

Goa

State (pop., 2008 est.: 1,628,000), southwestern India.

Goa, a tiny emerald land on the west coast of India, the 25th State in the Union of States of India, was liberated from Portuguese rule in 1961. It was part of Union territory of Goa, Daman & Diu till 30 May 1987 when it was carved out to form a separate State.

Goa, for the purpose of revenue administration is divided into district viz. North and South Goa with headquarters at Panaji and Margao respectively. The entire State comprises 11 talukas. For the purpose of implementation of development programmes the State is divided into 12 community development blocks. As per 2001 census, the population of the State is 13,42,998.

Administratively the State is organised into two districts North Goa comprising six talukas with a total area of 1736 sq. kms. and South Goa comprising five talukas with an area of 1966 sq. kilometers. In all there are 383 villages of which 233 are in North Goa district and in South Goa district. As per the 2001 census, there are 44 towns of which 14 are Municipalities and remaining are census towns.

Area and Population

S.No	Item	Reference period	North Goa	South Goa	Total
1	Area (Sq. Kms.)	2001	1736.0	1966.0	3702.00
2	Total Population	2001(P)	7,57,407	5,86,591	13,43,998
3	Density per sq. km.	2001(P)	436	298	363
4	Male population	2001(P)	3,88,116	2,97,501	6,85,617
5	Female population	2001(P)	3,69,291	2,89,090	6,58,381
6	Rural population	2001(P)	4,17,174	2,57,955	6,75,129
7	Urban Population	2001(P)	3,40,233	3,28,636	6,68,869
8	Number of main workers	2001(P)	2,424,72	1,83,230	4,25,702
9	Main workers participation rate to total population (%)	2001(P)	32.01	31.23	31.67
	a) Male participation rate (%)	2001(P)	48.10	47.61	47.89
	b) Female participation rate (%)	2001(P)	15.10	14.38	14.78
10	Birth rate (per 1,000)	2001	16.27	15.54	15.95
11	Death rate (per 1,000)	2001	8.46	6.18	7.46
12	Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	2001	19.56	2.73	12.40

Source : Directorate of Planning, Statistics and Evaluation Panaji-Goa



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Shri. Digambar Kamat

Chief Minister
Personnel, GAD, Town & Country
Planning, Industries, Law Judiciary and
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Shri. Ramkrishna Alias Sudin Madhav Dhavalikar

Social Welfare, River Navigation, Transport



Shri. Atanasio Monserrate

Education, Technical Education, Archives and
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Shri. Joaquim Braz Alemao

Urban Development, Fisheries, Labour & Employment



Shri. Francisco X. Pacheco

Tourism, Housing, Captain of Ports

	<u>Shri. Aleixo Sequeira</u> Power, Environment, Printing and Stationery
	<u>Shri. Manohar T. Azgaonkar</u> Panchayati Raj, Sports & Youth Affairs, Provedoria
	<u>Shri. Ravi S Naik</u> Home, Cooperation, Women & Child Development, Animal Husbandary
	<u>Shri. Churchill Alemao</u> PWD, Science & Technology, Rural Development
	<u>Shri. Filipe N Rodrigues</u> Water Resources, Forest, Legal Metrology
	<u>Shri. Jose Philip D'souza</u> Revenue, Civil Supplies, Factories & Boilers
	<u>Shri. Vishwajit Pratapsingh Rane</u> Health, Craftsmen Training, Agriculture

Located on the western coast, it is bordered by Maharashtra and Karnataka states and has a 65-mi (105-km) coastline on the Arabian Sea. It has an area of 1,429 sq mi (3,702 sq km), which includes the offshore island of Goa. The capital is Panaji. It was ruled by Hindu dynasties and

Muslim sultanates until the late 15th century and came under Portuguese control in 1510. Their settlement of Old Goa became the capital of Portuguese India. After India attained independence in 1947, it demanded that Portugal cede Goa. Indian troops finally occupied Goa in 1961; it was subsequently incorporated into India as part of the territory of Goa, Daman, and Diu. It became a state in 1987. Goa is predominantly agricultural; its distinctive architecture and fine beaches also make it a popular tourist destination.

