## shorttakes

#### **UNKNOWN MALE FOUND DEAD BEHIND MARGAO RAILWAY STATION**

MARGAO: An unknown male, aged between 35-40 years, was found dead behind the Railway Station in Margao. The identity of the deceased is yet to be established, and the body has been sent to the South Goa District Hospital for a post-mortem examination. The police were alerted after receiving a call from the Casualty Police at South District Hospital, Margao, informing them of the discovery of the body. Following the notification, Margao Police visited the site to conduct an inquiry. The body has been preserved at the South Goa District Hospital for identification and further medico-legal formalities. PSI Shubham Gaunkar of the Margao Town Police Station is leading the investigation.

#### ARLEM RAIA TRIO GRANTED CONDITIONAL BAIL IN ASSAULT CASE

MARGAO: Pravin Rathod, Arjun Rathod, and Harishchandra Rathod, all residents of Arlem Raia, have been granted conditional bail by the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Margao, following their arrest by the Maina-Curtorim Police in connection with the assault on Ganesh Lamani, who sustained grievous head injuries.

The court ordered their release upon the furnishing of a bail bond of Rs 20,000 each, along with a surety of the

LPSI Veronica Coutinho has registered an offence against the three accused under BNS 2023. Following their appearance before the JMFC Margao, they were remanded to four days of custody.

According to police reports, Devdas Lamani of Arlem Raia filed a complaint stating that the accused, acting with common intention, assaulted his brother Ganesh with a pipe and iron rod, inflicting severe head injuries. When Devdas Lamani intervened, he was also assaulted with slaps, punches, a pipe, and an iron rod on his hand, leg, and stomach, resulting in minor injuries. The dispute reportedly stems from a property matter.

#### PIPELINE BURST AT DABOLIM WASTES THOUSANDS OF LITRES OF WATER

VASCO: Thousands of litres of drinking water were wasted after a major water pipeline burst at Dabolim on Thursday. The incident occurred when a contractor, engaged in road widening work near the highway flyover, reportedly damaged the pipeline. The rupture not only led to a disruption in water supply to the surrounding areas but also caused traffic congestion in the vicinity. The Public Works Department (PWD) blamed the contractor for negligence, stating that, despite repeated warnings, safety norms around utility lines were not adhered to. The water supply was restored after the damaged section of the pipeline was repaired. Authorities have warned that strict action will be taken if such lapses are repeated in future.

#### FRESH BLAZE HITS INDIA'S FIRST AUTOMATED FARM IRRIGATION PROJECT IN SONSHI

BICHOLIM: Goa's pioneering automated irrigation project at Sonshi, Surla chain, designed to supply water from a mine trench, has once again fallen victim to suspected arson, as its pipeline was set on fire for the second time. The incident marks yet another setback for the month-old project, which has already faced repeated disruptions due to suspected acts of sabotage. The fire not only damaged the pipeline but also spread to the surrounding forest, raising environmental concerns and causing alarm among the local farming community.

Local farmer Vishnu Natekar condemned the incident and called for a thorough government investigation. "There needs to be an inquiry into whether this fire was accidental or deliberate. The culprits must be identified and punished," he said, adding that the fire in the nearby forest area points to possible foul play. The recurring vandalism has already caused delays in the project, seen as a key step towards modernising irrigation for local agriculture. Farmers are now urging authorities to act swiftly to safeguard the infrastructure and ensure the project's timely comple-

### **DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES HONOURED WITH NATIONAL AWARD**



PANJIM: Nitin V Raiker, Director of the Directorate of Fire and Emergency Services, has been awarded the Director General Fire Service, Civil Defence and Home Guard Bronze Disc and Commendation Certificate by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The award was conferred during Fire Service Week 2025 in recognition of

his exceptional leadership, unwaver-ing commitment, and distinguished service. Raiker began his career in the Directorate on January 3, 1991 as an Assistant Station Fire Officer. He was promoted to Station Fire Officer on 24 December 1998, and further rose to Assistant Divisional Officer on August 11, 2010. In 2014, he was appointed Deputy Director (Fire Services) and assumed the post of Director on November 15, 2021. He has completed 34 years of dedicated service.

