

shorttakes

Two die in separate self-accidents in South Goa

MARGAO: Two individuals lost their lives in separate self-accidents in South Goa, police said on Monday. In the first incident, Sandip Roy, a 25-year-old from Agonda and a native of Jharkhand, succumbed to injuries sustained in a self accident. According to Canacona Police, Roy had met with the accident at Agonda and was admitted to Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim, for treatment. He later died while undergoing medical intervention. An inquest panchanama was conducted, and the post-mortem revealed that the cause of death was "septicemic shock along with peritonitis in a person undergoing medical and surgical intervention for liver injury and damage to lungs consequent to blunt force impact by surface and/or object." PSI Ramdas Doifode of Canacona Police Station is investigating the case. In the second case, Anup Saha, aged 30 and a native of Assam, died in a self-accident while riding his two-wheeler near Bandaivoilo Khuris, Cortalim, en route to Verna. Verna Police confirmed his death at GMC, Bambolim, where the body has been preserved for medico-legal formalities.

Minor rape case: Forensic team inspects guest house

PANJIM: A forensic team from Goa Police visited the sealed Krishna Mahadev Guest House, the alleged scene of a sexual assault involving three minors. The team conducted a panchanama at the site, which remains under police custody. North Goa Superintendent of Police Rahul Gupta told reporters that the guest house was sealed as it was the crime scene. "We will write to the Tourism Department, District Collector and other authorities urging cancellation of the guest house's license. They have committed a crime and do not deserve to operate," Gupta said. He warned guest house owners, managers and aggregators not to let rooms to minors unless accompanied by parents or guardians. "Strict action will be taken, including cancellation of licences, if such incidents come to light," he added. Earlier, Agasaim Police arrested two individuals from Porvorim for allegedly sexually assaulting three minor girls at a Calangute hotel during the night of June 7-8. Police confirmed that four people have been arrested in connection with the case so far.

Fourth arrest made in Bastora assault case

PANJIM: Mapusa Police on Thursday arrested Tulsidas Shetye, the fourth accused in the Bastora assault case, in which a young couple was reportedly attacked at Bastora junction. Previously, three men — Ranganath Shetye (55), Vinod Shetkari (47), and Kaushal Shetye (32), all from Moira-Bardez — were arrested for allegedly assaulting Vivek Shirodkar and his pregnant wife Shruti. Their bail pleas were dismissed on Wednesday by the Mapusa District Court-II and Additional Sessions Court. Earlier, the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Mapusa, had remanded the trio to 14 days judicial custody. The investigating officer had sought an extension of five days of police custody. The incident, which occurred on June 2, reportedly began as a verbal altercation but escalated into a violent assault. The couple had been married just over a year, following an eight-year courtship.

Family assaulted by four in Demani, Cuncolim

MARGAO: Four persons have been booked for assaulting Allaudin Shaikh of Cuncolim, along with his wife and daughter, at Demani on June 9. Shaikh lodged a complaint stating that Siraj Shaikh, Tajudin Shaikh, Vaidha Shaikh, and Farzana Shaikh abused him with filthy language and assaulted him with fists and a wooden stick. They also attacked his wife and daughter using a stick and PVC pipe, causing injuries.

Two arrested for Colva abduction, assault case

MARGAO: Two persons have been arrested by Colva Police in connection with the abduction and brutal assault of Romy Fernandes, a resident of Colva, which occurred on September 19, 2024. Joel Fernandes of Sukubhat, Seraulim, lodged the complaint stating that between 4 am and 7 am on the said date, Walter Fernandes of Raia and others allegedly assaulted Romy with fists and kicks near Sagar Kinara. The accused then abducted Romy in a black car and took him near Colva Plaza, Seraulim, close to a petrol pump, where he was again beaten before being dropped near Maria Hall, Benaulim. The accused reportedly stripped Romy of his clothes, abused, and threatened him with dire consequences. The accused were absconding post-crime, prompting police to form search teams. On June 10, Walter Fernandes of Gandhi Road, Raia, and Yuvkesh Singh Badaika of Pajifond, Margao, were arrested and produced before JMFC Margao. They were remanded to three days in police custody.

