

## MEETING OF GOA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY HELD

Panaji: March 3, 2017

The Executive Committee/Governing Body Meeting of the Goa State AIDS Control Society was held at Secretariat, Porvorim yesterday. Secretary (Health) Shri Sudhir Mahajan chaired the meeting. Smt. Shilpa Shinde, Secretary (Women and Child Development) and Secretary (Social Welfare) Shri Sanjay Goel also attended the meeting.

At the outset, Dr. Jose D'Sa, Project Director, Goa State AIDS Control Society briefly explained through visuals, the present scenario on HIV/AIDS in Goa and said that there has been decline in the number of patients in recent years, which is a good trend, he said.

The meeting also discussed at length on the HIV Sentinel Surveillance 2017 to be held from February 2017 to March 2017 at North Goa District Hospital, Hospicio Hospital, Margao and Sub District Hospital, Ponda which will monitor trends in prevalence of HIV infection overtime.

Discussions, were held on the need for baseline survey for injecting drug addicts to control HIV/AIDS.

Discussions were also held on the renewal of contractual terms of Goa SACS staff, appointment of staff, Age of retirement, Provident Fund etc.

Secretary (Health) Shri Sudhir Mahajan during the discussion said that the issue of baseline survey for injecting drug addicts will be taken up with DIG on top priority. Besides he said, it was necessary to appoint NGOS to create awareness among people about how to curb the spread of the disease and directed the concerned officers to take up the matter on priority.

Secretary (Social Welfare) Shri Sanjay Goel said that hoardings of awareness on HIV/AIDS should be put up at all coastal belts in Goa. Diagnosis Camps at construction sites should also be held, he said.

Secretary ( Women and Child Development) Smt Shinde said the services of Angawadi workers could be utilized for the awareness campaign on HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Pradeep Naik, Dean, GMC, Dr. Rajesh Dhume, Dr. Savio Rodrigues, Dr. Edwin Gomes and Dr. Pradeep Shinkre were among those present at the meeting.