

### 3-year long MoU signed with Goa Institute of Management for Strategic Knowledge Sharing



Mr Shrashtant Patara, CEO of Development Alternatives Group, and Prof Ajit Parulekar, Director of Goa Institute of Management

**D**evelopment Alternatives is a premier social enterprise with a mandate for innovation, incubation, implementation of sustainable solutions to address the concerns of resource crises, climate change and livelihood creation. Goa Institute of Management is one of the top B-schools in the country with a commitment to sustainability and to imbibe the same commitment in the future leaders of the country.

To galvanise each other’s knowledge base and to open avenues to collaborate and create greater impact, Goa Institute of Management & Development Alternatives formalised the association by entering into a 3-year long MoU for Strategic Knowledge Sharing. The signatories to the MoU were Mr Shrashtant Patara, CEO, Development Alternatives Group and Prof Ajit Parulekar, Director, Goa Institute of Management. The MoU would further expand DA’s reach amongst management students in the hope of accelerating the sustainability narrative with future corporate leaders. This will further facilitate collaboration on various research projects, events, immersion programs and internships.

This was done at the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting for one of the research studies titled “Local Feminist Perspective as levers of Social Transformation” being carried out by Goa Institute of Management (GIM) through its Centre For Social Sensitivity and Action (CSSA) supported by German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS).

The Consultation Meet also hosted two panel discussions, first being on “Feminisms and Social Change” and second on “Community Voices forming Local Feminism.” As an important stakeholder to the research study, we were present in both the panels.



Glimpses from the Panel Discussions held at the Stakeholder Consultation Meeting

DA's Head of Communications & Impact, Shaila Sam was panellist at the discussion on how women need to understand they have an identity which they must energise by rising from the shadow of family, community, and patriarchy. She cited the example of DA's work in Mirzapur and the Arya campaign.

DA's Assistant General Manager, Corporate Communications, Nipun Kaushik participated in the second panel. He spoke on the silent movement in rural India where women are taking charge of their destinies. As part of highlighting our voices from the community, we showcased our recently released documentary film "Wheels of Change" on our programme Safe Mobility for Women through the Arya E-rickshaw women entrepreneurs.

It is worth highlighting that DA's Chief Advisor Zeenat Niazi was interviewed by GIM's research team on feminism and climate impact. Radio Bundelkhand's RJ Varsha Raikwar was also interviewed on her role on climate communication and how through Radio Bundelkhand the work of creating awareness on climate change in rural India was being carried out.