

Arambol villager's death triggers 'outsider' row

We have allowed outsiders to dominate us, says victim's sibling; family and locals hope Amar's killers will be punished

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

KHALCHAWADA, ARAMBOL: The death of Arambol resident Amar Bandekar in a brutal attack by shack workers has awakened the villagers to the reality that outsiders are moving dangerously in the hamlet. The victim's family and locals hope that the long arm of the law will ensure his killers are punished.

"The problem is that, out of the 12 shacks permitted, only two are run by locals. Had the shack been run by one of us, my brother would probably still be alive today," said Yuvraj Bandekar, Amar's younger sibling.

Cont on Pg 11 >>



Late Amar's younger brother and uncle, hope for justice

Two more land in Mandrem Police net

PERNEM: Two more persons were arrested by the Mandrem police in connection with the murder of 28-year-old Amar Bandekar from Arambol, taking the total number of arrests in the case to three.

The police gave the names of accused as Lalit Thakur (24) from Nepal and Vibhishan Kumar (26) from Kullu, Himachal Pradesh. On Sunday, police arrested Surender Kumar of Kullu, Himachal Pradesh. All three were working at the Sea Lounge Beach Shack, Arambol. Surender Kumar has been remanded in seven days police custody by the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Pernem.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

"The problem is that, of the 12 shacks permitted, only two are run by locals. Had the shack been run by one of us, my brother would probably have been alive today

— Yuvraj Bandekar, deceased Amar's younger sibling

"Through Amar's death, the village has woken up to the reality that outsiders are moving around dangerously in the village. Such an eruption was bound to happen because many of us preferred to turn a blind eye due to greed for quick money and we have paid with a life. Hope the village realises

— Manuel Fernandes, a local

"I saw Amar sitting on a table and in a while having an argument with a waiter that ended up in a fist fight. Suddenly, he was surrounded and arms could be seen flying around. I did not intervene because it did not seem serious

— Arambol local

Police cannot use WhatsApp for serving notice: SC

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has said police cannot serve notices to accused persons through WhatsApp or other electronic modes under the Criminal Procedure Code or Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.

A bench of Justices M M Sundresh and Rajesh Bindal directed all states and union territories (UT) to issue appropriate directions to police for issuing notices under Section 41A of CrPC, 1973 or Section 35 of BNS, 2023 only through the mode of service permitted under the law.

"All the states/UTs must issue a standing order to their respective police machinery to issue notices under Section 41-A of CrPC, 1973/Section 35 of BNS, 2023 only through the mode of service as prescribed under the CrPC, 1973/BNS, 2023," the bench said on January 21.

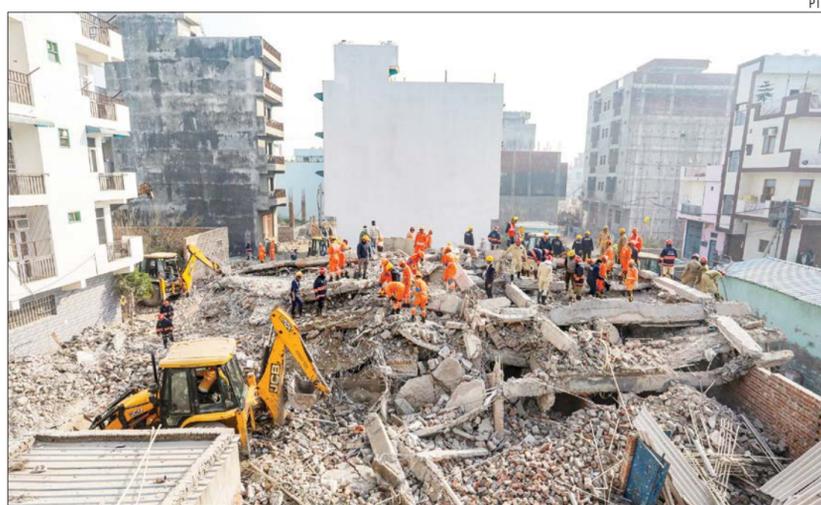
The top court went on, "It is made amply clear that service of notice through WhatsApp or other electronic modes cannot be considered or recognised as an alternative or substitute to the mode of service recognised and prescribed under the CrPC, 1973/BNS, 2023."

