

All aboard? Goa may finally get a Tourism Board

Goa may be known across India and the world for being one of the most popular tourism destinations globally—before the pandemic, it had managed to sell all year around, something which not only powers India tourist numbers both nationally and internationally—but the state still doesn't have a state tourism board. Well, the wait may finally be over as those in the know within the industry are abuzz with the possibility that the government will announce the formation of a Goa Tourism Board on World Tourism Day on September 27, 2021.

A proposal which had been hanging in the balance for over a decade, and was a key recommendation of the Goa Tourism Policy of 2020-25, the formation of the Tourism Board was repeatedly delayed because of reservations of private industry players regarding who would chair the Board. While the Tourism Policy suggested the Tourism Minister of the State as Chairman, private industry players wanted the Chief Minister to chair the Board to make it more effective. The government finally agreeing to the proposal of the private industry, the decks are now clear for the constitution of the much-awaited and anticipated Tourism Board in Goa.