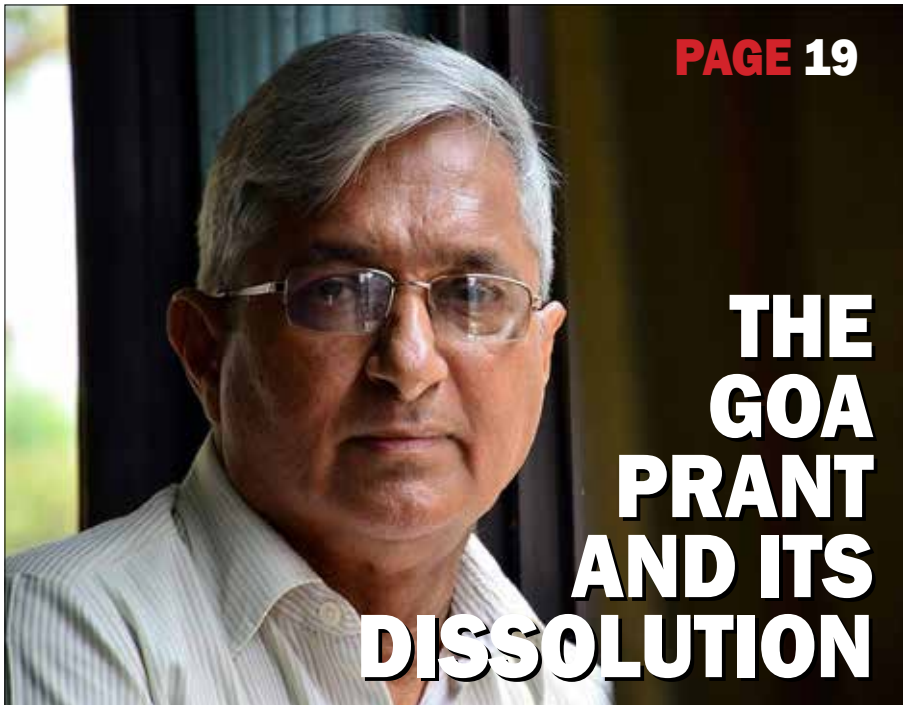


# The Neutral View

FORTNIGHTLY Wednesday, March 8, 2017 | Vol. No. 1 | Issue 6 | Price Rs. 10 | RNI: GOAENG00427



# AB KI BAAR...



The D-Day that will decide the fate of 251 candidates in the election fray and the subsequent formation of the new Goa Government. Will BJP continue to govern the State for the second term? Or will it be a new government by Congress, or

by new entrant AAP or a MGP-GSM led coalition government? These are questions currently spinning in the minds of nearly 10 lakh voters who exercised their fundamental right to elect the candidate or party of their choice.

Whether it is going to be one single largest party that will rule Goa or whether an alliance will take power – the picture will be clear on March 11.



# BEST OF OSCARs 2017

## FIVE MOVIES YOU NEED TO WATCH!

Palash Volvoikar

For us, cinema has always been a sweet escape from reality. With advances in technology over the last couple of decades, the quality of storytelling with the help of the cinematic medium has become increasingly immersive. We are now in a time where

we can pour the wildest bits of our imaginations into a film, and watch it turn into reality.

At this year's Academy Awards (a.k.a. the Oscars), the Best Picture category had some pretty stiff competition, and in the end La La Land took home the trophy. Just kidding, Moonlight won Best Picture. The Oscars aren't as white, anymore.

Jokes apart, here are my picks for the top five Oscar nominated movies from 2017 you absolutely need to watch :

1



### La La Land

Damien Chazelle's second big project after Whiplash, La La Land is a musical drama that resurrected the long dead genre which, in recent times, was only being used by Disney in their half-hearted attempts to win over the teenage demographic. This modern day musical follows the love story of Sebastian, a jazz musician wanting to save his art, and Mia, an actress trying to make it big in Hollywood. The movie fetched Damien the Best Director award at the Oscars, making him the youngest director to ever win the award, at only 32.

2



### Moonlight

One of the most beautifully made movies of the year, Moonlight depicts the journey of an African American boy growing up, trying to define his identity, and find himself. The movie has three chapters, showing the different stages in his life, from childhood, to adolescence and then adulthood. Mahershala Ali took home the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his role as Juan, and with a brilliant screenplay that won the Oscar for Best Writing Adapted Screenplay, and cinematography which is absolutely breathtaking at times, there is no doubt about why Moonlight bagged the best Picture Award, this year.

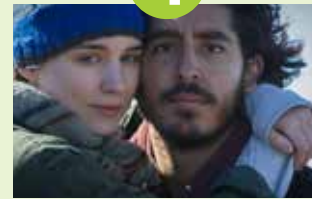
3



### Manchester by the Sea

Casey Affleck stars in this tale of a brooding man, Lee Chandler, who has to take a break from his monotonous life when his brother passes away, and his 16-year old nephew becomes his responsibility. Trying to deal with the situation, his past, and more, Lee often finds himself at the end of his wits, something we all can relate to, and Casey plays Lee brilliantly. The movie won the Best Original Screenplay Oscar, and Casey bagged the Best Actor Oscar for himself, both of which were well-deserved wins.

4



### Lion

Based on a true story, Lion is about a young Indian boy who gets separated from his family, and ultimately ends up in Australia. Sunny Pawar absolutely shines as the five year old 'Saroo', who grows up into Dev Patel's adult version, and suffers from the idea that his real family has no idea of his whereabouts. Saroo's desperate struggle to find his lost family makes Lion a hauntingly beautiful piece of film. Dev Patel has really matured since his Slumdog Millionaire days, and he got really close to winning the Best Supporting Actor award at this year's Oscars.

5



### Fences

Denzel Washington plays Troy Maxson, a sanitation worker in the 1950s who once dreamed of having a baseball career, but failed solely because he was African American. The lost dream takes his toll on him as he tries to be a good father and husband. Denzel is at his best, having directed the movie as well, and the story has an unexpected twist which develops beautifully. The movie fetched Viola Davis, who played the role of Troy's wife, Rose, a much awaited Oscar win.

# Love and Peace in The Park Calangute



## SHEELA JAYWANT

I went for the fifth anniversary dinner of this small, luxury boutique hotel, right on the beach. There are two restaurants, one on the first floor, overlooking the Arabian Sea and not air-conditioned, the other at sand level, with glass windows and air-conditioning, which is open for breakfast. Their names 'Love' and 'Peace' seem appropriate. The menus' categories are salad, soup, appetizer, sandwich and burger, pizza, main, kids' menu and dessert.

There's an interesting section called Platters to Share in which each portion can be shared by 2-3 persons, available from 1-4 in the afternoon and 7-11 at night. One example of an item in this was Make Your Own Bruschetta (Rs 325), which had French bread, homemade focaccia, multigrain toasted bread slice with tomato chutney, basil pine nut pesto, chilli mushroom and eggplant ragout.

### CONTACT:

8805028194- Pravin.

**TIMINGS:** Round the clock for a basic menu, but there are breakfast, lunch and dinner timings.

### PARKING:

(As the name suggests) there is parking space and valets to help, although in the evening the narrow lane can get crowded.

### HOW TO GET THERE

Midway, about 1.5kms each way from busy Candolim and the broad sand stretch at Calangute. If you're walking on the beach, you can't miss that huge pink statue of a very fat woman lying on the sand next to the life-guard's tower. If you're going by car, take the lane towards the beach opposite the Calangute Mall. On your left, in the lane, are many stalls selling handcrafted stuff. Just before you reach the beach, a sign will lead you to the Park.

I sampled as many items as possible and would go back just for the dips and the desserts. At the anniversary event, the roast suckling pig and the huge fish on the grill were a delight to behold and delicious to eat. The people sitting next to me at the table were regulars and claimed they have not tired of eating here even after five years. No reason to disbelieve.



Vegetables must be crisp, whether raw or cooked, to taste good, right? The fresh fennel and apple salad proved my point. No salad was limp or 'off'-looking. Of the non-vegetarian salads, I chose the salmon and avocado salad with citrus honey vinaigrette. At Rs 125 and Rs 225 respectively, they are expensive, but not grossly so.

(BTW, an unconnected titbit: I always ask whether taxes and service charges are included in the printed numbers, if not mentioned in the menu. I urge everyone to do the same.)

The soups at The Park have interesting names.

My husband and I shared the 'Trilogy of Chilled Apple and Leek Shooter'. As described on the card: apple and leek soup with truffle, basil, thyme oil and crispy okra and leeks. Terrific taste, cost Rs 225.

I often eat so many appetizers that I leave little space for the main meal. The Paneer Cilantro Zatar, Barwan Soybean ki Shammi, Mezze Platter, Potatoes with Camembert, Apples and Anjeer (Rs 295 each) were as tasty as the non-vegetarian Wings Two Ways with blue cheese dip (yum), Beetroot Glazed Chicken Drumsticks and Drunken Spare Ribs.

The latter lot was at Rs 325 each, big portions. All dips were excellent; I took small spoonfuls to dash onto my salads.

From 11-11 sandwiches and burgers

### PRICES

Without drinks, a meal for two is possible for less than Rs 1000, if you haven't been on a vigorous swim in the sea or a long, brisk walk. As neighbouring shacks are probably cheaper, there's a temptation of trying those, but in the neighbourhood are other up-scale eateries whose prices match this one. The view and the service are good. Most of the items are well-cooked and tasty. No point in coming here to eat sandwiches and burgers; I recommend the fine-dining menu.

are available with fries and salads. Pizzas, too. These are for the die-hard fast-food lovers, not for me.

An aside: Xacuti, like biryani, should be non-vegetarian. If you're with children, try the Kids' Special and all the desserts. The chef himself gave me a 'shot' of strawberry something to taste. My word, I wanted more of the stuff.

### SERVES:

Multi-cuisine, salads and soups, grills and roasts, Indian Punjabi stuff, spaghetti and penha dishes and desserts to match. I recommend the seafood.

### Grading:

Great for ambience and service. You can spend a day here, on the sand, into one restaurant, in the waves, back into another restaurant. Recommended.

### PEOPLE INVOLVED

The Park Calangute is part of a chain. The GM, Mr Khanna and the F&B In-charge, Mr Pravin are both accessible and helpful.

The pictures on the food page of the last edition of TNV where clicked by David D'Souza

# M/S PARRIKAR-PARSEKAR, LOOK WHAT YOU DID IN FIVE YEARS!

**A**s we wind up the five-year-long tenure of the current State government, we cannot avoid debating on the hits and misses of the BJP-led government. The State government which came to power on the high hopes of the voters has certainly left its own mark, but at the same time has left behind several scars which could have been avoided.

Manohar Parrikar headed the government at the beginning of the term and then handed over the baton to Laxmikant Parsekar. Both the leaders have their own pluses and minuses. They have their own styles of functioning, which at times, are in contrast to each other. Not just in simple contrast, but stark contrast to each other!

Parrikar's charisma, which was seen during the election campaign of 2012, continued till he left for Delhi. The formation of the State government witnessed several pro-people schemes and social welfare measures that changed the lives of many.

The schemes brought smiles to the faces of the people. Parrikar's act of abolishing Value Added Tax on petrol, thus bringing down the price of this most important commodity by Rs 11 per litre, will go down as one of the most popular steps taken by any State government in the country.

The then Chief Minister became the talk of the town. The media was abuzz with praises about his simplicity, and some over enthusiastic journalists even penned imaginative stories of Parrikar going to fetch fish in the Panaji market and riding a Scooty. I personally have not seen him riding a Scooty or buying fish. But this kind of publicity helped Goa to brand itself nationally and internationally.

The honeymoon between the newly formed Parrikar-led government and the people received a jolt when the mining business

came to a grinding halt. The State government issued a circular cancelling all the mining leases following which the UPA government suspended the Environment Clearances (ECs) of the trade. To cap it all, the Supreme Court banned the mining industry, going by the M B Shah Commission Report, to weed out the illegalities within.

This was the first time that the Parrikar-led government faced a really tough challenge while still being in the initial honeymoon period. The social security schemes came handy for the State government to provide temporary financial solace to the people affected due to ban on the mining industry.

The financial packages were offered to the people at large, but the people from the iron-ore rich belt were left in the lurch. After that for three years, the mining belt villagers did not celebrate any of their festivals. Thankfully there were no mining ban related suicides.

As the State government braced itself to face the challenge posed by the dip in revenue after mining closure, Parrikar also faced the real challenges to run the system. The reality of running the government is more difficult than making populist promises during the election campaign to garner votes.

That is why Parrikar who had once spoken of sinking the off shore casinos in the Mandovi river, toned down his words and began speaking of how revenue from them was imperative for the financial health of the State.

He also got into the act of trying to resume the mining industry while completely forgetting his promise to put behind bars those involved in the illegal iron ore export. Parrikar had named Digambar Kamat as one of the accused in the illegal mining case, but did nothing to nail him.

