



Prez Joe Biden speaks at a reception for new Democratic members of Cong in the State Dining Room of the White House, in Washington



US Secy of State Antony Blinken (R), and South Korea's National Assembly Speaker Woo Won Shik, at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea



Greek Orthodox faithful hold up a wooden crucifix after being retrieved in the Golden Horn during the Epiphany ceremony in Istanbul, Turkey



Manish Malhotra arrives at the 82nd Golden Globes on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025, at the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California, on Monday

CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

SITUATIONS VACANT

Don Bosco High School, Panjim requires one trained Teacher to teach Hindi on Contract basis, in Child care leave vacancy upto end of A.Y 2024-25. Experience preferred. Candidates may appear for a walk-in-interview with testimonials in the office of the Headmaster, on Saturday 11/01/2025 at 10.00 a.m.

Wanted all rounder cook for restaurant and helper. Good salary, food and accommodation free. Contact- 9860324673, 9146090861.

Require ITI electrical/ electronics technicians, fresher/ experience with two wheeler licence for audio video installation, Office at Caranzalem, Whatsapp CV on 7875041216

Vacancies available for Fresh/ Experienced B.Com/ M.Com/ CA Articleship Completed candidates in CA Firm IN PANJIM. Email CV's to: CAGSLOBO@gmail.com

Wanted driver cum booking staff for a logistics firm in Verna. Qualification 12th pass. Kindly call or whatsapp your CV on 8766493664

Wanted Driver for ecco cargo (salary 14k - 16k) Panjim Bhatlem. Mob:- 7387577747 / 8698884181

Urgently Required Waiters, Bartender and Dishwasher for a Restaurant on Margao- Colva. Accommodation & food provided. Contact 9850926050.

Wanted Truck Driver, Jr Sound Engineer, Sound/ Video/ Lighting Technician, Event Executive & Event Helper for an Event Co. in Panjim. Contact 8806014400.

One Trained Under Graduate Teacher wanted in High School section on contract basis to teach English and Social Science till end of academic year 2024-25. Interview on 10th January 2025. Candidates be present alongwith testimonials at 9.30 am at SFX High School, Siolim for skill test and interview

Wanted one trained Graduate teacher to teach English & Geography for 60 days on a Earned leave vacancy. Qualified candidates may appear walk in interview at Guardian Angel High School, Curchorem Goa on 21/01/2025 between 9.30 a. m & 12.30 p. m., with all your testimonials.

Wanted two trained Graduate teacher to teach English for 365 days and Science for 60 days on a child care leave vacancy. Qualified candidates may appear walk in interview at Guardian Angel High School, Curchorem Goa on 21/01/2025 between 9.30 a. m & 12.30 p. m., with all your testimonials.

Accounts/ Admin staff required in Panjim for a Travel company. Good package for Commerce Graduates with good communication skills . Whatsapp CV to 9623671185

Urgently required 15 Candidates for MNC company in Margao for their office, Age 25+ years, minimum qualification 12th pass. Fix pay 30000/-. Preferred NRIs, Sailors, Ret. Employees, Housewives, Bankers. Contact: 9657793667/ 8857962173.

Wanted Multi Tasking Staff (Night Watchman), qualification - S.S.C on Contract Basis till 30-04-2025. Walk in interview on 14/01/2025 at 09:30 a.m. in Mount Mary's Higher Secondary School, Chinchinim. Candidates as per Government Recruitment Rules, may attend the interview along with Application, Testimonials, valid Employment Card in original and Xerox copies.

Wanted Teacher Grade - I in English, Qualifications- (M.A., B.Ed) on contract basis till 20-03-2025.Walk in interview on 14/01/2025 at 09:30 a.m. in Mount Mary's Higher Secondary School, Chinchinim. Candidates as per Government Recruitment Rules, may attend the interview along with Application, Testimonials, valid Employment Card in original and Xerox copies.

