

shorttakes

GUIRIM YOUTH CAUGHT WITH HYDROPONIC WEED WORTH RS 18 LAKH IN MAPUSA

MAPUSA: A 22-year-old youth from Guirim has been arrested by Mapusa Police for allegedly possessing hydroponic cannabis worth around Rs 18 lakh. The arrest took place during a narcotics raid conducted on Saturday night behind the new KTC bus stand in Mapusa. The accused, identified as Leonardo Deva, a resident of Arradi, Guirim in Bardez, was caught red-handed in possession of 180 grams of suspected hydroponic ganja. Police also seized Rs 200 in cash during the panchanama. An FIR has been registered in the matter, and PSI Mangesh Palni of Mapusa Police Station is leading the investigation.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE BODY FOUND FLOATING IN SADOLXEM RIVER

MARGAO: Canacona Police have launched an investigation after the body of an unidentified male was found floating in a river at Muttal, Sadolxem. According to the police, the team rushed to the spot after receiving a phone call from a Robot staff member reporting that a male body was seen in the river. Upon arrival, the police found fire brigade staff already present at the location. During preliminary enquiries with fire personnel and local residents, it was revealed that the body had been seen drifting in the water at Sadolxem. The fire staff retrieved the body and brought it to the riverbank. Despite efforts, the individual was unresponsive and was transported by ambulance to CHC Canacona, where doctors declared him brought dead. A scene panchanama was conducted and the body has been preserved at South Goa District Hospital, Margao, for identification and further medico-legal formalities. PSI Vishal Velip of Canacona Police Station is investigating the case.

YOUTH CRITICALLY INJURED IN HEAD-ON COLLISION ON BAINA FLYOVER

VASCO: A 26-year-old youth was seriously injured in a head-on collision between a two-wheeler and a car on the Baina flyover connecting Varunapuri to Sada, on Sunday evening. The police gave the name of the injured as Ameer Shveer, a resident of Pixem-Dongrim, Vasco. The accident on the flyover caused major traffic disruption for some time till the time ill-fated vehicles were removed police said. According to police, the two-wheeler rider collided against an oncoming car on the flyover and was thrown off and sustained severe injuries. He was immediately rushed to the Sub-District Hospital, Chicalim for treatment and was later shifted to Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim as his condition was critical, police said. On receiving the information, the Mormugao Police rushed to the accident spot and removed the vehicles and cleared the road for traffic movement. Further investigations are in progress, police said.

MAN ARRESTED FOR KIDNAPPING MINOR FROM CALANGUTE

PANJIM: Calangute Police have arrested Bhagesh Subhas Sindhe, a resident of Mapusa, for allegedly kidnapping a minor girl from here. The girl's uncle lodged a complaint stating that she was abducted on May 3 between 6 pm and 10 pm by an unknown person from his lawful custody. Police have registered an offence under Section 137(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and Section 8 of the Goa Children's Act, 2003. Further investigation is underway.

PASSENGERS STRANDED AS AIR INDIA FLIGHTS TO MOPA FACE LONG DELAYS

PANJIM: Passengers on two Air India flights faced major inconvenience on Sunday due to prolonged delays. An Air India flight from Indore to Mopa airport was delayed for several hours, with around 180 passengers complaining of confusion over conflicting departure times. An Air India Express flight from Goa to Delhi was also delayed by over eight hours. While the airline cited technical issues, passengers alleged poor communication, lack of updates, and general mismanagement, calling the ordeal frustrating and harassing.

WOMAN ARRESTED FOR RS 4 LAKH GOLD THEFT FROM QUEPEM JEWELLERY STORE

MARGAO: Quepem Police have arrested Jaya Badgujar, one of three women accused of stealing gold worth Rs 4 lakh from Bhavani Jewellery shop in the last week of March. According to police, the women posed as customers interested in purchasing gold chains and rings. While pretending to browse, they discreetly concealed the items in their pockets and left the premises undetected. The theft was captured on CCTV footage, which led to the filing of a police complaint and a subsequent investigation. Police have registered a case under the relevant section of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and further investigation is currently underway.

