

Lost kids reunited with parents, tourists rescued across beaches over Holi weekend

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: Four children who were lost and traced were safely handed over to their families by the lifesavers over the extended Holi weekend at Calangute, Baina and Arambol beaches.

At Calangute, a seven-year-old boy from Karnataka, who had been separated from his parents, was handed over to lifesavers by a tourist. Public announcements were made along the beach, alerting the boy's parents and he was reunited with them after following official protocols.

At Baina beach, a lifesaver spotted an unescorted five-year-old child who informed him that he had

been separated from his guardians. Public announcements were made, catching the attention of the boy's uncle, who was then reunited with the child.

Distressed parents approached the lifesavers to help them locate their missing child at the Arambol beach. A prompt search operation was launched, the child traced and handed over to the Mumbai-based parents. In another incident, a missing boy from Delhi was also found and reunited with his relatives here.

Meanwhile, there were several rescue incidents involving tourists over the weekend. A 41-year-old woman from Ireland was stung by a stingray at Varca beach,

leaving her in immense pain. Lifesavers administered first aid and escorted her back to her hotel. A Russian tourist who was attacked and bitten by a pack of six dogs was administered first aid and handed her over to 108 medical emergency personnel, by the lifesavers at the Benaulim beach.

A double rescue took place at the same beach when two men, one from Haryana and the other from Bengaluru, were caught in a rip current. Lifesavers successfully pulled them to safety.

At the Palolem beach, a 24-year-old man from Punjab sustained injuries while kayaking at sea. He attempted to climb a mid-sea rock off the coast, injuring his

hand and leg. Upon his return, he sought assistance at the local life-saver tower, where he was given first aid. In another incident at the same beach, a man from Mumbai slipped in a rocky area near the shore, injuring his right leg. He was also administered first aid.

At Baga beach, a 24-year-old woman from Hyderabad, who had drifted into deep water while swimming and was in distress, was rescued by a lifesaver on a jet ski.

The extended holiday weekend saw multiple emergencies across Goa's beaches, with lifesavers playing a crucial role in ensuring safety and assisting those in need.

PLATTER MATTER



A traditional fisherman is about to cast his net in search of the day's catch in the river at Arpora

Akshay Patra foundation opens first kitchen

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: The Akshay Patra Foundation has launched their first high tech kitchen in Goa in order to provide freshly cooked, hygienic and nutritious mid-day meals to school students.

Around 5,000 students in Calangute, Saligao and Siolim will start getting mid-day meals cooked by Akshay Patra, part of the Iskcon movement, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said on Monday.

Launching their first hi-tech kitchen in Goa near the Pilerne industrial

estate, Sawant said the state government has decided to start their services on a trial basis as their food is of a very high quality. "Students will get good quality and nutritious food which will promote good physical and mental health," he said, adding that, however, the food is pure vegetarian.

"We plan to slowly increase their food supply to more schools, besides hospitals and other government facilities, but without stopping any of the existing self-help-groups which already supply food. A second kitchen will be started in south Goa also,"

he said.

Sawant said it was befitting that the Akshay Patra kitchen, set up at a cost of Rs 3 cr, is starting on the death anniversary of late Manohar Parrikar who was a hostel mate of their founder Madhu Pandit Dasa at IIT, Mumbai. "Manohar Parrikar always wanted to start an Akshay Patra in Goa and now his dream has come true. Goa is the 18th state where they have a presence," he said.

The kitchen has a capacity to provide 5,000 meals within one hour which is useful during disaster management, he said.

FROM PAGE 1

TEACHER SUSPENDED OVER QUESTION PAPER 'THEFT' AT GOA VARSITY

A police team has been posted outside the university campus for security.

Meanwhile, Panjim DySp Sudesh Naik and Agasaim PI Anant Gaonkar have started an inquiry into the matter. However, the police said that they are awaiting the report from the fact-finding committee before proceeding further. "We will act based on the findings of the committee," a police spokesperson confirmed.

After the activists approached the police with a complaint on Sunday, claiming the involvement of university authorities and a politician in the alleged question paper 'theft'. They also claimed that the Assistant Professor had stolen the question paper to help a female student gain unfair advantage in the exams.

CURFEW IMPOSED IN MANIPUR'S CHURACHANDPUR

Earlier, prohibitory orders were imposed in the district under Section 163 of the BNSS 2023.

"Whereas reports have been received from the Superintendent of Police, Churachandpur, indicating a serious apprehension of a breach of law and order in the district, which is likely to disturb peace and tranquility among different communities and may lead to damage to life and public property," an order by the additional district magistrate stated.

To prevent further escalation, unauthorised processions or unlawful assemblies of five or more people have been banned, along with the carrying of weapons, including sticks, rods and stones, it added.

Throughout the day, protesters attempted to enforce a shutdown, urging shops to close immediately.

Groups of men patrolled the streets with sticks, while clashes between the Hmar and Zomi communities led to stone pelting in multiple areas of the district headquarters.

Central security forces intervened, firing gunshots in the air to disperse mobs, officials said.

