

GOA UNIVERSITY, DIRECTORATE OF FISHERIES JOIN HANDS TO STRENGTHEN RESEARCH AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

"STRENGTHENING THE FISHERIES SECTOR IS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE VISION OF SWAYAMPURNA GOA," SAYS CHIEF MINISTER DR. PRAMOD SAWANT

Panaji: August 10, 2026

Advancing scientific research and sustainable fisheries development, Goa University and the Directorate of Fisheries, Government of Goa, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the Matsya Sandhana Kshetram programme at Goa University. The collaboration aims to strengthen research, promote innovation and skill development, and create better opportunities for Goa's fishing community through knowledge-driven initiatives and technology.

Speaking at the occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant said, "The fisheries sector is an integral part of Goa's social, cultural and economic fabric and plays a vital role in ensuring food security and supporting livelihoods." Appreciating the partnership between Goa University and the Directorate of Fisheries, he said it would promote research, innovation, skill development and sustainable growth in the sector. He urged the Fisheries Department to strengthen training opportunities for local youth and fishers while preserving Goa's traditional fishing practices and cultural heritage. Reaffirming the Government's vision, he said that strengthening the fisheries sector is a key step towards building a Swayampurna Goa.

Strengthening collaboration between academia and Government, the programme also witnessed the launch of the 'Matsya Sandhana Kshetram' App, a Potential Fishing Zone Guidance Application developed to provide scientific guidance to fishermen using satellite observations, oceanographic information and advanced data analysis. The application is designed to help fishermen identify potential fishing zones, reduce search time, lower fuel consumption and operational costs, improve the possibility of a productive catch, and enable safer and more efficient fishing operations.

Advancing a knowledge-driven and sustainable Blue Economy, the initiative demonstrates the potential of collaboration between academic

institutions and Government departments in developing practical, technology-driven solutions for the fisheries sector. By transforming scientific research into field-level support, the partnership seeks to promote the responsible and efficient use of marine resources while creating greater opportunities for the local fishing community. Mementos were also presented to the dignitaries as a token of appreciation during the programme.

The programme was attended by Minister for Fisheries Shri Nilkanth Halarnkar; Vice-Chancellor, Goa University Prof. Harilal B. Menon; Registrar, Goa University Shri Sundhar N. Dhuri; Chairman, Goa State Research Foundation (GSRF) Prof. Janardana; Director, Directorate of Fisheries Dr. Samila Monteiro; Dean, School of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Goa University Prof. Anthony A. Viegas; senior Government officials, representatives of Goa University, members of the fisheries sector and other distinguished guests.

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