

# ENVIRONMENTAL REJUVENATION: Green Mission takes off at Sonsoddo

400 saplings planted at the legacy dump site

Team Herald

**MARGAO/SANGUEM/VASCO:** In a significant step toward environmental rejuvenation, a large-scale tree plantation drive was launched at the legacy dump site in Sonsoddo on Thursday.

The initiative is part of a broader, State-wide afforestation campaign aimed at combating climate change and improving public health. Nearly 400 saplings were planted at the dump yard to mark the beginning of the project.

Speaking at the event, Forest Minister Vishwajit Rane announced that the Goa government plans to plant five lakh trees across the State within the next three months. The plantation drive will target available spaces in municipal areas, with implementation in collaboration with local councils. The Goa State Urban Development Agency (GSUDA) will oversee the maintenance, ensuring that municipal bodies are not financially burdened.

"This is a vital mission to increase Goa's green cover. Despite being a small State, we are committed to planting half a million trees, and the exact locations will be made publicly accessible," said Rane.

In a post on X, Health minister said



### Sanguem council vows to preserve environment

On World Environment Day, the Sanguem Municipal Council conducted a tree plantation drive within the council premises and also distributed saplings to promote environmental awareness among citizens.

As part of the celebration, all municipal workers took a pledge to protect and preserve the environment, reinforcing their commitment to a greener future.

The event was attended by Chief Officer Sidharth Prabu, Chairperson Santiksha Gadekar, and councillors Fouziya Shaikh, Archana Gaonkar, and Priti Naik.

"On #WorldEnvironmentDay, carrying forward the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji's visionary mission for a greener and more sustainable India, we have launched an ambitious initiative under #EkPedMaaKeNaam to plant 5 lakh trees across Goa across 3-4 months. Phase 1 commenced today at Sonsoddo with the plantation of 500 trees to mark the occasion. Phase 2 will begin in August, with a dedicated nodal officer appointed to ensure smooth execution and continuous monitoring."

"In total, approximately 65,000

trees will be planted in Sonsoddo — a site once known as a legacy dump yard. This transformation of Sonsoddo, once considered a black spot of Goa, into a vibrant and dense forest, will stand as one of the most significant environmental efforts undertaken in the State. Let us come together to nurture Mother Earth, one tree at a time. #EkPedMaaKeNaam #GoaForGreen #SustainableGoa #WorldEnvironmentDay2025 #WorldEnvironmentDay," he added.

The Sonsoddo site has been selected as the first pilot project to create

a dense forest in an urban area. Once developed, the green zone will obscure the existing waste and significantly enhance the area's ecological and visual appeal.

"This transformation will serve as a model for other urban centres across Goa," said Margao MLA Digambar Kamat. "We seek public cooperation to ensure its success."

Kamat also noted that Sonsoddo is often discussed only in the context of garbage management. "It's time we highlight the positive changes happening here. Bringing a forest into an

urban area is a commendable initiative, and credit goes to Minister Vishwajit Rane," he added.

Rane concluded by praising Kamat's leadership, noting that Goa needs visionary local leaders to drive impactful and sustainable environmental change.

### Youth Cong members plant saplings in potholes at Sancoale

To highlight the poor road conditions caused by ongoing flyover works, Goa Pradesh Youth Congress (GPYC) members as a mark of protest, planted saplings in potholes at Sancoale, on World Environment Day.

GPYC working president Mahesh Nadar stated that the protest aimed to draw attention to hazardous potholes, dust pollution, and safety concerns exacerbated by the unregulated work.

He criticised the government, Cortalim MLA Anton Vas, and the Sancoale Village Panchayat for neglecting the issue, noting a past fatal bus accident and the unsafe conditions.

Nadar emphasised that planting saplings serves as both a protest and a warning, demanding immediate government intervention for traffic management, proper signage, lighting, and accountability from the contractor.

The protest will continue up to MES College junction.

The initiative garnered local support, with residents urging authorities to prioritise public safety.

### Chinchinim focuses on sustainable practices

Chinchinim-Deussua Village Panchayat organised an awareness programme on the occasion of World Environment Day.

The programme organised in collaboration with ATMA and under the guidance of Rajesh Da Costa, focused on agricultural schemes and sustainable practices, aiming to educate farmers and residents on government initiatives for environmentally friendly and productive farming.

Experts provided insights into modern technologies, organic farming, water conservation, and financial schemes. Participants engaged in interactive sessions promoting eco-friendly techniques and aligning agriculture with environmental protection.

Deputy sarpanch Sharmila Gracias stated the initiative empowers local farmers and promotes sustainable agriculture for environmental conservation.

## shorttakes

### Mumbai man dies in self-accident at Oxel

**SIOLIM:** A 50-year-old man from Mumbai died in alleged self-accident at Oxel-Siolim this morning. The deceased has been identified as Pio Vijay Alende Fernandes from Mahim (West), Mumbai. He was residing at Siolim. He was travelling from Ajoba Furniture towards Our Lady of the Sea Church, Oxel when the mishap occurred.

