

shorttakes

Woman killed in road accident at Redeghat

PORIEM: Vanita Pokle, a resident of Sankhali, was killed in a road accident at Redeghat, Valpoi, on Friday evening. According to Valpoi Police, Pokle, who worked as a security guard at the Community Health Centre, Valpoi, was waiting for a bus after her duty hours. As no bus was available, she took a lift on a two-wheeler. "While proceeding towards her home, when she reached Redeghat, a Maharashtra-registered truck dashed the two-wheeler, resulting in the death of the woman," said the police. The truck driver reportedly fled the scene but was later stopped at Valpoi. The police detained the driver and seized the truck. Locals at the scene alleged that the truck driver was under the influence of alcohol. Valpoi Police conducted the panchanama and are investigating the case further.

Saligao police recover lost iPhone

CALANGUTE: The Saligao Police have successfully tracked and recovered a missing iPhone belonging to one Krutika Rane. The phone was recovered from Dharbandora and returned to the owner after completing due procedures, police confirmed.

Two mahazans held for theft of idols from Sanquelim temple

BICHOLIM: The Bicholim police on Saturday arrested two mahazans on charges of stealing three ancient idols from Shri Saunthan Dattawadi temple at Sanquelim. The arrests of Shyam Bodke, currently residing in Mapusa and Dinesh Kamat from Langao, Bicholim, were made following a complaint filed by Bicholim Mamlatdar and Administrator of Devalayas, Dattaprasad Toraskar. Notably, Bodke also serves as the attorney for the temple's managing committee. According to former temple committee president Dr Rajendra Sakhardande, the incident took place on June 24, when Bodke, Kamat, and five others allegedly removed three sacred and extremely valuable idols—Devi Annapurna, Lord Ganpati, and Lord Maruti—from the temple premises. Dr Sakhardande and fellow mahazan Sagar Samant filed a complaint with the Mamlatdar, who summoned both parties for an inquiry on Friday. However, only two committee members attended the hearing, which was subsequently adjourned to Monday. The Mamlatdar lodged a formal police complaint on Saturday, leading to the immediate arrest of Bodke and Kamat. Police have also seized a vehicle used to transport the idols and are currently searching for the other accused. Authorities are investigating the motive behind the unauthorised removal of the idols. The case has been registered under Sections 305 and 299 read with 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.

Two scooter thefts reported in Margao; police launch investigations

MARGAO: Two separate scooter thefts have been reported in Margao, with both cases registered under Section 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. In the first incident, Maria Paulina D'Souza of Loutolim lodged a complaint at Maina-Curtorim police station stating that on June 26, her red scooter, valued at Rs 50,000, was stolen from Camorlim. Police conducted a panchanama at the scene, and PSI Sagar Kamat is investigating. In another case, Fransquinha Vaz, 49, of Margao reported the theft of her scooter from an open parking space near her residence between June 18 and 19. Fatorda Police have registered the offence, and PSI Ramrai Naik is leading the investigation.

Chinchinim man grievously injured in Cuncolim road accident

MARGAO: Cyril Piedad Pinto, 62, a resident of Chinchinim, sustained grievous injuries after being knocked down by a car at Panzorconi near Cuncolim on 23 June. Cuncolim Police have registered an offence under Sections 281 and 125(b) of the BNS, 2023, following a complaint lodged by Head Constable Tukaram Velip of Cuncolim Police Station. According to the complaint, the alleged accused, Saurabh Desai, aged 35 and a resident of Corlim, was driving a Maruti Suzuki Omni in a rash and negligent manner while heading from Cuncolim towards Margao. Upon reaching Panzorconi, he lost control of the vehicle and collided with an oncoming motorcycle. As a result, the rider, Pinto, fell on the edge of the tar road and suffered grievous leg injuries. PSI Tukaram Velip is conducting the investigation.

Canacona police refer death case of 80-year-old for SDM enquiry

MARGAO: Canacona Police have written to the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Canacona, requesting further inquiry under Section 196 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) in connection with the death of Anup Kamat, aged 80, of Chaudi, Canacona. Police stated they received information from the PI of Old Goa Police Station, who was informed by GMC Bambolim that the deceased had passed away while undergoing treatment. Enquiries revealed that Kamat, who was mentally ill, had been shifted to IPHB, Bambolim for medical treatment after an order from the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Canacona. Canacona Police have now initiated the formal procedure for further inquiry by the SDM as per Section 196 of the BNSS. The body of the deceased is currently preserved at GMC, Bambolim for medico-legal formalities.

