

Goa's Sandhya, Leena bag gold

Abhin, Jaison, S Banu & Vijay among other prominent winners



The winner along with the dignitaries at the multipurpose hall, Peddem, Mapusa, recently

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sports@herald-goa.com

PANJIM: Goa's veteran badminton stars made a resounding impact with Sandhya Melasheemi emerging as the standout performer, clinching a double gold at the Yonex Sunrise 47th Indian Masters National Badminton Championship (35+ to 50+ categories) held at the multipurpose hall, Peddem, Mapusa.

Sandhya, a former State champion, won the Women's Singles 40+ title with a hard-fought 23-21, 21-16 victory over Maharashtra's Aditi Rode. She then teamed up with Karnataka's Sangeetha Mari to secure the Women's Doubles 40+ crown, defeating Diva Arora and Aditi Rode (Delhi/Maharashtra) 21-12, 21-17.

Meanwhile, Goa's Leena Pednekar alias Dhapre added to the State's triumph by dominating the Women's Singles 50+ category, where she overcame Karnataka's Shalini Shetty, who retired at 21-5, 7-2, ensuring another gold medal for Goa. The finals also witnessed stellar performances from

some of India's former international stars.

Abhin Shyam Gupta (Uttar Pradesh), a former India International, secured the Men's Singles 45+ title in a tense encounter against Mizoram's Laluanawma, winning 23-21 before the latter retired due to injury.

In the Men's Doubles 50+ final, Amrith Shinde and Jaison Xavier (Gujarat/Kerala) displayed their class with a commanding 21-13, 21-14 victory over

47TH INDIAN MASTERS NATIONAL BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP

Parimelazhagan Pj and Shivkiran Singh Thakur (Karnataka/Maharashtra).

Karnataka's veteran duo Sunil Gladson and Vijay Lancy Mascarenhas emerged victorious in the Men's Doubles 45+ category, outclassing Maharashtra's Upendra Padnis and former international star Nikhil Kanetkar in a closely contested 21-18, 21-18 final.

In the Mixed Doubles 45+ event, Sameer Abbasi and Pooja Mehta (Gujarat) justified their top seeding, easing past Mit Adhyaru and

Swati Chauhan (Gujarat) with a 21-16, 21-9 victory. S. Banu too secured double gold. She won the Women's Doubles 50+ with Shalini Shetty (Karnataka) by defeating Jayashree Raghu and Urvashi Thapa (Karnataka/Himachal Pradesh) 23-21, 21-19.

She also claimed victory in the Mixed Doubles 50+ partnering with Parimelazhagan Pj (Karnataka), overcoming Deepak Saxena and Urvashi Thapa

(Chhattisgarh/Himachal Pradesh) in a gripping 14-21, 21-17, 21-17 final.

The final day witnessed several other thrilling contests across multiple categories. Swati Sharma (Uttarakhand) (2) emerged victorious in the Women's Singles 35+, overcoming Sonal Jagdale (Railways) (1), while Jaswinder Singh (CAG) (5) secured the Men's Singles 35+ title after a hard-fought battle against Prem Singh Chouhan (Rajasthan) (3).

In the Men's Singles 50+, Jaison Xavier (Kerala) (1)

dominated the final to claim the championship over Anil Kumar Srivastava, while Pooja Mehta (Gujarat) (1) put up a commanding performance to win the Women's Singles 45+ against Swapnal Chakrabarty (Maharashtra) (2).

In the doubles events, Abhinand Shetty and Sangeetha Mari (Karnataka) (1) won the Mixed Doubles 40+, while Manjush Mohan K K and Jui Agaskar (CAG) clinched the Mixed Doubles 35+ title. Jayan James and Rajesh Krishnan N. (Andhra Pradesh/Tamil Nadu) triumphed in the Men's Doubles 40+ after a thrilling contest, and Swapnal Chakrabarty and Pooja Khandekar (Maharashtra) (1) secured the Women's Doubles 40+ crown.