The soft targets like the then Mines Director Arvind Loliengar went behind bars for some days. The special cell of the Crime Branch which was investigating the illegal mining case has now been left redundant. Deputy Superintendent of Police Nilu Raut Desai who has investigating the case at a snail's pace is now to retire and there is no one to probe the case further.

The same happened in the case of the Medium of Instruction issue, when Parrikar did exactly what Digambar Kamat had done.

Then came the 2014 Lok Sabha elections when BJP won in both the constituencies. Narendra Sawaikar was the new star on the horizon of Goa's politics while Sripad Naik

reiterated that he was King of North Goa.

The exit of Parrikar to Delhi was followed by the entry of Laxmikant Parsekar, whose walk to the Chief Ministerial post was not easy. He had to pass through the hurdles of revolt by Francis D'Souza and the loyalty of Rajendra Arlekar.

Parsekar's induction was hugely criticized by the media who thought that he would not be able to step into the shoes of Parrikar. But Parsekar stunned everyone with his style of functioning.

The first thing he did was to increase VAT on petrol, but at the same time he assured that the price of petrol per litre would not cross Rs 60. He also went on to state that the demand of Special Status for Goa would not be pursued. The promise of special status was in the election manifesto of the BJP.

By Parsekar's own admission it took him three months to understand the job of the Chief Minister. But those who were closely covering State politics could sense and witness that Parrikar remained the de-facto Chief Minister of the state. Even the smallest of decisions were made only after consulting Parrikar.

The last five year tenure cannot be analysed without speaking about a few of the ministers who were lambasted for their functioning. Tourism Minister Dilip Parulekar was seen doing flip flops on several issues including Electronic Dance Music (EDM) Festivals. He also came under a cloud in the Serula land grab case.

Industries Minister Mahadev Naik was alleged to be involved in illegalities in getting the loans which are available for MLAs. The inquiry was supposed to begin in the matter. But we did not hear of anything after that.

Parsekar himself was in the news after he reinstated his brother-in-law in the Goa State Industrial Development Corporation. Though the Chief Minister distanced himself from his relative after he was caught red-handed by the Anti Corruption Bureau, the action of transferring the officials who had arrested him was enough to indicate political interference.

Now as we wait for March 11 to decide who will be the next Chief Minister of the state and whether the BJP will retain power, we can fairly say that this government was much better than the Digambar Kamat-led term.

The voters of Goa just hope that whoever forms the next government will learn from the mistakes committed during the last ten years by the governments. The next five years to come should be a golden era for Goa.



# ELECTIONS AT PANCHAYAT LEVELS SHOULD NOT BE CONTESTED ON PARTY LINES

## SANZIL D'COSTA

**T**NV's quest to know the young minds in politics continues as Goa's Panchayats gear up for a change of guard in May. This time we move south and interview Sanzil D'Costa, Sarpanch of Fatorpa, whose debut in politics has managed to impress many.

**Q** You were one of the youngest panches who got to the position of Sarpanch in your Panchayat. How tough was it being a first timer and of younger age?

The experience was great. People supported me. They had expectations from me which I believe I was able to fulfill.

**Q** What are the major works carried out by you in your Panchayat?

The major works carried out are prioritized as per people's needs and demands. If you see it is our basic responsibility as a first citizen (sarpanch) of the village to provide basic necessities of water, electricity, and roads. We have also given high priority to provide employment to the educated and well deserved youth of our village and have been reasonably successful in eradicating the unemployment in the village, thus supporting the families of Fatorpa village to live a good and easy financial living. Other than that we have a number of responsibilities towards the village and people of Fatorpa. Of special mention, we have two major leading and famous temples of Goa that we need to look after as a local governing body.

The rest of the developments include many different projects taken under development of infrastructure of the village such as drainage works, retaining walls, hot mixing and construction of new roads. Very important not to forget about cleanliness of the village under regular exercise of Swacch Bharat Abhiyaan. Other than this, our major achievement and success was construction of a new Panchayat house, which will be a landmark project for the village of Fatorpa. We also give a caring and vigilant ear to the personal complaints of the villagers. Hence we have tried our best for the overall development of Fatorpa village and people of Fatorpa village selflessly. I think and can easily claim we have been very much successful in serving our people of Fatorpa and our beloved village by maintaining traditional heritage and harmony in the

village, and providing reasonable living standards to the people of our beloved village.

**Q** Will you be standing for elections again? How was the support you gained from your fellow panch and people at large?

Yes, I will contest the upcoming elections, as around 200 supporters from the village had approached me a few days back, insisting that I contest the elections. They especially mentioned about all my contributions to our village Fatorpa during my term and of how they were happy for the same. So due to the people's support and force I will contest the next elections.

**Q** Do you feel Panchayats have enough powers in hand?

No, panchayats should be given more status and powers as it will be easier to carry out people's work and development of the village. Since many people come from the remote areas they don't have compatible knowledge to go to state government offices. Hence giving more powers to panchayats will help them to get work done at the Panchayat level.

**Q** Do you think elections at local self-government should be fought on party lines?

No, elections at panchayat levels should not be contested on party lines. People in villages live in a friendly atmosphere by maintaining harmony among all villagers. Party line elections draw a line of separation within that friendly atmosphere of the villages.

**Q** Do you think there is lack of woman leadership in politics? What do you think are the reasons?

Yes. There should be more involvement of women in politics. There has been already a decision in favour of reservations for women while allotting the share of seats in elections. Women are the backbone of society and the heart of culture of society. A woman can look after and take care of people better than anyone as she can be a mother, a wife and also a caring daughter. Hence I am of the opinion that women should be participating more actively in politics.

**Q** Any word of advice to youngsters who want to enter politics?

My advice is, the youth have a vibrant ideology and have been more inclined towards honesty in today's world. The youth are the driving force to this society and can be an outstanding example to the corrupt and selfish world out there.



**MAR 8**

**Jugneeta Sudan: "frankly, my dear, she never gave a damn!"**

06:00 pm

Venue: MOG - Museum of Goa, plot no 79, Pilerne Industrial area, Pilerne, Goa  
Museum of goa is pleased to mark international women's day by giving a platform to what half the human population of this world is trying to say to us. Mog welcomes writer and literary critic, jugneeta sudan who has led a peripatetic life. She keeps herself occupied with classical literature in dialogue with music, art, philosophy, theology, history and cinema.

**Shakti Peak festival - promo party - Goa**

09:00 pm

Venue Nyex beach club, Anjuna cliff, old paradiso club, Anjuna beach, Goa.  
Line up includes Lab - (Live Set) Om Veda Records (Portugal), Gorump Peyya - Manic Dragon Records (Macedonia), Fibre Stomp - Digital Distortion Records (India), K T - Parvati Records (India), Neptunya - Urban Antidote Records (Canada), Chinx - Independent (India), Akku- Westend Records (India) etc.

**MAR 09**

**A talk: Ayaz Basrai : Philanthropy and the built expression.**

06:30 pm to 09:00 pm

Venue: Design Centre, Goa, India  
A talk by Ayaz Basrai on philanthropy and the built expression. A provocation around the nature of patronage, and how this shapes our built environment. The talk tries to open up this as a discussion, to expand the territory around the changing face of philanthropy and patronage, and what this may result in.

**MAR 10**

**Lecture on "Fiscal Federalism and the use of public money in Indian states (including Goa)"**

4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Venue: International Centre Goa, Dona Paula.

A Lecture on "Fiscal Federalism and the use of public money in Indian states (including Goa)" by Rathin Roy, director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) will be held in ICG. It is Open to all.

**MAR 12**

**Angad Singh Ranyal Live In Goa (A Stand-Up Comedy Special)**

08:00 pm

Venue: Showbar, Candolim, Goa, India  
The goan comedy club brings to you the best in stand up comedy without a doubt! Angad Singh Ranyal from East India comedy live in Goa! Limited seating!

**MAR 17 TO MAR 19**

**Chill top festival**

12:00 pm

Venue: Hill Top Goa, Vagator, Goa

A new initiative where organisers showcase chill out, ambient & down tempo frequencies.

This is a gathering for curious minds, chill lovers and music explorers from all around our lovely bobbing blue planet. We have carefully selected, what we think, is quite a diverse selection of psychedelic chill sounds that will keep you smiling and grinning well into the night. Line up includes Suduaya (France), Zen Baboon (Portugal), Master Margherita (Switzerland), Zen Raccoon (Portugal), Kaya Project (Uk), Darren Sangita / Global Mystic (Uk), Hibernation (Uk), Elvis Lobo & Friends (India), Sitar Sonic (India) etc.

**ITM Goa – India Travel Mart**

1.00 to 7.00 Pm

Panjim goa

Visit world from goa. Meet participants from international tourism boards and their counter parts selling outbound destinations, state tourism departments and their counter parts hoteliers, travel agencies, tour organizers selling domestic tourist destinations at one place. All top tourist destinations & brands are coming under one roof.

**HOLI EVENTS****MAR 13**

**Colorland Goa 2017**

09:00 AM to 07:00 PM

Nyex Beach Club, Dmello Vaddo, Anjuna, Goa

Back with its irresistible charm of colour, blend of bollywood with EDM and all extravagance Colorland is a fantasy land full of colours and happy faces. It features DJ Kawal, Zulfy Syed, Benz Coutinho, DJ SID GOA, Pawan, Reonn, Twindrops TWD, Smog, Avinash b2b Rainman, dancers, live music and more

**Holi Avtaar**

09:00 am to 10:00 pm

VENUE: O'Vegas, Le Pearl Resort , H.No. 1613, Grand Chivar next to Vagator petrol pump, Vagator, Goa  
India's Biggest Color Festival. Special Guest : Javed-Mohsin, Mustafa, Shakti Mohan, VJ Andy, Isha Koppikar. Inclusion : Pool Party , Rain dance, Dj's & many more..

**Rang Barse 2017 (Ponda)**

9.00 to 1.00 pm

Sports complex, Ponda.

Rotaract Club of Ponda and JCI Ponda are back with bang for biggest and most awaited Holi bash of Ponda. Get ready to experience the fun.

**Rang Barse - Holi Celebration 2017**

9.00 to 17.00pm

Fatorda Stadium, Margao

After successful four years of Holi celebration and in order to further reinforce this unity and integrity among the general public, Sanskruti Jatan Mandal, a cultural group from Margao has planned to organize the Holi event in much bigger way. There will be lots of fun and enjoyment, Rain dance, Foam dance, Eco-friendly colors, Spot prizes and Djs lineup in attendance befitting the occasion.

**Rang De 2017 - A Rotaract Club of Mapusa Event**

9.00 to 13.00

Shri Bodeshwar Temple, Mhapusa

Get set for the most awaited event of Rotaract Mapusa, Rang de 2017. Lets get messed up with colours, dance, Dj music, prizes n lots of fun, under the water sprinklers.

**Tito's Holi Grind 1.0**

10.00 to 17.00pm

Tito's Arena

We've got something crazy planned this March!! Goa's biggest Holi celebration with Unlimited Drinks (house brands). Ladies walk in free.

**RangHolic**

9.00 to 14.00pm

Farmagudi Hill Retreat, Ponda

RangHolic, The most awaited Holi party is here in Ponda. DEMENTORS in town organising a Holi party. Forget your sorrows and come join us on dance floor on 13th of March 2017.

**Rangotsav**

10.00 to 17.00pm.

Green Amaze, Gogol, Margao  
Blue Breeze Events presenting Rangotsav 2017 where the fun is undefined. Hold on to your breath.

