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Panjim | **MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2025** | PRICE ₹10.00 | AIR SURCHARGE ₹10 | REG. NO. G2/RNP/GOA/101/2021-23 | PAGES 12 | **GOA'S LARGEST CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER**

Overwhelming public support for app-based taxis in Goa, shows survey

94% of respondents in the TTAG survey back regulated taxi aggregators as locals call for more affordable, smarter mobility options

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MARGAO: The Travel and Tourism Association of Goa (TTAG) has announced that in its open public survey on app-based taxi services, 93.8% of 4,940 respondents have backed the introduction of regulated taxi aggregator services in the State. The survey, which was open to all citizens as part of the ongoing public consultation process, will now be submitted to the State Transport Department.

TTAG President Jack Sukhija said the broad public participation demonstrates that app-based taxi services are not just a tourist requirement but a public utility that locals also want.

"The survey clearly shows that there is an overwhelming sentiment in favour of taxi apps by locals, as it will increase mobility options and reduce the stress of driving on our high-density roads," Sukhija stated.

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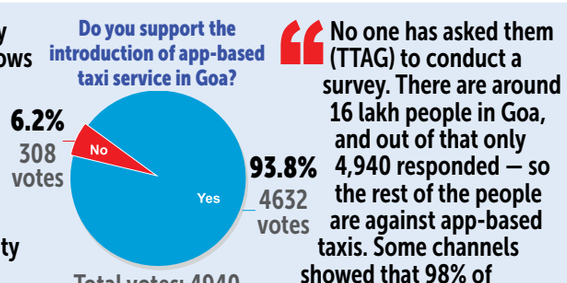
> **The survey clearly shows that there is an overwhelming sentiment in favour of taxi apps by locals, as it will increase mobility options and reduce the stress of driving on our high-density roads**
> **– Jack Sukhija,** *TTAG President*



> **No one has asked them (TTAG) to conduct a survey. There are around 16 lakh people in Goa, and out of that only 4,940 responded — so the rest of the people are against app-based taxis. Some channels showed that 98% of people don't want app-based taxis. What about that? I think Goa doesn't need app-based taxis**
> **– Sunil Naik,** *President of the North and South Goa Taxi Operators' Association*

Herald finds Goans debunk 'tourist-only' narrative

Team Herald

MARGAO: The overwhelming support revealed in the Travel and Tourism Association of Goa's (TTAG) survey finds validation in conversations across Goa's towns and villages, where residents who did not participate in the formal survey express strong support for app-based taxi services and view the draft aggregator guidelines as reasonable.

These locals, speaking independently of any formal consultation process, challenge the long-held assumption that such platforms cater exclusively to tourists. While most Goan households do own vehicles, residents argue that modern life often requires transportation flexibility that goes beyond personal vehicle ownership.

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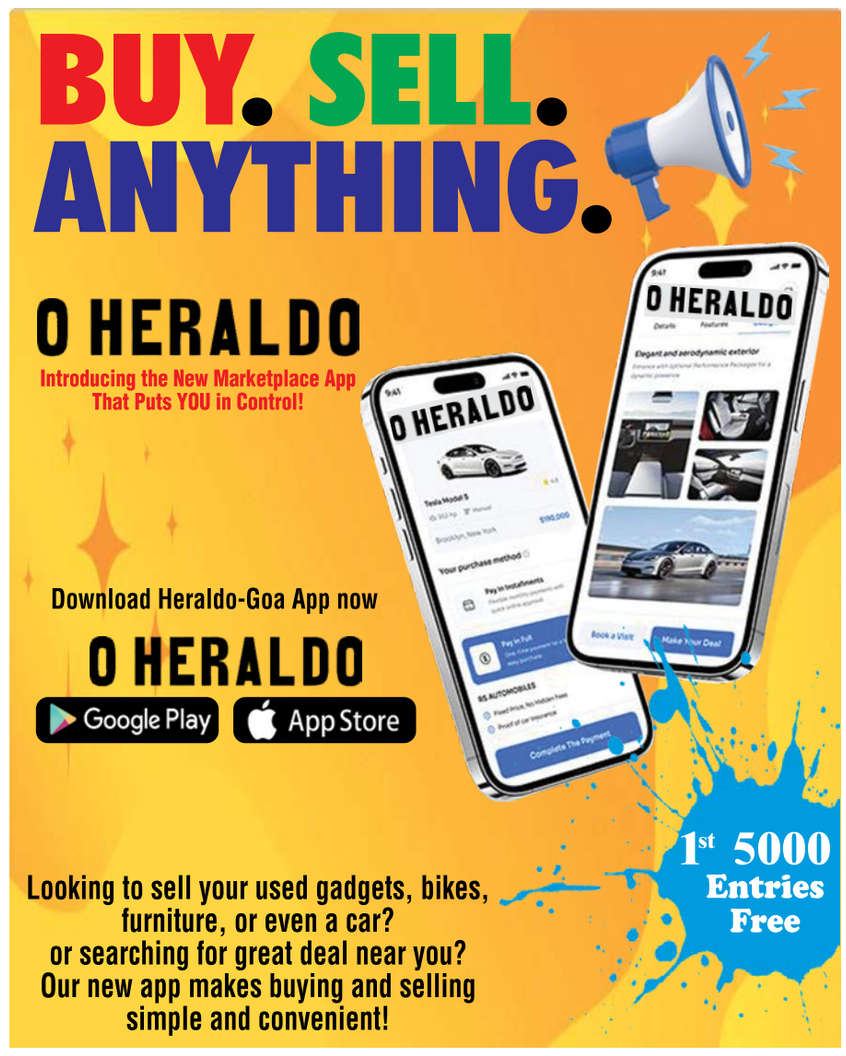

