

shorttakes

MAN ARRESTED FOR BRUTALLY STABBING GIRLFRIEND AT QUEPEM

MARGAO: Anant Kadam (25), a resident of Aquem, Margao, was arrested by Quepem Police in Sangli, Maharashtra, after allegedly stabbing his girlfriend with a knife at Shirvoi, Quepem, and fleeing the scene. Police said Kadam was tracked based on his location and apprehended in a local market before being brought back to Quepem. He is charged under Section 126(2) and 109 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, following a complaint filed by Angel Travasso of Panchwadi, Ponda. According to the complaint, on May 12, between 1.15 and 1.45 pm, Kadam followed the victim in his car, rammed their scooter, and then physically assaulted both. He allegedly punched the complainant, causing both riders to fall, then kicked the victim and insisted she get into his car. When she refused, he reportedly stabbed her in the abdomen with a knife. Police said the accused later admitted the victim to South Goa District Hospital before absconding with the car. The victim is now in the ICU at Goa Medical College, Bambolim, and is in a critical condition. Her statement will be recorded once she stabilises. The knife used in the attack is yet to be recovered. Kadam was produced before the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Quepem, and remanded to six days in police custody.

MOBILE PHONE STOLEN WHILE MAN SLEPT AT SANGUEM MUNICIPAL BUILDING

MARGAO: The Sanguem police have registered a theft case after an unknown person allegedly stole a mobile phone worth approximately Rs 16,000 from Pawan Kumar Gupta of Mapusa. According to the complaint filed on May 17, Gupta was sleeping under the Sanguem Municipal building around 7:30 am when the mobile, kept in his shorts, was stolen. LPSI Kavita Rawat has registered the offence under Section 303 of the BNS 2023. A police team visited the scene, conducted a panchanama, and further investigation is underway.

CANAONA COPS, FRRO INSPECT HOTELS FOR FOREIGNERS' REGISTRATION COMPLIANCE

MARGAO: Canacona Police, in coordination with the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), Panaji, conducted a joint inspection in the Agonda area to verify compliance with foreigner accommodation regulations. During the drive, 110 hotels, guesthouses, and resorts were inspected, and around 70 foreign nationals were checked. The objective was to ensure adherence to the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1992, particularly the submission of Form 'C' within 24 hours of a foreign national's arrival and the updating of departure details. Property owners and managers were instructed to strictly follow the legal protocols. Authorities warned that failure to comply would invite legal action.

SCOOTER RIDER GRIEVOUSLY INJURED IN FATORDA COLLISION

MARGAO: A 22-year-old Margao resident, Rohit Rathod, suffered grievous injuries in a collision involving his scooter and a car near the water tank behind Junta Quarters, Pajifond-Fatorda. The incident occurred on May 15, when the accused driver, Joyrus Greger, allegedly drove the car in a rash and negligent manner, endangering human life while heading from Motidongor towards Old Hospicio. His vehicle collided with Rathod's scooter coming from the opposite direction. Rathod, who had recently taken up employment, was admitted to Goa Medical College, Bambolim, with serious injuries.

MENTALLY ILL MAN DIES AT IPHB, BAMBOLIM

MARGAO: Aman Mez, 35, a native of Jharkhand who had been admitted to IPHB Bambolim by order of the JMFC Margao, died while undergoing treatment. Fatorda Police stated that the man, reportedly mentally ill and behaving abnormally, was lodged at the institution by police staff. Upon being notified by the duty medical officer of his death, police visited the scene and preserved the body at South Goa District Hospital, Margao, for medico-legal formalities. An investigation into the case is underway.

E-BOOK ON FUNGAL DISEASES RELEASED, HIGHLIGHTS GROWING GLOBAL THREAT

PANJIM: An e-book on fungal diseases, edited by Dr RG Wiseman Pinto - professor of Pathology, former Dean of Goa University and President of the Asian Society of Cytopathology - was recently released and is available free of cost on www.pathoindia.com. The e-book, titled Fungal Infections: The New Superbug, outlines how fungal diseases are emerging as a major global health threat. The e-book covers the full clinical and diagnostic spectrum of fungal infections, including laboratory tests, smears, staining techniques, cultures, biopsies, morphology, cytology, histopathology findings, and organ involvement. It also outlines current treatment protocols. Common fungal infections discussed include Candida, Aspergillosis, Mucormycosis, Cryptococcosis, and Histoplasmosis. The main line of treatment includes liposomal amphotericin B and surgical intervention. However, the book also warns of severe side effects such as renal and liver failure associated with the drug. Dr Pinto also presented a lecture titled Fungal Diseases: Recent Advances at the 22nd ICC International Congress of Cytology held in Florence, Italy, on May 13, where he also served as chairman.

power shutdown

VERNA: On May 18, from 7 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are entire village of Majorda, Utorda., Utorda, Cansaulim, Arossim, Cuelim, Velsao, Pale, Issorcim, 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.
CANSAULIM: 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.
MARGAO: On May 19, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Mandop four roads, Mandopa ground, Moddi, Shani temple, Blasco hall, Modabhat, Padre Peo, Dharmapur, Fradlem, Bellem, Cruznagar, Ravora, Calwaddo, Dangrim, Shirodkar area and Mandop bridge area.
MARGAO: On May 20, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are Dongrim near Shirodkar posro area, L&L Pearl, Dongorim Chapel, Liendri, Matrix, Rawanfond to Navelim road and Navelim Library and from 9 am to 3 pm. Affected areas are Kurtarkar Classic and surrounding area.

