

CHAPTER I

THE STATE OF GOA

1.1. INTRODUCTION

LOCATION

Goa is located on the West coast of India between 15°48" and 14°53" North latitude and 74°20'13" and 73°40'33" East longitude with a geographical area of 3702 sq.km. It is bounded by the districts of Sindhudurga (Maharashtra) in the North, Belgaum & Dharwad (Karnataka) along the East, North Kanara (Karnataka) in the South and Arabian Sea in the West. Enclosed on the slopes of the Western Ghats it stretches out to a length of 105 km from the North to the South and is about 60 km wide from East to West.

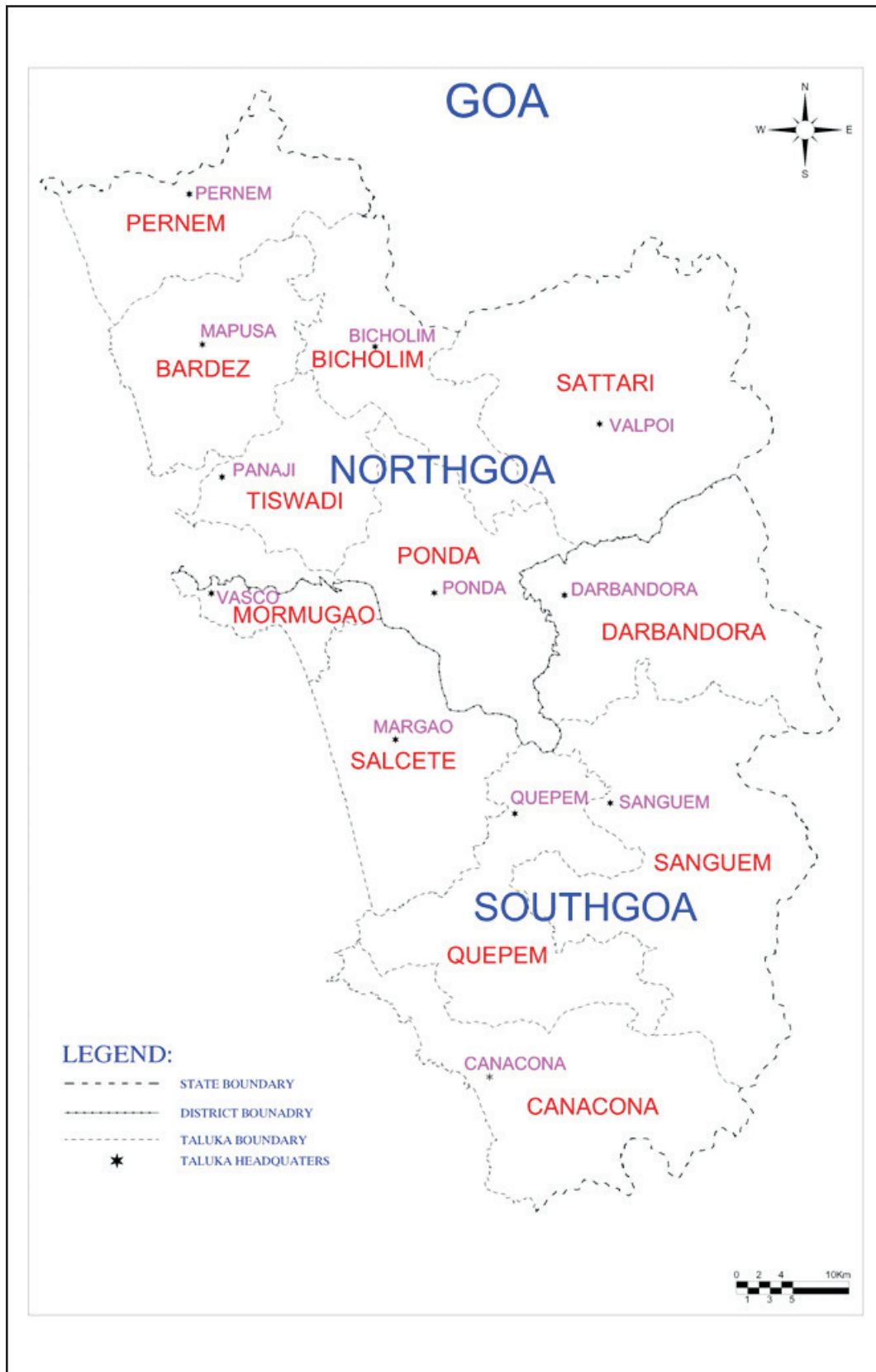
THE STATE OF GOA

The Portuguese set up a permanent settlement in Velha Goa (or Old Goa) in 1510 defeating the ruling Bijapur sultan. This was the beginning of Portuguese rule in Goa that lasted for four and a half centuries, until 1961. In 1843 the Portuguese moved the capital to Panjim from Velha Goa. By the mid-18th century, Portuguese Goa had expanded to most of the present-day state limits.

