

**CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ JAYANTI CELEBRATED
HONOURING THE LEGACY OF CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ**

Panaji: February 20, 2026

The State Level Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanti Samaroh was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Farmagudi, Ponda, bringing together citizens and dignitaries to honour the enduring legacy and ideals of the great Maratha king. The programme highlighted Shivaji Maharaj's vision of strong leadership, nation-building and ethical governance through a series of speeches and cultural presentations.

Speaking on the occasion, Power Minister Ramkrishna (Sudin) Dhavalikar noted that Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj remains a guiding inspiration for the nation today. He added that these ideals are being actively promoted through ongoing initiatives, including the development of a fort and museum in Ponda under the guidance of the Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant.

Setting the tone for the event, keynote speaker Krishnaji Kulkarni spoke about Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj as a self-made ruler whose courage and foresight shaped a powerful vision of nationhood. He emphasized that Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj aspired for a united India and established a system of governance rooted in strong moral values, which continues to inspire generations.

The book "Shivkalin Udakache Vyavasthapan," translated by Shri Shyam Gaonkar from the original work "Shivkalin Jalniti" authored by Dr. Lahu Gayakwad, was also released. The cover of the book is designed by Shri Sarvesh Phadke.

Extending the spirit of the celebrations beyond the main event, a series of theatre performances are being organised across Goa from 18 to 24 February. Schools from different parts of the state have also presented Chhatrapati Shivaji-themed plays, reinforcing awareness about the life and contributions of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj among the younger generation.

The programme was attended by Shri Virendra Dhavalikar, Chairperson of Ponda Municipal Council; Shri Ganpat Naik, Zilla Panchayat Member; Shri Sukhanand Gaude, Sarpanch of Bandoda; Smt. Chitra Phadte, Deputy Sarpanch; Shri Ritesh Naik, Councillor; Shri Ramchandra Naik, Panch; Shri Dipak Bandekar, Director of Information and Publicity and Shri Krishnaji Kulkarni, Keynote Speaker along with local representatives and citizens.

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