

## **‘SWACHHATA HI SEWA’ CAMPAIGN CONCLUDES**

**Panaji, October 03, 2024**

A clean environment ensures there’s no disease around us and it also makes a place attractive to tourists and this is very important for Goa as tourism is a big industry, said Minister for Transport, Industries, Panchayati Raj and Protocol, Shri Mauvin Godinho at the concluding ceremony of the ‘Swachhata Hi Sewa’ campaign (September 17 to October 2, 2024), at Saraswat Education Society’s Sridora Caculo College of Commerce and Management Studies, Khorlim, Mapusa, [today](#).

Shri Godinho questioned the gathering as to, “Why can’t we make Goa garbage free when we have the facilities of garbage collection, disposal, and assistance like Central Government funding etc.”

Shri Godinho who is also the MLA of Dabolim Constituency informed how they had tried to make the villages such as Chicalim, Bogmalo in the constituency clean and green by having a waste treatment plant- that provided water to the nearby park, having Transfer station for garbage, etc among other things to counter the menace of garbage and its disposal.

Shri Godinho called upon Block Development Officers (BDOs) to show themselves as good administrators by giving good leadership to sarpanchs and panchayats to tackle garbage menace. “People will remember you for that,” he told the gathering of Government officials, BDOs, and members of the student community.

The Minister went on to add, “It’s also proven that a clean environment influences how we think. So if the environment is clean, there will be no room for negative and bad thoughts.”

Deputy Speaker, Goa Legislative Assembly and MLA of Mapusa Constituency, Shri Joshua De Souza, while speaking on the occasion said that tackling garbage issue in Goa should be done every day and it should be a sustained movement and then only will we see Goa emerge as a clean destination.

Shri De Souza further said that garbage management is a scientific process. Adding further he spoke of how wealth from waste concept is trending all over the world and how people should have the ability to capitalize on it. “Some organizations are taking active steps to see Goa doesn’t lag behind in this,” he said adding, “It takes efforts to make Goa clean and all should behave responsibly and collectively and pledge to make Goa waste free.”

Chairperson of Mapusa Municipal Council, Dr Nutan Bicholkar, Deputy Director of Panchayats, (Admin), Shri Krishnakant Pangam were also present on the occasion. Earlier, Deputy Director of Panchayats, South, Shri Prasad Naik welcomed the gathering while Deputy Director of Panchayats, North, Ms Fiona Cardozo, proposed the vote of thanks.

The Swachh Bharat Nitol Goem, Summit-III was held prior to the closing ceremony in which informative talks and Question and Answer sessions were held. On the occasion, sanitation workers from various talukas were felicitated. Colvale bagged the prize for clean panchyat from North Goa while Curti-Khandepar panchayat won the prize for South Goa. The Sampurna Swachhata award 2024 went

to Chicalim panchayat. The Best BDO was awarded to Omkar N Manjrekar from Bicholim.

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