

WILL TIME CONTINUE TO BE SOUGHT TILL ALL OFFICIALS RETIRE?

MORE TIME? SMART CITY BABUS NEED STILL MORE TIME TO PUT PANJIM IN ORDER

Petitioners produce 40 pages of photographs of incomplete Smart City works

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Imagine Panaji Smart City Development Limited (IPSCDL) on Tuesday again sought more time to rectify deficiencies and to complete the pending works in the capital city.

During the hearing of public interest litigation (PIL) writ petition filed by Piyush Panchal, Alwyn D'Sa and Neelam Navelkar, all residents of Miramar, the petitioners produced 40 pages photographs to the Court about the incomplete Smart City works. They stated that there were several potholes in the city, while footpaths works were not completed and had not been made operational till date.

Seeking time to file a reply, the State government submitted that the potholes were caused due to incessant rains and will be repaired once rain subsides.

Advocate General Devidas Pangam said that the Smart road has been opened for vehicular traffic, while footpath works will also be completed after the monsoon subsides.

Arguing on behalf of the petitioners, Adv Shivan Desai said, "We submitted a 40-



Recently repaired roads have developed potholes in Panjim

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— Avertino Miranda, Panjim resident

page compilation of photographs showing incomplete works across the capital city. The State government will look into it and come back.”

“The State government told the Court that it was difficult because of the rains but it was not the official response. The other petitioners wanted time. We placed 40 pages of photographs depicting incomplete works across the city. The matter has been postponed to Tuesday, August 5,” Desai said.

The matter was adjourned to next week as the

counsel for the other PIL writ petition filed by Christus C Lopes and another sought time to submit the details of incomplete works observed by them.

Avertino Miranda, a prominent city resident, said, “The IPSCDL has left the works incomplete which is very dangerous. They have not covered some parts of the drains especially on Dada Vaidya Road, where they have left drains open.”

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Congress slams Union FM over sale of Sunburn tickets

Goa Congress President tags Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunburn ticket sale

Team Herald

PANJIM: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee President Amit Patkar on Tuesday tagged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on the social media posts on verified handles of Sunburn Festival, announcing sale of tickets in Goa and questioned her on the Goods and Services (GST) component on the sale of tickets.

Drawing Sitharaman's attention on the social media post by Sunburn Festival, Patkar has questioned how sales can start when Chief Minister Pramod Sawant

“The BJP government is deliberately allowing all this to happen as this Sunburn Festival gives huge kickbacks to all cabinet ministers, BJP MLAs and office-bearers. This festival has become an annual money making event for them

— Amit Patkar, GPCC President

has categorically stated that no permission has been given to Sunburn Festival in Goa.

“The BJP government is deliberately allowing all this to happen as this Sunburn Festival gives huge kickbacks to all cabinet ministers, BJP MLAs and office-bearers. This festival has become an annual money making event for

them,” Patkar alleged.

He thanked the panchayats in Goa which have passed resolutions opposing Sunburn in South Goa.

He said he is waiting for the response from the Finance Minister and if she fails to act, “it will be certain that the double engine government is part of the scam.”

MARCHING AHEAD



Indian players celebrate after scoring a goal during the Pool B hockey match between India and Ireland at the 2024 Summer Olympics, in Paris on Tuesday. With this win, Indian men's hockey team has entered the quarterfinals

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Pass Assembly resolution to condemn humiliation of Christian faith in the Olympics: Agnelo Fernandes

Former Calangute MLA writes to CM and Leader of the Opposition, on the dastardly parody of the Last Supper during the Olympics opening ceremony, saying “Last Supper is fundamental and sacred to the Christian faith”

Team Herald

PANJIM: Former Calangute MLA Agnelo Fernandes on Tuesday wrote to the Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Leader of the Opposition Yuri Alemao to unanimously pass a resolution in the ongoing Assembly session, condemning the macabre performance depicting the last supper featured during opening ceremony of Paris Olympics 2024, thereby mocking and humiliating the Christian faith and affecting Christians all over the world.