In the Women's Doubles 35+, Anees Kowser J and Swati Sharma (Tamil Nadu/Uttarakhand) (1) emerged as champions, while the Men's Doubles 35+ title went to Bennet Antony and Manjush Mohan K K (CAG) (1), who defeated Adarsh Kumar and Sanjeeth S (Karnataka/Railways) in the final.

Nuven Veterans emerge Fatorda football champions



The champions along with chief guest Fatorda MLA Vijay Sardesai, Fr Rallin D'Souza (rector of Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda), Fr Kenley D'Cruz (director of DBEC), Fr Leo Pereira (director of Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda), Carry Fernandes, Savio Madeira (former international football player), Mark Revelon (singer), Fr Benson, Fatorda Veterans players Levino, Edith, Presely, Rosario and Fatorda Forward councillors at the Don Bosco Oratory ground, Fatorda, recently

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RAIA: In a battle of supremacy in veterans finals between South and North Goa teams, South Goa giants Nuven Veterans were crowned champions of 10th Fatorda Veterans All Goa Football Tournament 2025 defeating Calangute Veterans 4-3 via tie-breaker at Don Bosco Oratory ground, Fatorda, recently.

Wilson Fernandes scored for Nuven Veterans, while

- INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**
- Man of the final:** Robert Fernandes (Calangute Veterans)
 - First scorer of final:** Wilson Fernandes (Nuven Veterans)
 - Best defender of final:** Rosario Dias (Nuven)
 - Best half of final:** Jameson Abel (Nuven Veterans)
 - Highest scorer of tournament:** Eddy Fernandes (Lavina Veterans)
 - Best goalkeeper:** Seby Mendes (Calangute)
 - Best disciplined team:** Siolim Veterans

Robert Fernandes found the equaliser for Calangute Veterans during the regulation time.

In the resulting tie-breaker, Nuven Veterans proved to be the better shooters.

The winners were awarded Rs 45,000 plus trophy while the runners-up had to content with Rs 35,000/- plus trophy.

Fatorda MLA Vijay Sardesai was the chief

guest and gave away the prizes in presence of Fr Rallin D'Souza (rector of Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda), Fr Kenley D'Cruz (director of DBEC), Fr Leo Pereira (director of Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda), Carry Fernandes, Savio Madeira (former international football player), Mark Revelon (singer), Fr Benson, Fatorda Veterans players Levino, Edith, Presely, Rosario and Fatorda Forward councillors.

Verem Veterans in quarters

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PANJIM: Verem Veterans defeated Siolim Veterans 3-1 via tie-breaker 3-1 to move into the quarter-finals of 8th All Goa Panjim Veterans football tournament played at Taleigao ground, on Tuesday.



Amir Gotlekar of Siolim receives the man-of-the-match award from chief guest Tony Dias (former Superintendent of Customs and Central Excise) and guest of honour Francis Fernandes (former Goa Football Association vice-president)

Both the teams were locked in a goalless draw at the end of regulation time.

In the resultant tie-breaker, Avinash Shidorkar, Jitendra and Sandip scored for Fracture Verem Veterans, while Sabestiao Lemos scored for Siolim Veterans.

Chandor Club move ahead

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RAIA: Chandor Club scored a 6-5 tie-breaker win over United Club of Verna in an exciting match to move into next round of 17th London Trophy Inter-Village Football Tournament 2025 organised by Goa Velha Sports Club at the club's ground, Goa Velha, on Tuesday.

Chandor Club surged ahead through Alreach Peixoto in the very 3rd minute of play. Beneston Barretto scored the equaliser for UC Verna when he shot into the Chandor Club goal beating goalkeeper Oswin Rodrigues in the 10th minute of play.

Stephen Satardekar regained the lead for UC Verna when he lobbed the ball into the Chandor Club

goal beating Oswin in the 33rd minute of play. At the break, UC Verna led 2-1.

In the second half, Chandor Club scored the equaliser through midfielder Moises D'Sa in the 43rd minute. The score read 2-2 at the end of regulation time.

