



Wisconsin Gov Tony Evers gives the annual State of the State address at the state Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin



People fleeing M-23 rebel advances arrive by boat in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo



Snowplows clear snow from Jefferson Highway the day after a rare and record setting snowstorm in River Ridge, La., a suburb of New Orleans



Migrating cranes catch corn seeds as they flock at sunrise in Hula Lake conservation area, north of the Sea of Galilee, northern Israel

Trump threatens Russia with tariffs, sanctions if 'ridiculous war' in Ukraine not ended

PTI, WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump has warned his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin to end the 'ridiculous war' in Ukraine or face high tariffs and further sanctions.

Trump, who was sworn in as the 47th President of the United States on January 20, said this on Truth Social on Wednesday, a social media platform owned by him.

Trump called out Russian President Putin by name in the social media post, arguing that he always had a good relationship with the leader, but that it was time to settle "this ridiculous War!" Asserting that he is looking to hurt Russia, Trump said he wants no more lives to be lost in the war.

Let's get this war, which never would have started if I were President, over with! We can do it the easy way, or the hard way - and the easy way is always better. It's time to MAKE A DEAL. NO MORE LIVES SHOULD BE LOST!!! Trump said.

I love the Russian people, and always had a very good relationship with President Putin - and this despite the Radical Left's Russia, Russia, Russia HOAX. We must never forget that Russia helped us win the Second World War,



Crater and damaged houses are seen in the yard of residential neighbourhood after yesterday's Russian airstrike in Sloviansk, Donetsk region, Ukraine

losing almost 60,000,000 lives in the process, he said.

He also warned that if there was not a ceasefire deal soon, he would have no other choice but to impose tariffs, taxes and sanctions on anything being sold by Russia to the United States, and various other participating countries.

All of that being said, I'm going to do Russia, whose Economy is failing, and President Putin, a very big FAVOUR. Settle now, and STOP this ridiculous War! IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE. If we don't make a deal, and soon, I have no other choice but to put high levels of Taxes, Tariffs, and

Sanctions on anything being sold by Russia to the United States, and various other participating countries, Trump said making an open appeal to the Russian leader.

The Biden administration has already imposed numerous sanctions on various Russian economic sectors, including its oil and energy sectors earlier this month, in an effort to cut off its revenues to fund the war in Ukraine.

Trump has for months called for a ceasefire in Ukraine, urging both sides to negotiate. Russian forces invaded Ukraine in early 2022, and both sides have sustained heavy losses in the nearly three years of fighting since.

FROM PAGE 1 & 2

CHANDOR PROTEST: COPS' FRESH PROBE PLEA A PLOY TO DERAILED TRIAL, SAY ACTIVISTS

"The station diary extracts are essential to present the truth of the presence of the complainant and witnesses at the time of commission of the crime," the application stated.

The investigative scope has dramatically expanded to include unrecorded statements from key government officials. The police specifically noted the necessity of recording testimonies from Salcete Joint Mamltdars Raghuraj Faldesai, Dattaraj K Gauns Dessai, and Gaurav S Gaonkar. The application argues that these eye-witness accounts are "material and essential for the Court to effectively adjudicate and evaluate the truth in the case".

In a strongly-worded statement, the police application asserted that the additional investigation is "crucial, essential, and significant for effective adjudication" and to "meet the ends of justice". They emphasised that no prejudice would be caused to the accused, as the defence has not yet been opened or disclosed.

South Goa Congress MP Capt Viriato Fernandes, one of the 10 activists charged, vehemently condemned the move.

During a press interaction following a court hearing, he characterised the development as a calculated attempt to derail the trial.

He said, "Tariq Pe Tariq" (date after date) is a systematic effort to prolong the legal proceedings. The government's actions reveal a deeper conspiracy. If there was substance in the case, the trial would have started long ago."

The activists facing charges include Abhijit Prabhudesai, Freddy Travasso, Vikas Bhagat, John Douglas Coutinho, Diana Tavares, Creson Antao, Viriato Fernandes, Roylea Fernandes and Sabita Mascarenhas. They stand accused of forming an unlawful assembly and obstructing movement during their protest against the double tracking railway project.

The prosecution's case alleges that on the intervening night of November 1-2, 2020, between 11.30 pm and 5 am, the activists blocked the road near the Chandor railway gate, allegedly impeding vehicular and pedestrian movement. They are charged under Sections 143, 145, 341 read with Section 149 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 - sections typically invoked in cases of public disorder and obstruction.

