

Goa's 2025-26 tourism season begins with chartered flight arriving from Kazakhstan

Goa officially ushered in its 2025–26 charter tourism season with the arrival of the first international charter flight at Dabolim Airport. Operated by SCAT Airlines, the flight from Almaty, Kazakhstan landed at 5:30 a.m., marking the start of what is expected to be a vibrant inbound travel season for the coastal state.

Goa's Tourism Minister, Rohan Khaunte, described the occasion as a milestone in the state's efforts to strengthen its global tourism footprint.

“The arrival of the first charter flight from Kazakhstan signifies Goa's growing international connectivity and appeal as a global destination. We are committed to strengthening such partnerships and expanding our charter network to diversify source markets while ensuring a sustainable and regenerative approach to tourism,” he said.

Kedar Naik, Director of Tourism, added,

“Each new charter flight reinforces Goa's position as a preferred leisure destination. We appreciate the continued efforts of our travel partners and stakeholders in promoting Goa and ensuring smooth operations at both Dabolim and Mopa airports.”

To commemorate the inaugural arrival, a festive welcome ceremony was organised by the Department of Tourism in collaboration with Concord Exotic Voyages and the Travel and Tourism Association of Goa (TTAG). Guests were greeted with garlands, floral welcomes, a brass band performance, and a cake-cutting ceremony to mark the commencement of the new charter season.

The arrival of the first charter flight signals the beginning of a promising season ahead, with several international charters from other destinations expected to land in Goa in the coming weeks — reaffirming the state's standing as one of India's most sought-after beach and leisure destinations.