

shorttakes

Motorcyclist seriously hurt in Sangolda accident

**CALANGUTE:** Prahlad Rajaram Parab of Varkhand-Pernem, sustained multiple fractures after his motorcycle was hit by a speeding car near Goan Spice restaurant, Morod-Sangolda, around 1 am, on Sunday. Saligao police said the car, driven by Bhimanaraya Kale from Guirim towards Sangolda, collided with Parab's motorcycle, which was heading from Pilerne to Thivim. Parab is undergoing treatment at GMC Bambolim. Following a complaint by his brother, Bhagyanan Parab, police have booked Kale under Sections 281, 125(a), and 125(b) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, and Sections 134(a) and 134(b) of the Motor Vehicles Act for rash and negligent driving. Investigation is ongoing.

Court grants anticipatory bail in rape case

**MARGAO:** Sessions Court, South Goa, has granted conditional anticipatory bail to Sarvar Khan of Varkatto-Sanguem, presently residing in Pontemol-Curchorem, in a rape case registered by Vasco police. The court directed Khan's release upon furnishing a bail bond of Rs 50,000 with one surety, and imposed restrictions including appearing before the investigating officer and not leaving Goa without prior permission. Khan's advocate, Amey Prabhudessai, claimed his client was falsely implicated. Public Prosecutor S Samant and intervener's Advocate A Viegas opposed the bail, citing the complainant's statement that Khan, an influential gym owner, had sexually assaulted her at a Bogmalo resort. Police argued that his release could influence witnesses and hamper the investigation.

Habitual bike thief nabbed at Curtorim

**MARGAO:** Maina-Curtorim police have arrested Shahabuddin Shaikh, a habitual bike thief, in possession of a stolen motorcycle in Padrihat. Police were investigating a scooter theft from Loutolim when they received information linking Shaikh to the crime. A trap was laid and the accused was caught red-handed with the stolen two-wheeler. He has been remanded to three days' custody. PSI Sagar Kamat is investigating.

Raia man dies after consuming rat poison

**MARGAO:** Alvito Tavares, 35, of Raia, died at GMC Bambolim after allegedly consuming rat poison on June 28. Police suspect he was under mental stress due to his father's prolonged illness. Maina-Curtorim police, led by LPSI Sonal Gaonkar, conducted an inquest at GMC. The post-mortem attributed the cause of death to hepatocellular failure following suspected ingestion of rat poison. Viscera has been preserved for chemical analysis. A case has been registered under Section 194 of the BNSS 2023.

Labourer found dead in Cuncolim labour barrack

**MARGAO:** Bijen Narzari, 51, originally from Assam and residing at Indotech Ice and Cold Storage, IDC Cuncolim, was found unconscious in his labour barrack and later declared dead by 108 ambulance staff. Cuncolim Police, who visited the site and conducted an inquest, said Narzari had gone to sleep the previous night and did not wake up. The body has been preserved at South Goa District Hospital for medico-legal formalities.

Curtorim woman dies of snake bite

**MARGAO:** Fatima Colaco, 46, of Nessai, Curtorim, died at GMC Bambolim after being bitten by a snake while brushing her teeth outside her home. Maina-Curtorim police said she was referred from South Goa District Hospital to GMC but succumbed to the bite. The post-mortem revealed the cause of death as intracranial haemorrhage and shock from haemotoxic snakebite, with head injury from blunt force trauma. LPSI Sonal Gaonkar is investigating. Police have ruled out foul play.

Scooter stolen from Xeldem

**MARGAO:** Quepem police have registered a theft case under Section 303(2) of the BNSS 2023 after a blue scooter, valued at Rs 50,000, was stolen from outside the residence of Shamshad Shaikh at Xeldem on May 23. A site inspection and panchanama have been conducted.

Inter-school tiatr contest from July 4

**PANJIM:** The 3rd all-Goa inter-school tiatr competition, organised by the Tiatr Academy of Goa (TAGI) in collaboration with Ravindra Bhavan, Vasco, will begin on July 4 at 3.15 pm. The event aims to promote Goa's cultural heritage through the art of tiatr. Highlights include performances by Rosary High School, Bambolim ('Kalliz Roddta'), Our Lady of the Rosary HS, Dona Paula ('IQ Nhoi, EQ Zai'), and other schools until July 12.

Arpora-Nagoa sarpanch Roshan resigns

**CALANGUTE:** Roshan Redkar, the Sarpanch of Arpora-Nagoa Village Panchayat, tendered his resignation on Tuesday, stating that it was in line with a prior agreement among panchayat members. "When we formed the panchayat body in 2022, there was an understanding that I would be Sarpanch for half the term, which has now ended. So I have resigned," Redkar said.

E-Book on Brown Fat and Hibernoma released

**PANJIM:** An e-book titled Brown Fat and Hibernoma, edited by Dr R.G. Wiseman Pinto, Professor of Pathology, former Dean of Goa University, and President of the Asian Society of Cytopathology, has been released recently. The publication provides comprehensive information on brown fat—its structure, anatomical sites, and functions. It highlights the role of brown fat in increased metabolism, thermogenesis in cold conditions, and its contribution to weight loss due to its high mitochondrial content. The second section of the e-book focuses on Hibernoma, a benign tumour originating from brown fat. It includes detailed discussions on the tumour's common sites, gross and microscopic appearance, molecular and genetic features, immunohistochemistry, differential diagnosis, and treatment options. The e-book is available free of cost on the PathoIndia website: www.pathoindia.com.

