The Chief Minister, Shri Manohar Parrikar today launched in Panaji the internship and apprenticeship programme organised by the Directorate of Technical Education and GCCI(Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry)-Education Committee for engineering graduate students.

Emphasising on the importance of timing an internship programme, Shri Parrikar said that internship should be slotted during the actual course of learning for it to become effective instead of scheduling it at the end of the course.

Shri Parrikar further spoke of how a good engineer is able to strategise effective solutions to problems and technicalities that arise.

The Vice-Chancellor of Goa University, Prof Varun Sahni said that the link between the world of learning and the world of work has to periodically re-examined, re-designed and re-engineered. He spoke of how institutions should keep a balance between the knowledge component and skill component and not just stress on the former. He reminded the gathering that in today’s global scenario, it is not about rewarding individuals for what they know but for what they can do with what they know.

Secretary (Finance), Shri Daulat Hawaldar IAS rued how the emphasis on understanding and learning concepts had diminished over the years while the emphasis on coaching classes and entrances exams had increased. He said that success currently is being measured in terms of placement and the package one gets and therefore there is a need to bring the focus on acquisition of skill, knowledge and learning.

Shri P H Sawant, the Chairperson of the Board of Apprenticeship Training; Western Region informed that the percentage of lady apprentices in Goa was greater in comparison to the percentage in the other states in India. He added that besides learning professional skills, one should also acquire skills in communication, leadership and administration.

Director of Technical Education, Shri Vivek Kamat and representative of GCCI, Shri Sandip Bhandare also shed light on the subject of apprenticeship.

Speaker of Goa Legislative Assembly, Shri Pramod Sawant, MLA, Shri Subhash Shirodkar, students, faculty and members from various industries in Goa were present on the occasion.