**WORK WITH US**

We are looking for

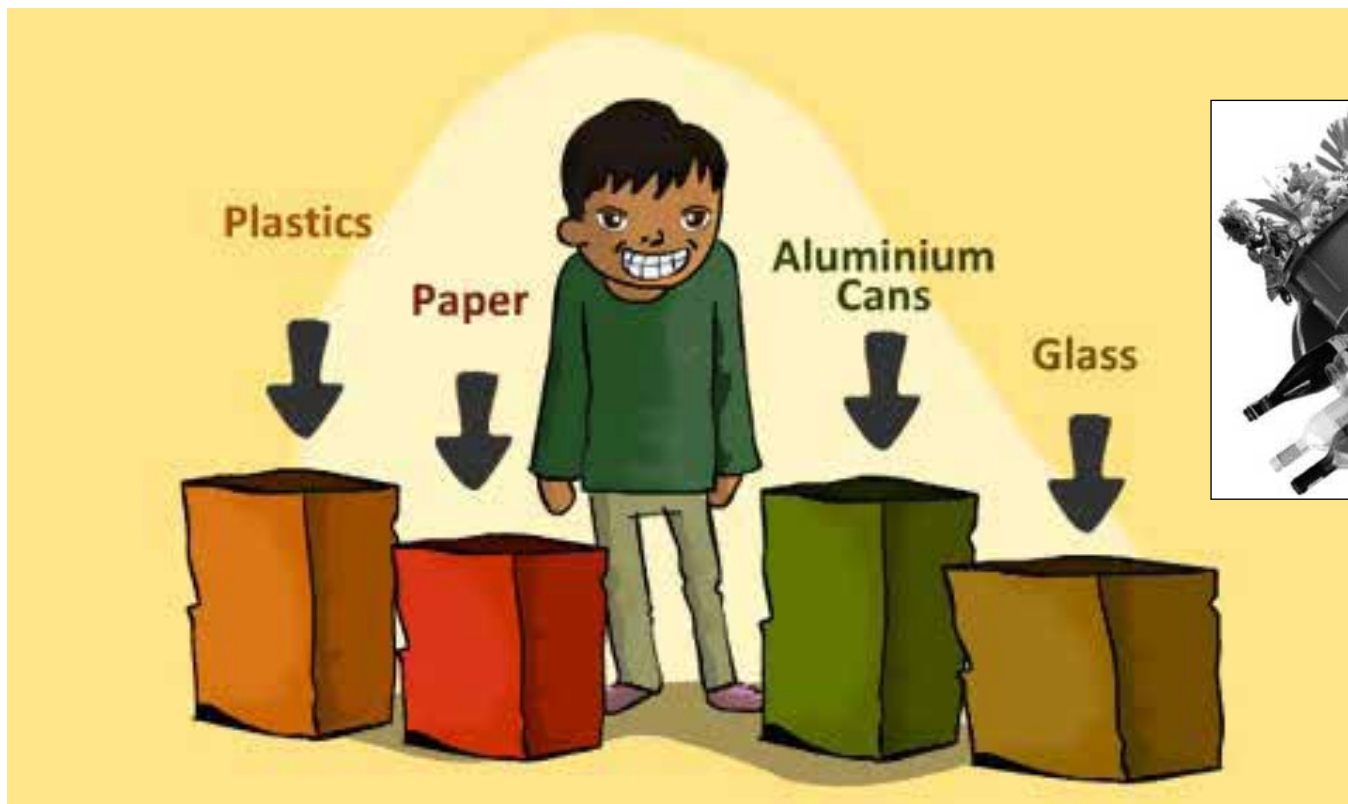
- FREELANCE WRITERS
- PART TIME MARKETING EXECUTIVES
- EVENT PLANNERS

The job offers competitive salary, excellent working environment and ample growth opportunities. for more details.

CONTACT  
**9923442746**

**THE NEUTRAL VIEW**  
FORTNIGHTLY

# A 'LOFTY' AIM AT RECYCLING YOUR WASTE



## JOSÉ LOURENÇO

**Y**ou live in a tiny apartment in the city. As a conscientious citizen, you have decided to follow the three Rs – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, to manage your waste. But sorting and storing all the different kinds of waste – paper, plastic, metal, wood, glass, etc – can be quite a pain when you simply don't have the space. Here's a way you can do it, and have fun too.

In the first place, make sure you are putting all your food waste in a separate waste bin. This waste can be dumped into a composting pit within your building premises, or in a composting pot on the roof terrace or your balcony.

Now for the second bin of non-organic waste. Admission for waste into this bin should be very strict, like getting into some of the highly desired elite schools in the city. Don't just dump anything into it. Look around the ceiling of your kitchen. There will invariably be a concrete loft along one wall. It will probably be filled with junk that has accumulated over the years. Get rid of that junk. Sort it out, sell it to the recycler or give it away, or store it someplace else. Keep the loft completely clear and empty. Now the fun starts!

You have made breakfast and have two empty tetrapak boxes of milk and fruit juice. Empty them of every drop,

rinse them lightly, and toss them onto the loft. Simple. When the jam bottles or plastic containers are empty, place them on the loft too, safely away from the edge.

You will also find yourself with empty cardboard cartons, beer bottles, PET bottles of beverages, bits of twine, broken plastic or ceramic mugs, mixer parts, electric bulbs, cough syrup bottles and all kinds of stuff. Toss them all onto the loft. Be very careful with anything made of glass or ceramic. You don't want those items to break or fall on your head. But with the rest of the smaller plastic items and bottles, you can have great fun. It's a bit like basketball, because as the loft fills up, you need to toss your plastic bottle exactly into a safe gap or niche amongst all these recyclable stuff.

Of course, your newspapers and magazines are kept in the balcony or on the shoe rack, for easy disposal to the raddiwala. Plastic bags are cleaned and folded for reuse. Always keep a pack of ten or more old plastic bags of assorted sizes in your scooter dicky or in the car. Walk proudly into shops with your own pre-used plastic/jute/cloth bags. Give the salesperson a slap on the wrist if he or she tries to bag your purchases in new plastic bags!

After some months your kitchen loft will be packed up, and you can't

score any more 'baskets' without the plastic bottles bouncing back. That's when you get onto your stepladder and get all the stuff down. Sort it out into cardboard, plastic, PET bottles, glass, metal, aluminium (this can fetch you around 100 rupees per kilo, paper and plastic - Rs 10 per kg, glass - at least 50 paise per bottle) and other categories. Items like batteries have heavy metals in them, so dispose of them responsibly. Pack all your recyclable junk into bags and hand them over to your nearest scrapyards or to the hardworking waste collectors that patrol the city. You'll get some money for your waste, don't bargain too much with the door to door collectors, theirs is a tough job walking in the scorching sun.

So you have recycled your waste, got paid for it, and the loft is clear again, ready for basketball practice. And that second bin we were talking about, for non-food waste? You will find it fills very slowly, as admission is very strict. It's mostly used for soiled or torn plastic bags, or other wrappings that fall between paper and plastic. Try to avoid those wrappers and excessively packaged items. The contents of this 'non-food waste and non-recyclable waste' bin will have to be reluctantly handed over to the municipal waste collector, likely headed for a landfill.

With these simple efforts which quickly become good habits, you will have successfully reduced your waste by 90 percent, compared to someone who does not recycle or compost his waste. Well done!

[joselourenco1967@gmail.com](mailto:joselourenco1967@gmail.com)

The writer is a Civil Engineer based in Margao

Pack all your recyclable junk into bags and hand them over to your nearest scrapyards or to the hardworking waste collectors that patrol the city. You'll get some money for your waste, don't bargain too much with the door to door collectors, theirs is a tough job walking in the scorching sun.

# TIME FOR YOUTH TO THINK NATIONAL AND GLOBAL

## PRABHAKAR TIMBLE

Career opportunities in Goa! This is the age for the youth to think national and global because communications technology has made the bigger picture a reality. At the most, the issue today could be reworded as global opportunities with a base and foothold in Goa. It's stupid to approach career opportunities only with the restricted spectacles of Goa.

## EDUCATION FOR CAREERS

In the initial stages, education was looked upon as a means of developing the language competency of learners. A person fluent in language and with sound oral and written skills was ranked as a learned person. At a later stage, learning meant the search for truth. Scholarship was associated with understanding and exploring Nature and Environment. In the post Second World War era, education was assigned the role to provide manpower of different skills to the different sectors of the economy. Educational institutions were themselves modeled on the lines of the manufacturing sector so as to turn out mass manpower with homogeneous skills.

The situation now demands adaptability to the changing times. The world is moving from industrialism to super-industrialism and from specialties to super-specialties. Educational courses and curricula need to be constantly updated with upgradation in methods of learning and evaluation. Education can no longer be an instrument of imparting knowledge, it should be an instrument for development of VALUES, SKILL, and CAPACITY TO THINK. A career-oriented educator should know that the hardware of such education is job skills and the software is social skills, which include leadership, communication, managerial, and problem-solving.

## THE CHANGING FUTURE

Let us understand the implications of "the changing times".

- 1) As everybody says the world is turning out to be a "global village". At the same time, community life and the neighbourhood is dying.
- 2) The doors of wealth, knowledge and information are becoming more democratic and accessible to all and the bias in favour of owners of land or capital is collapsing.
- 3) The high rate of obsolescence due to innovations in technology, communications, enterprise and competition has brought insecurity in careers. The traditional pattern of Learn First and Earn

- Later stands disturbed with the requirement of lifelong learning.
- 4) Children become adults at age of twelve and an adult at fifty looks stupid as a kid of eight.
  - 5) The cultural remix and fusion have made national boundaries meaningless in practical terms
  - 6) It is becoming increasingly impractical for the local governments to protect domestic workers and careers from national and international competition.

## GOA SCENARIO

Goa being a small state will definitely have limitations in terms of educational opportunities and also employment prospects. We cannot expect all opportunities to be made available at the doorstep as it is not feasible.

## However, the sunrise areas are as follows:

- Information Technology and IT enabled services
- Software & Web based services
- Electronic Hardware
- Pharmaceuticals
- Para-Medical Services
- Para-Engineering Services
- Banking, Finance & Insurance Services
- Agro-based and Food Processing
- Forest Product Based Avenues
- Handicrafts
- Fashion Park Based Opportunities
- Media and especially electronic
- Art, Theatre, Photography and Films
- Health

- Tourism and Hospitality services
- Academics, Research and Knowledge sector
- Competitive Services in Private and Public Sectors

Added to the above, there is a tremendous scope for self-employment in the State if GenNext exhibits the spirit of enterprise and a new culture of entrepreneurship gets imbibed in the youth. Goans are spread all over the globe, thus testifying that taking up careers overseas comes naturally to a Goan. It is this characteristic that will serve Goans in good stead in a globalised world.

## A WORD OF CAUTION

A top class careerist without a human face is demon power, not manpower. A cursory glance at the matrimonial columns of leading national and local dailies measures the gap between skilled manpower and educated human power. Professionals glued to blind faith; Professors glorifying discriminatory practices against women; Learned propagating communal hatred and the honourable on Chambers of Commerce engaged in hero worship under the label of nationalism and patriotism points out that trained hands do not automatically mean reformed and liberated minds.

prabhakartimble@gmail.com  
The writer is a noted educationist based in Margao





# ARE YOU INDUSTRY-READY?

**MANGIRISH SALELKAR**

This question goes straight to the IT job seekers who are 'freshers' – candidates without any experience. Do you know about the Industry gap? On one side the freshers say there are simply no job opportunities in Goa. On the other hand, it is a fact that there are over 200 Information Technology companies in Goa who have promising job openings. But all these potential employers ask the same question: "Are you Industry-Ready?" i.e. Do you have the skills, potential and the attitude to get a job? Most of the jobseekers agree that they are not ready, but they don't know why.

Firstly, skills are an important parameter, that vary based on the job profile, revolving around the role and responsibility at the workplace. We need to understand that we are in the field of technology, where we need to keep ourselves updated every day. We cannot afford to still live with outdated programming languages and tools. We cannot simply rely on a university curriculum which was drafted almost a decade ago. We need to put in some extra effort and serious commitment to update and upgrade ourselves from time to time. We need to understand the tools used in the industry, and to learn what technologies it demands. Besides Java, we see that expertise in DotNet, PHP, Android, iOS, Python, Hadoop, Big Data, Angular JS, Node JS, are some of the new technologies that the industry needs. Some new trends in Information Technology are Internet of Things (IOT) and Robotics.

The second important parameter is Attitude. It is what the companies look out for over skills, because most of them believe in the approach, "Hire Attitude, Skills can be trained". You need to have the right attitude. Of course this term is debatable, but some pointers that help one to judge a person's right attitude towards work are Enthusiasm, Energy, Confidence, Participation, Hardwork, Focus, Goals, Creativity and Teamwork. You need to prepare yourself to answer one of the simplest questions an

interviewer can ask: "Why should I hire you?" The answer to this question can define your attitude.

Is an IT job all about programming only? Not at all. You can define your IT career map. There are various other areas of expertise in IT besides programming. Networking, Database Administration, Quality Assurance Testing, Technical/Content Writing, Data Mining, Digital Marketing, Data/Internet Security, Business Analyst and more. So try to understand your interest and choose the field accordingly.

