



# Statehood Day of Goa

## Why in News

On the [Statehood Day of Goa \(30<sup>th</sup> May\)](#), the Prime Minister greeted the people of the state.

## Key Points

- **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 **15<sup>th</sup> August, 1947**, it requested the Portuguese 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 **19<sup>th</sup> 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 **30<sup>th</sup> 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, Mandovi, Terekhol, Chapora, Galgibag, Kumbarjua canal, Talpona and the Sal**.
  - 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

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