon'ble Members: The Cooperative Sector in Goa is playing a vital role in providing support to the key sectors like Credit, Agriculture, Dairy, Fisheries etc. The financial support provided by my Government has helped the institutions and areas of economic activities to streamline their functioning and financial position.

65. During the year 2015-16, The Cooperative Societies Act, 2001 has been amended and brought into force. The Goa Agricultural Produce Marketing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007 has also been amended in October 2015 in order to include the Dharbandora Taluka.

66. As Hon'ble Members are aware, the Sanjivini Shakar Kharkhana is faced with financial difficulties for some time now, but with a view to protect the interest of sugar cane growers, my Government has extended financial support to the factory by contributing to its Share Capital and by way of enhanced support price to the sugar cane farmers.

67. Hon'ble Members: My Government contemplates to make maximum use of all the Inland Waterways in Goa fully navigable at all tidal conditions, so as to ensure safe and smooth navigation to all the vessels plying therein. The work of construction of new Captain of Ports jetty having a length of 185 meters has been commissioned.

68. Hon'ble Members: My Government supports the Government of India's "Digital India" campaign to digitally empower the administrative and Governance process for providing Citizen Centric Services. Verification of data, seeding of Aadhar and bank details is

underway. As on date, Ration Cards of 3,64,118 beneficiaries have been seeded with Aadhar numbers. All the godowns and Taluka offices of the Civil Supplies Department have been networked in order to ensure smooth functioning of Supply Chain Management System.

69. The **National Food Security Act, 2013**, has been implemented. 1,20,373 families covering 4,81,164 beneficiaries have been identified for grant of food grains under this Act.

70. Hon'ble Members: Goa is known worldwide as the best and safe tourist destinations. Safety and security of the tourists is my Government's priority. Good infrastructure is important in order to attract quality tourists. The newly constructed "**Paryatan Bhavan**" has been inaugurated and the **Information Plazas** at Patto – Panaji and South Goa Collectorate, Margao have been commissioned. The tourist inflow into the State has increased 30 percent in 2014 as compared to 2013. A significant eco-tourism

policy initiative has been taken for construction of eco-friendly resorts without changing character of the land and its use. As stated earlier, my Government has introduced AYUSH programme in order to encourage Medical Tourism in the State. The Government has already laid greater stress on development of water sports tourism and introduced various water sports events. In order to encourage more tourist inflow, adventure tourism, Hot air balloon, amphibian plane are in the process of introduction.

71. The Phase I work for main building of Second Institute of Hotel Management & Catering Technology at Farmagudi in collaboration with Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has commenced. Eight High Mast Lights have been installed at various places in the State. Beautification & Illumination have been carried out at Our Lady of Succorro Church & Shree Sateri Temple-Hasapur.

72. Hon'ble Members: As we all know, road transport is lifeline of the economy. Development of trade and business and social integration is vastly dependent on the road transport. My Government is keen in providing a secure, efficient and integrated, transport system in the State. The road based passenger mobility has increased tremendously over the years with a total vehicle population of 11.23 lakh, as in October 2015.

73. To provide easy and efficient services to public, registration of new vehicles through authorized dealers has been put in place. 12,608 vehicles were registered on-line by the authorized dealers from April 2015 to October 2015.

74. 'The Goa State Interim Compensation to Road Accident Victims, 2015' has been modified and notified for providing financial assistance to the road accident victims irrespective of their existing insurance cover. 29 applications are under process of scrutiny. 79,000 m<sup>2</sup> area/land

has been acquired at Ponda for setting up of an Institute of Drivers Training and Research as well as Testing & Checking Centre (Automated Vehicle Testing Facility).

75. Under "Digital India Scheme", Smart Card Registration Certificates & Motor Driving Licenses have been launched and implemented from September, 2015. Online payment of road tax and passenger tax, has also been launched.

76. Hon'ble Members: My Government has always initiated progressive construction/up-gradation of infrastructure. During 2015-16, an amount of Rs.790.22 lakh has been spent for construction of bridges in the State.

77. An amount of Rs.1810.38 lakh has been incurred towards Development of State Highways that include SH-5, SH-7 and SH-6. Works were also carried out for improvement of Major District Roads in St.Andre, Tivim,

Porvorim, Sanguem, Priol, Madkai and Poriem Constituencies amounting to Rs.2079.95 lakh.

78. Development of rural roads brings multiple socio-economic benefits to the rural areas which form a strong base of the national economy and it is a powerful instrument for the socio-economic transformation of the villages. My Government has spent an amount of Rs. 6781.66 lakh for improvement of rural roads across the State.

79. Work of widening of the CHOGM road to Navetim in Saligao Constituency was also taken up at a cost of Rs.118.00 lakh for facilitating mainly tourists visiting the beaches. Under the Central Road Fund, an amount of Rs. 2117.51 lakh was spent for Improvement of S.H. No. 2 from Assonora to Dodamarg and Widening of M.D.R.-23 (Bicholim - Ladfe - Dodamarg) road of 9.10 Kms of length in Bicholim constituency.

