

# Herald Cafe

## Fruit of the years of toil and talent



**Namrata Naik, Udir, Ponda (Drama)**

I never thought that an actress from my village would ever receive a state award. This award is a stepping stone for me to achieve higher glory and to push myself to take on more challenges. As a married woman and a mother of two children, it is the encouragement of my family especially my husband that I could return to the stage. I can now proudly tell other women not to give up on their dreams even after getting married if they can find a balance between work and home.

**Vignesh Naik, Madkai, Ponda (Folk Art, Bhajan and Drama)**

This award is the fruit of so many years of hard labor. It is a motivation to work harder in the future and it inspires me to continue working harder and still pursue learning in the field of performing arts before I take on bigger responsibilities in theatre. I would love to go on to direction in the future.



Six Goan youth personalities will be receiving the Yuva Srujan Puraskar for their efforts in keeping different artforms in Goa alive. Working tirelessly for decades in the field of visual art, tiatr, drama, folk art and bhajan, here are the awardees

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The 'Yuva Srujan Puraskar' (Navasrjan - Chetna Puraskar) is one of the important awards by the department of Art and Culture for young talents from Goa. Besides giving recognition to these young yet established artists, the award is a motivational boost to these six Goan youth personalities. The awards will be presented on Saturday, January 25 at Kala Academy, Panjim at the hands of noted film director, Mahesh Kothare.



**Sagar Naik Mule, Adpai, Ponda (Visual Art)**

This award feels like Goa's Padma Shri award and it is not just my efforts but the contribution and support of so many more people behind my art. This award is even more meaningful as many people have praised my work and even helped me grow in Kaavi art. I have been awarded five times at the State Art Exhibition in both, student as well as artist category. I recently did Kaavi art for the Goa tableau for the Republic Day parade in New Delhi.

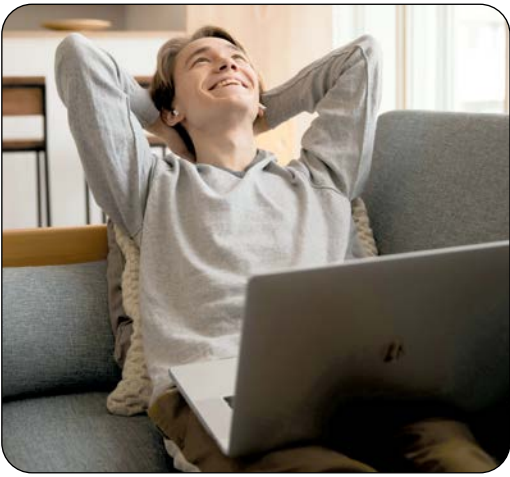
**Kemraj Pandurang Pilgaonkar, Carambolim (Drama)**

I am very excited to receive the award as it motivates me to go back to acting. I have been acting in Konkani natak, zagor plays and street plays from a very young age. Two years back, I got a break from acting and started working on lighting for plays, for which I even won awards. I received a lot of love and recognition for my work and I will return to acting soon.

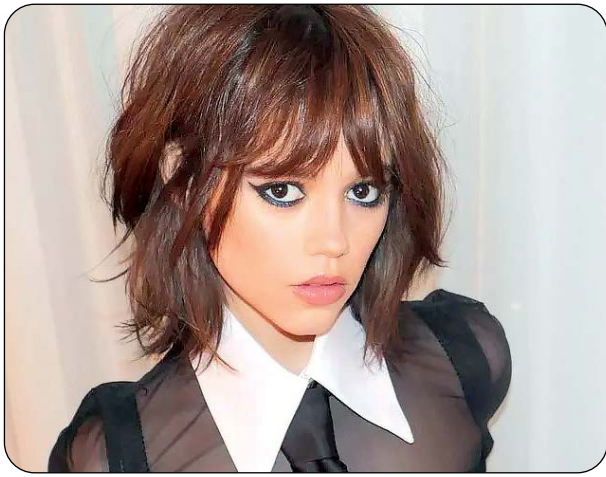


**Rama Kurtikar, Curti, Ponda (Folk Art)**

I have been working in the field of Folk Art for more than 26 years, right from my childhood. Folk arts especially dances like Divli dance, Ghodmmoddini, Mussoll Khell are very important. This award will help keep these traditions alive as I am training a new generation of folk dancers. I also won the Yuva Pratibha Puraskar in Udaipur, Rajasthan.



