

High Court questions use of CCTVs to monitor night-time noise pollution

Pulls up authorities for toothless monitoring, delayed action

AUGUSTO RODRIGUES

PORVORIM: As the Bombay High Court at Goa was informed that operations at nightclub 'Diaz' in Anjuna had been suspended, Justice Bharati Dangre questioned the relevance of CCTV surveillance in monitoring noise levels.

"How can CCTVs provide decibel readings?" asked Justice Dangre during the hearing of a contempt petition related to noise pollution, where Amicus Curiae Nigel Costa Frias said that establishments with consent to operate from the Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB) were required to submit proof of CCTV and noise monitoring system installations.

Costa Frias explained that under Supreme Court orders, "no music can be played in open areas after 10 pm," and while the police claim no violations occur, citizens complain otherwise. "CCTV footage can show if places remain open or people are dancing—indicating music is playing," he said.

A CCTV will show till what time a party is on. When complaints are made by the public that loud music can be heard after 10, the police counter by claiming no violation could be found. CCTV's will help establish the truth because they will have the time and date of action recorded

— Nigel Costa Frias, Amicus Curiae

People could be in restaurants after ten. This being a case related to noise pollution after 10, how will a CCTV help monitor whether a place is playing loud music. CCTV is not an instrument to indicate whether noise decibels have been breached

— Justice Dangre



Xavier Retreat House in Baga has been admitted as an intervening petitioner and during the hearing on Thursday placed before the court a list of seven complaints made to 112, the Calangute Police Inspector and the Porvorim- Calangute SDO, with no effect. Complaints have been made from June 9 till June 17 with one noise complaint made as late as 11.18 pm

Justice Dangre, however, remained unconvinced. "People could be in restaurants after ten. This being a case related to noise pollution after 10, how will a CCTV help monitor whether a place is playing loud music. CCTV is not an instrument to indicate whether noise decibels have been breached," she said.

The Amicus Curiae argued that timestamps on

footage can at least help verify whether parties continued beyond the legal cutoff time, countering police claims of compliance. "It's about establishing the facts," he said.

GSPCB counsel Manish Salkar, appearing online, informed the court that Diaz had been directed to suspend operations pending further inquiry. "If some units are shut down

for violating the Air Act, it could act as a deterrent," said Justice Dangre.

The GSPCB's affidavit confirmed action against Diaz (a unit of P&P Food Corporation), located in Gaum Vaddi, Anjuna, and called on the operator to appear for a hearing on June 20 to show cause why their 'Consent to Operate' should not be revoked.

When the petitioner

questioned why action was limited to one establishment, Justice Dangre instructed, "Compile all violations and submit them to the Amicus Curiae."

The court was also informed that several establishments along the Baga coast continue to disturb religious institutions, including Xavier Retreat House, which has joined the case as an intervenor. The retreat house submitted records of seven unanswered complaints made between June 9 and 17 to the Calangute Police and other authorities.

Justice Dangre directed the implementation of the Calangute Police Inspector in the case, noting that repeated complaints had gone unaddressed.

"This case is going on with directions being issued on suggestions and recommendations and this is taking too long," said Justice Dangre, ordering the Amicus Curiae to present a synopsis of all directions issued so far and their compliance status at the next hearing on July 14.

'Supari Andolan' will continue, says Kala Rakhon Maand

Group welcomes Gaude's removal but vows to protest until KA is fully restored to former glory

Team Herald

PANJIM: Members of Kala Rakhon Maand on Friday declared that their ongoing 'Supari Andolan' would continue despite expressing satisfaction over the sacking of Art and Culture Minister Govind Gaude from the Cabinet.

Speaking to reporters, Devidas Amonkar of Kala Rakhon Maand stated, "Kala Academy has not been restored to what it was. We have observed that there are more problems than what was reported earlier. But under these circumstances, Minister Govind Gaude has been sent home. We do not know whether the minister has been sent home or has been put into hiding."

He alleged that Gaude had been used as a "shield" when the group was actively raising concerns over the state of the Kala Academy. "Still, we have not received the full details of the amount spent on the so-called renovation of Kala Academy. But now one message has gone across — that nobody should try to play with artists," Amonkar said.

Kala Rakhon Maand also demanded that the key posts of Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Member Secretary of Kala Academy be reserved for individuals from the field of art and culture.

"We do not want politicians in these positions. Politicians have destroyed the Kala Academy," the members asserted.

