

# Bicholim council struggles to recover Rs 5 cr in arrears

Staff conduct under scrutiny; Resolve to recover outstanding dues from defaulters; Councillors demand action against shopkeepers who have sublet premises

Team Herald

**BICHOLIM:** The Bicholim Municipal Council is yet to recover nearly Rs 5 crore in arrears, primarily from shopkeepers and traders. During a marathon meeting lasting over eight and a half hours, councillors also raised serious concerns about the conduct and efficiency of municipal staff.

Chaired by Chairperson Vijaykumar Natekar, the meeting focused largely on staff behaviour and the functioning of the municipality. Councillors alleged that delays in renewing leases with shopkeepers and subletting of municipal shops were resulting in significant revenue losses.

Adding to the grievances, there was also a complaint of non-cooperation from Vedanta Mining Company, which has reportedly failed to clear accumulated silt and control mine trenches ahead of the monsoon.

Councillor Deepa Shirgaonkar highlighted the



arrears and urged prompt recovery efforts. "Nearly Rs 5 crore is pending and the staff must take necessary steps to recover the dues," she said. Shirgaonkar also pointed out that Bicholim MLA Chandrakant Shetye, who attended the meeting, questioned the reasons behind the sluggish recovery.

She further criticised staff behaviour towards senior citizens. "Some staff

were insensitive to senior citizens and force them to make repeated visits to the council to get work done. We are here to serve the people. The municipal staff should understand this," she said.

Councillor Aniket Chanekar echoed the sentiment, stating that the staff often fail to properly inform senior citizens about the documentation required to

process their requests. Councillor Sudan Gaonkar acknowledged that while some staff members' behaviour had been questioned, there were still good employees within the council.

Shirgaonkar, who also serves as the market committee president, complained that the committee was not consulted on various works being undertaken

in the municipal market. It was subsequently decided to convene a special meeting to discuss market-related issues on May 22. The council passed a resolution to take steps to recover the outstanding dues from defaulters. Councillors also demanded strict action against shopkeepers who have sublet their premises. Some shopkeepers have reportedly stepped away, but their family members continue to occupy the shops without clearing the rent, further contributing to revenue losses.

**Some staff are insensitive to senior citizens and force them to make repeated visits to the council to get work done. We are here to serve the people and the employees should understand this** — Deepa Shirgaonkar, councillor

# Cyberattack hits 62 govt websites

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** A cyberattack targeting the host server of an empanelled government website has compromised 62 government departments, Health Minister Vishwajit Rane revealed on Thursday.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Rane expressed concern that the incident has been narrowly portrayed as affecting only the Department of Women and Child Development (WCD), despite the wider breach across numerous departments.

"I am upset by the recent cyberattack on the Department of Women and Child Development's website, where a casino advertisement appeared in place of essential content meant to support women and children in Goa," Rane stated.

"This incident, which stemmed from a breach in the host server of an empanelled government website, is unacceptable and undermines the integrity of public digital services," he added.

The Minister stressed that while 62 websites were impacted, the disproportionate focus on the WCD site "not only distorts the full picture but also detracts from the larger issue of cybersecurity across platforms."

Rane further clarified

that the WCD website holds a valid Web Security Audit Certificate, and that the department is taking the matter seriously. "We are taking this matter up with the

concerned authorities. Till then, the website has been disabled. Also lodging an FIR against this. I will ensure that strict accountability is maintained," he said.

## APPOINTMENTS

Xaverian Educational Society  
**Fr. Agnel College of Arts & Commerce**  
Pilar - Goa 403 203

Applications with full Bio-data from qualified candidates (Indian Nationals) are invited for the following **BCA programme (self-financed)** teaching vacancies / posts for Academic Year 2025-26:

| Department        | No. Of Posts | Name of Appointment |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Computer Science  | 05           | Contract Basis      |
|                   | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| Commerce          | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| Maths             | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| English           | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| EVS               | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| Political Science | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| Konkani           | 01           | Lecture Basis       |
| Hindi             | 01           | Lecture Basis       |

Essential Qualifications: As prescribed by UGC & Statutes of Goa University (SC-16) and guidelines of Directorate of Higher Education (DHE) / Government of Goa.

