

# LABOUR DEMANDS ECHO IN PANJIM

**AITUC wants ESMA in the pharma sector withdrawn immediately; presses for long pending demands including implementation of 7th Pay Commission for panchayat employees**

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** The All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) held a protest at Azad Maidan, pressing for its long pending demands such as scrapping and revoking the government's anti-labour notification prohibiting strikes in pharma companies, issues of the people employed in various sectors in Goa and implementation of 7th Pay Commission recommendation for panchayat employees among others.

AITUC General Secretary Christopher Fonseca pointed out that contract workers employed in Public Works Department (PWD) through PWD Labour Supply Society Limited continue to languish as contract workers denying them the benefits of regularisation, 300 workers employed in Sanjivani Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd have un-



certain future, Goa State Co-operative Milk Producers' employees have not been paid their legal dues, workers and employees of Kadamba Transport Corporation Limited (KTCL) have not been paid their arrears of settlement while pre-primary helpers employed in the education department are paid pathetic and meagre salaries.

He also pointed out that

overtime wages and duty roster of workmen 'Flotilla Staff' employed at River Navigation Department have not been resolved.

Advocate Suhas Naik claimed that there is no place for common man in the Union budget presented recently by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

"As per the proposals there will be no income

tax up to Rs 12 lakh, but the question is how many youth today are earning Rs 12 lakh per annum. One has to earn Rs one lakh per month to get Rs 12 lakh per year. This is for those belonging to the creamy layer of the society. Even provisions for health and education too have been reduced in this budget," he said.

"Demands of KTCL workers are still pending. They

## WORKERS' PLIGHT

■ Contract workers employed in PWD through PWD Labour Supply Society Ltd denied regularisation benefits

■ 300 Sanjivani workers face uncertain future,

■ Goa State Co-operative Milk Producers' employees not paid their legal dues

■ KTCL employees not been paid arrears of settlement

■ Education Dept's pre-primary helpers paid meagre salaries

■ Overtime wages and duty roster of workmen 'Flotilla Staff' at RND not resolved

have not been paid the arrears of the 7th Pay Commission. Services of drivers and conductors who

have worked continuously for two years are yet to be regularised. Issues related to Provident Fund are not resolved. Similarly, those working in the River Navigation Department (RND) have not been paid for working overtime," he said. "ESMA has been imposed for private pharmaceutical manufacturing company employees but ESMA is for public utility service not for private companies. Public utility means departments like education, health, electricity and water," he said. He asked, "Why has ESMA been imposed when the companies are producing medicines and sold in European markets for profits?"

"These companies are in the business for profits. Therefore, it is our firm demand that ESMA should not be imposed in the pharma sector and must be withdrawn immediately," he demanded.

## Collector dismisses illegal development petition against Tivim Comunidade

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** North Goa District Collector Sneha Gite, has dismissed the petition filed by Douglas Sequeira seeking action against the alleged illegal development of plots without obtaining sanction and non-compliance of procedure under the Code of Comunidades.

The High Court of Bombay at Goa had ordered a probe by the North Goa Collector, filed against the Comunidade of Tivim by Sequeira in August 2023, pertaining to the alleged procedural lapses, fraudulent activities, manipulation of documents, mismanagement of plot allotments and misappropriation of funds by the Comunidade.

Following an inquiry, the Collector in her 45-page order has concluded that the Comunidade of Tivim had strictly adhered to the pre-

scribed procedures as laid out by the Code of Comunidades and as a consequence dismissed all allegations and objections filed by Sequeira against the Comunidade.

Following thorough investigations, the Collector acknowledged compliance by the Comunidade of Tivim with previous High Court directives, and in all matters presented.

The Collector subsequently dismissed the petitioner's appeal.

After the order, the elected committee members of the Comunidade of Tivim stated that they are committed to serving the Gaonkars of the Comunidade and will continue to support them unconditionally.

On the other hand, Sequeira said that he will approach the High Court challenging the Collector's order.

