

Calangute shocker: Tourist killed in beach shack brawl

Argument over serving food turns ugly between shack staff and holidayers from Andhra Pradesh

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: An argument between tourists and shack operators at Calangute took an ugly turn early on Tuesday after the shack workers assaulted the group of visitors, leaving a 28-year-old holidayer dead. Shack owner Agnelo Silveira, 64, his son Schubert, 23, and two shack workers, Anil Bista and Kamal Sunar, both from Nepal, have been arrested.



According to reports, the brawl broke out after the workers at the Marina Shack at Tivaiwaddo, Calangute, refused to serve food to the tourists around 1 am on Tuesday, as the shack had already shut for the night. The group got angry and allegedly started arguing and insulting the shack workers, who then turned around and reportedly thrashed them with sticks, leading to the death of 28-year-old Bhola Ravi Teja, a resident of Andhra Pradesh.

According to the police complaint by Spandan Bollu, who was part of the group of tourists, others with them who were also beaten up were Chaitanya Gopi Pandapu, Kairam Giridhar, and Deepak Satyanarayana.

According to John Lobo, general secretary of the Shack Owners Welfare Society – Goa, a dispute over the bill probably led to the unfortunate incident. “I heard that they were refused food way beyond the closing time. When waiters asked them to pay extra if they wanted food to be made so late, they refused,” he said.

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Guv, CM extend New Year greetings

Team Herald

PANJIM: Governor P S Sreedharan Pillai and Chief Minister Pramod Sawant have extended their heartiest greetings and best wishes to the people of Goa on the joyous occasion of New Year 2025.

In his message, the Governor said, “New Year is a joyous event when we refresh our thoughts and prepare for new achievements. The advent of the New Year brings new hopes aspirations and expectations and rejuvenates our lives. The year just gone-by has many notable achievements such as the Mopa Link Road and the New Mopa Airport, which are expected to boost the State’s economy. It is also indeed a pleasure that Goa continues to have laudable progress in all fields.”

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Goa’s famed hospitality: Are players no more hospitable?

FLASHBACK FLASHPOINTS IN BUSY BEACH BELT

2022 Candolim shack owner stabbed by a local after he denied serving him additional liquor	2022 Tik Tok star and BJP leader Sonali Phogat dies at Anjuna shack	2023 Delhi tourists attacked by hotel staff at Anjuna following an argument over smoking
October 2024 Veterinarians claim to being assaulted at a shack in Candolim	October 2024 Two brothers allegedly assaulted by night-club bouncers near Tito’s Lane at Baga	November 2024 A drunk taxi driver in Candolim assaults tourists following an argument over road crossing

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: The shocking murder of a 28-year-old tourist from Andhra Pradesh at Marina shack in Calangute, which sent shock waves across Goa, has put a big question mark on the safety of tourists in the State, with tourism stakeholders claiming that hospitality trade and its players in Goa are no more hospitable.

Termining the incident an “unfortunate”, Santosh Divkar, Goa Tourism Board Member (GTB) and President of Small and Medium Hotels Association, said, “There is need to train and update the shack business with the current needs and challenges. Shacks today are being run by Goans, but the staff-ers employed are non-Goan. They

don’t extend the same hospitality like Goans do. In addition, they are not trained in customer handling etiquettes. It’s a concoction of these deficiencies combined with rude unruly guests that results in incidents.”

Divkar said, “There is a need to train and enhance the skills of the persons running the shack business because it is a mirror of the Goan hospitality.”

Vivek Kerkar from Skal, an international organisation, focused on worldwide students and young professionals from the tourism industry said, “This is a peculiar situation Goa is facing. The quality of tourism has gone down and the shack owners were not used to such kinds of tourists. In addition to that, shacks are

being run by a few Goans now. When there is an extra billing and normal tourists do not challenge, aggressive tourists get into an argument. It is a combination of both.” Kerkar said that this situation in the tourism of Goa will stay for a while.

Cruz Cardozo, Shack Owners Welfare Society president had a different take. Acknowledging the fact that it was a sad incident, he said, “The shack owners have been facing a harrowing time due to the unruly behaviour of tourists. As shack owners, we are suffering a lot. There are several incidents that happen, but shack owners don’t report because they do not want the matter to aggravate.”

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GRAND START TO 2025



Fireworks explode over the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge during New Year’s Eve celebrations in Sydney, Wednesday

Manipur CM says sorry for ethnic conflict, asks people to forget, forgive

PTI, IMPHAL: Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Tuesday apologised for the ethnic conflict in the state which claimed over 250 lives and rendered thousands homeless, and appealed to all communities to forget and forgive past mistakes and live together in a peaceful and prosperous state.

Addressing reporters here, Singh said that there has been relative peace in the state in the last three-four months, which gives him hope that normalcy will be restored in the New Year.

“I want to say sorry for what happened in the State. Many people lost their loved ones and many had to leave their homes. I regret and want to apologise. But after seeing relative peace in the last three-four months, I hope that normalcy will be restored in the coming year.

“Whatever happened has happened... I want to appeal to all communities to forgive and forget our past mistakes and start life afresh by living together in a peaceful and prosperous Manipur,” he said.

