

# Kala Rakhonn Mandd vows to launch 'Supari Andolan' over Kala Academy fiasco

Chorus to sack minister grows louder, call upon Goans to support their stand

Team Herald

PANJIM: The cultural collective Kala Rakhonn Mandd on Tuesday renewed its demand for the removal of Art and Culture Minister Govind Gaude from the State cabinet, accusing him of mismanaging the affairs of the Kala Academy and insulting artists. The group announced its upcoming protest, termed the 'Supari Andolan', in response to what it describes as continued negligence and disrespect towards Goa's cultural community.

Speaking to reporters at the Kala Academy, Convenor Devidas Amonkar said, "We condemn the statement made by the minister which insulted an artiste like Sharad Ponshe. Even after making the condemnable statement, he dares to say that

**“We condemn the statement made by the minister which insulted an artiste like Sharad Ponshe. Even after making the condemnable statement, he dares to say that everything is in order.”**  
— Devidas Amonkar, Convenor

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— Sandesh Prabhudesai, senior journalist



Task Force member Francis Coelho questioned

the relevance of the panel set up to oversee the Kala Academy's affairs. "The

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## Inter-school tiatr contest

PANJIM: The Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAG) has announced the 3rd All-Goa Inter-School Tiatr Competition, under its scheme for the promotion of tiatr in schools. TAG is encouraging schools across Goa to participate in the competition by staging tiatrs in the traditional format.

A total of ten institutions will be selected to receive financial support for staging their tiatrs. Detailed rules and application forms will be made available from May 5, at the TAG office, located on the 2nd Floor, Block A, Campal Trade Centre, Campal-Panjim.

The last date to submit applications is June 6, during office hours.

Each participating school must submit a typed script and the lyrics of the songs (kantaram) at least three days prior to the scheduled date of their performance.

Senior journalist Sandesh Prabhudesai revealed that the group had initially planned to hold their protest on Tiatr Day, but postponed it due to the demise of Pope Francis. "However, we will hold our agitation soon and it will be a reply to the government. The agitation will be known as Supari Andolan," he stated.

He also questioned the large expenditure on the Kala Academy's renovation. "Already Rs 60-70 crore has been spent on renovation. Now what is the plan? Do they want to destroy whatever is left? It is now the people's agitation," he added.

The group affirmed that the protest would go ahead shortly and called upon the people of Goa to support their stand for accountability and cultural integrity.

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Interested candidates may scan the QR to submit their details online OR email jobs@sharadamandirschool.edu.in OR hand deliver applications to the school.

Deadline for submissions: 02nd May 2025

The Administrator, Sharada Mandir School

## Goa's tallest bldg, Prashasan Stambh, to rise in Chimbel

Team Herald

PANJIM: The proposed Prashasan Stambh, poised to become Goa's tallest building, will now be constructed in Chimbel, following the relocation of the project from its earlier proposed sites in Panjim and Porvorim.

The State Cabinet has sanctioned the transfer of 25,000 square metres of land in Chimbel from the IT Department to the General Administration Department for the project. The landmark structure is planned to stand 75 metres tall, span 15 floors, and is estimated to cost over Rs 300 crore.

Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant, addressing the media, further announced that an additional 6,250 square metres of land within the same Chimbel survey area—also currently under the IT Department—will be handed over to the Tourism Department for the development of tourism-related amenities.

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**अधिकारी प्रविष्टि**

तकनीकी स्नातक कोर्स (टी जी सी-142) (जनवरी 2026 में निर्धारित) के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।

आवेदन 30 अप्रैल 2025 से 29 मई 2025 तक खुले रहेंगे।

**OFFICER ENTRY**

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Applications open from 30 Apr 2025 to 29 May 2025.