Knowledge of Konkani is essential; knowledge of Marathi is desirable. For further / complete details visit College website [www.fragnelcollege.edu.in](http://www.fragnelcollege.edu.in). Complete applications (hard copy) addressed to **Principal, Fr. Agnel College of Arts & Commerce, Pilar, Goa** should be submitted along with photograph and supporting self-attested copies of certificates of educational qualifications (SSC onwards), Birth Certificate and valid 15 years Residence Certificate (in Goa) issued by a Competent Authority within 15 days of the publication of this advertisement. The application should specify contact details like mobile no., postal address, email ID and the post / vacancy for which applying for. Late / incomplete applications will be rejected. The Principal reserves the right to fill up the above mentioned posts. Posts shall be filled subject to availability of workload. All appointments will be subject to Government / DHE / Goa University approval. Call letters to appear for interview will be sent by email only.

sd/-  
Dr. Fr. Fredrick Rodrigues  
Off. Principal  
17-05-2025

## shorttakes

### WORKER DIES AFTER FALL FROM HEIGHT AT IDC MARCAIM

**PONDA:** A 22-year-old man from Uttar Pradesh, identified as Vaseel, died after falling from a height while painting a metal shed at Balaji Metal, located at IDC Marcain. The incident occurred around 3.30 pm on Thursday. Vaseel, who was working at the site with his brother, sustained serious injuries in the fall. He was rushed to PHC Madkai but was declared brought dead by the attending doctor. Police, upon receiving information from the PHC, visited the site and conducted an inquest panchnama. The body has been sent to South Goa District Hospital, Margao, for medico-legal formalities.

### DECOMPOSED BODY FOUND OPPOSITE SGDH MARGAO

**MARGAO:** Fatorda Police have launched an investigation after the decomposed body of an unidentified man, estimated to be aged between 50 and 55, was discovered opposite the South Goa District Hospital, Margao. The police were alerted via PCR Panaji and rushed to the scene. The body was in a state of decomposition. A scene of unnatural death and panchnama was conducted.

### NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE TRIBAL WELFARE TO BEGIN JUNE 15

**PANJIM:** A nationwide public outreach campaign to promote the Centre's tribal welfare schemes — PM-JANMAN and DAJGUA — will run from 15 to 30 June, covering 26 states and 4 Union Territories. The initiative aims to deliver 25 essential services via 17 ministries, focusing on development of tribal communities. In South Goa, the Collector's Office urged residents to attend village-level camps offering Aadhaar enrolment, ration cards, Ayushman Bharat, caste certificates, PM-KISAN, and Jan Dhan accounts. DAJGUA also targets improvements in housing, roads, solar power, education, medical access, LPG, digital services, skills training, farming and fisheries, alongside Swadesh Darshan, livestock support, and Sickle Cell Anaemia and Forest Rights Act implementation.

### TRAFFIC DIVERSIONS ANNOUNCED FOR SANATAN MAHOTSAV IN FARMAGUDI

**PONDA:** The District Magistrate (South Goa) has notified temporary traffic arrangements from May 17 to 19, in view of the 'Sanatan Rashtira Shankhna Mahotsav' at GEC ground, Farmagudi. Traffic on the stretch from PES Circle towards Veling via the function venue will be one-way. Vehicles from Veling to GEC will be restricted, except for local residents. No parking will be enforced on NH-748 between Borim Circle and GEC via Dhavli Bypass, from Banastarim Bridge to PES Circle, and from PES Circle to GEC main gate. Heavy vehicle movement will be restricted from 6 am to 10 am and 7 pm to 11 pm across key routes, including Veling-Farmagudi, Borim-Ponda, Baitakhol-Dhavli, Banastarim-GEC, and Pollem-Margao. Restrictions remain in force till May 21.

### FARMERS URGED TO REGISTER FOR KRISHI CARD TO AVAIL SCHEME BENEFITS

**PANJIM:** The Directorate of Agriculture has urged farmers to enrol under the "Krishi Card" scheme to access state and central agricultural benefits. Over 50,000 farmers are already registered. The Krishi Card uses a land-coding system to classify ownership types — including self-owned, inherited, lease, tenant, and caretaker — which determines eligibility for various schemes. Major schemes such as Assured Price, Shetkari Adhar Nidhi, and Custom Services are accessible with any valid Krishi Card. However, the card cannot be used as legal proof of land ownership. Eligible farmers, including FRA Patta holders, are encouraged to visit their nearest Zonal Agriculture Office with relevant documents to enrol. More information is available at [www.agri.goa.gov.in](http://www.agri.goa.gov.in).

