

**DEATH**  
**Menino Francisco Cardozo**  
 Born: 23.12.1951 Died: 16.05.2025  
 Husband of Jeromina Cardozo,  
 Father of Fr. Christovan Cardozo SDB (Admin at  
 Pope John XXIII Quepem), Carmo / Lynette,  
 Grandfather of Joshua and Christie. Brother of late Joaquim,  
 Conceicao, Sebastiana and Rosa. Died peacefully at his residence.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence on 17th May 2025 (Today)  
 at 3:30pm to Patrocino Chapel, Benaulim, for Mass followed by  
 burial at St. John the Baptist Church Cemetery, Benaulim.  
 Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.  
 Rebelto Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**MINGUEL DIAS**  
**SANTIMSO VADDO, TALEIGAÓ**  
 EX. GOVT MCO, TONCA  
 Born: 1-3-1953 Died: 15-5-2025  
 Husband of Late Philomena Pereira,  
 Father of Jenifer/Ryan Menezes, Denzil  
 Dias. Grand father of Rheane Menezes.  
 There will be Eucharistic celebration for the soul of  
 our beloved Minguel at 3.45 pm on Saturday,  
 17th May 2025 at St. Micheal Church Taleigaó.  
 Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**Jesus Simao**  
**D.D. Fernandes**  
**(Simon)**  
 Born: 28-10-1967  
 Died: 15-05-2025  
**(Bogda-Vasco)**  
 Beloved son of  
 Late Agostinho / Late Joana Fernandes  
 Beloved husband of Genevieve Dias.  
 Loving father of Sania.  
 Brother/ Brother-in-law of Late Basilio/ Regina,  
 Filomena/ Late Hipolito / Celina/ Benedict,  
 Dominic/ Gracy, Esperanca/ Arthur.  
 Missed by his all Nephews and Nieces.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence Today Saturday,  
 17th May 2025 at 2.45pm to Our Lady of Desterro  
 Church, Desterro for Eucharistic Celebration followed by  
 burial at St. Andrews Church cemetery Vasco.  
 RELATIVES AND FRIENDS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION

**LORD I AM COMING HOME**  
**JACINTO**  
**DE MELLO**  
**(St. Jacinto Island / UK)**  
 Born: 24-05-1986  
 Died: 12-05-2025  
 Beloved Son of Late Miguel Faustino De Mello  
 and Maria Augusta Raposa.  
 Loving Brother/Brother-in-law of Justina/Ryan (UK)  
 Loving uncle of Rexton (UK) and Family.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence on Sunday  
 18th May 2025 at 3.30 pm to St. Jacinto Church (Zuair)  
 for Eucharistic Celebration followed by burial  
 Relatives & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
  
**BORN** 01/03/1967 **DIED** 16/05/2025  
**SAMUEL EDWARD CARVALHO**  
 (Majorda, Pacheco Waddo)  
 Loving husband of Henriqueta Carvalho  
 Son of late Agostinho/late Emelian Carvalho  
 Loving Dada to Selfia/Ryson Antao & Sanford Carvalho  
 Brother/brother in law of late Sabastiao/Placita,  
 late Damiao, Alcin/Socorin, Amaldina/late Jose Pereira  
 Uncle of Emelian, Sandra, Cedric and Adlina.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence at 3:45 p.m  
 on Saturday, 17th May 2025 (TODAY)  
 to Mother of God Church, Majorda,  
 for Eucharistic celebration followed by burial.  
 Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation  
 Rebelto Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
  
**BORN** 11/05/1959 **DIED** 15/05/2025  
**JAMES FERNANDES**  
 BEPOUEGAL CURCHOREM SANVORDEM  
 "Jesus Said I am the resurrection and the life. The one  
 who believes in me will live, even though they Die;  
 and whoever lives by believing in me will never Die"  
 John 11: 25-26" Jesus Said To Her,  
 Beloved Husband of Ramira Fernandes (Pre-Primary  
 Teacher of Guardian Angel); Father / Father-in-law of Brooks  
 / Roland; Son of Late Mathew / Luiza Fernandes; Son-in-  
 law of Damio / Casilda Fernandes; Brother / Brother-in-law of  
 Philomena / Lazarus, Evon / Francis, Cynthia / Milagres,  
 Susan / Jacinto, Cheryl / Frank; Brother-in-law of  
 Pioleta / Ubaldo Fernandes, Crisol / Angelica,  
 Ajinkya / Depti & Remet / Loretta.  
 Funeral Cortege will leave his residence on 18th May 2025  
 Tomorrow at 9:45 am to Guardian Angel Church, Curchoem  
 for Eucharistic Celebration followed by burial.  
 Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**FROM PAGE 1 & 2**

