The Directorate of Health Services in collaboration with the Novo Nordisk Education Foundation, under the National Non-Communicable Disease Control Programme launched the Changing Diabetes Barometer (CDB) Programme at the hands of Health Minister, Shri Vishwajeet Rane at Kala Academy, Campal in the city today.

The Health Minister expressing his concern over the rise of lifestyle diseases called for the efforts to sensitize the masses about how diabetes is proving a silent killer. He said that this is high time for all of us to ponder over how to curb this disease. He informed that 9.2 population of the state affected with diabetes.

The Health Minister further speaking said that Goa is first state in the country to address the problem of diabetes. It leads to severe health complications resulting in to cardiac failure etc. He appeal to all the stakeholders working in this sector can make a difference. Mass awareness, capacity building, advocacy programme will help to curb the menace of diabetes he reiterated.

Ambassador of Danish Embassy to India, Bhutan Maldives, Srilanka Shri Peter Taksoe-Jensen said that the Denmark has close to 100 years of experience in fighting diabetes. He said through the changing diabetes barometer initiative will support the Government of Goa for better advocacy and awareness campaigning the state against diabetes. He also assured to support in training and educational initiatives for health care professionals, including diabetes educators who will work towards creating awareness among general public about the importance of living healthy lifestyle,

The Managing Trustee, Novo Nordisk Educating Foundation, Shri Melvin D’Souza said that the CDB is important project under which likeminded groups can work together to achieve a productive and fruitful outcome. As a part of changing diabetic barometer he said there is a need for a focused and clear cut effort to bring the importance of diabetes treatment to the fore, and called for the need to give attention on a national platform and make it part of Government and administrative policies.

Dean of GMC, Dr. Pradeep Naik, Director Women & Child Development, Shri Dipak Desai, HOD Dept of Medicine GMC, Dr. Edwin Gomes. Director FDA, Smt. Jyoti Sardesai, Consultant Endocrinologist, Dr Ankush Desai and others attended the function.

Dr. Sanjiv Dalvi, Director Directorate of Health Services welcomed the gathering.