Goa-Dubai Air India flight cancelled at last minute

Passengers stranded at Dabolim airport

Team Herald

VASCO: The troubles of Air India services continued as its Goa-Dubai flight was cancelled, leaving passengers stranded at the Dabolim International Airport on Saturday past midnight.

The Dabolim-bound flight was cancelled at the last minute at around 1:05 am on Sunday. The flight was rescheduled to 2:55 am before being cancelled entirely, inviting wrath of the passengers.

The passengers were upset due to the last minute cancellation as some had international connections and commitments. It led to chaos at the airport terminal.

Director of Goa Airport George Varghese informed that the Goa — Dubai flight was cancelled due to a technical snag. The aircraft never arrived from Dubai for its return journey from Goa.

According to Varghese, the airline had since accommodated about 35 passengers on Sunday's alternate Goa-Dubai flight and assured to accomodate the remaining passengers in Monday's flight.

Passengers who requested a refund were issued their refund amount.

PTI

People stand near the bridge after it collapsed in Pune, on Sunday

4 dead, 18 injured as pedestrian bridge collapses in Pune

One suspected to be trapped under the debris; structure gave way under weight of tourists, say officials

PTI, PUNE: Four persons died and 18 others were seriously injured after an old iron pedestrian bridge on the Indrayani river collapsed on Sunday afternoon in Pune's Maval tehsil, prima facie due to crowding by tourists who ignored the warning board at the spot, a state minister said.

Teams of the National Disaster Response Force have been conducting rescue operations at the spot over the last four hours to remove the portions of the structure and locate a trapped person, officials said.

"While two bodies were recovered from beneath the structure, two persons succumbed to injuries during treatment after being rescued," said Talegaon Dabhade police station senior inspector Pradeep Rayannawar.

He said one person is suspected to be trapped under the portions of the collapsed bridge, and rescue efforts are on.

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IRAN-ISRAEL BATTLE

US may get involved, Putin ready to mediate: Donald Trump

AFP, WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump told a news network Sunday the United States could become involved in the Iran-Israel conflict, and that he would be "open" to his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin being a mediator.

The Republican president, according to ABC News, also said talks over Iran's nuclear programme were continuing and that Tehran would "like to make a deal," perhaps more quickly now that the Islamic republic is trading massive strikes with Israel.

"It's possible we could get involved" in the ongoing battle between the Middle East arch-foes, Trump said in an off-camera interview with ABC News senior political correspondent Rachel Scott that was not previously publicised.

He stressed that the United States is "not at this moment" involved in the military action.

As for Putin being a potential mediator in the conflict, "he is ready. He called me about it. We had a long talk about it," Trump said.

Israel and Iran traded heavy aerial assaults for a third straight day Sunday, with casualties mounting following Israel's large-scale attacks aimed at crippling Iran's nuclear and military infrastructure, sparking retaliation.

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MAX. TEMP	29.2 °C
MIN. TEMP	24.5 °C

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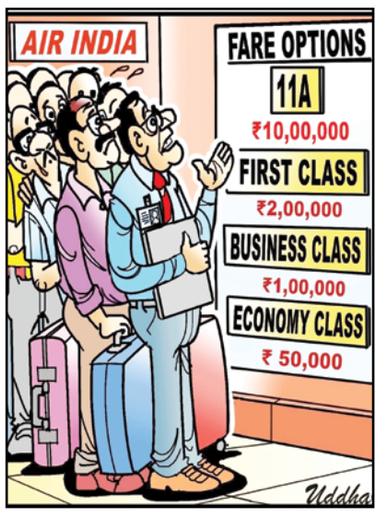

Sorry, as expected, 11A is already sold out.

Seven killed in chopper crash near Kedarnath

DGCA suspends operator, deploys safety teams after fifth mishap on Chardham route

PTI, RUDRAPRAYAG (UTTARAKHAND): A helicopter carrying pilgrims from the Kedarnath shrine crashed early Sunday in the forests of Gaurikund amid poor visibility, killing all seven people on board, the fifth helicopter accident on the Chardham Yatra route since the pilgrimage started on April 30.

The Civil Aviation Ministry suspended the operations of the helicopter operator and issued a slew of safety directions after the tragedy, which came just days after one of the deadliest air disasters where an Air India flight to London crashed in Ahmedabad just after take-off, killing 241 people on board and several others on the ground.

PTI

NDRF personnel at the crash site in Uttarakhand on Sunday

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