Earlier, the activists had sought discharge from the case, arguing that the prosecution failed to establish a substantive case against them. However, their plea was dismissed by the Margao JMFC in mid-July 2023, a decision that further intensified the legal battle and underscored the complexity of the proceedings.

The police application will come up for arguments at the next hearing scheduled on February 20, with both sides preparing to present their most compelling arguments.

Sources close to the case indicate that the application represents an unusual procedural step, potentially signalling the intricate and sensitive nature of the protest and its subsequent legal aftermath.

The next hearing promises to be a critical juncture in a legal battle that has captured the attention of activists, environmentalists, and citizens concerned about development projects in the region.

PARSEKAR PADDING UP WITH EYE ON 2027 POLLS?

"Many people went to greet the newly elected BJP President Damu Naik and I was one of them, but my visit is being discussed. It means I am still a force to reckon with. I remained with the party till the 2022 elections came closer, but at the last moment I was denied a party ticket saying that I did not have a winnability factor. But I polled 6,000 votes and the candidate who was fielded by the party could manage to secure 8,000 votes. It means that the party can get only 2,000 votes. If I was given the ticket, I could definitely have won the elections, Parsekar said.

The former Chief Minister rued that various projects which were initiated during his tenure had remained in the same state. "After my defeat in 2017, new MLAs were elected and the present MLA will shortly complete three years but the situation has remained the same. Six lakh square metres of land was acquired for the Electronic City at Tuem and even a zone was converted for that. Road was constructed. Many companies had shown interest to invest there but now nobody cares. It is the duty of the government to widen the road if it is narrow."

Parsekar further said that Union Minister Nitin Gadkari had agreed to have an elevated road there, but no one had pursued it. Lamenting that the construction of the Tiraol bridge linking Maharashtra is also pending, he said, "This bridge is being ignored and PWD was supposed to construct it. A rural medical dispensary was proposed at Tuem during his tenure and the same awaiting its opening. It is after all taxpayers' money. If a building can be constructed within three years then why is it taking eight years to purchase equipment and recruit staff?"

EX-SERVICEMAN KILLS WIFE, COOKS BODY PARTS IN PRESSURE COOKER IN HYDERABAD: POLICE

"Efforts are being made, but the body parts could not be found. It still looks like a missing case. The suspect is being questioned. Efforts were being made to obtain clues with regard to the woman going missing and other aspects of the case," a police official told PTI.

The parents of the woman raised suspicion of

On the other hand, no other leads were immediately available to take the investigation forward on a different track, police said.

93 YEARS ON, BENGAL POLICE STATION PRESERVES TEA CUP, SAUCER OFFERED TO NETAJI BY BRITISH OFFICER

"We consider ourselves lucky to work at this police station where our beloved Netaji had stepped in. He has been an inspiration for us. His visit here is not widely known, and we believe everyone should learn about this chapter of history," a senior police officer told PTI.

According to historical accounts, Bose was stopped by the British police while en route to the meeting and subsequently arrested because of fear that his speech could incite unrest. "Netaji stayed here for a few hours and was offered tea by the then officer-in-charge, which he politely refused. These details have been passed down through generations," the officer added.

LOCALS BRACE FOR FIGHT AS BHUTANI ROLLS IN WITH MACHINERY, POLICE

"Our patience cannot be played with and we are ready to come out again in larger numbers. The people of Goa are still with us. This is our collective battle," warned Naik.

Ramesh Construction Company in a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the High Court of Bombay at Goa, had on December 12, 2024 prayed that the Goa Police be directed to provide protection - due to constant threats in the past - so as to carry on soil testing.

Six days later, Justice Nivedita P Mehta and Justice Karnik ordered: "Our attention is invited to the copy of the representation which has been made by the petitioner to the Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police and other officials at page 66 of the petition."

"Having read the nature of the complaint, the respondents are directed to look into the complaint and take the same to its logical conclusion in accordance with law, expeditiously."

That, the police opted to provide police protection to a company that is allegedly seen to be harassing the locals have irked the villagers and environmentalists against the project.

"On Wednesday afternoon, we noticed a vehicle trying to enter the property and soon people gathered and stopped it from entering. After a while, the police appeared and after threatening the protester escorted the vehicle in," recalls local Ralph D'Souza.