He has completed several key training programmes, including the Sub-Officers Course (1994), the Station Officer and Instructor Course (2003), which he passed with Honours, and the Divisional Officers Course (2006), in which he secured a Distinction and was awarded a Gold Medal. Among his accolades, he received the Chief Minister's Fire Service Medal in 2008 and the President's Fire Service Medal on Independence Day, 15 August 2023. Raiker is a Fellow Member of the Institution of Fire Engineers, London, having passed its Membership Examination in 2010. He also undertook specialised training at the Fire Service College in Moreton-in-Marsh, UK, completing courses in Training of Trainers, Urban Search and Rescue Operations, and Medical First Response. He played an active role in the 2001 Gujarat earthquake rescue efforts and received certificates of appreciation from both the Government of Gujarat and the Indian Red Cross Society.

## pwer shutdown

MARGAO: On April 19, at Babay Transformer, Margao, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Mahalaxmi Electrical, Vijaylaxmi Electrical, AIM Salcete high school, Shree Laxmi light house, Bharat sales, Lazinha apartment, Ana Maria apartment, Krishna Metal, opposite DCB bank, opposite C. P. Bluechip Co-op society and surrounding areas.

CORTALIM: On April 19, at Panchabhat DTC, from 8 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are Panchabhat, Kargil and Combhat. **PONDA**: On April 19, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Sapana Town, Prabhunagar and near LIC office Khadpabhandh and surrounding area.

CORTALIM: On April 20, 2025 at Eclate Old DTC, from 8 am to 3 pm. Affected area is Eclate and surrounding.

# Ponda nullah set for revamp

## New steel nets to prevent garbage dumping

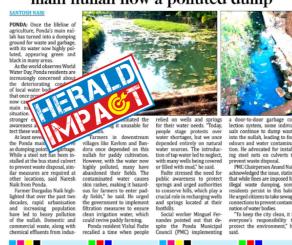
**Team Herald** 

PONDA: 'Acche Din' may finally be in sight for Ponda's main nullah, as the Water Resources Department (WRD), in collaboration with the Ponda Municipal Council (PMC) and Ponda MLA and Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik, has taken the initiative to instal steel nets on seven culverts to prevent the dumping of garbage. The foundation stone for the project was laid.

The initiative follows **0** Heraldo's report on World Water Day, March 23, which highlighted the severe pollution of Ponda's lifeline. The report brought to light how the nullah had turned into a dumping ground and urged the installation of steel nets at culverts, a suggestion echoed by concerned locals.

In response to the report gutters that ultimately flow

Once a lifeline for agriculture, Ponda's main nullah now a polluted dump



and public outcry, the PMC took swift action last week by issuing notices to 88 residential buildings, including apartment complexes, for discharging sewage into

into the main nullah. Speaking at the foundation stone laying function held today (17 April) at Khadpaband Culvert, Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik acknowledged the sorry state of the nullah. "It has been noticed that the nullah has become a dumping ground," he said, adding that WRD would instal nets on all six culverts to prevent waste disposal.

Citing a common practice, he remarked, "It is often noticed that a couple or husband, while passing on a bike or in a car, stops on a culvert and the wife dumps garbage into the nullah." He recalled that the nullah was once used for bathing, washing clothes, and agricultural purposes.

He also noted that the PMC has issued notices for the release of domestic waste into the nullah. "When PMC collects doorto-door garbage and has even set up a 15 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), people should make an effort to keep the city clean," he said.

urged authorities to con-

duct regular inspections

and maintenance of water

supply lines to prevent re-

curring inconvenience.

## Short-circuit causes fire in Sangolda Villa, losses estimated at Rs 9 lakh

CALANGUTE: A fire, allegedly caused by a short-circuit, broke out in a villa at Sangolda near Hotel Gautam, causing extensive damage estimated at Rs 9 lakh. According to officials, a sofa set, teakwood furniture, false ceiling, and other household items were destroyed in the blaze. The Porvorim Fire Brigade responded promptly to a distress call received at 5.40 pm and managed to bring the fire under control, preventing further damage. Officials said that property worth approximately Rs 30 lakh was saved due to the swift response.