Most of the FAQs that freshers have after graduation are answered below:

Which Technology is good – Java or DotNet? Which has better scope? Answer: Scope is just a myth, you may choose whichever technology you are comfortable with and be an expert in that. Programming languages and trends change every half decade, but what remains in place is the business logic. So today you may learn a new language, but by the time you become an expert in it, it becomes obsolete. So

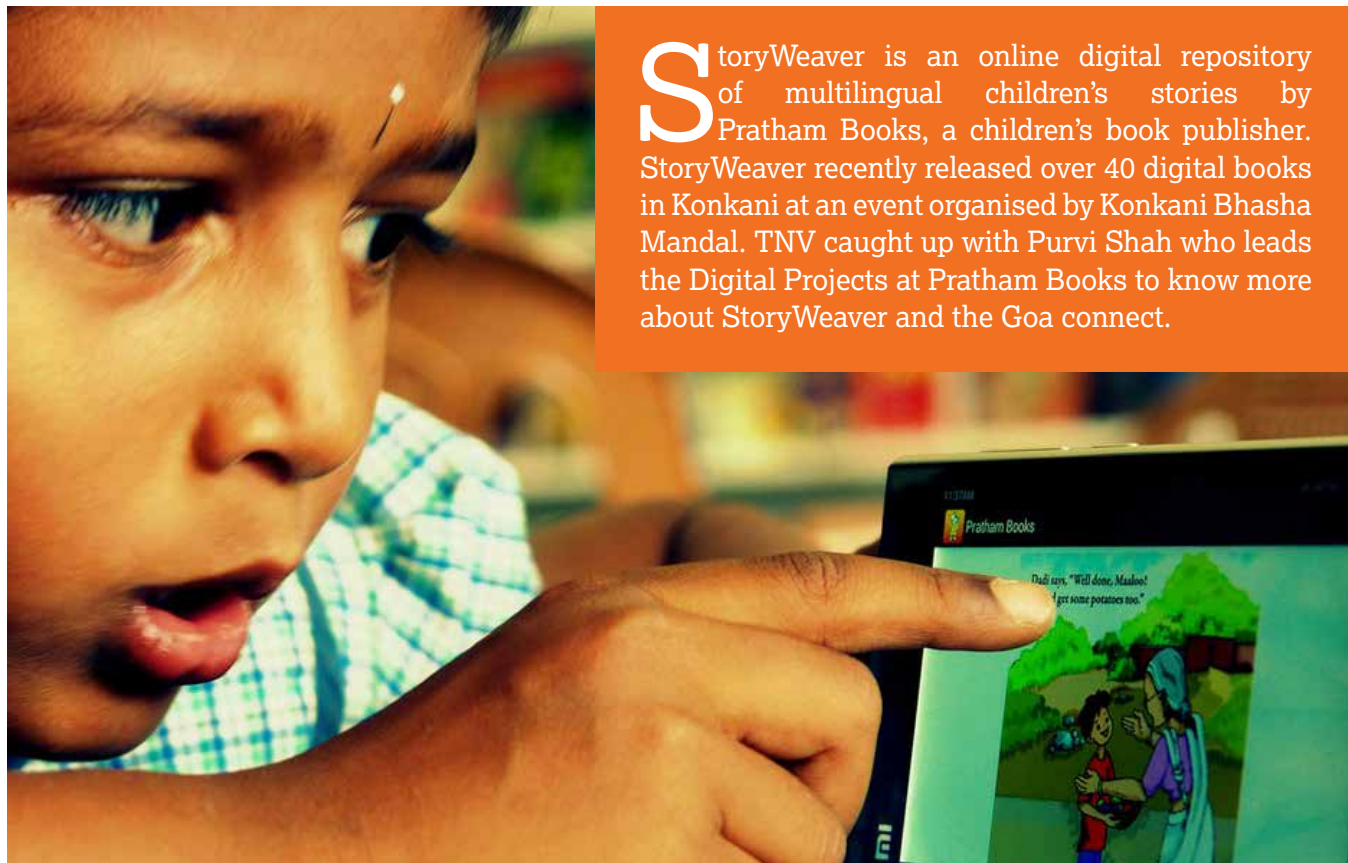
technology and tools change from time to time and we need to match the pace.

At what kind of company should I apply to start my career? MNC or Startups? Answer: A Multi National Company (MNC) may have a high pay scale, but you may end up doing just a small task of the entire software development life cycle (SDLC). At a Startup firm the pay scale may be comparatively less, but the level of exposure you get to the SDLC is tremendous – you will be involved at every stage of the development. So it depends on your choice, whether you would like to choose brand and money over experience.

What salary do I demand? Answer: You cannot have high salary expectations when you are a fresher. You need to make yourself capable enough to demand a certain salary. As a fresher, you can expect and choose the right role, which will define your career. You can choose to be a web developer, DB Administrator, Technical Writer or Quality Tester and apply in that particular company.

If you would like to understand the IT career scene in Goa, some of the promising IT companies in Goa are Open Destinations, Kallows, Persistent Systems, Inventrom, Genora, Umang Software, Team Inertia, Teknorix, Kaavay, Sapna Group and many more. There are certainly plenty of jobs available, but you just need to be industry-ready and have the right attitude to grab the right opportunities.

# OUR MISSION IS TO SEE 'A BOOK IN EVERY CHILD'S HAND' – PURVI SHAH



**S**toryWeaver is an online digital repository of multilingual children's stories by Pratham Books, a children's book publisher. StoryWeaver recently released over 40 digital books in Konkani at an event organised by Konkani Bhasha Mandal. TNV caught up with Purvi Shah who leads the Digital Projects at Pratham Books to know more about StoryWeaver and the Goa connect.

mobile learning app that aims to improve literacy amongst students. Bookshare uses our stories to create accessible content for print impaired students. Teachers across the country are translating stories to languages that otherwise have little children's literature to speak of. Tenzin Dhargyal and his colleagues have translated stories to Tibetan to help create a corpus of stories in that language.

**Q Do you think the reading habit is dwindling amongst children? How is StoryWeaver helping to change this scenario?**

There is a real paucity of quality reading material for young children in Indian languages today, with only 29% Indian and 22% international publishing catering to the youngest readers. Perhaps more than saying that the reading habit is dwindling amongst children, one needs to see that the Indian publishing industry is not meeting the reading needs of first generation learners and children in pre-schools and primary schools. StoryWeaver hopes to address this paucity by making more stories in more languages, more accessible to educators and children.

**Q How did you connect to the Konkani literary community in Goa and how was the response?**

During StoryWeaver's launch in Sept 2015, Guru Baliga from the World Konkani Centre and Sujata Noronha of Bookworm, Goa collaborated with us to get the first Konkani stories on the platform.

Subsequently, we connected with the Konkani Bhasha Mandal, Goa who responded with enthusiasm for translating stories in Konkani. They gathered a force of Konkani language enthusiasts with an inherent understanding of writing for children for this collaboration. Sahitya Akademi Award winners Ramesh Veluskar and Damodar Mauzo have also been contributing by sharing their wisdom and linguistic insights with the StoryWeaver community via blogposts and interviews.

KBM has collaborated with the Language Department of the Goa University to come on StoryWeaver and create a pool of 80 stories in Konkani. Our collaboration with KBM is a case in point for forging strong partnerships to create a large repository of multilingual reading resources.

**Q Tell us about StoryWeaver and how it came into being?**

Pratham Books is a not-for-profit children's book publisher with the mission to see 'a book in every child's hand'. Set up in 2004, with the key objective of publishing good quality, affordable storybooks in multiple Indian languages, Pratham Books works to support reading acquisition among children. In the last 13 years, we have published over 330 original titles across 18 Indian languages.

We asked ourselves 'How do we create access to joyful reading material for the 300 million children of India, to learn and practice reading?' The challenge was to massively scale the creation of content for a highly multilingual and multicultural country. Our search for an answer made us explore the realm of open source. Internet and mobile phone penetration is on an upswing across India and many parts of the developing world, which led us to believe that technology could enable us to reach millions of underserved children.

StoryWeaver came into existence on International Literacy Day, 2015. An online, digital repository of multilingual children's stories, all the content on the site is openly licensed under CC-BY

4.0 - one of the most liberal Creative Commons licenses. By doing so, we are giving users access and permission to use the content on the site as they please. Users can read, create, translate, tweak and download stories for printing and sharing.

**Q How does StoryWeaver connect to languages across India and what are the efforts taken by StoryWeaver's team to do so?**

StoryWeaver was launched in 2015 with 800 stories in 24 languages. Today, the platform has 3000+ stories across 62 languages of the world, including tribal, endangered, threatened, mainstream and minority languages. Almost all the languages added to the platform have been at the request of our community of users.

As StoryWeaver is Unicode compliant, we can add new languages with relative ease, even those with complex scripts. On International Mother Language Day, StoryWeaver concluded its Freedom to Read campaign, with more stories in 13 new languages – Saurashtra, Sinhala, Romanian, Alemannisch, Kurdish, Vietnamese, Jèrriais, Thai and Indonesian. Stories in Indian tribal languages like Munda, Juanga and Kui have also been added. These languages represent the linguistic diversity of

the world – from tribal languages to endangered languages to the mainstream.

**Q Has StoryWeaver's aim been achieved?**

StoryWeaver wants children to have access to an endless stream of stories in their mother tongue languages. While we have made much progress so far, we do believe there is much more we can and must do in order to help put 'a book in every child's hand'. We want to make the content accessible, even where there is poor internet access and we are working on providing an offline version of the platform. We are also building additional features that will enable more collaboration and sharing among users.

**Q Do you feel StoryWeaver is a revolution in the Indian literary context? Why?**

StoryWeaver is indeed revolutionary in the fact that we have made our content available under open licenses and in open formats, allowing teachers, educators, parents, non-profits and edtech startups to use the content freely and adapt them to suit their own needs.

Over the last 18 months, content from StoryWeaver has been used and versioned in many ways. mGuru uses and adapts our stories for their

TO DEFINE IS TO LIMIT..

# Spectrum™

INNOVATE · CREATE · SUCCEED

## TEAM TNV

Colleges in Goa have a tradition of hosting competitive event festivals in their respective disciplines. As far as technical events were concerned, Goa College of Engineering at Farmagudi, Ponda, would hold separate inter-branch events on different days to showcase their technical skills.

In March 2016, a historic day for the Engicos, as the students of GEC are called, all the branches came together as one to create, compete and organise one national-level technical fest which doesn't define one branch or an individual, but the entire College and what it stands for.

Considering this as a feat against all odds, GEC is ready to host the second edition of SPECTRUM: the national level technical fest, which also symbolises the seven branches which are metaphorically compared to the colours of the rainbow.

So this March 16th and 17th, reserve your day for fun-filled, challenging technical experiences at Goa College of Engineering.

"The motive behind this is in our tagline for Spectrum 2017, which is 'Innovate, Create, Succeed', explains Anthony D'Silva,



GEC is ready to host the second edition of SPECTRUM: the national level technical fest, which also symbolises the seven branches which are metaphorically compared to the colours of the rainbow.

event head of Spectrum. "Why innovate, create, succeed? Because this event is not an exam. Everybody will learn something by participation. The event will act also as a forum for interaction between technical brains of the nation and GEC, as a pioneer in technical education would love to have the privilege of providing the technical minds of the nation with a platform to showcase their skill, talent and to learn something. The winners will take home prizes, but those who could not win will take home immense experience and exposure to the technical world ahead of them," he says.

Featuring some of the most interesting games to keep you engaged, to test your technical skills and general knowledge and overall, to harness the spirit of learning while having fun, is the key motive of SPECTRUM.

"A host of competitions for the techies like Robo Wars, Hackathon, Decrypt, Line Follower, etc are lined up, while for the laidback souls we have carom, futsal, control cricket, etc. We have also organised a quiz competition, sketch competition and a host of other games to keep all kinds of crowds engaged and happy," mentions D'Silva.

"Around 17 colleges from outside Goa have confirmed their participation which includes some of the top IIT's and NIT's from India. Almost all technical colleges from Goa are participating. This time we have decided that we will invite higher secondary colleges from Goa so that those students will get exposure of things lying ahead in their future. And we are getting good response from higher secondaries," says Pranav Shetye, one of the members of the organising team.

"To add a cherry to our list of events, we will have a special display of vintage cars which will refresh nostalgic memories, a stunt show which will make viewers' hearts to skip a beat, a weapons expo by the Indian army and a superbike expo," informs Shetye.

Along with these star studded events and expos organisers will also have a gem of their own - a Go-kart by Team Engico Racing (TER), which bagged 9th place in the All India Go-kart Design Competition. Visitors to the event will have a unique opportunity to be able to drive the beast. And to those in it for a good laugh, they have artists Sorabh Pant and Sapan Verma from East India Comedy to liven up the evenings!"



SUBSCRIBE TODAY

FREE TILL SEPT. 2017

The Neutral View

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: H. No./Apt. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Landmark: \_\_\_\_\_ Locality/Village: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Distric: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Pin: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Mode: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ Cheque No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscriber's Signature

Off No. OF/8, 1st Floor, Sapana Garden Co-op. Hsg. Society, Chogm Road, Porvorim, Alto Porvorim, Bardez, Goa 403521. Ph: 0832-2416502 Email: feedback@theneutralview.com



# NEW GOVERNMENT, A TOUGH TASK AT HAND

Irrespective of who comes to power, the new State Government has a tough task at hand – the biggest challenge being to repair the crumbling economy while ensuring that developmental works don't get hampered and there is smooth flow of income to facilitate the benefits under existing social welfare schemes and the new ones to be introduced as promised, by the parties in their election manifesto.

## TEAM TNV

The D-Day that will decide the fate of 251 candidates in the election fray and the subsequent formation of the new Goa Government. Will BJP continue to govern the State for the second term? Or will it be a new government by Congress, or by new entrant AAP or a MGP-GSM led coalition government? These are questions currently spinning in the minds of nearly 10 lakh voters who exercised their fundamental right to elect the candidate or party of their choice. Whether it is going to be one single largest party that will rule Goa or whether an alliance will take power – the picture will be clear on March 11. The countdown has begun.

