

## Youth Empowerment in Focus as 250 Students Felicitated in Bicholim

**Bicholim, Goa:** Emphasising support for progress of students & recognising academic excellence, 'Shiksha Vision' Bicholim, in association with Dr. Chandrakant Shetye, Hon'ble MLA of Bicholim Constituency, and Vedanta Sesa Goa felicitated over 250 meritorious students from the region. The event honoured students from postgraduate, graduate, and higher secondary levels who have demonstrated exceptional academic performance and dedication.

Held at the Hirabai Zantye Memorial Hall, Bicholim, the ceremony witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, parents, educators, and community leaders. The felicitation ceremony was graced by distinguished dignitaries including Shri Michael Lobo, Hon'ble MLA for Calangute Constituency, as Guest of Honour, Shri Chandrakant Shetye, Hon'ble MLA for Bicholim Constituency as Chief Guest, and Shri Manoj B. Savoikar, Deputy Director of Education, Government of Goa, as Guest of Honour. Also present were Dr. R. Gopakumar, Principal, Government College Sankhali; Dr. M.S. Korgaonkar, Principal, Hirabai Zantye College; and Mr. Dhirajkumar Jagdish, Deputy CEO – Iron Ore Goa, Vedanta Sesa Goa.

*Chief Guest **Shri Michael Lobo, Hon'ble MLA, Calangute** remarked: "These students are the pride of Goa. Their achievements reflect not just personal dedication but also the collective effort of families, teachers, and the community. I encourage them to continue striving for excellence and contribute meaningfully to society."*

Expressing his sentiments on the occasion, **Dr. Chandrakant Shetye, Hon'ble MLA, Bicholim**, stated: *"The youth of Bicholim continue to make us proud with their academic achievements. Recognising and encouraging their excellence is our collective responsibility, as education is the foundation on which we will build a stronger and more self-reliant nation. I am happy that industry leaders like Vedanta Sesa Goa are stepping forward to support such meaningful initiatives. Their commitment towards education and community development reflects the kind of public-private collaboration that can truly transform lives at the grassroots level."*

**Mr. Dhirajkumar Jagdish, Deputy CEO – Iron Ore Goa, Vedanta Sesa Goa**, shared: *"It is truly inspiring to witness the passion and potential of these young achievers. At Vedanta Sesa Goa, we are deeply committed to promoting education as a catalyst for change. Initiatives like these align with our vision of nurturing talent and empowering communities to rise through knowledge."*

The felicitation ceremony stood as a symbol of encouragement, pride, and possibility. It highlighted how shared efforts between the community, educators, and industry can uplift and empower young achievers. Initiatives like these continue to build a strong foundation for a knowledge-driven and inclusive future.