

shorttakes

TRESPASS COMPLAINT REGISTERED AGAINST KERI RESIDENT

MARGAO: Santosh Jalmi, a resident of Keri-Ponda has filed a complaint with the Mardol Police alleging that on April 13, Devandra Gaude of Keri-Ponda allegedly trespassed into his brother's property. A case has been registered under BNS 2023. Police sources indicate that the accused allegedly threatened the complainant with dire consequences and assaulted them with a Koita. PSI Abhilash Naik is investigating the case.

MOTORCYCLE STOLEN FROM PARKING AREA IN BORDA

MARGAO: Karan Davare, a Maharashtra native filed a complaint with the Fatorda Police stating that an unknown person stole his motorcycle, which was parked in an open parking area in Borda, Margao. The loss is estimated at Rs 40,000. The police have registered the offence under BNS, and further investigation is on.

WEST BENGAL NATIVE FOUND DEAD AT IDC VERNA

MARGAO: Kajor Chandra Roy, a native of West Bengal and currently residing in IDC Verna, was found dead. Verna Police stated that after receiving a call from the casualty department they visited the South Goa District Hospital, Margao to investigate and the inquiry revealed that on April 12, after having dinner, the deceased became intoxicated and went to sleep. The deceased's cousin woke up to use the washroom and found him unresponsive. The cousin then took him to South Goa District Hospital, where he was declared dead. The Police conducted the panchanama, and the body has been kept in the SGDh for post-mortem examination.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE BODY FOUND BY ROADSIDE IN MARGAO

MARGAO: Fatorda Police discovered a body of an unidentified male, estimated to be between 40 and 45 years old, by the roadside near Ravindra Bhavan, Margao. According to Fatorda Police, they dispatched a team following a phone call from an unknown individual reporting that a person is lying near Ravindra Bhavan. Emergency services transported the individual to South Goa District Hospital, Margao, where he was pronounced dead on arrival. Subsequently, the police conducted the panchanama and sent the body to SGDh Margao for medico-legal procedure. The investigation is on.

MAN FOUND DEAD NEAR THE EXIT GATE OF SOUTH GOA DISTRICT HOSPITAL

MARGAO: Fatorda police discovered a body of an unidentified male, estimated to be 50-55 years old, near the back exit gate of South Goa District Hospital, Margao. Police reached the spot following a call from the Casualty Police at SGDh, regarding the unknown man's death. Emergency services 108 transported the man from the hospital's exit gate, but he was declared dead. Police conducted the panchanama and sent the body to SGDh for medico-legal procedures.

YOUTH FOUND DEAD NEAR TEMPLE AT NAGARGAO

PORIE: Twenty-four-year-old Shraavan Devidas Barve was found dead near Hanuman Temple in Ambede, Nagargao, on Tuesday. Shraavan was alone at home on Monday night, and his body was discovered on Tuesday morning by his father, who alleged that his son was murdered. A complaint has been filed against an unknown person at the Valpoi Police Station. SP North Akshat Kaushal said, "It is too early to determine if it was murder or suicide, as the investigation is on. The best police and forensic teams in the North district have been assigned to investigate thoroughly." Valpoi Police and the forensic team conducted the panchanama, and the body has been sent for postmortem at Goa Medical College, Bambolim.

VOLTAGE STABILISER DAMAGED IN FIRE AT MARGAO

MARGAO: A heavy-duty voltage stabiliser near Fatima Convent in Margao caught fire, causing an estimated loss of Rs. 50,000. Fire personnel managed to save property worth Rs 2 lakh. Separately, waste material and garbage near Sharda Classic in Fatorda caught fire. Additionally, two dry grass fires were reported near Norbert Gym in Borda, Margao, and near a restaurant in Colva.

SSCE: OUR LADY OF GRACE HS, BICHOLIM SECURES 100% RESULTS

BICHOLIM: In a remarkable academic achievement Our Lady of Grace High School Bicholim, has secured 100% results in the recently declared SSCE. All the 168 students who appeared for the exam have successfully passed with 55 securing distinction, 78 first class, 32 second class and 03 pass grades. The school management and staff expressed immense pride in the dedication and hard work of the students and teachers alike.

power shutdown

- **PORVORIM:** On April 16, from 9 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are Wadkade and Prabhu Acupuncture.
- **PONDA:** On April 16, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Durgabhat, St Anne's Church and ID Hospital.
- **CHINCHINIM:** On April 16, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Affected areas are Sukaldem, Durga, New Durga, Santmodi, Baida, Chinchinim bazaar and Telephone exchange under V P Chinchinim.
- **PONDA:** On April 17, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are near Haveli Panchayat Curti, near Savoikar hospital and Varkhandem.
- **PONDA:** On April 17, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Santa Cruz and JK tyres.
- **MARGAO:** On April 17, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Kurtarkar Plaza Co-op. Society, Bal Bhawan, Satyavati Niwas, Vishant theatre, and Silver Tower C.
- **CURTORIM:** On April 17, from 8 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are Tembim, New Monzon, Aframent and Modi Tembim.

