

## GOA STATE TEACHER'S AWARDS PRESENTED

Chief Secretary Shri. Dharmendra Sharma, IAS felicitated nine teachers with the prestigious 'Goa State Teacher's Award' at a state level Teachers' Day function organized by Directorate of Education in Kala Academy, Campal today. The teachers who were awarded are Shri. Sambhaji Vishnu Raut-Govt. Primary School, Mestawada Bethoda Ponda, Shri. Subhash Vithu Sawant-Sateri Vidhya Mandir, Ibrahmpur, Shri. Gajanan Raghoba Shetye- Shri. Shantadurga High School, Bicholim, Smt. Shweta Suhas Prabhu Dessai-Mahila and Nutan High School, Madgao, Ms. Wilma Maria Pereira-Deepvihar High School, Headland Sada, Shri. Devidas Kudav-Vice Principal, District Institute of Education and Training, Shri. Girish M. Tendulkar-Headmaster, Gananath English High School, Nirankal Ponda, Ms. Cora Do Cormo Coelho-Loyola Higher Secondary School, Margoa and Shri. Ramdas Vassudeo Kelkar- Sapteshwar Institute of Higher Education, Mandrem Pernem. Secretary for Education Smt. Nila Mohanan, IAS and Director of Directorate of Education Shri. Gajanan Bhat were present on the occasion.

The ADEIs of Bardez, Bicholim and Sattari won the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes respectively for highest collection towards teacher's day fund. The amount collected will be utilized for the benefit of needy teachers.

While speaking about the role of a teacher in the society the Chief Secretary said that having a strong academic foundation helps in making a great nation. "For a prosperous society, we need intelligence as well as a positive mindset. Goa is blessed with a strong educational infrastructure and the challenge lies in how we take it to the next level," Shri. Sharma said.

While addressing the gathering Smt. Mohanan said that Goa is one of the states in the country which leads in the field of education. "The role of a teacher is very challenging today. They need to channelize the technology by using it more effectively in benefit of their students. We must acknowledge these challenges and together strive to make the education process relevant and meaningful. Our primary challenge is to make analytical individuals and build a critical faculty," she said.

Earlier, the function began by lighting the traditional lamp. A book by Mahatma Gandhi 'Nayi Taalim' was also launched on this occasion. Shri. Bhat welcomed the gathering while Shri. Sambhaji Raut, Smt. Wilma Pereira, Shri. Girish Tendulkar and Shri. Kelkar spoke on behalf of the awardees. Smt.

Akshata Puranik Bhat compered the function while Shri. Ghadi proposed the vote of thanks.