It comprises of a mainland district on the country's southwestern coast and an offshore island; it is located about 250 miles (400 km) south of Mumbai (Bombay). One of India's smallest states, it is bounded by the states of Maharashtra on the north and Karnataka on the east and south and by the Arabian Sea on the west. The capital is Panaji (Panjim), on the north-central coast of the mainland district. Formerly a Portuguese possession, it became a part of India in 1962 and attained statehood in 1987. Area 1,429 square miles (3,702 square km). Pop. (2008 est.) 1,628,000.

Land

Sandy beaches, estuaries, and promontories characterize the 65-mile (105-km) coastline of mainland Goa. In the interior region, low, forested plateaus merge with the wooded slopes of the Western Ghats, which rise to nearly 4,000 feet (1,220 metres) on the eastern edge of the state. The two largest rivers are the Mandavi and the Zuvari, between the mouths of which lies the island of Goa (Ilhas). The island is triangular, the apex (called the cape) being a rocky headland separating the harbour of Goa into two anchorages.

Climate

Goa's climate is equable, with high temperatures generally in the 80s F (30s C) and low temperatures in the 70s F (20s C) throughout the year. A southwest monsoon blows between June and September. The state receives about 115 inches (3,000 mm) of rainfall annually, most occurring during the monsoon season.

Population composition

The Portuguese colonial heritage and the diverse local population of Goa have cultivated a unique cultural landscape. The population is primarily a mixture of Christians and Hindus: the western coastland and estuaries are dotted with wayside crosses and Roman Catholic churches, while the hilly east is scattered with Hindu temples and shrines. There is also a notable Muslim population in Goa, as well as smaller communities of Jains, Sikhs, and practitioners of local religions. Portuguese was once the language of the administration and the elite, and as part of that legacy, many Goans bear Portuguese personal names and surnames. Today, however, most Goans tend to speak Konkani, Marathi, or English.

Settlement patterns and demographic trends

Old Goa, on the island of Goa, was once the hub of the region, but the city was decimated by war and disease in the 18th century; for the most part, only its ruins remain. Since the mid-20th century, however, efforts have been made to preserve Old Goa. Among the city's most notable

landmarks are the Basilica of Bom Jesus, which enshrines the tomb of St. Francis Xavier and the Se Cathedral, dedicated to St. Catherine of Alexandria. Both were built in the 16th century, and, with several other churches of Goa, they were designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1986.

There are three principal cities in contemporary Goa: Panaji (Panjim), Marmagao (Mormugão), and Madgaon (Margão). Panaji was originally a suburb of Old Goa. Like its parent city, Panaji was built on the left bank of the Mandavi estuary. Now a busy port city, it contains the archbishop's palace, the government house, and many markets. Marmagao, sheltered by a promontory and outfitted with a breakwater and quay, is one of the major ports between Mumbai and Kozhikode (Calicut; in the state of Kerala). It specializes in the shipment of iron ore and manganese. As Marmagao developed, so too did nearby Madgaon, with its industrial estate, cold-storage facilities, and large produce market.

Over the course of Goa's history, Portuguese rule and fluctuating economic conditions caused emigration on a large scale. Many Goans have moved not only to other parts of India but also to the former Portuguese colonies on the eastern coast of Africa.

Agriculture, forestry, and fishing

Agriculture remains a mainstay of Goa's economy, with rice, fruits (such as mangoes), coconuts, pulses (legumes), cashews, betel (areca nut), and sugarcane among the leading crops. Principal forest products include teak and bamboo. The state has an active fisheries industry along its coast, although sustainability has been a growing concern in the 21st century. The state exports a number of its agricultural commodities.

Resources

Goa is rich in minerals. Mining began in the mid-20th century, and over the next few decades it emerged as a central component of the state's economy. Iron ore, manganese, and bauxite are among the primary products of the industry. Especially since the late 20th century, however, the adverse environmental impact of opencast mining has prompted heated controversy and intermittent government-mandated moratoria on production. Although new environmental regulations were put into place in the early 21st century, mining remains a sensitive issue.

Manufacturing

Since the late 20th century, government policies and concessions have promoted Goa's rapid industrialization, particularly through the development of many industrial estates. Fertilizer, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, iron products, and processed sugar are among the leading large-scale industries. There also are medium- and small-scale industries, including traditional handicrafts. Goa's manufactures are distributed both domestically and abroad.

