



Despite 90% Placements, Goa's Graduates Embrace Entrepreneurship and Self-Employment

Self-employment, startups, and reskilling are gaining ground as students aim to design their own success stories.

Goa's engineering and diploma colleges are witnessing a strong surge in employability, with **placement rates hitting 90% in engineering and over 89% in diploma institutions** — a clear indicator that the state's academic ecosystem is evolving to meet industry expectations.

More than 500 eligible students were successfully placed through a mix of on-campus and off-campus drives, reflecting strong recruiter confidence in the talent pool. But beyond the impressive placement numbers, a **new career mindset is taking shape**. Over **300 graduates** are choosing to pursue **higher education**, while many others are exploring **self-employment, entrepreneurship, or alternative career paths**. This signals a generation that is not just seeking jobs, but actively **reskilling and future-proofing** themselves in a rapidly changing, tech-driven world.

What truly stands out is the **shift in student mindset**. Goa's graduates are realising that **skills are the new currency**, and are intentionally investing in reskilling and upskilling to remain relevant and resilient.

This rise in youth skilling and employability is the result of **strategic collaboration** between the government, academia, and industry. The **Startup and IT Promotion Cell** and the **Department of Information Technology, Electronics & Communications**, under the leadership of **Hon'ble Minister Shri Rohan A. Khaunte** has pioneered a model of education that goes beyond exam scores, one that focuses on creating **future-ready individuals**.

"We are reimagining education not just as a pathway to jobs, but as a platform for lifelong learning. Goa is building a skilling ecosystem that evolves with industry needs — where students are not just graduates, but contributors to innovation," said **Shri Rohan A. Khaunte, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Electronics & Communications**.

The data reflects a deeper transformation: Goa's institutions are not just producing degree-holders, but nurturing skilled, entrepreneurial individuals who are attuned to the demands of a fast-evolving industry. Initiatives like the **Startup Yatra Bootcamp**, **Masterclasses**, **the Goa AI Mission**, and industry programs like **BridgeAura '25** are playing a vital role in this shift, exposing students to real-world innovation, applied learning, and hands-on problem-solving.

Colleges are also actively creating spaces where entrepreneurship can take root. Events such as **TORQUE 2025**, organised by the **Mechanical Engineering Students' Association (MESA)** at **Goa College of Engineering (GEC)**, and **IDEAS 3.0**, the intra-college project competition hosted by **Padre Conceicao College of Engineering (PCCE)**, are more than just showcases of student talent, they are **platforms that nurture innovation, teamwork, and entrepreneurial thinking**.

By encouraging students to apply their learning to real-world challenges, these initiatives are shaping the mindset of tomorrow's founders, builders, and changemakers.