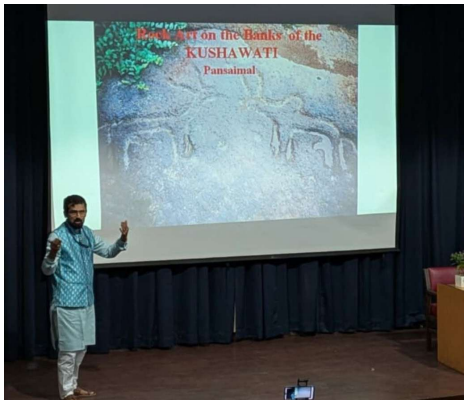
INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY CELEBRATION 2026
16TH MAY TO 18TH MAY 2026



The Directorate of Museums, Government of Goa, celebrated International Museum Day 2026 in collaboration with the Goa Science Centre and Planetarium, Miramar, through a series of educational, cultural and outreach activities aimed at promoting awareness about museums, heritage preservation and community participation. As part of the celebrations, the exhibition titled "**My Own Collection**" was organized for the general public, providing a platform for private collectors to showcase objects of historical, cultural, artistic and scientific significance. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri. Prajal Sakhardande, Associate Professor of History, Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, followed by his lecture on "History and Heritage of Goa from Ancient Times to 2019".



A special highlight of the celebrations was the visit of the Hon'ble Governor of Goa on 18th May 2026, coinciding with International Museum Day. The Hon'ble Governor visited the exhibition galleries, interacted with the participating collectors and appreciated their efforts in preserving and promoting heritage through private collections. The Governor also commended the collaborative initiative undertaken by the Directorate of Museums and the Goa Science Centre and Planetarium to enhance public awareness about the importance of museums as centers of education, research and cultural preservation.



Hon'ble Governor visited the exhibition galleries



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa, Shri Pramod Sawant , viewing the exhibition

The celebrations culminated in a Valedictory Function, which was graced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa as the Chief Guest, along with Secretary of Museums, distinguished guests, museum professionals, collectors and members of the public. During the function, the achievements of the programme and the valuable contribution of private collectors towards safeguarding cultural heritage were



Distribution of Sanction Orders under the Scheme "Financial Assistance to Museums" by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

acknowledged. The Hon'ble Chief Minister addressed the gathering and emphasized the importance of museums and community participation in preserving Goa's rich cultural legacy for future generations.

A significant feature of the valedictory programme was the distribution of Sanction Orders under the Scheme “Financial Assistance to Museums” by the Hon'ble Chief Minister. Sanction orders were formally handed over to Rusty Relics Museum and Amche Daiz Museum, thereby extending Government support towards strengthening museum infrastructure, conservation efforts and public outreach initiatives. The valedictory function also included a felicitation ceremony for the participants of the “My Own Collection” Exhibition**.** Certificates and mementos were presented as a token of appreciation for their contribution to heritage awareness and public education.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks expressing gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, participating collectors, Goa Science Centre and Planetarium, officers and staff of the Directorate of Museums, and all visitors whose support contributed to the success of the celebrations. The International Museum Day programme successfully achieved its objectives of strengthening public engagement with museums, encouraging heritage conservation and fostering collaboration between government institutions, museums and private collectors.