

INDIA IS THE ONLY NATION TO HAVE WON ITS FREEDOM THROUGH NON-VIOLENT MEANS: KAMAT

80th Independence Day celebrated at South District Headquarters

Panaji: August 15, 2026

Minister for PWD, Shri Digambar Kamat unfurled the national tricolour to celebrate 80th Independence Day at South Goa District Headquarters, Matanhy Saldhana Administrative Complex, Margao today.

Shri Kamat paying rich tributes and respect to the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for India's independence said, we should always keep in mind that India is the only nation to have won its freedom through non-violent means. The sole reason today our country stands tall with self-respect and dignity, despite facing numerous crises, is its ancient culture, he added. When India became independent, many nations of the world said that India would never be able to remain united, but India's culture, which has been rooted in ancient art, have kept the country united and till date it is moving forward with a firm head on its path to become the number one nation in the world. Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, India is on the path of all-round development. Other countries are watching with amazement the reputation India has gained in various fields and the journey of development in this field. The whole world wonders how India is moving forward, Shri Kamat said.

Stressing on the development being carried out in the Country under the leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, Shri Kamat said before there were 74 Airports in the country which has now reached to 160 under Uddan scheme an initiative of PM Shri Modi.

Further speaking Shri Kamat said, the Prime Minister has left his mark in the world with his leadership. Keeping the common people in mind and recognizing their needs, he has launched various schemes, concessions, facilities and crores of Indians are benefiting from them today. Vande Bharat Train, Chinab Bridge in Jammu and Kashmir, Bullet Train are among some of the major initiatives of the Government he said. A nation's development is not achieved merely by constructing roads, bridges and other infrastructure - true development occurs when the government prioritizes the well-being of the common people. The Prime Minister has placed the common man at the very center of his vision. Health and Education are the two sectors which touch the heart of a common man and the government is committed to this approach. Ayushman Card, 23 AIIMS Hospitals, 23 IITs, 21 IIMs and 31 NITs benefit students and citizens of the country. Ayushman Bharat, the health-related scheme, has become the largest government-funded health insurance scheme in the world. Similarly, various schemes like Skill India, Start-up India, Mudra, National Food Safety Act, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana have become the largest public welfare schemes in the world, he added.

Following in the footsteps of the Prime Minister of the country, the Chief Minister of the State, Dr. Pramod Sawant, is also doing excellent work by keeping the goal of all-round development of the State and the people of the State in mind. The Swayampurna Goa movement has also become an important programme. He said, for India to become a developed nation, every State in the country needs to develop;

responding to the Prime Minister's call to transform India into a “Vikasit Bharat 2047”, Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has set the goal of achieving a “Vikasit and Swayampurna Goa” by 2037. Chief Ministers Rojgar Yojana, Deendayal Swasthya Seva Yojana, Atal Asra Yojana, Mukhyamantri Devdarshan Yatra, Mhaje Ghar Yojana and other various schemes plays a major role in achieving this goal.

He said, Goa has 6062 Kms. Road network. The Union Government has given a financial grant of approximately Rs.16,000/- Crores to develop this network, through which Western Bypass, Atal Setu, Porvorim Corridor are developed. Union Minister, Shri Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate Porvorim Corridor on September 10, 2026, he informed.

He said the message should go to the entire country that Goa is becoming an educational hub and for that he urged people not to oppose educational projects. He appealed to the people not to oppose any developmental project for the sake of opposing. If there is any genuine problem because of any project let's sit, talk and resolve the issue. Tendency of simply opposing any project is a loss to the State he said.

On his arrival, the MLA, Shri Kamat was received by South Goa District Collector, Ms Eгна Cleetus, IAS and Superintendent of Police, South District, Shri Tikam Singh Verma, IPS.

Shri Kamat took the guard of honour given by the Police contingent and also inspected the Police and Home Guard parade. The Fire and Emergency Services band played the National anthem.

MLA Shri Ulhas Tuyekar; Additional Collector II, Shri Ramesh Gaonkar; and other senior officers of South Goa District Administration were among those prominent persons present on the occasion.

Students of Fr. Agnel Higher Secondary School, Verna; Mahalsa Narayani Higher Secondary School, Verna and Gauncar Higher Secondary School, Raia presented patriotic songs. Carmel Higher Secondary School, Nuvem sang the National Song.

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