

SUNDAY SHOCKER: Arambol man murdered in beach brawl with shack workers

Victim identified as Amar Bandekar from Khalchawada; one shack worker held, five others detained; family & villagers threaten not to accept the body till killers are arrested

Team Herald

PERNEM: In a shocking incident, a petty fight with a group of shack workers led to the murder of 37-year-old Amar Bandekar from Arambol, while walking on the beach on Sunday evening.

According to the Mandrem Police, the incident occurred at around 6.30 pm when Amar during his regular evening walk tried to keep aside some chairs put up on the beach by a shack operator as he found them causing obstruction. This led to verbal arguments between Bandekar and a shack worker. The arguments soon culminated into fist fight where other workers joined in. During



The beach shack where the incident took place. (Inset) Amar Bandekar

the fight, Bandekar fell on the ground unconscious. He was soon rushed to the Primary Health Centre at Tuem, Pernem, where the doctors on duty declared him dead.

On receiving the information, the Mandrem Police

rushed to the health centre. They later went to the crime spot and immediately arrested one shack worker and further detained five others suspected to be involved in the fight.

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PETTY FIGHT PROVES FATAL

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The Police arrested one shack worker and detained five others

WE, THE PEOPLE



A tableau of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on display during the 76th Republic Day parade, in New Delhi, on Sunday

India displays cultural diversity at R-Day parade

PTI, NEW DELHI: India's rich cultural diversity, economic progress and the strides it has taken in sectors, such as science and technology, were on full display at the 76th Republic Day celebrations on Kartavya Path on Sunday, in the presence of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto.

President Droupadi Murmu led the

celebrations as she arrived at Kartavya Path in a horse-driven buggy, a tradition that was revived last year, along with Subianto, the chief guest at the event.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Union ministers, the country's top military brass, foreign diplomats, senior

officials and a large crowd that had gathered on a sunny winter morning witnessed the impressive show.

Subianto was the fourth Indonesian president to attend India's Republic-Day celebrations. Sukarno, the first president of Indonesia, was the chief guest at India's first Republic-Day celebrations in 1950.

Without police help, I am a toothless tiger: Noise Monitoring panel member

Anjuna local Devanand Shirodkar says he heard loud music from his residence, but had no authority to stop it without police assistance; R-Day Eve saw units playing music that disturbed Vagator & Anjuna locals till dawn

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

OZRAN, VAGATOR: One of the members of the Noise Monitoring Committee (NMC) directed by the Bombay High Court at Goa "to ensure that the outdoor music should not be played beyond 10 pm" feels he is a toothless tiger with no assistance from the police.

"I did hear a lot of music from my home but, how was I to ensure music is stopped without any police assistance? I do not have the authority to go and stop music," countered Devanand Shirodkar, when asked to detail his role vis-à-vis the HC directions on January 15, 2025.

Anjuna residents Devanand Shirodkar and Dominic Pereira, and one member from Morjim, Candolim, Calangute and Baga were appointed by the High Court in its order on March 21, 2007, "to carry out surprise inspections at various shacks, restaurants, hotels in the coastal villages, which are

I could hear loud music being played in south Anjuna, because that is where I stay and I did call the police to inform them, but music could be heard all night till early morning. There is nothing that I could do all by myself

- Devanand Shirodkar, member of Noise Monitoring Committee

The Goa Pollution Control Board keeps fooling the High Court by saying that these places play indoors without mentioning that they are not sound proof. There is a big difference between indoors and sound proof and that difference we know best because we are the sufferers

- Avelina Fernandes from Anjuna

known to be organising late night parties with music amplified sounds and if sound levels are found to be beyond the permissible decibels or the sound system is being used beyond 10 pm, they should file a complaint and register an FIR with the local police station immediately.

"I could hear loud music being played in south Anjuna, because that is where I stay and I did call the police to inform them, but music could be heard all night till early morning. There is

nothing that I could do all by myself," complained Shirodkar.

Dominic, the other member of the committee from Anjuna neither responded to calls nor answered the WhatsApp question: "Did you report on music being played after 10pm in Anjuna and Vagator on January 25, 2025?"

Republic Day Eve saw units playing music that disturbed the residents of Vagator and Anjuna till dawn as none had provisions in their establish-

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- Desmond D'Souza, Vagator resident

ments to play music in a sound proof environment.

"The Goa Pollution Control Board keeps fooling the High Court by saying that these places play indoors without mentioning that they are not sound proof. There is a big difference between indoors and sound proof and that difference we know best because we are the sufferers," said Avelina Fernandes from Anjuna.

She said, "To top it all, reports are presented to court saying that complaints are registered through the

phone, but on visiting, no noise pollution is found. Are we crazy to call up the police if there is no noise? Are we mad to contact the cops when we should be sleeping?"