MAN BOOKED FOR TRESPASS AND THREATS OVER FAMILY DISPUTE

PONDA: Ponda Police have registered an offence of trespass following a complaint from Utkarsh Naik, a resident of Quela-Ponda. The accused, Rupesh Uday Pokle from Bandora, Ponda, allegedly conspired with other unidentified persons to harass the complainant and her family. Pokle reportedly trespassed into the courtyard of the complainant's residence, ignited firecrackers, verbally abused and threatened both the complainant and her minor daughter. The incident is said to stem from a family dispute. Police have initiated further investigation.

SCRAP MATERIAL STOLEN FROM NIT GOA HOSTEL CAMPUS

PONDA: Police have registered a theft case following a complaint lodged by Shashidhar Kudari, Registrar of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Goa. According to the complaint, between January 2024 and 21 April 2025, unknown individuals unlawfully entered the students' hostel premises at the Farmagudi Campus of NIT Goa and stole plumbing items, electrical fittings, and electrical wiring (scrap materials). An investigation is underway to identify and apprehend those responsible.

COLLEM MAN DIES AFTER COLLAPSING WHILE GRAZING CATTLE

MARGAO: Thako Rekdom of Collem, Dharbandora, died after collapsing while grazing cattle at Souzamol-Collem. According to police, the incident occurred on April 27. The deceased had gone to the forest for cattle grazing when he suddenly collapsed. He was transported by 108 Ambulance to GMC Bambolim, where he died during treatment. The police certified the cause of death as "injuries to head, cervical vertebral column and their underlying structures as a result of blunt force impact by object or surface." Viscera and other material exhibits have been preserved for toxicological and serological analysis. The body has been handed over to the family for final rites. Further investigation is in progress.

# Drowning tragedies: Watery graves for two minor girls in South Goa

## Separate incidents in Quepem and Canacona highlight growing concerns over child safety near water bodies

Team Herald

MARGAO: In two heart-wrenching incidents reported from South Goa, two young girls - aged 10 and 3 - lost their lives due to drowning, one in a canal at Sirvoi, Quepem and the other in a resort swimming pool at Agonda, Canacona. The unrelated tragedies have sparked renewed calls for better safety measures around water bodies, particularly during family outings and social events.

In the first incident late Sunday evening, Shahad Shaik, a 10-year-old school girl from Padamol, Sirvoi in Quepem, drowned in a canal after she reportedly went to wash her feet in the water during a family wedding.

According to the Quepem Police, her body was recovered around 10 pm. She was the youngest of three children and had accompanied her mother to a wedding at a house lo-

cated adjacent to the canal. Police said the girl had earlier told her mother she wanted to wash her feet in the canal and is believed to have reached the spot around 6 pm, after which she accidentally fell in and was swept away by the current.

Her absence was noticed around 7 pm, prompting a frantic search. "When the mother began looking for her missing daughter, she recalled that Shahad had said she wanted to go to the canal and wash her feet," said a police officer. Family members and local residents then began combing the area, but could not locate her.

At around 10 pm, her body was found floating approximately 300 metres away from the house. Locals removed the body from the water before police arrived.

The body was sent to South Goa District Hospital for post-mortem examination where the autopsy confirmed the cause of death as

"asphyxia as a result of drowning." Police recorded statements from the family and witnesses and ruled out foul play. The body was handed over to the family for final rites.

This case adds to a series of recent drowning incidents in Goa, raising concerns about child safety near open water bodies.

In a separate incident on the same day, a three-year-old girl, Fatima Imdad Afroz Saizy, from Jamis Nagar, Okhla, South Delhi, drowned in a swimming pool at a resort in Agonda, Canacona.

Police said they were informed by the duty doctor at Canacona Health Centre that the child was brought dead by her parents following a drowning incident at a resort.

According to the father, Imdad Afroz Saizy, the family had gone to the resort for lunch, and during the meal, Fatima wandered off without the parents noticing and accidentally fell into the swimming pool.