### GTET ONLINE APPLICATIONS OPEN UNTIL MAY 30

**PANJIM:** The Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (GBSHSE) has begun online registration for the Goa Teachers Eligibility Test (GTET) scheduled for June 14 and 15, 2025. Applications must be submitted by 30 May via the official portal at [www.gbshe.in](http://www.gbshe.in). The test will be conducted in computer-based format across two centres in Goa — North and South.

## Encroachments at Banastari market cleared

Team Herald

**PONDA:** Ponda Block Development Officer (BDO) Ashwin Desai along with Bhoma Sarpanch Sunil Naik, conducted a surprise inspection of Banastari market following a complaint regarding encroachments by vendors causing obstruction to traffic.

During the inspection, it was found that several vendors had encroached upon the roadside to conduct their business, leading to congestion and disruption in the smooth flow of traffic. Acting on the spot, the BDO directed officials to take immediate action to clear the encroachments.

"The Banastari road is a busy stretch and must remain free of encroachments on both sides," said Desai. He added that his office will instruct the secretary to convene a panchayat body meeting to discuss the matter and implement necessary measures. "This will take some time, after which our team will once again conduct a surprise visit to assess the situation," he said.

"Some vendors had encroached upon the road, creating a nuisance. Though nine employees have been appointed by the panchayat to manage the market, the vendors were found ignoring their directions, which led to disorder," Naik said.

## power shutdown

**PORVORIM:** On May 17, from 9 am to 3.30 pm. Affected areas are Rodson Bakery, Ekoshi, Maringan temple and surrounding areas.

**BICHOLIM:** On May 17, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected area are Kailasnagar, Bal Bhavan Assonora, Moitem, IOB Bank Mulgao, TIP colony and surrounding area.

**MARGAO:** On May 17, from 9 am to 3 pm. Affected area are opposite Guru Sai Plaza, behind Jain temple and surrounding area.

**VERNA:** On May 18, from 7 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are entire village of Majorda, Utorda, Utorda, Cansaulim, Arossim, Cuelim, Velsao, Pale, Issorim, Consua Nuvem, Duguem, Verna, Nagoa and IDC Phase 1A.

**PONDA:** On May 18, from 8.30 am to 12 am. Affected areas are all Industries, consumer and factories connected to Kundai III feeder.

**CANSULIM:** On May 18, from 7 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are entire areas of Mormugao Taluka, Vasco, Cortalim, Sancoale, Velsao, Cansaulim, Majorda, Utorda, part of Betalbatim, Nuvem, Verna, Verna IDC, Nagoa and Pirni.

## ICAR-CENTRAL COASTAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ela Old Goa -403 402

F.No. II-19088/1/2025-Estt

### NOTIFICATION FOR RECRUITMENT

Date: 16-05-2025

It is proposed to fill up the following position purely on temporary basis at this Institute under different projects as detailed below:-

| Sr. No. | Name of the Project  | Name of the position  | Number of post | Essential qualification  | Desirable qualification   | Nature of duties   | Emoluments                        | Age limit (maximum)   | Duration   |
|---------|--|-----------------------|----------------|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|------------|
| 1       | Project entitled "Potential of plantation based system in generating carbon credit through biochar production in the west coast region of India" | Young Professional-II | One            | M.Sc. Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry  | M.Sc.Agriculture/ Horticulture/Forestry (with two year work experience as JRF/SRF/YP-II/YP-I in field survey, data collection, organizing farmers meeting and training, data analysis and report writing in agriculture related research project)   | Field survey, organizing farmers meeting and training, collection of field data, field sampling, biochar preparation, soil sampling and analysis, data analysis and report writing | ₹ 42,000/- Per month (Fixed)      | Minimum 21 years and maximum 45 years (Relaxable as per Govt. of India Rules) | 31-03-2026 |
| 2       |  | Young Professional-I  | One            | B.Sc. Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry or B.Sc. Chemistry/ Botany                                 | B.Sc.Agriculture/ Horticulture/Forestry or B.Sc. Chemistry /Botany (with one year work experience in field survey, data collection, analysis, organizing farmers meeting, data analysis and report writing in agriculture related research project) | Field survey, organizing farmers meeting and training, collection of field data, field sampling, biochar preparation, soil sampling and analysis, data analysis and report writing | ₹ 30,000/- Per month (Fixed)      | Minimum 21 years and maximum 45 years (Relaxable as per Govt. of India Rules) | 31-03-2026 |
| 3       |  | Field Assistant       | Two            | B.Sc. Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry/ Botany/ Chemistry/ Microbiology or Diploma in Agriculture | B.Sc.Agriculture/ Horticulture/Forestry/ Botany/Chemistry/ Microbiology or Diploma in Agriculture with work experience in field survey, data collection, soil sample collection, Biochar preparation, organizing farmers meeting and training       | Field survey, organizing farmers meeting and training, collection of field data, field sampling, biochar preparation, soil sampling and analysis                                   | ₹ 18,000/- Per month (Conaolided) | Minimum 21 years and maximum 45 years (Relaxable as per Govt. of India Rules) | 31-03-2026 |
| 4       | Project entitled "Bamboo Cultivation and Market Opportunities in Goa: A Study on Present Status and Future Prospects"                            | Young Professional-I  | One            | B.Sc. Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry or B.Sc. Chemistry/ Botany                                 | One year work experience in field survey, data collection, data analysis and report writing in agriculture/forestry related research project  | Field survey, collection of field data, field sampling, soil sampling and analysis, data analysis and report writing   | ₹ 30,000/- Per month (Fixed)      | Minimum 21 years and maximum 45 years (Relaxable as per Govt. of India Rules) | 31-03-2026 |