In the ensuing tie-breaker, Chandor Club scored through Alreach Peixoto, Moises D'Sa, Akram Yadwad and Mark Fernandes. Louie Noronha shot wide. UC Verna netted through Clifton Rebello, Desmon Gama and Jesloy Moniz. Royden Rego shot wide. Beneston Barretto saw his effort saved by Chandor Club goalkeeper Oswin Rodrigues.

Moises D'Sa of Chandor Club was awarded the man-of-the-match by Joy Gonsalves, player and member of Goa Velha SC.

FC Goa U-17 coach hails team

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MAPUSA: FC Goa Head Coach Shane Anthony Temudo has hailed the performance of his team for emerging champions in the Goa Football Association U-17 Division I League.

"Our boys displayed consistency throughout the season. Credit goes to all the players for their collective efforts," he said.

"Not forgetting to thank my support staff for putting a shift ensuring the boys are always fit and are ready to perform to the best of their abilities. Very thankful to the parents and well-wishers for their continuous support, which collectively helped us to win the league title," Shane said after the last league match against South Goa United Club of Sports and Culture, on Monday.

"We dedicate this league title to late Lucas Cardozo, our very own kit manager and the FC Goa management for being our driving force," he concluded.

Mohammad, Savlon keep Sesa FA title hopes alive

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MAPUSA: Sesa FA struck two late goals to register a 2-0 win over Goa Police SC in the Goa Professional Super League match played at Duler Stadium, here, on Monday.

Sesa FA scored through Mohammad Faheez and Savlon Fernandes to give full points for their team to keep them in GPL title contest.

GOA PROFESSIONAL SUPER LEAGUE

After the win, Sesa FA have 32 points from 15 matches while Goa Police stay on 19 points from 16 matches.

Sesa FA did have better ball possession in the first session and made some inroads inside the rival territory but superb defending by Goa Police Gauresh Desai and skipper Harshad Gaonkar gave very little space for striker Mohammed and Omkar Shetgaonkar to have a clear strike at the rival goal.

In the very 5th minute, a deadly cross from the right

flank by U-21 Velito Rocha to Mohammad saw his strike hit the defender and then being collected by Goa Police custodian Saiesh Kunkolkar.

Later, Goa Police Abdul Khan's 25-yard stiff grounder went just past the goal post from a free-kick. This time Sesa FA's Omkar Shetgaonkar strike hit the defender for a corner.

Just four minutes into the second session and

Sesa FA Chaitan Dabholkar ballooned the ball over the crossbar from a pinpoint cross by substitute Savlon.

At the other end, Goa Police almost surged ahead when substitute Vaibhav Naik dribbled past defender Myran Pereira and drove a power-packed right-footer which was blocked by Sesa FA custodian Sapam Singh at the first post.

As the match progressed, both the teams missed a glorious chance

each to take the lead.

Sesa FA defender Myran Pereira tapped the ball over the crossbar from inside the 18-yard box while Goa Police Mayuresh Naik strike was blocked by Sesa FA custodian from close.

Finally, in the 79th minute, Sesa FA managed to take the lead with Mohammad scoring from the penalty spot after he was brought down by Goa Police stopper back Gauresh Desai inside the penalty box. In the 85th minute, Sesa FA skipper Shridhar Nath Gawas received the marching orders for indecent act on the referee.

Sesa FA's Savlon darted inside the 18-yard box from the right flank and placed the ball into the far corner of the goal to make it 2-0 in the 91st minute of play.

Antruz Aviators win, Mapusa Dream Crushers match ends in a tie

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PANJIM: Mapusa Dream Crushers - Delite Titans match ended in a dramatic tie, while Antruz Aviators beat Ultracon Madgaon Royals in the Sarsangan Priority Veterans Cricket Series 2025 played at the Arlem cricket ground, recently.

