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Report 7, on visit to old age homes in the Goa by Dr Vinod Aggarwal Special Rapporteur Central and West Zone from 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.

In the North and South districts of Goa, there are many government run old age homes called Provedoria, called Institute of Public assistance, which is an autonomous body, enjoying administrative and financial autonomy under control of Goa government. The head office is at Panaji in North Goa district and Branch office at Margao south Goa District. The provedoria run 10 old age homes and 02 children homes. The report submitted by the director is annexed ? to this report.

#### Scheme for management of old age homes for indigent senior citizens.-

1. Old age homes established shall be run in accordance with the following norms :

(A) The home shall have physical facilities and run in accordance with the operational norms.

(B) Inmates of the home shall be selected with the following procedure:-

(a) Senior Citizens, desirous of living in the old age home, shall be free to apply at any time.

(b) In case the number of eligible applicants are more than the number of places available in a home, selection of inmates will be made in the following admission manner:-

(i) More indigent and needy will be given preference over the less indigent applicants.

(ii) Other things being equal, older senior citizens will be given preference over the less old.

(iii) Other things being equal, female applicants will be given preference over males.

(iv) Illiterate and/or very infirm Senior Citizens may also be admitted without any formal application if the District Magistrate is satisfied that the Senior Citizen is not in a position to make a formal application, but is badly in need of shelter;

(C) While considering applications for admission, no distinction shall be made on the basis of religion or caste;

(D) The home shall provide separate lodging for men and women inmates, unless a male and a female inmate are either blood relations or a married couple;

(E) Day-to-day affairs of the old age home shall be managed by a Management Committee which shall be constituted as per guidelines issued by the State Government from time to time, such that inmates are also suitably represented on the Committee.

2. Living Space The old age home shall, as far as possible, have minimum area per inmate as per the following norms:-

(i) Area of bedroom/dormitory per inmate 7.5 sq. metres

(ii) Living area or carpet area 12 sq. metres per inmate, plus ancillary areas like kitchen, dining hall, recreation room, medical room, etc. but excluding verandahs, corridors, etc.

3. Facilities: The old age home shall have the following facilities:-

(i) Residential area comprising rooms/dormitories – separately for men and women;

(ii) Adequate water for drinking and ancillary purposes;

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- (iii) Electricity, fans and heating arrangements for inmates ((as necessary));
- (iv) kitchen-cum-store and office;
- (v) Dining hall;
- (vi) Adequate number of toilets and baths, including toilets suitable for disabled persons;
- (vii) Recreation facilities, television, newspaper and an adequate collection of books; and
- (viii) First aid, sick bay and primary healthcare facilities.

### The guidelines for old age home

Application in prescribed form to the Director and along with Affidavit in prescribed format.

Income certificate from village panchayat should be countersigned by BDO.

Residential certificate issued by Mamlatdar/ Municipality/ village Panchayat as the case may be.

Health certificate from the Health department or RMP about the old person is not unsound mind or doesn't suffer from any contagious diseases along with Proof of Age.

The list of old age homes in Goa with no. of seats for stay in each home.

SR NO	NAME OF THE INSTITUTION	NO. OF SR. CITIZENS
1.	ASYLUM OF MAPUSA ( FEMALES)	61
2.	ASYLUM OF CANDOLIM (MALES)	38
3.	VICTOR DA GAMA HOME ( MALE)	11
4.	RECOLHIMENTO DE SERRA (FEMALES)	23
5.	ASYLUM OF CHIMBEL (UNDER REPAIR)	RECONSTRUCTION
6.	ASYLUM OF MARGAO ( BOTH)	52
7.	ASYLUM OF CHINCHINIM (MALES)	13
8.	ASYLUM OF LOTUTULIM (FEMALES)	32
9.	CENTRE OF CUNCOLIM (BOTH)	21
10.	ASYLUM OF MAJORDA (FEMALES)	RECONSTRUCTION

The organizational set up has been there of IPA of Provederia. The Director is assisted by a Joint Director of Accounts, along with 4 assistant Directors,

1. heading field old office of South Goa branch,
2. Asst Director Looking after Adm/ Est. Section,
3. Looking after welfare section and
4. looks after program section.

There is Assistant engineer and Assistant accounts officers who all are further supported by one program officer, Head Clerks, UDCs, LDCs, Drivers, Peons, Sweepers, Watchmen, Stewards and Stewardess are there.

As such 10 old age homes in small population of Goa are better than most part of country, but if we define with some target of 10% of old age citizens beyond 65 years in that case may fall short. The homes started about 70 years back by the Portuguese Government and when these people left Goa, converted few of their properties in the old age homes.

There is enough space in the homes which I visited at asylum at Margao and asylum of Loutulim. There is no lack of space in the homes at both the places and the inmates were happy, but the toilets are at different level many times. There are many stairs. Buildings are old but still better than many new ones. But the buildings for old persons are generally required at one level.

The money provided for daily food is enough but better utilization money provided can take place.

#### Recommendation

1. Very elaborate frame work has been developed by Goa administration to help the elderly, but these old age homes were established 70 years back by Portuguese government and not by the present government. They have just maintained the scheme over the years.
2. The collector and SP are not aware of their duties about their duties. Sensitization of DM and SP and other officers for the schemes of elderly is required.
3. Police stations are not maintaining any list of the senior citizens. No tribunals have been formed. District Committee for older citizens not formed.
4. Re 250 for food is provided per day, which may look bit higher some money can be saved.
5. All the old homes are linked with CHCs and PHCs, a model which can be replicated
6. Many additional activities are being planned by the Director. Similar activities could be attempted in other states also.
7. Very old TVs are still used, need replacement

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