

Stop unlicensed sale of birds in Mapusa

Of late, vendors from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have been selling birds either for consumption or to rear as pets in the market at Mapusa. Ducks, local fowls of various breeds, guinea fowls, turkeys, geese, and quails are some of the exotic varieties of birds sold by the

**CITIZEN
LAWRENCE PEREIRA**
Pilerne



fathers and cops. Such unregulated practices are not only unethical but also dangerous to both animal and human populations.

When questioned, the sellers said that they were working for a Tamil Nadu-based poultry dealer and were only handling his business by "paying fees" to the authorities. This explanation does little to justify the neglect of basic animal health protocols. It's time for the AVHS to strike with an iron hand by roping in the services of the local police. Citizens, too, should refrain from buying these birds and complain to the appropriate authorities so that action can be initiated against these fly-by-night operators. Such steps are essential to prevent the further spread of diseases and to safeguard both public health and local biodiversity.

roadside. Locals are often tempted to buy these birds no matter what the cost, but unfortunately, they die within a week, often infecting other birds at home and in the vicinity. This raises serious concerns about their health and the potential spread of avian influenza. In fact, the rapid deterioration of these birds has alarmed many residents, who fear the outbreak of diseases in

the community.

These birds are sold without proper certification and veterinary checks, and can become an unnecessary reason for the spread of diseases like bird flu. When non-inspected birds are sold, they intermingle with local birds, end up infecting them, and pose a risk to the population of native birds as well. Such practices could lead to a

widespread outbreak that might be difficult to control. People should also verify the documentation of such operators before purchasing any birds, as it is crucial that buyers exercise due diligence to prevent further disease transmission.

I, along with my neighbours, picked up fowls, geese, and turkeys, but they unfortunately died within a few days, sadly

infesting our entire flock back home. This personal experience has left many in our community wary of purchasing birds without proper health assurances. It is reportedly learnt that these people have no licenses issued to them by the Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services (AVHS), yet they manage to do brisk business, allegedly with the blessings of the city

Cleanliness goes for a toss near taxi-stand at Mapusa



**CITIZEN
IRENE NOROJNA**
Siolim

Illegal garbage is really a concern in Mapusa. The garbage collection centre right in the heart of Mapusa, opposite the Sirsat Hall often overflows with its content spilling on the road. Despite the implementation of waste collection system, many residents and surrounding shopkeepers and fast food stall owners keep discarding waste irresponsibly by the roadside

which is a real nuisance. At times, till late afternoon, the waste lies uncollected with swarm of flies feasting on the rubbish.

The Municipality should now keep a watch on the violators and impose stiff penalties on them. This will lead to a cleaner and health-

ier environment. Residents should also take accountability to keep the city clean. Commercial establishments, including restaurants and shop owners should adhere to strict waste management proposals. The battle against garbage can only won if the public actively join hands in keeping the neighbourhood clean at Mapusa and save the city for the next generation.

Dead coconut tree removed, prompt action appreciated

Through the Citizen Herald letter dated January 20, I had reported the dead coconut tree inclining on the road going towards the CHOGM Road leading to the Mãe de Deus Chapel, Sangolda which could lead to a major tragedy.

**CITIZEN
V.B. MONTEIRO**
Tivim

Appreciate the prompt action by the concerned authorities in cutting down this tree.



A tragedy in the waiting

For over two years, a dead coconut tree along the road leading to Chogm Road and the Mãe de Deus Chapel in Sangolda has been dangerously leaning toward the roadway. This poses a serious risk to pedestrians and ve-

**CITIZEN
V.B. MONTEIRO**
Tivim

hicles and could lead to a tragic accident if the tree falls. Despite bringing this issue to the attention of the Panchayat over two months ago, no action has been taken so far. I urge the concerned authorities to address this pressing issue immediately and remove the tree before an unfortunate incident occurs.



Road crash barrier need of the hour



The recent hotmixing of the MDR-10 road near Bamon Vaddo, Siolim, has certainly improved driving conditions. However, an important safety measure seems to have been overlooked. The parapet of the culvert near Lobo's house, adjacent to the tender coconut seller, has not been reconstructed. This missing barrier poses a serious risk to

motorists, especially two-wheeler riders, as there is nothing preventing them from accidentally veering off into the storm

**CITIZEN
GREGORY E D'SOUZA**
Siolim

water drain below. To ensure the safety of road users, I urge the authorities to immediately address this issue by constructing a proper par-

apet or installing a road crash barrier. Additionally, cat blinkers should be fixed along the road, and clear road markings must be extended up to the junction near St. Anthony's Church. These measures will go a long way in preventing accidents and ensuring safer travel for all.

