

Statehood Day of Goa

Why in News?

On the <u>Statehood Day of Goa</u> (30th May), the Prime Minister greeted the people of the state.



What are the Key Highlights about Goa?

- About:
 - Goa is located on the **southwestern coast of India** within the region known as the Konkan, and geographically separated from the Deccan highlands by the **Western Ghats**.
- Capital:
 - Panji.
- Official Language:

• Konkani which is one of the 22 languages from the Eight Schedule.

Borders:

• It is surrounded by **Maharashtra to the north and Karnataka to the east** and south, with the Arabian Sea forming its western coast.

History:

- As India gained independence on 15th August, 1947, it requested the Portugese to cede their territories. However, Portuguese refused.
- In 1961, Indian Government launched **Operation Vijay** and annexed Daman and Diu islands and Goa with the Indian mainland.
 - Goa Liberation Day is observed on 19th December every year in India.
 - It can be noted that the Portuguese were the first Europeans to come to India (1498) and were also the last to leave this land (1961).
- On 30th May, 1987, the territory was split and Goa was formed. Daman and Diu remained Union Territory.

Geography:

- The highest point of Goa is Sonsogor.
- Goa's seven major rivers are the Zuari, <u>Mandovi</u>, Terekhol, Chapora, Galgibag, Kumbarjua canal, Talpona and the Sal.

The Vision

Most of Goa's soil cover is made up of laterites.

Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks:

- Dr. Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary
- Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary
- Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary
- Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary
- Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary
- Mollem National Park

Source: PIB

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