Pay parking plan to cut Margao traffic trauma

Data shows many parking spaces are underutilised, often occupied all day by shop owners and employees

Team Herald,

MARGAO: To address the growing traffic congestion, the Margao Traffic Cell surveyed the town and proposed introducing pay parking at various locations to alleviate the issue.

In a recent letter, the Traffic Cell has requested the Margao Municipal Council to consider implementing pay parking at 18 locations throughout the town to ease traffic congestion.

According to the Traffic Police analysis, many parking spaces in Margao are underutilised, often occupied all day by owners and employees of nearby businesses. This leaves limited options for locals and tourists who need parking for shorter periods.

LOCATIONS IDENTIFIED FOR PAY PARKING

- De Souza Chambers (Time Collection) to Sadekar Building (before Lolienkar House) via Kris Kross & Cartier Shop (VV Road and Isidore Baptista Road)
- SBI Margao main entrance to behind Fatima School compound corner (NH 66 & Luis Miranda Road)
- Saaj Hotel to opposite Anugraha Restaurant (Luis Miranda Road)
- Woodland Hotel to Gracias Hospital (Luis Miranda Road & Rua Miguel de Loyola Furtado Road)
- Vaz Enterprise (opposite Lohia Maidan) up to opposite Gaylin Restaurant (Isidore Baptista Road & V Road)

The resulting double parking and parking on road corners exacerbate congestion, as noted in the letter to MMC.

The Traffic Department emphasised that Margao, as a commercial centre, experiences high vehicular

traffic. As an educational hub with over 8,000 students, Margao sees a daily influx of people from Salcete villages, further congesting main roads.

The Traffic Cell also noted that narrow roads and inadequate parking lead to road-

side parking, obstructing traffic and inconveniencing other road users. Furthermore, Margao's popularity as a tourist destination adds to the parking strain.

The letter to the municipality highlights that the rise in vehicles has not been matched by road improvements or parking provisions. The Traffic Police stated that this growth has strained Margao's road network and parking spaces.

The letter also points out that new high-rise buildings and commercial establishments often lack sufficient parking for occupants and visitors, adding to the burden on existing parking areas. Consequently, roadside parking obstructs traffic flow. It emphasised on creating more spaces and reduce congestion.

Court relief for Curti panch

Disqualified panch Bhika Kerkar now eligible to contest for sarpanch and deputy posts

Team Herald

PONDA: The Additional District and Session Court, Panjim, sitting at Ponda, has overturned the BDO's order disqualifying Bhika Kerkar, a Panch member of Curti Khandepar Panchayat.

The order provides relief to Bhika, who is now eligible to participate in the election for the vacant posts of sarpanch and deputy sarpanch.

Bhika was disqualified by the Ponda BDO following a complaint in 2023 by two Curti residents. The complaint alleged that Bhika participated in a meeting where his illegal construction was discussed, violating Section 12(D) of the Panchayati Raj Act, which prohibits a panch member from par-

ticipating in meetings concerning their own pecuniary interests.

Subsequently, Bhika Kerkar had challenged the BDO's order in the District and Session Court, arguing that the order was unlawful and citing deficiencies. The court then stayed the disqualification order.

The two complainants then appealed to the High Court against the stay order, asserting the BDO's authority to disqualify and argued that the stay would allow Bhika to participate in the election for the vacant sarpanch and deputy posts.

Considering the upcoming election, the High Court directed the Sessions Court to resolve the petition by April 15. The matter was accordingly concluded today.

Abandoned silver umbrella worth over Rs 5.3 lakh found at Vasco Rly Station

Team Herald

VASCO: An abandoned bag containing a valuable silver umbrella worth Rs 5.3 lakh was discovered at the Vasco Railway Station on Monday evening.

According to the police, at around 5.30 pm, during routine patrolling at the station, the personnel from the Vasco Railway Police Station and Railway Protection Force (RPF) noticed an unattended bag wrapped in a bedsheet.

When checked, a white metal object that appeared to be made of

silver was found in the bag. To ascertain its authenticity and value, Railway and police officials sought assistance from a jeweller.

The jeweller, upon examination, confirmed the item to be a silver "Chattrra" (traditional umbrella) of 87.50 purity.

The object weighed approximately 6.4 kilograms and was valued at around Rs 5,37,600.

A case has been registered and further investigation is in progress to trace the origin of the item and its rightful owner, the railway police informed.