Goa board issues tentative schedule for Std 10 and 12 exams

PANJIM: The Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (GBSHSE) has released the tentative timetable for the 2025-26 academic year board exams. As per the schedule, the Standard 10 (SSC) exams will be conducted from March 2 to March 27, 2026, while Standard 12 (HSSC) exams are set to take place from February 10 to February 23, 2026. The circular issued by the Board states that the timetable is provisional and subject to change. Earlier in March this year, GBSHSE Chairman Bhagirath Shetye had announced that Class X exams would begin on March 2, 2026.

Mazdoor sangh demands justice for temporary municipal workers, calls for regularisation

Team Herald

PONDA: The Gomantak Mazdoor Sangh (GMS) has called for justice for thousands of temporary workers employed in Goa's municipalities, demanding they be given the status and benefits of permanent employees. GMS president Puti Gaonkar, while addressing the media, said these workers, some of whom have served for over 20 years,

continue to work on daily wages that amount to starvation-level incomes.

Gaonkar highlighted that despite a 1988 government notification mandating that municipal workers be paid wages based on the pay commissions adopted by the State government, the directive is not being implemented by any of the 13 municipalities in Goa. "The workers have been serving for years in permanent

The workers have been serving for years in permanent posts, performing work of a permanent nature, yet their services remain unregularised

– Puti Gaonkar, GMS President

posts, performing work of a permanent nature, yet their services remain unregularised," he said.

Quoting the Supreme Court's ruling in Shripal & Anr. vs Nagar Nigam, Ghaziabad dated 31 January 2025,

Gaonkar said, "The Court clearly stated that workers performing duties of a permanent nature are entitled to regularisation and must be paid wages equivalent to permanent staff."

Further, he alleged that

although deductions are made from the workers' salaries towards ESIC and Provident Fund (PF), municipalities have failed to issue ESIC cards or deposit the deducted PF amounts into their accounts. As a result, retired workers have not received their PF settlements, and legal heirs of deceased workers are still awaiting family pensions.

In an effort to raise their voice before the Chief Min-

ister and concerned government authorities, GMS has announced a one-day convention of municipal workers on 15 June 2025 at 10:30 am in Sakhal, Goa. "Resolutions will be passed at the convention, and workers will decide their future course of action if their demands for regularisation and rightful wages, as per the 1988 notification, are not met," Gaonkar declared.

Fire guts Margao shop, losses in lakhs

Team Herald

MARGAO: A massive fire broke out at a shop located on Old Station Road, near the Old Bata Showroom in Margao-Salcete, causing extensive damage to goods and valuables, with the estimated loss running into lakhs.

The fire was reported to the Margao Fire Station at around 7.17 pm. A team led by the Sub Officer and duty crew, including Station Fire Officer (SFO) Gil Souza, was immediately dispatched to the site. One fire tender was pressed into service, and the team managed to return by 7.28 pm after bringing the fire under control.

SFO Gil Souza, who supervised the operation, said, "Plastic crates, bamboo baskets, a fan, the electric



A firefighter in action, swiftly containing the blaze at Margao

connection and a portion of the roof were burnt." He added that, "The shop affected was Shop No. 257, a fruit shop. Shop No. 14, which deals in nylon ropes and nets, sustained hardly any damage. In fact, our personnel managed to save Shop No. 14."

Although the exact value of the damage is yet to be confirmed, SFO Souza estimated the loss could run into lakhs. "The cause of the fire is still under investigation," he stated, adding, "The Margao Fire Station will write to the Electricity Department to help ascertain the exact cause."

Firefighters were praised for their swift response in containing the flames and preventing the fire from spreading to adjoining structures.

The saintly man Fr Benedict who taught Goa basketball

Fr Benedict Furtado was the founder president of Goa Basketball Association and built the first basketball court in the State

A FREDDY FERNANDES

Legends don't die, they live in the hearts of men and people's whose lives they touched. In the 1970s and 1980s Fr Benedict Furtado a Salesian of Don Bosco endeared himself to the poor and deserving boys, as acknowledged by the love and admiration which many past pupils of Don Bosco Panjim have for Fr Benedict.