"A PIL has been filed in the High Court to get a stay on the project and I'm still in the dark why the stay has not been obtained. Whatever tactics are used to silence us, we will not back down," claims D'Souza.

Stunned by the police action Peter D'Souza, who has filed a petition at the High Court claiming that the project is on its feet with no valid permissions, shot of a letter to the IGP objecting to the requests made by M/S Parmesh Construction Company Ltd for police protection.

"The police have not been ordered to provide protection but the DGP has been asked to decide and we did not expect our government to decide against its own people," said an exasperated Peter D'Souza.

"We hereby strongly object to such an arbitration action against the villagers by allowing police protection. The said M/s Parmesh Construction Company Ltd have filed false FIRs and are trying to use the same to seek police protection thereby trying to commence construction which lacks proper permissions and the development permission issued is illegal and de hors the law in force," read the letter addressed to the IGP and signed by four locals of Sanchoale.

"We therefore have a strong and reasonable apprehension that in the guise of seeking police protection, they would abuse such protection, if granted, by illegally commencing construction activity, leading to law and order situation," concludes the note.

No activity could be seen on Thursday at the site. The guard was seen snoozing through the afternoon. "They kept the soil testing machinery on top and that is all," observed local Yogesh Naik.

"I will not make any statement," shot back Verma Police station PI Melson Colaso when prodded for his reaction on the presence of his policemen at the site to help Bhutani Infra.

DELHI COURT ACCEPTS CBI CLOSURE REPORT

The report said there was no element of criminality or violation of law.

The CBI claimed in the report that there was no collusion or criminal conspiracy or abuse of official position by any public servant or officers of ICICI bank.

The case was lodged on a complaint from Sanjay Dutt of Quantum Securities Limited, who alleged that the ICICI Bank sanctioned a loan of Rs 375 crore in 2008 against the entire 61 per cent shareholding of the NDTV promoters as collateral.

OPPN CRACKS SHOW AFTER VENZY COMPARES SAWANT TO BANDODKAR

Former State Election Commissioner (SEC) Prabhakar Timble said, "Too much should not be read into the utterances of the Benaulim MLA. Today, people are very selfish and expect the MLA to initiate and complete public projects in their constituencies. The position of every opposition MLA is not a bed of roses and each has to strike the golden mean. If they don't do it, the voters will reject them as non-performers at the next election. So, they know best what to speak, why to speak and when to speak. I don't

think that Venzy Viegas is in any way going to go slow on his tirade against the government in the Assembly because if he does that, his electorate will snub him later. So, what Venzy Viegas spoke about CM Pramod Sawant and Bhausaheb Bandodkar is for the specific moment and the specific occasion and could be with some constituency issues in mind."

According to Timble, Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai did what is generally expected from him as he is known to grab every opportunity coming his way to consolidate his public image as the most vociferous opposition MLA. He could have avoided having a dig at his colleague in the opposition. But, Vijai probably is in the race to prove he is first amongst all other Opposition MLAs. All know that his public posturing is always to demonstrate that he is the people's favourite as the leader of the opposition. So, Vijai is expected to play his political games.

"On the whole, I feel the Opposition MLAs are putting up a front that they are united. I would describe them as "united Opposition" on the floor of the assembly but one does not see them together otherwise as individuals. The competition between them to be the first amongst equals sometimes turns unhealthy," Timble said.

Political analyst Trajano D'Mello said, "The question is when there are so many issues of corruption plaguing the State and when the Opposition members were supposed to fight unitedly they have indulged in mud-slinging. This Opposition is not in a position to create confidence in the people that they are really one and interested in fighting against the ruling BJP. Their heart, mind and soul are not together and everyone has its own agenda not only within the parties but also within MLAs within parties."

He said, "Rumours that the India Bloc fought together and managed to retain the South Goa Parliamentary seat is not politically correct because this seat was won due to consolidation of Salcete taluka votes in favour of India Bloc candidate. Earlier, eight Congress MLAs deserted the party and joined BJP. So how can people trust the Opposition?"

Trajano stated that Opposition parties have to declare their seats which they are going to fight as of today so that they can work in those constituencies to defeat the BJP. The drama by Opposition members in the Assembly is not convincing to the people who have seen how the Opposition members are addressing media briefings in different groups after coming out of the Assembly hall.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) vice president Prof Ramarao Wagh claimed, "Benaulim MLA Venzy Viegas's statement was misinterpreted by the media. Now things are under control and these things will be sorted out. We fought Lok Sabha elections together i.e. under India Bloc because parameters for Assembly and Lok Sabha polls are different. Also every political party has its strengths and weaknesses. Dividing and uniting is a better option and when elections are around, all are on one page."

