

shorttakes**UP MAN ARRESTED FOR BRUTALLY ASSAULTING WIFE AND CHILDREN**

CALANGUTE: A 30-year-old man from Uttar Pradesh, identified as Salman Ayub, was arrested on Saturday for brutally assaulting his 22-year-old wife and three minor children at around 2.30 pm in Gauravaddo, Calangute. According to police reports, Ayub attacked his wife and children using a wooden stick, striking them on their heads. He also used a carpentry tool, causing severe injuries to their hands. Two of the children were treated and later discharged from the hospital.

Following his arrest, Ayub was taken to the Institute of Psychiatry and Human Behaviour (IPHB) for evaluation and treatment. Calangute police have registered a case under Sections 118(1) and 118(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, along with Section 8 of the Goa Children's Act, 2003. Further investigation is underway.

TWO ARRESTED IN VASCO FOR POSSESSING OVER 4 KG OF SUSPECTED GANJA

VASCO: Vasco police arrested two individuals on Friday for allegedly possessing over 4 kg of suspected ganja, valued at Rs 4 lakh in the open market. The accused have been identified as Yesunand Souza (33) from Khanapur-Belagavi and James Swamy, also known as Ayan Rafiq Shaikh (35), from Lohegaon-Pune. The duo were caught red-handed near Laxmi Temple at Kharewado-Vasco. Police recovered 4.028 kg of suspected ganja from Souza, while Swamy was apprehended for aiding and abetting the crime. A case has been registered against both under Sections 20 (ii) (b) (B) and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. Authorities have informed the respective police stations in Belagavi and Pune to notify the families of the accused. PSI Mayur K. Sawant is investigating the case under the supervision of Vasco PI Kapil Nayak.

ELDERLY WOMAN SUCCUMBS TO BURN INJURIES AT GMC

MARGAO: Smita Lottikar, 70, resident of Amrut Plaza, Ambaji, Fatorda, succumbed to burn injuries while undergoing treatment at Ward No. 117 of Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim. According to Fatorda police, they received a wireless message from GMC reporting the woman's death, following which a police team visited the hospital. During their inquiry, it was revealed that the victim had been admitted to South Goa District Hospital (SGDH) on March 6 after sustaining burn injuries at her residence. She was later referred to GMC for further treatment. Police investigations at the scene of the incident, and an inquiry with her husband, revealed that the fire broke out when she attempted to light a diya using a gas lighter. The lighter allegedly burst, igniting her nightdress and causing severe burns.

WOMAN FOUND DEAD IN RENTED ROOM AT KUNDAI IDC

MARGAO: A 47-year-old woman, identified as Jyotsana Kisku, was found dead in her rented room near Rudra Electricals at Kundai Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), Ponda. According to sources at the South Goa District Police Headquarters, Kisku, a native of West Bengal, was reportedly suffering from depression due to personal issues. Police investigations revealed that she was alone in her room during the evening. When her friend, Kartik Hansda, also a native of West Bengal, returned, he found the door latched from inside. Sensing something was wrong, he forced the door open and discovered that Kisku had died by hanging. Hansda immediately untied the knot, lowered the body, and informed emergency services by calling 108. Police conducted a panchanama of the scene and an inquest panchanama, after which the body was preserved at the Sub-District Hospital morgue for medico-legal formalities. Further investigations are ongoing.

DR WISEMAN TO CHAIR NAT CONFERENCE OF INDIAN MUSCULO SKELETAL ONCOLOGY STY

PANJIM: Dr RG Wiseman Pinto Professor of Pathology and former Head and Former Dean Goa University and President of the Asian Society of Cytopathology has been invited to Chair the 11th Annual Conference of the Indian Musculo Skeletal Oncology Society (IMSOS SARCOMA) 2025 being held between March 13 to 16, at the Taj Cidade de Goa Horizon. The chairs and convenors are Dr Wiseman Pinto, Dr NA Jambhekar and Dr Ashish Gulia for the pathology workshop. The topics to be discussed will be Novel Diagnostic IHC Immunohistochemical Markers for Ewing's Sarcoma, Histones in Giant Cell Tumors and their mimics, SMARCB1 /INI 1 deficient Sarcomas, Utility and limitations of SATB2 and USP 6 Associated neoplasm. The conference is of orthopedic, onco surgeons, radiologists and pathologists. The theme of the conference is educate, evolove and excel.