Irrespective of who comes to power, the new State Government has a tough task at hand – the biggest challenge being to repair the crumbling economy while ensuring that developmental works don't get hampered and there is smooth flow of income to facilitate the benefits under existing social welfare schemes and the new ones to be introduced as promised, by the parties in their election manifesto. Its aspirations will be reflected in the State Budget 2017-18, which will be tabled before March 31.



Apart from this, the five biggest immediate challenges before the new Government would be – protecting the interest of liquor outlets to be affected by the Supreme Court order, shifting of offshore casinos out of River Mandovi, Medium of Instruction (MOI) policy, finalization of Regional Plan 2021 and full-fledged resumption of the iron-ore mining industry.

### DELIVERING A BUDGET THAT LIMITS THE DEFICIT AND IS YET POPULIST

The new government will face its first test of credibility on the fronts of the state economy, industry and social welfare when it delivers its first Budget for the financial year 2017-18 by the end of this month. While introducing austerity measures, it will have to ensure that it doesn't burden the people of Goa with more taxation – as the first impression on the voters who laid their trust in the party needs to be the best.

The Government has the Herculean task of drafting the Budget keeping in mind the fact that it has to restrain its expenses for the next five years. The Goa government has borrowed Rs 960 crores from the market since April 2016 to January 2017, with its annual borrowing limit fixed by the Union Ministry of Finance at Rs 1907 crores.

The implementation of the 7th Pay Commission to over 1.05 lakh government employees and pensioners from January 1, has burdened the state

exchequer by Rs 47 crore monthly, and this will further increase to Rs 70 crore with the inclusion of other allowances like transport, house rent, etc., which will ensue from April 1 this year. Until March 2016, state spending on salaries, pensions, social schemes and interest on borrowings stood at Rs 465 crore.

The State Finance department has already issued a circular in December last year, directing all the departments to restrain their expenditures for the next five years. It had asked the departments to rationalize the expenditure on various components including social welfare schemes and unwarranted developmental works from the coming financial year 2017-18. Not just this, it has even put a ban on fresh recruitment, which will have to be reviewed.

Hence the first State Budget of the new government needs to be focused on the revival of the state economy, which is under a debt trap as per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). RBI has pegged the State public debt at Rs 13,900 crore with a whopping rise of 32 percent in the social sector, with every person burdened with a debt of Rs 93,000. The fiscal deficit of the State as on March 31, 2015 stands at Rs 1840 crore, as against the government figures of Rs 1610 crore. Further, the State growth rate which was at 15 percent post 2012, now stands at negative two percent. While the industrial growth is down by 19 percent, the growth in



agriculture is also negative.

With revenue from the iron-ore mining industry reducing below 50 percent of its total share in the economy, and tourism and taxation (already overburdened) being the only sources of revenue generation, the Government will have to introduce some fresh income generation measures.

### PROTECTION TO OVER 2500 LIQUOR OUTLETS LIKELY TO FACE THE AXE

As many as 2500 liquor outlet operators including the bar and restaurant owners located within 500 meters of national and state highways are eagerly hoping that the new Government will bail them out of the ongoing crisis, wherein their businesses are likely to shut down owing to the Supreme Court ban.

The State excise department has completed the mapping of liquor outlets that fall within the ambit of the SC order. Liquor outlets located in almost 150 villages will be facing the ban. The Government has already wasted three months since the order was passed in December, with political parties and the government machinery being busy with the election process.

Owing to the election code of conduct and considering the fact that the SC order has no direct implications on it, the current BJP-led government is reluctant to challenge the order to seek its relaxation. On the other hand, the liquor outlet operators are waiting for the new government to take charge and bail them out of this crisis.

While the Supreme Court has already refused to entertain review petitions in this regard, the only option left before the new government is to relocate these outlets, which are also a source of revenue generation for the State exchequer.

### RELOCATION/SHIFTING OF THE OFF-SHORE CASINO VESSELS OUT OF RIVER MANDOVI

The new Government will have barely 15 days in hand to decide on whether the off-shore casinos will move out of River Mandovi or continue to stay on – as the one year extension granted to the casino operators to relocate ends on March 31. The casino operation licenses of all five casinos are due to expire at the end of this month.

On March 31, 2016 the Laxmikant Parsekar-led government granted a second extension to the five offshore casinos for a period of one year. The Government was suppose to identify an alternate feasible site for their relocation, which has not happened till date. The four sites identified by the Captain of Ports – at the mouth of River Mandovi, Aguada bay, River Zuari and River Chapora – were rejected on two grounds : they were not feasible to anchor these vessels and because of opposition from the locals.

Now, with no identification of alternate sites and the casino operators also not looking for any alternative, the new Government will have a major task to decide on whether to allow them to float in the Mandovi or to move them to the deep seas or to convert them into land casinos.

# cover story



Currently there are five off-shore casinos operational in River Mandovi – MV Horseshoe Casino run by M/s Delta Corp Limited, MV Pride of Goa run by M/s Goa Coastal Resorts and Recreation Pvt Ltd, MV Casino Royale operated by M/s Highstreet Cruises, M V Royale Floatel and Entertainment Pvt Ltd and MV Boa Sorte run by M/s Golden Peace Infrastructure Pvt Ltd.

### FINALIZATION OF REGIONAL PLAN 2021

An issue severely affected by the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct in the State is the finalization of RP 21 – a complete land use document adhering to all requirements. The State has been without a land plan since the last 17 years, with the last one being notified in 2001.

The existing State government has already begun the exercise of carrying out rectifications to the RP21 and accordingly approved the modified land plans for Sattari, Pernem and Canacona taluka at the fag end of its five year tenure. However before it could notify the plans for these three talukas the election code of conduct was imposed, stalling all the works.

Now the task before the new government is to either go ahead with what the BJP government had started by notifying the land plans of Sattari, Pernem and Canacona and subsequently for the entire State, or to stall the process and recall for a fresh one, further delaying the implementation of land plan use.

The process to draw up a Regional Plan with a long-term perspective was initiated in 1997-1998 and a plan was notified in 2001 – which is currently being used as the base plan for approving the proposals under the RP.

### MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The very first task before the government on this issue is whether to continue with the 17-member advisory committee constituted to advise the government on the contentious issue of medium of education at elementary level by granting a further extension,

or to scrap the BJP govt's MOI policy to release grants to 137 English medium primary schools, or to continue with it.

Every political party has a different stand on this issue; but ultimately the party that forms the government will decide on how to go ahead with this. First the Congress and then the BJP-led governments faced severe criticism and opposition on the issue that will even play a vital role in deciding the political prospects. The State government in July last year had notified the committee for wider consultation and facilitation to the government to decide on the MOI issue. It has to study the entire system of grants and financial support to the Government aided schools for primary education and make its recommendation so as to improve its overall efficiency for achieving the educational goals of the State. The committee term ended on February 12 and is now waiting for an extension from the new government.

### FULL-FLEDGED RESUMPTION OF MINING

Though the ban on the iron-ore mining industry was lifted almost three years back in April 2014, the mines have been slow in getting back to production. Of the total 65 iron-ore mines granted permissions to operate for the season 2015-16 and again in 2016-17, hardly 15-20 mines have resumed operation. The new government faces a challenge to give a major boost to this sector, which was once the backbone of the state economy.

Miners have voiced disappointment that the State has not relaxed a ban on dumping rejects outside the leasehold areas. They believe the ban should be lifted as depressed demand for iron-ore fines in China is forcing miners to carry higher stocks and rejects. Alternatively, miners say they will have to cut back production as handling rejects will be a formidable challenge.

Goa miners are also hesitant to resume operations as there is no clarity on the process of distribution of production among various mines from the cap of 20-million tons a year set by the Supreme Court. Miners say that some owners are ready to resume production, but that they have not received their production quota from the 20-million-ton-a-year allocation, while others have been allocated a quota, but have not yet resumed production.

The government also has the task of redistributing already allocated quota for more mining leases, to ensure more production. It will have to cut the production quota of those mines that failed to resume operations in the last two seasons.



# FROM WOMEN, TO THE MEN IN OUR LIVES

**GAURAVI KENI**

As the world gears up for women's day today, we witness multiple celebrations to mark the importance of being a woman. Gone are the days when issues concerning women were discussed in hushed up tones, in closed spaces. Today we're not afraid of fighting the eve teasers that wait around our streets, we know how to shove umbrellas against creepy men who try to feel us up in crowded spaces, women are lashing out against perpetrators more so than ever, the general tolerance towards silently accepting abuse has reduced yet, we witness a rise in the number of crimes and extreme cruelty towards women

In these extremely degenerative times where the discussions are centered around rapists, molesters, abusers and immoral men, I think about the men that play a major role in my life. I think about the father who has given me the courage to follow my dreams, I think about the brothers that I have grown up with, laughing, fighting, having each others backs, I think about my friend circle that consists of more men than women, I think about my professors in College who made me believe in myself and gave me the courage to voice my opinions.

True, we are surrounded by a large number of misogynists at every step that we take, but we also have these men in our lives who know how to respect our space and let us be just as we as women know how to respect theirs.

Negativity breeds negativity. The louder we raise our voices against the violators of our moral and physical well being, the more they seem to attack women and mock our struggle. Discourse on the other hand, has always made a difference in society. In these atrocious times, I believe, if we acknowledge the existence of men who do not abuse women, Men who love their daughters as much as their sons, men who work with women peers as their equal, men who respect the opinion of a woman, it may actually help to change the outlook of some misogynists lurking around us. These are the kind of men that we need.

When I questioned some women if they would like to live in a world entirely free of men they seemed appalled at the idea.

"A world without men would seem unreal to me" said Gretchen Barreto.

Why not? Can we really do without the fathers that have always been our support system? Can we do without brothers who willingly turn into our chaffeurs

and bodyguards when we need them? Can we do without boyfriends or husbands or friends that we love and share innumerable happy memories with?

Fatherhood, has never been given the divine status that motherhood has in society although there are many fathers who have played a major role in the upbringing of their children.

When asked about her relationship with her father, Jayshree Basappa said, "When i was younger, my mum had the bigger job where as my dad had a part time job. He would pick me up from school, bring me home, give me food, do all the things that i'm assuming usually mothers do . Actually that taught me that men aren't always the ones who go out and do the job, they can also be the person who makes the really weird sambar with beetroot in it or lays down the laws at home like half an hour of TV everyday"

Meera Radhakrishnan says that she has grown up with friends who belong to the opposite sex all her life. "Throughout school or college or my work-life, I've grown up with best friends who belong to the opposite sex. These friends have helped me become stronger and for that I'm thankful to them!"

This women's day the theme is Be Bold for a Change. For me the change lies in demanding equality in its true sense. The change lies in recognizing that celebrating womanhood is not possible without acknowledging the existence of the men in our lives, they add to our experience of being a woman. The change lies in telling the world that these men exist and that we're grateful to have them in our lives.

When asked to give a message to all the men in her life, Gretchen Barreto replied saying,

"Thank you for your annoying habits, thank you for those jackets thrown over our shoulders when it gets cold, thank you for cradling us in your arms when we were babies, thank you for teaching us life lessons, thank you for the first kisses, thank you for our heartbreaks, thank you for the knowledge that you impart us in classes, thank you for the movies you make, the books that you write, the best friends that you are, thank you for being you".

This women's day lets hope for a change. Dear fathers, brothers, friends, husbands, boyfriends, teachers and all the other men who've made the world a better place for us, thank you, and we hope that we see more of you in the world.

keni.gauravi@gmail.com

The writer is a literature enthusiast, traveling the world through books more so than anything else

## LET'S HEAR SOME 'GAZAALI'

TEAM TNV

The story of Goa's own youth Domnick Pereira and his wife Andrea is inspiring for the lakhs of Goan youths who are scouting for job opportunities in the government system or cross the borders to make a living. Domnick and Andrea through their tireless work are now proud owners of three restaurants, making a mark for themselves in the field of hospitality.

Hailing from St Cruz, Domnick began his career as a tourist guide, a largely unorganized work sector, in the city of Panaji. His struggle began like any other tourist guide, to regale the visitor and earn a living. With hospitality in his blood, Domnick soon became the most preferred guide. Then, for a short time, Domnick ventured into the corporate sector, working with Kotak Life Insurance. This was his first brush with the organized sector and there too he scaled the heights of success. Being



an entrepreneur at heart, he chose to be an agent.

While his career was spanning between the hospitality and corporate life, Domnick finally decided to take a full-fledged plunge into the tourism industry. Why did he chose the tourism industry? He replies – "What else can you do in Goa? Tourism, mining or fisheries. I was never close to fishing or mining, so it was tourism for me."

Domnick's fluency over English and his down-to-earth and friendly behaviour earned him a lot of friends



in the industry. First he took over a guest house in Calangute in the year 2012. While managing the guest house, he collated data of tourists. Many of them were repeat clients and were contacting him for a stay at his guest house. This is when he decided to go on his own and took another guest house at Baga.

By this time, the tourism belt knew Domnick as an emerging entrepreneur. Taking further his liking for this industry, he ventured into the restaurant business. The first was 'Log Cabin', a restaurant known for his unique cuisine at Calangute and then 'Samar de Goa', another restaurant on the Baga-Calangute road. Samar de Goa attracted crowds for its out-of-the-world setting, just a little away from Baga beach.