Electing to bat first, though losing Mahendra Kudchadkar early, Delite Titans recovered through Sandip Thali (35), Sachin Neurekar (19) and skipper Shiraj Pai Khot (20) to reach 79-2 in the 13th over. The innings got the much needed impetus from Siddhesh Bodke who made a quick-fire 35 (13 balls, 4x4s, 1x6s) and Paresh Prabhudesai who blasted 38 (13 balls, 2x4s, 4x6s). The Delite Titans finished at a mammoth 175-3 in 20 overs with the last 7 overs yielding 96 runs. Balkrishna Hodarkar with 2-14 and Sanjiv Sukhtankar with 1-16 were the notable performers in the bowling department.

In reply, Mapusa Dream Crushers raced to 67-2 in the 10th over with Nilesh Prabhudesai making 38, Balkrishna



Best Bowler Sanjiv Sukhtankar, Man-of-the-Match Sandip Thali and Best Batter Prabhudesai receive the trophies at the Arlem cricket ground, recently

Hodarkar making 21 and Rupesh Kossambe contributing 28. Though Mahesh Kudchadkar fell without troubling the scorers, Amith Kamat 35 (20 balls, 5x4s) and the skipper Laxmikant Kurade 27 no (15 balls, 1x4s, 3x6s) took the Dream Crushers to 154-3 in 19 overs. Needing 22 off the last over bowled by Shiraj Pai Khot, the Dream Crushers scored 20 runs off the 1st 5 deliveries with Shailesh Mahajan making 13 no.

Needing two runs off the last delivery, Laxmikant Kurade managed to somehow take a single, with the decision referred to the 3rd umpire, to check if he had made it past the popping crease. With a single scored off the last ball, the match ended in dramatic tie with the Dream Crushers also

making an identical 175-3 in 20 overs. Sandip Thali with 2-23 was the lone successful bowler. Sandip Thali collected Drogaria Colvalcar man-of-the-match award, Paresh Prabhudesai was adjudged Priority Constructors Best Batter award while Sanjiv Sukhtankar picked Wakao Best Bowler award.

In the second match, electing to bat first, Antruz Aviators making their debut in Sarsangan, put up a commanding 170-2 in 20 overs, thanks to Prasad Bhende (20), Sarvesh Kamat (35 in 19 balls), Sachin Kenkre (35 in 29 balls), former Ranji wicketkeeper Mahendra Pai Kuchelkar (37 in 29 balls), Rasik Pai Khot (21 no) and Sandeep Phaladesai (13). Yatin Kaisare with 1-14 was the



Man-of-the-Match Prasad Bhende, Best Batter Mahendra Pai Kuchelkar and Best Bowler Gomakant Mahambrey along with the trophies and dignitaries

lone successful bowler. In reply, Ultracon Madgaon Royals, lost their skipper Vishwesh Kamat (8) castled by Jaiprakash Kunde and with Manoj Dukle (5) also dismissed, Royals slumped to 59-2 in the 9th over. Rajendra Prabhudesai (26) and Rakesh Mallya (35) tried their best. However, the Aviators spinners, Prasad Bhende and Gomakant Mahambrey, both chipped in with 2 wickets each to put the brakes on the scoring as the Royals slid to 93-5 in 12 overs.

Samrudh Hegde Desai (19), Dr. Sarvesh Kamat (10), Mahesh Churi (11 no) tried their best but the Royals could manage 156-8 in their 20 overs, giving the Aviators a 14 run victory. Gomakant Mahambrey and Prasad Bhende

picked 2 wickets each while Balkrishna Kamat, Rasik Pai Khot, Jaiprakash Kunde and Sarvesh Kamat picked a wicket each.

Prasad Bhende collected Drogaria Colvalcar the man-of-the-match, Mahendra Pai Kuchelkar received Priority Constructors Best Batter and Gomakant Mahambrey was awarded Wakao Best Bowler.

Earlier, chief guest Architect Bhaskar Khandeparkar inaugurated the Sarsangan Priority Veterans Cricket Series in the presence of Kapil Nayak, Police Inspector of Vasco Police Station and Shivsharma Hegde, former chief engineer of MPT. Adv Satish Pilgaonkar, Sanjiv Prabh, Nagnath Shanbhag, Gomakant Mahambrey, Rajesh Colvalcar and Vallabh Pai.

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