## Cacra and Arambol selected as climate resilient coastal fishermen villages

**100 coastal villages across the country to receive Rs 2 crore each for development**

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Cacra in Tiswadi Taluka and Arambol in Pernem Taluka are among 100 coastal villages across the country selected as Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFV) to make them economically vibrant fishing communities.

Minister for Fisheries Nilkant Halarnkar chaired a meeting on Wednesday with Santa Cruz MLA Rudolfo Fernandes and Mandrem MLA Jit Arolkar to discuss the development of coastal fishing villages into Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages (CRCFV) under the PMMSY (Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana).

The Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Department of Fisheries, New Delhi, has initiated the development of 100 coastal villages as Climate Resilient Coastal Fishermen Villages.

Under this scheme, the State government will receive full funding from the Government of India, with an allocation of Rs 2 crore per village dedicated to the development of essential fisheries infrastructure

and facilities.

According to the Minister, 70 per cent of the cost will be allocated to infrastructure, while 30 per cent will go towards fisheries economic activities, in line with the scheme's guidelines.

WAPCOS (PEA), appointed by the Department of Fisheries, has prepared the Detailed Project Report (DPR), which has been approved by the National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad. The board has been designated as the nodal agency by the Union government.

The need-based fisheries facilities developed in the identified coastal fishing villages will include common facilities such as fish drying yards, processing centres, fish markets, fishing jetties, ice plants, cold storage, and emergency rescue facilities. The programme also promotes climate-resilient fisheries through initiatives such as seaweed cultivation, artificial reefs, sea ranching, the promotion of green fuel, safety and security measures for fishermen and fishing vessels, and alternative livelihood activities such as ornamental fisheries.

## Oxel protesters assured no more trees will be cut

Team Herald

**MAPUSA:** The CEO of Rio Luxury Homes, Nilesh Dessai, has assured the protesters from Oxel, Siolim, that the management will not cut any further trees and will protect the iconic mango tree within its compound.

This assurance was given to villagers just a few hours after they staged a candlelight protest in Oxel, Siolim.

The CEO also assured



the protesters that a written undertaking would be provided by the company to support its commitment not to

cut any further trees at its Oxel multi-dwelling project, informed Goa Green Brigade convenor Avertino Miranda.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DISREGARD



People frequenting the cycling and walkway track have dumped (see inset) broken liquor bottles and other waste into the River Mandovi

## Govt to develop technical terminology for Konkani textbooks under NEP 2020

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** The Goa government is preparing technical terminology in the Official Language to be used during the preparation and translation of school textbooks in Konkani, in accordance with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has already been signed with the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT), New Delhi, Ministry of Education, to prepare, coin, and frame technical terminologies in various domains of knowledge in the Konkani language.

The CSTT is the only authority responsible for creating, coining, and framing technical terminology in Indian languages. The signing of the MoU with the Directorate of Official Languages will assist in preparing, coining, and

### WORKSHOP FROM TODAY

**PANJIM:** (CSTT, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Directorate of Official Language (DOL), will conduct a five-day technical terminology creation/coining workshop at the DOL office in Junta House, Panjim, from Thursday, February 6 to 10. The CSTT has finalised the experts for the workshop according to their parameters. Each subject team will comprise respective subject experts, Konkani language experts, a Sanskrit language expert, and a linguist. Assistant Director of CSTT Dr. Ashok Shelwatkar and Shalandra Singh will attend the workshop.

framing technical terminology in Konkani. Additionally, it will facilitate the creation of textbooks in regional languages and will be useful for translation and research purposes.

So far, workshops to achieve this goal have been conducted in August and September of last year, covering fundamentals in Mass Communication/Journalism, Chemistry, and a Learner's Glossary for school-level sub-

jects such as Computer Science, Environmental Studies, and Mathematics. A workshop on fundamentals in Zoology, Agriculture, and Learners' terms in Chemistry, Computer Science, and Mathematics for High School is currently ongoing. Further workshops in domains such as Physics, Law and Legislative Affairs, Accountancy, Fisheries, Forestry, and Oceanography will also be held soon.

