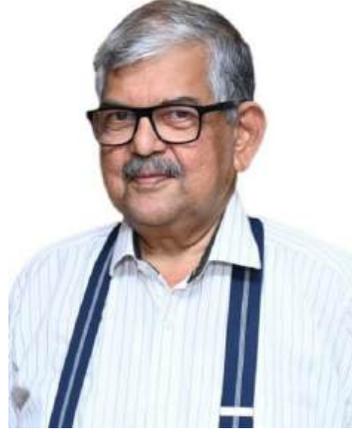


**Message from the Hon'ble. Minister, Environment & Climate Change
Government of Goa, Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)**



गोंय राज्य जैवविविधता मंडळ
**INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR BIODIVERSITY**
Harmony with nature and sustainable development



Goa State Biodiversity Board
**INTERNATIONAL DAY
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गोवा राज्य जैवविविधता मंडळ
**आंतरराष्ट्रीयदिवस
जैवविविधतेसाठी**
निसर्गाशी सुसंगती आणि शाश्वत

Shri. Aleixo Sequeira

**Hon'ble. Minister, Environment & Climate Change Government of Goa,
Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB)**

On the occasion of International Day for Biological Diversity 2025

Hearty greetings to all my beloved Goans on 'The International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB)- 2025'. This year's theme is "Harmony with nature and sustainable development". By working towards harmonious and sustainable relationships with nature, we shall strive towards human well-being, a healthy planet, and economic prosperity for all people. We observe and celebrate IDB to commemorate the adoption of the text of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on 22 May 1992.

Our commitment to conserving biodiversity as a country, being a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and ensuring sustainable actions have been continuous. After releasing our National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, our Goa State Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is prepared by involving over 50 local experts through 16 subcommittees. The first draft is released for public consultation. The 23 action targets of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) are aligned with the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its 17 SDGs and contribute to their achievement. This policy-level document needs maximum input from all levels of society and this should be the people's plan, which will ultimately get operationalized on the ground. I appeal to everyone to be a part of our plan and join hands in sustaining a harmonious relationship with nature.

The mission “Lifestyle for Environment - Mission LiFE” envisaged by our Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modiji is core to the harmonious relationship with nature. And the initiative of “Swayampurn Goa” by our Hon’ble Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant in line with “Atmanirbhar Bharat” is the best example of achieving balance between Sustainability and Harmony. The actions should start from each one of us and since we are all part of web of life.

In Goa, our ancestors have laid down a strong foundation with an exemplary and heritage system of Khazan farming, an integrated model of Kulagar and traditions of coexistence with nature by creating sacred groves and an eco-friendly contented lifestyle. It's time that our policy prioritises sustainability and harmony with nature in every action. It might need the involvement of more experts, integration of People's Biodiversity Registers in planning and promoting coexistence with other species of fauna and flora. Our Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) are trying to be the drivers of change and need support from everyone.

We at GSBB will make maximum efforts to achieve the success of the theme of IDB 2025 in this year along with our BMCs and the people of Goa.