

Goa University

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Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy

Report on “Workshop on Exploring the Intersection of Law and Society Theme on Forest Rights Act and Legal Policies for the Welfare, Protection and Empowerment of Tribal and Forest- Dwelling Communities.”

1. Title of the Event/Activity/program	Workshop on Exploring the Intersection of Law and Society Theme on Forest Rights Act and Legal Policies for the Welfare, Protection and Empowerment of Tribal and Forest- Dwelling Communities.
2. Date and Time	29 th March 2026, Time: 09.30 am, Venue: Village Panchayat Hall of Netorlim Sanguem Goa.
3. Mode of conduct (Physical/Online)	Physical
4. School/ Directorate/ Section	Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy and UGC Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion of D. D. Kosambi School of Social Sciences and Behavioural Studies.
5. Collaborating Agency/School/Directorate	Directorate of Equal Opportunity Cell
6. Detail of the Resource Person (Brief biodata)	Chief Guest Shri Subhash Phal Dessai, Hon'ble Minister of social welfare Government of Goa. Guest of Honour Shri. Vasudev Meng Gaonkar Chairman (GSSTFDCL) Mrs. Rajeshree Rajesh Gaonkar ZP Member Rivon Constituency, South Goa. Resource Person Smt. Yogini Acharya Assistant Director (North)

	Mr. Ravaji Gaonkar, Assistant Professor Mr. Keval Naik Assistant Professor Ms. Balika Gaonkar, Assistant Professor Mr. Yogesh Varak, Assistant Professor Mr. Anand Velip, Social Worker Dr. Vijay Madhu Gawas, Assistant Professor, MPSLGPP, Goa University Mr. Saprem Shrivoikar, Assistant Professor, MPSLGPP, Goa University.
7. Number of Faculty attended/participated	07 faculty members
8. Number of Student attended / participated	93
9. No. of external students/faculty/other participants	100
10. The objectives of the Program/activity/event	Workshop on Exploring the Intersection of Law and Society Theme on Forest Rights Act and Legal Policies for the Welfare, Protection and Empowerment of Tribal and Forest- Dwelling Communities has the following objectives: 1. To create awareness about the Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 To educate participants about the key provisions, purpose, and significance of the Forest Rights Act in recognizing the rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities. 2. To understand the legal framework governing forest rights To provide insights into national laws, policies, and constitutional provisions that safeguard the rights and livelihoods of indigenous and forest-dependent populations. 3. To examine the intersection of law and society To analyze how legal systems interact with social realities, particularly in addressing issues of marginalization, displacement, and social justice. 4. To promote the welfare and protection of tribal communities



	To highlight government initiatives, welfare schemes, and protective measures aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of tribal populations. 5. To explore challenges in implementation of forest laws To identify practical issues, gaps, and barriers in the enforcement of the Forest Rights Act and related policies. 6. To encourage critical thinking and legal awareness among students To develop analytical skills by engaging participants in discussions on contemporary issues related to environmental justice and tribal rights. 7. To empower participants with knowledge of rights and remedies To inform participants about legal remedies, grievance redressal mechanisms, and the role of institutions in protecting forest rights. 8. To foster community participation and inclusive governance To emphasize the importance of local self-governance, particularly the role of Gram Sabhas in decision-making processes related to forest management. 9. To sensitize participants towards sustainable development and conservation To balance environmental protection with the rights and traditional knowledge of forest-dwelling communities. 10. To build a platform for dialogue and policy discussion To encourage interaction among students, academicians, legal
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	experts, and policymakers for sharing ideas and best practices.
11. Description of the Program/activity/event	The Workshop is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic relationship between legal frameworks and social realities, particularly in the context of marginalized communities. The programme focuses on the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 (Forest Rights Act - FRA), which serves as a landmark legislation aimed at recognizing and vesting forest rights in tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers. The workshop highlights how the Act seeks to correct historical injustices faced by these communities due to displacement, denial of land rights, and exclusion from forest governance. Through expert lectures, interactive discussions, and case studies, the workshop explores key provisions of the FRA, including individual and community forest rights, rights over minor forest produce, habitat rights, and the role of Gram Sabhas in forest management. It also examines the implementation challenges, policy gaps, and the role of various stakeholders such as government agencies, civil society organizations, and local communities. In addition, the programme delves into broader legal and policy frameworks related to environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable development, emphasizing the balance between ecological preservation and community rights. Special attention is given to issues of social justice, legal empowerment, and participatory governance. The workshop aims to sensitize participants to the socio-legal dimensions of forest governance and equip them with the knowledge and critical perspective necessary to contribute towards inclusive policy-making, advocacy, and the protection of rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities.

