

AAP slams Congress, tells party to merge with BJP

With both parties sparring, possibility of Opposition alliance in Goa gets slimmer

Team Herald

PANJIM: Taking on All India Congress Committee (AICC) Secretary and Goa in-charge Anjali Nimbalkar, Aam Aadmi Party state chief Amit Palekar said that the Congress Goa unit should either merge with the BJP or not fight elections at all, since their MLAs had a history of defecting to the BJP.

Palekar's comments came hours after Nimbalkar warned AAP and Trinamool Congress (TMC) for jeopardising Congress chances in 2022 polls and claimed that people of Goa will support Congress in 2027 Assembly elections.

Palekar's riposte came hours later on his X hand-

“@INCGoa should either merge with @BJP4Goa or should not contest elections in Goa at all as twice your elected MLAs along with Leader of the Opposition ditched Goan voters, even gods and your party and defected to BJP. Your remaining MLAs have indicated with their recent statements that they are on the way to BJP. So best is you ally with BJP right now and merge Goa Congress with @BJP4India”

– Amit Palekar, AAP Goa chief on X

dle, where he said: “Going by your logic @DrAnjali-Tai, @INCGoa should either merge with @BJP4Goa or should not contest elections in Goa at all as twice your elected MLAs along with Leader of the Opposition ditched Goan voters, even gods and your party and defected to BJP. Your remaining MLAs have indicated with their recent

statements that they are on the way to BJP. So best is you ally with BJP right now and merge Goa Congress with @BJP4India.”

The latest face-off between the two Opposition parties comes just over a week after AAP leader and Delhi Leader of the Opposition Atishi slammed the Congress on a Goa visit and stressed that the party was

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– Anjali Nimbalkar, AICC Secretary and Goa in-charge

planning to go it alone in the elections.

“What does alliance with the Congress mean?” Atishi had asked. “Last Assembly elections (2022) they won 11 seats and eight of their MLAs joined the BJP. How can anyone trust the Congress? People are talking about the coming together of like-minded parties. Who are you like-minded with? 80 per cent of their MLAs leave and this is happening for the second time.”

On Friday, speaking to

reporters on the sidelines of a party's function in Panjim, Nimbalkar said, “I am here (Goa) to strengthen my party organisation. If somebody feels shaken by my presence then it is their problem. They should work for their organisation. My High Command will decide how to win the 2027 Goa Assembly elections and I am visiting every constituency in this regard.” However, she left the question of an Opposition alliance to the party High Command.

DUST, DELAYS & DISAPPOINTMENT

UPENDRA NAIK



The March 31 deadline set by the High Court for the completion of Panjim's Smart City project is fast approaching, but Rua Ismail Gracias Road, in the market area, remains a gravel-strewn mess, spewing plumes of dust into the air. With just 9 days left to complete the infrastructure works, the slow pace of progress raises serious doubts about the project's feasibility

Duo arrested in murder case

PANJIM: The Verna Police have arrested two persons in a murder case reported at a poultry in Cortalim. Santosh Indar Mallick (22), resident of Bahaliaguda, Mohana Gajapati, Odisha and Pradhan Nalika Mandal (35), resident of Agilipadar, Mohana Gajapati, Odisha were arrested for allegedly attacking Anil Muthamajhi (20) with knives. Anil succumbed to injuries

while Jihusaya Mandal (39) is undergoing treatment.

The duo were attacked at a poultry farm at Cortalim with knives on Thursday afternoon allegedly over demand for free chicken.

During interrogation, the accused confessed to the crime, citing a past enmity with Mandal as the motive behind the attack.

HC directs govt to recover Rs 9.36 lakh compensation interest from officials

Team Herald

PANJIM: The High Court of Bombay at Goa on Friday dismissed miscellaneous civil application filed by the Secretary (Finance) and directed to proceed to recover interest component of Rs 9.36 lakh from the officers, who delayed to clear compensation amount, within next six months.

