

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF GOA

The Goa Tourist Places (Protection And Maintenance) (Amendment) Bill, 2025

(Bill No. 29 of 2025)

(To be introduced in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Goa)

GOA LEGISLATURE SECRETARIAT ASSEMBLY HALL, PORVORIM JULY, 2025

The Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) (Amendment) Bill, 2025

(Bill No. 29 of 2025)

Α

BILL

further to amend the Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) Act, 2001 (Goa Act 56 of 2001)

- BE it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Goa in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:-
 - 1. **Short title and commencement**.— (1) This Act may be called the Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) (Amendment) Act, 2025.
- 10 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act and any reference in any such provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed as a reference to the coming into force of that provision.
 - 2. **Amendment of section 2.** In the Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) Act, 2001 (Goa Act 56 of 2001) (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act"), in section 2, for clause (c), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—
- (c) 'nuisance' includes any act of,—
 - (i) commission or omission or carrying on of any activity, process, operation which includes the operation of or plying of vessels or boats or timber, raft or any other floating object in any part of the sea, river or port or oil

spillage which causes or is likely to cause injury, danger, annoyance to the sense of sight, smell or hearing or which is or may be dangerous to life or injurious to health or property; or

- (ii) coercing, pestering or attempting to force a tourist to purchase goods or services; or
- (iii) consuming liquor in any space where consumption of liquor is not permitted and breaking glass bottles; or
- (iv) cooking in open spaces beyond the confines of an area or any other space not permitted for such activity; or

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- $\left(v\right)$ littering waste including used material, empty bottles, in places other than the ones meant for dumping such waste; or
- (vi) operating any boating or water sports activities from any area other than those expressly permitted and conducted within the demarcated zones, as may be notified in the Official Gazette from time to time; or
- (vii) engaging in the touting or sale of cruise boat tickets or any other tickets for tourist activities from any location other than authorized ticketing counters or offices at designated tourist places; or
- (viii) begging at tourist places in a manner that causes annoyance or inconvenience to the public; or
- (ix) selling of items or goods from unauthorized handcarts, movable carts, or by unauthorized hawkers; or
 - (x) driving unauthorized vehicles on beaches; or
- (xi) unauthorized selling of water sports tickets/ packages to tourists for services to be offered outside the State of Goa; or
- (xii) obstructing the free movement of tourists or compelling them to purchase any items, goods or services by hawkers, agents or service providers; or
- (xiii) committing such other activity as may be prescribed.

3. **Amendment of section 10.**— For section 10 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

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- "10. Offences and Penalties.— Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or fails to comply with any order or directions given under this Act or obstructs any person acting under the orders or directions of the Competent Authority from exercising his powers and performing his functions under this Act, shall be punishable with a fine of Rs. 5000/- which may extend to Rs. 1,00,000/- and shall be also liable for punishment under section 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 45 of 2023)."
- 4. **Insertion of a new section 10A**.— In the principal Act, after section 10, the following section shall be inserted, namely:—

"10A. Revision of fines.— The fine as provided in this Act shall be evaluated by the Government in consultation with the Competent Authority, every two years, and may be increased by such amount, not exceeding ten per cent in value of the existing fine, as may be prescribed."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

As Goa is recognised as a premier tourist destination, the number of tourists visiting the State has been consistently increasing. However, the rapid expansion of tourism activities has also led to an increase in nuisance at tourist places, affecting the experience of visitors and locals in the State, disturbing public order, and causing environmental degradation. Instances of unauthorized activities, disturbances, and violations of public decorum have been on the rise, necessitating a stronger legal framework to address these concerns.

The Bill seeks to expand the definition of nuisance under the Goa Tourist Places (Protection and Maintenance) Act, 2001 (Goa Act 56 of 2001) by including additional activities and enhance deterrence by increasing the fine for nuisance so as to preserve the integrity of tourist places in Goa, promote responsible and regenerative tourism and create a hospitable environment while protecting the interests of local communities and stakeholders.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

No financial implications are involved in this Bill.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 1(2) of the Bill empowers the Government to appoint the date for bringing into force the Act by Notification in the Official Gazette.

Clause 2 of the Bill empowers the Government to frame rules for prescribing any other activity as nuisance.

Clause 4 of the Bill empowers the Government to frame rules for revision of fines.

These delegations are of normal character.

Place: Porvorim-Goa. **ROHAN KHAUNTE**Dated: July, 2025 Minister of Tourism

Assembly Hall

Porvorim-Goa.

Dated: July, 2025

NAMRATA A. ULMAN

Secretary to the

Legislative Assembly of Goa.

ANNEXURE

Extracts of Section 2 of The Goa Tourist Places (Protection & Maintenance) Act, 2001 (Act No. 56 of 2001)

Definition In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) "Competent authority" means the authority appointed under section 4 of this Act;
- (b) "Government" means the Government of Goa;
- (c) "Nuisance" includes any act of commission or omission or carrying on of any activity, process, operation including the operation of or plying of vessels or boats or timber, raft or any other floating object in any part of the sea, river, or port which causes or is likely to cause injury, danger, annoyance to the sense of sight, smell or hearing or which is or may be dangerous to life or injurious to health or property and includes oil spillage;
- (d) "tourist place" means any place, site or location declared by the Government as tourist place under section 3 of this Act and shall include any land, monument, lake, river, beach or portion thereof;
- (e) "tourism potentiality" means a tourist place where a person or group of persons including pilgrims are likely to visit.

Extracts of Section 10 of The Goa Tourist Places (Protection & Maintenance) Act, 2001 (Act No. 56 of 2001)

10. Offences and penalties.— Whoever contravenes any of the provisions of this Act or fails to comply with any order or directions given under this Act or obstructs any person acting under the

orders or directions of the Competent Authority from exercising his powers and performing his functions under this Act, shall be punishable with fine not less than Rs. 5,000/- but which may

extend to Rs. 50,000/-.

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING PRESS, PANAJI-GOA-412/150-7/2025.