

shorttakes

PARSEM ACCIDENT VICTIM SUCCUMBS IN GOA MEDICAL COLLEGE

**PANJIM:** Bharat Polji (62), a resident of Parsem, Pernem, who was injured in a road accident on April 7, 2025, passed away while undergoing treatment at Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim, on April 10. Polji was riding a scooter and was on his way from Agarwada to Parsem when he met with an accident near Babu Store, Bamanwaddo, Parsem, also injuring a pedestrian, Jaimala Chandelkar.

PATTO BRIDGE REPAIR WORK FROM APRIL 11

**PANJIM:** The District Magistrate of North Goa has ordered the closure and diversion of traffic on the Patto Bridge leading towards Panjim City from April 11 to 14, 2025. The road closure is to facilitate urgent repair works on the damaged expansion joints of the bridge.

JAMSHEDPUR NATIVE BOOKED FOR MISAPPROPRIATION, STEALING CASH

**MARGAO:** The Quepem Police registered a case against Dipankar Kumar Kashyap, a native of Jamshedpur, working at a resort and spa, Nagvem Molcornem Quepem, for alleged misappropriation and for stealing cash, a mobile phone and a motorcycle. The police registered the offence under sections of the BNS. Yogesh Kunkolienkar, a resident of Borimol, Quepem, filed the complaint stating that on April 4, at Nature Lap Resort and Spa, Nagvem, Molcornem, Dipankar, who was under training as a manager at the resort, fraudulently prepared fake invoices and sent them to a customer, dishonestly induced the latter to transfer Rs 78,340 into his personal bank account, thereby misappropriating the amount. The accused stole Rs 80,000 from the cash counter, handed over by a guest, committed the theft of a motorcycle belonging to an employee, along with a mobile phone worth Rs 8,000 and absconded. Quepem PSI Somesh Prabhudessai is investigating the case.

ILLEGAL HILL CUTTING AT CORTALIM, COMPLAINT LODGED WITH VERNA POLICE

**MARGAO:** Krishna Naik from the Office of the Deputy Town Planner filed a complaint with the Verna Police stating that unknown individuals have been illegally cut hills since May 15, 2024, in Survey No. 179/1 in Cortalim, without permission from the relevant authorities. Police have registered the offence under Section 17-A of the TCP Act and Verna PSI Ramchandra Naik is investigating the case.

TCP OFFICER ALLEGES ILLEGAL HILL CUTTING IN MACASANA, FILES POLICE COMPLAINT

**MARGAO:** Francisco De Souza, a Town and Country Planning Department officer in Margao, filed a complaint with the Maina Curtorim Police alleging that prior to January 3, 2025, unknown individuals illegally cut a hill on property located in Survey No. 150/1-C in Macasana. According to the complaint, the accused used machinery to carry out the work without obtaining the necessary permissions from the department or any other government authorities. The Maina Curtorim Police registered the offence under Section 17 of the Town & Country Planning Act, and PSI Sagar Kamat is investigating the case.

HANUMAN JAYANTI CELEBRATION AT DAVORLIM TEMPLE

**MARGAO:** Hanuman Jayanti, also known as Hanuman Janmotsav, will be celebrated with grand religious ceremonies at Shri Maruti Temple in Davorlim. A variety of religious and cultural programmes have been scheduled on April 11, and 12, at Shri Maruti Temple in Davorlim. On April 11, there will be Shri Abhishek, Gandhi Puja, aarti, and prasad. On April 12, at 7 am, Shri Hanuman Janmotsav, Palna, Puran, Aarti, and Prasad will be held, followed by Mahaprasad at 12.30 pm. In the evening, a procession will commence at the temple at 5:30 pm. The idol of Lord Hanuman will be placed in a decorated vehicle, accompanied by a bhajani mandal. The procession route includes Vidyut Bhavan, Ram Temple at Aquem, near Timblo Niwas and Vidyanagar Junction, before returning to Shri Maruti Temple at 11 pm. Devotees will be allowed to take darshan of Lord Hanuman at stops along the way.

