



THE GOA STATE YOUTH POLICY

By:

**Directorate of Sports & Youth Affairs,
Govt. of Goa.**

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1. PREAMBLE

- **State youth policy is necessary for a state like Goa, because:**
- **The abundant creative energies and talents of youth are neither fully tapped by society nor realized by the youth themselves resulting in detrimental effect on self as well as society. Inclusion of this nearly 40 per cent of the state populace, while framing policies would be a great asset to the state.**
- **It is imperative to demonstrate, in action, the intent of considering youth as priority; enable youth empowerment through strategic direction and to address, in a holistic manner, all the issues concerning youth.**
We often speak about the “Goa of our Dreams”. This vision document for the Goan youth would surely lay a concrete foundation to transform that dream into reality.
- **The Goa Youth Policy will initiate the process required for the improvement, nurturing and qualitative development of youth in the State of Goa.**

- **While the Goan youth is interested in various social and cultural activities, they tend to be mostly restricted to their own socio-cultural and religious groups. Therefore, our youth also need common platform with the values of nationalism, social-tolerance and inclusiveness as guiding factors.**
- **The abundant creative energies and talents of youth are neither fully tapped by society nor realized by the youth themselves resulting in detrimental effect on self as well as society. Channelization of this energy of a significant component of the state populace ought to be the priority of the state.**
- **Globalization is a widespread phenomenon and has profoundly impacted Goa. Utilization of the positives of globalization while being able to meet its challenges by Goan youth; to the optimum benefit of Goa's development ought to be the thrust of this exercise.**

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- **There is a need to counter the existing sentiment among Goan youth that they have no say or stake to influence the governance and development of their state. There is a need to foster social consciousness and to build inter and intra-generational trust and ensure youth participation in matters of public affairs.**
- **Building a progressive and culturally richer Goa is possible by re-enforcing our social and cultural bonds. Hence a mechanism for acquainting today's youth with the rich cultural heritage of our state and country also becomes imperative.**
- **Goa needs inclusive growth, and to achieve it, consolidated efforts by groups of young people through creation of awareness about the prevailing social evils, health problems, exploitation of deprived sections of society, gender injustice and subsequently working to achieve success would take Goa to an optimum level of social development.**

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2. VISION

To reach, engage, empower and create a vibrant, educated, dynamic, healthy, value-based youth to attain their full potential, to meet the challenges of shaping a progressive, sustainable Goa, India and the world

3. DEFINITIONS

- The definition of the term “Youth” for the purpose of this policy shall be those individuals who are in the age group of 15-35 years. This indeed is a broad and comprehensive category. However, this group can be further divided on the micro-level into 3 sub-groups:
 - a. Sub-group of 15-18 years age. This covers the very important and delicate transitional phase between adolescence and youth. *(NOTE: Adolescence for the purposes of this policy may cover age group of 11-14 years which would be taken care of by providing adequate education/guidance/counselling regarding nurturing and sensitization of this group.)*
 - b. Sub-group of 19-25 years age. This covers broadly the students who are about-to or have completed their formal education and would start their career.
 - c. Sub-group of 26-35 years age. This covers the relatively mature group of youngsters who have completed formal education and are spread out in various sectors as employees, professionals and are on the verge of settling in their sphere of work and raising families. This group would also include those who have not found a clear direction and livelihood opportunities.

4. TARGET GROUPS

- It needs to be recognised that all young people within an age group are unlikely to be a homogenous group. There will be different segments of youth with varying needs and aspirations that need to be addressed. These are disadvantaged youth due to socio-economic conditions including SC/ST/OBC, young women, dropouts from formal education, marginalised/migrant youth, youth at risk and in conflict with law including substance abuse, human trafficking, hazardous occupations, juvenile offenders etc., differently abled youth, youth with chronic physical & mental ailments, marginalised/migrant youth, stigmatised youth (LGBT), geographically disadvantaged youth (rural/mining/forest/slums).