High Court orders demolition of 16 illegal structures in Calangute

Directs BDO to provide necessary assistance within two weeks from date of order

Team Herald

PANJIM: The High Court of Bombay at Goa has directed the Calangute Village Panchayat to proceed with the demolition of 16 structures, as per the demolition order issued on December 22, 2011.

The Court also instructed the Block Development Officer (BDO), Mapusa, Bardez Taluka, to provide the necessary assistance within two weeks from the date of the order.

In March this year, the Calangute panchayat had written to Joseph Rosa, stating that he had failed to submit an approved plan, construction licence, and occupancy certificate for the structures listed in the demolition order. However, as the structures were not demolished, Sylvester D'Souza filed a writ petition seeking directions to the panchayat for their removal. Following this, an inspection was conducted on April 8, 2025, and the struc-



tures were again ordered to be demolished.

During the hearing, Advocate J A Lobo, counsel for respondent Joseph S Rosa, referred to directions previously issued by the Court in a 2020 public interest litigation (PIL) that instructed the Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) to inspect the site to determine whether the structures vi-

olated Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notifications.

Advocate Lobo pointed out that an earlier demolition order dated January 28, 2010, pertained to the demolition of the second floor of a ground-plus-two structure, while another order dated October 12, 2012, referred to the demolition of a ground-plus-one structure and a swimming

pool. He submitted that, as per an inspection report, both these structures had already been demolished.

However, the Court noted that another site inspection, conducted specifically with reference to the notice dated December 22, 2011, and detailed in a report submitted by the panchayat secretary on April 8, 2025, confirmed that the struc-

tures shown in the attached sketches were still present on site and that no demolition had been carried out.

The Court observed that, as the Calangute Village Panchayat was now proceeding with the execution of the original demolition order, the respondent's objections held no weight, since the structures in question were unauthorised.

Rider killed after crashing into parked concrete pump

Team Herald

VASCO: Shivdas Vengurlekar (45), a resident of Mapusa, died after his two-wheeler crashed into a parked concrete pumping machine near the Chicalim post office on Friday evening.

According to Vasco Police, the fatal accident occurred while Vengurlekar was travelling from Cortalim to Vasco on his two-wheeler. As he approached the Chicalim post office, his vehicle rammed into the concrete pumping machine, which had been parked along the roadside.

Vengurlekar sustained serious injuries in the collision and was rushed to the Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Chicalim, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Police conducted an inquest panchanama at the hospital and later shifted the body to the Margao hospital for a post-mortem examination. The autopsy revealed the cause of death as "damage to chest, abdomen and spine consequent to blunt force impact."

The body was handed over to the family for the last rites.

(G)UTTER FAILURE



Months' worth of garbage dumped and ignored now flood Mapusa's streets as storm water drains—not desilted or cleared—choke with the season's first showers. If this is the scene in May, what chaos awaits when the monsoon truly arrives?

CM warns of strict action against misuse of 'Atal Asra' housing scheme

Team Herald

BICHOLIM: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has issued a stern warning against the misuse of the 'Atal Asra' housing scheme, stating that any diversion of funds will attract strict action.

Speaking at a programme organised by the Social Welfare Department at Ravindra Bhavan, Sankhali on Saturday, Sawant said all pending applications under the scheme will be processed and cleared by May 30, ahead of the monsoon season. He assured that financial assistance would be credited directly to beneficiaries.

The Chief Minister urged beneficiaries to use the funds strictly for repairing or rebuilding their homes, cautioning that misuse—such as using the money to purchase a vehicle—would result in the government seizing the vehicle and recovering the funds.

He added that the second instalment of Rs 75,000 would be sanctioned only after submission of bills and a photograph of the repaired or rebuilt house.

Social Welfare Minister Subhash Phal Dessai, Director of Social Welfare Ajit Panchwadkar, and other officials were present at the event. Around 600 beneficiaries are expected to receive assistance under the 'Atal Asra' scheme.

MORE GOA NEWS ON PG 7

Activists slam authorities for inaction over land filling in Taleigao paddy fields

Team Herald

PANJIM: Twenty days after filing formal complaints with Goa's flying squad and the North Goa Collectorate, activists Cecille Rodrigues, Francis Coelho, and Nathan D'Souza on Saturday condemned the State authorities for failing to act against alleged illegal land filling in Taleigao's ecologically sensitive paddy fields behind St Michael's Church.