**PAKISTAN SEEKS DIALOGUE WITH INDIA**

The dialogue was derailed after the 2008 Mumbai attacks and not restored in proper form. Dar also warned that any attempt to block Pakistan's water through the unlawful suspension of the Indus Water Treaty would be treated as "an act of war". Also on Thursday, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif extended an offer of talks to India, saying Pakistan is ready to engage "for peace". Ties between India and Pakistan nose-dived after a terror attack on the Pathankot Air Force base in 2016 by terror groups based in the neighbouring country. Subsequent attacks, including one on an Indian Army camp in Uri, further deteriorated the relationship. The relationship dipped further after India's war planes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist training camp deep inside Pakistan on February 26, 2019 in response to the Pulwama terror attack in which 40 CRPF jawans were killed. The relations deteriorated after India announced withdrawing the special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of the state into two union territories in August, 2019. The already frosty ties were further impacted after the Pahalgam terror attack.

**6 TERRORISTS KILLED IN 2 OPERATIONS IN KASHMIR**

Birdi said due to the intensified focus of various security agencies and the coordination between them, two successful operations were conducted and six terrorists killed in the last three days. He termed the elimination of the ultras "significant achievements". "These successful operations were possible because of the coordination and synergy among the security and intelligence agencies. We are duty-bound to end any terror activity in Kashmir and we are always ready to stop such acts," the IGP said. The encounters took place in the Keller area of Shopian and Nadar area of Tral in Pulwama on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively. Three terrorists each were killed in the two operations. Major Joshi said immediately after the Pahalgam terror attack, which claimed 26 lives, the security forces designated several areas as focus areas. "We had intelligence inputs that terrorists had moved to the higher reaches after the melting of the snow. Keeping that in mind, our domination parties were continuously deployed in the higher reaches, mountainous areas and forests," he said. The security agencies received an intelligence input about the presence of terrorists in the Keller area on the night of May 12, Major Joshi said. "So the domination party that was deployed there for some time relocated itself and in a focused way, closed in on the area. They challenged the terrorists who fired at them, leading to an encounter in which three terrorists were neutralised," he said. About the Tral encounter, the GoC said the operation took place on a different terrain.

**GOVT ONLY BOTHERED ABOUT MINING AND NOT HUMANS, SAY SHIRGAO RESIDENTS**

He further noted that residents have also challenged the Environmental Clearances (EC) granted to Mining Block No 2, bagged by Salgaocar Shipping Company Pvt Ltd, and Mining Block No 3, won by Rajaram Bandekar Mining Pvt Ltd. The Directorate of Mines and Geology has demarcated a 150-metre buffer zone around the Shree Lairai Devi temple and an 80-metre buffer from Dhondachi Tali in Shirgao, where mining is prohibited. Activist Swapnesh Sherlekar voiced concern over the cultural and ecological degradation in the village. "Shirgao, home to Gram Devi Shree Lairai Mata, is one of the holiest villages not just in Bicholim, but in all of Goa. A fortnight ago, the village was in the global spotlight following an unfortunate incident during the Zatra. But the deeper crisis lies in the decades-old, state-enabled destruction of the village's ecosystem," he said. "Last year Vedanta Ltd began operations, and Salgaocar Shipping is now set to start. A third operator, Rajaram Bandekar Company, is also expected to commence soon. It's as if the village has no human settlements — only mining," he added. Sherlekar also referenced folklore tied to the village's sacred geography. "It is said Shree Devi Lairai, along with her six sisters and a brother, came to Bicholim through the forest and later settled in Shirgao. But now, no forest remains. Years of mining have depleted water sources, with some excavations reportedly going below the water table. This is brutal, yet systematic destruction," he stated. Dinanath 'Dina' Gaonkar, President of the Shirgao Nagrik Samiti, said villagers have been resisting mining since 2008. "I'm one of the petitioners who opposed the government's decision to auction mining leases. We have opposed all three mining blocks in Shirgao. We are demanding exclusion of houses, temples, schools, and farms from lease areas, compensation for affected families, proper demarcation of mining boundaries, and a 200-metre buffer zone," he said. The High Court is scheduled to hear the matter on June 2.