Wagh said, "During the Assembly session all Opposition members will put up a united front against the government. On main issues the opposition will work together."

JALGAON VICTIMS HAD ENOUGH TIME TO MOVE TO SAFER AREA: RAILWAY OFFICIALS

Those who couldn't notice or didn't get enough time to move away came under it, the official said and stressed that adherence to basic safety precautions could have potentially saved lives.

As the investigation continued, the death toll was confirmed to be 12 after officials clarified that a head and torso, initially believed to belong to different individuals, were actually from the same person.

Initial reports on Wednesday had said the incident occurred when passengers of the 12533 Mumbai-bound Pushpak Express got off the train following a chain-pulling alarm and were subsequently struck by the Karnataka Express.

A state government official said that earlier the figure had been arrived at 13 as a woman's body and a head were found at the scene of the accident, but a man identified the body parts as that of his mother.

MAKE YOUR PRODUCTS IN AMERICA OR PAY TARIFFS: TRUMP TELLS DAVOS

He also spoke on the issue of gender surgery, saying he has made it "official policy of the United States, that there are only two genders, male and female."

He took aim at "men participating in women's sports" while adding that gender operations "will occur very rarely".

Since taking office, Trump has vowed an immediate overhaul of the US trade system, promising to tariff and tax foreign countries to the benefit of US citizens.

He has signed an order directing agencies to study trade issues ranging from deficits to unfair practices - paving the way towards further tariffs in the future.

ANDHRA STUDENT JUMPS TO DEATH, CAUGHT ON CCTV

Police said the intermediate student hailed from Ramapuram village of Batthenapalli mandal in Sri Sathyasai District.

The suicide of the boy pursuing intermediate first year at Narayana Junior College was captured on CCTV cameras. The recording shows him rising from his bench and straightaway proceeding to jump from the third floor unperurbed, police said.

Meanwhile, police are taking a complaint from the boy's parents to register a case and investigate further.

CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

SITUATIONS VACANT

Urgently wanted for a Property Maintenance Services company with experience: Housekeeping staff (M/F) Office assistant (F) with 2-wheeler. Office boy with 2-wheeler. To work in Betim, Pilerne, Bambolim Work timing : 9am-6pm. Call on #9307027894.

2025002612

Beautician for Ladies Salon wanted at Cuncolim and Verna. Contact: 9850755253

2025002614

Wanted a Driver with Badge Licence to drive a Tourist Taxi (Eritga 7-seater) at Assagao-Goa. Contact No: 9511279217

2025002615

Wanted Office Assistant to Account Manager. Location: Margao Industrial Estate. Education required: BCom/ MCom. Experience: 1-3 years with Tally, Tds, Gst filling, reconciliation. Benefits: Permanent job, annual increment, gratuity, bonus, paid leave. Send resume to enquiry@goasintered.com or M/s. Goa Sintered, Mugali, Goa-403709. To know about us visit our website www.goasintered.com

2025002618

Required -Field Supervisor and Business Development Officer for Reputed Manpower Agency in Verna. Interested People please call-9860217342.

2025002619

Wanted Office Assistant immediately for Real Estate firm at Dabolim, with knowledge of Hindi, English, Konkani, Marathi, Computer, Accounting, dealing with Customers. Email CV to sales@shree-maagayatri.com, skg9596@gmail.com

2025002621

Required Admin Staff cum Data Entry Operator for a Petrol pump in Chicalim, Vasco. Freshers can also apply. Contact:9823052828. Email cv: karmas@rediffmail.com

2025002622

Required office assistant in Mapusa. Should be computer literate with knowledge of accounting, e-mail, and fluent in English. Contact with salary expectation: kamargardenschsl@gmail.com

2025002623

wanted staff for 3 star hotel in porvorim. Operational manager (1) Front Office (2) Room boy (2) Maintenance (1) with knowledge of plumbing & Electrical. Contact: 7030323333 info@enterhotels.in

2025002629

Urgently required office assistant in travel agency, Navelim Goa Contact 9665025141. Salary Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 Fresher's can apply