According to officials, general secretary Richard Hmar of Hmar Inpu, one of the apex bodies of the tribe, was attacked by a group of men inside the VK Montessori complex at Zhenhang Lamka around 7.30 pm on Sunday.

Condemning the incident, Hmar Inpu issued a statement demanding that the perpetrators be handed over immediately and warned that failure to comply would result in it taking "its own course of action."

Sources alleged that Richard Hmar was driving a vehicle which almost hit a two-wheeler rider. This led to a brief altercation that ultimately resulted in the assault.

In response to the assault of Richard Hmar and clashes between the Hmar and Zomi communities, the Hmar Village Volunteers (HVV) have imposed a total shutdown in Pherzawl and Jiribam districts.

Pherzawl is predominantly inhabited by the Hmar tribe, while Jiribam is home to multiple ethnic communities, with Meiteis forming the majority.

In an appeal, deputy commissioner Dharun Kumar S assured that appropriate actions are being taken to de-escalate the situation and urged for calm and peaceful dialogue between community members.

Kumar stated, "Our attention has been drawn to incidents where tensions are rising in some areas, leading to

unrest and disturbances that threaten the peaceful coexistence of our citizens."

He urged residents to uphold harmony regardless of their background, beliefs, or traditions, reaffirming that the district administration is committed to ensuring safety and enforcing law and order strictly.

Calling on community leaders to come together for a peaceful dialogue, Kumar emphasised Churachandpur's history of diversity and unity, urging all to find a common ground through discussions.

He also warned against believing unverified information and advised people to contact local authorities or community leaders for any concerns.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Court on Monday said the trial of the Manipur ethnic violence cases, probed by the CBI, would be conducted in Guwahati, Assam, where they were transferred to earlier.

A three-judge bench headed by Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna also extended till July 31, 2025, the tenure of a committee headed by Justice Gita Mittal, the former chief justice of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court.

The panel, also comprising former Bombay High Court judge Shalini P Joshi and Asha Menon, former Delhi High Court judge, was set up on August 7, 2023 by the top court to oversee relief and rehabilitation of the victims of ethnic violence in Manipur.

The tenure of the panel was previously extended by the top court by six months on August 5, last year.

On Monday, the bench noted the submissions of a lawyer over the fate of the trials in the cases that were transferred to Guwahati for pre-trial proceedings by the bench on August 25, 2023.

"We clarify that the trial of transferred cases will be held before the courts at Guwahati," the CJ said.

Keeping in mind the "overall environment in Manipur and the need for ensuring a fair process of criminal justice administration", the top court transferred to Assam, 27 cases, having various offences, including the sexual assault case of the two women seen in a viral video being paraded naked.

While passing a slew of directions, the top court had directed the Gauhati High Court chief justice to nominate one or more judicial officers to deal with the transferred cases.

Of the 27 cases, 20 related to charges of molestation, rape, murder whereas three related to loot of weapons.

On the supply of the several reports submitted by the judges' panel to all the litigants, the bench was in the affirmative but asked the parties to exercise caution due to the "sensitivities involved".

Concurring with the bench, solicitor general Tushar Mehta, representing the Manipur government, pointed out the possibility of some having "other motives".

TRUMP DECLARES BIDEN'S PARDONS 'VOID, VACANT'

Trump said, "In other words, Joe Biden did not sign them but, more importantly, he did not know anything about them!"

Trump suggested that the pardons were improperly executed and indicated that the January 6 panel members could face scrutiny.

He explained further: "The necessary Pardoning Documents were not explained to, or approved by, Biden. He knew nothing about them, and the people that did may have committed a crime. Therefore, those on the Unselect Committee, who destroyed and deleted ALL evidence obtained during their two-year Witch Hunt of me, and many other innocent people, should fully understand that they are subject to investigation at the highest level. The fact is, they were probably responsible for the Documents that were signed on their behalf without the knowledge or consent of the Worst President in the History of our Country, Crooked Joe Biden."

"The committee members should fully understand that they are subject to investigation at the highest level," Trump warned in his Truth Social post.

He further suggested, without evidence, that the committee members were "probably responsible for the Documents that were signed on their behalf" without Biden's direct knowledge.

"It's not my decision - that'll be up to a court - but I would say that they're null and void, because I'm sure Biden didn't have any idea that it was taking place, and somebody was using an autopen to sign off and to give pardons," Trump stated.

Trump's position is anticipated to evoke legal challenges.

CII IGBC Student Chapter of Govt Polytechnic launched

Team Herald

PANJIM: The CII IGBC Student Chapter of Government Polytechnic, Panjim was launched at the Government Polytechnic, Panaji (GPP).

Over 100 students from GPP actively participating in the launch, setting the stage for a meaningful collaboration between students, faculty, and professionals from the field of sustainable construction and green building practices. This initiative aims to foster a deeper understanding of sustainability among students and empower them with the knowledge and skills necessary to become leaders in the green building industry.

Kula Sekhar Kantipudi, Chair of IGBC, Goa Chapter was the chief guest. In his address, he commended the efforts of the Government Polytech-

nic, Panjim in providing a platform for students to engage with the IGBC and contribute to the green building movement. He assured the students of IGBC's active support, both in terms of resources and opportunities, to help them pursue careers in sustainable built environments.

