

shorttakes

MISSING 11-YEAR-OLD FOUND AT CALANGUTE BEACH

CALANGUTE: An 11-year-old boy from Punjab who went missing in the crowd at Calangute beach was successfully located by lifesavers. After an extensive search operation, the child was found and safely reunited with his family following proper identification. In a separate incident, a 29-year-old man from Ahmednagar panicked after being struck by a wave while swimming at Calangute beach. Lifesavers swiftly rescued him using a rescue tube.

DHAVALIM HILL BURNS, CASHEW AND OTHER TREES GUTTED

PONDA: Cashew and other trees were reduced to ashes following a major fire atop a hill at Dhalim on Wednesday. The locals commuting along the Dhalim four-lane highway noticed the hill opposite the Bhagawati temple on fire and immediately contacted the fire brigade. A team rushed to the spot at 5 pm, but could not control the blaze as there was no access to the hill.



The local complained that the trees atop the hill were felled and suspected that they were set ablaze by vested interest. They said these wild animals have been left with no shelter and now have no option but to stray into the town and residential areas. The locals later recorded a video which later went viral on social media.

KARNATAKA NATIVE ARRESTED FOR RAPING WOMAN AT MERCES

PANJIM: Ravi Lamani, 31, a native of Karnataka and presently residing at Merces has been arrested by Old Goa police for allegedly raping a 35-year-old woman. Police stated that on March 2, the accused entered the rental premises of the woman who apparently happens to be rag picker and sexually assaulted her. He then allegedly threatened to kill the victim if she disclosed about the crime to anyone. An FIR has been registered and the case is being investigated LPSI Jasvita Naik.

power shutdown

- CURTORIM:** On March 7, from 9 am to 7 pm. Batora area affected.
- PONDA:** On March 6, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Nestle, Nagesh Garden, Pascal farm, Ramakrishna Mission, Par, Chowgule at Ponda.
- VASCO:** On March 7, from 9 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are HTC INS Hansa, HTC Tajsats, HTC Modern Nest and Airport residential colony and Dabolim at Vasco.
- MARGAO:** On March 7, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Damodar Housing Society and surrounding areas.
- CURTORIM:** On March 8, from 9 am to 7 pm. Affected areas are Bhatti DTC. Bhatti and Sanduel areas.
- MARGAO:** On March 8, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Devrai building and surrounding areas.

Clear sopo dues by Mar 31 or face action: PMC to market vendors

Team Herald

PONDA: Stating that the Ponda Municipal Council (PMC) has issued notices to around 97 vendors operating from fruit and vegetable market over non-payment of sopo tax dues/arrears for the past two months, chairperson Anand Naik warned of strict action if they fail to clear their dues by March 31.

He said even warned of action against those vendors operating outside the market who are yet to clear their sopo dues.

The PMC ordinary meeting held on Wednesday discussed various development works.



PMC meeting held on Wednesday discussed various development works

He said PMC provides vendors free shed, light and water to vendors and added that the encroachments on footpaths in PMC market area will be cleared.

He said footpaths should be kept open for pedestrians and added that PMC

will get back around 8000 square meters of its afframent land at Santa Cruz, grabbed by some persons through sale deeds.

He informed that upto January 16, the municipality recovered around Rs 2.33 crore pending rent dues

from shops and four scrap yards were cleared from the land which will be used for recreation purposes.

Naik said 750 trade licences have been blocked due to non-renewal and fines will be imposed on defaulters.

He said that the market vendors will be shifted for construction of a new palika bazaar.

He said the PMC has decided to provide income certificates online and offline as it was noticed that people were losing money in online mode due to server and connectivity issues.

A five-member committee headed by Venkatesh Naik was also appointed to look into traffic, parking problems near Vishal Mart. The panel will submit a report to the council to solve the issue.

He said the pay parking system will be introduced for Ponda soon as the demarcation is in the final stage.

Five booked in dowry death case

PANJIM: The Mandrem Police have booked five persons in connection with the suspicious death of Anita Rathod which occurred on February 23 this year and arrested Anil Rathod, one of the accused.

The other accused are identified as Sujata Rathod (Sister-in-law), Nirmala Rathod (mother-in-law), Ramesh Rathod (Brother-in-law) and Kushelappa Rathod (Father-in-law). As per the complaint, the family subjected Anita to cruelty by torturing her constantly by mentally and physically to fulfill the demand of dowry to the such extent that she died an unnatural death.

