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Margao civic body's website to be launched on Gandhi Jayanti

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MARGAO: The Margao Municipal Council (MMC) will soon have its place in cyberspace. Come October 2 and the MMC will launch its own website packed with a host of features designed to enable the public to have e-access to the civic administration.

The website will be commissioned by chief minister Digambar Kamat at a function to be held on October 2, Gandhi Jayanti.

"This is the first step towards the revival of the citizens' facilitation centre. By launching this website we wish to bring the administration of the Margao civic body a step closer to the public," MMC chairperson Savio Coutinho told TOI.

The MMC website is devoid of any frills. Neither does it boast of a dynamic design, nor is it packed with fancy animation. However, its people-friendly features hold promise of a transparent civic administration.

For starters, the website will provide records of births and deaths, trade tax and house tax, besides posting tender notices and public announcements.

Various application forms that need to be filled in by the public to obtain documents or services from the MMC will also be available on the website. These can be downloaded and printed.

Chief officer of the MMC Prasanna Acharya said that the website, though modest in design and features, is a step towards making the administration "responsive and transparent."

"The website will be loaded with additional features gradually. We are also looking at having a 'you owe us' section where people will be able to know their dues to the MMC at the click of the button, besides enabling them to pay their outstanding amounts online.

"These things may take some time to materialize but they are very much in the pipeline," Acharya told TOI.

The website has been designed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) in coordination with the tech-savvy staff of the MMC.