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These will be vertical classifications and will be found in all the age sub-groups and would require focussed attention

- **Student youth**
- **Urban youth**
- **Rural Youth**
- **Tribal youth**
- **Youth in coastal belt**
- **Youth in mining belt**
- **Youth at risk and in conflict with law**
- **Migrant youth**
- **Minority youth**
- **Unemployed & under-employed youth**
- **Drop-outs from educational institutions.**
- **Youth in institutional care, orphanages correctional homes & prisons.**
- **Adolescents.**
- **Young Women.**
- **Differently abled youth.**
- **Youth belonging to socially and economically deprived sections**

5. GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- The programs aimed at an inclusive holistic development of Goan youth in terms of educational, cultural, social, physical, spiritual, psychological and economic development should be the highest priority of the policy.
- Policies/activities/programmes/schemes of the central as well as state government should be made accessible to the Goan youth through an appropriate mechanism.
- Creation of an environment that is conducive for inculcation of rich nationalistic values and patriotism among Goan Youth.
- Creation of a mechanism to provide platform for Goan youth from rural and urban areas to display their talent.


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OBJECTIVES

- a. To inculcate values of patriotism, tolerance, peace and communal harmony; at the same time recognizing and respecting the diversity of religion, language, habitat and lifestyle of various sections of Goan populace.
- b. To make constant endeavours in the form of awareness, education, training and skill-enhancement to make Goan youth economically stable and progressive to attain self-reliance.
- c. To build a physically strong, mentally alert & vibrant youth and also to create awareness among youth against social evils.

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- d. To prepare a road-map for sustainable development of youth.**
 - e. To ensure access to quality education, health, livelihood & recreational facilities for youth.**
 - f. To encourage and promote volunteerism among youth.**
 - g. To empower youth by including them in planning and implementation of developmental programs initiated by government and civil society.**
 - h. To extend support to young women, socially and economically disadvantaged youth, and youth with physical, sensory and intellectual impairments to ensure that they become a part of mainstream development process through affirmative action and measures.**
 - i. Creation of a society wherein women of all age groups shall feel safe, respected and where women shall enjoy equal status in all spheres of life without any prejudice, bias or discrimination of any nature whatsoever.**

6. THRUST AREAS

- The thrust areas in the effective framework of this policy shall be as under
 - ❖ **Nationalist Values:** Erosion of nationalist values in the minds of our youth is an issue of great concern. It is therefore the inherent need of the hour to correct this scenario and inculcate values of nationalism, patriotism and the sense of belongingness to our motherland.
 - ❖ **Social Responsibility, Tolerance and Community Service:** We need to foster the spirit of tolerance and belongingness towards the society of which youth is an integral component. It is therefore essential that youth of today is trained in the virtues of commitment, tolerance, compassion, respect, sympathy and empathy towards the needy and downtrodden.

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- ❖ **Employable Skills:** Modern day market has a huge demand for skill based human resource. Hence, imparting skill based education beyond the formal educational setup would allow youth to explore new avenues and make them self-reliant.
- ❖ **Education and Youth:** Education is the key to a dignified life for a human being. Youth needs to be sensitized and made aware about the importance of education in their lives. There needs to be a sincere effort to minimise drop-outs and attract them to avail value-based and quality education. This would equip them to face the rigours of the competitive world and bring-in the desired transformation
- ❖ **Health and Healthy Lifestyle:** The advantages of demographic dividend can be accrued only if the state has a healthy youth force. All possible steps shall be taken to free the youth from all forms of addiction and abuse. Along with physical health, emphasis shall be also laid on mental health.



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- ❖ **Sports & Recreational Facilities:** Participation in games and sports serves as a great medium of holistic development of youth. Students as well as non-students shall be provided with ample opportunity to exhibit their sporting talent.
- ❖ **Gender Justice:** The state shall strive to take all possible steps to promote empowerment of women, thereby achieving gender justice. This would involve special thrust on inculcating the spirit of mutual respect.
- ❖ **Social Justice:** The society is ridden with various evils arising out of flawed perceptions and notions due to which a sizable population is left out from the privileges of the mainstream. The State shall strive to create a conducive environment for the upliftment of the underprivileged and neglected sections of the society.
- ❖ **Environment and Youth:** The youth has greater role to protect and conserve the environment and pass on the legacy to the generations to come. Therefore, efforts will be made to create awareness amongst the youth about the importance of environmental protection.
- ❖ **Youth and Local Governance:** Our state can boast of a youth-dividend only if the youth are active stakeholders in the process of democratic governance of the state.