Absconding land grabbing mastermind Suhail arrested

Team Herald

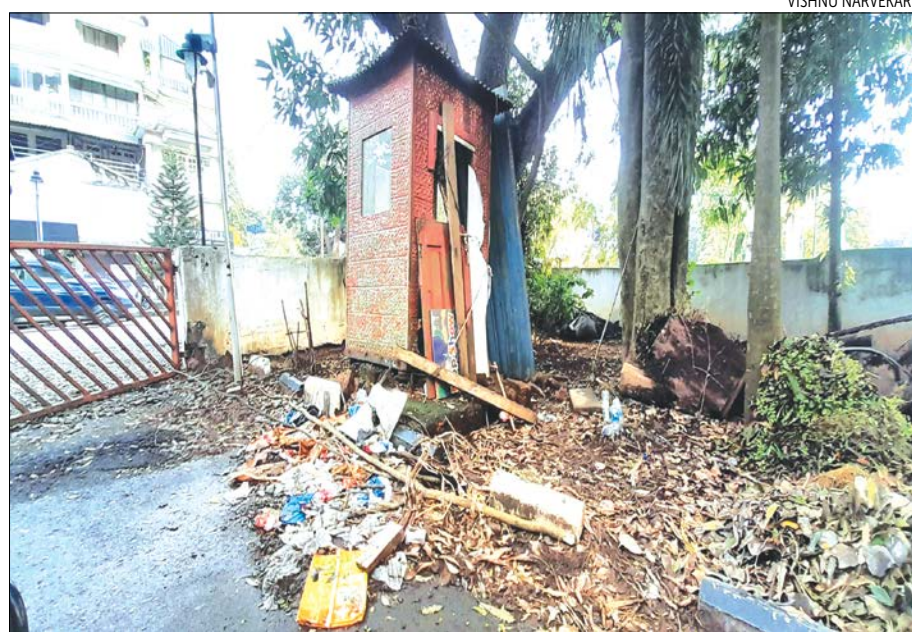
PANJIM: Mohammad Suhail alias Michael (48), a notorious land grabber who had been absconding, was arrested by the Crime Branch on Friday near a petrol pump in Quepem.

Suhail, a resident of Pilar, Goa, originally from Davangere, Karnataka, was wanted by the Crime Branch in connection with multiple cases involving forgery,

cheating, and criminal conspiracy. A habitual offender, he is believed to be the mastermind behind several high-profile land grabbing operations.

Between 2012 and 2023, Suhail had previously been arrested in over a dozen cases across Goa. These include cases registered with the Special Investigation Team (SIT), the Economic Offences Cell (EOC), and police stations.

FORGOTTEN POST



The security staff box at Kala Akademy, Panjim, is in a deteriorated condition, marked by poor maintenance and unhygienic surroundings

Close shave for woman as leopard enters courtyard of Dhavalim

Locals live in fear as wild animals descend regularly in search of water and prey

Team Herald

PONDA: Panic gripped the residents of Varchawada, Dhavalim, on the night of 19 June after a fully grown leopard entered the courtyard of a house in the Kulagar Bagayat area at the foothills, in an apparent attempt to poach a dog.

Mangal Gaude narrowly escaped a terrifying encounter when she stepped outside around 7.30 pm, alerted by the loud barking of her two dogs. "It was a close shave," she said, recounting the moment she saw the leopard charging into her courtyard. "Seeing me and hearing my cries for help, the confused leopard

abandoned its attempt to catch the dog and disappeared from the site."

Her dogs managed to escape unscathed and fled into the house for safety. Gaude added, "I heaved a sigh of relief as the leopard, despite being just a short distance away, did not attack me."

Her husband, Prakash Gaude, expressed concern over the increasingly frequent appearance of wild animals near their home.

"We fear for our lives, especially during the evening hours when darkness sets in. These wild animals often enter our area between 6.30 pm and 8.30 pm. While there have been no attacks

on humans so far, we remain worried for our safety," he said.

This is not an isolated incident. Prakash recalled a frightening episode last year when a leopard entered their house through the main door and was discovered sitting on top of the refrigerator. As soon as it was spotted, it fled the scene.

He also noted that another family member had once seen a black panther on their pathway leading to the house. In addition, wild bison are frequently spotted in their plantation area.

The Gaudes live in the Kulagar Bagayat region, a densely vegetated slope

rich with betel nut, coconut and other plantations. The area is home to eight small springs and a lake, which serve as water sources for the wild animals.

"Due to widespread deforestation, wild animals now roam closer to human settlements in search of water and food. Leopards specifically target dogs," Prakash said.

The family, along with other local residents, have urged the Forest Department to take immediate steps to ensure their safety. They have called for measures such as installing cages to trap leopards or driving the animals back into deeper forest zones.

Team Herald

PANJIM: Minister for Archaeology Subhash Phal Dessai on Thursday announced that the Goa State Heritage Policy will be implemented in a phased manner over the next five years.

Speaking at a press conference held at Mantralaya, Porvorim, the Minister said that under the Goa State Heritage 2025 plan, 122 heritage houses across the State have been identified for restoration and maintenance.

