

# Heavy rain continues to lash Goa, widespread damage reported

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Heavy rainfall continued to lash the State on Monday throwing normal life out of gear and causing widespread damage in different areas across the state.

Due to the heavy rains, Sanguem, Sanvordem and Quepem areas faced flooding and rise in sea water level. The water level of the floods reached till the calf of a person compelling the local pedestrians to be trapped on one side of the road. Not only the roads but schools and residential houses also faced heavy

water flooding. The Paroda bridge was submerged while there was waterlogging on Mandovi bridge propelling the commuters to travel through the inundated bridge. Also the boundary wall of a house in Fatorda collapsed.

Speaking to O Herald, Gill D'Souza, a Fire and Emergency Services (FES) official said, "The house has collapsed because of accumulation of rain water on its roof. We have advised the occupants to move to other places as staying in the house is not safe."

Wall of a house next to a play school at Bhailipeth,



Bicholim, collapsed while part of the wall of an old roadside house collapsed at Matavwado, Penha de França, Porvorim due to the heavy rains.

Flood like situation was witnessed at Sodiem, Siolim, and Guirim, national highway at Peddem.

According to Station Fire Officer (SFO). Porovirm, D G

Pednkar land slide and falling of a tree were reported near Gurudwara at Betim and the same were cleared by the official of Fire and Emergency Services and Disaster Management Authority.

In the capital city of Panjim, various areas like Inter State Bus Terminal, Patto, D B Road, Miramar Circle experienced water logging causing the vehicular traffic to run at snail's pace.

During the last three days, Panjim has 12.5 inches of rainfall, Canacona 11.8 inches, Margao 10.15 inches, Quepem 16.88 inches and Sanguem 17.59 inches of rainfall.

So far the state has received an average rainfall of 23.26 inches as against 8.91 inches from July 4 to 10, 2024, registering an increase of 161.3 per cent.

Meanwhile, the IMD Goa on Monday issued an orange alert for July 16 and yellow alert for the next three days.

"Heavy to very heavy rainfall very is likely at a few places with strong surface winds over North Goa and South Goa districts on July 16 while Heavy rainfall is very likely at isolated places with strong surface winds over North Goa and South Goa districts on July 17, 18 and 19, 2024," the IMD said.

## Trees uprooted, houses damaged in Ponda

SANTOSH NAIK



Team Herald

**PONDA:** Normal life was paralysed in Ponda taluka due to the incessant rain.

The continuous downpour accompanied by gusty winds led to uprooting of trees, many of which landing on power lines and plunging the area in darkness.

Many houses were extensively damaged after gusty winds knocked down trees.

In Nagzar at Curti, a metal roof of Sunder Traders and the roof tiles of a house belonging to Akash Naik was blown away with the winds causing substantial loss to the owners.

Waters for the swollen nullah entered many homes damaging electrical gadgets

and consumer goods.

A residential cum commercial building near the Ponda Market Complex was flooded with rain water accumulating in the basement and flooding around nine shops.

The merchants complained that the developer had failed to construct a drainage system for the complex. The Ponda Fire personnel later pumped out the water from the basement.

With the water level at the Opa river flowing at a dangerous level, the Nirankal road was flooded and water gushed into homes at Dharbandora and Davkon.

At Muder, two electric poles were damaged after a huge tree fell on the road.

## Tough time for commuters at OPA

SANTOSH NAIK



Team Herald

**PONDA:** Commuters had a harrowing time trying to negotiate their vehicles across the roads dotted with potholes near the main Opa-Khandepar junction.

Not only commuters but locals, school going students too faced hardship while travelling

through this service road at the Opa Junction.

Locals urged the authorities to conduct temporary repairs on the road for the convenience of the public and traffic on NH.

PTA Chairman Suraj Garad lamented that the recently tarred road was washed away with the rains.

## Tillari water floods low lying areas in Sodiem-Siolim

Team Herald

**SIOLIM:** Low lying areas in Sodiem Siolim were flooded after rain water and the excess water released from the Tillari Irrigation Canal entered several homes in Pilimbi and Gausa Vaddo.