नोट :

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## shorttakes

### VASCO RESIDENT DROWNS DURING PICNIC AT DUDHSAGAR RIVER

PONDA: Anand Belegal, a 32-year-old resident of Shantinagar, Vasco, drowned during a picnic at the Dudhsagar river in Davkon, Dharbandora. According to Collem police, Belegal had arrived at the site around 5.30 pm yesterday with three friends. While his friends were bathing, he reportedly went missing. A search operation was immediately launched, and a missing person report was filed. His body was recovered from the river this morning. The deceased was sent for post-mortem examination at South Goa District Hospital (SGDH), Margao, where a police surgeon confirmed the cause of death as "asphyxia as a result of drowning in water."

### LPG CYLINDER BLAST GUTS HUT; MOTHER, DAUGHTER HOMELESS

SANGUEM: A hut was completely gutted in a fire triggered by an LPG cylinder blast late last night at Velipwada, Bhatim in Sanguem. The hut owner, Shrimati Gaonkar, and her young daughter had a narrow escape as they were at a neighbour's house at the time of the incident. The blaze destroyed all household items, including a cupboard, cash, and little gold jewellery which they possessed. The fire has left them homeless.

### FIRE BREAKS OUT IN GANDHI MARKET SHOP; NO INJURIES REPORTED

MARGAO: A fire broke out in a shop near Madina Hotel at Gandhi Market, Margao, causing damage but fortunately resulting in no injuries. The incident occurred two days ago and was attended by firefighters from the Margao Fire Station. According to Station Fire Officer (SFO) Gil Souza, the team was alerted after passers-by noticed smoke and attempted to control the fire themselves before alerting emergency services. One fire tender, led by SFO Gil Souza, was deployed, and it took over an hour to bring the blaze under control. Leading Firefighter P P Dessai conducted the operation. While the extent of the damage is yet to be assessed, there were no casualties. The cause of the fire remains unknown. SFO Souza stated that the department will write to the Electricity Department to determine the origin of the blaze. In a separate incident, a mango tree fell onto a footpath in Benaolim. Sub-Officer A K Velip and a team of firefighters responded and successfully cleared the area.

### SENIOR CITIZEN FOUND DEAD AT RESIDENCE IN DAVORLIM

MARGAO: Francisco Martinho Pereira, 61, of Chadwaddo, Davorlim, who held a Portuguese national passport, passed away at his residence. Maina-Curtorim Police stated that they were informed after Pereira was brought dead to SGDH, Margao, by a 108 ambulance. Enquiries revealed that the deceased, who was residing with his mother, had been suffering from a heart condition. The body has been preserved at the SGDH morgue for medico-legal formalities.

### RASH DRIVING AT CUNCOLIM LEAVES ONE SERIOUSLY INJURED

MARGAO: Cuncolim Police have registered a case against Thomas Dourado of Palolem, Canacona, for driving in a rash and negligent manner near Valley View Restaurant, Pairaband, Cuncolim. According to the complaint filed by Ranjvir Gaonkar of Cuncolim Police Station, Dourado, while driving from Margao towards Canacona, veered into the opposite lane and collided head-on with an oncoming car. The car driver, Salman Shaikh of Davorlim, Margao, sustained grievous injuries to both legs and is currently undergoing treatment at GMC, Bambolim.

### PONDA DUO INJURED IN COLLISION NEAR FATORDA POLICE STATION

MARGAO: Two individuals from Ponda sustained injuries in a road accident involving a scooter and a car near the Fatorda Police Station on April 21. Fatorda Police have registered an offence under Sections 281 and 125(b) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023, following a complaint lodged by Brijesh Velip of Fatorda Police Station. According to the complaint, the incident occurred at approximately 10.20 am when Gaurang Naik of Ponda, riding his scooter in a rash and negligent manner without due caution, collided with a stationary car. The car had been parked on the left side of the road facing Arlem, near the Fatorda Police Station, after proceeding from Bolshe Circle. Due to the impact, both the rider, Gaurang Naik, and the pillion rider, Uday Naik—also from Ponda—fell onto the tar road. Uday Naik sustained grievous injuries in the accident.