

shorttakes**BJP PREZ MEETS ARCHBISHOP, DISCUSSES TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

PANJIM: Goa BJP President Damu Naik met Archbishop Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão on Wednesday, where they discussed a wide range of topics of mutual interest. Posting a photo with the Archbishop on X, Naik wrote about how "His Grace appreciated the government's full-hearted support resulting in a smooth & successful Exposition". According to Naik, the Archbishop also stressed on the need to prioritise education in the State.

PASSENGER BOOKED FOR FORGED EMIGRATION FORM AT MOPA AIRPORT

PANJIM: The Mopa Airport Police booked Zilesh Bandekar (43) from Raia, for allegedly using a forged 'Emigrate' (Form I) to deceive immigration authorities at Manohar International Airport, Mopa.

A case has been registered against him based on a complaint by Immigration Officer. Bandekar, scheduled to fly to Doha on Qatar Airways Flight QR523, reportedly presented the forged document to the officer. Further investigation is in progress with PSI Sagar Vazarkar of Mopa Airport Police Station.

7 BIHAR NATIVES, TEMPO DRIVER HELD FOR ILLEGAL SAND MINING IN TIRACOL RIVER

PANJIM: The Pernem Police arrested eight persons for illegal sand mining near the Tiracol River bank at Varkhand Poroscodem junction. The accused were caught red-handed extracting around 10 cubic meters of sand worth Rs 10,000 and loading it into a tipper truck without valid permission. All accused have been arrested and lodged in the police lock-up. An FIR has been registered and the case is being investigated by Head Constable Prasad C Tuyekar of Pernem Police Station

JHARKHAND YOUTH ARRESTED WITH RS 4.9 LAKH WORTH GANJA

PANJIM: A young man from Jharkhand has been arrested by Anti Narcotic Cell (ANC) of Goa police with ganja worth Rs 4.90 lakh. The accused identified as Himashu Singh was nabbed near Tivim Railway station with 4.9 kg ganja.

FATORDA MAN DUPED OF RS 7 LAKH ON PRETEXT OF PURCHASING FLAT

MARGAO: Makara Ram from Fatorda filed a complaint with the Fatorda Police stating that Sidharth Padiyar of Paroda, Quepem, allegedly executed a notary affidavit cum receipt at the Notary's office to purchase a flat at Prabhakar Co-operative Housing Society, Fatorda, with the complainant.

According to the complainant, the accused failed to provide the flat as promised in the sale deed agreement and has also failed to return Rs 7 lakh taken from the complainant, thereby defrauding him. Fatorda PSI Ramrai Naik is conducting the investigation.

MULTI-TASKING STAFF GRANTED CONDITIONAL BAIL

MARGAO: Viresh Gaonkar, a government employee working as a Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) at the Deputy Collector's Office in Quepem, who was arrested for allegedly obtaining loans with forged salary certificates, has been granted conditional bail by the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Quepem.

The court has directed police to release him on bail upon furnishing a bail bond of Rs 10,000 with one surety of the same amount.

SHIRVOI RESIDENT DROWNS AFTER FALLING INTO A POND

MARGAO: Scorino Gomes, a 51-year old resident of Shirvoi, died due to drowning after he accidentally fell into a pond in a field.

Quepem police said that Scorino was taken to South Goa District Hospital, however he was declared dead. The body has been preserved in South Goa District Hospital morgue for postmortem examination. Police have ruled out foul play.

RENOVATED CANDOLIM PANCHAYAT GHAR OPENS TODAY

CALANGUTE: Renovated with funds under the XV Finance Commission, the Candolim Panchayat Ghar will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Thursday.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS GUTTED IN FIRE AT VADDEM

VASCO: A major fire broke out at a house in Vaddem, opposite Pai Hospital, on Wednesday morning, leaving household items completely gutted. The house, belonging to Sadanand Pojari, was engulfed in flames while the owner was away. The cause of the fire remained unknown.

power shutdown

● **SANGUEM:** On April 3, from 9 am to 4 pm at Velipwada. Affected areas are GCA ground and nearby areas.

● **ASSOLINA:** On April 4, from 9.30 am to 12 pm. Affected area is Assolna Panchayat.

● **MARGAO:** On April 4, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas include Rayan Villa, Balaji Crockaray, opposite Ashirwad hospital, inside Vikrant building, Jain Aluminum shop, opposite Green View hotel

and surrounding areas. On April 5 from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas include opposite Sanrit hotel, Kismat restaurant, opposite Railway station road, near Jama Masjid, Hotel Nandini, near Bata showroom and surrounding areas.

● **CURTORIM:** On April 4 from 8 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are Tembim and Monzon Aframent, on April 5 between 8 am and 3 pm. Affected area is Pandicol.