FISHERMAN RESCUES TWO TURTLES OFF BENAULIM BEACH

**MARGAO:** Fisherman Francisco Fernandes alias Pele rescued two turtles, which were caught in a garbage at sea. Pele was on a dolphin trip with foreign and Indian tourists when he spotted garbage in the sea. On seeing the garbage, he directed his staff to collect it in a net and bring it back to shore. But to his horror, he found that there were two turtles caught in the garbage. Pele rescue the turtles then brought them in his boat to the shore. "At first I thought they were dead but found that they were alive and injured. So I called the Colva Police, the veterinary doctors and the Forest Department, who took charge of the turtles to give them treatment. I hope they are safe," Pele told O Heraldo. According to Pele, the students who were travelling with him for the dolphin trip were from Brazil, USA, United Kingdom and India and they urged him to collect the garbage which weighed about a tonne and included 60 per cent fishing net, plastic rope, bucket and glass bottles.

power shutdown

**MARGAO:** On April 12, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Paul Barreto building and surrounding areas. **CURTORIM:** On April 12, from 8 am to 3 pm. Affected area is Tambetim. **CANSAULIM:** On April 12, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Razvior, Falwaddo, Borsullem and Ossolien.

Sewer, gas line works ‘disrupt’ water, power supply in Gogol Housing Board

Locals complain of receiving water supply only in trickles after midnight; blame pipeline installation for dust pollution & traffic congestion

Team Herald

**MARGAO:** For the past three days, residents of the Gogol Housing Board in Margao are experiencing disruptions in their tap water supply. This issue, along with traffic congestion has stemmed from road excavations for sewerage pipelines and piped natural gas installations, which have also caused frequent electricity disruptions. Since Monday there has been no water supply each morning and restored only late at night, leading to an acute water shortage in parts of the housing board.

Residents complain of receiving water supply only in trickles after midnight when most are asleep. It is pertinent to note that water supply was cut off again in the morning and remained off till 8 pm. While no water tankers were provided, locals blamed the ongoing road work for the suspended water supply. Milind Raiker, a resident said, "The pipeline installation has caused significant dust pollution, traffic congestion, and frequent power and water disruptions." Confirming lack of water supply for the past three days, Ashok Naik, another resident,

UNDUE HARDSHIPS

- Locals blamed the ongoing road work for disrupting water supply
- Complained that no water tankers are provided
- Claim receiving no water supply for the past three days
- Find it difficult to leave their houses due to the road work
- Allege that in some areas where road digging is complete, the dug-up trenches have not been restored
- Accuse workers of digging further into Gogol and the Housing Board, leaving previously dug trenches uncovered
- Urge the authorities to carry out road digging in phases
- Suggest widening the roads to mitigate traffic congestion caused by the reduced road width due to continuous digging

said, "The disruptions in the morning have caused immense hardship. The continuous digging and excavation have led to increased civic issues and that residents are being deprived of basic amenities. Residents find it difficult to leave their houses due to the road work." Naik said, "In some areas where road digging is complete, the dug-up trenches have not been restored. Instead, workers are digging further into Gogol and the Housing Board, leaving previously dug trenches uncovered. This makes the roads increasingly risky and narrow." He said, "Some roads

have been cut in the middle and filled with mud instead of being properly covered with cement, leading to deteriorated road conditions." Residents have urged the authorities to carry out road digging in phases, ensuring that roads are restored incrementally wherever excavation occurs. They have suggested widening the roads to mitigate traffic congestion caused by the reduced road width due to continuous digging. When questioned, a supervisor at the road digging site stated that the PWD has been informed about the need to repair the roads.

Ponda admin building almost ready, golden jubilee project work still on

Team Herald

**PONDA:** While the Ponda administrative building is nearing completion within two years of its foundation stone laying, the work on the golden jubilee project of the Ponda Municipal Council (PMC), sanctioned by the then Congress-led Government in 2011 to commemorate Goa's Golden Jubilee Year of Liberation, is still on.