By the time the parents realised, the child had drowned.

They rushed her for medical assistance, but the duty doctor declared her brought dead.

Police conducted a scene of unnatural death panchanama, and the body was sent to the South Goa District Hospital, Margao, for a post-mortem. The Police Surgeon confirmed the cause of death as "asphyxia as a result of drowning in water." The body has been handed over to the family for final rites.

PSI Vishal Velip of Canacona Police Station is investigating the case.

The two incidents have cast a spotlight on the lack of safety infrastructure and vigilance around water bodies in Goa. With a rise in such tragedies, especially involving minors, calls for stricter safety protocols, signage, and monitoring around open canals and private swimming pools are growing louder.

# Thunderstorms, rain forecast for May 6-7 across State

## IMD warns of gusty winds and rainfall in both districts; temperatures to remain high

Team Herald

PANJIM: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Goa has forecast thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds and light to moderate rainfall across isolated areas in both North and South Goa districts on May 6 and 7.

According to the IMD, "Thunderstorm accompanied with winds gusting to 30-40 kmph is very likely at isolated places over North and South Goa districts on May 6 and 7. Light to moderate rainfall is likely at a few places over North Goa and South Goa districts of

the state."

The weather office also stated that maximum temperatures across the state are expected to remain around 35°C until May 11, while minimum temperatures will range between 27°C and 28°C during this period.

Meanwhile, Panjim recorded the highest maximum temperature of 36.1°C and the lowest minimum temperature of 25.8°C in the last 24-hour period ending at 6 pm on May 5.

Residents and tourists are advised to take necessary precautions in view of the weather conditions forecast by the IMD.

# Dumping of garbage, debris on Nuvem-Arlem upsets GOACAN

Team Herald

MARGAO: Civic watchdog GOACAN has called for urgent government intervention to tackle the persistent and hazardous dumping of waste along the Nuvem-Arlem bypass, which continues to be plagued by plastic, construction debris, and even medical syringes.

In a fresh move, GOACAN has written to key officials—including the South Goa District Collector, Managing Director of the Goa Waste Management Corporation, Chief Engineer of PWD, Deputy Director of Panchayats (South), Superintendent of Police (Traffic), Member Secretary of the Goa State Pollution

Control Board (GSPCB) and the Director of Health Services—seeking immediate action.

While the dumping issue along the bypass is not new and has been highlighted in the past, GOACAN has expressed alarm over the worsening conditions, pointing to a heavy stench believed to be from poultry waste and the presence of hazardous medical items like syringes. The group warned that the situation poses not only a serious public health risk but also a growing threat to road safety.

The issue has also been raised regularly by citizens, who have voiced concern over the lack of enforce-

ment and recurring health and safety hazards. The absence of streetlights along the bypass at night poses a risk to commuters, making it more difficult for motorists to spot the shoulder of the road, which is dangerous as one can fall into the adjacent fields—an incident that has happened before, especially when drivers miss the turn on this meandering bypass road.

Besides the dumped garbage being an eyesore, the foul conditions are also affecting local livelihoods. Farmers with fields on either side of the bypass and roadside vegetable vendors are forced to sit in the heat and bear the stench throughout the day.

# Cement mixture spill on Marcel road, a sticky issue for residents

Team Herald

PONDA: Residents of Marcel are concerned over spillage of cement concrete from huge vehicles carrying material to construction sites through the area. This spillage, particularly at sharp turns, is causing significant hardship to the local community.

Villagers state that the wet concrete makes the road slippery and poses a nightmare to bikers, pedestrians, and students who have reportedly fallen. Furthermore, when the spilled concrete dries, it leads to dust pollution and continues to be a potential cause of accidents.



The primary areas affected by this spillage are the sharp turns at Marcel and the Bethki junction. According to local shop owners, the trucks involved in transporting

ready-mix concrete belong to a company in Kundaim. It appears that the rotation of the mixer drum, especially on sharp turns, leads to the spillage of concrete or its constituent materials (aggregates, crushed stone, liquid particles, and sand) due to imbalance.

