36 NGOs Honoured with 'Gomantak Seva Gaurav Puraskar'; Atal Asra Portal Launched in Goa

Panaji: November 02, 2026

Recognising the invaluable contribution of voluntary organisations towards social welfare and community development, the Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Goa, organised the 'Gomantak Seva Gaurav Puraskar' ceremony at Akhil Gomantak Kshatriya Maratha Samaj Hall, Porvorim. The occasion marked an important step towards acknowledging grassroots social initiatives and encouraging organisations working for the welfare of different sections of society.

Celebrating dedication and service at the grassroots, a total of 36 NGOs were honoured for their outstanding contributions to social welfare and community development, based on recommendations from 19 government departments. The first-ever state-level award ceremony also witnessed the launch of the Atal Asra Portal by Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant. The awards aim to recognise organisations that have consistently worked with compassion and commitment, often without adequate recognition.

Recognising the selfless contribution of NGOs, CM Dr. Pramod Sawant stated that voluntary organisations have brought meaningful change to people's lives through their dedication and compassion, often despite limited government financial support. He noted that the first-ever state-level awards aim to recognise and encourage their work across areas such as environmental protection, animal welfare, healthcare and support for vulnerable sections. Citing the example of an organisation at Shikeri caring for around 6,000 cows, he highlighted how NGOs often take up responsibilities where the government faces limitations.

Reinforcing the vision of inclusive development, CM Dr. Sawant reiterated the government's commitment to Viksit Bharat 2047 and Viksit Goa 2037, guided by the principles of Antyodaya, Sarvodaya and Gramodaya. He urged NGOs to adopt modern technology, strengthen coordination with government departments and expand their outreach. He also encouraged them to document their proposals and connect with potential donors, stressing that collaboration between the government and voluntary organisations can create greater opportunities for social development.

The programme was attended by Shri Sanjiv M. Gadkar, IAS, Secretary, Social Welfare Department; Shri Dipak Desai, Director, Directorate of Social Welfare; and Dr. Narayan Usgaonkar of IMA, Ponda, along with other dignitaries.

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