

Rains continue to lash Goa; IMD issues orange alert

Very heavy rainfall forecast for June 14-16; Yellow alert for following 3 days

Team Herald

PANJIM: Heavy rains continued to batter Goa on Friday, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issuing an orange alert for June 14, 15 and 16, 2025, and a yellow alert for the subsequent three days.

The IMD reported moderate to heavy rainfall across most parts of

the State, with very heavy to extremely heavy rain recorded at isolated locations.

Rainfall data for the 24-hour period ending at 8:30 am on June 13, 2025, showed Ponda receiving the highest amount at 8.6 inches, followed by Dharbandora with 6.6 inches, Sanguem 5.6 inches, and Canacona 5.5 inches. Other areas

included Mapusa (3.8 inches), Quepem (3.9 inches), Panjim and Pernem (3.5 inches each), Old Goa and Dabolim (3.3 inches each), Mormugao (2.2 inches), and Sanquelim (1.4 inches).

An IMD official stated, "Very heavy rainfall at isolated places with heavy rainfall at a few places is very likely over North Goa and

South Goa districts on June 14, 15 and 16. Heavy rainfall is also likely at isolated places in both districts on June 17, 18 and 19."

The orange alert indicates preparedness for extremely heavy rainfall and possible disruption, while the yellow alert suggests the possibility of heavy rain requiring watchfulness.

Overnight rain triggers soil erosion, exposes cables at Opa-Khandepar

Team Herald

PONDA: Heavy rain throughout the night has led to significant soil erosion along the roadside at Opa, Khandepar. The downpour has washed mud onto the road, leaving underground electricity cables exposed and creating hazardous conditions for commuters.

The erosion has caused waterlogging and rendered the road muddy and slippery, posing serious risks to those using the stretch. Similar incidents have occurred at the site in previous years as well.

Local resident Sandeep Parkar expressed concern over the situation, stating that the erosion has created a dangerous condition on the road. He noted that the road leads to the Water Treatment Plants at Opa, where around 60 employees work, and the risk is particularly high for those commuting after night shifts.

Parkar urged the PWD to install signboards and



barricades along the roadside to alert commuters of the danger. He also pointed out that underground cables laid along the road-

side have been exposed due to the heavy rain.

Calling for immediate action, Parkar emphasised the need for urgent safe-



ty measures and proper drainage and gutter systems to restore the road and prevent accidents at the site.

Choked gutter floods Borim house after heavy rain

Team Herald

PONDA: Heavy rain on Thursday night led to severe flooding at the residence of Sanyog Naik in Borim, after water from a choked gutter overflowed into his house, damaging household goods and causing considerable hardship to his family.

The house, located alongside the National Highway and on a slope, was inundated when rainwater from nearly a kilometre uphill failed to drain properly due to a blocked gutter, said Javesh Naik. He blamed the recently constructed roadside drainage system by the NH PWD for the issue.

"This is the fourth consecutive year my house has been flooded, and it now poses a risk of collapse," Javesh added.

Following the flooding, a team from the Ponda Fire Brigade rushed to the site and undertook temporary measures to clear the water and provide relief.

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Landslides, wall collapse wreak havoc in Usgao after four-hour downpour

Team Herald

PONDA: A four-hour spell of heavy rain on Monday night triggered landslides and the collapse of a retaining wall at Usgao, causing major damage to several houses. Fortunately, all residents escaped unhurt despite being indoors at the time of the incidents.



According to Usgao Sarpanch Ramanath Dangui, a landslide at Takiwada severely damaged the houses of Suresh Sonar and Pradeep Pal. "Both houses suffered extensive damage and remain at risk if the heavy rainfall continues," he said.

In another incident at Siddheshwarnagar, a retaining wall protecting the house of Rehnabanu Wati collapsed onto the neighbouring home of Kavita Hiremati, causing major damage to both properties. "If the collapsed wall is not restored immediately, the remaining portion may fall and further damage to Rehnabanu's house," Dangui warned.

Similarly, a landslide damaged the house of Laxmi Varsekar, leaving it with visible cracks and at risk of collapse.

Sarpanch Dangui said he had alerted the local MLA and Health Minister Vish-

wajeet Rane, who assured that a site inspection would be conducted later in the evening to assess the damage and initiate relief measures. Ponda Deputy Collector Shubam Naik and members of the disaster management team have also been informed of the incidents.

The Sarpanch added that some houses in low-lying areas of Usgao were flooded due to the intense rainfall.

He urged the government to inspect the affected areas and provide immediate assistance to homeowners.

Meanwhile, a team from the Ponda Fire Department rushed to the affected sites to assist with relief operations.

