

## High Court asks what every Goan is tired of asking: When will Panjim's roads be complete?

Asks AG to indicate timelines that have not been adhered to, road works not complete in all respects and the reasons for the delay

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Clearly frustrated by incomplete road works and the casual flouting of all deadlines, the High Court has asked Goa's Advocate General to file a detailed affidavit of a responsible officer, indicating the progress and timelines in respect of the ongoing road works undertaken by the Imagine Panaji Smart City Development

ment Limited (IPSCDL).

The Court has also asked to indicate timelines, which were not adhered to earlier, road works not complete in all respects and the reasons for the delay.

Following court directives, IPSCDL Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sanjit Rodrigues along with officials carried out inspection of all ongoing works in the capital city on Friday.

**AFFIDAVIT SHOULD STIPULATE ACTION PLAN: HC**

» The HC said the affidavit should clearly stipulate the plan of action as to when the road works will be completed in all respects

» It observed that there was absolutely no tar on the Ribandar Patto-Chimbel junction road, the work which was undertaken for

laying sewer lines

» Stated that the affidavit-in reply should also indicate the timeline in which the tarring will be completed by the PWD Works Division-II (Roads) by Jan 21

» Posted matter for further hearing on Jan 22

day. Smart City works will be completed by the time

the mission ends on March 31 this year, he said.

Hearing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) writ petitions filed by Piyush Panchal and two others and Christus Lopes and two others, the High Court glanced through the photographs of the ongoing Smart City works produced by Advocate General Devadas Pangam giving specific timelines in respect of road works in progress. The Advocate General clarified that some roads which do

not pertain to the Smart City works have been dug up to lay electricity cables.

Since the Electricity Department is a part of the State government, the court asked the Advocate General to file on record a detailed affidavit of a responsible officer indicating the progress and timelines in respect of the ongoing road works for the Smart City works.

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## Israel's security cabinet clears Gaza truce deal

Full Cabinet decision awaited



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (2-R), heads a security cabinet meeting to vote on a Gaza ceasefire and hostage release deal in Jerusalem, on Friday

**AP, JERUSALEM:** Israel's security cabinet recommended approval Friday of a Gaza ceasefire deal after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu confirmed an agreement had been reached that would pause the 15-month war with Hamas and release dozens of hostages held by militants there.

Netanyahu's office Friday evening said the meeting of the full Cabinet had begun. It was expected to approve the ceasefire, which could start as soon as Sunday. The ceasefire has drawn fierce resistance from Netanyahu's far-right coalition partners, but their objections could destabilise his government.

Mediators Qatar and the US announced the ceasefire Wednesday, but the deal hung in limbo for more than a day as Netan-

yahu insisted there were last-minute complications he blamed on Hamas.

The militants maintained they were "committed" to the deal, while residents of Gaza and families of the hostages anxiously waited to see whether it would materialise.

Hamas triggered the war with its October 7, 2023, cross-border attack into Israel that killed some 1,200 people and left some 250 others captive. Nearly 100 remain.

Israel responded with a devastating offensive that has killed over 46,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not distinguish between civilians and militants but say women and children make up more than half of those killed.

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## Damu set to be new State BJP chief

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Senior leader **Damodar (Damu) Naik** is all set to be the new state president of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as his was the only nomination received for the post.

Naik, a former two-time Fatorda MLA, filed his nomination in presence of central election observer Sunil Bansal, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, outgoing State President Sadanand Shet Tanavade and others.

However, the party will make an official announcement at a public function



on January 18.

Speaking to mediapersons, Bansal said the core committee of the party met on Friday and unanimously decided to nominate 54-year-old Naik for the post.

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## ELIMINATING EVIL



Artists perform on the occasion of 'Gustor' festival, at Dorje Drak Monastery in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, on Friday

## Saif's attacker still at large

PTI, MUMBAI: The intruder who stabbed

Bollywood actor **Saif Ali Khan** at his home in Mumbai, still remains at large despite more than 30 teams on the lookout for him on Friday, while a Maharashtra minister ruled out underworld link to the brutal attack.

The attacker was not working for any criminal gang and probably was not even aware whose house he had entered in, said police, citing their investigation carried out so far.

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## Mom gets lifer for killing five-month-old daughter

Goa Children's Court orders Arminda Fernandes to pay a fine of Rs 1.10 lakh or in default to undergo one-year RI; Arminda pleads guilty during the trial

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** The Goa Children's Court, Panjim, sentenced Arminda Dora Fernandes to undergo life imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs 1.10 lakh or in default to undergo one-year rigorous imprisonment for the murder of her five-month-old daughter.

The Court also convicted her under Section 8 (2) of Goa Children's Act.

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**FLASHBACK**

» The horrific incident occurred on Aug 13, 2022 at Chapel Vaddo, Sirsaim, when a five-month-old Jiya Gondlekar was allegedly done to death by her parents Arminda Dora Fernandes & Sudan Gondlekar using a wooden chakla belan

» At around 3.30 am, the parents appeared before the Colvale PS with the dead infant

» Police rushed the baby to the North Goa District Hospital, Mapusa where the doctors declared her brought dead

» Arminda & Sudan arrested

» Elder daughter was with relatives at Tivim

» 200-page chargesheet filed

» Arminda taken to IPHB, Bambolim

## DRONACHARYA ARMANDO GETS HIS AWARD

Veteran football coach Armando Colaco, who became the first Goan to receive the Dronacharya Award, received the honour at the hands of President Droupadi Murmu

**AGENCIES, NEW DELHI:** It was a proud moment for Goa and Goans as football coach Armando Agnelo Colaco became the first Goan to receive the prestigious Dronacharya Award in the lifetime category, in recognition of his outstanding achievements in football.

Detailed report on National Sports Awards on Pg 14 >>

President Droupadi Murmu conferred Dronacharya Award (Lifetime), 2024, India's highest recognition for coaches on Armando in a regal ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, here, on Friday.

The Dronacharya Award is presented annually to



**PROUD MOMENT:** President Droupadi Murmu confers Dronacharya Award (Lifetime) on Armando Agnelo Colaco in recognition of his outstanding achievements in football during the National Sports and Adventure Awards 2024 function at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi, on Friday

honour coaches who have consistently enabled athletes to excel in international sporting events.

Armando resigned as a

player in 1985 following which he started coaching as a new adventure.

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## STELLAR COACHING CAREER

» Armando resigned as a player in 1985

» As Salcete FC coach, he won Stafford Cup in 1985

» Guided Sesa Goa to Vitthal Trophy

» Led Goa U-21 & U-23 teams, to wins in Nat tournaments

» Became national team coach

» Currently is head coach of Sporting Clube de Goa in I-League 2

» In 2008, became the first I-League coach to lead Indian team into AFC Cup semis

» Led Churchill Bros & Dempo SC to numerous successes

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