

# Controversy raises curiosity of art, say artists

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**PANJIM:** Mostly hailing from the defence background, an assortment of artists have come together to showcase their paintings. While four artists are wives of Dabolim based naval officers, one is the wife of a central Revenue officer

## ARTISTS MEET

and the sole male member of the group is a Mumbai / Mercers based marketing consultant. A common thread binds them all while drawing inspiration for their work of art. They take utmost care not to hurt feelings of any community while depicting their form of art. However, they do feel controversy raises curiosity of art.

Beginning from tomorrow, 9 October, six artists



**'Goddess Saraswati': Garima Singh paints the 'Goddess of Learning'**

will exhibit their work at the Kala Academy. The

three day expo, to be inaugurated by Rear Admiral

Sudhir Pillai, will have the Director of Art and Culture Prasad Lolayekar as the chief guest. "We want to create and show different works of art in different price ranges, part of the sales of which will go towards good causes," informed one artist Sunil Mehta for the exhibition supported by NGO's - El Shaddai and Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA). Among other artists whose works will be on display include Geeta Sahu (pottery), Garima Singh (Tanjore and multimedia paintings), Mrinal Nigde (tile and glass paintings), Tulika Sharma (crafts, furniture, decor and murals), Veena Satish (abstract works) and Sunil Mehta (oil and acrylic).

Addressing mediapersons, Mehta said the aim behind organising this exhibition was scouring for an opportunity. Hence, the group of six artists came together to hold this expo. When asked for their comments on certain group of artists allegedly painting Gods of a particular community in a controversial way, Mehta remarked that India is a country having multiplicity of religions. "We are against hurting the feelings of any community. We have to go by the law of the land," Mehta said. Replying to yet another question about whether such artists are seeking cheap publicity, he sidestepped the question.

However, another artist Geeta Sahu said controversy raises curiosity of art. "We have not received any financial support from the state government. But, there is a lot of moral support from the government," claimed Mehta in reply to another question.