District Child Protection Unit, South Goa
Sub: Advertisement

This is to inform the General Public that the children mentioned below are staying at a Child Care Institution in South Goa. Whose parent/relatives whereabouts are not available. As per Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2015, any claimant for these children like guardian, grandparents, relatives, etc. are kindly requested to contact the District Child Protection Unit - South Goa, C type quarters, C-10-3 & C-10-4, Junta Quarters, Pajifond, Margao-Goa. Phone: 8975783723, e-mail: - depusouthgoa@gmail.com within 60 days of advertisement.

If no valid claims are made, the said children will be declared legally free for Adoption.

Details of the Child	Photograph of Child
1. Name: Adika	
2. Sex: Female	
3. Age: 01 month 25 days (as on 31/05/2025)	
4. Date of Birth: 06/04/2025	
5. Father's Name: Not Known	
6. Mother's Name: Not Known	

Collector warns mamlatdars, talathis over lapses in sand mining case

North Goa Collector issues strict directives following HC's intervention

Team Herald

PANJIM: The North Goa Collector has submitted an affidavit to the High Court stating that directions have been issued to the Talathi and Mamlatdar of Bicholim, warning that no negligence in submission of correspondence or reports will be tolerated henceforth. The officials have also been directed to ensure that proper office procedures are followed, particularly with regard to sand extractions.

The affidavit was filed by then Collector Sneha S Gite

in connection with a contempt petition filed by The Goa River Sand Protectors.

In the affidavit, the Collector stated that regular instructions have been issued to the concerned Mamlatdars to exercise the utmost vigilance in monitoring illegal sand mining activities, and to coordinate with line departments to regulate and prevent such activities.

Pursuant to High Court directives issued in April 2025, the Collector served show-cause notices to the then Mamlatdars of Bicholim—Pravina Gawas,

Vinod Dalal, and Sidharth Prabhu—asking why the report of the Talathi of Sanquelim, dated June 13, 2024, was not inwards in the office records of the Mamlatdar of Bicholim. The Mamlatdars submitted replies stating that the report had not been placed before them, but was instead submitted to the concerned Circle Inspector-II.

Following this, a memorandum was issued to the Talathi, seeking an explanation as to why the Mamlatdar's office inward stamp was missing on the said report and to whom the re-

port dated June 13, 2024, had been submitted. The Talathi responded that he had submitted the report to the next officer in charge, the Circle Inspector, who was then responsible for processing and initiating action by placing it before the Mamlatdar. However, the Circle Inspector failed to act on the report and left it unattended. It was also noted that the Circle Inspector had taken Voluntary Retirement (VRD) last month.

As a corrective measure, the Collector has now issued fresh directions to all

Mamlatdars in North Goa District to maintain conventional means of correspondence as per norms. In addition, a parallel and proactive communication channel is to be established via WhatsApp to ensure prompt communication between Mamlatdars and subordinate staff, including Talathis. Any incidents of illegal sand mining requiring urgent attention must be communicated through mobile phone or WhatsApp to ensure swift action is taken. The matter is now scheduled for further hearing on July 15.

Tourism Dept cancels registration of Calangute hotel after rape of minors

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Department of Tourism has ordered the immediate cancellation of the registration of Hotel Mahadev in Calangute, following a deeply disturbing incident involving child abuse and crimes against minor girls.

The hotel, which was registered as a Category C establishment under the Goa Registration of Tourist Trade Act, 1982, came under scrutiny after the recent case, prompting swift action from the authorities.

Taking serious note of the establishment's failure to maintain safety standards and legal compliance expected of registered tourism entities, Director of Tourism Kedar Naik directed the Project Manager of the Registration Facilitation Centre (RFC) to proceed with the hotel's deregistration immediately.

"The Department of Tourism is committed to ensuring that all tourism-related establishments in the State operate responsibly and in full

compliance with the law. Any violation, especially one that endangers the safety of women and children, will be dealt with firmly and without delay," stated Naik.

The Tourism Department reiterated its commitment to working closely with law enforcement and all relevant stakeholders to maintain high standards of safety, integrity, and social responsibility in the sector. The safety and well-being of all tourists and residents—particularly minors—remains the department's top priority.

Calangute Sarpanch Joseph Sequeira revealed that the same individual is operating two other hotels in the area.

"If necessary, we will take action against those as well. Whenever we become aware of illegal activities in hotels, we act," he asserted.

The authorities swiftly swung into action after Emidio Pinho, Coordinator of Save Child Abuse Now (SCAN) had written to the Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte and SP Rahul Gupta demanding urgent action.



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