

allovertheworld



People gather for the unveiling of a sculpture titled 'The tree of memory (the end)', designed by artist Maria Mandaki, in tribute to the victims of the country's worst railway accident, in Thessaloniki

Armed group, military clash leaves 10 dead in Berlin

COTONOU: Clashes in Benin over the last week between armed groups and the military left ten dead, including one soldier, as the West African country faces an uptick in attacks on army positions. While the country's economic capital Cotonou, in the south, continues to draw in international tourists, Benin's poorer north has for years now seen such attacks, often blamed by the government on jihadist groups seeking to extend their reach from neighbouring Burkina Faso and Niger.

Iran lawmakers sack minister over economic woes

TEHRAN: Iran's parliament sacked the country's finance minister on Sunday after impeaching him over soaring inflation and a plunging currency, state television reported. Economy and Finance Minister Abdolnaser Hemmati lost a vote of confidence, with 182 of 273 parliamentarians present backing his removal. On the black market on Sunday, the Iranian rial was trading at more than 920,000 to the US dollar, compared with less than 600,000 in mid-2024. Earlier, President Masoud Pezeshkian defended Hemmati, a former central bank governor, telling lawmakers:

DR Congo says handover of 20 alleged Hutu rebels was staged

KINSHASA: The Democratic Republic of Congo's army denied Sunday that 20 fighters linked to the Rwandan genocide had been captured on its territory, calling a video of their handover to Rwanda "faked". The statement came after the Rwanda-backed M23 armed group in eastern DRC said on Saturday it had captured fighters from the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a militia founded by ethnic Hutus who took part in the genocide of Tutsis in Rwanda in 1994.

Tanker suspected of damaging Baltic cables allowed to leave Finland

HELSINKI: An oil tanker believed to belong to Russia's "shadow fleet" and suspected of sabotaging undersea Baltic cables has been allowed to leave Finland's waters, where it has been held since December, Finnish police said Sunday. The Eagle S, which is registered in the Cook Islands, is suspected of intentionally dragging its anchor dozens of kilometres along the Baltic seabed, damaging an electrical cable and four telecommunications cables on December 25.

At least 37 dead in Bolivia after two buses collide

LA PAZ: Two passenger buses collided Saturday on a highway in southern Bolivia, leaving at least 37 people dead including eight minors, police said, in the country's worst bus accident to date this year. "So far we have 37 confirmed deaths," Colonel Wilson Flores told AFP of the crash near the city of Uyuni in the department of Potosi.

UK PM Starmer hosts crucial Europe summit to find lasting peace in Russia-Ukraine crisis

PTI, LONDON: British Prime Minister Keir Starmer is hosting a crucial summit of European leaders in London on Sunday to find a way forward with visiting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky following his showdown with US President Donald Trump. In contrast to his Washington visit, which was cut short, the Ukrainian leader received a royal welcome to the UK with an audience with King Charles at Sandringham before he joins the European leaders for crunch talks. Starmer told the BBC in an interview on Sunday that he "trusts" that Trump wants to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict and wants lasting peace.



(L-R) Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky, Britain's Prime Minister Keir Starmer and France's President Emmanuel Macron embrace after holding a meeting during a summit at Lancaster House in central London

"I'm clear in my view that President Trump wants a lasting peace and I agree with him on that," said Starmer. Following bilateral talks with Zelensky on Saturday, he said: "I am determined to find a path that ends Russia's illegal war and ensures

a just and lasting peace that secures Ukraine's future sovereignty and security." Zelensky's bilateral talks also took place with Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, who joined leaders of France, Germany, Denmark, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Canada,

Finland, Sweden, Czechia and Romania at the London summit on Ukraine. The Turkish Foreign Minister, NATO Secretary General and the Presidents of the European Commission and European Council were also in attendance. According to 10 Down-

ing Street, discussions at the summit focused on strengthening Ukraine's position, including ongoing military support and increased economic pressure on Russia; the need for a "strong lasting deal" that delivers permanent peace in Ukraine and ensures that it is able to deter and defend against future Russian attack; and next steps on planning for strong security guarantees. "Three years on from Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine, we are at a turning point... In partnership with our allies, we must intensify our preparations for the European element of security guarantees, alongside continued discussions with the United States," said Starmer. "Now is the time for us to unite in order to guarantee the best outcome for Ukraine, protect European security, and secure our collective future," he added. Meanwhile, his Chancellor Rachel Reeves and Ukraine's Finance Minister Sergii Marchenko signed the UK-Ukraine Bilateral agreement to deliver GBP 2.26 billion in loan funding to Ukraine. This loan is to be paid back using the profits generated from sanctioned Russian sovereign assets held in the European Union (EU).