In letters addressed to both Sawant and Yuri, Fernandes said, “The Last Supper is fundamental and sacred to the Christian faith, where we believe the bread and wine are turned into the body and blood of our saviour Jesus Christ. An insult to any religious belief, be it Christian, Hindu, Muslim or others, has to be condemned unequivocally by one and all.”

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“This is not freedom of speech. You are inciting the people. The apology given by Paris Olympics organisers was ridiculous. Nobody has right to insult any religion. It was not to unite the people

— Agnelo Fernandes, former MLA



Paris Olympics organisers was ridiculous. Nobody has the right to insult any religion. It was not to unite the people,” he said, adding that humiliation of any religion had to stop.

“Therefore, on behalf of the people of Goa, a peace loving State which exhibits exemplary communal harmony, I urge you to pass a resolution in the Assembly condemning the insensitive display that has hurt Christians all over the world,” Fernandes said.

The former MLA further said that he will also send email messages to Goa MPs requesting them to raise this matter in Parliament.

At least 123 dead in Kerala landslides

PTI, WAYANAD: In one of the worst natural disasters in Kerala, at least 123 persons were killed and 128 injured in massive landslides triggered by torrential rains in Wayanad on Tuesday. With hundreds trapped under the debris, sparking fears of mounting fatalities, rescue agencies were racing against time to pull out any survivors.

Government sources said 123 people have been killed so far in the tragedy.

Heart-wrenching scenes and phone conversations of several people crying and pleading to be rescued, as they were either trapped in their houses or had no way to move out of places where they were stranded, were witnessed after the landslides that left a trail of death and destruction in the picturesque hamlets of Mundakkai, Chooralmala, Attamala and Noolpuzha.

Earlier, speaking at a press conference in Thiruvananthapuram about the massive tragedy, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said: “Due to the intense rainfall, landslides occurred, and an entire region has been destroyed. Ninety-three bodies have been recovered so far.”

He said 128 people are undergoing treatment at various hospitals.

“Children who went to sleep last night, including infants, are among those who lost their lives in this disaster and are now buried under the earth. The floodwaters swept away many people,” Vijayan said.

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Fail Fail: Rights of forest dwellers in Mhadei still not settled, still more time sought

On Tuesday the Goa govt asked for more time from the High Court to settle rights of the forest dwellers in notified areas of Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary; on July 24, last year, High Court had asked the government to settle the rights in a year

Team Herald

PANJIM: The State government failed to settle rights and claims of forest dwellers and Scheduled Tribes (STs) within a year and sought extension of time to settle them.

On July 24, last year, the High Court had asked the government to settle the rights of forest dwellers and STs by July 24, 2024, while passing the order regarding notifying Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary and surrounding protected areas as a Tiger Reserve.

But on Tuesday, while hearing a miscellaneous civil application filed by the Goa Foundation, the State government made an application before the Court seeking more time to settle rights of the forest dwellers in notified areas of Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary.

The High Court had asked the government to determine and settle the rights of STs and other forest dwellers by following the law as expeditiously as possible within 12 months from the date of the order declaring Tiger Reserve within three months.

But as the one-year time period ended on July 24, the government sought for extension in time.

Besides notifying a Tiger Reserve, the Court had also asked the government to

additionally prepare a tiger conservation plan as per the Wildlife Protection Act and to submit it to the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) within three months..

However, the State government had so far set up eight additional anti-poaching camps at strategic locations staffed by forest guards, watchers, etc, in the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Parks across Goa.

Meanwhile, the Goa government's special leave application (SLP) challenging the High Court's direction to declare Tiger Reserve was scheduled to come for hearing on August 14 as per status given on the Supreme Court website. In view of this, the High Court adjourned the matter beyond August 14.

In September last year, the Supreme Court refused to grant stay to the High Court's order, directing the State government to notify the Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary and its surrounding areas as a Tiger Reserve, and had issued notices to the Goa Foundation, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Goa State Board for Wildlife, Chief Wildlife Warden and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest.

