

## **JOURNALISM & WRITING HAVE THE POWER TO SHAPE NATION & SOCIETY: SHRI DIPAK BANDEKAR**

Journalism and writing have the power to shape the nation and society. It is essential that they are used responsibly and effectively stated Shri Dipak Bandekar, Director of the Department of Information and Publicity, while speaking as the Chief Guest on the 104<sup>th</sup> death anniversary of Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, organized by the Goa Union of Journalists and Goa Marathi Patrakar Sangh in the city [today](#).

Shri Bandekar highlighted Tilak's notable contributions to the freedom struggle, including the founding of the Kesari and Maratha newspapers and his initiative in starting the Sarvajanik Ganesh Utsav. He expressed concern over how the festival's focus has shifted, with less emphasis on social service and community involvement despite its continued celebration with enthusiasm and devotion. Shri Bandekar called on individuals to adopt even a small portion of Tilak's virtues, suggesting that doing so could help us collectively honor his legacy.

In his keynote address, Shri Rajendra Desai, Senior Journalist, discussed the transformation of journalism and the growing influence of social media over print media. He expressed concern that as print media focuses more on revenue, the traditional journalistic principles of informing the public and delivering truthful news are increasingly being compromised.

The function began with a welcome address from Shri Rajtilak Naik, President, Goa Union of Journalists (GUJ). Shri Anant Sambhaji, President of the Goa Marathi Patrakar Sangh, also spoke during the occasion.

The program was compered by Shri Vithal Gawade, and Shri Subhash Naik, Secretary , Goa Marathi Patrakar Sangh, delivered the vote of thanks. Senior journalists were present for the function.

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