### International Level Crossing Awareness Day observed at Comba

**MARGAO:** Konkan Railway observed International Level Crossing Awareness Day in Margao with a public outreach programme at Comba, which aimed to educate the public on safety norms at railway level crossings. A street play near Level Crossing No. 46 at Damodar Gate highlighted the dangers of negligence and urged adherence to safety protocols for pedestrians and motorists. Vinay Kumar, Principal of Konkan Railway Academy, emphasised the importance of discipline at these crossings, stating that carelessness can lead to tragedy. This event is part of Konkan Railway's ongoing efforts to enhance railway safety and reduce accidents at both manned and unmanned level crossings. Officials believe that interactive public awareness formats effectively communicate safety messages. Konkan Railway regularly conducts such initiatives across its network to promote a culture of safety among the public. The programme in Margao underscored the necessity of caution, awareness, and responsibility at railway crossings.

### Foundation calls for enforcing workplace HIV policies

**MARGAO:** Human Touch Foundation urged the Goa State AIDS Control Society (GSACS) to urgently enforce workplace HIV policies as mandated by the HIV and AIDS (Prevention and Control) Act, 2017, and the 2022 Workplace Policy Gazette Notification. Despite these legal provisions, implementation remains lacking, particularly within the hospitality industry where discriminatory practices persist. Peter F Borges, Founder of Human Touch Foundation, highlighted the barriers faced by youth living with HIV aspiring to work in hospitality due to outdated fears and discriminatory hiring practices. The foundation requested GSACS to publish a list of companies with adopted workplace HIV policies, share a model HIV workplace policy for adaptation, mandate sensitisation programmes across sectors, prioritising hospitality, display compliance officer information on the GSACS website and enforce compliance by engaging with tourism authorities.

## HC permits Goa Volleyball Assn office-bearers to participate in VFI polls

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** The High Court of Bombay at Goa has allowed office-bearers of the Goa Volleyball Association to participate in Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) elections scheduled in Delhi on Saturday, June 7.

Adv Daniel Rodrigues, president and Hugo Gonsalves, secretary of the Goa Volleyball Association, had filed a writ petition praying to quash and set aside their exclusion from the list of Electoral College published on January 30, 2024, by the Volleyball Federation of India (VFI).

During the pendency of the petition, the Federation afforded an opportunity of hearing to the State/ UT Association having disputes and as far as the Goa Volleyball Association was concerned the time slot for hearing was allotted on January 27, 2024.

The presiding officer for the election of VFI, in the wake of two factions appearing before him, was of the clear view that two factions cannot be permitted to participate in the upcoming elections.

The petitioners had sought urgent hearing.

## Legislator seeks introduction of special train between Vasco and Vailankanni

Team Herald

**VASCO:** Vasco MLA Krishna 'Daji' Salkar on Thursday submitted a memorandum to the station master of the Vasco Railway Station, urging the introduction of a special train between Vasco and Vailankanni to facilitate Goan pilgrims attending the annual feast of Our Lady of Good Health on September 8 this year.

Salkar submitted the memorandum to station master Chandan Revandekar in the presence of many devotees and leaders of the Christian community. He mentioned that the number of Goan devotees visiting Vailankanni was increasing every year and stressed the need for starting additional



Vasco MLA Krishna 'Daji' Salkar on Thursday submitted a memorandum to the station master of the Vasco Railway Station, Chandan Revandekar

trains to accommodate the rush of passengers. According to Salkar, one train was not enough to meet the growing demand. Thousands of pilgrims trav-

el from Goa to Vailankanni during the annual feast, and additional trains will ensure better comfort, availability of tickets, and a hassle-free journey to them, he said.

Salkar suggested that the train departing from Vasco be allowed to return on August 30 for the convenience of pilgrims. Instead of returning from Vailankanni on August 28, the departure be halted by two days so that Goans will get adequate time to attend the novenas and offer prayer during their journey.

## GCCI gets its first woman president in 117 years

Pratima Dhond to assume charge on July 1

Team Herald



**PANJIM:** Pratima Dhond has been elected as the first woman president of the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) for the term 2025-2027.

Pratima will assume charge as the President of the GCCI on July 1, 2025 at the end of the term of the current president Shrinivas Dempo. She is the first woman president in the 117 years history of the Chamber.

With a passion for women's empowerment, Pratima has dedicated her career to uplifting women through various initiatives and leadership roles. She has been at the helm of the Women's Co-operative Bank since 1993 and has chaired the Women's Wing of GCCI for eight years, launching the flagship event "Asturi" to promote women's entrepreneurship.

As a Director of Wakao Foods and the Dhond Group of Companies, Pratima is a force to be reckoned with in the business world. She has also a seasoned Rotarian, serving as Charter President of Rotary Club of Miramar and holding various positions in the club.

With a national-level basketball background and alumni status from Peoples High School, Panjim and Dempo Commerce College, Pratima is a true Goan powerhouse!

She's married to businessman and social worker Gaurish Dhond and is blessed with three children, two sons-in-law, and two grandsons.