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12. Benefit/Key outcomes of the Program/activity/event

1. Enhanced Understanding of Legal Frameworks

Participants gained in-depth knowledge of the Forest Rights Act, 2006 and related legal policies, including provisions for land rights, community forest resources, and rehabilitation measures.

2. Awareness of Tribal Rights and Entitlements

The workshop increased awareness about the constitutional and legal rights of tribal and forest-dwelling communities, empowering participants to recognize issues of marginalization and injustice.

3. Promotion of Social Justice and Inclusion

The program fostered sensitivity towards social inequalities and highlighted the importance of inclusive development and protection of vulnerable communities.

4. Understanding of Policy Implementation Challenges

Participants explored practical challenges in implementing forest laws, such as administrative barriers, lack of awareness, and conflicts between conservation and livelihood rights.

5. Development of Legal and Analytical Skills

The workshop strengthened participants' ability to critically analyze legal provisions, policies, and real-life case studies related to tribal welfare and environmental governance.

6. Encouragement of Community Engagement

It motivated participants to actively engage with grassroots issues, legal aid initiatives, and advocacy efforts for tribal and forest-dwelling communities.

7. Interdisciplinary Learning Approach

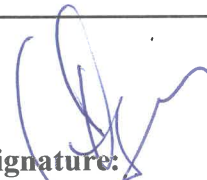
The program emphasized the intersection of law, society,



	environment, and human rights, promoting a holistic understanding of governance and development. 8. Empowerment through Knowledge and Advocacy Participants were encouraged to act as informed citizens and advocates for the protection of tribal rights and sustainable use of forest resources. 9. Exposure to Real-World Issues and Case Studies The workshop provided practical insights into landmark cases, policy debates, and on-ground realities faced by tribal populations. 10. Strengthening Ethical and Civic Responsibility The program instilled a sense of responsibility towards promoting equity, justice, and environmental sustainability in professional and personal spheres.
13. Enclosures with report	Geo-tagged photos, Attendance Sheet and Flyer, acceptance letter



Signature:
Dr. Vijay Madhu Gawas
Coordinator
Asst.Prof., MPSLGPP, Goa University



Signature:
Dr. Maria Norma Menezes,
Director
D.E.O.C Goa University

Director
Directorate of Equal Opportunities



Signature: 

Mr. Saprem Shirvoikar
CO-Coordinator
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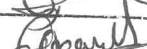
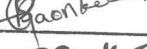
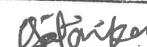
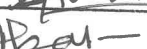
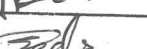
MANOHAR PARRIKAR SCHOOL OF LAW, GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY
&
UGC CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL INCLUSION OF D. D. KOSAMBI SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND BEHAVIOURAL
STUDIES
IN COLLABORATION WITH
DIRECTORATE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
&
SUPPORTED BY
VILLAGE PANCHAYAT NETORLIM SANGUEM GOA & NETRAVALI HEALTH SOCIETY'S-AROGYADHAM
WORKSHOP ON EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF LAW AND SOCIETY THEME ON "FOREST RIGHTS ACT AND LEGAL POLICIES
FOR THE WELFARE, PROTECTION, AND EMPOWERMENT OF TRIBAL AND FOREST-DWELLING COMMUNITIES".

Date: 29th March 2026 Time: 9.30 am, Venue: Village Panchayat Netorlim Sanguem Goa.

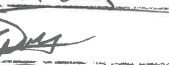
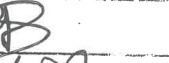
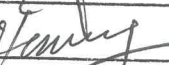
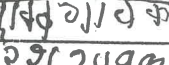
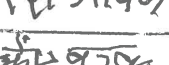
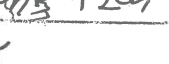
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6	Pranisha P. Gaonkar	758887894		Pranisha
7	Reshma R. Gaonkar	9420014749		Reshma
8	Shanta K. Malik			Shanta
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11	Pondarem S. Malik			Pondarem

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19	Gita G Gaonkar			<i>Gita</i>
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25	Vaishali V Waikar	9420165228		<i>Vaishali</i>
26	Shraddha			<i>Shraddha</i>
27	Sudavati Gaonkar			<i>Sudavati</i>
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29	Suman A. Velip			<i>Suman</i>
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51	Sukto R. Velip	9404470853		
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53	Manisha Khavnekar	9373891808 (social welfare Dept)	F	
54	Sanju C. Gaonkar	8225841096		
55	Chingto Bhardwaj			
56	Purnushottam Naik	9823881122 (social welfare dept)		
	Sanjay Tak	9268228338 (social welfare dept)		