## Vigilance clearance granted to CTP despite ongoing inquiries, HC told

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** The vigilance clearance was granted to Chief Town Planner (CTP) Rajesh Naik since the preliminary inquiry against him was ongoing and there was no FIR or chargesheet registered, and the private complaint filed was not of such a nature as to withhold the clearance, the Director of Vigilance stated in an affidavit filed before the High Court of Bombay at Goa.

Director of Vigilance, Amarsen Rane further stated that the preliminary inquiry will conclude within a month.

It is pertinent to note that the vigilance clearance

to Naik was granted on June 14, 2024.

The High Court is hearing a quo warranto petition filed by activists Swapnesh Sherlekar of Mulgao and Nubert Fernandes of Camurlim.

Additionally, another nine complaints filed against Naik from 2016 until June 14, 2024, will be taken to their logical conclusion at the earliest, as stated in the affidavit. The petitioners have requested that the State government be asked to revoke the extension of service orders dated May 1, 2024, and September 10, 2024, post-superannuation for Naik, and to restrain him from making any decisions

on planning matters that have financial or ecological repercussions for the State.

Three cases are pending before the JMFC Pernem, JMFC Panjim, and JMFC Mapusa against Naik and others. The Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) disclosed that the three private criminal complaints were all filed in August/September 2024, i.e., after the vigilance clearance dated June 14, 2024, was granted. These three private complaints are pending the completion of the verification stage, as mentioned.

The State Cabinet, on August 28, 2024, decided to extend Naik's services for a period of one year.

## Action against dairy farmers for straying cattle

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Government has announced penal action against dairy farmers who avail of various benefits for dairy, if animals purchased under schemes such as Kamdhenu and Pashupalan are found straying in public places or on roads.

Speaking to reporters, Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Nitin Naik stated that officers from the department have been instructed to impound cattle found roaming on the roads.

"Any animal found unattended in public places or on the roads will be impounded immediately by the concerned authorities.

If any animal purchased under the department's schemes, namely Kamdhenu and Pashupalan, is found straying in public places or on roads, the entire subsidy will be recovered from the farmer in full," Naik said.

He added that any animal belonging to a farmer or beneficiary participating in the various schemes of the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services department would be sent to Ghaushallas (cow shelters).

Naik acknowledged that despite impounding stray animals, the number of cattle roaming the streets continues to rise, causing traffic congestion, road accidents, and even fatalities.

## Heavy Rush "GOA SHOPPING FESTIVAL", LIFESTYLE SHOPPING EXHIBITION AT SGPD MARGAO



**Margao, Feb 01:** GOA SHOPPING FESTIVAL, the Life Style Shopping Exhibition at SGPD GROUND in MARGAO is seen crowded everyday. There are lot of Furniture stalls in the exhibition where people are rushing to the stall as Furniture stalls were offering good discounts. Other stalls like: Pratik Motors, Prestige, Paramount Marketing, Usha International Ltd, Nuetch Solar Systems Pvt Ltd., AG Furniture Studio, RGS Kitchen Ware, Afgan Dry Fruits, Harsh Enterprises, Smith Furniture, Gujarat Namkeen, Jijee Jewellery, Sankul Food, Laxmi Enterprises, SS Furniture,



Rajasthan Papad, Samra Furniture, Kitchenware, Home Products, Sofa Sets & Home Furniture, Imported Curtains, Shower Curtains, Lazy World Bean Bags, Money Counting Machine, Ladies Fashion, Toys, Garments, Imported Watches, Magic Mop, Ladies & Gents Shoes, Children Clothes, Imported Jewelries, Bedsheets, Herbal Products, Children Furnitures, Educational Cd's, Door Mats, Bombay Halwa, Mens Wear, Health care Products & many more The exhibition is open for the public from 10.30 a.m. To 9.00 p.m. So don't Miss.