SL hunts for police chief over deadly raid

AFP, COLOMBO: Sri Lankan police were searching for their chief on Sunday after a court order for his arrest was issued over the killing of an officer during a botched raid, an official said. Inspector-General of Police Deshabandu Tennakoon has been missing since a magistrate in the island's south ordered his arrest on Friday, following allegations that he had ordered the raid on December 31, 2023. "We went to his home to carry out the arrest warrant but he had gone into hiding, leaving behind his bodyguards," a senior officer told AFP. He said the court had also imposed a foreign travel ban on Tennakoon, 53, to stop him from leaving the island. Tennakoon ordered a unit from Colombo to search a hotel in Weligama, a resort town about 150 kilometres (95 miles) south of the capital, for illegal drugs.

Water of Ganga river unfit for bathing at several places in Bihar: Economic Survey

PTI, PATNA: The water of the Ganga river in Bihar is not fit for bathing at most places in the state due to the presence of a higher value of bacteriological population, according to the Bihar Economic Survey 2024-25.



Artistic models from used plastic bottles hung from a tree during a 'Climate March' by volunteers at the Yamuna bank to raise awareness about cleanliness of the Yamuna river and other environmental issues, near ITO in New Delhi

The Bihar State Pollution Control Board (BSPCB) monitors the water quality of the Ganga at 34 locations in the state on a fortnightly basis, officials said. According to the Economic Survey recently tabled in the state assembly, The water quality of Ganga indicates the presence of a higher value of bacteriological population (total coliform

and faecal coliform). This is mainly due to the discharge

of sewage/domestic waste water from cities located on the banks of Ganga and her tributaries. The survey cited the latest water quality test results of the BSPCB. The other parameters pH (acidity or basicity), dissolved oxygen and bio-chemical oxygen demand (BOD) have been observed within the prescribed limit in the river and her tributaries in Bihar, indicating that water is fit for aquatic life, wildlife propagation, fisheries and irrigation, it said. Faecal coliform bacteria are found in excreta that contaminates water through untreated sewage.

Pak's former PM Imran Khan seeks global help for democracy, regional stability

PTI, ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan has appealed to the international community, particularly the United States, to reaffirm its commitment to democracy, human rights, and regional stability. Dawn reported that in an article published in Time magazine in his name, the incarcerated politician

congratulated US President Donald Trump on his "political comeback". He also expressed the hope that the US would work with Pakistan to foster economic partnerships, promote stability, and prevent conditions that lead to conflict and extremism. It remains unclear if the article was indeed penned by Khan, and how it was

FROM PAGE 1

TENSION IN PORVORIM, SACRED BANYAN TREE CUT 'MERCILESSLY'

"There is no mention of a temple in the order. We felt agitated as workers were trying to remove the idol with the Mamlatdar not present at the site, he said.

Porvorim MLA Rohan Khaunte's absence further left the residents fuming. "Where is the MLA, who claims to be the resident of Porvorim? What wrong Lord Khapreshwar has done to him? I have been performing Vat Poonnima here for the last 25 years. I know what will be the government's final decision, but we want Khapreshwar temple here," de-demanded a resident.

Farida, another local resident of the area said, "I am a Muslim, but am feeling very hurt that the Khapreshwar temple is being demolished. This is being done despite the authorities having no permission to touch the temple. The Chief Minister talks about protecting the Hindu religion. What sort of protection is this?"

Dhananjay Borkar, another resident of Porvorim, said, "It is surprising that the temple and the tree are not being saved, while so many houses and housing complexes have been spared earlier."

The workers went ahead and mercilessly trimmed the tree branches without leaving a single leaf. The commotion caused due to cutting of the tree caused traffic congestion which forced the motorists to move at a snail's pace.

The High Court of Bombay at Goa on Tuesday last had permitted the translocation of the tree with strict precaution. The court had disposed of the miscellaneous civil application and recommended that the tree be translocated between March 5 and 10, 2025, following strict precautionary measures and guidelines provided by landscape designer and ecological consultant Parag Modi.

