

## **GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES SHOULD ADHERE TO HONESTY, SINCERITY -GURUDAS PILARNEKAR**

Panaji, December 20, 2018  
Agrahayana 29, 1940

Shri Gurudas Pilarnekar, Director, Department of Information and Publicity felt that government employees should adhere to honesty, sincerity while discharging their duties and accordingly follow the rules and regulations while serving the masses. He was speaking after inaugurating a half day workshop on RTI Act conducted by Department of Information and Publicity at Mathany Saldanha Collectorate Complex, Margao today.

Shri Pilarnekar has said that The Right to Information Act is the only act which gives information to the citizen and it is an effective tool to curb corruption and bring in transparency and accountability to deliver good governance and prompt services to the people. He stated that information that are personnel can be given but personal information cannot be disclosed and he also said the officers in every department should disclose their duties in the websites of their concerned department. Shri Pilarnekar highlighted the importance of RTI Act to gain access to seek information under RTI.

Smt Sima Fernandes, Assistant Director, GIPARD and Shri Roland Martins, Coordinator, Goa CAN were the resource persons for the workshop. The workshop was attended by elected representatives of Local self government bodies such as Municipality and Village Panchayat, Consumer clubs, consumer forums and general public from South Goa District.

Shri Roland Martins, Goa CAN Coordinator also spoke on RTI Act 2005, as a tool for transparency and accountability. The Department of Information and Publicity is the nodal agency to promote the RTI Act. He said that 90 percent of citizen is not enforcing their right to information. He also appealed to all the officers to create awareness among the public on various acts which are amended in the law. He further said let us first build the culture of getting Information free and also asserted to share the information with others.

Smt.Sima Fernandes, who spoke on RTI Act, an overview enlightened the participants of the workshop on various aspects of RTI Act. She said, The Right to Information is a fundamental Human Right which helps in tackling corruption and promote transparency .She explained the ways to seek information under RTI Act. Information, she said can be provided only if it is on record.

The primary objective of conducting the workshops is to empower the citizens to promote transparency and accountability in the working of the government and to make them aware of rules and their rights.

Shri Shyam Gaonkar, Information Assistant compered the programme and later proposed the vote of thanks

**DI/NB/GPP/PN/AF/1149**