RS 100-CRORE INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS LAUNCHED IN BARDEZ COASTAL BELT

CALANGUTE: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Wednesday launched infrastructure projects worth Rs 100 crore in Calangute, assuring that the long-pending sewerage system in the area would be upgraded. Speaking at the foundation stone-laying ceremony at the Calangute panchayat hall, Sawant highlighted the state's efforts in developing tourism-related infrastructure. "A lot of tourists from 45 countries visit Goa. We have created some of the best infrastructure in roads, rail, air, water, power, sewage, and waste management. It is unmatched anywhere else in the country," he said. The new projects include a 33KV underground electricity network from the 220/33KV GIS station at Saligao to substations in Calangute, Nagoa-Arpora, Badem-As-sagao, and the proposed Baga substation. A 300mm water pipeline will also be laid from St Anthony Chapel to the 1.2 MLD sump at Umtawado, which was constructed over five years ago. Additionally, roads damaged due to underground cable work will be repaired.

power shutdown

CURTORIM: On March 9, from 9 am to 7 pm, at Roulem old DTC, Curtorim for work of renovation and improvement work of renovation and improvement of LT network in areas of V P Curtorim

CURTORIM: On March 10, from 9 am to 7 pm, at Pandicol, Aqxm, Agricol-DTC, for work of renovation and improvement work of renovation and improvement of LT network under of V P Curtorim

MARGAO: On March 10, from 9 am to 7 pm, at Old Power House transformer for replacement of LV Board, feeder pillars and service pillars. Areas affected are Junta Quarters behind SRCC Building

DABOLIM: On March 10, from 9 am to 12 pm, at 11 KV NSD feeder from Sancoale substation. Areas affected Dabolim, Jairam nagar, NSD and surrounding areas

Bull gores caretaker to death**Team Herald**

VASCO: In a tragic incident, Mehboob Walikar (32), a caretaker from Zuarinagar Birla, was killed after he was attacked by a bull near Velsao lake.

Walikar and his colleague were managing a cowshed in Birla and on Friday, one of their bulls went missing.

They searched the next morning and spotted the bull in the lake. Walikar entered the water to retrieve the bull and asked his colleague to wait.

However, as he reached near the bull, the latter turned aggressive and charged and grievously injured him. His colleague immediately raised an alarm and hearing his cries, the locals rushed to the lake and rushed Walikar to the PHC at Cansaulim, where he was declared dead on arrival by the doctor.

The locals managed to subdue and tie-up the bull.

Tivrem-Orgao farmers' dreams shattered, bandhara breach leaves crops submerged**Team Herald**

PONDA: Hopes of bumper harvest were dashed as farmers from Tivrem-Orgao panchayat jurisdiction suffered crop losses after a riverside bandhara breached, which left their crops submerged under saline water.

After working hard a few months ago to grow various vegetable crops, the farmers were in for a rude shock as they noticed a major breach in the bandhara near the manas at Zuvarewada, Tivrem-Orgao where over 50 acres of paddy fields were submerged under saline water since Sunday, affecting their crop.

The farmers, who learnt about the breach in the bandhara, gathered at the site and began the repair work via traditional method of using mud filled bags. However, they demanded that the Agriculture De-

PICS: SANTOSH NAIK



Ryots demand compensation for their damaged crops that have been submerged under water



partment provide a permanent solution to protect their fields from recurring breaches.

According to the farmers, the centuries old bandharas are breaching during high tide. The entry of saline water has left the vegetables

submerged.

They claimed that weakened bandhara has breached on account of the holes created by crabs.

Farmers said that if such a situation persists, then their paddy fields will become uncultivable, forcing them to

abandon agriculture and to keep the land fallow.