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- ❖ **Art & Culture:** Stimulating and encouraging all forms of art and culture is of paramount importance to maintain social harmony and to preserve rich heritage. The State shall ensure affirmative action in creation and promotion of a conducive environment to promote, foster and showcase the artistic excellence of the State.
- ❖ **Science & Technology:** To nurture innovation in the young minds and to develop a scientific temper. Steps shall be taken to involve maximum number of youth in activities related to science and technology.
- ❖ **Industry and Socio-Cultural Impact.** To create an interface between industry and its impact on social and cultural ethos of the local region, efforts shall be launched to further the economic interest of the local social capital.

7. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

NATIONALIST VALUES:

Promotion of literature on Goa's history and culture in regional languages.

Promotion of ideals and teachings of National Heroes having wider acceptability.

Developing standardised syllabus for value education.

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SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND TOLERANCE

Increasing participation in community service by means of innovative activities at grass root level.

Preparing youth for disaster management and other social-service activities.

Providing exposure to youth in responsible and ethical use of social media.

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EMPOWERING YOUTH WITH EMPLOYABLE SKILLS

Efforts shall be made to channelize the entrepreneurial energy of youth who already possess skills to convert it into viable economic propositions.

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EDUCATION & YOUTH

It shall be the endeavour of the state to enrol every child for school education thereby attaining the highest possible enrolment at the school level.

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HEALTH & HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Providing easy access to avail health services.

Ensuring effective implementation of reproductive and sexual health of the youth.

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SPORTS & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Youth will be encouraged to fitness and recreational activities to promote sports culture.

Youth would be encouraged to participate in adventure sports, water sports etc.

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GENDER JUSTICE

Promoting the idea of gender justice and mutual respect for each other through sensitization programs and activities.

Zero tolerance to sexual offences against women.

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ENVIRONMENT & YOUTH

Awareness drive among youth to work for conservation of our biodiversity and environmental sustainability.

ART & CULTURE

Encouraging and attracting youth towards traditional art forms and providing the desired avenues to achieve excellence.

To assist the youth organizations to avail schemes and programs under the existing Art & Culture Policy of Govt of Goa.

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

To promote scientific temper and foster the spirit of innovation among the youth and curbing superstitions.

To encourage youth to be innovative in science, technology, education, medicine, administration etc. by availing the schemes under Goa State Innovation Council/Dept. Of Science, Technology & Environment and other Govt agencies..



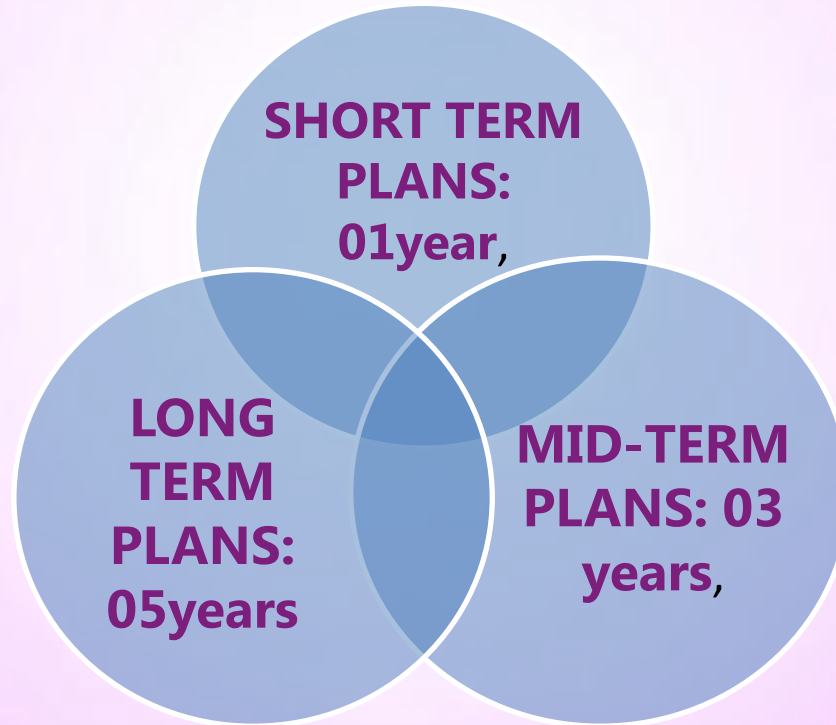
INDUSTRY & SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT

While the state shall take all possible steps to protect economic interests of the local youth, all possible mechanisms shall be developed to promote harmony with the youth coming from other parts of the country for jobs, for which local youth are not available.

