



## Goa Liberation Day

**Goa Liberation Day** is celebrated on **December 19<sup>th</sup>** every year to commemorate the **state's liberation** from **Portuguese rule** in **1961**.

- The Indian government waited for **14 years after independence** to move troops to Goa because it was a sensitive issue and the government did not want to **risk a war with Portugal**.
- In 1961, the Indian Government launched **Operation Vijay** and annexed **Daman and Diu** and **Goa** with the Indian mainland on **19<sup>th</sup> December**.
  - As a result, **Goa, Daman, and Diu** became **Union Territories of India**.
- Goa continued to be a **Union Territory** till **1987** and then was given **statehood** by becoming the **25<sup>th</sup> state of India**.
  - **30<sup>th</sup> May** is celebrated as the **Statehood Day of Goa**.
- **Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks of Goa:**
  - **Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary**
  - **Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary**
  - **Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary**
  - **Bhagwan Mahaveer Sanctuary**
  - **Mollem National Park**

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