Meanwhile, condemning the incident, the Opposition alleged that the temple was destroyed and the idol shifted despite the High Court order not mentioning this.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) State president Amit Palekar said, "For the first time Hindus have become helpless in Goa because of a political party. It is also sad that the devotees are sitting at home despite of today being a Sunday."

Claiming that the High Court order did not mention touching the temple or the idol, Palekar said, "There is no specific order from the High Court to shift the idol of Lord Khapreshwar. It is absolute high handedness."

Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) president Amit Patkar said, "Where are those people, who had gone to the house of a senior person saying that their sentiments were hurt? Are their sentiments not being hurt today on account of the shifting of the idol of Lord Khapreshwar?"

Meanwhile, late evening, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant in a statement said that Khapreshwar Temple will be reconstructed.

GOANS VOW TO PROTECT UNITY, FREEDOM OF SPEECH

Participants criticised the police for their lack of action over the past two days, which has only emboldened the perpetrators. They also called out the government's failure to act in past incidents, which they believe has led to the audacity of the attackers targeting a senior Goan citizen at night.

Demanding immediate police protection for Adv Bhembre, they urged the government to take immediate action against the culprits to uphold freedom of expression.

Appealing to the people to protect democracy, which is under threat, noted Konkani writer Damodar Mauzo said,

"Justice, liberty, fraternity, and equality—these four fundamental rights of Indian citizens need to be safeguarded. Expressing sympathy for Adv Bhembre, Mauzo questioned: "Why do the police remain silent? Is there anyone behind this attack?"

Social activist Prashant Naik warned of a massive agitation at Lohia Maidan if the accused were not arrested immediately. Noting that similar incidents in the past two years appear to be aimed at disturbing the peace and unity among Goans, he suspected possible government involvement.

He questioned: "Who is the complainant in the case of Rama Kankonkar? If the police can arrest Rama, why have they not arrested the accused in Adv Bhembre's case?"

Naik demanded that the government prove they are not supporting the perpetrators and clarify their stance on the incident. "We will not tolerate such incidents in the future," he warned, calling for widespread support for a forthcoming agitation.

Vikas Bhagat, a youth participant, questioned why certain groups did not stop and investigate the demolition of the temple in Porvorim. "We, too, have the courage to stand up as those accused have done at Adv Bhembre's residence. We demand the arrest of all those who insulted Bhembre," he asserted.

The Goa unit of Dakshinayan Abhiyan (DA) condemned the unwarranted attack on freedom of speech. Without delving into the merits of the debate on Shivaji, the DA said that it firmly stands with Adv Bhembre's right to hold and express his viewpoints on all social media platforms.

"The Constitution of India protects his right to free speech and expression. What Adv. Bhembre said it was not hate speech; it was simply a viewpoint contrary to that expressed by the Chief Minister. The Bajrang Dal is only emboldened by the government's tacit support, especially when they take the law into their own hands through moral policing and other activities that fall under the State's domain," said Adv Cleofato Almeida Coutinho.

"The DA demands immediate police action to control such elements. Immediate action is necessary to ensure that liberal voices are not silenced by hooligans who cannot act without the blessings of the government," said Coutinho.

SMART CITY WORKS BLOW UP DUST, LEAVE SAO TOME HOUSES RED

They said, "Now, they are going to dig it again to provide drains for flow of water during monsoon. We never had flooding in this area."

"We are residents of this area. Principally we are not against Smart City works which have been going on since October last year. We told the Imagine Panaji Smart City Development Ltd to show us the plan, but it was not shown. We explained to them our practical problems, but they are not listening. They are talking of constructing universal footpaths. They forgot drainage and now they are going to redo the work. Instead of increasing the height of the pavements, they merged the road with the pavement with no thought for the flow of rainwater during the monsoon. No inputs were taken from the locals," the Dias couple said. "We are badly affected. My son is answering SSC exams from March 1 and he is disturbed. I faced respiratory problems and am now taking treatment for pneumonia. Instead of washing roads to clear dust they are using dust cleaning blowers," Chrysselle said.