Be connected with various departments of Govt of Goa and nodal institutions of Govt of India connected with youth development.

Linkage with NSS units, NYKs, CDPOs, Health Centres, Scouts & Guides, NCC units and Red Cross Society etc with Taluka Centres.

8. ROADMAP FOR IMPLEMENTATION



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SHORT TERM PLANS

- ❖ Conducting special seminars, workshops, competitions to enhance the effective awareness of Civic sense among the target group.
- ❖ Promotion of yoga, meditation, spirituality through discourses/ symposia/ seminars at various levels to increase tolerance levels.
- ❖ Organising seminars, workshops on creating awareness on consuming balanced diet.
- ❖ Providing comprehensive counselling services for enhancement of mental wellness.
- ❖ Organizing special seminars, workshops and activities to inculcate the social values and attaining eradication of social evils.
- ❖ Encouraging youth clubs and NGOs to conduct village level activities for the same.



MID TERM PLANS



- ❖ Emphasis would be given to attract non-student youth for participation in sports and games by organizing special tournaments and also Special coaching camps for the same.
- ❖ A special festival for showcasing traditional sports shall be organised at taluka and state level.
- ❖ Special emphasis would be laid on organising sports meets for differently abled youth.
- ❖ Conducting seminars/discourses/workshops for youth to acquaint them civic laws and procedures to create awareness about local self-governance.



LONG TERM PLANS

- ❖ Establishment of Goa State Youth Welfare Corporation.
- ❖ Establishment of Youth Resource Centres at taluka level.
- ❖ Development of Website as an information portal and creation of Goa Youth Database.
- ❖ Setting up of Centre for Training and Research Development in two tier system.
- ❖ To promote of Science and technology hubs in the state and encouraging youth by giving incentive for outstanding achievers.
- ❖ In order to broaden the horizons of the youth, the Cultural Youth Exchange programs shall be promoted.
- ❖ Establishment of rehabilitation centres (Ashrams) for assisting youth widows and their children to lead a dignified life.
- ❖ Establishing de-addiction and rehabilitation centres for youth affected by drug abuse, alcoholism and other vices.
- ❖ Periodical Audit of the Goa State Youth Policy and its schemes/recommendations.

Proposed program	Target group	Time frame/ Duration	Goal/ Objective	Expected outcome
Orientation program	Resource persons /staff/counsellors	1 st week of April for 7 days	To train/upgrade skills	Concerned personnel would be well-versed with their scope of work
Commissioning of Youth Helpline	Youth covered under the policy	24X7X365	To provide professional psychological counselling and information service and providing answers to multisector/multilevel queries.	Prevent youth from taking drastic decisions and enabling informed decision making.
Campaign of schemes and programs of the Youth Policy and data collection exercise.	Individuals, youth clubs, associations and NGOs.	3 weeks of April	Sensitization and awareness of relevant schemes, preparation of action-plan, conducting surveys	Rapport creation with target group, Survey reports and data compilation.

Career information/ Guidance workshops/ modules	Students awaiting results of public examinations	1 day workshop at 3 levels viz. Std. X, Std XII and Graduation at various places. (Subject to repetition) in the month of May for Two weeks.	To provide quality information about avenues and opportunities available in various streams of education with focus on employability.	To facilitate the students in making the right choice of education or career as per their aptitude, potential and interest.
Adolescent health education	Boys and Girls in the age group of 13-16years	Half day module separately for boys and girls in second fortnight of May.	To create awareness about health, hygiene, nutrition along with emphasis on physical and behavioural changes during adolescence.	To help adolescents accept and adapt with the changes so as to attain optimal health standards.
Self-employment	Unemployed youth.	1 day workshop at various places. 1 st week of June.	To acquaint the youth with available opportunities, schemes and policies for effective self-employment avenues.	To generate employment through entrepreneurial skills.