As long as Goans are alive, they will never give up their fight for justice to the Roman script: Global Konknni Forum

Team Herald

MARGAO: The Global Konknni Forum (GKF) has strongly condemned the statements made by ministers like Babush Monserrate on the issue of official recognition for the Roman script in the Official Language Act and issued a stern warning by asking them to address the matter with responsibility and refrain from making further comments on the subject.

“As long as Goans are alive, they will never give up their fight against the injustice faced by the Roman script,” Kennedy Afonso, President of the Global Konkani Forum (GKF), declared.

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“The issue of equal status for Konkani in Roman script was dead since long and it was already decided that Konkani in Devnagari is the official language of the State and that Marathi will be utilised for all official purposes. Some people are unnecessarily raking up the language issue

— Atanasio ‘Babush’ Monserrate, Revenue Minister

“We are living peacefully and harmoniously in the State. A small issue is trying to divert the attention of the people. We have to sit and resolve it amicably

— Govind Gaude, Art and Culture Minister

‘Two’ good Manu etches history with double bronze in Paris

Manu Bhaker-Sarabjot Singh outsmart Korea 16-10 to grab the 10m mixed team pistol bronze medal; Manu has become the first athlete from India to win two medals at the same Olympic Games

SOUMITRA BOSE
At The Olympics

CHATEAUX: Team India overcame some early jitters as Sarabjot Singh gave Manu Bhaker some timely support to win the Paris Olympics 10m mixed team pistol bronze medal at the Chateaux Shooting Centre here on Tuesday.



India scored an emphatic 16-10 win against Korea to win their second medal of the Summer Games as Bhaker made history for becoming the first Indian woman to clinch more than one medal in a single Olympics.

Serbia scored a stunning comeback from behind 16-14 victory against Turkey. In a sensational turn of events, Serbia's Zorana Arunovic and Damir Mikec overturned an 8-2 deficit to leave Turkey's Sevvallayda Tarhan and Yusuf Dikec in



Sarabjot Singh (left) and Manu Bhaker show their bronze medals

their wake. Interestingly, this was Turkey's maiden shooting medal in an Olympics.

It's turning out to be a dream Olympics for Manu Bhaker at Paris 2024. She won the 10m sports pistol bronze on Saturday to end a medal drought that started at Rio 2016 and continued through Tokyo 2020.

“Tokyo was not great for me at all. This has been a great Olympics. Lots of gratitude to God and all those who supported and loved me. It's been a dream run but I want to focus on my next event

— Manu Bhaker, Indian woman shooter

“Tokyo was not great for me at all. This has been a great Olympics. Lots of gratitude to God and all those who supported and loved me. It's been a dream run but I want to focus on my next event,” Bhaker said.

Bhaker will compete in the 25m sports pistol qualifiers on August 2. It is one of her favourite events and she is the reigning Asian Games champion. Bhaker had also won the gold medal at the 2023 Baku world championships.

For Tuesday's bronze medal win, credit should go to 22-year-old Singh, who has emerged from the Khelo India ecosystem and one

who has been very well supported by the government's Target Olympics Podium Scheme.

More importantly, he overturned his disappointment of not qualifying in the 10m air pistol finals by the barest of margins. “I slept early and just had a quick chat with Manu yesterday. We decided to do our best and let the results take care of themselves,” said Singh, who deservedly sported a broad grin.

Singh showed some early nerves. While Manu continued her good form starting with a 10.2 in Round 1, the son of a Punjabi farmer, started with 8.6. The Korean mixed team comprising Paris 2024 10m sports pistol champion Jin Ye Oh and the left-handed Wonho Lee grabbed early advantage, leading 2-0.

In the air pistol medal rounds, the team reaching 16 points first and managing to keep a two-point cushion, wins the race. India were quick to recover largely due to Manu's consistency and regular scores of 10+.

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