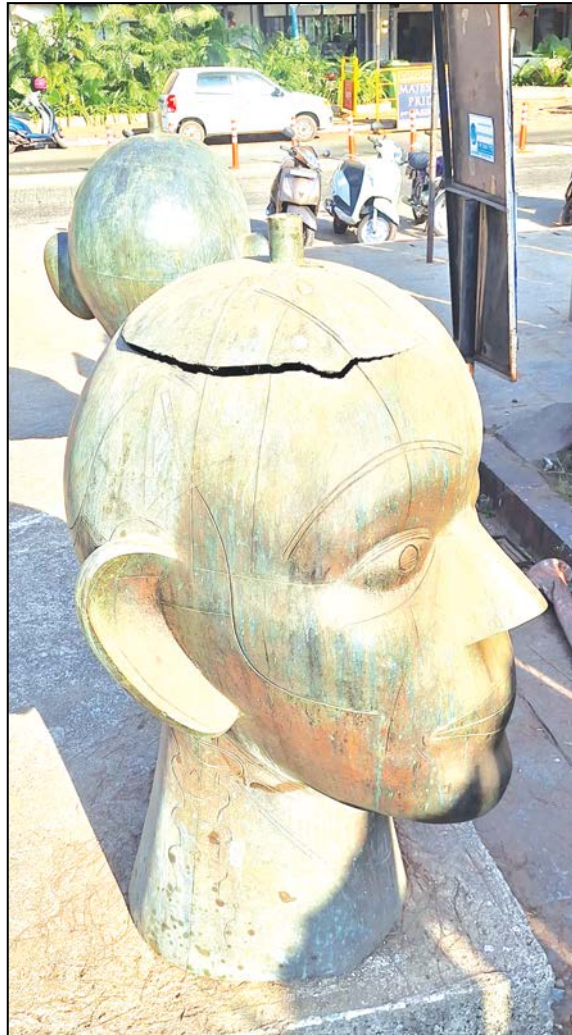
Narayan Vittal Gaude and other farmers said they had grown various vegetable crops such as chilli and lady finger, but they noticed that their crops, which were ready for harvesting, sub-

merged due to the breach in the bandhara.

Narayan said, "We suffered crop loss when we were hoping to reap the benefits by selling excess crops in the market. The government should compensate us for crop loss."

ART ON THE BRINK

UPENDRA NAIK



Cracks have appeared on the metal art installation near the Samadhi of former Chief Minister Dayanand Bandodkar at Miramar, raising concerns over its structural integrity

Inspection of proposed railway overbridge held at Vasco**Team Herald**

VASCO: Vasco MLA Krishna 'Daji' Salkar along with South Goa Collector Egna Cleetus, conducted a site inspection of the proposed construction of a railway overbridge near Tanya Hotel and a culvert in the area.

Mormugao Deputy Collector, Mormugao Mamlatdar and officials of Water Resources Department were also present.

After the inspection, Salkar directed the South Western Railway (SWR) and the Mormugao Municipal Council Chairperson Girish Borker to prioritise both the projects in the interest of the residents.

According to Salkar, a new overbridge near Tanya Hotel was essential for ensuring smooth traffic movement and emergency response. He said that though Vasco does not experience major flooding during monsoon, an additional culvert was necessary to prevent future waterlogging.

‘Legal fraternity can change the society’**Team Herald**

PANJIM: Justice Nivedita Mehta of the High Court of Bombay at Goa said that the legal fraternity as a collective has the power to change the society and their duty which they owe to the society and themselves.

Justice Mehta was speaking as a chief guest at the International Women's Day programme organised by the Goa High Court Bar Association at its conference hall, Porvorim on Saturday.

Dr Menaka Guruswamy, senior advocate, Supreme Court of India was the keynote speaker at the occasion. Goa High Court Bar Association president Gilman Coelho, secretary Shivan Desai and others were present.

Speaking further, Justice Mehta said, "It is also imperative that we consider that not all changes are possible through positive law, and therefore our duty is not limited to the professional sphere. It is the duty that we must always carry with us."

Justice Mehta said, "Women's movement is not a noble one. It is a cen-

tures old struggle that is marked by great personal cause by many champions for this cause. It is important to keep in mind as we stand here that we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us and made strides to a fairer society. Pioneers such as Justice Fathima Beevi, the first woman to become Supreme Court Judge, Leela Seth, the first woman Chief Justice of High Court in India and our own from Goa Padmashree awardees senior advocate Norma Alvares and Libia Lobo Sardesai and many others who have carried this movement forward. This movement is also not a cause purely for women; it is a cause that demands conciliation of all our views that touches upon human rights and moral responsibility and for us as servants of this institution a forward question and gender equality as a legal necessity."

On the occasion, four eminent personalities Auda Viegas, Naman Sawant, Sonia Sirsat and Arun Pandey were felicitated by the chief guest.

Shigmo colours to deck Margao on March 16**Team Herald**

MARGAO: The Shigmotsav parade is all set to light up the streets of Margao on March 16, with vibrant celebrations marking the arrival of spring in Goa.