The following 14-member managing committee was also elected for the term 2025-27. They are Dr Sangam Kurade (Zuari Foods & Farms Pvt Ltd); Chandrakant Gawas (Shraddha Shipping Co Pvt Ltd); Harshvardhan Bhakuly (Business Goa); Yatin Kakodkar (Apex Packing Products Pvt Ltd); Pallavi Salgaocar (Geno Pharmaceuticals); Rohan Bhandare (Chartered Accountant); Rajesh Dempo (Vision Dempo Hospitality & Estates Pvt Ltd); Dale Menezes (Cosme Matias Menezes Pvt Ltd); Roana Maria Costa (Alcon Constructions, Alcon-Victor Group); Satish Shinde (Astra Metal Systems Pvt Ltd); Vinesh Pikale (Chartered Accountant); Prasad Keni (Vergo Pharma); Manoj Patil (Armour Office Automation) and Atreya Sawant (Atreya Engineering Works).

## APPOINTMENTS

### FR. AGNEL MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL AGNELGANV, VERNA - GOA.

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW ON 16 TH JUNE, 2025 AT 09.30 A.M.

#### VOCATIONAL STREAM

1. L.D.C. (Contract Basis for the Academic Year 2025-2026) - 01 Post

#### GENERAL STREAM

2. Teacher Grade - I in Physical Education (Contract Basis for the Academic Year 2025-2026) - 01 Post

3. Teacher Grade - I in Physical Education (Lecture Basis) - 01 Post

Educational Qualifications:- Post 1:- XII/B.Com. Post 2 & 3:- M.P.Ed.

Age Limit:- Maximum 45 years.

#### Note:-

1. Pay Scales and Service conditions as laid down by the Directorate of Education, Porvorim, Goa.
2. Application should be handwritten.
3. Photo copies of all Testimonials, Certificates & Employment Exchange Card should be enclosed.
4. Applications should be handed over in the Higher Secondary School Office before the interview.

Sd/-Manager

Fr. Agnel Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, Agnelganv, Verna - Goa.



## Sewerage & Infrastructural Development Corporation of Goa Ltd.

Ishan Bldg., 2nd floor, Opp. CCP, Panaji - Goa. 403001

EMAIL: info@sidcgl.com TEL: (0832) 2992237

No. SIDCGL/ADMIN-14/ 551/25-26

Dated: 04/06/2025

### NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR FILLING UP OF POSTS OF LOWER DIVISION CLERK (LDC) AND DRIVER (LMV).

A. Applications are invited in prescribed format through physical mode only by the Managing Director (from 10.00 am. to 5.00 pm.) for filling up the following vacancies by Direct Recruitment on Regular Establishment in Sewerage & Infrastructural Development Corporation of Goa Ltd. Panaji-Goa.

Sr. No.	Designation of post	No. of vacancies and category of reservation	Pay Band as per 7th pay commission	Educational Qualification
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Lower Division Clerk (LDC) Group "C" Non-Gazetted	unreserved Total 01	01 Level-02 (as per 7th pay Matrix)	Essential 1. The candidate must have passed Higher Secondary School Examination Certificate or equivalent qualification from a recognized Board/Institution 2. Knowledge of Computer applications/operations with typing speed of 30 words per minute in English 3. Knowledge of Konkani 4. At least one year working experience  Desirable Knowledge of Marathi
2	Driver (Light Motor Vehicle) Group "C" Non-Gazetted	unreserved Total 01	01 Level 02 (as per 7th pay Matrix). (GP)	Essential 1. Passed Secondary School Certificate Examination from Recognized Board/Institution OR Successfully completed the course conducted by a recognized Industrial Training Institute. 2. Driving License of Light Motor Vehicle. 3. Unblemished experience of at least 02 years in the line. 4. Knowledge of Konkani  Desirable Knowledge of Marathi Note: Every appointee shall have to produce a fitness certificate with reference to eye sight to drive the vehicle, every year after attaining the age of 50 years.

Age limit prescribed: - Not exceeding 45 years as on last date of the Receipt of Application. (Relaxable for Government servants as per orders issued by the Government from time to time)

B. Interested and eligible candidates should fill the prescribed Application Form along with Declaration which is available on the website www.sidcgl.com & www.goa.gov.in and submit the same through physical mode on or before 23/06/2025 till 5 pm. No application shall be accepted/considered after the last date of application. No application shall be accepted in any other mode.

C. Only the eligible candidate fulfilling the criteria as per Recruitment Rules/advertisement shall apply and the candidates need not furnish any document at the time of applying for the post. However candidate shall not be considered, if he/she is found ineligible at the time of verification of essential documents, even though has passed the examination.

D. The instructions/guidelines regarding eligibility, etc available on the Corporation's website www.sidcgl.com & Goa Government website www.goa.gov.in shall strictly be adhered by each and every candidate, which will be made available on the website.

The Government/Corporation reserves the right to cancel the recruitment process at any time without any further notice and without assigning any reason thereof.

DI/ADVT/578/2025

Managing Director-SIDCGL