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CONG ASKS WHY PM CAN'T VISIT MANIPUR AND APOLOGISE

PTI, NEW DELHI: After Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Tuesday apologised for the ethnic conflict in the state, the Congress asked why can’t Prime Minister Narendra Modi go there and do the same. In a post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the people of Manipur cannot understand their neglect

by the prime minister, whom he accused of deliberately avoiding a visit to Manipur. “Why can’t the Prime Minister go to Manipur and say the same thing there? He has deliberately avoided visiting the state since May 4, 2023, even as he jets around the country and the world,” Ramesh said in his post.

Singh said firing incidents have declined in the state over the last 20 months since the ethnic conflict began in May 2023. More than 250 people have been killed

and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based Kuki-Zo groups since May last year.

S Korea investigates if concrete barrier led to plane crash

AFP, MUAN (South Korea): South Korean authorities said Tuesday they were investigating the role of a concrete barrier at the end of Muan airport runway in the country’s worst air disaster, which killed 179 people as a Jeju Air jet crashed on landing.

US investigators, including from Boeing, were at the crash site in southwestern Muan, officials said, as South Korean authorities began assessing two black boxes retrieved from the burned-out wreckage of the aircraft.

The plane was carrying 181 people from Thailand to South Korea when it made a mayday call and belly-landed before hitting the barrier and bursting into flames, killing everyone aboard except two flight attendants.

Acting President Choi Sang-mok said the accident was a “turning point” for the country.

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Heat on temple panel for delaying annual budget

Mamlatdar recommends dissolution of Zambaulim temple’s managing committee after HC directive on writ

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Shree Ramnath Damodar Saunthan temple in Zambaulim is in the news for all the wrong reasons after the Sanguem Taluka Mamlatdar recommended the dissolution of the temple’s managing committee for not presenting the budget within the legal deadline. It has been alleged that the temple committee incurred huge expenses without presenting the budget.

Sanguem Mamlatdar Siddharth Prabhu has made the recommendation to the South Goa Collector following a directive from the High Court of Bombay at Goa. Prasad Govind Ghode and Jayant Kamat Bambolkar had filed a writ petition in the High Court, seeking directions to the Mamlatdar, who is the administrator of devalaya, to dissolve the managing committee for not presenting the budget.

The petitioners had stated that the managing committee had not submitted the budget for the financial year 2024-25 by November 5, 2023, which was the deadline. They had alleged that the managing committee made spent a huge amount of money from the temple funds without presenting the budget. The current managing committee is headed by Manjunath S Pai Dukle, secretary Amit Hegde, attorney Saish Hegde, and treasurer Ganadish Shenvi Kunde.

The High Court had asked the Mamlatdar to decide on the proceedings before the end of December 2024. The Mamlatdar’s recommendation to the Collector has been made as per Article 44 of the Devasthan Regulations Act, governing Hindu temples in the State.

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Anand ‘not ready for this job’, says Carlsen after dress code fiasco at chess championship

PTI, NEW DELHI: World number one Magnus Carlsen on Monday criticised senior FIDE officials, including its deputy president Viswanathan Anand, for mishandling the dress code violation issue, calling them “not grown-ups” and stating that the Indian was “not ready for the job”.

A couple of days after being disqualified from the Rapid event at the World Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship for refusing to change into formal trousers, Carlsen was confirmed for the Blitz event following FIDE’s decision to allow players to compete in jeans.

Describing the decision to disqualify him as “draconian”, the

Norwegian called the officials “robots” who are not capable of making independent decisions.

“Let’s go back to a couple of days ago. I did have some choice words for FIDE in my interview with you. And I would say that it was a bit imprecise. I definitely mean it when it comes to certain people in

FIDE. No question about it,” the Norwegian told Take Take Take, an app he is co-promoting.

“I think the situation was badly mishandled on their side. And I was about to basically book my plane tickets and get out of here. My father said that we should maybe wait until the morning to make a decision to

speak to the FIDE president, Arkady Dvorkovich, whom we have a good relationship with.

“Him actually being asleep when this happened meant there were no grown-ups in FIDE. You can argue whether I am or not. But there was nobody even slightly willing to have a conversation.”

The five-time world champion was fined \$200 for wearing jeans, which was “explicitly prohibited” under the original tournament regulations. The Norwegian was also disqualified by chief arbiter Alex Holowczak after he refused to change his attire ahead of the ninth round.

“We had long conversations

with Anand yesterday and others, which generally didn’t lead anywhere. It was generally the same answers, that arbiters are basically robots who cannot think on their own, who have no way to even deviate slightly from... I don’t even know if I broke any rules. I still haven’t gotten a clear answer on that,” said Carlsen.

“They were saying that jeans were generally not allowed. If it’s generally not allowed, that must mean that there must be exceptions. And if I, with a decent attempt at an outfit apart from that, didn’t meet that exception, I don’t see what would, frankly,” he added.

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MAX. TEMP 35.2 °C
MIN. TEMP 22.0 °C

idharudhar



Now it’s time to fool ourselves with New Year’s resolutions!