Ahead of the parade, the Margao Shigmotsav Committee will place the coconut at the Dambab Shrine on March 10 to officially kick off the festivities.

This year's celebrations promise to be grand, featuring traditional performances like Romtamell and Chitrarath, along with a fancy dress competition for both juniors and seniors.

The Committee also revealed the prize money for the various competitions during a press conference held in Margao on Saturday, adding an extra element of excitement to the festivities.

The media briefing was addressed by Navelim MLA Ulhas Tuenkar, Margao Municipal Council (MMC) Chairperson Damodar Shirodkar and others.

The Shigmotsav parade is one of the most eagerly anticipated events in Goa's cultural calendar, offering a colourful display of Goan traditions, dance, music, and creativity. The entire community is gearing up to celebrate with fervour and enthusiasm.

APPOINTMENTS

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Rental vehicle ban at Mopa to boost taxi owners: Ex-MLA

CALANGUTE: The State government's decision to stop issuing fresh permits for rental vehicles and ban them from operating at Mopa airport will help struggling tourist taxi owners, said former Calangute MLA Agnelo Fernandes.

"Tourism should benefit locals. If taxis don't get business, what are they supposed to do? At least at the airport, rental vehicles should not be allowed. Tourists can hire vehicles at their hotels," he stated while speaking to reporters in Candolim.

Fernandes attributed unrest among taxi owners to inconsistent fares, with many cabs not using meters. He suggested they develop their own app to avoid government intervention.

Goa's first community-driven automated irrigation system to boost agri at Surla**Team Herald**

BICHOLIM: In a significant step toward modernising agriculture and enhancing farming sustainability, Goa's first-of-its-kind community-driven automated irrigation system commenced operation at Surla.

By integrating technology with traditional farming, the initiative aims to boost profitability and sustainability in Goa's agricultural sector. It also aims to revive and strengthen agricultural activities by bringing approximately 45 hectares

The automated system is expected to deliver direct financial benefits to farmers, including a 50 per cent reduction in labour costs, improved crop yield, optimised water usage, and lower input costs

of land under irrigation through advanced water management techniques.

This initiative will revive and strengthen agricultural activities in the region by bringing approximately 45 hectares of land under irrigation, ensuring optimal water utilisation through modern scientific methods.

The project ensures optimal water utilisation using modern scientific methods. To efficiently manage and operate the system, local farmers have formed the Dergun Farmer Club, Surla, Goa, as a dedicated Water User Association.

Additionally, two more such clubs are being established in Kadchal and Surla

to expand the initiative.

The automated system is expected to deliver direct financial benefits to farmers, including a 50 per cent reduction in labour costs, improved crop yield, optimised water usage, and lower input costs.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant after inaugurating the automated irrigation system, congratulated the farmers and all stakeholders for this significant step forward and extended his best wishes for their continued contribution towards collective vision of a Swayampurna, Viksit Goa.

Historic First: Sharat Raikar appointed as first-ever Konkani Parliamentary Interpreter**Team Herald**

MARGAO: In a landmark development for Goa's linguistic heritage, Sharat Raikar has been appointed as the first-ever Konkani Parliamentary Interpreter at the Parliament of India. This historic appointment marks a significant milestone for the Konkani language, bringing it formal recognition at the nation's highest democratic institution.

The appointment comes as the culmination of efforts initiated in 2017 by Former South Goa MP Narendra Sawaikar, who had pursued the request for a Konkani interpreter in Parliament. "The Parliament of India will now have access to a Konkani language interpreter, a request that I had initiated and pursued since 2017. The appointment



of Raikar marks the culmination of these efforts," stated Sawaikar, while extending his best wishes to Raikar.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant congratulated Raikar on this pres-

tigious appointment, calling it "a historic milestone for Goa, Goenkar and a proud moment for Konkani language." Sawant expressed confidence that Raikar's role will "strengthen Konkani's presence in the highest democratic institution of our nation."

Former Quepem MLA Chandrakant Babu Kavlekar also joined in celebrating this achievement, noting that Raikar's role will "play a significant part in promoting and preserving Goa's rich linguistic heritage on the national platform."

This appointment is expected to enhance the status of Konkani, which is recognized as an official language in the Indian Constitution's Eighth Schedule, and further support its preservation and development.

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