

**GOA WILL BECOME OPEN DEFECATION FREE BY OCTOBER THIS YEAR -  
CHIEF MINISTER**

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Goa will become open defecation free by october, this year said Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar .

The Chief Minister was speaking on the occasion of Awareness Programme “Swachh Bharat Mission Goa organised by Directorate of Panchayats in collaboration with Goa waste Management Corporation at Taliegao today.

“We are going to construct 72,000 toilets in different parts of both the districts of the state,” he added. On the occasion, Parrikar expressed over lack of toilet facilities in a number of village panchayats in the state. He said efforts are being made to make both the districts of Goa “open defecation free zones”.

Every Panchayats should focussed on ODF and “Swachh Bharat Mission.He also announced that Biogas buses will soon be preceded into service in Goa and it will be first of its kind of experiment in India.

The Chief Minister said that it is the responsibility of every individual to find solution to garbage problem and Government alone can't do it without support of panchayat and people. To make Goa garbage free Chief Minister said he has proposed to set up three more solid waste treatment plants at Cacora, Bainguinim and the Verna industrial estate, on the lines of treatment at Saligao.

Smt Sandhya Kamat, Shri Sanjit Rodrigues, Shri Parag Nagarshekar and Shri Richard Dias made presentation and spoke about Swachh Bharat Mission Goa (Gramin), waste management scenario in Goa and future plans, community based solid waste management and problems with mixed waste at the garbage treatment plant respectively.

Also present on the occasion were Panchayat Minister Mauvin Godinho, Goa Housing and Rural Development Minister Shri Jayesh Salgaonkar, Secretary, Panchayat, Shri Sanjay Goel, IAS; Collector, Director, Panchayat, Smt Sandhya Kamat; CEO, Zilla Panchayat, North Ankita Navelkar; Managing Director, Goa Waste Management Corporation, Shri Sanjit Rodrigues; Additional Director, Panchayat, Smt Florina Collaso and others.