

54 illegal structures in Old Goa heritage zone

Tiswadi Mamlatdar's report identifies structures belonging to former minister and panchayat functionaries; all eyes now on High Court

Team Herald

PANJIM: The heritage precincts of Old Goa, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site back in 1986 and containing multiple monuments of national importance like Se Cathedral and Bom Jesus, has 54 illegal structures within the prohibited zone, including buildings reportedly belonging to former minister Pandurang Madkaikar and village panchayat functionaries.

This shocking fact has come to light in a survey by Tiswadi Mamlatdar Kaushik Dessai and the survey report has been submitted to the High Court of Bombay at Goa, which is hearing a PIL by John Baptista Mascarenhas of Ponda, who had approached the court for action against illegal encroachments and commercial activities in prohibited areas around the Old Goa world heritage monuments. In an earlier order in October, the court had



Bom Jesus Basilica is one of the heritage structures in Old Goa

HERITAGE ZONE VIOLATED

- ▶ 54 illegal structures identified within prohibited area of Old Goa heritage precincts
- ▶ The shocking fact has come to light in a survey report by the Tiswadi Mamlatdar that has been submitted to the High Court
- ▶ The report has identified illegal structures belonging to Madkaikar, former Se Old Goa sarpanch, the Se Old Goa village panchayat and the Goa State Infrastructure Development Corporation (GSIDC)
- ▶ The court is hearing a PIL by John Baptista Mascarenhas of Ponda against illegal encroachments and commercial activities in protected areas of Old Goa

directed that action on illegal structures would be taken after the Mamlatdar submitted the report.

The Mamlatdar's report proves beyond doubt what

is common knowledge in Old Goa - that illegal buildings stand within prohibited areas of heritage monuments. But what has come as a surprise is the fact that

The State government has passed a notification regulating any development within the prohibited area and extending up to 200 metres of the prohibited area as notified under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958. Thus, an NOC from the Archaeological Survey of India is mandatory under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2010 - Glen Cabral, Save Old Goa Action Committee member

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Goa slammed Rs 15 lakh fine on Karnataka fishing trawlers

Team Herald

MARGAO: The persistent menace of Karnataka fishing trawlers illegally entering Goan waters came up in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday, with Union Fisheries Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh disclosing in a written reply that the Goa government has filed 10 cases against fishing boats from Karnataka in the 2022-24 period. In the same span, the total amount of fines imposed on these trawlers amounted to Rs 14.8 lakh.

The issue of illegal fishing has been an ongoing problem, and the matter is also under the scrutiny of the High Court of Bombay at Goa. Last month, two trawlers from Malpe in Karnataka were apprehended and seized by Coastal Security Police with the help of local fishermen in Nerul, Bardez. The Union Fisheries

Minister, in his reply in Parliament, advised maritime states and Union Territories to crack down on fishing vessel violations by

temporarily suspending the registration or licence of vessels, cancelling registrations or licences for repeat violations, and directing the

Coast Guard and other marine enforcement agencies to have information on these violators in order to prevent them from operating.

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SAGUN GAWADE



A family of five travelling on a two-wheeler, flouting traffic rules and endangering lives at Porvorim, on Tuesday. Not an uncommon sight in Goa, overloading a two-wheeler is illegal and can result in a fine and suspension of the riding licence

S M Krishna passes away



PTI, BENGALURU: Former External Affairs Minister and Karnataka Chief Minister S M Krishna died at his residence early Tuesday morning.

The 92-year-old veteran politician was ailing for quite some time, a family source said.

"S M Krishna is no more. He breathed his last at 2:45 am at his residence. Mortal remains are likely to be taken to Maddur today," the source said.

Somanahalli Mallaiah Krishna is survived by wife Prema and two daughters.

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Another Maha village revolts against EVMs

Kolewadi Gram Sabha in Satara passes resolution demanding ballot paper voting

PTI, PUNE: Just days after villagers from Maharashtra's Markadwadi tried to conduct mock 're-polling' using ballot papers, Kolewadi gram sabha in Satara district has resolved to conduct future elections on ballot papers - thus making it the second village in the State to pass a resolution against EVMs.

Kolewadi comes under the Karad (South) assembly constituency, earlier represented by senior Congress leader and former chief minister Prithviraj Chavan. He lost the electoral contest in November against BJP candidate Atul Bhosale by 39,355 votes.

The resolution was passed after residents of Kolewadi expressed doubts

over the votes cast through Electronic Voting Machines.

A few days earlier, villagers from Markadwadi in Solapur's Malshiras constituency were stopped by the administration and police from trying to conduct a mock 're-poll' using ballot papers. The villagers' actions had led to the registration of cases.

"The resolution was passed on December 2 in the gram sabha meeting respecting the sentiments of villagers who demanded that upcoming elections be held on ballot papers and not on EVMs," Shankarrao Patil, husband of the village sarpanch Ratnamala Patil, said on Tuesday.

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After a lifetime of waiting, Shane finally feels he's home

Shane Sebastian Pereira came from Pakistan as a four-month-old; gets Indian Citizenship after 43 yrs

Team Herald

PANJIM: For Shane Sebastian Pereira from Anjuna, the journey to becoming Indian has been a long and tedious one - spanning over four decades, countless visits to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) and a life lived in quiet uncertainty. But on Tuesday, as he stood at Mantralaya in Porvorim, receiving his Indian citizenship certificate from Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Shane breathed a sigh of relief.

Born in Pakistan in 1981, Shane was brought to India as a four-month-old baby. While Shane grew up and studied in Goa, he always



Shane Sebastian Pereira with his family at Mantralaya, on Tuesday

Earlier it was very difficult as I was on stay visa. Every year, I had to go through the same process, with regular visits to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), proving I belonged here. I had been doing this for the last 43 years - Shane Sebastian Pereira

felt like an outsider. "Earlier it was very difficult as I was on stay visa. Every year, I had to go through the same

process, with regular visits to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), proving I belonged here. I

had been doing this for the last 43 years," he said.

Shane became the second person to receive citizenship under Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in Goa on Tuesday.

"I heard the news that 78-year-old Joseph Pereira from Cansaulim had got the citizenship, so I too thought of giving a try. I applied online," he said.

Shane has three kids (including a set of twins) and runs a restaurant at Anjuna along with his wife Maria Fernandes. Shane's new status doesn't just impact him, it changes everything for his family.

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