

Hammer blows on Anjuna homes, but cops are silent

Locals claim property encroachment continued under Michael Lobo's watch despite two police complaints, vow to approach High Court

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

ANJUNA: Enraged residents claiming that private property was being destroyed and encroached on in the name of road widening in Anjuna lodged two police complaints on Thursday, but the cops stayed mute spectators as the work continued unabated.

O Herald reported on Tuesday that according to PWD and Anjuna Panchayat, no work order had been issued for the job.

Multiple Anjunks claimed that the police inaction was due to the involvement of two MLAs — their own Stollim legislator Delilah Lobo and her husband, Calangute MLA Michael Lobo — in the destruction. Some residents are now planning to approach the Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court to get themselves heard and seek justice.

The allegations against the Lobos gathered steam after a family living in the UK claimed that their gate and compound wall were demolished without their knowledge.



Anjuna Police are silent spectators as a cross is built without permission of owners of Survey No. 484

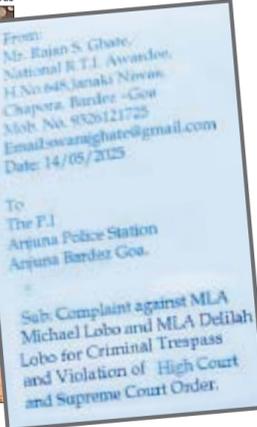
“What is this going on? How can you decide to do what you want on my land without informing us? Please stop the work now —Shalini Gomes to Michael Lobo, after ‘encroachment’ on her property on Survey No. 484

On Thursday, Shalini Gomes, who rushed to Anjuna from Gujarat after receiving alarming reports, found an old cross had been removed and a new one was reportedly being con-

“My elderly parents are devastated. No notice was given, not even to our relatives who live nearby. This is a clear breach of SC directives. We will fight back —Rosy Fernandes, whose home in Survey No. 1341/2 reportedly had the gate and wall demolished

structed on her property on Survey No. 484 — allegedly without consent from her or her family. Confronting Michael Lobo at the site, Gomes asked, “What is this going on? How can you de-

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES



Copy of the complaint to the Anjuna Police

Gomes later filed a complaint at the Anjuna Police Station.

A day earlier, National RTI Award winner Rajan Ghate submitted a formal complaint on behalf of octogenarian Jaganath Sawat, highlighting that private boundary walls were demolished without adhering to legal procedures.

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Timeline of assent to bills: Prez Murmu seeks SC opinion

PTI, NEW DELHI: Barely 48 hours after former CJI Sanjiv Khanna demitted office, President Droupadi Murmu has exercised powers under Article 143(1) used in rarity to know from the Supreme Court whether timelines could be imposed by judicial orders for exercise of discretion by President while dealing with the bills passed by State assemblies.

The presidential reference is notable not only for its timing — immediately following the appointment of a new Chief Justice — but also for its potential to redefine the balance of powers among the executive, legislature and judiciary. Legal experts view this as a rare but constitutionally sanctioned move to seek clarity on complex issues of federal governance and the separation of powers.

The Supreme Court's response to these questions will have far-reaching implications for the functioning of India's democratic institutions and the interpretation of constitutional provisions related to the legislative process.

Article 143 (1) of the Constitution deals with the power of President to consult the Supreme Court “if at any time it appears to the President that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question to that Court for consideration and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to

STALIN SLAMS CENTRE FOR USING PREZ REFERENCE ROUTE

PTI, CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday condemned the BJP-led Centre for using the Presidential reference route to seek the Supreme Court's opinion on deadlines for Governor over Bills, as outlined in a recent apex court judgment, and said it revealed the union government's “sinister intent”.

Stalin, president of the ruling DMK asked non-BJP States to join the legal struggle to defend the Constitution. Left parties strongly backed the chief minister and hit out at the Centre for its move.

In a post on ‘X’, Stalin said: “I strongly condemn the Union Government's Presidential reference, which attempts to subvert the Constitutional position already settled by the Supreme Court in the Tamil Nadu Governor's case and other precedents.”

He alleged that this attempt clearly exposed the fact that the Tamil Nadu Governor acted at the BJP's behest to undermine the people's mandate. This was nothing but a desperate attempt to weaken democratically elected State governments by placing them under the control of governors serving as agents of the union government, Stalin claimed.

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the President its opinion thereon”.

President's decision comes in light of the April 8 verdict of the apex court passed in a matter over the powers of Governor in dealing with bills questioned by the Tamil Nadu government.

The April 8 verdict for the first time prescribed President should decide on the bills reserved for her consideration by Governor

within three months from the date on which such reference is received.

In a five-page reference, President Murmu posed 14 questions to the Supreme Court and sought to know its opinion on powers of Governor, President under Article 200 and 201 in dealing with bills passed by the State legislature.

Article 200 deals with

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Pak Hindu woman named Balochistan's Asst Commissioner

PTI, KARACHI: Kashish Chaudhary, a 25-year-old Pakistani Hindu woman, has made history by becoming the first female from the minority community in Balochistan to be appointed as Assistant Commissioner in the restive province.

Kashish, who hails from the remote town of Noshki in district Chagai in the province, qualified Balochistan Public Service Commission (BSPSC) examination.

On Monday, Kashish, accompanied by her father Girdhari Lal, met Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti in Quetta and told him that she would work for the empowerment of women and minorities, and the overall development of the province.

