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THE WOMEN LIFESAVERS ON GOA'S BEACHES

Goa is home to some of India's best-known beaches, where a trio of women lifeguards are breaking societal norms to save lives.

By Chryselle D'Silva Dias

IT'S BARELY PAST 10am on a Wednesday morning and Goa's Baga Beach is already teeming with tourists. There are groups of men in white 'Goa' vests, women in jump-suits and saris, and children of every age running around. Ice-cream vendors make a quick buck under the morning sun. In the background, small fishing boats are unloading their catch onto the tiny strip of beach.

Lifesavers, not Lifeguards

Goa's unique position as a top beach destination attracts thousands of tourists throughout the year. The 103km-long coastline is peppered with busy beaches.

In 2007, around 200 cases of death by drowning prompted the state government to take strong measures. Drishti Marine began operations in Goa in 2008. The service has since led to a 99% reduction in