Today Salesians commemorate the 39th death anniversary of Fr Benedict who died young at the age of 55 at Matunga, in 1986. Fr Benedict was in Don Bosco Panjim as Prefect of Studies from 1970 to 1975 and as Rector and Principal from 1978 to 84, during which period he sent many boys to the priesthood to

Don Bosco Lonavia and even paid their fees when they could not afford it.

In Goa, Fr Benedict Furtado is a legend because he founded the Goa Basketball Association and built the first basketball court at Don Bosco Panjim and not only promoted the game in Goa but personally conducted training sessions for youth. Seventeen clubs were registered with the Goa Basketball Association, when he was the Founder President.

"Fr Benedict had an ardent passion for youth and especially the poor. When he was in Pune, with me he told us if we ever came across a college student who could not afford to pay

fees or buy books he would help these students financially. He also asked us to invite them to our DB Koregaon Park Centre for a cup of tea and play Basketball,"

Rommel D'Souza recounts saying he could be seen as the reincarnation of Don Bosco.

"Fr Benedict Furtado was my Don Bosco High School Headmaster, a most loving and caring priest with maximum patience. I was fortunate to learn the Basketball through his encouragement after which I became a State Player," Past Pupil of Panjim, Adv Rui Ferreira recollects.

"Even in his life threatening illness, he was peaceful, never grumbled whatsoever. He led a life of Poverty. No excesses

always lived frugally," Fr Lionel Braganza, who is posted at Karnataka narrates.

"Fr Benedict Furtado may not be a canonized saint today in the Church, but I honour him as a very good human being and a saint to imitate and cherish all my life," Fr Albano Fernandes from DB Quepem says.

"Fr Benedict had a heart for the poor. Many past pupils from Panjim, Taleigao, Caranzalem and other places in Goa attribute their effectiveness in life to the care and concern shown to them by this wonderful priest," Fr Felix Fernandes, Former Provincial of Goa Province testifies.

This legend who changed the lives of many youth in Goa, during the hard times of 70s and 80s lives on in our hearts forever.

Drunken duo held for assault on Calangute biryani outlet staff

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: Calangute Police arrested two accused in connection with the assault on a staff member of a popular biryani restaurant which occurred early on Sunday morning. The first accused, Abhishek Sutar of Alto Torda, Salvador do Mundo, was arrested on Wednesday, while the second suspect

Deepak Kumar was apprehended shortly after.

The incident has sparked outrage over deteriorating law and order in Goa's tourism belt. According to the restaurant owner, Mainuddin Ansari, the two men, in a highly intoxicated state, entered his establishment—KGN Biryaniwala—and after consuming biryani, lollipops, and other items, refused to pay.

"They were completely drunk and out of control. After hitting the waiter, one of them even fell down. When asked to pay, they assaulted the staff, tried to snatch cash from the counter, and threatened us saying 'Kitna paise hai, nikal'. They also claimed links with the police and FDA, saying they could shut down our restaurant," Ansari said.

The entire incident was captured on CCTV. A formal complaint was lodged by Ansari, 31, a resident of Calangute, following which Calangute Police registered an offence. The accused were also charged with criminal intimidation and extortion, as they allegedly threatened Ansari with dire consequences bones if he refused to hand over the entire cash from the counter.

Shirgao Zatra tragedy: All 8 officials submit replies to show-cause notices

Team Herald

MAPUSA: Over a month after the tragic stampede during the Shirgao Zatra festival, which claimed six lives and injured nearly 100 people, the investigation has entered a crucial phase. The government is now examining responses from key officials who were on duty during the incident.

All eight government officials served with show-cause notices in connection with the Shirgao Zatra stampede have submitted their written replies, confirmed Chief Secretary V Candavelou.

All eight have since been transferred from their original postings.

