

Kamat demands funds in proportion to development

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Deploring lesser fund allocation to the States that achieve encouraging social indices in different sectors, Goa's Chief Minister Digambar Kamat today renewed his plea with the Planning Commission of India for proportionate distribution among different states in tune with their development.

"In our country, some states which are performing well are being punished. Because of their good social indicators, they don't get much in the planned budget," he said, adding, he had brought this anomaly to the notice of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission, Montek Singh Ahluwalia recently.

Inaugurating 'Samridhi-2009', the annual national conference organised by the students of the Goa Institute of Management in a North Goa resort today, the Chief Minister said India was poised to become a superpower by the year 2020 and every state has to play a pivotal role in hastening the process.

"India will become superpower by 2020, as the country has been registering considerable growth in its GDP for the last three years, even foreign investments, exports, power resources, employment and literacy rates are increasing considerably placing the country on road

to become a superpower," Mr Kamat said.

Regarding Goa, he said, the literacy and health level indicators were amongst the highest in the country and it was now poised to embark on the next phase of qualitative improvement in these two sectors. In this connection, he had listed several schemes instituted by the state for the benefit of the needy.

Samridhi addresses issues related to various spheres of development and strives to find practical and viable solutions for industrial growth. This year, the event focuses on the concept of Social Entrepreneurship. The seminar is a first of its kind initiative among B-Schools in India drawing a large number of delegates from the corporate world and opinion makers from across the country.

Enumerating various initiatives of the GIM, its director Peter D'Lima said the institution aimed at imparting not just managerial skills to its students but inculcating in them a sense of social responsibility.

As future managers and leaders, the students felt that it was their responsibility to strive towards inclusive growth in the society. The event aims at unleashing the aspect of social entrepreneurship creating not just a pool of wealth for a selected few but spreading the benefits to a larger section of society, he said.