It is pertinent to note that the project, located near the Ponda Police Station in the heart of the town, has faced numerous delays due to various factors, including the contractor abandoning the work midway and increases in cost. Initially, Rs two crore was sanctioned for the four-storey project, comprising offices and other facilities, and the foundation stone



Work on golden jubilee project is still progressing

Additional funds have been sanctioned for the completion of the golden jubilee project. The project is back on track and progressing rapidly, with the contractor assuring to complete it by May 2025. Most of the building work and slabs have been completed, and interior work is progressing. The PMC administrative building is also expected to be ready by May 2025. PMC will have two buildings ready by May

-Anand Naik, PMC Chairperson

was laid by Ponda MLA and Minister Ravi Naik. After considerable delay, the work began in 2015 and

was expected to be completed in 2016. However, it was halted due to rising costs and other issues. The contractor resumed work in 2017-18 but again abandoned the project. Finally, PMC handed the project to GSIDC, after which a new contractor was appointed. PMC Chairperson Anand Naik said, "Additional funds have been sanctioned for the completion of the golden jubilee project. The project is back on track and progressing rapidly, with the contractor assuring to complete it by May 2025. Most of the building work and slabs have been completed, and interior work is progressing. Similarly, the PMC administrative building is also expected to be ready by May 2025. PMC will have two buildings ready by May."

Mormugao municipality launches pay parking system

Team Herald

**VASCO:** The Mormugao municipal council introduced pay parking system in some of the important areas of the port town in a bid to streamline the traffic. The pay parking system has been started near the municipal building and the Vasco post office, where both four-wheelers and two-wheelers will be charged Rs 20 for the first one hour and Rs 15 for every subsequent hour. MMC chairperson Girish Borker informed that the council had passed a resolution to introduce pay

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parking system around about 10 months ago and recently the South Goa Collector issued the notification in this regards. He said that the work of marking the designated parking zones has been started and hoped that the pay parking will put an end to haphazard parking of vehicles and streamline the movement of traffic in the port town. According to Borker, the pay parking system is being

launched on a trial basis at four strategic locations to begin with and plans to extend it. Taking note of increase in rent-a-car vehicles found parked on busy lanes, Borker said that he had already requested the RTO and the Traffic Police to intervene and enforce appropriate action as per the Motor Vehicle Act. The pay parking fees will also apply to these commercial vehicles too, he said.

Dr Ann tops MBBS Exam

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Dr Ann Mariah Tahira Andrade of Porvorim has secured the top rank in the final MBBS Exam for the 2020-2025 batch at Goa Medical College. Currently interning at GMC, Dr Andrade, daughter of Svetlana and Daryl Andrade, is focused on mastering patient care and medical professionalism. She said, "For now, I'm just concentrating on my internship at GMC and learning the ropes on how to be a competent doctor." She extended her gratitude to her parents, family, and teachers for their constant support.

Four aided degree courses launched in Goa

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Four new specialised programmes, with full aid, will now be offered at a government-run college in Pernem in order to empower youth to study these degree courses at subsidised fees, stated, Director of Higher Education Bhushan Savoikar.

Savoikar said that the government and the SSA Government College of Commerce and Arts, Pernem are confident that these new degree programmes, coupled with the strategic industry partnership, will be a significant step towards empowering the youth of Goa with the knowledge, skills, and practical experience necessary to thrive in the 21st century workforce. Admissions for these new programmes will commence from April 11 on DHEs on E-Samar Portal of DHE, he said.