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61	Vithal B. Gaonkar	7588480675		
62	Dilip S. Phadnis	9404468034		
63	Nafu Lambor	9423599022		
64	Mithal Gaonkar	7262041986	M	
65	Paik S. Kuttikar	9422143896	M	
66	Koushik S. Shirviker			
67	Ramank P. Gaonkar	7588872889	M	
68	Vithal J. Naik	7620373010, Goa SRLM	M	
69	Munesh S. Mallik	9421031405	M	
70	Satish B. Velip	9404484055	M	
71	Shivaji D. Desai	9423557528	M	
72	Prashant P. Gaonkar	9421255207	M	
73	Prashant S. Gaonkar	9420420750	SD	
74	Shrikant S. Verlekar	9420162581	66	
75	Namita V. Gaonkar	9423302348	44	
76	Govind Gaonkar		60	
77				
78	Yogesh Gaonkar	9403074174		
80	Malu Bhagat	9404913037		



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83	Devidas Vasak (Dereem)	7030090060		
84	Dhonda Bawdane (Mardi)	9423140996		
85	Ullwala R. Velip (Netolim)	9404514526		
86	Asher B. Khandalkar (Netolim)	9421341703		
87	Divya D. Gaonkar (Netolim)	7588475550		
88	Sailesh B. Gaonkar (Vichurchim)	9403817925		
89	Shilpa Yogesh Gaonkar (Vichurchim)	9405674904		
90	Ashwini M. Gaonkar (Vasigan)	9420217186		
91	Smita G. Gaonkar (Vasigan)	8275021026		
92	Sushant Rohdas Velip (Mangal)	9570281871		
93	Yogesh Vasale (Maine)	9405141125		
94	AKASH GAONKAR (Rivona)	9307089919		
95	Sailesh Velip (Nore)	9022476061		
96	Anand V. Velip (Valkini)	7620856832		
97	Shweta Karmalkar (Quepem)	9923887176		
98	Ravaji Gaonkar	9623394280		
99	Lerda N. Gaonkar	9022591632		
100	Pooja Velip	9404253541		



V. C. S.

Director

Directorate of Equal Opportunities

Invitation



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All are cordially invited

**WORKSHOP ON EXPLORING THE INTERSECTION OF LAW AND SOCIETY THEME ON "FOREST RIGHTS ACT AND
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COMMUNITIES"**

Date: 29th March 2026 Time: 9.30 am, Venue: Village Panchayat Netorlim Sanguem Goa.

Chief Guest

**Shri Subhash Phal Dessai
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare
Government of Goa**

Guest of Honour

**Shri Vasudev Meng Gaonkar
Chairman
Goa State Scheduled Tribes Finance and
Development Corporation Limited (GSSTFDCL)**

**Smt. Rajeshree Rajesh Gaonkar
ZP Member Rivon Constituency,
South -Goa**

**Shri. Shashikant S. Gaonkar
Chairman Atal Gram Development Agency**

**Shri. Bunda Vithu Varak.
Sarpanch V.P. Netravali**

In the Distinguished presence of:

**Dr. Maria Norma Menezes Reballo, Director D.E.O.
Dr. Mahesh Verlekar, State Licencing Authority-Ayurved, Directorate
of Foods & Drugs, Government of Goa
Shri. Francis Mascarenhas, Deputy Sarpanch V.P. Netorlim
Other Panch Members of V. P. Netorlim**

Session Speakers

**Smt. Yogini Acharya Assistant Director (North)
Mr. Ravaji Gaonkar, Assistant Professor
Mr. Keval Naik, Assistant Professor
Ms. Balika Gaonkar, Assistant Professor
Mr. Anand Velip Social Worker
Mr. Yogesh Varak, Assistant Professor
Dr. Vijay Madhu Gawas, Assistant Professor
Mr. Saprem Shirvoikar, Assistant Professor**

**CO ORDINATOR
Dr. Vijay Gawas**

**CO COORDINATOR
Mr. Saprem Shirvoikar**



Netorlim, Goa, India 🇮🇳

195, Panchayat Hall, Netorlim, Sanguem,
Goa 403704, India (Updated address to Netorlim)

Lat 15.1119° Long 74.1917°

Sunday, 29/03/2026 9:30 AM IST

Google