I hope the concerned authorities take swift action at the earliest.

Unkempt signages pose risk to motorists at Guirim

Lack of proper signages and the absence of regular maintenance of traffic boards to offer safe commuting along the Guirim Highway is affecting road safety. The signage at the end of the Guirim road before the Porvorim Highway corridor is hidden by overgrown grass, reducing visibility for approaching motorists. The govern-

ment spends crores of rupees constructing highways but fails to maintain the signages by the roadside, which is a disservice to taxpayers. The road safety authorities should tour along the highway and accordingly cut down the grass or overgrown bushes immediately to ensure clear sight lines.

Motorists often complain that many signboards are either damaged or concealed in the overgrown grass and hence not readable, thereby increasing the risk of accidents. In some plac-



es at Mapusa, the signboards are either covered by bushes or overgrown branches, further compounding the issue. In circumstances like these, commuters find it difficult to use the roads safely. Such boards should be placed in high-visibility locations without obstruc-

tions for optimal readability. Speed limit boards, too, are critical for safety purposes and must be clearly visible at all times.

It is high time the authorities rectify these signages immediately, ensuring that road users have a safer and more navigable journey.

Sinking in a sea of trash



The coastal village of Benaullim is literally drowning in garbage, courtesy apathetic tourists, locals not having access to garbage disposal facilities. From the paddy fields, to the roads, to the beach, to the ponds to even private green areas, the land is awash with waste with no one bothered to clean up the area. There is a waste processing plant adjoining the Cana Benaullim panchayat ghar but that too seems to be of no use. Basic civic sense seems to be

largely absent among the citizens and lack of house to house waste collection has compounded the prob-

**CITIZEN
MISHA**
Varca

lem. It won't be long before the quaint coastal villages sink in a sea of trash. Urgent steps must be taken to implement a structured waste management system, enforce penalties for littering, and ensure that the village does not deteriorate into an ecological disaster.

Poor public transport connectivity in Agalli-Fatorda

It's very strange that there are no means of public transport to Agalli, Fatorda. The Stadium bus stop is around 20-30 minute's walk away, around 1.7 km and the arterial and busy Murida Road does not have any minibuses plying down it. One may argue that most homes have cars and two-wheelers today,

**CITIZEN
STELLA FRANCIS**
Fatorda

and covering a distance of 2 km to the main road or 3 km to the market isn't a long way, but we also need to think about the people we employ. While we zoom up and down to the supermarkets, or order groceries to our doorstep via an



app, many people around us do not have access to

these conveniences - for them, luxuries. The lack

of connectivity to the SGPDA market is another problem, and elderly people and those who do not drive have no means to reach the market to buy fresh produce.

Many of our domestic workers - maids, gardeners, etc, commute by bus from far-off places, some of them taking multiple buses to reach our homes. Then they are forced to walk from the main road - often under the scorching sun, to reach all the houses they work at, and arrive tired. It would make their lives - and by association, their employers' lives easier if the authorities could allow small buses or even private ride-share rickshaws to ply down the Murida Road.

Dangerous electrical box at Benaullim beach



Benaullim beach is frequented by thousands of visitors every day. There is an exposed electro-

junction box containing vital MCBs for the area lighting which has shutters but no locking arrangements. The mounting

height of the pill box is such that even children can poke their fingers into it which may lead to

electrocution. I request the Goa electricity department to secure all such hazardous installations before a fatal accident occurs.

**CITIZEN
REKHA SARIN TREHAN**
Benaullim

Stop dumping of construction debris in Benaullim

Will the panchayat authorities take note of and dispose the massive amounts of construction debris piled right across the Holy Trinity Church in Benaullim? It defiles the sanctity of the church besides being illegal, an eyesore and a

**CITIZEN
VINAY DWIVEDI**
Benaullim

hazard. Construction near the St Aloysius school nearby has generated this humongous waste, the authorities should also investigate and penalise the

parties responsible.

There is a need for the authorities to identify proper machinery for scientific disposal of construction material and demolition material in Goa in order to curb the menace of mishandling and pollution through construction debris.