Wanted Teacher Grade-I in Konkani, Qualifications- (M.A., B.Ed) on contract basis till 06-03-2025. Walk in interview on 14/01/2025 at 09:30 a.m. in Mount Mary's Higher Secondary School, Chinchinim. Candidates as per Government Recruitment Rules, may attend the interview along with application, testimonials, valid employment card in original and Xerox copies.

Urgently wanted Female Office Assistants & Executives for Visa, Ticketing, Holiday Sales & Recruitment for Pyramid Travels, Margao. Call 9822017771

SITUATIONS VACANT

Urgently wanted Delivery Driver in Benaulim with professional licence. Contact +918767056254

Required Office Staff M/F, (8th to graduate) Computer Operator, Supervisor, Gunman, Store Manager, Driver, Security Guard (Job As per Experience). Attractive salary + Other facility. Contact: requiredgoajobservice@gmail.com 9582292906. Whatsapp: 7838867502

Wanted Branch Manager & Relationship Manager For Axis Securities (Stock Market, Insurance, Mutual funds) Margao.BBA & MBA fresher can apply. Send your Bio-data on 8380035770

Required experienced House keeping Staff, male/female food Accommodation provided. CallangeteCont/whatsapp: 9689156449

Wanted -waiters for family restaurant & bar at Ponda farmagudi contact 9545419389

Wanted urgently experienced Goan Chefs, Kitchen Helpers For Catering Business and Service Waiters for a Café in Benaulim 9822128906, 8329703309.

Wanted experienced Beautician at RL vogue salon fardorta contact no 9823874100

Vacancy for an store keeper for a FMCG Company located at near Umiya mercado mall - margao Experience : Minimum 6 months of experience in store managing. Qualifications : 10th/ 12th pass Please contact 8408894746/7083735002

Wanted Waiter, Tandoori Cook, Cashier for Longuinhos Bar & Restaurant opp. Margao Municipal Bldg. Mobile: 7387602012

Needed Accountant Paint & Hardware Shop Benaulim -Goa. Qualification: have experience of atleast 2 years. Ph. No 8468839520/ 9834892276

Wanted Trained Primary Teacher with D.Ed (English Medium) on contract basis for 45 days. Walk-in-interview has been scheduled on 11' January 2025 at 9.30 a.m. in Little Flower of Jesus Primary School, Calangute. Candidates may attend the interview along with application, testimonials in original and Xerox copies.

Seeking experienced sales girls and shop boys for a multi Designer store in Panjim. Contact: +91 98817 31917

Wanted: Seeking a hardworking and reliable individual for Driver cum office boy in PanjimContact: +91 98817 31917

SITUATIONS WANTED

Looking for an opening, preferably in Pharmaceutical Company/ Teaching. Has 4 years experience in Logistics. Qualification BSc. (Chemistry-1996). 8329970308.

THANKSGIVING

Thanks to Jesus, Mother Mary, St. Anthony, St. Francis Xavier, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Handi Khuris (Maina) for many favours granted. Melvin.

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Skoda rapid 2012 elegance mpi petrol manual 70500 km black, owner driven for sale. Price 3 lakhs. call/ Whatsapp: 9923939528.

VEHICLES WANTED

We buy all Car's & Bike's. Maruti, Toyota, Hyundai, Honda (Vintage Car's) etc, even accidental and scrap car's. Spot payment-8381027157

B'desh issues second arrest warrant against Sheikh Hasina

PTI, DHAKA: Bangladesh's International Criminal Tribunal (ICT) on Monday issued arrest warrants against deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 11 others, including former military generals and an ex-police chief, for their alleged role in incidents of enforced disappearances.

This was the second arrest warrant by the ICT against Hasina, who fled to India after her Awami League regime's toppling following unprecedented anti-government protests in August last year. The tribunal has so far recorded three cases against her.

Justice Md Golam Mortuza Mojumdar, chairman of the tribunal, issued the arrest warrant after hearing a prosecution plea," an ICT official said.

