## The Institution of Engineers (India)

(Established 1920, Incorporated by Royal Charter 1935)

## **GOA STATE CENTRE**

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## The Institution of Engineers, Goa State Center, had great pleasure in participating for a presentation on "WORLD HABITAT DAY"

Streets and public spaces have often been overlooked and undervalued, but are increasingly being considered the backbone of cities. Public spaces are places which are accessible and enjoyable by all without a profit motive and take on various spatial forms, including parks, streets, sidewalks, markets and playgrounds.

In 2011, UN-Habitat adopted resolution on sustainable urban development through access to quality urbanpublic spaces. Good public spaces enhance community cohesion and promote health, happiness, and well-being for allcitizens as well as fostering investment, economic development and environmental sustainability.

Well designed and managed public spaces and streets are a key asset for a city's liveability and economy:

- Increases property values
- Multiplies retail activity
- Enhances safety
- Fosters social cohesion and equality
- Improves health and well-being
- Improves the environment
- Makes the city more attractive
- Promotes more effective and efficient transportation and mobility

The proposed Sustainable Development Goals highlight Public Spaces as a key and important topic. "Sustainable Development Goals, (provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities)."

It is in this regard that IEI Goa State Centre has decided and joined in the celebration of World Habitat Day and launched the theme: Public Spaces for All at GCCI Hall, near Azad Maidan, Panaji, Goa on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2015. The Faculty member was Architect Mrs. Tallulah D'Silva