The direction came when the court accepted a suggestion by senior advocate Sidharth Luthra, appointed amicus curiae in the matter.

Luthra flagged instances where a notice under Section 41-A of CrPC, 1973 was sent through WhatsApp, but the accused did not appear before the investigating officer. He said the police machinery must not circumvent the mandate of Section 41-A of CrPC, 1973 or Section 35 of BNS, 2023.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

TOTAL DESTRUCTION



Rescue work underway after a four-storey building collapsed at Burari area in New Delhi, on Tuesday. At least 5 people were killed in the incident and several injured, according to police (Report on Pg 12 >>)

PAC, PUC meet after expiry of term comes under scanner

Tenure of these panels was for 2023-2024

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the Public Undertaking Committee (PUC) meetings convened by Congress MLA Altone D'Costa and Leader of the Opposition Yuri Alemao on Monday have come under scrutiny, as the term of both panels ended in December 2024.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

NO MEETINGS FROM JAN 2023 TO SEPT 2023: RECORDS

▶▶ Quzem MLA Altone D'Costa, who headed PAC, missed an opportunity to scrutinise CAG reports within the stipulated time

▶▶ 'Ignored' investigating scams in the BJP govt in last decade

▶▶ PUC chairman Yuri Alemao miserably failed to probe Smart City scam, illegalities in the Investment Promotion and Facilitation Board projects, other scams & irregularities

▶▶ Legislature Dept records revealed these panels did not meet even once from January 2023 to September 2023

▶▶ PAC held only eight meetings from Sept 2023 onwards with a 10-month gap between Jan 2024 and Oct 2024

▶▶ PUC met on nine occasions, held its first meeting in September and again after four months between May & August 2024

Cont on Pg 11 >>

PM Modi will do 'what is right' on illegal immigrants: Trump

PTI, WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will do 'what is right' on illegal immigrants, underlining that discussions are going on with India.

President Trump made these remarks on Monday while talking to reporters aboard Air Force One on his way back to Joint Base Andrews from Florida. He also mentioned that Prime Minister Modi is likely to visit the White House in February.

Separately, in a read-out of a phone call between both leaders, the White House said that Trump had a 'productive' phone call with Modi and sought a move towards a 'fair' bilateral trading relationship and deeper India-US cooperation.

While talking to House Republicans at a Florida retreat on Monday, President Trump said that the US would impose tariffs on the countries that 'harm' America as he named China, India and Brazil as high-tariff countries.

"We're going to put tariffs on outside countries and outside people that really mean harm to us... Look at what others do. China is



"He (Modi) will do what's right (on taking illegal immigrants). We are discussing. I had a long talk with him this morning (Monday). He is going to be coming to the White House, over next month, probably February. We have a very good relationship with India

— Donald Trump, President, USA

a tremendous tariff maker, and India and Brazil and so many other countries. So we're not going to let that happen any longer because we're going to put America first," he said.

Meanwhile, during their phone call, the two leaders also discussed plans for Modi to visit the US, the White House said in the readout.

While talking to reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump was asked "Did he (Modi) agree to take illegal immigrants."

"He (Modi) will do what's right. We are discussing," said the president.

"I had a long talk with him this morning (Monday). He is going to be coming to the White House, over next month, probably February. We have a very good relationship with India," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One.

The president was responding to a question on the phone call he had with Modi on Monday.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

Decide in four weeks lawyer's fresh OCI plea: HC to MHA

Asks Aires Rodrigues to apply afresh by Jan 30 via online OCI application

Team Herald

PANJIM: A division bench of the High Court of Bombay at Goa, comprising Justice M S Karnik and Justice Valmiki Menezes, on Tuesday directed the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to decide within four weeks on a fresh application from Adv Aires Rodrigues for an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card.

In its order, the Court instructed Adv Rodrigues to submit a new online OCI application by January 30. It also directed the officer in charge at the Embassy of India in Lisbon to call Adv Rodrigues on February 5 at 11:30 am to complete all the formalities.

The Court noted that the MHA had confirmed that there were no criminal proceedings pending against Adv Rodrigues in any court. Senior advocate A F Diniz, representing Adv

Rodrigues, pointed out that the criminal proceedings concerning his alleged dual nationality were closed by the Panjim JMFC on March 25, 2021.