- NEW COURSES
- Bachelor of Business Administration
  - BSc in Biotechnology
  - BSc in Psychology
  - BSc in Sports and Exercise Science
  - Subsidy offered, students can apply on E-Samarth portal until April 30

Principal SSA Government College of Commerce and Arts Pernem, Prof Juao Costa said the newly signed MoU with the Laghu Udyog Bharati, Goa Chapter, will provide required academic and on-the-job training support to students. Prof Costa highlighted the objective of this collaboration aimed at facilitating structured internship programmes within member industries and organizations, offering opportunities for real-world project work and case studies. The association will provide access to guest lectures and mentorship from industry professionals and the curriculum will be

aligned with the evolving needs of local industries, enhancing graduate employability. The new courses, he said will be effective from the academic year 2025-2026 along with its existing courses i.e. BCom, BA and PG in Commerce and Marathi and Research Centre in Commerce and Marathi, he informed. The newly introduced courses are Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Biotechnology Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Psychology Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Sports and Exercise Science etc. BSc in Sports and Exercise Science and BSc in Psy-

chology are being offered for the first time in Goa. The BBA programme will admit 60 students, while others will have an intake of 30 students each. Two of these courses are available in some private colleges, are self financed but the cost is exorbitant. President of Laghu Udyog Bharati, Goa Chapter, Pal-lavi Salgaonkar said that this strategic partnership signifies a concerted effort to bridge the gap between academia and industry, ensuring students gain practical experience and enhanced employability. BBA faculty incharge Dr Harsha Talaulikar, IOAC coordinator Dr Lucy James, Laghu Udyog Bharati vice president Jayesh Raikar, BSc Psychology incharge Anjali Pande, BSc Sports incharge Sam Braganza, BSc biotechnology incharge Dr Pankaj Parab were among those present at the occasion.

Anjuna Police goof-up leads to bail for rape accused?

Team Herald

**MAPUSA:** A major goof-up by the Anjuna Police led to the bail being granted to a rape accused by the POCSO Court, within a week of his arrest.

On April 4, the Anjuna Police had arrested 36-year-old Deryl Francise Fernandes of Umta Vaddo, Calangute for allegedly kidnapping and raping a 16-year-old girl. However, when the accused was produced before the Mapusa Court for further police custody, Adv Vinayak Porob arguing for the accused told the Court that the grounds and reasons for his arrest were not communicated in writing to the accused. Also the intimation of Deryl's arrest was not given to his family members nor informed to his family members in writing. This was in violation of the constitutional mandate, he told the Court. Following this, the Court released the accused forthwith. The incident occurred

in March, but the frightened girl informed her family about the assault only in April. A police complaint was filed on April 3 and the rape was confirmed by the doctors.

Meanwhile, the police conducted the panchanama of the hotel where the alleged crime took place. Police sources revealed that they had submitted all the documents to the POCSO Court. "We are in the process of appealing in the High Court. We will give justice to the victim," the police said. A senior police officer stated that the accused had refused to counter sign the notice issued to him. Nonetheless every entry is made in the station diary which will serve as corroborative evidence. Police also argued that the wife had refused to accept the notice informing her about the husband's arrest. However, the advocate for the accused argued that the police should have pasted it on the house.

Flipped visitor lays 98 eggs on Calangute beach



Forest department officials taking possession of the eggs

Team Herald

**CALANGUTE:** Despite the rise in noise pollution levels on Goa's coastal belt, the pristine coastline still remains a favourite nesting site for flipped visitors. An Olive Ridley turtle laid 98 eggs on Calangute beach on Monday night, marking the third such nesting event on the Calangute-Candolim stretch this tourist season. The increased number of turtle sightings is being attributed to the early closure of beach shacks and reduced human activity along the shoreline. "Tourist security force staff, while patrolling Calangute beach on Monday

night, spotted an Olive Ridley turtle laying eggs on the beach. They immediately informed the forest department and a total of 98 eggs were safely handed over to forest guards for protection and safety. A small act of alertness, a big step towards preserving marine life," police said. The eggs have since been transferred to the designated turtle nesting site in Morjim for safe incubation. In February, a turtle laid 126 eggs, while another nesting was recorded on Candolim beach. Eggs from both incidents were also shifted to the Morjim nesting site to ensure proper hatching under supervised conditions.

APPOINTMENTS

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