In Pilimbi, the water level entered the homes of the Mirajkar family and damaged electrical appliance and consumer goods. The family had to spend four harrowing days wading in knee deep waters and with no place to go.

In Morod, a retaining wall next to the house of one Monica D'Souza collapsed with the monstrous flow of water that gushed from the hill top. The culvert which connects the village too is in peril.

In Gausavaddo, the water level



rose to dangerous levels in the low lying area behind the Holy Cross High School. The mud house belonging to one Sheila Chari was in danger after the entire area was flooded. "The lone inmate of the house has been marooned and is at the mercy of Good Samaritans for her provisions," said a villager.

Villagers say that the Tillari canal is more of a curse than a boon as it has destroyed their village, turned fields into swamps and now it was flooding the low-lying areas here.

Sarpanch Deepa Naik stated that she has visited the area with the WRD officials and Talathi Sumit Shirodkar and hoped to get some compensation for those affected by the floods.

Villagers however stated that the nullahs and drainages need to be desilted. Builders are constructing roads over nullahs with the blessings of the Town and Country Planning Department and the panchayat prefers to see no evil even when issues are debated at the gram sabha, lamented locals.

## Road collapses at Chorla Ghat; poses threat to motorists

Team Herald

**PORIEIM:** The protection wall and a portion of the road collapsed at Chorla Ghat posing a serious threat to motorists travelling

to Belagavi and other villages near the Goa border.

On Monday, Traffic police kept traffic safety cones to alert the motorists to tread cautiously on the road.



SIDRA KHAN

## Water level swells dangerously at Paroda



CHRISTANAND PEDNEKAR

Team Herald

**QUEPEM:** With the Kushwati river in full spate, the water level rose dangerously at Paroda with vehicles staying away from the area. Paroda often gets flooded with the heavy downpour and measures by the Public Works Department to raise the level of the road stretch that often gets submerged have proven futile too.

Falling trees damaged homes and power lines too bore the

brunt of the downpour.

The Prabhudesai family in Ghativada Rivona had a narrow escape after a tree came crashing down on their house as they were fast asleep. Fire Service officials then rushed to the rescue of the family and cleared the area. Fields were inundated for the last few days and farmers complained that their efforts were drowned in agony.

A flood like situation was witnessed in the entire Quepem and Sanguem talukas.

## Man injured in road accident

Team Herald

**PONDA:** Shigao resident Thomas Rodrigues was seriously injured in a road accident here on Monday.

Police stated that Rod-

rigues was trapped in his car after a Fire Brigade vehicle accidentally knocked against his car. Fire officials then rushed to the area, rescued the victim and shifted him to the GMC.



SANTOSH NAIK

## Tiny and congested St Cruz market stinks, has no toilet; in dire straits

Shoppers and vendors complain of terrible stench pervading the market, situated just below the Panchayat Ghar; the market has no toilets, posing great difficulty for women vendors; ex-sarpanch says panchayat cannot afford market rates to buy land for a new market

UPENDRA NAIK

reporters@herald-goa.com

**ST CRUZ:** Most markets across Goa are in pitiable condition. The St Cruz market is no exception. The market, which is maybe over 60 years old, is in dire straits, to say the least.

Shoppers and vendors both complain of the terrible stench which pervades the tiny and congested market, which is situated just below the St Cruz Panchayat Ghar. The market is stinking and has no toilets, posing great difficulty, especially for women vendors.



The fish and vegetable vendors cannot be accommodated in the congested market. Hence many local vendors are forced to sit by the roadside and sell fruits and vegetables.

The location of the market itself is bad. Can you imagine that a road actually passes through the market? The road may be closed during market hours, so there is no place for parking. The panchayat has not taken any initiative to build a new market, though there is talk of



PICS: UPENDRA NAIK

land being acquired.