The Inspector General of Police was ordered to arrest the twelve people, including Hasina, and produce them before the

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tribunal on February 12 in the case filed over complaints of enforced disappearances of several hundred people.

The deposed premier's then-defence adviser Major General (retd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique and former IGP Benazir Ahmed are among those named in the case. While Siddique is currently under custody, Ahmed is believed to be on the run.

ICT Chief Prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam did not disclose the names of most of the accused "in the interest of investigations and their arrest".

"The next hearing for this case is also scheduled for February 12. The tribunal has instructed that

the investigation report be submitted on that day if completed," Islam later told reporters.

He, however, said if the investigation report could not be submitted by then, the law enforcement agencies would have to provide a progress report on the arrests.

Islam told the tribunal that the ousted regime had established a culture of enforced disappearances under state sponsorship.

The chief prosecutor alleged that those involved in carrying out these disappearances were rewarded. He added that agencies like the elite anti-crime Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), the police's Detective Branch (DB), the Counter Terror-

ism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, and the Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI) were most frequently used for the purpose.

"Over the past 15 years, a culture of fear was established in Bangladesh through enforced disappearances and crossfire. Thousands of people were abducted by various forces, either in plainclothes or in uniform. Most of them never returned," Islam told journalists.

Last month, Dhaka officially sought Hasina's extradition from India. While New Delhi acknowledged the receipt of the letter, it refrained from commenting on it.

The ICT issued the first arrest warrant against the ex-premier on October 17 on charges of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the July-August protests and uprising.

allovertheworld

Workers unload fish to be made as 'prahok' (fermented fish paste) at Chrang Chamres village along the Tonle Sap river in Phnom Penh on Monday. The pungent smell of rotting meat hangs heavily in the air as Cambodians crowd the country's riverbanks, gutting and crushing finger-sized fish by the tonne as the annual frenzy of making prahok paste gets underway

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GOVT HAS NO FACILITIES TO TEST FOR HMPV IN GOA

"Under the Directorate of Health Services, we have analysed data of cases during the last three months and we have not found an increase in cases. If we find cases then we will begin diagnosis instantly," he said.

Dr Shekhar Salkar of Manipal Hospital claimed that only Manipal Hospital has testing facilities for HMPV, which cost Rs 18,000. "The reports are available within an hour. HMPV testing is done as a part of the pneumonia panel for lower respiratory infections. Cost of the test is Rs 18,000, as the reagent used is very costly," Dr Salkar told reporters.

However, according to senior ENT specialist Dr Jorson Fernandes: "What we need to promote right now is preventive measures like wearing masks in crowded places. Let's remember the Cs - close contacts, closed places and crowded places need to be avoided. As long as we follow this, the virus won't have much of an impact. Testing should not be a concern for the people."

FIRST HMPV CASES DETECTED IN INDIA

The infant, who hails from Dungarpur in Rajasthan, was hospitalised on December 24, 2024, with symptoms of respiratory infection.

Initially, the child needed ventilator support but his condition is stable now, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation medical officer Bhavin Solanki said.

Union Health Minister Nadda said the government is closely monitoring the situation and there is no reason to worry.

He said HMPV is not a new virus and no surge in any of the common respiratory virus pathogens has been observed in the country.

In a video message, Nadda said in the wake of the recent reports of HMPV in China, the health ministry, the ICMR, the country's apex health research body, and the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) are keeping a close watch on the situation in China and other neighbouring countries.

The World Health Organization has "taken cognisance of the situation and will share the report shortly with us", he said.

"The country data for respiratory viruses available with ICMR and integrated disease surveillance programme has also been reviewed and no surge in any of the common respiratory virus pathogens is observed in India," Nadda said.

The joint monitoring meeting was held under the Chairmanship of DGHS on January 4 to review this situation.

"The health systems and surveillance network of the country remain vigilant in ensuring the country is ready to respond promptly to any emerging health challenge. There is no reason to worry we are closely monitoring the situation," he said.

