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The Voice of Goa – since 1900

Panjim | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024 | PRICE ₹10.00 | AIR SURCHARGE ₹10 | REG. NO. G2/RNP/GOA/101/2021-23 | PAGES 14 | GOA'S LARGEST CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER

# Cash-for-jobs queen-pin faces suicide abetment charge

More crimes catch up with Pooja Naik; wife of govt employee, who was Pooja's 'accomplice' and died by suicide, says harassment and mental torture pushed him over the edge

**Team Herald** 

PONDA: From cheating to abetting suicide - the web of crimes that cash-for-jobs queen-pin Pooja Naik spun has now trapped her even further. Shruti Shridhar Kerkar alias Satarkar, the wife of government employee Shridhar Satarkar, who allegedly died by suicide after being summoned by Mardol police twice in the case, lodged a complaint on Monday against Pooja for abetment of suicide. The complaint lodged at

SDPO Jivba Dalvi, Priya the Mardol police station, alleges that Pooja had collected money from various people through Shridhar under the pretext of providing government jobs. But Naik allegedly failed to provide

#### **WOMAN JOB SCAMMER HELD** FROM MAHARASHTRA

**BICHOLIM:** The Bicholim Police have arrested a woman from Maharashtra for allegedly duping people to the tune of Rs 20 lakh on the pretext of giving them jobs in Railways. **Preliminary investigations** reveal she may have duped several others with job assurances and collected a sum of Rs 1 crore or more. According to Bicholim

Ajay Yadav and her accomplice, police constable Rohan Rajendra Venji, allegedly took the money from Lakshmi Dalwai, who lives in Bicholim and is a native of North Belgaum, Karnataka. Dalvi filed the complaint on August 22. According to Dalvi, Priya had told the complainant that she had a plot near Kolhapur railway station.

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life, Shridhar's wife Shruti the jobs or return the money, leading to harassment, said in her complaint. Shridhar, a resident of cheating and mental torture for her husband, which final-Nallem-Keri, Ponda, was working as a multi-taskly drove him to take his own

TWO MORE ARRESTS IN USGAO JOB SCAM PONDA: With Pooja Naik's

arrest, more such cash-forjobs skeletons are tumbling out of the closet. The Ponda Police on Monday nabbed one of the key figures of the cash-for-jobs scam reported from Usgao. Deepashree Sawant alias Gauns, a resident of Marcel, was on the run and police had issued a lookout notice for her. She was arrested after she returned from Belagavi.

ing staff in the Goa State Scheduled Caste and OBC Development Corporation. His decomposed body was found hanging from a tree

in the jungle near the roadside at Cuncoliem, Mardol, on Saturday.

Along with her, police

also re-arrested Indian

Reserve Battalion (IRB)

constable Sagar Suresh

Naik, who had been ar-

but released on condi-

tional bail three days

later. Naik has allegedly

Trupti Rudresh Prabhu of

Rs 15 lakh on the pretext

ment school teacher job.

of providing a govern-

cheated Usgao-based

rested first on October 27

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## Bhutani case: The curious case of the 'awaited' legal opinion

Sancoale panchayat and Goa Govt have tossed the legal opinion theory, but where is it and how long will it take to decide on Bhutani's reply to the show cause notice on why their construction shouldn't stop?

**AUGUSTO RODRIGUES** 

GONCOI, SANCOALE: The wait for legal advice sought by the Sancoale Panchayat on the Bhutani project seems to be like 'Waiting for Godot', a renowned play by Irish playwright Samuel Beckett, where the two characters keep waiting for a third, Godot, throughout the play but Godot never arrives.

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First, there needs to be a resolution asking for opinion from two judges or the Advocate General. There is none and hence, any advice will have no standing. It is obvious they hope time will silence people

- Tulshidas Naik, Sancoale Panch

We fought together in 2008 when a project was supposed to come up when Premanand was sarpanch & we won the case. We will continue this fight

Roselyn Borges

#### HERALD DECODES THE WORDPLAY: LEGAL **OPINION CAN TAKE EVEN UP TO NOV 17**

No legal opinion for close to 40 days after the show cause reply and no movement for 58 days since the notice issued

#### **SARPANCH DERRICK VALES SAID:**

I expect the two advocates – Amey Prabhudesai and Zelar D'Costa - to give their advice by this week or the maximum by the next. They will not take more time **HERALD ASKS:** Let's look at hard

dates. "Next week" begins on November 11, and Ends on November 17. So technically the legal opinion can come by November 17

#### **HERALD ANALYSES:**

Sept 30: The show cause notice was issued by the panchayat to Parmesh **Construction Company Ltd)** 

Oct 7/Oct 9: The reply from Bhutani (Parmesh Construction Company Ltd) was filed on Oct 7 and in-warded by the Panchayat on Oct 9 If Sarpanch Vales honours even his

elastic and ambiguous "next week" issued to the company deadline, then it can stretch even to November 17, which is the end of "next week". It will then still be about 40 days, since the showcase reply and no movement for 58 days since the notice issued

HERALD ASKS: If this doesn't amount to giving unusual and endless time to decide on the showcause reply, then

#### **Maharashtra DGP** transferred

PTI, MUMBAI: The Election Commission of India has ordered the immediate transfer of the Maharashtra Director General of Police (DGP) Rashmi Shulka and ordered the Maharashtra Chief Secretary to hand over her responsibilities to the next senior-most IPS officer in the cadre.