In its order on January 15, 2025, the High Court had said: "Let an affidavit be filed by the Noise Pollution Monitoring Committee about the steps taken in the next 15 days in terms of the judgment dated 15.12.2021 passed by this Court. The committee has to ensure that the outdoor music should not be played beyond 10 pm."

"It looks like the two members of the committee from our village are unaware of the order because Irish Hotel is blasting music and Hill Top has been doing the same since the last two days till dawn, despite me having made several complaints over the phone," said Desmond D'Souza from Vagator whilst providing proof of the same.

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'Drunk' driver mows down rider, leaves pedestrian seriously injured at Arpora

44-yr-old Amirul Haque died on the spot, 54-yr-old fisherwoman Sheela was critically injured after Shubham Singhdeo, a tourist, allegedly drove his rented vehicle in an 'inebriated' state

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: In a hit-and-run case reported at Arpora early on Sunday morning, a two-wheeler rider died on the spot, while a fisherwoman sustained serious injuries after being hit by a SUV driver, who allegedly drove his vehicle in an "inebriated" condition, rammed his vehicle into an electricity pole and fled.

According to Anjuna Police, the accident occurred at around 7.30am when Shubham Singhdeo, a tourist, drove his rented vehicle GA-08-R-8397, allegedly in an intoxicated state.

While speeding, Shubham lost control of the vehicle and veered onto the wrong side of the Arpora-Nagoa road in front of Viegas supermarket and crashed into a two-wheeler, GA-03-B-1965. The impact was such that the rider, identified as Amirul Haque (44), died on the spot. Amirul was on his way to deliver chicken from Saligao to a restaurant in



Arpora when the tragedy occurred, police said.

Shubham later knocked down a 54-year-old pedestrian Sheela, while on her way to the Arpora market with a basket of fish.

Later, the SUV driver rammed the vehicle into an electricity pole.

Sheela's feet were trapped in the front grille of the SUV and had to be extricated by fire service personnel. Her condition is reported to be critical.

Shubham immediately fled from the spot without providing medical aid or notifying the police. He had rented the vehicle from

Mitesh Hadfadkar, police said.

Anjuna Police said they have arrested Shubham and have also registered an offence against Mitesh, the owner of the vehicle. Further investigations are on.

Arpora-Nagoa sarpanch Roshan Redkar, who arrived at the spot, said, "It's unfortunate that on-lookers instead of helping the woman simply kept clicking photos and shooting videos. Her legs were trapped in the front grille of the vehicle and we could only remove her after the fire service personnel arrived."

MAX. TEMP 35.5 °C
MIN. TEMP 19.8 °C

idharudhar



Forget doctors and engineers, go for a security guard!

Blocked: Mulgao locals stop ore extraction

Go marching to the mining block; complain that activity carried out at night was creating nuisance, causing noise pollution in the village and was not benefitting them

Team Herald

BICHOLIM: Voicing their strong opposition to the extraction of iron ore, Mulgao villagers on Sunday marched to the mining block and stopped the activity, complaining that it was creating noise pollution in the village.

After failing to get relief from the government, the villagers assembled at Shree Kelbai Temple premises, in the village, where the locals claimed that extraction of iron ore at night was creating nuisance and causing sound pollution.

A large number of villag-



Mulgao villagers made their presence felt at the mining block on Sunday

ers including sarpanch Mansi Kavthankar, deputy sarpanch Gajanan Mandrekar, panchayat members Vishalsen Gad, Sushasini Govekar, Sidhanath

Kalsavkar and Trupti Gad, Shree Kelbai Devasthan Committee president Vasant Gad, and Comunidade of Mulgao president Maheshwar Parab

THE VILLAGERS DEMAND
Demarcation of village boundaries, active mining lease boundaries, buffer zone boundaries, exclusion of houses, temples, lakes, paddy fields and plantations from mining blocks as per new mining lease, desilting of paddy fields on priority, release of compensation of farmers pending since 2011, arrears of lease rent to Comunidade of Mulgao, desilting of three lakes and construction of retaining walls at these lakes

were present.

Annoyed over non-action by the government departments and the Bicholim deputy collector to stop ongoing extraction and in the heat of the meeting, the villagers marched to the mining site and

demanding that the night shift be stopped immediately as it disturbing them and causing noise pollution.

Vedanta's head of north cluster Santosh Mandrekar, who was present at the site, told them that the company's chief

officer was out of station and would return on Monday.

Mandrekar assured the villagers that the company's chief officer would meet them in the Shree Kelbai Temple premises on Monday, January 27 at 4 pm.

The villagers opined that the mining activity was not benefitting them and that it should be stopped immediately.

"All these years we have suffered due to reckless mining activity," they said and resolved to march to the site to halt the operations.

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