Services

The service sector of Goa's economy has increased in importance since the late 20th century. This is attributable largely to the rapid growth of the tourism industry. By the early 21st century,

tourism constituted a significant segment of Goa's economy, as the state's long, sandy beaches, coastal vegetation, coconut palms, and unique hotels attracted large numbers of international and domestic visitors. The expansion of tourism, however, has raised concerns about preservation of the natural environment.

Transportation

Goa is well connected to the rest of India—and the world—by road, rail, sea, and air. In Panaji there is a large bus terminal that adjoins the station on the Konkan railway. Completed in 1998, the Konkan railway runs along India's western coast from west-central Maharashtra to southern Karnataka, where it links with the country's southern railway. Another rail line connects the state's primary port at Marmagao (via Madgaon) with the country's southwestern rail system by way of Castle Rock (in Karnataka) in the Western Ghats. There is an international airport at Dabolim, near Panaji.

Constitutional framework

The structure of Goa's government, like that of most other Indian states, is defined by the national constitution of 1950. The governor is appointed by the president of India for a five-year term. In addition to governing Goa, the governor administers the union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. Assisting the governor is the Council of Ministers, which is headed by a chief minister and is responsible to the elected Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha).

Education

Educational and training institutes range from primary schools to technical and collegiate institutions. Goa University (1985), one of India's premier postsecondary institutions, is located at Bambolim, near Panaji. The National Institute of Oceanography (1966), which is famous for its oceanographic research and for its expeditions to Antarctica, is located at Dona Paula, on the far western tip of Goa Island.

History

The ancient Hindu city of Goa, hardly a fragment of which survives, was built at the southernmost point of the island of Goa. The city was famous in early Hindu legend and history; in the *Puranas* and various inscriptions, its name appears as Gove, Govapuri, and Gomant. The medieval Arabian geographers knew it as Sindabur, or Sandābūr, and the Portuguese called it Velha Goa. It was ruled by the Kadamba dynasty from the 2nd century ce to 1312 and by Muslim invaders of the Deccan from 1312 to 1367. The city was then annexed by the Hindu kingdom of Vijayanagar and was later conquered by the Bahmanī sultanate, which founded Old Goa on the island in 1440.

With the subdivision of the Bahmanī kingdom after 1482, Goa passed into the power of Yūsuf 'Ādil Khan, the Muslim king of Bijapur, who was its ruler when seafarers from Portugal first reached India. The city was attacked in March 1510 by the Portuguese under Afonso de Albuquerque. The city surrendered without a struggle, and Albuquerque entered it in triumph.

Three months later Yūsuf ‘Ādil Khan returned with 60,000 troops, forced the passage of the ford, and blockaded the Portuguese in their ships from May to August, when the end of the monsoon season enabled them to put to sea. In November, Albuquerque returned with a larger force and, after overcoming a desperate resistance, recaptured the city, killed all the Muslims, and appointed a Hindu, Timoja, governor of Goa.

Goa was the first territorial possession of the Portuguese in Asia. Albuquerque and his successors left almost untouched the customs and constitutions of the 30 village communities on the island, abolishing only the rite of suttee (sati; the immolation of widows on the funeral pyres of their husbands).

Goa became the capital of the whole Portuguese empire in Asia. It was granted the same civic privileges as Lisbon, reaching the climax of its prosperity between 1575 and 1600. The appearance of the Dutch in Indian waters precipitated the decline of Goa. In 1603 and 1639 the city was blockaded by Dutch fleets, though never captured, and in 1635 it was ravaged by an epidemic. In 1683 a Mughal army saved it from capture by Maratha raiders, and in 1739 the whole territory was again attacked by the Marathas and was saved only by the unexpected arrival of a new Portuguese viceroy with a fleet.

The seat of the government was moved to Mormugão (now Marmagao) and in 1759 to Panjim (or New Goa; now Panaji). Cholera epidemics were one of the chief reasons for the migration of the inhabitants from Old Goa to Panjim. Between 1695 and 1775 the population of Old Goa dwindled from 20,000 to 1,600; in 1835 the city was inhabited by only a few priests, monks, and nuns.