Additionally, the Chief Secretary has been directed to submit a panel of three IPS officers for the appointment of the new DGP by 1 PM on November 5, 2024, according to sources.

Earlier, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar had warned officials during review meetings and the announcement of Assembly elections in the State to be impartial

#### Suicide charge on lady constables

**PANJIM:** The Crime Branch

**Team Herald** 

of Goa Police have booked two lady constables for alleged mental harassment and abetment to suicide of 22-year-old police constable.

According to police, the accused have been identified as Priti Chawan (23) Taniksha Chawan (21). Both are attached to Agasaim Police Station.

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What is the electoral college? It's a body tasked with the task of choosing the President. Voters from each State cast ballots to elect electoral college members, who then vote for the President. The electoral college has a total of 538 members and a candidate needs at least 270 electoral votes to win.

How are the states represented on the electoral college?

The number of electors that each State has in the electoral college depends on a State's population and is a function of its number of members in Congress - both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

**How does the Electoral** 

Usually, the candidate who gets the most votes in a state, gets all its electoral votes - even if a candidate wins by one per cent, they win cent per cent of the state's electoral votes. Parties nominate their would-be electors in a State in the months leading up to the elections. The party that wins a State goes on to become electors from that State in the electoral college.

TRUMP VS HARRIS: THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION EXPLAINED

The US Presidential election is different from the

Indian parliamentary election as the US has a

system of indirect universal suffrage. Unlike in India,

Americans vote to choose members of the electoral

college, who then elect the President

How is the President then elected? The electors will meet in December and go by the will of their citizens to vote for the candidate who won the popular vote in their State. If an elector votes against the citizens' choice,

they are called faithless electors, and some States have provisions to prosecute them. For example, in the 2016 elections, there were seven 'faithless' electors though they didn't affect the final outcome.

What happens if there is a tie?

This has happened only twice, in 1800 and 1824., and is highly unlikely now. In case that happens, Article 2 of the US Constitution and the 12th Amendment, it is the House of Representatives where the newly elected 435 members are sworn in and vote on who becomes President. Each state gets only one vote and the winning party from the State gets to poll that vote and the candidate that garners 26 votes is declared President.

The poll shows Harris getting support from 49 per cent of

registered voters in a head-to-head

say they're unsure about the choice

matchup, while Trump gets an identical

49 per cent. Just two percent of voters

### Velingkar protesters cry foul over selective FIRs on them

Demand immediate withdrawal of the FIRs registered against them for their role in the mega street protests held in Margao last month

**Team Herald** 

MARGAO: Citizens facing FIRs for protesting against Subhash Velingkar's de-SUBHASH VELINGKAR SFX COMMENTS

rogatory comments over St Francis Xavier in Margao, have accused the Goa

of double standards and selective targeting after being charged for blocking traffic to demand the Velingkar's arrest.

They have also demanded immediate withdrawal of the FIRs registered against them for their role in the mega street protests

government and police held in Margao last month. They also pointed out that while Velingkar faced only one charge for his derogatory remarks against St Francis Xavier, the selective lot of protestors are facing seven charges from the Fatorda Police.

Oct 9: Sancoale

the reply, dated

October 7 from

Panchayat inwards

**Parmesh Construction** 

issued by the Sancoale

the construction license

Panchayat regarding

Company Ltd to the

show cause notice

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### Trump vs Harris goes down to the wire

To win the polls, a candidate needs 270 of total electoral college votes

PTI, WASHINGTON: The electoral battle between Vice President Kamala Harris and former president Donald Trump appears to have gone to the wire, according to latest opinion polls.

Harris, 60, is the nominee of the Democratic Party and Trump, 78, is the Republican nominee. Their party members and

 The polls show them (Trump & Harris) locked in close races in Michigan, Georgia and Pennsylvania. But the results in all seven states are within the margin of sampling error, meaning neither candidate has a definitive lead in any of them

support bases are unit-

- The New York Times

would be the next occued with their respective pant of the White House. parties, and independent votes might decide who tions, a candidate needs

- NBC News

270 of the electoral

Cont on Pg 12 >>

### MAX. TEMP MIN. TEMP

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That warning is meant only for the local tourists.

### **KOLKATA MEDIC RAPE & MURDER:** Court frames charges against prime accused

Accused Sanjay Roy says he is innocent, accuses State govt of framing him in the case

PTI, KOLKA-TA: Eighty-seven days after the body of a woman medic was found State-run RG Kar Med-College Hospital, a Kolkata court on Monday

framed charges against the

The court announced that day-

to-day trial in the case would

prime accused, Sanjay Roy.

I have done nothing. I have been framed in this rape-murder case. Nobody is listening to me. The government is framing me and threatening me not to open my mouth - Sanjay Roy, prime accused

commence from November 11.

Roy has been booked under

Section 64 of the Bharatiya

Nyay Sanhita (rape), Section 66 (punishment for causing death

Such claims of an accused should not be ignored and call for an investigation. We have been saying that such a crime is not possible by a single person. It's a collective crime

- Adhir Chowdhury, ex-West Bengal State Congress president

ment for murder).

or resulting in a persistent veg-

etative state) and 103 (punish-

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