

Industrialization in Goa.

Introduction .. The Industry in Goa is ranked fourth in the country by a study conducted by the Rajw. Gandhi Institute for contemporary studies and confederation of India Industry. So the Industry in Goa has emerged as one of the favourable destination for investment. Being both investor friendly as well as environment friendly, Goa has one of the biggest per capita income in the country, one of highest literacy rates, the highest road, rail, air & sea network density, the lowest crime rates and a harmonious trade union-management relationship. All these factors combined, contribute towards a healthy environment for the industry in Goa.

Several Central and state organisations have been set up over the years with the aims and objectives of securing and assisting in the rapid and orderly establishments of the Industrial Areas, Industrial Estates and industries in Goa. Some of the Central and State government's institutions are:

- The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) of Goa, Daman and Diu.
- The Goa Daman & Diu Industrial development Corporation (GDDIDC)
- The Goa Handicrafts, Rural & small scale Industries development Corporation (GHRSSIDC)

Industry Beckons

The newly liberated Goa also made a quick foray into the industrial sector by inviting investments from major companies. The industrialization of the region began with the Birlas setting up Zuari Agro chemicals, manufacturing chemical fertilizers. Soon after other prestigious companies like Madras Rubber factory (MRF) and the ~~ter~~ then Ciba-Geigy established their factories. Presently Goa has over 7000 small units as well as 150 large & medium scale units

industries employing over 65000 people. The state has also developed 20 industrial estates; some of them established at Verna, Kundaim, Colim, Tivim, Honda, Madkai, Sancoale, attracting leading companies to set up their shops. The foresightedness of the government and special income tax exemption scheme also resulted in attracting pharmaceutical investments in Goa, with 80 reputed companies in this environment-friendly sector, presently generating a total revenue of over ₹2400 crore, and constituting a total revenue of roughly 12 cent of the total drug production in the country. Nearly seventy percent of the production is exported and thirty percent consumed in domestic market.

Besides these, other sectors including light engineering, machinery manufacturing, food processing, automobile auxiliaries, bus body building etc are also functioning in Goa.

Mining Industry

Mining in Goa is mostly concentrated in four talukas namely, Bicholim in North Goa district and Salcete, Sarguem and Quepem in South Goa district. Some 400 mining leases had been granted in Goa till 2002-03, covering approximately 30325 ha, this works out to almost eight per cent of the total geographical of the state. The mining rich talukas of South Goa, Quepem, Sarguem and Canacona has 26.3 per cent, 64.2 per cent and 53.3 per cent forest cover respectively. The proposed 120 mining projects are in these forest rich talukas and many of the mine leases also fall in the forest area. Therefore, if projects are cleared it will significantly alter the forest cover in these talukas.

Service Sector & Logistics Hub

Service Industry is also taking shape in Goa, now. The IT Industry which was in a nascent stage so far, has started growing wings as more and more budding entrepreneurs have come forward with innovative ideas and launched their startup ventures with great degree of success. Incubation Centres in the state has also helped the establishment and growth of this sector. Logistics has great employment potential with the local population in tune with these jobs.