Arpora-Nagoa Panchayat faces HC ire over illegal land-filling and constructions

Court directs panchayat to file affidavit on status of show cause notices issued to 45 violators; asks civic body to explain as to why these notices were not disposed of till date

Team Herald

PANJIM: The High Court of Bombay at Goa on Wednesday directed the Arpora-Nagoa village panchayat to file an affidavit regarding the status of show cause notices issued to 45 persons for illegal land-filling and constructions and why demolition were orders not executed till date.

THAT'S AN **ORDER**

While hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) writ petition by two lawyers Chahit Bansal

asked the village panchayat to file an affidavit explaining the status of the 42 notices referred in the petition. The village panchayat must explain why these notices have not been disposed of till date and also indicate the timeline within which such notices will be disposed of.

The Court observed that most of the show cause notices for alleged illegal land-filling and construction were issued on September 30, 2023 and few of these notices were issued on December 28, 2023 and February 5, 2024.

Arguing on behalf of the petitioner, Adv Rohit Bras De Sa and Navkaran Singh, the Court stated that demolition orders



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have been issued only in about 13 cases by the Arpora-Nagoa village panchayat. He however pointed out that even these demolitions have not been executed by the village panchayat

government Additional Advocate Deep Shirodkar told the Court that the Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department will also verify the status of illegal land-filling and if there is illegal land-filling then the TCP Department will inform the Court the timeline within which action will be initiated and completed.

The concerned officials from the TCP department must file an affidavit by the next date on this issue, the Court said and posted the matter for further hearing on April 30.

After two lawyers from Assagao filed PIL writ petition against rampant illegal land-filling and constructions in September last year, the village panchayat woke up and issued show cause notices to as many as 45 structures under Section 64 (J) and 82 of Goa Panchayat Raj Act, 1994.

Activist signs undertaking pledging not to interfere in fisherwomen's business

Team Herald

MAPUSA: RTI activist Jawahar Shetye on Wednesday signed an undertaking at Mapusa Police station, saying he won't interfere in the fisherwomen's business henceforth. This is with regard to the case filed by the Mapusa fisherwomen against Shetye.

This issue escalated when five fisherwomen alleged that Shetye had extorted money and had taken away their documents promising to provide them with a permanent place to sell their fish in the market.

The issue came to light on April 7 when the five fisherwomen filed a complaint against Shetye alleging that he approached them for money and had even taken over their documents. The women said, "He is harassing us because we are not Goans and are natives of Maharashtra," they said. The fisherwomen also filed a police complaint against Shetye for disturbing peace in the Mapusa market.

Shetye was summoned by the police on Wednesday for interrogation. To maintain peace, the Mapusa Police urged Shetye to sign an undertaking that he will not interfere in the fisherwomen's business and peace will be maintained; to which he agreed.

The fisherwomen alleged that Shetye extorted Rs 5,000 from each of them. However the fisherwomen have urged the authorities to take their documents from Shetye and return the same to them. When asked about their money and documents, they said, "We want our documents back. Even if our money is not credited to us back it is fine, but we want our docu-

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE



Seven motorcycle riders skid on oil spilled at Altinho, Panjim

Four people escape with minor injuries; fire-fighters cover the oil spilled on the road with dry soil

Team Herald

PANJIM: In all seven motorcycle riders skidded following an oil spill on the internal road at Altinho, Panjim, on Tuesday late evening. Around four people who escaped with minor injuries included two youth, a woman and a male senior citizen.

The Panjim Fire and **Emergency Services rushed** to the spot and covered the oil with dry soil.

Eyewitnesses the oil spill covered the stretch of the entire road.

We got a distress call at around 7 pm saying that oil has spilled at Altinho, so we reached the spot and began covering it with soil. Around six to seven motorcyclists slipped, but fortunately no major injuries or damages have been reported. We believe that the oil may have spilled from a vehicle but we are still not sure about it yet

the road, a commuter im-

mediately called Panjim

Fire and Emergency Ser-

vices. A team of fire depart-

ment officials arrived at the

spot and began covering

"We got a distress call at

the road with dry soil.

- Fire Department official

The source of the oil spill is not yet ascertained. Motorists moving down the road slipped on the road due to the oil. Luckily there was no life-threaten-

On noticing the bikes on

around 7 pm saying that oil has spilled at Altinho. so we reached the spot and began covering it with soil. Around six to seven motorcyclists slipped, but fortunately no major injuries or damages have been reported. We believe that the oil may have spilled from a vehicle but we are still not sure about it yet," said a fire official.

The fire-fighters were seen clearing the traffic in that area and alerting the oncoming coming two-wheeler riders about the oil spill.

Excise dept officials seize liquor worth Rs 42.53 lakh at Patradevi checkpost

Team Herald

PERNEM: The officials of Excise Department have medical waste. We told our seized illegal liquor worth staff to check the truck. Rs 42.53 lakh at Patradevi checkpost on Wednesday. The liquor was being transported to Maharashtra illegally. The department has arrested the driver and seized the container vehicle used for transportation.