Despite what they termed blatant environmental vandalism and fraud, the Revenue Department, Chief Secretary, and Agriculture Department have remained inactive, exposing what they alleged to be a nexus between political interests and bureaucratic apathy.

Rodrigues said she had alerted the flying squad and followed up with the North Goa Collectorate, but to no avail. She further alleged that a member of the Talei-

gao panchayat was found supervising the illegal dumping operation. When asked to produce authorisation documents, the panchayat member reportedly fled the scene with vague assurances.

The authorities also ignored repeated appeals from local resident Vito Gomes, who had formally petitioned the BDO, Chief Secretary, and the Secretary (Agriculture), the activists stated.

Residents have now demanded that all illegal land filling and construction in the field be halted immediately. They have called for criminal prosecution of the individuals involved, including government officials, and urged the courts to initiate contempt proceedings against the Revenue Department for alleged dereliction of duty.

They further demanded that the damaged paddy fields be restored at the offenders' expense.

Sangolda resident alleges house number misused

Team Herald

PANJIM: A resident of Liveramento Waddo, Sangolda has alleged that his house number has been wrongly allotted to four other structures in the village.

Lucio Joao Mascarenhas, in his complaint, claimed that his neighbour Damodar Naik had illegally obtained a bifurcation of house number 284, which has now reportedly been allotted to seven other structures or rooms. Mascarenhas said he had lodged a complaint with the village panchayat, demanding that the permissions granted to these structures be revoked and that their electricity and

water connections be disconnected.

To support his claim, Mascarenhas submitted copies of his house tax receipt and an electricity bill issued in Naik's name bearing house number 284.

When contacted, Sangolda sarpanch Neeta Kandolkar confirmed that the complaint was taken up during the ordinary meeting held on Friday. "It was decided to issue call letters to both parties, asking them to appear before the panchayat office with their respective documents," she said.

Meanwhile, the gram sabha of the Sangolda panchayat is scheduled to be held at 10:30 am on Sunday, May 18.

Vishwajit apologises to Digambar, acknowledges him as political mentor

Team Herald

MARGAO: In a rare public gesture, Health Minister Vishwajit Rane on Saturday apologised to Margao MLA and former Chief Minister Digambar Kamat, acknowledging past differences and crediting Kamat for mentoring him in his political career.

Speaking on the sidelines of a health camp organised by Kamat in Margao, Rane said, "When Kamat was the Chief Minister, he supported me significantly in carrying out developmental work. At the same time, I troubled him a lot and for that, I feel guilty. I see him as a father figure and my political mentor."

Rane stressed that there is nothing wrong in saying sorry and that mutual

respect is vital in politics. "One must have the courage to apologise. It is important that we uphold dignity and respect for one another in public life," he said.

The minister also gave Kamat full credit for the establishment of the South Goa District Hospital, a significant healthcare facility in the region. He added that the government is working towards upgrading the hospital to make it the best in the state.

"Our goal is to fulfil the original vision for the hospital and provide world-class healthcare to the people of Goa. Efforts are being made to enhance the infrastructure and services," Rane noted.

Responding to Rane's comments, Kamat acknowl-

edged the gesture and said, "Pratapsingh Rane was like a father to me. Politics is unpredictable—no one knows who will be a minister or who won't. What matters is the work we do for the people."

The health camp, held in Margao, saw active participation from locals. During the event, three patients showing ECG abnormalities were promptly shifted to the hospital for immediate care on the minister's instructions, reflecting the camp's real-time impact.

Kamat also addressed the gathering, emphasising the importance of accessible healthcare and expressing gratitude to Rane for his support in improving medical facilities in South Goa.

'Drunk' tourist causes chaos in Baga, crashes into vehicles and attacks locals

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: In a bizarre incident early on Saturday morning, a tourist from Bengaluru was taken into custody by Anjuna Police after he rammed a rented vehicle into multiple others on the Arpora-Baga road, allegedly under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

According to eyewitnesses, the tourist was speeding down the busy stretch when he struck several vehicles before colliding head-on with a water tanker coming from the opposite direction. The incident occurred in an area under the jurisdiction of Anjuna Police.

When the tanker driver got down from his vehicle, the tourist reportedly got into an altercation and attempted to assault him. Matters escalated when the owners of the other damaged vehicles confronted him. The tourist began hurling abuses and

allegedly attempted to assault them as well.

In retaliation, some of the affected drivers physically restrained the tourist, tied him up with ropes, and called the police and an ambulance to the scene. The episode caused a traffic jam

lasting nearly an hour and a half on the narrow road, which was already congested with Friday night traffic.

Upon the arrival of the ambulance, the tourist once again became aggressive, this time towards both the police and medical staff.

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