VISION FOR ALL' STRENGTHENS SCHOOL EYE CARE ACROSS GOA; 1,717 SCHOOLS TO RECEIVE VISION SCREENING CHARTS

Panaji: November 23, 2026

Reinforcing Goa's commitment to early detection of vision-related problems among schoolchildren, Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant inaugurated the Vision Charts under the 'Vision for All' initiative at Ravindra Bhavan, Sankhali. The programme focused on strengthening basic eye-screening practices in schools through dedicated teacher training.

Extending the reach of preventive eye care to classrooms across the State, Vision Charts will be distributed to 1,717 Government and Government-aided schools in Goa, benefiting more than 2.5 lakh students. Organized jointly by the Directorate of Education, Prasad Netralaya Super Speciality Eye Hospital, Udupi, and the Goa CSR Authority, the initiative aims to equip teachers with the skills to identify early signs of vision-related difficulties and facilitate timely medical attention.

Calling upon teachers to make children's eye health a priority, Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant emphasised that teachers must remain vigilant about vision-related difficulties among students, even if it means taking one less classroom lecture. Referring to the previous phase of the Vision for All initiative, he stated that around 33,000 children had undergone screening and received treatment, while 10 students had undergone major surgeries. He also stressed the importance of regular health monitoring, physical exercise and yoga in supporting children's overall physical and mental well-being.

Strengthening the State's wider focus on accessible healthcare and preventive wellness, CM Dr. Sawant informed that the screening process would be completed within 8 to 10 days, with spectacles to be distributed to students during December and January. Appreciating the efforts of the Directorate of

Education, he encouraged students to make use of the growing educational and professional opportunities available in Goa. He also highlighted healthcare initiatives such as the ‘Check by Doctor’ programme and the Deen Dayal Swasthya Seva Yojana, urging citizens to prioritise staying healthy rather than seeking treatment only after falling ill.

The programme was attended by Dr. Krishna Prasad, Chairman, Prasad Netralaya Super Speciality Eye Hospital, Udupi; Shri Dharmaprasad Rai, Chief Manager, One Sight Essilor Luxottica Foundation; Smt. Anjana Kamat, Chairperson, Sankhali Municipal Council; Shri Dattaram Chimulkar, Vice-Chairman, Ravindra Bhavan, Sankhali; Shri Bhagirath Shetye, Director, Directorate of Education; Shri Vijay Saxena, Director, DPSC; Shri Melvin D'Costa, Assistant Director, Education; Shri Narayan Gawas, Sarpanch, Navelim; Shri Vasant Sinari, Sarpanch, Amona; and Shri Prasad Sawant, Sarpanch, Pale, along with other dignitaries, teachers and education representatives.

DI/INF/AXP/SGN/SS/2026/851

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Issued by the Department of Information & Publicity

Department of Information & Publicity,
Government of Goa,
Udyog Bhavan, Third Floor,
Near Azad Maidan,
Panaji – Goa.