As a gesture of recognition, Kantipudi presented the Charter Certificate to Dr Pramodini S Naik, Principal of GPP, and the student representatives, officially marking the establishment of the IGBC Student Chapter at the institution.

Bharat Kamat, immediate past chair of the IGBC Goa Chapter, addressed the students on the importance of skill development and the emerging career opportunities in the field of green buildings and sustainability. He emphasized the growing demand for professionals

with expertise in sustainable construction practices and encouraged the students to explore these opportunities for their future careers.

Prakash Jalan, past chairman of CII Goa, also shared his thoughts with the students. He stressed the importance of education as a lifelong process, urging the students to approach their studies with seriousness and to take full advantage of the unique learning opportunity that the IGBC Student Chapter offers.

Prof Rajendra Hegde, head of the civil department at GPP, spoke about the conception of the IGBC Student Chapter at the institute. He explained how the idea came to life and how it aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world applications in the field of sustainable development.

Doorstep delivery of food grains to fair prices shops from Mar 22

Team Herald

PANJIM: The State government on Monday decided to start long-awaited doorstep delivery of food grains to fair prices shops across the State with effect from March 22.

Secretary (Civil Supplies) Sanjit Rodrigues, IAS, who chaired the meeting, reviewed the preparations done for implementation of doorstep delivery of food grains. He told representatives of fair price shops and committee members of the

All-Goa Consumer Co-operative Societies, that the doorstep delivery will be started on trial basis and will review soon its implementation.

Rodrigues said that all the respective taluka assistant directors of civil supplies responsible to ensure the success of the doorstep delivery of food grains. He also asked them to sort out any issues at their end and not the director of civil supplies and consumer affairs.

Rodrigues explained the requirements under the

power shutdown

CURTORIM: On March 18, from 9 am to 7 pm. Roulem will be affected area.

CURTORIM: On March 19, from 9 am to 7 pm. Conjem near Carne Chapel will be affected area.

MARGAO: On March 19, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Puma showroom, new Bank of Baroda, Senior Cloth and Tailor, Khadi India, Opposite MMC Garden, Lotlikar shop, Usha stores and surrounding areas.

"Faster Recovery, Greater Precision - The Future of Knee Replacement is Augmented Reality"



Joint pain, often caused by osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, trauma, or genetics, can lead to stiffness, swelling, and reduced mobility. While medications like NSAIDs and corticosteroid injections can help manage symptoms in the early stages, advanced cases may require total knee replacement surgery for long-term relief.

Robotic-Assisted Total Knee Replacement:

This advanced procedure uses robotic arms operated by the surgeon, guided by real-time AI feedback, to enhance surgical precision and improve outcomes. Compared to traditional knee replacement, robotic-assisted TKR involves smaller incisions, leading to less tissue damage, faster recovery, and reduced risks of post-surgical complications like blood clots and infections. Patients typically stay in the hospital for just 4 to 5 days and can resume daily activities within 2 to 3 weeks.

Expertise of Dr. Ameya Velingker in Pixee Knee+:

With over 22 years of experience in orthopedic surgery, Dr. Ameya Velingker, MS, MCh (Ortho) (Ortho), has extensive expertise in



using Pixee Knee+ for advanced joint replacement procedures. Operating at Bone and Joint Care, Margao, Goa, he combines his surgical proficiency with the precision of AR navigation to achieve superior alignment and optimal implant placement. His in-depth understanding of Pixee and other AI based knee replacements robots enables him to customize procedures based on each patient's unique anatomy, leading to faster recovery, reduced post-surgical complications, and long-lasting joint functionality. "By integrating advanced imaging, real-time AI feedback, and Pixee, we not only enhance surgical accuracy but also help patients regain mobility and improve their quality of life," shares Dr. Velingker.

Walkathon, an initiative to motivate patients

To celebrate and honour the resilience of his knee and hip replacement patients, leading joint replacement surgeon Dr. Ameya Velingker, organized a first-ever walkathon on Republic Day dedicated to the spirit and recovery of his patients.

"The walkathon serves as a powerful testament to the advancement in MedTech, material science and the role of Robotics in joint replacement surgery, allowing patients, especially elderly patients, to regain mobility and lead pain-free lives. It also highlights and celebrates the determination and courage of my patients in recovery" informed Dr. Velingker, MS, MCh (Ortho), Orthopaedic Hospital for Surgery (OHS) Victor Hospital, Classic Hospital, BONE AND JOINT CARE, Margao Goa.

APPOINTMENTS

Vidya Vikas Mandal's
GOVIND RAMNATH KARE COLLEGE OF LAW
 Shree Damodar Educational Campus
 P.O. Box. 777, G. R. Kare Road,
 Tansor - Comba, Margao - Goa, 403 601
 Website: www.grkarelaw.edu.in
 [Re-accredited by NAAC with B++ Grade, CGPA of 2.78 on a 4.0 point scale]

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 Dr. Maria Goretti Simoes
 Officiating Principal