"When I was thinking about the setup for Samar de Goa, I wanted something unique and Goan for

the place. I searched around Goa for something that would click in a restaurant setup and finally managed to get what I wanted," Domnick said.

The lanterns made out of coconut shells, the uniquely designed bottle to serve liquor, and many other things made his restaurant the talk of the town.

"I always wanted to get out of the tourism belt and come towards Panaji as I am involved in the social life of St Cruz and Panaji. So then came, Gazaali, a restaurant at Old Goa on the old Ribandar Highway."

Started a month back, Gazaali has rapidly picked up as a preferred place for family dining for families living in and around Panaji. The air-conditioned and non air-conditioned setup provides the best spot for dinners, and even quick lunches in the afternoon.

While talking about his journey of life, Domnick credits his success to his wife, Andrea. "Half of my business is looked after by my wife. She has been the backbone of my life. Through thick and thin, she has stood by me and helped me to take crucial decisions," he says.

Andrea is also associated with NGO Saveria, which is headed by noted social activist Tara Kerkar.

## GENIUS TOTAL KNEE REPLACEMENT SYSTEM THE NEW HINDUSTAKNEE – A MAKE IN INDIA EXAMPLE

TEAM TNV

Goa's renowned Joint replacement Surgeon, Dr. Ameya Velingkar, becomes the only Goan Orthopaedic Surgeon in the core team of Indian and international bio mechanists and researchers who have designed and developed India's first Total Knee Replacement System.

This system, which emerged from a joint study by these researchers under the aegis of IIT Mumbai, now competes with the many multi-national companies in the joint replacement industry. Focusing on the primary needs of Indian patients, Dr. Velingkar and a group of world renowned Indian surgeons, along with the head of Biorad Medisys' Mr. Jitendra Hegde who owns an internationally acclaimed medical device company, came out with the solution based on the anthropometric (study of human body) and morphological (biological study of organisms) data generated in this study. This implant is called the Genius



Dr. Ameya Velingkar seen addressing the media. Also present are Mr. Chinmay Kantak, Dr. Aymen Ramadan and Dr. Rupesh Ghyar.

–TKR System.

Research data over the past few years over a wide range of patients across India who have undergone total knee replacement procedure shows that only 21% of the patients being operated upon have a satisfying post-operative phase. A closer analysis to understand the dissatisfaction index of 69% of TKR surgery patients using the existing imported variety of joints revealed that the majority of these imported joints found in India today

are usually made to fit the American and the European people. The designs of these companies have bigger sizes simply because the knee joint structures and bones of Americans and Europeans are comparatively larger compared to an Indian patient profile, especially the Indian females who have very small knee joints and bones.

Thus, imported implants seldom match the Indian patient's knees, which leads to dissatisfaction. The new knee replacement system now available

in India, called the Genius Total Knee Replacement System – a HindustaKnee Knee, is a custom-made implant for the Indian population and is a research product established after years of collaboration by surgeons, research scientists and biomedical engineers. The components are manufactured in Sheffield UK, which is the steel city of the world, under joint ventures and thus international excellence has been brought to Indian shores with Indian-sized knee implants. This will benefit lakhs of arthritic patients, giving them satisfactory results in post-operative total knee replacement procedures.

Dr. Velingkar mentioned that "At the Orthopaedic Hospital for Surgery, located in Margao I explained to my patients about the project I was involved in, and knowing the objectives and standards of the study most of my patients gladly agreed to be implanted with the Genius Total Knee Replacement System. In fact, such is the design of the knee that a patient can comfortably walk 4 hours after surgery."

# THE LOOT DURING THE DEMONETISATION PHASE

TEAM TNV

While the Crime Branch in Goa is investigating a most shameful nexus between the Police and a social activist who robbed businessmen during the demonetisation phase, crucial questions remain on the unrecovered amount and the naming of police inspectors involved in this case.

The police department has managed to recover most of the amount which was robbed by the accused, but the sum which the accused has claimed to have been given to two Police Inspectors is yet to be recovered.

Police sources confirm the role of two Inspectors, one of whom is currently in the coastal belt along with his brother inspector and another is under long term suspension for the custodial death of an NRI.

Police Inspector Jivba Dalvi was initially under the scanner for allegations that some portion was paid to him out of the stolen denominations. In yet another embarrassment to the Goa Police force, the role of another Police Inspector is popping up in a dacoity case of Saligao in which Rs 34 lakhs of new denominations were robbed from a businessman.

The Crime Branch is investigating the case after it was initially registered at Saligao Police station, in which seven accused including one constable were arrested and released on bail.

Sources at the Crime Branch reveal that following their release from jail two of the accused have confessed that a portion of the stolen amount, that is Rs 5 lakhs of new denominations, were paid to the Police Inspector. The series of incidents and related events were told by the accused to the senior officers of the Crime Branch.

However, Crime Branch officials are tight lipped and avoided commenting on the case which is being investigated by them.

It is learned that Crime Branch has recovered Rs 27.2 lakhs out of the Rs 34 lakhs, and has established the route of expenditure of Rs 1.80 lakhs, which comes to Rs 29 lakhs, whereas the amount alleged by the accused which he paid to Police Inspector has not been recovered.

Another case of robbery which is also being investigated by the Crime Branch has revealed the name of Police



Inspector of Calangute Police Station, Jivba Dalvi.

According to the statement made by the accused, he has paid Dalvi Rs 1.50 lakh, of which Rs 20,000 has been given to the accused as reward. Accused Dipak Gadekar has also alleged that he gave Rs 30,000 to a PSI and Rs 20,000 to another constable.

However the Crime Branch in a similar case of robbery of Rs 10.20 lakhs of new denominations, have recovered the rest of the amount, but no action has been taken.

It has been noticed that there is a discomfort among the constabulary staff of the Goa Police when the law bends to take action against officers who are involved in the same offences. Lower level staff have been suspended and even jailed for similar offences, but the department appears reluctant to act against senior officers.

Deputy Superintendent of Police Serafin Dias (Porvorim Division) has sent a note to the department stating that the same action should be replicated

against the officers involved in the crimes.

It is also submitted by DySP Dias in his note that such allegations against officers of PI rank have brought down the image of the police in the eyes of the public and it becomes difficult in such situations to function and to face the general public who approach the police with hope of getting justice.

It may be recalled that the Calangute Police had booked a robbery case of Rs 10.20 lakhs, and the Saligao Police had booked a robbery of Rs 34 lakh of new denominations. Following the allegations against the in-charge of police stations and its staff involved in the robbery both the cases were transferred to Crime Branch.

However, Crime Branch in the course of investigation had arrested all the accused related to the offence including constables and head constable, but till now the serious allegations against Police Inspectors in both the cases are neither proven nor has the alleged amount been recovered from them.



## RECOVERY TRAIL OF ROBBED CASH

Case 1: Amount mentioned in FIR: Rs 10.20 lakhs

Recovery trail as below:

Dipak Gadekar

Rs 3,26,000 (Car, Scooter & Cash)

Rs 50,000 (Spent on himself)

Rs 70,000 (Spent for shopping in mall)

Keshav Naik (HC)

Rs 1,00,000 (Cash 60k, gold chain 40k)

Mahendra Mandrekar (PC)

Rs 1,00,000 (Cash)

Atmaram Malvankar

Rs 50,000 (Cash)

Pritesh Agarwadekar

Rs 40,000 (Cash)

Gautam Korgaonkar

Rs 1,00,000 (Cash)

Total Rs 8,36,000 recovered

Total Rs 10.20 lakh robbed

Total Rs 1.84 lakh pending recovery

Gadekar Claims

PI Dalvi-Rs 1.50 lakhs (20k given back)

PSI-Rs 30,000

PC-Rs 20,000

Total 1.80 lakhs???

Case 2: Amount mentioned in

FIR: Rs 34 lakhs

Total recovery so far: Rs

27,20,000

Amount spent by one accused Rs 80,000

Not recovered

Amount allegedly paid to

Constable Vikas Naik Rs 1,00,000

Amount allegedly given to PI: Rs

5,00,000



RAJENDRA P. KERKAR

Karnataka has resumed the unfinished work of the Kalasa canal in Kankumbi over the last month in front of the right side plugged vent. The next hearing before the Mhadei Water Dispute Tribunal has been scheduled on March 21, 2017.

For more than a quarter century now, Karnataka has been trying its best to dam and divert the various tributaries in its jurisdiction that are joining the Mhadei river. However, on account of strong opposition from Goa, Karnataka could not execute the numerous projects that have been envisaged from time to time. When the then Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka Yedurappa laid the foundation stone of the Kalasa Project in Kankumbi to dam and divert 7.56 TMC (thousand million cubic feet) of water of Kalasa, Haltara and Bhandura nallas without any permissions either from the Ministry of Water Resources or from the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Goa approached the Supreme Court.

Finally, in 2010 the Central Government took the step of constituting the Mhadei Water Dispute Tribunal under the Chairmanship of Justice J. M. Panchal. But for a long period the actual work of MWDT could not start as no premises were provided for an office. Taking advantage of the situation, Karnataka almost completed the work of excavation and construction of the underground and open cut canal in Kankumbi in such a way that the flow of water coming in the direction of Goa was diverted to the Malprabha river. When the issue was brought to the notice of the MWDT, Karnataka agreed to plug both the vents of the Kalasa canal and accordingly followed the directives. Though both vents were plugged by May 31, 2015, Karnataka did not stop its ongoing work.

Presently, the work has picked up speed and the KNNL has completed the work of the main canal and the channel. The proposed construction of the dam of Kalasa, Haltara and Bhandura requires the forested areas that are notified as Reserve Forest, and the Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change has not given the required permission for diverting the forest land. The ongoing work of the Kalasa canal has caused irreparable loss to the environment and ecology of the area. The natural flow of the water going in the direction of the Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary of Goa, has been disrupted.

The Counsel appearing for Goa, Atmaram Nadkarni, after being appointed as the Additional Solicitor



# KARNATAKA RESUMES THE KALASA WORK IN KANKUMBI

Karnataka, though earlier has plugged both the vents of the Kalasa canal that were facilitating water to flow in the Malprabha river, the flow of water has not stopped. The uncompleted work of the Kalasa canal, channels, inlets, cross regulators will be given priority to complete as early as possible, said an official of DRN Infra, a company involved in the work of the Kalasa canal, on the condition of anonymity.



General of India, was permitted to continue his task by the Ministry of Law and Justice. But recently the granted permission was not renewed on account of strong opposition from Karnataka. The Chief Minister of Goa, Laxmikant Parsekar, asked the Office of the Prime Minister to intervene in the matter and reinstate Atmaram Nadkarni as the counsel for Goa. But so far no step has been taken in this direction. Who will appear for Goa on March 21, before the MWDT? This has not yet been finalized.

Every year Karnataka used to begin the work of the Kalasa canal after the celebration of the Dussehra festival when the monsoon rains start receding. However, this time, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited has resumed the incomplete work of the cross regulator. Due to this work, the water of the Kalasa nalla that was earlier flowing in the direction of Goa has totally stopped, as the mud embankment has been created.

The Executive Engineer of KNNL, A. S. Kusegal, said, "We are completing the work of the cross regulator that remained incomplete during the last season. We also through mud filling have reinstated the area in front of the Mauli temple. The road going to Chigule too has been repaired."

The Chief Engineer of Water Resources Department of Goa, Sandeep Nadkarni, said, "Our team of officials has visited Kankumbi and ascertained the ongoing work of Karnataka in Kankumbi and thereafter needful steps were taken."

Karnataka, though earlier has

plugged both the vents of the Kalasa canal that were facilitating water to flow in the Malprabha river, the flow of water has not stopped. The uncompleted work of the Kalasa canal, channels, inlets, cross regulators will be given priority to complete as early as possible, said an official of DRN Infra, a company involved in the work of the Kalasa canal, on the condition of anonymity.

The area where the work of the Kalasa canal has been undertaken by KNNL lies 3.17 kms away from the Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary of Goa. The proposed site of the Kalasa dam is just 231.27 mtrs from the Sanctuary's borders. The Western Ghats expert committee headed by Dr. Madhav Gadgil and another expert committee under Dr. Kasturirangan has identified Kankumbi as an eco-sensitive area. In spite of this, Karnataka without looking into reality, is planning to take the water of the tributaries of Mhadei through the Malprabha river almost 100 kms away to Hubli and Dharwad.

Last year, the ongoing work of the Kalasa had resulted in the collapse of the sabhamandap of the Mauli temple and destroyed the sacred water tank. So far no step has been taken to complete the work of the sabhamandap and sacred tank. The next hearing in the Mhadei matter on the main petition of diverting 7.56 TMC of water of the Kalasa-Bhandura will start from March 21, 2017.

