

We were screaming for help as the boat sank: Survivor

Calangute tragedy: Overcrowding, minors not given life jackets

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PANJIM: Refuting the claim of the boat owner, one of the survivors of Wednesday's Calangute boat tragedy told **O Herald** that the vessel was clearly overloaded when it capsized off the beach, leaving one person dead and several others injured.

Vishal Chinchvelkar, the survivor who is now attending to his family members admitted to Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), said, "We were all screaming for



Passengers on the boat some time before it sank on Wednesday

help, I was holding on to my four-year-old son, who was gulping the sea water as he tried to breathe. I have seen his (boat owner Anthony Coutinho) video. He is lying, as there were

more than 20 people in the boat. The accident happened when the boat was taking a turn to come back to the shore. We were first hit by a huge wave and got wet. Then, while taking a

turn, another wave hit us and the boat capsized." The boat had a carrying capacity of 10 passengers and two boat operators.

Chinchvelkar, who boarded the boat with 12 of his family members, added that the boat operators did not give life jackets to the two minors in the group. "I asked for life jackets for the minors, but the person who was issuing tickets said that life jackets would be given to them inside the boat, but this did not happen," he said.

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Boat NOC suspended, 2 arrested

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: The Captain of Ports on Thursday suspended the operating NOC of the boat that sank off Calangute beach on Wednesday, claiming the life of Suryakant Pophalkar, a tourist from Khed, Ratnagiri.

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INDIA'S REFORMS MAN IS NO MORE

Former PM Manmohan Singh dies at 92

PTI, NEW DELHI: Former prime minister Manmohan Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms and a consensus builder in the rough world of politics, died here on Thursday night. He was 92.

Singh's death was announced by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Delhi, where he was admitted in the Emergency ward around 8.30 pm in a critical condition.

An AIIMS bulletin said, "He (Singh) was treated for age related medical conditions and had sudden loss of consciousness at home" on December 26.

"Resuscitative measures were started immediately at home. He was brought to medical emergency at AIIMS Delhi at 8.06 pm. Despite all efforts, he could not be revived and was declared dead at 9.51 pm," the bulletin said.

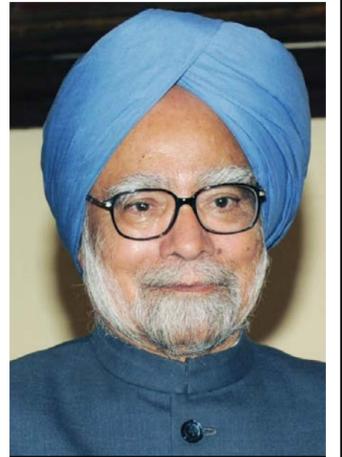
A POLITICIAN AND A GENTLEMAN
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Described as a reluctant politician and an accidental prime minister, Singh, who headed the Congress-led UPA government for two terms from 2004 to 2014, had been in poor health for the last few months. He is survived by his wife Gursharan Kaur, a history professor, and three daughters.

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and her mother Sonia Gandhi reached the hospital as soon as the news of his hospitalisation became known.

Government sources said a seven-day national mourning will be observed and that Singh's last rites will be conducted with full state honours.

Singh, a renowned economist who was the finance minister under the then prime minister P V Narasimha Rao, was the architect and the brainchild of economic reforms in 1991 that pulled India from the brink of bankruptcy and ushered in an era of economic liberalisation that is widely



SEP 26, 1932 to DEC 26, 2024

believed to have changed the course of India's economic trajectory.

Singh's appointment as the finance minister was a turning point in the economic history of independent India which witnessed bold economic reforms, abolition of licence raj and opening of many sectors to private players and foreign players so that capital could flow in.

A former RBI governor, he is credited with allowing Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), rupee devaluation, moderation in taxes, and privatisation of public sector companies.

Singh died as the Congress party concluded its Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting at Belagavi in Karnataka, where all top party leaders were present.

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NOISE DEMON IN ANJUNA-VAGATOR

Sleepless locals threaten candlelight march

Allege party organisers have announced timings that flout Supreme Court guidelines

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

VAGATOR: Fed up with the relentless sound pollution close to their homes, locals from Anjuna and Vagator have threatened to take out a candlelight march outside the venue of Circus X Namas' Cray if the Supreme Court guidelines are not followed on the party



The huge stage built for the controversial party



"I have emailed the Goa State Pollution Control Board requesting them not to give them any permission as the place is less than three metres from my residence. I am unable to sleep because of the noise"

— Rita Ali, local resident

dates (December 28-31) announced on social media.

"We've received an application for permission

to play, and this has been sent to the police for their

comments and observations. It's only after their feedback is received will a call be taken," said Kabir Shirgaonkar, Deputy Collector of North Goa.

"Only on December 31, the timing has been extended by the government till midnight," he added.

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