"We understand that the panchayat has previously addressed this issue with the company in the Kundaim Industrial Estate and now urge for a sustainable solution to prevent further concrete spillage, thereby mitigating dust pollution and the risk of accidents," said locals.

## HEAR MY PRAYER



A little child honours Our Lady of Milagres with oil offering on the feast day at the St Jerome's Church, Mapusa

## power shutdown

PONDA: On May 6, from 9 am to 2 pm at Sahakar Bhandar and surrounding areas.

CHANDOR: On May 6, from 8 am to 2 pm at Galli and Fatramoll.

PORVORIM: On May 6, from 9.30 am to 2 pm at Patel Estate, Rockfirst, L and T House, Tata Housing, Umer Sheikh, Football Ground, Hamza Masjid, Ramnagar and surrounding areas.

VASCO: On May 6, from 9 am to 2 pm. Areas affected are Chicalim Panchayat, Sai Service and surrounding areas.

CHINCHINIM: On May 6, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Areas affected are Gabriel garage, Health Centre, Palvem, Dandewado, Deusa, Chinchnim bazaar and Telephone exchange under VP Chinchinim.

CARAMBOLIM: On May 6, from 9.30 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Dinesh Nagar, Ella farm, Brahmapuri and Vicinity of Old Goa village.

MARDOL: On May 7, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected area are VP Ker, Vijayadurga Devasthan and Kunkolim (Mardol).

PONDA: On May 7, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Tisk and surrounding areas.

PORVORIM: On May 7, from 9.30 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Vision Solitair, Menezies Gym, TVS showroom, Anil D'Silva, Nexa Subnis Park, Resicom and surrounding areas.

CORTALIM: On May 7, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Sancoale, Baandaar, Sailant and surrounding areas.

CURTORIM: On May 7, from 9 am to 4 pm. Affected area are Ashwini.

# Rare blood group donation drive organised at Ponda Military Camp

Team Herald

PONDA: A rare blood group donation camp was successfully organised at the Military Camp in Ponda by HQ 2 Signal Training Centre, in collaboration with Sarthak Foundation and Victor Hospital. The initiative aimed to address the critical demand for rare blood groups and to promote life-saving medical support under the theme "When lives depend on rare blood, warriors answer."

Held at the Health and Wellness Centre within the Military Camp, the camp sought to raise awareness and educate potential donors on the vital role rare blood donations play in saving lives. A total of 40 individuals came forward to donate



blood, including 14 with the O+ blood group.

Among the donors were 24 Army personnel and 16 civilians, including two women. All donors were honoured with certificates of appreciation from Victor Hospital in recognition of their contribution to this crucial cause.

Former Member of Parliament and NRI Commissioner, Narendra Savoikar, attended the event as chief

guest and expressed his gratitude to the donors. He commended their willingness to step forward in support of a cause that holds life-saving significance. "I thank all the donors and acknowledge their contribution to the cause," he stated.

Highlighting the importance of blood donation, the organisers stressed that blood is essential for numerous medical procedures, including surger-

ies, cancer treatments, and emergency trauma care.

The event was directed by Brigadier Harsh Bhatia, Commandant of the 2 Signal Training Centre, along with Colonel Neeraj Nautiyal, Commanding Officer.

## APPOINTMENTS

### WANTED TEACHERS

- Konkani & Social Science  
CONTRACT BASIS FOR 14 DAYS LEAVE VACANCY
- ENGLISH & French (preferred)  
CONTRACT BASIS FOR 18 DAYS LEAVE VACANCY
- Science and Maths  
CONTRACT BASIS FOR 6 DAYS LEAVE VACANCY
- Sanskrit  
LECTURE BASIS

Should be B.A./B.Sc, B.Ed

Walk-in-interview on THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 25, 9:00am-12 noon with Testimonials & Application

People's HIGH SCHOOL  
Mala, Panaji call +91-832-2226562