# BANNER WAR FOR THE LOVE OF HISTORIC FIGURES

TEAM TNV

The Rumdamol Davorlim village of Navelim has been in the news for bizarre reasons lately. The villagers have been fighting over the celebrations of the birth anniversaries of historic figures and the same has flared to violence and arrests. Will these disputes ever settle in the already communally charged area of the village, is what has kept all wondering for now.

It all started when banners of Tipu Sultan were erected by some youth in the Rumdamol Davorlim Panchayat area to commemorate his birth anniversary. The situation flared up to such an extent on the same night that tension prevailed at the Rumdamol Panchayat Office too. The Panchayat opposed the erection of banners in public areas. These banners had no permissions. To take the middle road out, the Panchayat in their body meeting rejected the post facto application for the banners and also the application for music in the area due to absence of the Collector's permission for the same.

November is the month of the birth anniversary of Tipu Sultan. Mysore in Karnataka celebrates this month, and as in every year, there is crossfire from various supporting and opposing groups of society in Karnataka. The group of youth of Rumdamol intending to replicate the same, erected several banners of Birth Anniversary of Tipu Sultan in the panchayat area. These banners had images and quotes written on them in Urdu.

The Sarpanch of the Panchayat of Rumdamol, Mustak Shaikh, had said that there have been similar instances in the past where the banners of various functions were erected without permissions and were allowed, but this time they have decided not to allow any group or any person to erect banners without proper permissions to the banners.

The Sarpanch had also revealed that he was approached by another group of youth who have allegedly warned the Panchayat to remove the banners or prepare to face problems.

Just as the panchayat planned to get out of the fix, tension erupted between the warring groups proposing and opposing the commemoration of Tipu Sultan's birth anniversary. There were incidents of tension and violence on the borders of the village wherein three



two-wheelers were set ablaze.

The Margao town police later arrested a person in connection with the tension and the vehicle arson at Housing board on Friday night. The Police also identified over 80 other men who were involved in this crime and are investigating the matter of the Tipu Sultan banners which triggered the tension. The incident also forced the Director General of Police Muktesh Chander to visit the spot late night on Friday in order to take stock of the situation. The DGP advised the Village Panchayat and the people to immediately remove the banners of the Tipu Sultan birth anniversary.

Elections 2017 happened and just as the situation seemed to be cooling off, the Panchayat was caught up in yet another storm for having refused

permissions to put up banners of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on the occasion of Shivjayanti at Rumdamol-Davorlim.

A representation was handed over to the Director of Panchayats with a demand to nullify the resolution passed at a panchayat meeting earlier in November 2016 refusing permission to put up any banners for such occasions.

Members of the protesting groups demanded a written apology from the panchayat for allegedly hurting national and religious sentiments of people. "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj tried to liberate Goa from the clutches of the Portuguese and was instrumental in reinstating the Saptakoteswar Temple at Narve. Shivaji is adored and worshipped by many of his followers and devotees," said the representation.

Director of Panchayats, Gurudas Pilarnekar, in an order in the last week of February struck down the resolution of the Panchayat calling it "Improper".

A proxy war erupted on social media against the Shiv Jayanti celebration in Margao, where comments, posts and abuses were being hurled on to each other by various men and women. The situation flared up to such an extent that complaints were filed against the youth commenting and abusing Shivaji Maharaj and were called to the police station to pacify and warn them to restrain from such commentary.

Several persons from the Shiv Jayanti rally committee also agreed that rallies are not a convenient way of celebration anymore and they will soon look out for change in the celebration methods.

The people have been highly



confused over all these events. These added up after one additional figure for celebration was added up.

We will have to wait and watch to see how these incidents will affect the imminent elections of the village panchayats. With the area already being communally-charged, how the politics play out now will be interesting to see. The Panchayat of Rumdamol which has been mostly held by minority panches will have to act firmly now. Chances of repeated flare ups have been expected and the police have been keeping a keen eye on the situation.

On February 19th the Margao town was painted saffron color with the massive rally of over 4000 men and women to commemorate Shiv Jayanti. The birth anniversary of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was marked by a rally and celebration organised by Shivsamraja association of South Goa.

The rally left from Gogal Housing Board with participation of over 4000 and a thousand flags of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. It crisscrossed through Gogal Housing Board, Rumdamol, Aquem, Malbhat, Margao, Borda and ended at Housing board.

Heavy police presence was kept all over Housing Board and Rumdamol to make sure the movement of the rally was smooth and to ensure that no commotion took place. The event happened smoothly without any hassle.

One good development which occurred due to this flare up was the removal of the thousands of illegally erected banners and hoardings at the Panchayat area. Rumdamol now looks cleaner than before.



# SUBHASH VELINGKAR'S GOA PRANT AND ITS DISSOLUTION BEFORE ELECTION COUNTING

**RUPESH SAMANT**

**R**SS leader Subhash Velingkar's recent announcement to dissolve Goa Prant and let the cadres join back the parent Sangh has been now analysed in different ways by political experts. Some may tag it as a defeat of Velingkar, while many will think this as a wise move considering the fact that he cannot be separated from the Sangh.

If one analyses the entire Goa elections, the Velingkar-led Goa Suraksha Manch, was undoubtedly one of the important factors that changed the game. The BJP in their wildest of dreams would not have believed that Velingkar would go against them. The team of Velingkar-Manohar Parrikar was looking inseparable, except for the Medium of Instruction (MOI) issue.

The year 2012 saw Velingkar-Parrikar taking to the streets against Congress on MOI. It was the time when enthusiastic Facebook youngsters were asking Digambar Kamat to 'get well soon', and Parrikar-bhai was the icon. The man wearing an 'out shirt' and Bata sandals became the inspiration for many. Velingkar always remained in the background, never came in the front. Those were the days when even to get a one sentence interview of Velingkar was a difficult task.

The then RSS Goa Chief was unavailable for media as he always made no comments. But his work always spoke. During one of the interviews that he gave after splitting with Parrikar, he

admitted to rising at 4.30 a.m. every day to start his work.

The upset and 'avenger' face of Velingkar was witnessed a little before the State assembly elections were announced. During the year 2016, Velingkar under the banner of Bharatiya Bhasha Suraksha Manch (BBSM) went across the state naming and shaming Parrikar.

Right from 'liar' to 'untrustworthy', all such words were uttered against Parrikar by Velingkar, which shocked many. The historic speeches of Velingkar at Mandrem and Sankhalim were audio recorded and circulated, the way BJP used to do with the addresses of Parrikar to the Legislative Assembly during his tenure as Leader of Opposition.

Velingkar's speeches were an inspiration for many. While Velingkar may not have been on the forefront of State politics, he has always been one of the most respected figures in the State. Even his enemies won't write him off. To add to it, Velingkar tenure as a teacher has won him several admirers.

BJP was shocked when Velingkar and like-minded people floated Goa Suraksha Manch, the political outfit that announced war against BJP for the State Legislative Assembly election.

RSS which always equated itself with BJP in the political games was also taken aback. The result was that Velingkar was relieved of his post, even before GSM was formed. Many thought that this 'emotional blackmailing' of Velingkar would spell doom for the political

movement that was taking birth in the State.

GSM was born, and Anand Shirodkar, another RSS leader, headed it. Shirodkar equalled Velingkar in his zeal towards the MOI movement though he was not so popular. What happened after that is history and everyone knows how GSM fought the election in alliance with Shiv Sena and MGP. Joining hands with MGP was a major political event for GSM and also for BJP.

As I type this article, the election results are yet to be out. There is no doubt that the GSM-SS-MGP combine has dented the vote bank of BJP which will give benefit to other parties including Congress.

Velingkar and his team were on the move during the polls. This was for the first time that Velingkar had plunged himself into politics without Parrikar.

One can understand what pain Velingkar must have gone through when he heard that his parent organization was trying to distance itself from him, and when he formed Goa Prant. But Velingkar still remained firm, showing his determination to the cause.

Velingkar was clear from day one. In his interviews, he had made clear that after the election Goa Prant would go with RSS. He had claimed that his separation from Konkan Prant was only to avoid unnecessary pressures that might affect the election campaigning.

So when Velingkar and his group announced that they are dissolving Goa Prant and letting everyone join

RSS, it should not come as a shock. The decision was expected and as per the blue print worked by them. Velingkar does not require to explain much on the move. But still the Goa Prant held a series of meetings and cross checked with the cadres whether they were okay with dissolving the unit. GSM will remain as a political force.

Velingkar also said that the principles for which they had separated from RSS would remain intact. In the individual capacity everyone will fight for MOI. If GSM manages to have their government in power, the MOI struggle will end as they will have to withdraw the grants given to the English medium schools.

The decision to dissolve the unit will finish the bitterness that was created between RSS and Velingkar and company. Velingkar has already made it clear that he is ready to work as an ordinary swayamsevak by going back to the shakha.

Going by the figures, there were at least 3,000 out of 10,000 RSS cadres in Goa who had gone with Velingkar. Now they will return, giving back life to the shakhas.

One can say that this is a typical Goan way of solving the disputes. The Goans usually don't carry on with differences for long if they can be diluted or dissolved over a dinner or a drink. Here there is no dinner or a drink, but certainly the affection towards sangh and shakhas will work as a troubleshooter for the issue.

# SHAPE CONNECT GOA BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE

TALLULAH D'SILVA

Shape Connect Goa was recently held on the 5th of March in Goa with the objective to initiate a discussion on eight of the UN Sustainable Development Goals specific to Goa and engage the participants to identify issues and suggest possible solutions as projects that will be taken up for implementation in the local community.

The event was organized by the Global Shapers Panjim Hub of the Global Shapers Community, an arm of the World Economic Forum at Kokum DC, Porvorim-Goa. The participation was overwhelming, with young students from Goa from different streams, professionals and individuals keen to create positive social impact.

Mrinmayee Thakur, the current curator of the Panjim Hub, introduced the goals and individual sessions, while Gabriella D'Cruz, the outgoing curator, introduced the Shapers Community, its focus area of work and invited the young participants to join as volunteers to get an insight into how youth can become catalysts of positive change.



Each of the sessions conducted by Tallulah D Silva, Jill Ferguson, Clinton Vaz, Felly Gomes, Puja Mitra, Atul Borkar and Gabriella D'Cruz were specific to Goa and shared best practices.

The outcome of the workshops was amazing, with many projects prioritized, that will be taken up for implementation by the Shapers in the coming months.

tallulahdsilva@gmail.com  
The writer is an architect and environmentalist

## About Global Shapers

The Global Shapers Community is a network of city-based Hubs developed and led by young leaders as part of the World Economic Forum. The mission of the Global Shapers is to build a global community of the most outstanding youth committed to improving the state of the world. With its motto: Shape Your Future – integrating the personal, the community and the global dimension -- the Global Shapers Community enables youth to be a voice for the future in local, regional and global thought processes and a catalyst of entrepreneurship in the global public interest.



## PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY GLOBAL SHAPERS PANJIM:

### tree2tree

A policy needs to be outlined and notified where trees of the city need to be first documented, their role recognised and understood and efforts made to conserve and protect them. Trees are one of Panjim's greatest assets and it is one of the few cities in the world that has a mangrove forest! The objective of initiating a tree policy for the city is to provide a comprehensive framework and possible ideas by which the City Corporation along with other government departments can first recognize its natural assets, the vital role they play and benefits thereof and endeavour to protect, nurture and care for its trees.

### trash2gas

Panjim has the best garbage management systems in the country and boasts of an efficient door to door collection. Apart from 50 tonnes of solid waste collected from around 25,000 households

every day, Panjim city has to tackle the problem of bulk garbage from over 250 hotels and its municipal market. trash2gas is a project wherein the wet waste generated will be used to generate biogas, which will be used by the community to run community kitchen or lighting for public spaces or community spaces.

### Trailing biodiversity

Urbanization, migration to cities and modern living has completely disconnected humans particularly youngsters and children from nature and local biodiversity. Trailing Biodiversity is a series of nature trails conceived to help children connect with the outdoor environment, local biodiversity, understand our connection to these and the need to conserve them.

### Career Speak, Exploring lesser known paths...

With the internet age and the world evolving into

a global entity, young students on the threshold of choosing their vocation or career paths often find themselves under extreme pressure from parents who aspire that they choose sought after careers in medicine and engineering! Career Speak is a back-to-school programme where young entrepreneurs/professionals, alumnus of the schools, return to talk about their chosen field, success and passion that drives their work and options and opportunities available and waiting to be tapped.

### EcoLoo

The objective of the project is to provide a low cost eco friendly toilet with improved sanitation. EcoLoo Project envisages sanitation modules replete with grey water recycling through root zone systems, responsibility to environment, reduces pollution, individual and community modules for maximizing access to all, very little usage of water and built with low cost but longer lasting materials.

