

# Protect land to safeguard identity: Kamat

## Says People Sell Properties To Outsiders But When Their Neighbours Do So They Make A Noise

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Panaji:** Chief minister Digambar Kamat on Saturday said that Goans should refrain from selling their own properties to non-Goans before protesting against mega projects.

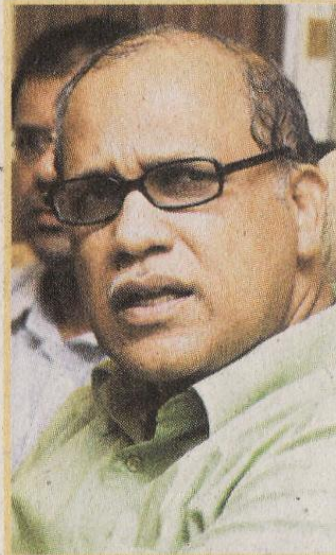
Speaking at the opening ceremony of Goa Institute of Management's (GIM) programme on social entrepreneurship Samriddhi 2009, at Arpora, Kamat said that Goans, while protesting against non-Goan migration into the state, should first see to it that they are doing enough on an individual level to protect their identity.

"Everyone should work to protect their identity. People agitate against mega projects and complain of outsiders

coming to Goa. But whose property are they buying and in whose houses are they staying in? We should make a commitment that we are not selling our property to outsiders first. People sell their properties to outsiders and then when their neighbours sell their property they make noise about it," the chief minister said.

The chief minister, addressing the management graduates, said that for the country to fulfill the vision of its leaders like Abdul Kalam of making the country a superpower by 2012, each state has to become a superpower first and for that every individual should become a superpower.

"Goa is considered one of the most progressive states in



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**Digambar Kamat** | CHIEF MINISTER

the country. Our expenditure in the social sector is much more than any other state,"

Kamat said adding that the Goa government is offering some schemes to the people of

Goa which most states cannot even think of providing to their people.

"We have schemes to take care of widows, single women, handicapped children, senior citizens and people affected with AIDS. We provide assistance to artists in their old age and offer interest free loans to students for higher studies in India or abroad. We reimburse patients for kidney dialysis for up to Rs 15,000 per month. More than a lakh Goans are beneficiaries of these schemes out of our population of 14 lakh," Kamat said.

Speaking on the theme of the Goa Institute of Management's conference, Kamat said that social entrepreneurship is a new concept that needs to be given thrust to. Pe-

ter D'Lima, director of GIM, said that the institute is aware of the criticism faced by MBA graduates as being profit maximizers for MNCs and therefore GIM also focuses on making its students aware of their social responsibilities.

Every year Samriddhi - an annual national conference organized by students of Goa Institute of Management - addresses issues related to various spheres of development and strives to find practical and viable solutions for industrial growth. This year Samriddhi 2009 will focus on the concept of social entrepreneurship.

The two day national conference at Riviera, Arpora has drawn corporates, opinion makers and social activists from across the country.