He said that health experts have clarified that HMPV virus is not a new virus. It was first identified in 2001 and it has been circulating in the entire world. HMPV spreads through the air by way of respiration, Nadda stated.

This can affect persons of all age groups, he said.

The virus spreads more during winter and early spring months.

Earlier in the day, the health ministry said there was no unusual surge in Influenza-Like Illness or Severe Acute Respiratory Illness cases in the country.

India is well-equipped to handle any potential increase in respiratory illnesses and public health interventions can be deployed promptly if needed, it said.

The Delhi government, meanwhile, directed all the hospitals in the capital to remain fully prepared to manage a potential surge in respiratory illnesses.

In a directive marked 'most urgent', Health Minister Saurabh Bharaadwaj instructed the Health and Family Welfare Department to closely monitor the situation, and remain in constant touch with the Union health ministry for timely updates.

Meanwhile, Karnataka Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said there was no need to panic as the infections detected are of old virus strains existing in the country and they are not life-threatening.

The minister who chaired a meeting of health department officials said the two infected infants are "normal". "I don't think we should be pressing the panic button, because HMPV is not a new virus... HMPV is an existing virus and a certain percentage of people do get affected by it and it is not something new," Rao said.

The Karnataka government also said the HMPV was not

as transmissible as Covid-19 while Rao underlined that there was no need for Covid-like protocols as of now as there have been no "unnatural developments".

Gujarat Health Minister Rushikesh Patel assured people that the state government is prepared to tackle the situation.

Arrangements will be made for the diagnosis of HMPV in various government hospitals, the minister said, adding that the people should understand the viral infection symptoms and take measures accordingly.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said citizens must not panic and asserted his government will soon issue a comprehensive advisory on the situation.

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, meanwhile, said no HMPV case has been found in Mumbai.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee also confirmed on Monday that no HMPV cases have so far been detected in the state.

HMPV was first discovered in 2001 and belongs to the Paramyxoviridae family. It spreads through respiratory droplets from coughing or sneezing, as well as by touching contaminated surfaces or coming into direct contact with infected individuals.

PEOPLE'S OUTCRY: POLICE ARE HARASSING VELINGKAR PROTESTORS AT GOVT BEHEST

Jack Mascarenhas, President of Goyche Fudle Pilge Khatir (GFPK), an NGO, said, "The police have moved swiftly against these protestors, while countless other high-profile cases languish in the system, which reveals a disturbing priority of suppressing dissent rather than ad-dressing the root causes of unrest. Subhash Velingkar's inflammatory remarks created a climate of fear and division, and the people responded. Instead of addressing the hate speech that fuelled the protests, the authorities seem more concerned with punishing those who dared to speak out"

Meanwhile, former minister Mickky Pacheco claimed that the cases and chargesheet filed against him were the result of vindictive politics and misuse of government machinery.

Addressing a press conference in Panjim, he said "I was not at the protest, but it has been claimed that I was responsible for blocking the highway and rioting. However, the fact is that I was there for hardly two minutes. I had gone alone," he said.

PILGAOKARS STAND FIRM AS ORE TRUCKS WANT TIMING EXTENDED

He appealed to the authorities to extend the daytime hours, explaining that the current timing limits the number of trips that trucks can make each day.

A representative from the mining company echoed these concerns, urging the authorities to revise the timing to allow for more efficient transportation. Both MLA Shet and Deputy Collector Kaskar assured that the issues would be raised with the government for further deliberation.

Despite the authorities' reassurances, the villagers remained adamant in their opposition. Pilgao residents, including Sunil Sawant, called for the mining company to strictly adhere to the transportation timings set in the Environmental Clearance (EC) conditions. Sawant emphasised that the government should redirect transportation to Matwada, Pilgao, as specified in the EC conditions, instead of using the main road.

Anil Salekar, another villager, criticised the truckers for demanding an extension of the timings without considering the hardship faced by the villagers. "How can they ask for additional time and use the main road for transportation? The mining company is violating the EC conditions with the government's approval, and there should be another public hearing," he said.

