

**GOMANTAK SAHITYA SEVAK MANDAL FELICITATES
BHAJAN ARTISTES**

**Panaji, August 30, 2019
Bhadra 8, 1941**

Gomantak Sahitya Sevak Mandal on the occasion of its 93rd Anniversary program: ‘*Bolava Vithal*’, felicitated five well-known *bhajan* artistes from the State. The *bhajan* artistes included Shri. Ashok Kankonkar, Shri. Subhash Naik, Shri. Gopinath Walke, Shri. Shankar Naik and Shri. Bharat Banaulikar.

Shri. Prakash Naik, Information Officer of Dept of Information and Publicity who was the Chief Guest for the function honored the artistes by offering a Shawl, *Shreephal*, Certificate and Memento at a function held at Institute Menezes Braganza, Panaji. Shri. Prakash Talawdekar, an eminent poet from Goa was the Guest of Honour.

Speaking on the occasion. Shri. Prakash Naik complimented Gomantak Sahitya Sevak Mandal for having taken the cognizance of the contribution of the artistes who were felicitated on the occasion. “Bhajan is a *sadhana* or devotion. We still reminisce and emulate the *abhangas* penned by our saints like Sant Dnyaneshwar, Sant Tukaram, etc. Each one of us possesses a skill or an art. We need to identify the same and nurture it positively. The talent within us is flourished as we grow old. The department of Art and Culture by implementing various schemes encourages artistes from various fields,” he said.

Shri. Naik further said that it is easy to form any organization but difficult to sustain or keep it operational. However, Gomant Sahitya Sevak Mandal has been continuously carrying out these activities for last more than nine decades which is highly commendable, he added.

Shri. Prakash Talwadekar also expressed his views urging Gomantak Sahitya Sevak Mandal to continue its activities in the years to come. Shri. Ashok Kankonkar thanked the organisers for honoring them on behalf of other artistes. Shri. Ramesh Vaskar, President of Gomantak Sahitya Sevak Mandal welcomed the gathering while Asst. Editor, Dainik Herald Shri. Suhas Belekar compered and proposed the vote of thanks.

DI/NB/PN/JS/2019/600

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.
THIRD FLOOR,UDYOG BHAVAN,
NEAR AZAD MAIDAN, PANAJI GOA