Additionally, the High Court had quashed the chargesheet in the case related to an alleged social media post on December 11 of the previous year. It was also highlighted that in a 2007 case regarding an alleged trespass into the Ribandar Church, Adv Rodrigues and 19 other residents of Ribandar were acquitted by the court on September 14, 2011.

On May 15, 2023, Adv Rodrigues obtained a Portuguese passport in Lisbon and, upon returning to Goa in the first week of June, immediately surrendered his Indian passport at the Goa Passport Office, as required by law.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

Stray dogs attack foreigner in dog attack at Mobar



Injuries sustained by the foreigner in the dog attack

Team Herald

MARGAO: The stray dog menace continues to trouble both locals and tourists. In a recent incident, a foreign tourist sustained 15 injuries and a suspected arm fracture after being viciously attacked by a pack of stray dogs on Mobar Beach in Cavelossim, on Tuesday.

The attack occurred when the tourist, walking alone, was suddenly charged by five dogs. Despite attempting to escape into the water, the dogs continued to bite her until she fell. Fortunately, she managed to contact her friend for help, and water sports operators, along with a hotel guard, eventually rescued her.

Cont on Pg 11 >>

MAX. TEMP 30.0 °C
MIN. TEMP 20.5 °C

idharudhar



We've got multi-purpose, fully-equipped beach beds!

Chinese AI start-up DeepSeek upsets US tech hegemony

AFP, HANGZHOU, CHINA: Chinese startup DeepSeek, which has sparked panic on Wall Street with its powerful new chatbot developed at a fraction of the cost of its competitors, was founded by a hedgefund whizz-kid who believes AI can change the world.

Based out of the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou - sometimes known as 'China's Silicon Valley' - DeepSeek has come seemingly out of nowhere to release a cutting-edge product.

But in China it was already making waves, last year dubbed the 'Pinduoduo of AI' - a reference to a popular online shopping app that steamrolled giants like Alibaba with its low prices.

DeepSeek has won plaudits for its cost-effectiveness and praise in China for its seeming ability to navigate US sanctions that have aimed to prevent access to the high-tech chips needed to power the AI revolution.

▶▶ \$1 trillion wiped off the global stock market on Monday, driven by massive losses in the tech sector

▶▶ Nasdaq composite dragged down by 3.1% due to heavy losses in Big Tech

▶▶ Nvidia's stock price tanked 17%

DEEP DISRUPTION

▶▶ DeepSeek spent a mere \$5.6 million to develop its R1 AI model as compared to billion-dollar systems from the US

▶▶ DeepSeek's R1 model holds an impressive 20-50-x cost advantage over OpenAI's o1, depending on the task

▶▶ DeepSeek's R1 AI assistant became the most-downloaded free app on Apple's US App Store overtaking OpenAI's ChatGPT



Wenfeng, born in 1985 and an engineering graduate of Hangzhou's prestigious Zhejiang University, where he has said he became convinced "artificial intelligence would change the world".

Cont on Pg 11 >>

"The DeepSeek release should be a wake-up call for our industries that we need to be laser-focused on competing to win

— Donald Trump

"Deepseek R1 is AI's Sputnik moment (referencing the 1957 launch of Earth's first artificial satellite by the Soviet Union that stunned the Western world)

— Marc Andreessen, Tech investor

"Deepseek's r1 is an impressive model, particularly around what they're able to deliver for the price. We will obviously deliver much better models and also it's legit invigorating to have a new competitor! we will pull up some releases

— Sam Altman, OpenAI chief executive

US TECH STOCKS TANK; NVIDIA SINKS NEARLY 17%

AP, NEW YORK: Wall Street's superstars tumbled Monday as a competitor from China threatens to upend the artificial-intelligence frenzy they've been feasting on.

The S&P 500 dropped 1.5%, dragged down in large part by a 16.9% fall for Nvidia. Other Big Tech stocks also took heavy losses, and they pulled the Nasdaq composite down 3.1%

for its worst loss in more than a month. The damage was focused on AI-related stocks, while the rest of the market held up much better.

Cont on Pg 11 >>