The fatal incident occurred in early May at the Lairai Devi temple during the fire-walking ritual, which draws tens of thousands of devotees annually. The resulting crowd surge led to chaos on a narrow slope near the temple, sparking a stampede.

According to reports, Chief Secretary Candavelou confirmed that the replies have been received. "The course of action will be followed," he said, noting that he would review the responses before forwarding them to the Disciplinary Committee.

Kidnap victim brought back to Ponda

Team Herald

PONDA: Businessman Sandeep Chowdhury, 38, from Jofinagar, Ponda - who was kidnapped in broad daylight on 10 May - was brought back to Goa after being traced in Bengaluru on Wednesday night. The Ponda-based entrepreneur, engaged in various businesses in Goa and Karnataka, was abducted by unidentified persons in a Swift car at around 3.15 pm.

According to police sources, Chowdhury managed to escape from captivity and contacted a scrap dealer colleague based in Goa. Fortunately, the scrap dealer was with the Goa Police team that had been dispatched to Bengaluru to pursue the investigation. Upon receiving Chowdhury's location, the dealer immediately relayed the information to the team and the Bengaluru Police.

Based on this lead, Bengaluru Police located Chowdhury and took him to Devanahalli Police Station. From there, the Ponda Police took custody of the victim and brought him directly to the South

Sources revealed that Chowdhury was subjected to physical assault during his captivity. Although the motive behind the abduction remains unclear, police suspect it may be linked to business rivalry or financial disputes

Goa district, where he was interrogated at the Margao Police Station.

Sources revealed that Chowdhury was subjected to physical assault during his captivity. Although the motive behind the abduction remains unclear, police suspect it may be linked to business rivalry or financial disputes.

Following the kidnapping, Goa Police acted swiftly, using CCTV footage and other technical inputs to trace his whereabouts. Multiple teams were dispatched to Bengaluru to investigate and recover the businessman.

Police said the case is under investigation, and further details are expected to emerge as questioning continues.

APPOINTMENTS



GOA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
ADVERTISEMENT NO. 06 YEAR 2025
Published on 13.06.2025

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NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR FILLING UP OF POSTS OF LOWER DIVISION CLERK AND ACCOUNTS CLERK

Applications are invited for recruitment of following Group "C" posts in 'Goa Board of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, Alto-Betim'. The applicant should submit the application in prescribed format alongwith self attested documents such as Birth Certificate, Residence Certificate, Employment Exchange Card, Educational Qualification Certificate, Experience Certificate, Extra-Curricular Activities Certificates, Cast Certificate (if applicable) etc.

- Age 18 years and above and not exceeding 45 years (relaxable for Govt. Servant and reserved categories in accordance with instructions or orders issued by the Government).
- Candidate already in the Government service shall produce the NOC issued by the Competent Authority from the concerned Department.
- Incomplete application (without valid enclosures) will be rejected

DETAILS OF POSTS AND ELIGIBILITY

Sr. No	Post & Pay Scale	Total No. of Post	No. of vacancies categorywise	Essential Educational Qualification
01	Lower Division Clerk Level 2 of Pay of 7th CPC + allowances as applicable.	02	OBC-01 ST-01	(1) Possessing Higher Secondary School Certificate or All India Council for Technical Education approved Diploma awarded by recognized State Board of Technical Education or equivalent qualifications from a recognized Institution. (2) Knowledge of computer application/operations with typing speed of 30 words per minutes in English. (3) Knowledge of Konkani. Desirable: Knowledge of Marathi.
02	Accounts Clerk Level 4 of Pay of 7th CPC + allowances as applicable.	01	UR-01	(1) B.Com Graduate with sound knowledge of Tally package accounting and preferably having two years experience in this field (2) Knowledge of computer application/operations. (3) Certificate course in Tally (4) Knowledge of Konkani. Desirable: Knowledge of Marathi.

Interested candidates fulfilling eligibility criteria may submit his/her application along with the certified copies of relevant documents to the Secretary- Goa Board of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, Alto-Betim 403521 on or before 28/06/2025. Visit www.gbshse.in for detailed instructions and Eligibility criteria

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