80. Access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation facilities is recognized as a basic human need and a pre-condition for economic and social development. My Government is making all out efforts to improve the service levels of water supply in all the villages/towns to meet the increasing tourist, industrial, commercial as well as domestic demand. Also, steps are being taken to improve the hygienic conditions and create sanitary awareness in rural areas by constructing pour flush latrines.

81. Majority of the villages in the State in general exhibit semi urban nature. The requirement of water in most of the rural areas is that of a medium class town. Most of the villages are covered under the seven regional water supply schemes and very few villages are covered with local sources. As such, majority of rural population in Goa are covered under treated water. At present, the average supply level in villages is 82 liters per capita per day (LPCD) as against 40 LPCD as per the norms of Government of India for rural areas. The endeavor is to

enhance it to 100 LPCD in the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period. Also, an action plan is ready to cover most of the villages under regional water supply schemes.

82. My Government has been making conscious efforts in improving the Water Supply Scheme and has spent substantial money i.e. Rs. 69.68 crore for water supply scheme designing, supplying, installation & commissioning being pumping stations across the State during 2014-15.

83. The State lacks a well-knit sewerage network and majority of population is still dependent on traditional septic tank and soak pit system for the disposal of wastewater. My Government is taking adequate measures to avoid health hazards caused by contamination of ground water due to the lack of adequate soaking capacity of the soil, letting of the waste water in open drains due to growing urbanization. Efforts are being made to cover all the major towns with sewerage network using appropriate technology, to take the goal of total sanitation

and clean environment in urban areas and also to extend the network to the unseweraged areas. The total money spent on improving the sewerage network in the State is Rs. 75.30 crore during 2014-15.

84. My Government is committed to reduce power loss caused due to distribution and transmission of power. In this regard, LT underground cabling works in the predominantly tribal inhabited areas of Raia, Loutolim, Nuvem, Verna, Nagoa, Majorda, Utorda, and Calata are on verge of completion. The work of electrification of remote village of Nadquem in Canacona by laying of underground cable and erection of 100 KVA transformer centre has been completed and commissioned. The works for conversion of overhead 11 KV HT network to underground cabling in Canacona constituency is in progress and expected to be completed by end of the year.

85. The Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission has conducted the Public hearing on Business

Plan for control period from Financial Years 2016-17 to 2018-19. The Fuel & Power Purchase Cost Adjustment Formula for quarterly Adjustments in the Tariff of consumers are being notified regularly. Online electricity bill payment has also been introduced all over Goa for enabling the public to pay their electricity bills online.

86. The scheme for usage of electricity poles for services other than electrical supply has been notified. A roadmap document '24x7 Power for All' has been prepared jointly by the Government of Goa and Government of India. Goa is the fourth State in the country selected for '24x7 Power for All' programme. This programme will be implemented by Government of Goa with active support from Government of India with the objective of ensuring 24x7 quality, reliable and affordable power supply to all Domestic, Commercial, Agriculture and Industrial consumers within a fixed time frame.

87. Hon'ble Members: The Town & Country Planning Department is the nodal Department in framing land use policies of the State. My Government has taken decision to carry out rectification in the Regional Plan for Goa 2021 by way of calling for suggestions/ rectifications from the general public. The village areas of Calangute and Candolim have been brought under administrative control of North Goa Planning and Development Authority. The policy guidelines on allowing additional FAR for allied uses under agriculture have been notified. My Government has approved Town Planning Schemes for Down Town Mapusa (Phase I) and Comarkhazan and Gousawada ward (phase II). My Government has simplified the conversion process by introducing a system to issue suo-moto conversion reports along with technical clearances / development permissions.

88. My Government has been successfully implementing a scheme for post monsoon water harvesting for groundwater recharge through construction of a series of bandharas across

rivers and nallahs in the sweet water zones. A total number of 330 bandharas have been completed to hold storage of 346.58 lakh cum., and another 06 bandharas are in progress. 27 bandharas are planned for construction during year 2015-16.

89. Flood control, anti-sea erosion and drainage measures have been implemented for a length of 22.270 Kms. at the reaches of the coast prone to sea-erosion. The finalization of Goa Ground Water Policy is in process.

90. Development and excelling in the field of sports is one of the priority areas of my Government. To complement this objective, my Government has built state-of-the-art sports infrastructure in the State and also provides sports equipments and training. As a result, the State teams have participated at the 61<sup>st</sup> National School Games and have won 2 Gold, 4 Silver and 8 Bronze Medals in Swimming. Tchoukball Boys team has won Silver medal and

Girls team has won the Gold medal at the School Nationals.

91. My Government is in the process of implementing the State Youth Policy which was launched in June, 2015. Under the scheme of Grants of Financial assistance to Sportspersons in Indigent circumstances, 67 beneficiaries availed the benefits.

92. I hope, the Hon'ble Members will take active part and have valuable and fruitful deliberations during this Assembly session, thus fulfilling the aspirations of the people of Goa.

**Jai Hind - Jai Goa.**