<u>भारतीय सेना / INDIAN ARMY</u> पशु चिकित्सा कोर में अल्प सेवा कमीशन SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION IN REMOUNT VETERINARY CORPS

भारतीय सेना के पश् चिकित्सा कोर में अल्प सेवा कमीशन हेत् पुरुष/ महिला पशु चिकित्सा स्नातकों से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त होने की अंतिम तिथि 26 मई 2025 है ।

विस्तत नोटिफिकेशन वेबसाईट www.joinindianarmy.nic.in पर

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Short Service Commission in Remount Veterinary Corps of the INDIAN ARMY. Last date of submission of application form is 26 May 2025.

<u>Detailed Notification</u>. Available on <u>www.joinindianarmy.nic.in</u>. Queries if any be sought from Dte Gen RVS, QMG Branch, IHQ of MoD (Army), West Block-3, RK Puram, New Delhi-110066 in writing

OR through E-mail ID: persvet-1779@nic.in रोना में भर्ती पूर्णतया पारदर्शी और मुक्त है। दलालों से सावधान रहें। विस्तृत नोटिफिकेशन और जानकारी के लिए, कृपया www.joinindianarmy.nic.in पर जाएं।

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CBC10601/11/0010/2526

# Usgao residents raise alarm over pipeline leak, urge swift repairs

residents of Usgao have flow. Locals have now



**Team Herald** 

PONDA: Residents of Usgao have called for urgent repairs to a leaking water pipeline near the Meditembi Culvert, which has been spilling water for the past eight days and causing a water crisis in the Tiral Usgao area.

Locals recalled that they had faced a similar crisis last month, during which Public Works Department (PWD) officials were taken to task. Faults were identified and repaired at the time, but a fresh leak has now surfaced, leading to further wastage of water and disruption in supply.

With temperatures soaring during the peak summer season, residents are demanding immediate intervention. "It is the height of summer and the PWD should repair the line without delay and stop the wastage of water," a local resident said.

According to residents, a pit was dug four days ago to carry out repairs, but the leakage remains unaddressed. Upon inquiry, PWD officials assured them

## Goa plans to develop urban forests to tackle climate change

**Team Herald** 

PANJIM: In a bid to combat climate change and rising temperatures, the Goa government has unveiled plans to create urban forests across municipal areas. The initiative aims to establish green spaces that act as "green lungs" by using natural resources like wet waste and rainwater.

The transformation will include the application of the Japanese Miyawaki technique at the Sonsodo site, while vertical gardens will be introduced in select zones.

TCP and Forest Minister Vishwajit Rane stated that Mumbai-based urban design firm StudioPOD will assist the government in designing these green spaces.

The project will be jointly overseen by the Urban Development and Forest Departments. Municipal leaders have expressed their support for the initiative, with periodic reviews to track progress.

Minister Rane recently chaired a meeting with officials from various departments to discuss and plan the development of these urban forests.



that labourers would be

deployed to carry out the

work, yet the issue persists.

It may be recalled that

MINISTRY OF FINANCE



previously suffered wa-

ter shortages due to simi-

lar faults in the pipelines,

which obstructed water



# **Quarterly Return Monthly Payment (QRMP)**

A step towards ease of doing business for small taxpayers having Aggregate Annual Turnover up to ₹ 5 Crore during the F.Y. 2024-25

The eligible taxpayers who wish to avail the QRMP scheme may opt in by performing the following steps on the GST portal (www.gst.gov.in)

> Log in to the Taxpayers' Interface

Go to Services > Returns > Opt-in for quarterly return option

## Taxpayers already availing QRMP Scheme are not required to reapply for the Scheme

## **Benefits**

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Easily opt in and opt out of the Scheme

Enjoy the convenience of a Flexible Invoice **Furnishing** Facility (IFF)

Self Assessment of ITC & Tax once every Quarter

Last date to opt for **QRMP Scheme from** Q1 of F.Y. 2025-26 is



30th April, 2025

Eligible registered person can opt in for any quarter from first day of second month of preceding guarter to the last day of the first month of the guarter.

> For more details, please refer to Notification No. 81 to 85/2020-Central Tax & Circular No. 143/13/2020-GST all dated 10.11.2020

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