CONG CHIEF FILES CONTEMPT PLEA AGAINST SPEAKER

The petitioner had filed a writ petition before the High Court seeking directions to the Speaker to decide the disqualification petition in a time-bound manner and more particularly within a period prescribed in law as laid down by the Supreme Court.

According to Patkar, the Speaker has filed an affidavit-in-reply stating that he will hear and decide the disqualification petition expeditiously, but failed to comply with the orders passed by the High Court vide judgments dated May 2, 2023 and July 21, 2023.

Even after one-and-half-years, the disqualification petition is still pending for a decision before the Speaker since the order dated May 2, 2023, Patkar said, adding that the Tawadkar had 'deliberately' and 'malafidely' not proceeded to decide on the disqualification petition. Till date, the Speaker had not issued notices to hear the petition, he said and prayed to initiate contempt proceedings against the Speaker and punish him in accordance with law.

Patkar had filed disqualification petition before the Speaker on December 6, 2022 after the eight Congress MLAs switched over to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on September 14, 2022.

Aldona MLA Adv Carlos Alvares Ferreira is representing Patkar in the disqualification petition before the Speaker.

SHATTERED FAMILY CLAIMS DRINK DRIVING LED TO AGASSAIM ACCIDENT

The police however claim to have found no trace of alcohol in the tests.

What was meant to be a joyful family outing to Old Goa turned into a nightmare that no one could have anticipated. The couple's prayers for a child, after seven years of marriage, had been answered with the birth of Shravi, only for their hopes to be dashed in an accident that has now stolen everything from them. Ranjana, still unconscious and unaware of the tragic losses she has suffered, also suffered the amputation of a leg.

For family members, the pain is unbearable. "All the prayers and hard work of the parents that were put into bringing the child into this world have met a fatal end," said Ankita, a relative. Ranjana, who is still unconscious, has no clue how fate cruelly snatched her family away in the blink of an eye.

TRUDEAU RESIGNS AS PARTY LEADER, WILL QUIT PM POST NEXT?

"A new prime minister and leader of the Liberal Party will carry its values and ideals into that next election. I am excited to see that process unfold in the months ahead," he added.

Trudeau came to power in 2015 after 10 years of Conservative Party rule, and had initially been hailed for returning the country to its liberal past. But the 53-year-old scion of one of Canada's most famous prime ministers became deeply unpopular with voters in recent years over a range of issues, including the soaring cost of food and housing, and surging immigration.

The political upheaval comes at a difficult moment for Canada internationally. US President-elect Donald Trump has threatened to impose 25% tariffs on all Canadian goods if the government does not stem what Trump calls a flow of migrants and drugs in the US — even though far fewer of each crosses into the US from Canada than from Mexico, which Trump has also threatened.

LARGE DRUG HAULS IN 2024 FUEL ABUSE CONCERNS IN GOA

For example, in the investigation into the death of a Kerala resident at a Goa music festival at Vagator Beach in January 2024. A senior Kerala Police officer, commenting on the case, suggested that stronger investigative efforts could have yielded better results.

Goa has long been known as a hotspot for drug trafficking, with international peddlers seeing the State as a safe haven for their activities. Despite efforts from the Goa Police and NCB, some officials believe that tackling the problem will require greater cooperation from the local community. "The police can only do so much; local assistance is crucial to get to the heart of the operations," said a senior officer from the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (NEW), speaking on condition of anonymity.

One of the main concerns highlighted by experts is the mixing of chemicals with narcotics to increase profits, which has led to a rise in overdose cases. Dr Fenton D'Souza, who has provided medical services at electronic dance music (EDM) parties in Goa, emphasised that most overdose victims are those who consumed impure or adulterated drugs.

Drug peddling in Goa has reportedly become more insidious, with local taxi drivers and hotel staff often acting as intermediaries between dealers and tourists, according to an NCB source who wished to remain anonymous. "Breaking the network takes time but finally, the link is busted in most cases," the source added.