Her father Dhansinga Lamani and family which hails from Karnataka had camped in Goa for the last eight days demanding justice for their daughter who had died within three years of her marriage.

'There was no flashing of gun or street brawl at Candolim'

Team Herald

PANJIM: Joseph Fernandes, who has been named in the FIR registered at Calangute Police Station for allegedly disturbing peace at Candolim, said that there was no flashing of a gun or any street brawl near the Newton's supermarket.

Speaking to O Herald, Joseph said, "Nobody pushed any one. It was only an argument." Giving details of how the incident unfolded, he said, "My family had gone to Mapusa to attend a party. Our daughter was performing there. Once the performance was over we came home. But we had a birthday party for my nephew. So we went to attend it. My son was the last person to come and he was riding a bike. When he reached Newton's Super Market, the vehicle in front of him which happened to be of Abu Farhan Azmi stopped suddenly and turned towards left without giving any indication. This caused my son to almost bang Abu's car. Though he did not bang. So my son went near the car and asked Farhan why he did not give indications." "Farhan started talking aggressively which made son more angry so he gave a blow to the side of the mirror. However, no damage was caused to the vehicle," he said.

Constant digging of Gogol roads causes inconvenience to locals

Team Herald

MARGAO: Just as residents of Gogol Housing Board and Vidhyanagar were recovering from the chaos caused by road digging for sewerage pipelines, a fresh round of excavation has begun—this time for the installation of underground pipelines to supply piped natural gas to households.

Residents allege that these continuous developments have led to an increase in civic issues, including frequent disruptions in electricity and water supply, as well as severe traffic congestion.

"It has become extremely difficult to step out of the house due to this never-ending development work, first for sewerage pipelines and now for piped natural gas," a resident complained. "The dust pollution has worsened, forcing us to keep our doors and windows closed."

Mahesh Naik, a resident, expressed frustration over the slow pace of work.

"The ongoing pipeline installation has led to significant dust pollution and traffic congestion and frequent power and wa-



Labourers engaged in road digging works at Gogol

ter supply disruptions," said Naik and added that on Tuesday, there was no water supply throughout the day at the Housing Board, causing immense hardship for residents.

Another resident, Mangal Das Raiker, noted that the sewage pipeline work began last year but remains incomplete, with road digging still ongoing

in Gogol and surrounding areas. "Traffic jams have become a daily occurrence since last week. Instead of restoring the dug-up trenches, workers are digging further into Gogol and the Housing Board, leaving previously dug trenches uncovered. This makes the roads increasingly risky and narrow for vehicles," he said.

He further added that roads have been cut in the middle and filled with mud instead of being properly covered with cement. "We pay road tax, yet roads in several parts of Salcete village have deteriorated due to constant digging and cutting. This issue needs urgent attention," he emphasised.

Senior citizen Laximan Naik expressed concerns over severe traffic congestion, particularly during peak hours, as buses and other vehicles struggle to navigate the narrowed roads. "Commuters are not only facing dangerous driving conditions but also dealing with delays that affect their daily work," he remarked.

Meanwhile, residents have urged authorities to carry out road digging in phases, ensuring that roads are restored patch by patch wherever excavation takes place. They have also suggested widening the roads, as the continuous digging has reduced their width, further worsening traffic conditions. Additionally, residents have called for proper deployment of traffic police to manage vehicle movement and prevent further chaos.

FROM PAGE 1

HIGH DRAMA AT CITY COURT AS SIDDIQUI BREACHES SECURITY

This is not the first time Siddiqui has exposed weaknesses in the system. On a previous occasion, while in judicial custody, he managed to speak directly to a news channel from his mobile phone, alleging police brutality.

The Goa Police and prison administration faced backlash for failing to prevent the security breach. Despite these past failures, Wednesday's event demonstrated that serious lapses continue to plague law enforcement in the State.

During his court appearance in Altinho, Siddiqui openly handed over documents to the media, claiming they were addressed to the judge. Senior police officials were left scrambling after the letter's contents - containing serious accusations against Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Deputy Speaker Joshua D'Souza, and senior police officers - began circulating in the public domain.

The letter also reiterated his demand for the CBI to take over his case, alleging bias and misconduct by Goa authorities.