When India got independence in 1947, Dadra and Nagar Haveli also became independent, but Goa, Daman and Diu continued to be colonies of Portugal. The colonies of Goa, Daman and Diu were liberated on 19th December 1961, annexed to the Indian Union and Goa, along with Daman and Diu and was organized as a centrally administered union territory of India. On 30 May 1987, the union territory was split, and Goa was made India's twenty-fifth state, with Daman and Diu remaining a union territory.



A view of the Western Ghats



Map of Goa with taluka headquarters

1.2 POPULATION STATISTICS

The population figures given below are as per 2011 census

Taluka	Area in sq. km.	Population	Population			Literacy%
			Rural	Urban	Sex Ratio	
North Goa						
Tiswadi	213.57	176799	37536	139263	959	89.63
Bardez	263.98	237689	74532	163157	978	90.86
Pernem	251.69	75720	45653	30067	953	86.58
Bicholim	238.80	97922	55750	42172	956	88.30
Satari	489.46	63754	49355	14399	956	83.33
Ponda	292.78	165877	62215	103662	936	88.59
Total	1736	817761	325041	492720	959	88.85
South Goa						
Sanguem	836.82	65035	53484	11551	984	81.62
Canacona	352.04	45185	32743	12442	1001	82.87
Quepem	318.25	81174	36173	45001	983	81.56
Salcete	292.94	294418	81911	212507	1020	88.09
Marmugao	109.13	154150	22062	132088	900	85.16
Total	1966	639962	226373	413589	980	85.53
Grand Total	3702	1457723	551414	906309	968	87.40

DISTRICTWISE TOTAL NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY 2007:

Livestock	North Goa	South Goa	Total
Bovine	59128	47535	106663
Sheep	116	6	122
Goats	5629	4107	9736
Horses and ponies	6	9	15
Pigs	13149	47523	60672
Dogs	41094	40541	81635
Rabbits	492	302	794
Fowls	298278	159497	457775

1.3 CLIMATE

The State of Goa experiences a tropical monsoon climate. Being in the tropical zone and near the Arabian Sea, Goa for most of the year is hot and humid. The months of April and May are the hottest months, seeing day temperatures of over 35 °C coupled with high humidity. The monsoon rains begin by early June and most of Goa's annual rainfall is received through the monsoons which last till September.

Goa's winter season is short between mid-December and February. These months experience temperatures about 21 °C and days of around 28 °C with moderate humidity. The nights are a few degrees cooler further inland, due to altitudinal gradation. The Climatological table for Panaji for the period from 1951-1980 is given overleaf.

Month	Mean Temperature (°C)		Mean Total Rainfall(mm)	Mean Number of Rainy Days
	Daily Minimum	Daily Maximum		
Jan	19.6	31.6	0.2	0.0
Feb	20.5	31.5	0.1	0.0
Mar	23.2	32.0	1.2	0.1
Apr	25.6	33.0	11.8	0.8
May	26.3	33.0	112.7	4.2
Jun	24.7	30.3	868.2	21.9
Jul	24.1	28.9	994.8	27.2
Aug	24.0	28.8	518.7	23.3
Sep	23.8	29.5	251.9	13.5
Oct	23.8	31.6	124.8	6.2
Nov	22.3	32.8	30.9	2.5
Dec	20.6	32.4	16.7	0.4
Annual	23.2	31.3	2932.0	100.1

Source: Indian Meteorological Department

1.4 Land use pattern

Land Use	Area in '000 ha	Percentage
Total Geographical area	370	
Reported area for land utilisation	361	100
Forests	125	34.63
Not available for cultivation	37	10.25
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	1	0.28
Land under misc. tree crops and groves	1	0.28
Culturable wastelands	53	14.68
Fallow lands other than current fallows	0	0
Current fallows	9	2.49
Net area sown	135	37.40

Source: Land Use Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, GOI, 2008-09



