

GOA PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS UNION

(GOA PRI'S Union)

C/o Curtorim Union, Reg No. 68/GOA/1999

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OPEN APPEAL TO GOVERNMENT OF GOA STATE

On the occasion of 25th Anniversary of Gram Swaraj Abhiyan and 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India, Panchayati Raj Act which was passed by Parliament (Lok Sabha) on 21st December, 1992 and (Rajya Sabha) on 23rd December, 1992 and assented by the President of India on 21.04.1993 (notified on 24.04.1993) . Till today the actual pace of devolution of Power is slow. Most of the powers have been devolved on paper and to the Panchayats is less. The various functionaries are still accountable to their line departments and not to the Panchayats. No attempt at Harmonization of state laws with the Panchayat Raj Acts of the state has been undertaken so far .

Effectiveness of this 73rd Amendment would largely depend upon crucial factors like the pressure from below political will and attitude of Bureaucracy. There are about 1520 elected Members of Village Panchayats and 50 Zilla Panchayat Members in Goa, together we can facilitate an effective Democratic Decentralization in local Governance . Establishment of Panchayat window in the

State Budget (currently untied funds) are given to the Panchayat through Department of Panchayati Raj. Parallel Bodies like DRDA's continue to exist independent of the Panchayats and are powerful Institutions.

We shall be grateful if the review process is conducted as soon as possible .

Hope you will do the needful

J. Santano Rodrigues
Convenor

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To,

Hon. Panchayat Minister

Secreteriat Porvorim for information and necessary action

2) Secretary of Panchayat,

Govt of Goa for information and necessary action

3) Director of Panchayat,

Junta House Panaji Goa for information and necessary action