During the 19th century, major events affecting the settlement were its temporary occupation by the British in 1809 as a result of the invasion of Portugal by Napoleon I; the governorship (1855–64) of Count de Torres Novas, who inaugurated a great number of improvements; and the military revolts of the second half of the century. The most notable of the revolts was that of Sept. 3, 1895, which necessitated the dispatch of an expeditionary force from Portugal. The infante (Portuguese prince) Affonso Henriques, duque de Oporto, accompanied this expedition and exercised governor's powers from March to May 1896.

After India achieved independence in 1947, it made claims on Goa in 1948 and 1949, and Portugal came under increasing pressure to cede Goa and its other possessions in the subcontinent to India. In mid-1954, Goan nationalists seized the Portuguese enclaves of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and established a pro-Indian administration. Another crisis occurred in 1955 when *satyagrahis* (nonviolent resisters) from India attempted to penetrate the territory of Goa. At first the *satyagrahis* were deported, but later, when large numbers attempted to cross the borders, the Portuguese authorities resorted to force, which resulted in many casualties. This led to the severance of diplomatic relations between Portugal and India on Aug. 18, 1955. Tension between the two countries came to a head on Dec. 18, 1961, when Indian troops supported by naval and air forces invaded and occupied Goa, Daman, and Diu. All three territories subsequently became part of India. Goa became a state in 1987.

Tourist Places

1. Mapusa 2. Panaji 3. Ponda 4. Mormugao Harbour 5. Vasco-da-Gama 6. Margao	
Beaches	Calangute, Colva, Dona Paula, Miramar, Anjuna, Palolem, Vagator, Arambol, Agonda.
Churches	Basillica of Bom Jesus, Se Cathedral, Church of St. Francis of Assissi, St. Cajetan Church, Nunnery of Santa Monica, St. Augustine Tower, Viceroy's Arc (All at Old Goa), Church of St. Alex Curtorim, Reis Magos Church, The Church of Mae de Deus at Saligao (Bardez), the Church of St. Ana at Talaulim Ilhas, Rachol Seminary, Church of Our Lady of Rosary.
Temples	Shri Shantadurga (at Kavlem, Kunkoliemkarin and Dhargal), Shri Mangueshi, Shri Bhagavati (Pernem), Rudreshwar Temple at Harvalem, Shri Mahadeo Bhumika at Sal, Bicholim, Morjaee temple at Morjim, Shri Bhagavati Temple at Parshem, Brahma Temple, Shri Chandranath, Shri Damodar, Shri Datta Mandir, Shri Devkikrishna - Ravalnath, Shri Gomanteshwar Devasthan at Brahmapuri, Shri Gopal Ganapati, Shri Kalikadevi, Shri Kamakshi Sausthan at Shiroda, Temple of Shri Mahadeva at Tambdi Surla, Shri Mahalaxmi, Shri Mahalsa, Shri Mallikarjuna, Shri Naguesh, Shri Navdurga Sausthan, Shri Navdurga at Madkai, Shri Ramnath, Shri Saptakoteshwar, Sapteshwar - Bhagvati Temple at Mandrem, Shri Vithal Mandir, Shri Sharvani, Shri Saunsthan Gokarn Partagali Jeevotam Math, Shri Saunsthan Goudpadachrya Kavle Math.
Mosque	Safa Masjid at Ponda, Jama Masjid at Sanguem.
Wild Life	Bhagvan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, Bondla Forest, Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, Choden.
Museums	Museum of Christian art at Rachol, Archaeological Museum and Portrait Gallery at Old Goa, Archives Museum of Goa at Panaji.
Other Places	Dudhsagar Water Falls, Aguada Fort, Kesarval Spring, Mayem Lake.

Tourism

Overview

Goa is best known as a tourist paradise, both in India and abroad. Lavishly gifted by nature for its scenic beauty, virgin beaches girdling its 105-km long palm-fringed coast interspersed with enchanting coves, bays and estuaries, paddy fields, shady coconut, cashew and mango groves dotted with tiny picturesque villages, temples and churches renowned for worship and pilgrims, forts and monuments and above all, friendly and hospitable people, Goa presents an ideal tourism profile.

Tourism is so prominent that the number of tourists almost equals the number of state population.

Goa attracts almost 12% of total foreign tourists arriving in India. In terms of direct charters, it is 75% of the total direct charter traffic in India. To give a big fillip to hospitality industry in the state, the Department of Tourism has taken multi-pronged strategy involving both private and government organisations.
