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## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN GOA

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*Goa, a tiny dot of India with abundance resources at local levels, presents a unique example of Panchayati Raj. Hailing from Portuguese decentralized Administration until post liberation, the 73<sup>rd</sup> added new dimensions and priorities to empowering rural management. During 1990s, the impact of globalization and emergence of e-Panchayats in new millennium, Goa became a model example in India through promoting social services via rural based eco tourism activities mostly located within the concave of Panchayats. It offers various alternatives suited to the best interest of rural community.*

### Background

India, world's largest democracy with 1300 million inhabitants, is based on community empowerment services which is the key element to understand the philosophy of people's participation in parliamentary institutions. As the core to local government, community empowerment helps to enable people to make an active participation in decision makings with support of cooperative and organized mechanisms. It can be better communicated through Three-Tier System: Village-level Panchayats, Block-level Panchayats and District-level Panchayats for the preparation and implementation of community empowerment. Within the system, Village-level Panchayat remains the core body where people take upon themselves the responsibility for grassroots

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