

KALA VRIDDHI AWARD WINNERS DECLARED

Panaji: June 25, 2026

Directorate of Art and Culture has implemented anew award scheme ‘Kala Vriddhi Award” under which Goan personalities who have excelled and given extraordinary contribution in their respective field of Art and Culture will be honored with Kala Vriddhi Award. Artists above the age group of 40 and below 60 years of age are considered for this award.

Total 10 (Ten) personalities from the field of Art and Culture have been selected for the Kala Vriddhi award during the year 2025-2026. The awardees will be honored with a memento, certificate of appreciation and a financial purse of Rs.25,000/- per awardee.

The following personalities will be awarded with Kala Vriddhi award are Shri. Bhushan Vithal Bhawe, Ponda in the field of literature, Shri. Augie V. D'Mello, Bardez for Tiatr, Smt. Smita Arun Mandrekar, Bicholim for Bhajan, Shri. Purnanand Gajanan Chari, Salcete for Music, Shri. Dattaram C. Sawant, Bicholim for Folk art, Smt. Sonali Sonu Shetgaonkar, Pernem for craft, Shri. Rajmohan Ramnath Shetye, Pernem for painting, Shri. Navso Keshav Parwar, Sattari for sculpture, Shri. Eknath Mahadev Naik, Ponda and Shri. Umesh Krishna Bandodkar, Salcete in the field of drama.

The Kala Vriddhi Award will be presented to the awardees at a special function and the date of the function will be declared by the Department shortly.

DI/NB/AXP/GJG/SS/SN/2026/359

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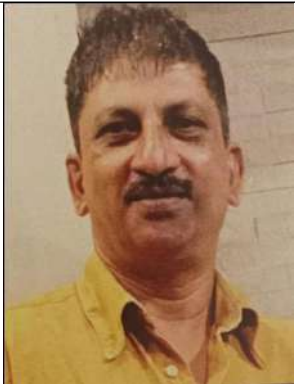
Government of Goa,

Udyog Bhavan, Third Floor,

Near Azad Maidan,

Panaji – Goa.

Selected list of Kala Vriddhi Award for the year 2025-2026

Sr. No.	Name	Field	Taluka	Photo
1	Shri. Bhushan Vithal Bhave	Literature	Ponda	
2	Shri. Augie Valentine D'Mello	Tiatr	Bardez	
3	Smt. Smita Arun Mandrekar	Bhajan	Bicholim	
4	Shri. Purnanand Gajanan Chari	Music	Salcete	
5	Shri. Dattaram Chandrakant Sawant	Folk Art	Bicholim	

6	Smt. Sonali Sonu Shetgaonkar	Craft	Pernem	
7	Shri. Rajmohan Ramnath Shetye	Painting	Pernem	
8	Shri. Navso Keshav Parwar	Sculpture	Sattari	
9	Shri. Eknath Mahadev Naik	Drama	Ponda	
10	Shri. Umesh Krishna Bandodkar	Drama	Salcete	