Chief Minister, Shri Manohar Parrikar reiterating the Government commitment for the development of the State as a whole asserted that the no preferential treatment is meted to any district in particular. The whole of the State has been given equal attention when it comes to its development irrespective of political agreement or disagreement, he added.

Speaking after inaugurating the office of Tribal Welfare at Old Collectorate building, Margao, Shri Parrikar said all government Offices like the Secretariat cannot be set up in the District and informed that South District should have fully empowered offices in its jurisdiction and assured to complete 90 percent government facilities in the District by March 2018.

Shri Parrikar said that the Passport Office will soon be opened at Matanhy Saldanha Administrative complex for the benefit of the people of the District.

Shri Vijay Sardessai, Town & Country Planning Minister said that special attention and importance is provided to South Goa. The Government is for the people. The office is opened to ensure that the various schemes under Tribal Welfare reach the people of this community at their doorsteps, he remarked.

The Tribal Welfare minister, Shri Govind Gaude proposing the vote of thanks said the long pending demand of the people since 2003 has been fulfilled with the opening of this office with the whole hearted support of the community at large to serve its members at the nearest point.

He informed that a Tribal Welfare Academy is being planned to enhance the educational and other aspects of the people of the traditionally rich community. The benefit of the Tribal Forest Act would be provided to the people by coming march, he pointed.

Earlier, Shri Manohar Parrikar along with Shri Vijay Sardessai, Shri Govind Gaude, MLA’s, Shri Digamber Kamat, Shri Wilfred D’Sa; Smt. Babita Angle, Chairperson, MMC and Smt. Anjali Sehravat, District Collector unveiled the plaque and lighted the traditional lamp to mark the inauguration of the Tribal Welfare office.

Sanads under Forest Right Act were handed over to 17 beneficiaries and the meritorious students of SSC and HSSC were felicitated at the hands of the dignitaries.

Shri Prakash Velip, Councilors of MMC; Additional Collectors, Shri Agnelo Fernandes and Shri Johnson Fernandes were among those present on the occasion.

Shri Venancio Furtado, Director of Tribal Welfare welcomed the gathering.