GoaMiles driver abused, threatened at Arpora

Team Herald

MAPUSA: In a harrowing incident captured on mobile by a GoaMiles cab driver, a local taxi driver allegedly abused and threatened him with dire consequences and harassed a tourist family at a resort at Arpora.

The incident occurred when the tourists, who were residing in a resort at Arpora, booked a taxi online to take them around in the state. Immediately as the GoaMiles driver arrived, a local taxi driver Shekhar Kerkar stopped him from proceeding with his vehicle, abused, threatened him with dire consequences and refused to let him move from the spot.

The Anjuna Police took cognisance of the incident and arrested Kerkar from his residence at Nagoa. The police said that they had to act with an iron hand as repeated incidents like these were marring the image of the State.

Sankhali man injured after tree falls on scooter at Valpoi

Team Herald

PORIEIM: Datta Gurav, a 40-year-old resident of Kudne in Sankhali, sustained injuries after a mango tree fell on his scooter at Redeghat, Valpoi, on Tuesday evening, causing significant damage to the vehicle.

On receiving information about the incident, the Valpoi Fire Department rushed to the site and cleared the tree.

The Forest Department personnel later shifted Datta to a hospital.

The officials estimated the loss to be around Rs 20,000. The department's quick response prevented a potential loss of Rs 30,000.

FROM PAGE 1**IN RUSH TO TAR ROADS, DEBRIS LEFT BEHIND**

Prakash Naik, a staffer at a shop in the market, said that the breeze was blowing dust into the shop, leaving the establishment filled with dirt. When the wind blows in the afternoon or the evening, the dust flies into the shops forcing us to clean the floors and items kept in the shop more frequently."

An auto driver, on the condition of anonymity, said, "Is this a smart city work? Who will call it smart? See the condition of the roads. There is so much debris piled up.

Nobody cares about the common man walking on the street."

AUTHORITIES SEEK FRESH DEADLINE IN COURT

The report, which covers work completed up to March 31, 2025, also includes timelines for the remaining work, set for completion by May 31 and June 30, 2025.

The High Court accepted the affidavit and noted the request for additional time to complete the 200 meters of sewerage work from Taad-Maad to the STP at Tonca, where ongoing construction has caused delays. The IP-SCDL provided further explanations for the delay in the affidavit, including annexures for judicial review.

In response to the court's observations, a senior spokesperson from IPSCDL assured, "We acknowledge the observations and views expressed by the High Court, and we will work round-the-clock to ensure the remaining work is completed within the deadlines of May 31 and June 30, 2025."

WAR OVER WAQF BILL IN PARLIAMENT

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav claimed that the bill is a BJP's play for polarisation following its reverses in the Lok Sabha polls, alleging that it will send a wrong message to the world denting the country's secular image.

The bill will prove to be a "waterloo" for the BJP as some of its allies might be claiming to support the bill but inside they are not happy about the development, he said.

"Bringing Waqf Bill is the BJP's political game, it is a new form of their communal politics. The BJP wants to appease those supporters who are now distancing themselves from the party because of its policies.

After most of the leading opposition leaders had spoken, Shah launched a stout defence of the bill and rejected the most common criticism that the appointment of non-Muslims in the Waqf council and boards violated a community's right to manage its own affairs.

He also warned against instigating Muslims against the law, noting that an opposition MP had said that the minorities will not accept this. "It is the law of the Indian government and Parliament. Everyone will have to accept it."

The bill will become a law after it is notified following its passage in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

Shah said the government is not going to have any say in the matters of Waqf, endowments made by Muslims for religiously charitable and pious purposes, adding that the council and boards are aimed at the management of the properties to ensure that they are used in line with the stated aims behind their donation.

He accused the opposition of "fear-mongering" over the bill's provisions, saying this is how they raised a vote bank.

He accused the Congress-led UPA government of effecting many amendments in the Waqf law in 2013 for its appeasement politics, saying these changes made the Act "extreme". Had those changes not been made, the govern-

Siolim Marna, Assagao to enforce HC order on illegal roadside structures

Awareness meetings organised on demolition drive in both villages

Team Herald

ASSAGAO/SIOLIM: The village panchayats of Siolim Marna and Assagao are all set to enforce the High Court order with regards to action against illegal and roadside structures.

Sarpanchas of both villages conducted special awareness meetings informing the people about the drive and to ensure that the High Court order was followed in letter and spirit.

The awareness meet was held in Assagao on April 1, and in Siolim on April 2.

The Assagao meet was attended by a large number of villagers.

Assagao Talathi and Assagao Comunidade office bearers were also present.

Attorney of Assagao Comunidade Nelson Fernandes told the villagers that the comunidade would

FLYING SQUADS FORMED IN ALL TALUKAS TO CURB ILLEGAL LAND ACTIVITIES

PANJIM: District Magistrate North and South Goa have constituted flying squads at the taluka level to tackle illegal land filling, hill cutting, and unauthorized constructions in compliance with the High Court order of March 6.

