

Quadrant- II Notes

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Name of the Presenter: Shri Prajal Sakhardande

Government and Politics (1963-1979) Part II

Notes

- Shashikala Kakodkar has the distinction of being the only Woman Chief Minister in the history of Goa, Daman and Diu so far. Popularly known as 'Tai'; her rule of 6 years from August 13, 1973 to April 27, 1979 marks an important chapter in the history of Goa, Daman and Diu.
- Shashikala Kakodkar has also the distinction of being a school girl freedom fighter as at the age of 11 young Shashikala participated in a morcha to liberate Goa from the Portuguese yoke. On 12th August, 1973, Dayanand Bandodkar, Goa, Daman and Diu's first Chief Minister passed away.
- Senior Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Paksh (MGP) leaders, leaders from Maharashtra prevailed upon Bandodkar's daughter Shashikala to take over as the Chief Minister of Goa, Daman and Diu. At that time, she was a minister in the Bandodkar cabinet.
- Kakodkar followed Sucheta Kriplani and Nandini Satpathy as the THIRD WOMAN CHIEF MINISTER in our country's history.
- The period from 1973 to 1977 had the grandiose of Indira Gandhi as the only woman Prime Minister so far and Shashikala Kakodkar as the Chief Minister

of Goa, Daman and Diu, two powerful women whose fathers had laid the foundation stone for a modern India and a modern Goa, respectively.

- In 1967, Shashikala Kakodkar had won the elections on the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Paksh (MGP) ticket from the Ponda Constituency and once again in the 1972 elections from the Bicholim Constituency wherein she was inducted as a minister in the Bhandarkar cabinet.
- She was the first woman to hold the position of a minister in Goa, Daman and Diu's post liberation history.
- Shashikala Kakodkar as the Chief Minister of Goa, Daman & Diu (1973-1977), (1977-1979)
- Landmark legislations were passed during the tenure of the Kakodkar government.
- Holding a master's degree in history herself, Kakodkar always gave top priority to the profile of education, especially of the economically backward.
- On her tours to the backward talukas of Goa, during the tenure of her father; Shashikalatai, she understood that the education of the girl child requires urgent attention.
- As the Chief Minister, she made it her top priority.
- Shashikala Kakodkar proved her mettle as a good administrator and a strict disciplinarian.
- She held the 15 key portfolios-General Administration, Secretariat Administration, Home, Finance, Confidential & Vigilance Department
 - Industry, Public Works Department (PWD), Education, Information & Tourism
 - Public Health, Small Savings, Public Assistance, Provedoria
 - Social Welfare, Goa Archives, Landmark Legislations of the Kakodkar Government
- The Town and Country Planning Act 1974
- The Goa Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Board Act, 1975 that is an establishment of the Goa Board and the 10+2+3 System
- The Mundkar Act 1976
- The Goa Ancient Monuments and the Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1978
- The proposal to set up the Goa University, the case for Statehood for Goa was prepared and sent to centre
- Establishment of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), the change of nomenclature from Panaji to Panaji

- Establishment of the Goa Sadan in Delhi
- Repair and improvement of rural housing
- Provision of electricity and good roads in the villages
- Expansion of industrial estates and setting up of new ones at Tivim, Bicholim, talks with Telco
- Formation of Planning Development and conservation areas such as Fontainhas.
- The prevention of Cow Slaughter Act, 1978, the buildings (lease rent and eviction control) Amendment Act and several such landmark legislations and acts were made by the Shashikala Kakodkar government.
- Initiation of the new building of the Kala Academy, Hanjunem dam besides others.
- It also reached the stage of giving returns to the economy and Shashikala made good use of this.
- Reducing the dependence on mining for the purpose of revenue, Kakodkar minimised the chances of the whole Goan economy coming to a standstill whenever there was crisis on the mining front as per the analysis made by A.D. Furtado in his book.
- Kakodkar, very faithfully also implemented Indira Gandhi's 20 point programme.
- On nepotism, Kakodkar was accused of granting maximum government advertisements to the Marathi fortnightly 'Sameer', of which her husband Gurudatt Kakodkar was the editor.
- Gurudatt Kakodkar was also accused of taking one rupee per seat on the Goa to Bombay bound buses.
- She was accused of being authoritarian and autocratic.
- The accidental bullet injury death of her only brother Siddharth within a year of his marriage to film star Leena Chandavarkar in 1976 made the opposition cadres in the assembly suspect of 'foul play' although it was an accidental death as per the interview of Leena Chandavarkar published in Filmfare.
- In 1978, there was budget leak reported in the Marathi daily 'Gomantak' that tarnished the image of the Kakodkar Government.
- Throughout her life, she took a pro-Marathi stand detrimental to the interest of Goa's mother tongue Konkani.
- Dayanand Narvekar, Dilkush Desai and Shankar Lad defected from the Government on 23rd April, 1979 and the Kakodkar government fell on 27th April, 1979.

- **CONCLUSION**

- Shashikala Kakodkar as the Chief Minister of Goa, Daman and Diu consolidated many of the reforms introduced by her father Dayanand Bandodkar and, introduced many a new.
- Six years of her rule will remain a memorable chapter in the history of post-liberated Goa.
- Her tenure ended in April 1979.

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