Skill development	Semi-skilled youth and Drop-outs from educational institutions	1 day workshop at various places. 3 rd week of June.	To sensitize the target group by providing them with skill-based training and motivation to pursue desired profession.	To attract the section of our human resource towards traditional as well as emerging occupational avenues desired by them.
Schemes for Differently abled youth	Differently abled youth	2 weeks in the month of July	Survey to ascertain the number of youth in this target group	To assist the group in availing various schemes and programs of Central and State Government.
Trainers training	Leaders and members of Youth clubs and NGOs	2day workshops for all taluka centres as per the requirement during Second fortnight of July.	Training and orientation for programs planned and awareness about relevant schemes.	To upgrade the competence of Trainers to handle the schemes and programs efficiently.

Social media and Multi-disciplinary activities	Youth from various fields of interest	First two weeks of August	To sensitize the youth in responsible handling of the social media and to promote creative talent.	To nurture a talent pool of committed youth excelling in a wide spectrum of creativity.
Refresher course	Resource persons /staff/counsellors	4 th week of August	To train/upgrade skills	Concerned personnel would be well-versed with their scope of work
Courses on Spirituality and value education	Youth from 13-16yrs & 16-21 yrs age group	September month	To strengthen spiritual foundation and value education among youth	To build value based citizenry
Eradication of Social evils and vices	Youth covered under the policy	1 st two weeks of October	To create awareness about hazards associated with social evils and vices and reduce the same to minimal.	To build healthy and evil-free society

Youth Exchange Programme	Youth of 16-25 yrs age group	3rd and 4 th week of October	To provide platform to the youth to exhibit and understand the socio-cultural and ethnic diversity at state, national and international levels.	To strengthen National Integration and feeling of Patriotism.
Life Skills education Programme	Youth of 13-21 yrs age group	1 st two weeks of November	To equip the youth in various life skills	To enhance quality of life of youth
Training on competitive exams	Interested Youth	3 rd and 4 th weeks of November	To develop the spirit of competitiveness in youth to appear in various State and National level exams successfully	To ensure the achieving of excellence in the National mainstream
Expansion of Sports and recreational opportunities	Youth covered under the Policy	1 st two weeks of December	To promote grass-root level/mass sports for the sporting talent	To make effective and optimum use of sports and recreational facilities

Adventure activities	Youth covered under the Policy	3 rd and 4 th week of December	To promote sense of adventurism and instil confidence, courage and love for nature	To create adventurous and nature loving youth
Yuva Abhiyaan with Youth Week celebration & Taluka level Yuva Sammelans	Youth covered under the Policy	1 st fortnight of January	To promote the ideals and teachings of Swami Vivekananda towards Nation building and to promote the hidden potential and harness it further to attain excellence and expertise	To bring out the vibrancy among the young minds and to identify, showcase and develop the abundance of talent and confidence
State level Yuva Sammelan	Selected youth/ youth clubs representing the taluka/s	2 nd fortnight of January	To promote the hidden potential and harness it further to attain excellence and expertise	To identify, showcase and develop the abundance of talent and confidence

Special need based programme	Group selected by counsellors	1 st fortnight of February	As decided by the counsellors	As decided by the counsellors
Training for reporting and documentation	Youth clubs and NGOs	2 nd fortnight of February	To update the youth clubs and NGOs about effective method of reporting, documentation, feedback and feed forward	To train the youth clubs and NGOs to meet the challenges of effective implementation of policy
Evaluation, planning and auditing	Counsellors, Youth clubs and NGOs	1 st fortnight of March	To streamline the functioning of the counsellors, youth clubs and NGOs	To enhance their level of competence
Submission of Reports to the state Youth Welfare Board	Counsellors, Youth clubs and NGOs	2 nd fortnight of March	To comprehensively asses, analyse and audit the performance of taluka centres	To ensure the desired improvement for the following year and recognise outstanding Taluka level youth development centres and counsellors in the form of awards/incentives.

Kindly provide your valuable comments, suggestions/ inputs to improve the scope of this draft policy and to make it more inclusive and comprehensive.

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Thank You