These squads are expected to act within an hour of receiving complaints, conduct inspections, and report violations to authorities. Govt has asked citizens to report such activities on the emergency helpline 100.

be going hammer and tongs against all illegalities on Comunidade land and if required he would seek police protection.

However, sarpanch Hanumant Naik requested him not to use police force as Assagao people were peace-loving and would voluntarily oblige in helping with the demolitions.

At Siolim, Fatima Fernandes, a local, sought to know the fate of roadside

houses.

She demanded that the Regional Plan 2021 provision of mandating road width of 25 metres be scrapped as Siolim did not want such a wide road and the villagers were happy with a 10-metre wide road and stressed that the basic fabric of Siolim as a village should be preserved.

There was panic among many villagers as there are large properties in Siolim

WHAT A WASTE!



A major water pipeline was damaged at Duler, Mapusa, reportedly by an excavator used during ongoing cabling work, leading to large-scale water leakage in the residential locality. Water entered houses, basements of buildings, and a sawmill, causing significant flooding in the area. The incident is expected to affect water supply to Mapusa and surrounding areas

“The panchayat will be strictly acting as per the High Court order and there would be no revenge politics. The public would be updated based on

monthly reports about any such illegal constructions and now after an inspection of all existing illegal structures, a report would be submitted to the Bardez Block Development Officer, who in turn, will submit it to the Deputy Collector, who would be heading the demolition squad

- Premanand Mandrekar, Panchayat Secretary

that are either evacuee property or government land and constructions on such land are now having a Damocles sword hanging over them.

Panchayat secretary Premanand Mandrekar assured the locals that the panchayat would be strictly going as per the High Court order and there would be no revenge politics.

He said that the public would be updated based on monthly reports about any such illegal constructions

and now after an inspection of all existing illegal structures, a report would be submitted to the Bardez Block Development Officer, who in turn, will submit it to the Deputy Collector, who would be heading the demolition squad.

Gregory D'Souza sought to know why no technical person particularly from the PWD was present as they could be in a better position to explain to the people regarding all roadside constructions.

CM assures to streamline business opportunities for local transporters

Team Herald

PANJIM: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has assured truck operators that the transportation of goods business will be streamlined to ensure equal opportunities for local businesses.

The statement came after the Pernem-Bardez Truck Association met with the Chief Minister on Wednesday to raise concerns over the increasing dominance of non-Goans in the sector.

Pernem-Bardez Truck Association president Milind Shetye, said, "People from other states like Karnataka have entered

transport business. This is causing losses to the Goan entrepreneurs. People from other states are indulging in highhandedness. They are getting their vehicles registered on basis of room agreement. We requested the Chief Minister to look into it and find a solution and Chief Minister assured us that he will look into it and find a solution."

The Chief Minister said, "I have heard them and told that their business will also be streamlined the way trucks engaged for mining business was done so that they also get equal opportunity to carry out business."

Pedestrian injured in New Vaddem accident

Team Herald

VASCO: In a shocking hit-and-run incident, a pedestrian sustained injuries after being struck by a speeding vehicle at New Vaddem on the night of April 1.

Police stated that the incident occurred at around 8:40 pm on the slope leading towards the New Vaddem residential area. The

accused, identified as Romeo Carvalho, a resident of New Vaddem, was driving his car in a rash and negligent manner. While proceeding from GSL Vaddem towards New Vaddem, Carvalho allegedly hit pedestrian Manoj Sharma, who was walking on the left side of the road.

Following the collision, the driver reportedly fled the scene with the vehicle.

Dabolim named best AAI Airport

Team Herald

PANJIM: In a significant milestone for Goa's aviation sector, the Goa International Airport at Dabolim has been ranked as the best airport under the Airports Authority of India (AAI), based on the ASQ rating in the prestigious ACI-ASQ Survey 2024.

The announcement was made on the 30th Annual Day of AAI.

George Varughese, Airport Director, Goa International Airport, Dabolim said, "Goa international Airport, Dabolim has been awarded 1st rank among AAI Airports in India for ASQ rating in ACI-ASQ survey of 2024."

APPOINTMENTS

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Pilar, Goa 403 203

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- In a Semi-Government Organisation/Office/Institute; or
- In a Factory/Company; or
- In any other private establishment where not less than 05 people are employed

Age limit: Not exceeding 45 years (relaxable for Government Servants upto five years)

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Knowledge of Konkani is Essential: Knowledge of Marathi is desirable
For further details visit College website- www.fragnelcollege.edu.in

03-04-2025

Dr. Fr. Fredrick Rodrigues
Offg. Principal