**INDIAN CLIMBER SCALES EVEREST, DIES WHILE DESCENDING**

Ghosh conquered at least 13 peaks around the globe, Surajit said. "This was his first expedition to Mt Everest, and he conquered it, making us proud. But we did not know we had to hear this news," Surajit said. Ghosh was accompanied by his cousin, Sumitra Debnath, for the expedition, but she remained near the base camp. "My parents are old, and they are shattered. People have been coming to our residence since the news broke. Efforts are on to bring back his body," Surajit said. Expressing grief at the death of Ghosh, renowned climber Debashish Biswas told PTI that the weather near Mt Everest is "bad" since Thursday, and it would affect attempts to retrieve his body. "It may take a few days before his body can be brought down to the base. Then post-mortem examination would be conducted to ascertain the cause of his death," said Biswas, Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awardee, India's highest honour in adventure sports.

**GLOBAL LIFE EXPECTANCY DROPPED 1.8 YEARS SINCE COVID-19: WHO**

The report warns that maternal and child deaths are not declining fast enough. While great progress was made between 2000 and 2023, with maternal deaths falling by over 40% and under-five deaths more than halved, that progress has now stalled. WHO researchers pointed this to under-funded health-

care systems, lack of trained staff, and gaps in critical services like vaccinations and safe childbirth. If immediate action isn't taken, the report cautioned, the world could see an additional 700,000 maternal deaths and 8 million child deaths under age 5 between now and 2030. Diseases like heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes, known as non-communicable diseases, are now the leading cause of death among people under 70 globally. Mental health conditions continue to hold back global health progress. At the same time, the world is facing a projected shortage of 11.1 million health workers by 2030, especially in Africa and the Eastern Mediterranean region. There has been progress in reducing new cases of HIV, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases. However, malaria cases have been rising since 2015, and antimicrobial resistance remains a major public health threat. Childhood vaccination rates still haven't bounced back to pre-Covid levels, putting many young lives at risk.

**COVID-19 WAVE MAKES A COMEBACK IN ASIA**

Apart from the rise in positive test results, viral concentrations in sewage samples have also climbed, according to local media reports. Simultaneously, a growing number of residents are seeking hospital or clinic care for Covid-related symptoms. Singapore's Ministry of Health reported a 28 per cent increase in Covid cases for the week ending May 3, with estimated infections rising to 14,200. Hospital admissions due to the virus have also increased by about 30 per cent. This marks the country's first significant update on case numbers in nearly a year — a move Singapore typically reserves for periods of major surges. Officials attributed the current spike to waning immunity among the population rather than to any emergence of new, more transmissible or severe variants. The ministry clarified that there is no indication of greater virulence in the strains currently circulating. The fact that this surge is occurring during the summer months raises further concern. Authorities have encouraged those at higher risk, particularly the elderly or immunocompromised individuals, to take booster shots of the Covid vaccine to bolster their protection. Beyond Hong Kong and Singapore, other Asian nations are also experiencing renewed Covid activity. In mainland China, the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention reported that Covid test positivity rates in hospitals more than doubled in the five weeks leading up to May 4. The increase suggests that the country could face another wave of infections similar in scale to last summer.

**BATTERED ON DUTY, POLICEMAN'S ORDEAL A BLOW TO MORALE OF FORCE**

But the 'bigger picture', according to activist and researcher Swapnesh Sherlekar, paints a more troubling reality. "The police have sadly been reduced to little more than security personnel, deployed for any petty, illegal, unethical or unholy job in the name of duty," he said. "We've seen cases where police staff were assaulted, and the culprits walk free on anticipatory bail as though nothing happened. These incidents are deeply demoralising and depressing for the lower ranks," Sherlekar added. For Rohan's mother and his friends in Quepem, the manner in which Joysan Fernandes was allowed to walk free — even after allegedly accosting a PSI from Curchoem days earlier — has severely shaken their confidence. "I have heard of this incident, and it's definitely damaging to the morale of any force. However, I'm currently busy and still need to look into the finer details. I will call back later," said South Goa SP Tikam Singh Verma. At the time of going to press, he had not responded. "The way the lower staff are used can be clearly seen in incidents such as the demolition of the Shree Khapreshwar Temple at Porvorim and destruction of private property at Anjuna reportedly under the supervision of Calangute MLA Michael Lobo and his wife Delilah," Sherlekar added. "It's clear from the way the person who attacked my son is being protected by his superiors that something is not right," lamented Mangal. "My son went to protect his superior, got abused and assaulted, had to be hospitalised and spend days at home recovering, while the man who attacked him walks around freely. And now his boss is making excuses," she said.