2025002632

Wanted Supervisor for a Manufacturing Unit at Verna XII pass with min one year working experience. Salary upto Rs. 30,000/- plus benefits. Contact 9823117021

2025002636

Wanted Roomboys for Hotel in Colva, New comers/ freshers can also apply. Food & Accommodation provided. Contact: 9823869649

2025002637

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted maid Family in margao. Near Loyola High school time 8.00am to 6.00pm cooking and other house work. Contact 9822170231

2025002638

Urgently required All Rounder & Tandoori chef for Restaurant in Navelim. Provided with good salary & food. Contact: 7972762352/ 9823216597

2025002639

Wanted Office Admin. Real Estate company, Margao is looking for motivated and skilled individual full time to join our dynamic team. We are seeking candidates with passion for real estate and drive for excellence. Qualifications: Graduation or post-graduation. Interested candidates send resume and cover letter to danfordk13@gmail.com by the end of January 2025. Contact Mr. Danford K- 7020427764

2025002634

Kitchen Staff Required for a cafe in Anjuna (1) Commi (1, 2) Kitchen helper experienced candidates preferred. Please contact: [9021013863] or WhatsApp for more details.

2025002640

Wanted Ro/water purifier technician with at least one year experience with valid driving licence. Contact: Aquaflo Enterprise, Margao- 9529591839/ 8308539964.

2025002641

Reputed Goan Restaurant in South Goa seeks talented team members. All Rounder. cooks (2), Goan cook (1), Trainee cook (1), Galley Utility (2), Waiters, Waitresses (2), Tandoori Cook. Requirements: 2-5 yrs exp. in respective fields. Benefits: Competitive salary & benefits, Accommodation provided, Professional growth Apply: Ph: +919922254122email: khabirmoraes@gmail.com

2025002646

Required Site Supervisor for handling civil and interior works including managing Labours and Materials for site at any given location in Goa. Contact : 7263899327.

2025002665

Required Accountant for Civil and Interior company in Panjim. Contact : 7263899327.

2025002666

Required person to do all kinds of helper works of office and manage materials of sites on monthly basis no qualification required only bike licence. Contact : 7263899327.

2025002667

THANKSGIVING

Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the blessings and graces you have bestowed upon me and my loved ones. Your intercession and guidance have been a source of comfort and strength in our lives. May I continue to seek your help and inspiration as I navigate life's challenges.

L.A. 2025002596-1

THANKSGIVING

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT
Holy Spirit, you who makes me see everything and shows me the way to reach my ideals, you who gives me the divine gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me. I in this short dialogue, want to thank you for everything and affirm once more that I never want to be separated from you, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in their perpetual glory. To that end and submitting to God's Holy Will I ask from you... (your request)
(This prayer should be said for 3 consecutive days). Publish it on granting of the petition. Thanks for the favours granted.
Savio Coelho (Per-Seraulim)

2025002647-1

TOURS & TRAVELS

Tour to Nasik Infant Jesus Departure on 6th February at 8:00 pm Panjim 7th & 8th February stay at Nasik. Return back to Goa on 9th by 10:00pm A.C pushback Video Coach. Contact: 9822876338/ 9158968191

2025002583

VEHICLES AVAILABLE

Do Spray Booth Painting of your vehicle for full car or touch up/accident repair (insurance claim) @ reasonable rate then any company. Booth painting rate with Glossy finishing professional Painting/ Denting/ Polishing/ car periodic service @ 600 brakes oh 300/ suspension/ clutch oh/etc call Ms Sunival Automobile Clinic behind Hotel Jasmine Betalbatim Call Valinton (ex Maruti Engineer/ex chowgule industries C.C Manager) 7769811763/804.

2025002387

NRI Honda city ivetech 2013 black 42008km magwheel p/steering, p/windows, abs airbags reverse camera showroom condition 9326811763.

2025002389

Lady driven Kwid (automatic) 2018 red 45008km 20kmp/lt p/steering, p/windows, cd, abs airbags new tyre excellent condition 7769811763.

2025002391

Alto LXI 2009 Silver 75008KM 20kmp/lt p/steering cd, c/locking new tyre excellent condition 7769811804.

2025002393

BMW X1 2018 Sdrive Diesel, 32000km 1st owner excellent condition. Expected 22.5 lakh. Call : 8380066405 / 8308802311

2025002496

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

2025000409