"The vehicle was going from Goa to Maharashtra. They were carrying bio-They found 140 cases Kingfisher beer, 150 cases of Tuborg cases, 450 cases of vodka. The total liquor was valued at Rs 42.53 lakh. The driver was detained as also the vehicle," Rajesh Naik an excise official stated.

"The total value of the liquor and the vehicles is Rs 80.53 lakh. The driver was arrested on suspicion since the tapal was duplicate. The e-bill was ok. So we doubted they maybe carrying liquor" Naik stated. Asked what they do with the liquor which is confiscated, he said that they check the liquor and if it is spurious, they take permission to destroy it.



The liquor that was seized by the Excise officials at Patradevi checkpost, on Wednesday

'Babush' supported panel files nominations for Taleigao VP polls

Team Herald

PANJIM: The candidates of a panel backed by Revenue Minister and Panjim MLA Atanasio 'Babush' Monserrate filed their nomination papers for Taleigao village panchayat elections on Wednesday. They filed their nominations for the elections scheduled on April 28.

Monserrate has fielded candidates in all 11 wards under the panel called Taleigao Progressive Development Front.

The candidates, who filed their nominations were Siddhi Kerkar (ward 1), Agnelo Da Cunha (ward Helena Pereira (ward 3), Ratika Gawas (ward 4), Ushant Kankonkar (ward 5), Estella D'Souza (ward 6). Janu Rosario (ward 7). Maria Fernandes (ward 8), Sanjana Diukar (ward 9), Sagar Bandekar (ward 10), and Sydney Barreto (ward 11). Monserrate and his wife Taleigao MLA Iennifer Monserrate were also present at the time of filing nomination papers.

The filing of nominations for the panchayat elections commenced from Monday,

April 8. All together 11 nominations were received by the election authorities on Wednesday. As per the election schedule, announced by the State Election Commission (SEC), the last date of filing the nomination papers is April 18, 2024.

Babush's panel comprises over 50 per cent women candidates. He has fielded Siddi Kerkar (ward 1), Agnelo Da Cunha (ward 2), Helena Pereira (ward 3), Ratika Gawas (ward 4), Ushant Kankonkar (ward 5), Maria Fernandes (ward 8), Sanjana Diukar (ward 9), Sagar Bandekar (ward 10) and Sydney Barreto (ward 11).

Sarpanch Janu Rosario, former sarpanch and panchayat members Agnelo Da Cunha. Estella D'Souza, Maria Fernandes and Sydney Barreto are recontesting the elections.

In 2019 elections, Monserrate supported panel had won all 11 wards, with Agnelo Da Cunha being declared elected unopposed. As per the State Election

Commission (SEC), there are 19,349 eligible voters out of whom 9,206 are men and 10,143 women. The panchayat elections are to be held on non-party lines and the votes are to be cast through ballot papers. The expenditure limit for every candidate is Rs 40,000.

READY TO MOVE VASTU COMPLIANT INDUSTRIAL SHED FOR SALE 1 Total Plot area Industria and conforms with all requirement of Pharma and Food industry Plot No. 1/A. Margao Industrial Estate. Village- St. Jose De Areal, Taluka-Salcate, CONTACT NO : +91-9833078167 VINAYAK PHADNIS FOR INSPECTION. **VISIT TO FACTORY BY PRIOR APPOINTMENTS ONLY.**



Muslim brethren called to foster a culture of understanding, brotherhood love, compassion and tol-

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Association of All Goa Muslim Jamats and Jamaat e Islami Hind (JIH) have extended their warm greetings to all the Muslim brethren in Goa on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

EID-UL-FITR

Wishing that Almighty may shower his blessings on the people of Goa on this auspicious day, Association of All Goa Muslim Jamats president Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, said, "Prophet Muhammad (peace upon him) gifted us with his invaluable and eternal message of

erance which has greatest relevance today. When the world is affected with problems of religious fundamentalism, hatred, violence and conflicts. On this auspicious occasion, Eid-ul- Fitr draws inspiration from the internal message of Prophet and practice in the best interest of social harmony and national unity. On this auspicious occasion, let us all pray for good health and prosperity of all Goans. Greetings to the wonderful people of Goa on the joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr!"

In a message to Goans, Asif Hussain, State President of Jamaat e Islami Hind (JIH) said, "As we celebrate this

On this auspicious occasion, let us all pray for good health and prosperity of all Goans. Greetings to the wonderful people of Goa on the joyous occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr! Sheikh Bashir Ahmed, President of Association of All Goa **Muslim Jamats**

Eid as a day of reward, let us come together in the spirit of love and compassion. Let's embrace the teachings of Ramadan, cherishing values like empathy, generosity, and goodwill towards all. As we bid farewell to this sacred month, let its essence guide us in our daily lives, fostering a culture of understanding and human brotherhood."

Hussain said, "Amidst the challenges, let's prioritise love and peace, allowing them to prevail over negativity. Eid serves as a powerful reminder of the significance of living in harmony and spreading joy to all. May this Eid be a powerful reminder of accountability towards the Creator . Let's welcome this day with open hearts, and may its spirit inspire us to spread love and kindness throughout the year. Wishing you a blessed Eid, filled with peace, joy, and abundant happiness. Eid Mubarak!"