A male flower vendor narrated, "I have been selling flowers in this market for 50 years. First there was a small shed. It was expanded about 20 years ago. The market is congested. They are saying they are building a new market for the last 10 years, but nothing has happened. When it rains heavily the rain blows into the shed with the wind." Mukundraj Mudras, a resident of St Cruz said, "The problems of the St Cruz market are decades old. Ever since the population of the village started growing over the last 20 years, the market has been inadequate. There are no facilities, such as parking and toilet. There are no facilities for the differently-abled. And there are no facilities for the vendors. The Panchayat only collects sopo (sitting fee) and has no foresight to do long term planning."

"Many sarpanchas and panchas have been elect-



### KEY POINTS

- » Terrible stench pervades the tiny and congested market
- » The market stinks and has no toilets
- » Fish and vegetable vendors cannot be accommodated in the congested market
- » Many vendors are forced to sit by the roadside

- » A road actually passes through the market which is closed during market hours, so there is no place for parking
- » The panchayat has not taken any initiative to build a new market, though there are talks of land being acquired

Mudras disclosed. Mariano Araujo, former St Cruz sarpanch acknowledged, "We could not build a new market because there is a problem of land acquisition. The market should be built there itself, there is no other place. The present market is

very old and people face a lot of problems. There is severe traffic congestion, especially since schools have started. There is no traffic police to direct the traffic. The local MLA should solve the problem. The panchayat does not want to do anything. They don't want to approach the MLA. There are no facilities for the vendors."

"Secondly, during Covid pandemic people were selling fish by the roadside. This still continues. This has to stop. The panchayat has to take action against this. The panchayat has to find a big open space and build a new market. But the land prices are such that the panchayat cannot afford the market rates. The present panchayat ghar and market fall in khazan land. Though the panchayat had dumped a few trucks of mud in the khazan land to build a new market, the Goa State Pollution Control Board has told them to remove it," Araujo said.

Department of Tourism  
Government of Goa

Cordially invites you to a Spectacular event  
**CHIKHAL KALO**  
THE MUD FESTIVAL OF GOA

**Chikhal Kalo**  
THE MUD FESTIVAL OF GOA  
2024

On 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024,  
Nr. Shree Devki Krishna Temple, Marcela, Goa.

To celebrate a unique traditional festival called CHIKHAL KALO  
to commemorate Bal Krishna's childhood

Opening Ceremony on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024, 6:30pm

**Chief Guest**  
**Dr. Pramod Sawant**  
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Goa

In distinguished presence of

**Shri. Govind Gaude**  
Hon'ble Minister for Art & Culture,  
Sports & Youth Affairs,  
RDA, Govt. of Goa

**Shri. Rohan A Khaunte**  
Hon'ble Minister for Tourism,  
Information Technology,  
Electronics and Communications  
and Printing and stationery

**Shri. Ganesh Gaonkar**  
Chairman of GTDC and  
MLA, Sanvordem Constituency

**Shri. Sanjeev Ahuja, IAS**  
Secretary Tourism  
Govt. of Goa

**Shri. Puneet Kumar Goel, IAS**  
Chief Secretary  
Govt. of Goa

**Shri. Suneel Anchipaka, IAS**  
Director- Dept. of Tourism  
Govt. of Goa

**PROGRAM**

On 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024,  
Nr. Shree Devki Krishna Temple, Marcela, Goa.

| Date                       | Time               | Event                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 | 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm  | Cooking competition                                                                                       |
|                            | 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm | Ashadh sari - Bhakti sangeet program by young Goan artists.                                               |
|                            |                    | Singers - Hrishikesh Dhawlikar (Zee sa re ga ma little champs finalist) Vishwajeet Mestri Siddhi Surlakar |
|                            | 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm | Inaugural Function                                                                                        |
|                            | 7 pm onwards       | Abhangwari concert by renowned singer Mahesh Kale                                                         |
|                            |                    | Bhajan recital in the Devki Krishna Temple                                                                |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 | 12 pm onwards      | Chikhal Kalo                                                                                              |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 | 10 am onwards      | Photography and Reel making Competition.                                                                  |