Defending the police's reaction, SP Kausal argued that any official communication should have been directly submitted to the court, not the media. "If Siddiqui wanted to submit documents, he should have handed them over through legal channels. If he gave them to the media, it was their responsibility to ensure they reached the authorities," said SP Kausal.

However, the fact that an accused with a history of security breaches was able to outmanoeuvre law enforcement yet again underscores the lack of discipline and protocol enforcement within the Goa Police.

The incident raises serious doubts about the State's ability to handle sensitive cases and safeguard judicial procedures from external influence and manipulation.

With allegations against top officials now in the spotlight, the question remains: Will this latest embarrassment prompt real reform, or will it fade into yet another example of lax governance and law enforcement failure in Goa?

PARENTS KEEP PRESSURE ON TO CHANGE SCHOOL CALENDAR

"When NEP was introduced for the ninth standard, the term was smoothly completed. So what is the need for the extra hours of classes?" the delegation asked.

The parents also questioned the need for

having an extra hour of classes for other sections of students, if the NEP bridge course is required only for the sixth standard.

One of the parents suggested that even the bridge course can be conducted in the month of June.

The parents also requested the Secretary not to change the medium of instruction and follow the existing one which everybody is comfortable with, she said. Rodrigues said the delegation has asked for a special meeting of the committee comprising parents, head masters, teachers and experts of implementation of New Education Policy (NEP).

POLITICAL SLUGFEST AFTER MADKAIKAR'S BRIBERY CHARGE ON STATE MINISTER

"Former minister Pandurang Madkaikar was called by BJP National General Secretary B L Santosh. After the meeting, Madkaikar claimed that ministers of the BJP government were taking money and he himself had to pay Rs 20 lakh for clearing a file. An FIR should have been filed immediately either by Panjim Police or Crime Branch. Why was it not done?" he said.

Palekar added that after Pandurang's statement, "the Vigilance Department or Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) should have been activated to find out who the minister is and an FIR should have been filed under Prevention of Corruption Act. His statement should have been recorded immediately to know who the minister is."

AAP leader Francis Coelho alleged that the BJP uses the law to suppress dissent, creating a message that anyone joining the party can act with impunity.

The Goa Pradesh Congress Committee leadership echoed these concerns, calling the current government the most corrupt in the state's history and questioning whether Madkaikar, as a former minister, was unaware that giving bribes is a crime and demanded that he reveal the name of the minister involved.

In response, Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho challenged Madkaikar to name the minister who allegedly demanded the bribe. "If he has the guts, Madkaikar should file a police complaint. He is an ex-minister and he should behave responsibly. Those who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones on others," Godinho said.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, when asked about the allegations, directed re-

porters to question Madkaikar directly, stating, "Ask questions to Pandurang Madkaikar."

However, social activist Tanoj Adwalpalkar argued that after these allegations, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho should resign immediately. "Ministers are not even sparing their own partymen and minting money. In such a scenario, what can the common man expect from the government?"

ATTACKED BY PATIENT IN US, INDIAN-ORIGIN NURSE COULD TURN BLIND

WPTV said it received a video from a viewer that showed the suspect walking shirtless on a nearby prominent road with what looked to be ECG leads still attached to his chest, and it also showed hospital staff and law enforcement following the man onto the busy highway before the deputies took him into custody.

The probable cause affidavit filed by law enforcement described Lal's injury as "critical" and said, "Essentially every bone in the victim's face is broken and the victim is likely to lose the use of both eyes."

Because of the extent of the victim's injuries, she was unable to provide a statement to investigators, the WPTV said.

Another WPTV report about the court proceedings on February 27 said that witnesses from the hospital, as well as responding deputies, took the stand and revealed that video from inside the hospital showed the victim was attacked in a roughly one to two-minute time frame.

"Following the attack, Palm Beach County Deputy Sgt Beth Newcomb testified that she observed Scantlebury saying, 'Indians are bad' and 'I just beat the (expletive) out of an Indian doctor,'" it added.

Local media quoted Willa Fuller, the executive director of the Florida Nurses Association, as saying that their group has "long been concerned" about the safety of nurses and is seeking "substantive action" to prevent similar tragedies in the future. "We would like to see direct care nurses included in any initiatives related to violence against healthcare workers."

HCA Florida Healthcare said last week: "Our primary concern is with our beloved colleague and we are praying for her recovery. We are also providing support to our hospital staff who are understandably

shaken by this incident."