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 — Swapnesh Sherlekar, activist and researcher

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 — Tikam Singh Verma, South Goa SP

**SALMAN RUSHDIE ATTACKER SENTENCED TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON**

Matar received the maximum 25-year sentence for the attempted murder of Rushdie and seven years for wounding a man who was on stage with him. The sentences must run concurrently because both victims were injured in the same event, Chautauqua County District Attorney Jason Schmidt said. In requesting the maximum sentence, Schmidt told the judge that Matar "chose this. He designed this attack so that he could inflict the most amount of damage, not just upon Mr Rushdie, but upon this community, upon the 1,400 people who were there to watch it." Public defender Nathaniel Barone pointed out that Matar had an otherwise clean criminal record and disputed that the people in the audience should be considered victims, suggesting that a sentence of 12 years would be appropriate. "Every day since then, for the last couple of years, this case has been an international publicity sponge," Barone said. "There was no presumption, ever, of innocence for Mr Matar from the very beginning." Rushdie spent 17 days at a Pennsylvania hospital and more than three weeks at a New York City rehabilitation centre. The author of "Midnight's Children," "The Moor's Last Sigh" and "Victory City" de-tailed his recovery in his 2024 memoir, "Knife." Matar next faces a federal trial on terrorism-related charges. While the first trial focused mostly on the details of the knife attack itself, the next one is expected to delve into the more complicated issue of motive. Authorities said Matar, a US citizen, was attempting to carry out a decades-old fatwa, or edict, calling for Rush-

die's death when he travelled from his home in Fairview, New Jersey, to target Rushdie at the summer retreat about 112.6 kilometres southwest of Buffalo. Matar believed the fatwa, first issued in 1989, was backed by the Lebanon-based militant group Hezbollah and endorsed in a 2006 speech by the group's secretary-general, Hassan Nasrallah, according to federal prosecutors. Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini issued the fatwa after publication of Rushdie's novel, "The Satanic Verses," which some Muslims consider blasphemous. Rushdie spent years in hiding, but after Iran announced it would not enforce the decree he travelled freely over the past quarter century. Matar pleaded not guilty to a three-count indictment charging him with providing material to terrorists, attempting to provide material support to Hezbollah and engaging in terrorism transcending national boundaries. Video of the assault, captured by the venue's cameras and played at trial, show Matar approaching the seated Rushdie from behind and reaching around him to stab at his torso with a knife. As the audience gasps and screams, Rushdie is seen raising his arms and rising from his seat, walking and stumbling for a few steps with Matar hanging on, swinging and stabbing until they both fall and are surrounded by onlookers who rush in to separate them. Jurors in Matar's first trial delivered their verdict after less than two hours of deliberation.

**CONDOLENCE**  
**MANFA MUSIC**  
 & Family  
 Deeply Mourns The  
 Sad Demise Of  
**SAMUEL CARVALHO**  
**MAJORDA - GOA**  
 We convey our deepest sympathies to  
 HENRIQUETA, SELFIA / RYSON & SANFORD  
**MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE**

**CONDOLENCE**  
  
**GABRIEL CAMELO**  
**(SALVADOR)**  
 The Management and Staff of Sea Adventure Water Sports  
 Vainguinim Beach, Dona Paula deeply mourn the sad and  
 untimely demise of Gabriel Cameo (Salvador).  
 May his soul rest in peace.  
**Fondly remembered by Xavier Fernandes**  
**and family. (Dona Paula)**

**CONDOLENCE**  
**KENNETH INTERNATIONAL**  
**TOURS & TRAVEL - St. CRUZ**  
 Prop: MENINO FERNANDES  
 Deeply mourn the sad demise of our beloved  
  
**GABRIEL CAMELO**  
**(Salvador)**  
 (Marivel - Dona Paula)  
 And convey our deepest heartfelt  
 sympathies to his bereaved family.  
**MAY HIS REST IN PEACE**  
 Aquila Advt. 9421377777 / 9421577777

**ADEUS AMIGO**  
*Rest in peace my dear friend... you were one of a kind...  
 you will be missed deeply..*  
 We deeply mourn the sad demise of our beloved friend  
  
**SAMUEL EDWARD CARVALHO**  
**(Majorda)**  
 and convey our deepest sympathies to the bereaved family.  
**MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE.**  
 A Tribute of love from:  
**JOAQUIM CABRAL, BERNADINE DIAS & FAMILY**  
**(Dona Paula/U.K.)**