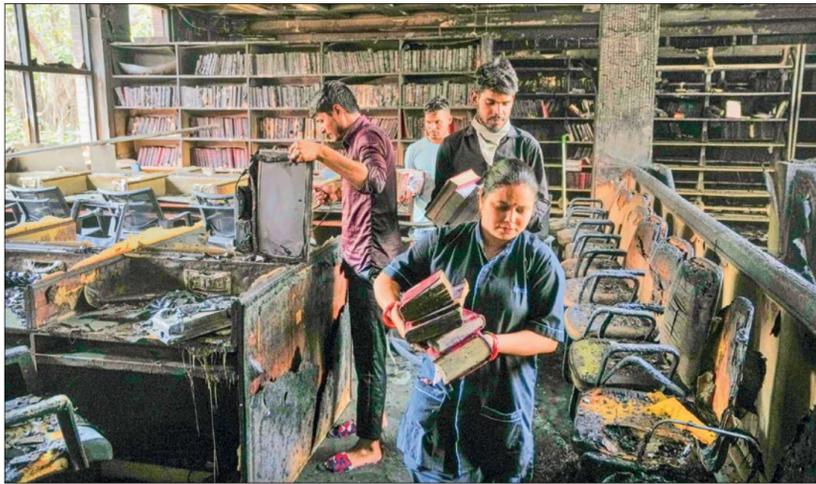
“It is a matter of great pride for me that my daughter has become an assistant commissioner due to her hard work and commitment,” Lal told the media.

Lal, a mid-level trader, said his daughter had always dreamed of studying and doing something for her women.

Chief Minister Bugti said, “It was a matter of pride for the nation when members of the minority communities got to key positions due to their hard work and effort.”

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PRESERVING KNOWLEDGE



Books being removed after a fire broke out in the library of Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, in northwest Delhi's Pitampura, Thursday

SC pulls up MP minister for Col Qureshi remarks

PTI, NEW DELHI: Every word uttered by a minister has to be with a sense of responsibility at a time the country is undergoing “such a situation”, the Supreme Court said on Thursday as it reprimanded Madhya Pradesh minister Vijay Shah who is facing an FIR for

his remarks targeting Col Sofiya Qureshi.

“What sort of statements are you making? You are a responsible minister of the government,” Chief Justice B R Gavai told Shah's counsel.

The bench, also comprising Jus-

stice Augustine George Masih, said the apex court would on Friday hear Shah's plea challenging the Madhya Pradesh High Court's May 14 order directing an FIR against him for the comments.

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Goa weather warning extended till May 18

Team Herald

PANJIM: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) Goa has extended its weather warning till May 18.

The forecast indicates a likelihood of thunderstorms accompanied by winds reaching speeds of 40-50 kmph in isolated areas across both North and South Goa districts.

Additionally, the IMD has predicted light to moderate rainfall during the evening hours over the next two days in both North and South Goa.

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India offered US a trade deal, ‘basically zero tariffs’: Trump New Delhi counters the US president's claim



CONG QUESTIONS PM'S 'SILENCE'

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Congress on Thursday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's “silence” on US President Donald Trump's remarks in Doha, where he claimed that India has agreed to “zero tariffs” on several American goods as against its “highest” tariffs, asking what linkage does it have with the stopping of “Operation Sindoor”.

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AGENCIES, DOHA: In a major development from Doha on Thursday, US President Donald Trump revealed that India has offered a trade deal to the United States which would see “basically zero tariffs” on a broad range of American goods, a news agency reported.

“India offered US a deal, basically zero tariffs,” the Republican leader said during the second leg of his three-nation West Asia tour.

Trump's latest comments follow his earlier remarks on April 30, when he said that talks with India on tariff issues were “going great” and expressed confidence in reaching a final deal soon. Speaking at an event in Michigan, he noted, “India tariff talks are going great, think we'll have a deal soon.”

Meanwhile, Trump's claim that India has offered to drop all tariffs on goods

imported from his country has been swiftly disputed by Delhi.

In a statement to local news agencies Foreign Minister S Jaishankar countered the claim saying talks are still going on and “nothing is decided till everything is”.

The statement is in stark contrast to comments by Trump to reporters earlier in the day, when he declared Delhi had “offered us a deal where basically they are willing to literally charge us no tariff”.

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MAX. TEMP 35.0 °C
MIN. TEMP 27.4 °C

idharudhar



For our inquiries, they appoint a fact-hiding committee.

After renovation, rectification to keep Kala Academy shut again

PWD asks cultural centre not to accept bookings tentatively for July & Aug

ANIL KUMAR MISHRA
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PANJIM: Artistes especially tiatrists and tiatr lovers are in for some bad news, as Kala Academy, Goa's premier cultural centre, which was mired in controversies over renovation works, is now set to remain closed yet again for two months and this time for rectification work.

In a latest development, the Public Works Department (PWD) has directed its two sub-division offices to begin the rectification work at Kala Academy.

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“The contractors previously assigned to the project will be in charge of undertaking the corrective work. The main work will be related to light, sound and acoustics. If it is found that substandard work has been carried out then the contractor will be asked to rectify without giving him any extra amount of money — Senior PWD official



“Whatever work will be carried out now should be covered under the estimate prepared earlier. The government should get the work done from those who have not done it properly and should not pay any extra amount for that. Our demand is that the Kala Academy should be in its original shape — Devidas Amonkar, Kala Rakhonn Mand Convenor