Meanwhile, "Scantlebury remains jailed" for the February 18 beating of Lal, "with Judge Howard Coates ruling he is a danger to the community," WPBF 25 News, a local news channel, said on Tuesday evening.

"After the attack on Lal with his fists, Scantlebury fled Palms West Hospital, pleading with passing drivers to let him in, claiming nurses were trying to kill him," the newsportal said.

TRUMP WARNS OF RECIPROCAL TARIFFS ON INDIA FROM APRIL 2

Both sides made firm commitment to boost the overall trade and India hopes that a mutually-beneficial outcome will emerge on the issue of tariffs, the people cited above said as New Delhi looks at navigating the trade landscape with the Trump administration.

Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal is in Washington this week to hold talks with his American counterpart, Howard Lutnick, and US Trade Representative Jamie-Son Greer on the proposed deal.

There is an expectation in New Delhi that it may escape the reciprocal tariffs being imposed by the Trump administration on February 2.

ACTOR HELD WITH GOLD WORTH RS 12.56 CR AT B'LURU AIRPORT: DRI

"Acting on specific intelligence, DRI officers intercepted an Indian woman, aged around 33, who had arrived from Dubai to Bengaluru on an Emirates flight on March 3. Upon examination, gold bars weighing 14.2 kg were found ingeniously concealed on her person," the statement read.

The DRI operates under the Ministry of Finance.

According to the Ministry, the contraband, valued at Rs 12.56 crore, was seized under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

"Following the interception, DRI officers searched her residence on Lavelle Road, Bengaluru, where she lives with her husband. The search led to the seizure of gold jewellery worth Rs 2.06 crore and Indian currency amounting to Rs 2.67 crore," the statement added.

The Ministry further stated that the woman had been arrested under the relevant provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, and remanded to judicial custody.

APPOINTMENTS

REQUIRED

MANAGER - SALES : Candidate should have minimum 3-5 years significant experience in the hospitality sector . Will be responsible to achieve new business & implement new marketing & advertising strategies. (Salary Rs.12-15 lacs pa + Commissions)

MANAGER - PEST CONTROL DIVISION : Candidate with minimum experience of 2 yrs in a similar role with knowledge of Business development (Salary 9-11 lacs pa)

MANAGER - ELECTRICAL : Diploma/Degree with 'C' license / 11/33 KV Supervisory Licence. Must have held a supervisory/Managerial position in one of their previous assignments. (Salary Rs.5-6 lacs pa)

ESTATE MANAGER : Candidate must have experience in maintenance of complex/ villas/ property etc with min 2 yrs experience (Salary Rs. 3-4 lacs pa)

ASSISTANT MANAGER - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT (BASED IN OFFICE IN PANJIM) : Candidate should be a graduate with minimum 1 year experience of working in a professional environment . Will be responsible for making Tenders on the online portals, Preparing sales Quotations as per the standard formats Etc. Should be well versed with MS Word, MS Excel and automation.

OFFICE CO-ORDINATOR (BASED IN PARRA OFFICE) : Candidate should have minimum 1 year of relevant experience with excellent communication skills & very well versed with MS Word, MS Excel and automation. (Salary Rs. 3 to 4 lacs pa)

DUTY/ SHIFT SUPERVISOR - ENGINEERING : Candidate must have minimum 2-3 yrs experience in the Engineering Department of a 3-4 star Hotel/Industry/Facility Management Company.

OFFICER - LOGISTICS : Candidate with knowledge of Store keeping & inventory control procedures.

HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISORS : Candidate should have minimum 1-2 years of experience in the area of housekeeping.

ELECTRICIANS : ITI qualified with experience in the hotel/Industry. Will be responsible for all Electrical maintenance activity & multitasking works.

PLUMBER : ITI qualified with experience in the hotel/Industry. Responsible for install or repairs of piping systems, plumbing fixtures & equipment.

AC TECHNICIANS : Candidate should possess a ITI certificate in RAC (Refrigeration & Air conditioning.) with minimum 2 yrs of experience in operation & maintenance of central A/C's, AHU's, Chillers, Split & cassette type of A/C's.

Interested candidates walk-in for interview on 7/3/2025 from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm at the below given address or kindly email your resume at jobsecoclean@gmail.com



Gera's Imperium Green, 305/306, Neuginagar, Mala, Panjim, Goa - 403001. Ph. (0832) 2974541 Website: www.ecocleanindia.com