

PAPER REPORT



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# Goa now has a mediation centre



**Justice Madan Lokur of the Supreme Court lighting the lamp to inaugurate the mediation centre.**

BY A REPORTER  
[reporters@gomantaktimes.com](mailto:reporters@gomantaktimes.com)

**PANAJI:** Justice Madan Lokur set the ball rolling for the Goa Community Mediation Centre (GCMC), a centre that seeks to promote the an alternate dispute resolution system in Goa. A simple function was held at the Advocates Building at the Bombay High Court at Goa Complex.

The GCMC promises is to promote community mediation and to provide mediation service known for their integrity, impartiality and expertise.

"Some form of mediation always existed in our country and in the village communities in one form or other it does not have defined standards rules and procedures. While the Mediation process

is at the emerging stage in India, it is at a well established level in developed countries," a statement from the GCMC says.

The GCMC will work under the Indian Institute of Arbitration and Mediation, which was formed under the guidance of legal luminaries like Justice Venkatchelliah, Justice Paripoornan and others which in turn is under the International Mediation Institute, The Hague, Netherlands. It is also recognized and has direct collaboration with number of international mediation institutes and universities. The GCMC will receive support and training from the IIAM.

The need for the GCMC was felt as the dispute alleviating system -- the judiciary in our

country, is literally swamped by the disputes. The enormous time and cost involved is overbearing. It is in this context the relevance of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) emerges.

Disputes that occur in commerce and business like quality issues, contract deviations and payment issues are on the increase. The breaking down of joint family system and double employment has given rise to severe tensions and family disputes. The pressures of the times also give rise to neighborhood and community conflicts. These are natural corollaries in the development mode of a nation. The GCMC seeks to resolve such disputes and thereby help save the time of the courts.