Two Nigerian nationals booked for illegal stay in Goa

PANJIM: Mapusa police have booked two Nigerian nationals for illegally staying in India without valid travel documents. The accused, identified as Olise Augustine Okafore (38) and Uche Justine Onuegbu (43), both residing at Agarwado, Pernem, were apprehended for violating visa norms and overstaying their permitted duration in the country.

Three booked for assault and threats in Margao

MARGAO: Margao Police have registered a case against three individuals for allegedly assaulting Hemant Pai Angle and a minor student, damaging the complainant's phone, and issuing threats. The incident took place on April 14, 2025. The accused, identified as Bijumon Nair (54), Darshan Amadalli (24), and Venkatraman Amadalli, all residents of Margao, allegedly attacked the complainant and the minor, and threatened them with dire consequences. An offence has been registered under Sections 115(2), 351(3), 324(4) of the BNS 2023, and Section 8(2) of the Goa Children's Act. Further investigation is in progress.

Adpoi ferry ramp submerged during high tide, commuters at risk

Team Herald

PONDA: The Adpoi ferry ramp, which connects commuters to the Rassoi ferry route, continues to submerge under water during high tides in the monsoon season, causing concern among locals and regular travellers. Residents are now demanding that the ramp and the adjoining road be raised to ensure public safety.

The issue has become an annual phenomenon, with the ramp—located in a low-lying area—regularly



going under water during monsoon high tides. Locals said that hundreds of commuters use the ferry daily and often struggle to board or alight due to the water-

logged ramp. "Every year during the rainy season, the ramp gets

submerged during high tide, making it extremely difficult and unsafe for people to use the ferry," said a local resident.

Commuters also pointed out that the situation becomes worse when the Zuari river experiences high tides, as water levels rise further and increase the risk to those using the ferry service.

Locals have urged the authorities to raise the height of the ramp and the connecting road as a long-term solution to this recurring problem.

One held for kidnapping minor girl

CALANGUTE: The Saligao Police on Saturday arrested Joshua Naidu, a resident of Sangolda, for allegedly kidnapping a minor girl from Bardez. Saligao PI Milind Bhuimbar stated that a resident of Bardez had lodged a complaint alleging that, on May 9, the accused had kidnapped his minor daughter from his lawful guardianship.

During the investigation, police traced the accused to Solapur, Maharashtra, where he was apprehended. The minor girl was also rescued and safely returned to her family. The accused has been arrested and remanded to six days' police custody for further investigation.

Salaulim Dam overflows in June for first time in 25 years

Locals and tourists flock to witness scenic sight



Team Herald

PONDA: In a historic first, the Salaulim Dam has filled and begun overflowing in the month of June — a phenomenon not witnessed in the past 25 years. Water Resources Department (WRD) Minister Subhash Shirodkar confirmed the development, attributing it to an early onset of the monsoon from May 15.

"Over the past twenty-five years, the Salaulim Dam has never filled in the month of June. This is the first time it has filled and is overflowing this early," said Shirodkar.

Historical records show that the dam typically begins to overflow in mid-July, and on rare occasions,

in August. However, this year marks a record as the dam began overflowing on Thursday.

Since then, the dam has become a point of attraction, drawing crowds of local residents and tourists eager to witness the scenic beauty of the overflowing waters.

Shirodkar encouraged people to visit the site, saying, "I urge local Goans and tourists to enjoy the beauty of the overflowing dam."

Locals believe that last year's delayed monsoon helped maintain a satisfactory water level in the dam, which may have contributed to this year's early overflow. The reservoir already held a good volume of water before the current monsoon season began.

Uncollected garbage from villages blamed for decline in tourism

Team Herald

CALANGUTE: Poor cleanliness and mismanaged waste disposal by village panchayats, particularly in non-coastal areas, have been identified as major contributors to the decline in tourism in Goa.

Speaking to reporters, Calangute MLA and former waste management minister Michael Lobo said that during a recent visit to several beaches along the coastal belt, large quantities of garbage were found washed ashore. "There are various reasons for the decline in tourism in Goa. The main reason is lack of cleanliness. We need to put our state in order if we want to continue to get tourists," Lobo stated.

He pointed out that in vil-



lages where panchayats fail to manage waste collection, residents often dump garbage in fields and nullahs. "All that garbage is eventually washed into the rivers, then to the sea, and finally ends up back on the beaches," he explained.