Paddy cultivation

1.5 DISTANCE FROM PANAJI TO OTHER TOWNS BY ROAD, 2008-09

Sl.No.	Name of the Town	Route	Km
1.	Margao	Via Ponda	45
2.	Margao	Via Agacaim-Cortalim	33.4
3.	Vasco-da-Gama	Via Agacaim-Cortalim	29.4
4.	Ponda	Via Ribandar-old Goa	28.8
5.	Quepem	Via Ponda-Sanvordem	60.3
6.	Quepem	Via Agacaim-Cortalim-Margao	48.2
7.	Sanguem	Via Ponda-Sanvordem	60.0
8.	Sanguem	Via Agacaim-Cortalim-Margao	62.3
9.	Canacona	Via Ponda-Margao	81.4
10.	Canacona	Via Agacaim-Cortalim-Margao	69.8
11.	Valpoi	Via Ponda-Usgao	69.4
12.	Valpoi	Via Betim-Bicholim-Sanquelim	53.5
13.	Mapusa	Via Betim	11.1
14.	Bicholim	Via Mapusa	29.8
15.	Pernem	Via Mapusa	28.7

Source: Public Works Department, Panaji, Goa

1.6 GEOGRAPHY

The Western Ghat region runs along the Eastern length of the state and consists of a wide belt of rich forest, with abundant bio-diversity of flora and fauna. The intermediate region that lies between the high Western Ghat region and the Coastal plains is called the mid land region, with distinct geographical and ecological characteristics. The most important topographic feature of the peninsular India is the Western Ghats which is spread over in the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamilnadu. Indirectly this mountain range influence the well being of the entire population by modulating climate, fertility enhancement, ground water recharge, etc.

Mandovi, Zuari, Sal, Tiracol, Talpona, Canacona, Galgibaga, Saleri and Colvale are the main rivers of Goa. These rivers are source of potable water and support Goan ecosystem besides their role in irrigation, mineral wealth and transportation.



Western Ghats landscape

1.7 IMPORTANT STATISTICS AND SOCIO ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF GOA

Parameters	Reference Period	
Area (Sq. Km.)		3,702
Total population	2011	1457723
Percentage of urban population		62.17
Density of population per Sq. Km.		394
Number of Districts		2
Number of Talukas		11
Number of Towns	2001	44
(I) Municipal towns		14
(II) Census towns		30
Number of villages	2001	359
(I) Inhabited villages		347
(II) Uninhabited villages (incl. Sub merged)		12
Literacy percentage	2011	87.40
(I) Males		92.81
(II) Females		81.84
Tourists		
(i) Domestic Tourists	2013	2629151
(ii) Foreign Tourists		492322

Source: Goa Statistical Handbook 2008-09

Socio – Economic indicators for Goa and India

	Reference Year	Goa	India
Geographical area (Sq.Km)		3702	3287000
Population	2011	1457723	1210193422
Districts	2011	2	640
Taluks/Sub districts	2011	11	5924
Literacy Percentage	2011		
(I) Overall		87.4	74.04
(ii) Males		92.81	82.14
(iii) Female		81.81	65.46
Sex ratio (females per 1000 males)	2011	968	940
Density of population	2011	394	392
% of Urban population	2011	62.17	31.16
% of population below poverty line	2004-05	13.8	27.5
Per capita income (Rs.)			
* At current prices	2007-08	97366	33131
* At 1999-00 prices	2007-08	62239	24256
Hospital beds per 1000 population	2005-06	1.89	0.43
Population per commercial bank office	2006-07	3033	16000
Environmental Information			
National Park		1	102
Sanctuaries		6	515
Forest Cover	SFR 2011	2219 Km ² (59.94 %)	692027 km ² (21.05%)

Source: Goa Statistical Handbook 2008-09, Provisional Population Census-2011

	Goa	India
State/National Animal	Gaur (<i>Bos gaurus</i>)	Tiger (<i>Panthera tigris</i>)
State/National Bird	Ruby throated yellow Bulbul (<i>Pycnonotus dispar</i>)	Peacock (<i>Pavo cristatus</i>)
State/National Tree	Matti (<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>)	Banyan (<i>Ficus bengalensis</i>)
State/National Flower		Lotus (<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i>)

STATE ANIMAL
Gaur
(*Bos gaurus*)



STATE TREE
Matti
(*Terminalia tomentosa*)



STATE BIRD
Ruby-throated Yellow Bulbul
(*Pycnotus dispar*)