NIT Goa hosts workshop on role of geosynthetics in road infra projects

Team Herald

PANJIM: The National Technical Textiles Mission, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - Central Road Research Institute (CRR) jointly organised a training programme on 'Applications of Geosynthetics in Road Infrastructure Projects' at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Goa.

The five-day training programme, being organised under the Skill Development Programme for the undergraduate students, was inaugurated by

Prof Manoranjan Parida, Director of CSIR-CRRI, at the NIT Goa campus on Monday. The programme will go on till April 18.

In his inaugural speech, Prof Parida outlined various projects undertaken by the CSIR-CRRI in the field of geotechnical engineering, particularly focusing on the use of geosynthetics materials. He emphasised the potential of utilising industrial and agricultural waste in the development of diverse geosynthetics, highlighting their role in enhancing the durability, sustainability, and cost-effectiveness of road infrastructure.

Prof Parida also talked about the

importance of such training programmes in equipping students with industry-relevant skills and preparing them to tackle real-world infrastructure challenges.

Director of NIT Goa, Prof O R Jaiswal, talked about the importance of the training programmes conducted by the CSIR-CRRI.

He said that the institution's vast expertise and experience would serve as significant milestones in shaping the careers of NIT Goa students and preparing them to be industry-ready.

Prof Jaiswal also talked about the essentials of effective waste management.

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BHOMA'S MSG TO GAUDE: SHOW US HIGHWAY PLAN

"According to our understanding, three plans are required to be submitted for approval for any expansion project. Our Minister should show where the two other plans are."

Another resident, Putu Gaude, highlighted that survey number 6 - already acquired for the highway - includes 65 houses and a shrine. "Land belonging to the Sateri Temple has also been marked. If the government is serious, let them come to the village, show us the plan on the ground, and clarify whether this is a flyover or a widening project," he said. "We want a bypass to protect our village. Losing our homes is not development - we gain nothing."

COCAINE WORTH ₹43 CR SEIZED IN GOA'S BIGGEST DRUG BUST EVER

The investigation is being led by PI Laxi G Amonkar under the supervision of DYSP Crime Branch Rajesh Kumar.

SP Gupta noted that so far this year, the Crime Branch has registered eight cases, arrested 12 individuals, and seized 19.23 kg of drugs valued at Rs 55 crore.

KONKANI STAGE BIDS FAREWELL TO TIATR VETERAN LIGORIO FERNANDES

Over the decades, Ligorio carved out a place for himself as one of the most respected playwrights and directors of his time.

His tiatrs - Krimidor, Fottkirir Axea, Ekach Karonnak Lagon, Hanv Nhoim Tem, Noxibantlem, Judas, Papi, and Julius Caesar, among others - were known for their layered storytelling and strong moral undertones. In his khell-tiatrs too, like Jivea Devacho Put, Jezu Sorvonnddar, Jezu-Vatt, Sot ani Jivit, and Jezuchea Pavlamni Cholun-ia, Ligorio often explored themes of redemption, faith, and the human condition.

Beyond the stage, he also contributed to the Konkani musical tradition, releasing several cassettes and CDs, including the spiritually reflective Mhojea Patkak Sojea. Those who followed his work say his strength lay in the sincerity with which he tackled themes close to Goan life - faith, betrayal, conscience, and redemption - bringing both nuance and conviction to the Konkani stage.

President of the Tiatr Academy of Goa, Anthony Barbosa, described his passing as a major loss. "Ligorio was more than just a writer or director - he was a storyteller with purpose. His influence on young-

er generations of tiatrists will be felt for years," he said.

Ligorio Fernandes leaves behind a legacy not just of scripts and songs, but of ideas, values, and a deep love for the Konkani language and its theatre. His voice may be gone from the stage, but the stories he brought to life will echo for a long time.

NATIONAL HERALD CASE: ED CHARGESHEETS SONIA, RAHUL

"Let the complaint be checked and registered. The Ahlmad (court staff) shall ensure that the entire file/documents are properly paginated. The ED is directed to file a soft copy of the complaint and documents in readable/OCR format by the next date," the judge said.

The special court dealing with the cases of lawmakers noted the submission of the ED, which would be moving an application before the district judge for the transfer of the case related to the predicate offence for alleged cheating, criminal conspiracy and other offences, based on which the ED had started its investigation in the present matter, from another court to Judge Gogne's court.

The predicate offence is required to be tried by the same court which takes cognisance of the offence under Section 3 PMLA, the judge said, and Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi were members of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha respectively.

"Essentially, the two offences viz the predicate offence and the PMLA offence are required to be tried by the same court," the judge said.

Since the allegations in the present complaint were arising from the predicate offence, the file in the predicate offence were required to be called for perusal, the court added.