While hearing a writ petition filed by A K Nigvale of Bicholim, the Court on April 30, 2024, had directed the Secretary (Finance) to conduct an inquiry and fix the responsibility for gross delays in depositing the compensation due to a claimant in a land acquisition case before the District and Sessions Court, Panjim. The Court had further stated that after fixing the responsibility, the government must recover the interest component on delay from the officers responsible i.e. special land acquisition officers (SLAOs).

Pursuant to the directions, the Secretary (Finance) conducted an

inquiry and submitted a list of 13 responsible officers of the inquiry report dated January 9, 2025. The total interest component worked out to Rs 9,36,734. Of the 13 officers, three retired and one of them expired.

The secretary (Finance) in his MCA sought to recall the Court's direction to recover the interest component on the compensation amount, citing the reason that some of the officers had retired or had expired as the cause for the delay in depositing the compensation before the District Court, during their tenure. Also it was due to administrative and operational constraints making it challenging for these officers to be aware of the pending matters, he stated.

But the Court stated that such a reason cannot be countenanced for recalling the order to recover the interest component for the compensation payable. The Court noted that the compensation was required to be deposited way back on June 30, 2013.

It is the citizens who had to bear the cost of this negligence and the reasons cited in the application would certainly not be reason enough to recall the directions.

The government had acquired the petitioner's land situated at Naroa, Bicholim for the Tillari irrigation project in 2013 and the award was declared on June 30, 2013. Since there was a dispute between the petitioner and some others regarding the right to receive compensation, the dispute was referred to the District Court. But the government officials did not both recall the order to recover the interest component deposited before the District Court. The petitioner was represented by Adv Omkar Kulkarni.

The Court had asked the government to make the reference within four months and to conduct an inquiry and to fix the responsibility on the officers responsible for the delay.

1,800 kgs of beef seized at Mollem, driver arrested

Team Herald

PONDA: Collem police arrested a Karnataka native for illegally transporting 1,800 kgs of beef at the Mollem border checkpoint.

According to the police, the arrest was made following a written complaint by Ketan B Chowgule, Veterinary Officer from Mollem, Dharbandora. The accused, Mahabubsab Bagvaale, a resident of Belgaum, Karnataka, was caught red-handed at Mollem border check post on March 21 at 5:10 am, while transporting the beef in a tempo. The beef, allegedly sourced from Autanagar, Belgaum was being transported without any valid documentation issued by the competent authority.

Heavy Rush "BIG DISCOUNT SHOPPING FESTIVAL", LIFESTYLE SHOPPING EXHIBITION AT SGPDA MARGAO



Margao, Mar 21 :BIG DISCOUNT, the Life Style Shopping Exhibition at SGPDA GROUND in MARGAO is seen crowded everyday. There are lot of Furniture stalls in the exhibition where people rushed to the stall as Furniture stalls were offering good discounts. Other stalls like : Pratik Motors, Prestige, Paramount Marketing, Usha International Ltd, Nuetch Solar Systems Pvt Ltd., AG Furniture Studio, RGS Kitchen Ware, Afgan Dry Fruits, Harsh Enterprizes, Smith Furniture, Gujarat Namkeen, Jjee Jewellery, Sankul Food, Laxmi Enterprises, SS Furniture, Rajastan Papad, Samra Furniture, Kitchenware, Home Products, Sofa Sets & Home Furniture, Imported Curtains, Shower Curtains, Lazy World Bean Bags, Money Counting Machine, Ladies Fashion, Toys, Garments, Imported Watches, Magic Mop, Ladies & Gents Shoes, Children Clothes, Imported Jeweleries, Bedsheets, Herbal Products, Children Furnitures, Educational Cd's, Door Mats, Bombay Halwa, Mens Wear, Health care Products & many more The exhibition is open for the public from 10.30 a.m. To 9.00 p.m. till 23rd March 2025. So don't Miss.

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