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### SWIPE RIGHT



#### Pop sensation Taylor Swift to perform in India

In thrilling news for Swifties in India, global pop sensation Taylor Swift is set to perform in India for the first time. According to reports, she has been approached to grace the pre-wedding celebrations of Jeet Adani, the son of businessman Gautam Adani. However, a majority of Taylor Swift's fans may not be able to see her live as the performance will be at the pre-wedding celebrations of Jeet and fiancé Diva Shah.



#### 'The Brutalist' director Brady Corbet responds to AI backlash



The Brutalist' is coming under fire online after the film's editor admitted in an interview some AI was used to enhance the performance of the film's leads, Adrien Brody and Felicity Jones. Editor David Jancsó said the filmmakers used AI tools from Ukrainian specialist Respeecher to tweak Brody's and Jones' Hungarian dialogue in the film to make it sound more authentic. "I am a native Hungarian speaker and I know that it is one of the most difficult languages to learn to pronounce."



Rashmika Mandanna radiates Maharashtrian royalty as Maharani Yesubai in Vicky Kaushal's period drama Chhaava

## Doubts result in break-ups

Pio Esteves

The red curtains unfolded at Ravindra Bhavan, Margao for the Kala Academy's 10th Tiatr 'B' Group competition with the staging of Tiatr 'Divorce Invitation' presented by Aamar P Sawanth Fan Club, Margao, on the first day of the competition. Tiatr 'Divorce Invitation' penned by Aamar P Sawanth and directed by Xavier Mascarenhas throws light on marital relationships that sometimes tend to hit the rocks on account of infidelity among the spouses. Sandy (Alister Costa) and Ann (Savannah Mascarenhas) are happily married, but suddenly their marriage hits the rocks. Ann seeks divorce and is unwilling to compromise with Sandy. The family members, Liby (Priscila Mascarenhas), Tracy (Elisa Fernandes), Aston (Piety Cruz) are all set to celebrate their divorce. While Ann is a housewife, her husband, Sandy works for a firm. He hardly gives time for his spouse when he returns from work. A message on Sandy's phone leads to doubts in Ann's mind, followed by mistrust and hatred. Over a period of time, husband and



wife encounter ego problems and doubts about extra-marital ties take them away from each other. When things fail to settle between Sandy and Ann, the family doctor (Arnold Costa) steps in. Although the title of the tiatr might make one think of negativity in the entire presentation on stage, yet there's an unexpected happy ending as the curtains come down. The tiatr does not seem to progress in the first half. But there are fine performances from Alister and Savannah

**10TH TIATR 'B' GROUP COMPETITION**  
**Tiatr Review**  
**DAY 1: Tiatr 'Divorce Invitation'**

in the lead roles. They are ably supported by Priscila, Elisa and Aston. Arnold makes

a cameo in the concluding scene. For some lighter moments, there's DCP (Liby Mendonca) and ACP (Gopal). They meet each other in the garden and then make a grand entry at Sandy's residence. In the category of songs, there's a choral as the opening song, followed by comedy solo by Russel Mascarenhas, a duet by Conceicao Fernandes and Reema Dias, a trio 'Bhumiputra' by Xavier, Priscila Mascarenhas and Piety D'Cruz which calls for introspection. A solo 'Santachi Puja' by Savannah Mascarenhas focuses on St Francis Xavier, St Joseph Vaz and Venerable Fr Agnelo. Other solos are from Silveira D'Melo, Simran Gomes and Xavier Mascarenhas. A duo by Edwin Colaco and Conceicao, a duet by Xavier and Priscila and a choral 'Songit' by Conceicao, Nacip, Reema and Antonete were enjoyable. The musical band supporting the singers on stage included Ashben (saxophone), Megan (trumpet), Aaron (keyboard), Trian (bass) and Macmilan (drums). The stage sets were by Lito Coutinho, while the background music was taken care of by Abhi Bhagat. Gurudas Naik handled the light effects.

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