"However, the power of assignment or transfer of a matter is not vested with this court and is rather the prerogative of the Principal District & Sessions Judge, Rouse Avenue Courts Complex, New Delhi," the court pointed out.

The Enforcement Directorate Saturday said it has served notices to take possession of immovable assets worth Rs 661 crore that it had attached as part of a money laundering probe linked to Congress-controlled National Herald newspaper and the Associated Journals Limited (AJL).

The ED investigation began in 2021 after a metropolitan magistrate in Patiala House courts in Delhi took cognisance of a private complaint filed by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy on June 26, 2014.

The complaint, the ED said, highlighted a "criminal conspiracy" by several prominent political figures, including the first family of the Congress party led by Sonia, her MP son Rahul, late Congress leaders

Motilal Vora and Oscar Fernandes aside from Dubey, Pitroda and a private company Young Indian for their alleged involvement in money laundering in relation to the fraudulent takeover of properties valued over Rs 2,000 crore belonging to the Associated Journals Limited (AJL).

"The legal proceedings against the accused have faced challenges but have been upheld by both the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court of India, allowing the investigation to proceed," the ED said.

AJL is the publisher of the National Herald news platform (newspaper and web portal), owned by Young Indian Private Limited.

Congress leaders Sonia and Rahul are majority shareholders of Young Indian with 38% shares held by each one of them. They were questioned for hours by the ED in this case a few years ago.

The ED claimed its investigation has 'conclusively' found that Young Indian, a private company 'beneficially owned' by Sonia and Rahul, 'acquired' AJL properties worth Rs 2,000 crore for a mere Rs 50 lakh, significantly undervaluing its worth.

"Young Indian and AJL properties were used for generation of further proceeds of crime in the form of bogus donations to the tune of Rs 18 crore, bogus advance rent to the tune of Rs 38 crore and bogus advertisements of Rs 29 crore," the ED has alleged.

POLITICS OF VENDETTA, SAYS CONG

A mere not-for-profit company was created to manage the National Herald's affairs where no dividends can be paid, no commercial transactions take place. The mere creation of that company with Sonia Gandhi and other members of the Gandhi family or the late Motilal Vora has been treated as an act of money laundering, he alleged.

"Now, there is nothing more except a chargesheet filed in a fake and non-existent case. Anyway, this will be contested fully in all aspects. Earlier, all statements had been recorded in this regard by the persons, including former Congress president Sonia Gandhi," the Congress leader said.

"I think the government, by such matters, is only exposing itself and its campaign of political vendetta because there is absolutely nothing in this case in the legal sense," he added. Another Congress leader, Manickam Tagore, said the chargesheet was a clear case of political vendetta and noted the National Herald as the pride of the Congress.

"Our Leader of Opposition (in the Lok Sabha) Rahul Gandhi is fighting against this government and the Modi-Shah misrule. Because of that, they are trying to silence him through this false case. We will fight it. To silence him, they want to stop Rahul Gandhi's fight for OBCs (Other Backward Classes), SCs (Scheduled Castes), STs (Scheduled Tribes) and minorities and all leaders of the Congress will fight with Rahul Gandhi against this," Tagore said.

SC CRITICISES ALLAHABAD HC FOR BLAMING VICTIM IN RAPE CASE

The top court had said some of the observations made in the order reflected total 'insensitivity' and "inhuman approach".

It took suo motu cognisance of the matter after it was brought to the notice of Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna.

The high court's March 17 order held that the attempt to rape offence was not made out against the accused and they were liable to be summoned for the lesser offence of assault or use of criminal force to woman with intent to disrobe her.

The high court's order had come on a petition by the accused challenging the order of a special judge in Kasganj through which they were summoned for the alleged offence under Section 376 (rape) of IPC among other sections.

In the other case, the high court passed an order granting bail to an accused and said, "Having heard counsel for the parties and examined the matter in its entirety, I find that it is not in dispute that victim and applicant both are major. Victim is student of MA, hence she was competent enough to understand the morality and significance of her act as disclosed by her in the FIR."

The court said even after accepting 'as true' the allegations of the survivor, it could be said that she "herself invited trouble and was also responsible for the same".

TRUMP THREATENS TO STRIP HARVARD OF TAX-EXEMPT STATUS

The freeze was in retaliation for the top university's defiance of the administration's push to bring campuses to heel.

Tax-exempt status is "totally contingent on acting in the PUBLIC INTEREST," he added in the post on his Truth Social network.

In a letter to students and faculty, Harvard president Alan Garber had vowed to defy the government, insisting that the school would not "negotiate over its independence or its constitutional rights."

Trump's Joint Task Force to Combat Anti-Semitism responded Monday with a statement announcing the \$2.2 billion hold in multi-year grants, plus a freeze on \$60 million in government contracts.