She complained that people mostly tourists, come near their house and drink liquor and park vehicles, causing nuisance. They park their vehicles in front of their house, a historic heritage building. The new footpath is an obstruction and the ramp created to give residents access to the road is an even bigger nuisance, they added.

CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted Waiter, Cook for a Restaurant in Benaulim, South-Goa. Contact: 9604723014 / 7798511021

Position: Retail Cashier & Office Helper. Location: Margao. Requirements: Male with 2-wheeler. Hours: 10 AM- 8 PM. WhatsApp CV to: 8484910494 (please don't call)

Wanted Production cum Quality Supervisor, to work in 2 shifts, at Verna Industrial Estate, with Education, any diploma, any graduate, any post-graduate with no Experience. Benefits are Permanent job, annual increment, provident fund,ESI, gratuity, bonus, paid leave, residential accommodation. Send resume: enquiry@goasintered.com. To know about our company visit website www.goasintered.com.

Wanted driver to drive eco and delivery for shri ganesh laminates arlem circle Margao contact 8087100521

Urgently required Housekeeping Staffs for a Guest House in Cansaulim, South Goa. Good Salary & Free Accommodation provided. Please Call- 9665855557 or WhatsApp- 9657666677.

SITUATIONS VACANT

Urgently Wanted Waiters, Tandoori Cooks, Kitchen Helpers & Dishwashers for a Reputed Restaurant in Vasco. Contact: 9822483248.

Wanted Female Office Staff with Computer knowledge to work Part-time/ Full day. Salary:9000-16000, in and around Vasco only. WhatsApp Cv 8329482130.

Wanted Professional Driver with valid licence. Contact: Sambari Enterprises 9175893624

Wanted Staff Male for our Depot at Fatorada. Apart from Salary we offer other benefits. For details Call: 9175893624.

VEHICLES AVAILABLE

Mahindra Tourister Mini Bus, 25 seater, Model 2012 using for School. Contact 87677 48437.

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

MORE OBITS ON PAGE 10

CELEBRATING LIFE WELL LIVED
LOURENCINHO (LOURENCE) GONSALVES
(Ex-Employee of Goa Shipyard)
Zuari, Goa-Velha
28 February 1933 - 26 February 2025
Loving Husband to Carmo Catarina, Father/Father-in-law to Dominic/ Priscilla (UK), Olive/Dorry (UK), Pelley/Josephine (UK), Miguel/ Catarina (High Tech Motor Driving School), Kennedy/Louridina (UK), Grand Father to Glenn, Feivel, Fiana, Synaira, Lorraino, Kethlyn and Kezia Gonsalves.
A heart of gold, a love sincere, beautiful memories keep you near, always loved and missed forever. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen".
Months Mind mass on **Tuesday 4th March 2025, 8.00 am**, at **St. Andrew's Church, Goa-Velha**. Followed by prayers and blessing on the grave.
The Gonsalves family would like to acknowledge with grateful thanks to all relatives, neighbours, friends, Parish Priest and Choir. For their visits, messages of condolences, floral tributes and prayers.

DEATH
MARIA SANTANA QUADROS
MOINGAL, SHIRODA
Born:21-07-1951
Died:01-03-2025
Beloved wife of **Salvador Vaz**, Mother / Mother-in-Law of **Franquinha/ Oswald, Saniya (Sucorina)/ Dhiraj, Antonio/ Sheryl, Edwin** Grandmother of **Meazvin, Fabian, Drish,Valen, Ashlyn**.
Passed away Peacefully on **1st March 2025**
Funeral cortege will leave her residence **Tomorrow, on 4th March 2025 at 3:30pm to ST. Joseph Church, Shiroda - Goa** for Eucharistic celebration followed by burial.
Relatives & friends Kindly accept this as the only intimation.

DEATH
Branquinha Augusta Fernandes
(Mondo Benaulim - Salcete - Goa)
Beloved Daughter of late Santana Fernandes/late Santana Fernandes
Affectionate Wife of late Antonio Mariano Leitao
Loving Mother of Murel/Vincent, Hillary/Nicolette, Maizel/Travis
Doting Grandmother of Mark, Eleanor, Joshua, Morgan & Theo.
Expired peacefully
Funeral will be held **today, 03rd March 2025 at 4:00 pm** at **St. John the Baptist Church, Benaulim**, for Eucharistic celebration followed by burial.
Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation
Rebello Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992