While acknowledging the efforts of beach cleaning

contractors, he said the volume of waste makes their job increasingly difficult. "Cleanliness is not there on the beaches and for that the village panchayats are responsible. In our coastal belt, the Calangute panchayat and others are doing a good job," he said.

He also criticised the lack

of monitoring and enforcement in non-coastal villages. "There is no one to fine those dumping garbage or to monitor collection. That is the main reason for the decline in tourism. I request the minister to look into this. Only if we give a clean Goa will tourists continue to come," he added.

IPB clears 7 projects worth Rs 180 cr

Team Herald

PANJIM: The Goa Investment Promotion and Facilitation Board (Goa-IPB) approved seven new projects worth Rs 180 crore at its 39th Board meeting held at Mantralaya, Porvorim, on Friday.

These projects are expected to generate employment for 1,508 persons.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant chaired the meeting, which was attended by Indus-

tries Minister Mauvin Godinho, GIDC Chairman and MLA Aleixo Reginaldo Lourenco, and key government officials.

The meeting discussed various proposals aimed at promoting investment in the State and creating new employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

The Board also reviewed new proposals, follow-ups from the previous meeting, and other key issues related to investment and project implementation.

High Court grants bail to accused in 2024 Pernem assault case

Team Herald

PANJIM: The High Court of Bombay at Goa has granted bail to Darshan Bhisaji of Pernem, Pernem, who was arrested in May 2024 for allegedly brutally assaulting a youth from the same locality, leaving the victim speech-impaired.

Bhisaji was arrested by Mandrem Police on May 21, 2024 and charged under Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), following a complaint lodged by the victim's mother. The chargesheet was filed on August 16, 2024, and the case is being tried before the Sessions Court in Mapusa.

The High Court directed that Bhisaji be released on a bail bond of Rs 25,000 with one surety in the same amount. He must submit to the investigating officer a

copy of his Aadhaar card, full residential address, email ID, and mobile number, which must remain functional at all times.

He has been directed to report to Mandrem Police Station once a month—on the first Monday between 11 am and 1 pm—and is barred from entering Pernem village until the trial concludes.

Defence counsel Adv Pavithran argued that the chargesheet had been filed and the accused's presence was no longer needed for investigation. He also stated that the alleged weapon used in the assault had been recovered.

Additional Public Prosecutor Pravin Faldesai informed the Court that the victim suffered a serious head injury resulting in an inability to speak.

Indian Coast Guard inducts 'Adamyia', first of eight fast patrol vessels

Team Herald

VASCO: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on Thursday inducted 'Adamyia', the first Fast Patrol Vessel (FPV) under the eight-vessel FPV project, at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Vasco.

The FPV is the first of its class within the ICG fleet to feature Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPPs) and indigenously developed gearboxes, offering superior manoeuvrability, operational flexibility, and enhanced performance at sea.

The vessel is equipped with state-of-the-art tech-



nology, including a 30mm CRN-91 gun, two 12.7mm stabilised remote-control guns with fire control systems, an Integrated Bridge System (IBS), an Integrated Platform Management Sys-

tem (IPMS), and an Automated Power Management System (APMS). These advanced systems will enable the ICG to carry out its charter of duties with increased precision, efficiency, and

responsiveness across India's extensive maritime domain.

Designed and built entirely by GSL, 'Adamyia' exemplifies India's growing shipbuilding capability and represents a major stride towards the nation's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. These FPVs will act as force multipliers in the ICG's operational fleet, enabling swift response in maritime law enforcement, coastal surveillance, search and rescue operations, and protection of India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), according to a press release.

Bench missing from Kavlem bus stop reappears

Residents seek re-installation, increased patrolling

Team Herald

PONDA: A sitting bench meant for passengers at the Don Khamb Kavlem bus stop, which had mysteriously gone missing about a month ago, was recently found abandoned in an isolated area nearly 300 metres away. Locals suspect it was moved by unknown or anti-social elements for their own comfort or loitering during the night.

The disappearance has caused considerable inconvenience to passengers, especially students, who have been left without a place to



sit while waiting for buses. Residents recalled that the same isolated location had turned into a nuisance

spot last year, when on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, large quantities of garbage and liquor bottles had to

be cleared from the area. At the time, police had initiated patrols, which locals now want reinstated to deter miscreants.

The bench was originally installed two years ago by zilla panchayat member Ganpati Naik for the benefit of bus commuters. Locals are now demanding that the panchayat restore the bench to its original location and write to the police requesting regular patrolling to prevent further nuisance caused by strangers gathering in the area.

APPOINTMENTS

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