## THE FEUDAL AND FASCIST ELEMENTS IN GOA ARE INTERESTED IN TEARING AGE OLD SOCIAL FABRIC OF THE STATE: DATTA NAIK

**D**atta Damodar Naik, a noted industrialist and writer in Goa, was the working President for the Samata Andolan which was formed for eradication of caste system and superstition in Goan society. The Samataa Andolan organised five social meets (Samajik Parishads) in Goa in which various social issues were discussed and important resolutions passed. Naik also spearheaded the 'Abhivyakti'-Dakshinayan Abhiyan's National Conference in Goa which saw several writers and social activists coming under one banner to discuss the growing intolerance and communal disturbances in the country. TNV interviewed Naik in view of the recent incidents in Valpoi and Davorlim, Margao during the occasion of Shiv Jayanti and national issues like violence at the Ramjas College.

**Q** In the background of the recent incidents in Valpoi and Davorlim on the occasion of Shiv Jayanti, do you think Goa is losing its communal harmony?

There are feudal and fascist elements in Goa who are interested in tearing the age-old social fabric of Goa and disturbing the communal harmony between Hindus, Christians and Muslims. Festivals such as Eid, Ganesh Chaturthi and Shiv Jayanti are the occasions to create disturbances and animosity between the communities. This pattern is followed by communal organizations in the rest of India, now it is followed in Goa. Unfortunately some innocent Goans are falling prey to their trap.

**Q** Are there any reasons to believe that the rift in Goan society is increasing?

Fortunately the rift is different sections of Goan society is not increasing. The age-old bonds are very strong and communal organizations are unable to break those.

**Q** You have spearheaded social conclaves like the Samajik Parishad organised by Samata Andolan and Dakshinayan Abhiyan. Are the rationalist forces doing enough?

Rationalist forces are like salt. Salt is added to the food in small quantities but it changes the taste of the food. I feel that rationalists in Goa are trying their best. In the field of social reforms you never say "this is enough". Challenges are in abundance and efforts have to be made continuously.



**Q** Are you happy with the way the Government and Police pursue matters related to right-wing organizations like Sanatan Sauntha and others?

No. The Government does not have the political will to deal with right-wing organizations like Sanatan Sauntha. When I say Government it applies to both BJP as well as Congress.

**Q** Do you think Goa is insensitive to national issues in the light of events such as that of Gurmehar Kaur, a Delhi University student, who

had started the campaign "I am not afraid of ABVP", which went viral and received massive support from students across various universities but which she withdrew after getting rape threats?

Daksinayan Abhiyan is organizing a protest meeting on Thursday, 9th March 2017 at 4:00 pm at Municipal Garden, Panaji to protest the attack on Gurmehar Kaur, a Delhi University student. In Goa the reaction is late and slow and is not instant, but Goa is not insensitive.

**Q** Goa has always led by example as far as communal harmony is concerned. Do you think this image of Goa is facing a threat?

Goa is an ideal state which can be benchmarked by rest of the States in India as far as communal harmony is concerned. There were never riots between Hindus, Christians and Muslims. It is the duty of all of us to preserve this social fabric, including the communal harmony of Goa, so that the rest of India can look forward to Goa as an icon.

**Honesty**



**rainbow**

**Harry Potter**

There were once two best friends. Their names were Shane and Ravi. They were the best of friends and used to get along very well. One day they got into a fight. The fight soon got ugly and police were called on the scene. When the police came, Ravi was clutching his head and crying as if Shane had hit him with something. Shane was holding a stick in one hand with a shocked face. Seeing this, he was taken to prison. He was sentenced to jail for more than five years.



him. Hearing this, his friend was shocked because he had not even touched Ravi. He started to think, "Did Shane go to jail because of a misunderstanding?"

After Shane was bailed out, he told Ravi's friend that in their fight, he had never hit Ravi. But when Ravi came to attack him, he had raised the stick in self-defence. It accidentally hit Ravi and he overreacted. If Ravi had been honest, Shane would not have been in jail. Always be honest at all times in life.

**VIKRAM D'SILVA**

Std VI, Sunshine Worldwide School, Bainguinim

For me the most magical book is the amazing Harry Potter. It's so special that I feel like, keeping it in a separate locker.

Ron Weasley, Hermione Granger and a sport named Quidditch Seven fat magical books are enough to make me itch. Neville Longbottom, Draco Malfoy and a giant named Hagrid would make the front page everyday don't argue, this case has ended. It's a New York Times best seller, and published by Bloomsbury. All the words typed crystal clear not one word blurry. So far Harry Potter, is the best book I've read And I really do think J.K. Rowling has nailed it on the head.



**ARYAN ISAAC BHOBE**

Std VI, Sharada Mandir School, Panjim

**A Teacher**


A teacher helps us  
Understand something  
She also teaches us to  
Play, dance and sing

She teaches us  
To forgive  
An apology to anyone  
She would give

A teacher shows  
Love and care  
She also teaches us  
To play fair

A positive word  
She says  
Changes my  
Entire day

She teaches us  
To think positive  
She pulls us away  
From being negative



**RADNYEE LOLAYEKAR**  
Std IV, Shiksha Niketan, Torda



**RUDRA SHIRODKAR**

Std X,  
Mushtifund High School, Panjim



**PARTH GURURAJ KAMAT SATOSKAR**

Std I,  
Government Primary School, Vitthalapur, Sakhali



**ANISHA LIMAYE**

Std IV,  
Child Care School, Margao



**ASHOK CHOUDHARY**

Std VI,  
Holy Cross Institute, Kepem



**AAKRUTI VELINGKAR**

Std VII  
Manovikas English Medium School, Margao



**MANASVI ANIL NAIK**

Std III  
Saraswat Vidyalay, Mapusa

# “I SEE A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR KONKANI FILMS, PROVIDED WE COME UP WITH QUALITY” – DINESH BHONSLE

**A**fter the Marathi film *Marmabandh* in 2008 and Hindi film *Calapor* in 2013, both of which won several national accolades, Dinesh Bhonsle's Konkani film *Enemy?* went on to win the National award in 2015. It has also won the Best Film award at the Nasik International Film Festival, Haryana International Film Festival and Best Foreign Language film at Milan International Film Festival. Bhonsle is already working on his next Konkani film which will be based on the historic Goa Opinion Poll of 1967. TNV spoke with this acclaimed director about his forthcoming work.



**Q** You have till date done films in Hindi, Marathi and Konkani. What were the reasons for this switch in languages?

As an assistant I have done most of my work in Hindi. I wanted to do films in all possible languages. So first I got an opportunity to work in the Marathi film *Marmabandh*, thereafter I was offered a film in Hindi titled *Calapor* and finally a film in Konkani titled *Enemy?* I may also do films in Punjabi, Gujarati and Ghadwali languages too.

**Q** *Enemy?*, your latest movie has won several national accolades. What next? What project have you been working on?

My next project may be a film in Marathi

or Hindi, followed by a film based on the 1967 Opinion Poll in Konkani for which we have started the research work. This film will be made under the production house 'Opus Gala'. Schubert Cotta, Querozito De Souza, Sushant Tari, Isabel Vas are some among the Goan personalities associated with this project. Research work for this project has already started. This will be a big budget film in Konkani.

**Q** Do you think Konkani movies have a good future?

Considering the work we are doing in Konkani and the response we get from the audience and at the festival circuit, I see a bright future for Konkani films provided we come up with quality.

**Q** Do you see Goa developing as a film industry?

Goa has already established itself as a shooting destination. Besides Hindi and English, films in many other languages such as Telugu, Tamil, Marathi, Malayalam, etc. are shot in Goa. In recent years due to a hike in location fees and due to some other factors the shooting in Goa has gone down. To attract more production houses, we will have to create basic requirement of pre and post production and also a production-friendly Goa by providing police protection, as many times local hooligans have harassed these production teams by demanding money for no reason.

**Q** Are you happy with the State government's scheme for film financing?

The State Government has to regularise this scheme. For the last 4 to 5 years the scheme was stopped. Also they have to take quick decisions on execution of this scheme so that money reaches producers on time as some producers produce films by taking loans. Delaying their payments leads them to financial trouble.

**Q** Has hosting of IFFI helped Goa?

IFFI introduced the Goan audience and film makers to world cinema. IFFI should be credited for the quality of Goan films and also the different subjects explored in Konkani films. Hence we can also say that IFFI has raised the expectations of the Goan audience for Konkani cinema.



Casino Strike held it's very first hoteliers & restaurateurs soiree. We bring you the event in pictures





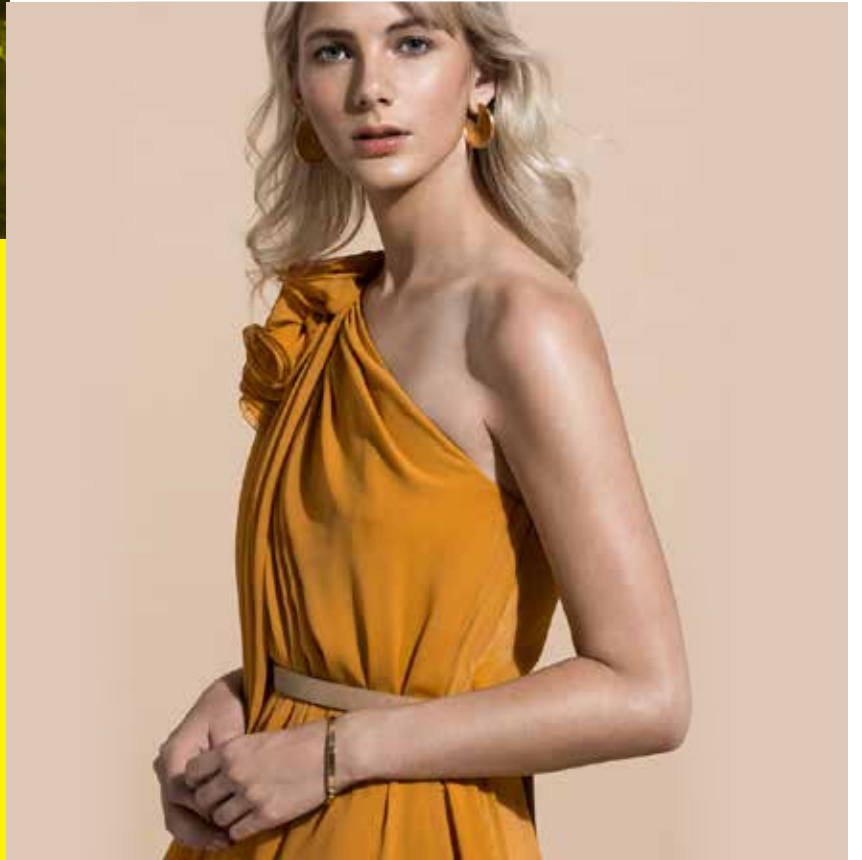
# YOU WEAR THE CLOTHES, DON'T LET CLOTHES WEAR YOU

## MY FAVOURITE

- Colour : Maroon  
 Food : Italian  
 Place : Goa  
 Actors : Too many.  
 Depends on the performance.  
 Clothes : My drawstring pants and a top  
 Singer : It's very hard for me to make decisions like these.  
 Pass time: Watching television is my ultimate vice.

Everyone has a happy place, and Suman's is where she is surrounded by fabric.

She started at the age of 22 with just a single-handed mission to do one collection and see what response it got. Today after 5 years, Suman Bhat's 'Lola by Suman B' supplies designs to some of the renowned names in the industry like CREO, ATOSA, AZA (Bandra), KITSCH (Mumbai and Delhi), The ALMARI store (Hyderabad), Pernias Pop up Shop and Rock n Shop apart from her own online store on Instagram and Facebook page and her studio in Caranzalem. TNV caught up with Suman to know more.



**Q** For how long have you been in this field? A little about your beginning and why you chose this field?

I've worked in the fashion industry since I was 18. Goa's renowned fashion designer Wendell Rodricks was kind enough to let me learn from him for about a year before I joined the Symbiosis Institute of Design. I always knew I wanted to sew and make clothes. The understanding of the craft only made me love it more.

**Q** Tell us about your label and your journey.

The ethos of my label 'Lola by Suman B' is to exemplify contemporary luxury. We started the label in 2013. With just a single-handed mission to do one collection and see what response it got. I sewed every piece myself. It was titled 'Coalesce'. It was all about amalgamation. The response was great, I uploaded it onto Facebook and woke up the next morning feeling completely overwhelmed with the love people showed the collection. Today we have a workshop and do about 4 collections a year. I specialize in women's evening wear. And I retail at stores all over India. I exhibit and sell on Instagram and my Facebook page (no website as yet) and my studio in Caranzalem.

**Q** How do you perceive the Goan market as far as catching up with the fashion trends is concerned?

I don't believe in trends. We follow a completely different weather cycle so we can't follow trends. We need to make our own. Everything right down to the Indian body structure is unique. I believe in style, which is more internal. Trends are external.

**Q** What are the current fashion trends?

Big smiles and lots of curves.

**Q** Could you give a few fashion tips for the season?

Dress to suit your body type. Experiment with colours, pick statement accessories. You wear the clothes; don't let the clothes wear you.

**Q** Any fashion icons you follow?

Alber Elbaz.

**Q** Any film stars or celebrities that you particularly admire for their sense of fashion?

Deepika Padukone, Sonam Kapoor and Kangana Ranaut.