Minister for Art and Culture Shri. Govind Gaude has appealed to the to walk on the right path and follow the ideals of great leaders which he said is necessary to keep our youth away from adopting western culture and show inclination towards Indian Culture for its enrichment; this he said while addressing the people after unfurling the National tri-color to mark the celebration of 71st Republic Day at historic Kranti Maidan at Ponda today.

The Minister emphasized the need for unity among the people of different faith so as to prepare ourselves to face the new challenges ahead.

Speaking further the Minister said, Indian Constitution which came into force on 26th January 1950 provides equality to all, our rights and duties also. He referred to the contribution of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and said he was the Architect of Indian Constitution.

Earlier, Minister placed wreath at Martyrs memorial and paid homage. He also inspected the guard of honour from police contingent.

Students from various schools from Ponda and Surrounding areas presented Patriotic songs and Cultural Programme. The function was also attended by Ex-Chief Minister and M.L.A Ponda, Shri. Ravi S. Naik, N.R.I Commissioner Shri. Narendra Savoikar, Chairperson of Ponda Municipality Shri. Venktesh Naik, Vice- Chairperson Shri. Vishwanth Dalvi, Councilor Shri. Ritesh R. Naik, Shri. Shantaram Kolvekar, Additional Collector Shri. Arvind Khutkar, Deputy Collector Shri. Kedar Naik, D.Y.S.P Ponda, Military officers, Freedom fighters among others.

Shri. Girish Velgekar compered the function.