He also revealed that the government intends to develop a revenue-sharing model in collaboration with the owners of these properties to support their long-term upkeep. "The initiative aims to preserve Goa's architectural legacy while ensuring

sustainable use of heritage properties," he stated.

Phal Dessai said the policy will remain in place for five years and will be analysed at the end of the term. "If required, it will be reviewed based on its impact and outcomes," he added.

As part of the broader implementation plan, the Minister said that a comprehensive survey will also

be conducted to identify antique items lying in villages, with documentation and historical research to be compiled into a dedicated report.

The policy further includes plans for the restoration of 222 heritage structures, the revival of 46 folk art forms, and the preservation of 61 traditional occupations.

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PUBLIC CAUTION NOTICE

This CAUTION NOTICE is in reference to the Public Notice of Advocate Pragati S. Shelkar, having Office no. 8, 1st floor, Pernem Central, Above S.B.J Building, Pernem, Goa, published in the Navhind Times on 19/06/2025 at page 9 therein, on behalf of her clients Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar, both residing at House No. 1471, Kumarwado, near Hotel Anjuna, Bardez Taluka, Goa which is in respect of a property admeasuring 2,21,550 sq. metres, known as "Cursacho Lanco", also referred to as "Assagao Afframent Wadi", bearing Survey No. 101/1 of Assagao village, within the jurisdiction of the Village of Assagao, Bardez Taluka, North Goa District, State of Goa.

The Public at large are informed that the said Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar have no subsisting right, title or interest in the said property bearing survey no. 101/1 of Assagao village, which entirely belongs to and is as such exclusively owned and possessed by the Comunidade of Assagao.

The Public at large are further informed that an F.I.R bearing no. 94/2024 dated 19/07/2024 has been registered by the S.I.T at Ribandar, Tiswadi, Goa against the said Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar, which is in pursuance of a Complaint filed by the Comunidade of Assagao and in addition thereto there are also proceedings pending before other Authorities that have been instituted by the Comunidade of Assagao against the said Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar. The said Public Notice is therefore a deliberate attempt on the part of the said Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar, to mislead the general public despite having no right, title or interest in the said property and therefore the public in general are hereby informed that the said Public Notice dated 19/06/2025 by the said Advocate Pragati S. Shelkar on behalf of her clients Mr. Sudesh Madhu Parxencar and Mrs. Nanda Naik alias Supriya Sudesh Parxencar is therefore baseless and a farce and the Public at large are called upon to ignore the contents and the claims of the said Public Notice.

Assagao, Goa,
20/06/2025

The Managing Committee,
Comunidade of Assagao

PAWS, Mission Rabies sterilise over 400 stray dogs in four weeks

Humane drive spans Panjim and surrounding villages to control stray population

Team Herald

PANJIM: In a notable collaborative effort, the Panaji Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) and Mission Rabies have successfully sterilised over 400 stray dogs in just four weeks, as part of an intensive animal birth control drive.

The campaign covered Panjim city and its surrounding villages, including Taleigao, Santa Cruz, Siridao, Bambolim, Mercedes, and Curca. The initiative aims to manage the stray dog popu-

The campaign covered Panjim city and its surrounding villages, including Taleigao, Santa Cruz, Siridao, Bambolim, Mercedes, and Curca

lation using humane and scientifically supported methods, promoting both animal welfare and public safety.

"This achievement reflects what's possible through strategic partnerships and focused execution. We're incredibly grateful to

Mission Rabies and our dedicated ground teams for their tireless work. All dogs were safely caught, operated upon by trained veterinary professionals, and released back to their respective locations after post-operative care, as per the Animal Birth Control (ABC) guidelines," PAWS said in an official statement.

"PAWS remains committed to sustainable and humane population control methods and looks forward to continued collaboration with partners, authorities, and the community," the statement added.

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COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, RAJYA SABHA

EXAMINATION OF 'AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF HEALTHCARE FACILITIES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR'

The Committee on Health and Family Welfare, Rajya Sabha, chaired by Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) has identified the subject "Affordability and Accessibility of Healthcare Facilities in Public and Private Sector" for a detailed examination. To have a wider consultation on the above-mentioned subject, the Committee has decided to invite views/suggestions from the concerned stakeholders and general public interested in the subject matter. Those desirous of submitting the Memorandum to the Committee, may send through e-mail both in pdf as well as in word formats only in Hindi/English to Shri Bhupendra Bhaskar, Director, Rajya Sabha Secretariat (Tel: 011-23034034) at rs-chfw@sansad.nic.in within 15 days of publication of this communiqué. The Memorandum submitted to the Committee would form part of the records of the Committee and would be treated as 'confidential'.

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