#### Terms and conditions:

- The eligible candidates may appear for selection process on **27-05-2025 at 9:00 AM** at ICAR-CCARI, Old Goa along with their credentials. Candidates reaching after 9.00 AM will not be allowed to attend the selection process.
- The candidates called for selection process are not entitled for TA/DA and accommodation.
- This temporary appointment will be for a specific period and the services will automatically stand terminated either with the termination of the Project/Scheme or even before at the discretion of the Competent Authority. The appointment will not bestow upon them any claim for regular employment at ICAR-CCARI, Ela, Old Goa
- The Candidate should bring the following documents:
  - Duly-filled application in prescribed format
  - The original and photo copy of the supporting documents of education qualification, work experience, birth certificate and any other testimonials.
  - A No-Objection Certificate from the Employer in case the candidate is employed elsewhere.
- The selection process will consist of an Objective-Type Test of 30-minute duration followed by structured Interview.
- The appointment would be on full-time basis and she/he would not be permitted to take up any other assignment during the period of engagement with ICAR Institutes.
- Candidates whose near/distant relative(s) is an employee of the ICAR-CCARI, have to declare it at the time of interview.
- Notwithstanding the duration of engagement, the Director of the Institute can terminate the services of such staff at any time without assigning any reason by issuing one month's notice or one month's emoluments thereof. The Candidate may also leave the assignment on their own volition, by giving one month's notice and one month's emoluments will be withheld by the Institute as caution money, and will be released after clearing of all dues by the staff.
- At the end of the assignment, such staff will not have any right to claim any employment or engagement at ICAR-CCARI. The assignment will not bestow upon them any claim for regular employment at ICAR-CCARI, Goa or any other ICAR Institutes.
- The Director, ICAR-CCARI, Ela, Old Goa reserves the right to fill up or not fill up the vacancies notified in this advertisement.

Sd/- ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Application for \_\_\_\_\_ Passport size photograph

- Name of the Applicant
- Mother's/Father's Name
- Date of Birth
- Category: General/SC/ST/OBC/EWS
- Full Present Address (with PIN Code)
- Full Permanent Address
- Email Address
- Contact No.
- Details of Education Qualification (10th onwards)

| Sr. No. | Education Qualification | Years of Passing | % of marks | University/Institute from which degree/certificate obtain |
|---------|-------------------------|------------------|------------|---|
|         |                         |                  |            |   |

#### 10. Details of Experience:

| Sr. No. | Name of Organization | Job Description | Period |    | Reason for leaving |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------|--------|----|--------------------|
|         |                      |                 | From   | To |                    |
|         |                      |                 |        |    |                    |

#### 11. Details of Testimonials attached:

| Sr. No. |  |
|---------|--|
|         |  |

**Declaration**  
I hereby certify that the information /testimonials provided above are true to the best of my knowledge and in case any facts/testimonials are found to be false or incorrect, I shall be liable to be terminated from the employment for which I have applied.

Signature of the Applicant