Nominations open for national disability awards

**PANJIM:** The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has invited online applications for the National Awards for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities 2025. Nominations can be submitted via the Rashtriya Puraskar Portal (www.awards.gov.in) until July 15. These awards, presented annually on December 3, honour individuals and institutions making significant contributions to the empowerment of persons with disabilities. Further details are available on www.depwd.gov.in.

# Bethora locals up in arms over crater-ridden main road, demand concretisation

Threaten to plant trees in potholes if 2-km stretch is not repaired before Chaturthi

Team Herald

**PONDA:** Frustrated by the dilapidated condition of the main road in their village, residents of Bethora staged a protest on Tuesday, demanding immediate attention and repairs to the crater and pothole-ridden stretch. The road, which has been in poor condition for the past two years, is frequently used by heavy vehicles heading to the Bethora Industrial Estate.

The residents called upon Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, who also holds the Public Works Department (PWD) portfolio, to urgently address the issue. They have demanded that the 2-km stretch of road be concretised, citing frequent damage caused by the movement of loaded trucks serving the industrial estate.

The locals accused the government of giving step-motherly treatment to the main village road, which also serves as the industrial access route. "Heavy loaded vehicles use the main road before proceeding to the Bethora Industrial Estate, yet only the internal roads within the estate have been recently converted into concrete roads by the



**“The main road is used by industrial vehicles and is bearing the brunt of the damage, but it has been completely neglected. While the internal estate roads have been concretised, the main approach road has been left full of craters and potholes – A resident**

Industrial Development Corporation (IDC),” the residents pointed out. They criticised the government for prioritising the needs of industries over those of local villagers. “The main road is used by industrial vehicles and is bearing the brunt of the damage, but it has been completely

neglected. While the internal estate roads have been concretised, the main approach road has been left full of craters and potholes,” said a resident.

The villagers warned that if the road is not repaired before the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, they would plant trees in the potholes and craters as a mark of protest.

**“Under the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana, the Bethora–Dabal road, as well as the Nirankal–Shiroda road, will soon be hotmixed at an estimated cost of around Rs 11 crore, which will permanently solve the issue – Madu Khandeparkar, Bethora sarpanch**

ters as a mark of protest.

Commuters, pedestrians and school students are reportedly struggling to navigate the road, which has become a nightmare to travel on. Residents said the road was dug up for various utility services but was never properly restored. They recalled that the last time

the road was hotmixed was a decade ago.

Meanwhile, Bethora Sarpanch Madu Khandeparkar said that the PWD had planned to carry out repair work before the onset of the monsoon, but the early rains in May disrupted these plans. He stated that it is not possible to lay hot-

**NO CONFIDENCE MOTION MOVED AGAINST BETHORA SARPANCH**

**PONDA:** A no confidence motion has been submitted to the Ponda Block Development Officer (BDO) against the sarpanch of Bethora-Consheem-Codar-Nirankal panchayat, Madu Khandeparkar. Seven out of the total eleven panchayat members have signed the notice. The signatories include Umesh Gaude, Durgaprasada Vaidya, Prashant Gaonkar, Vaishali Salelkar, Chandrakant Samant, Vidya Gaonkar and Chitra Salelkar.

mix carpeting during the rainy season.

“Under the Prime Minister Gram Sadak Yojana, the Bethora–Dabal road, as well as the Nirankal–Shiroda road, will soon be hotmixed at an estimated cost of around Rs 11 crore, which will permanently solve the issue,” Khandeparkar said. He added that in the interim, efforts would be made to carry out patchwork repairs using the jet patcher machine.

## Mother-in-law granted bail in dowry case

Team Herald

**MARGAO:** The South Goa Sessions Court, Margao, on Monday granted anticipatory bail to Rekha Muthal of Murda Grande, Nuvem, who is accused in a dowry harassment case.

The court ordered that Muthal be released in the event of her arrest on furnishing a personal bond of Rs 50,000 with one local surety in the like amount, subject to other conditions.

The applicant approached the court fearing arrest for a non-bailable offence and stated her willingness to comply with any conditions imposed if granted bail. Advocate Amarnath Desai appeared on behalf of the applicant.

Public Prosecutor D Korgaonkar submitted that the investigation so far had revealed prima facie evidence suggesting that the

complainant was subjected to cruelty. He argued that the custody of the accused was necessary for further investigation, including the recovery of the complainant's gold ornaments.

According to the complainant, from June 1, 2022 to March 15, 2025, she was allegedly subjected to cruelty by her husband, Chetan Muthal and his mother to meet their unlawful demand for dowry, including gold and other items given at the time of marriage. She further alleged that she was physically assaulted, abused and threatened with dire consequences on several occasions.

The Maina-Curtorim police have registered a case against both the husband and his mother under Sections 498-A, 323, and 504 read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code. PSI Gaurav Naik of Maina-Curtorim police station is conducting the investigation.

## Leopard kills pet dog at Khandepar home

Team Herald

**PONDA:** Panic gripped residents of Murdi-Khandepar after a leopard entered a house compound late on Sunday night and killed a pet dog that was tied in the yard. Locals reported frequent sightings of leopards and attacks on domestic animals in the area.

According to the Zalmi family, the leopard entered their premises during the night and mauled the chained dog. “We were alerted by the continuous barking of our other pet dog. When we opened the door, we saw the leopard fleeing. It had devoured the entire dog, leaving only its head behind,” the family said.

Local panch member Abhijeet Gaude confirmed the incident and said, “Leopards often enter residential areas. On a previous occasion, a calf tied in a cowshed was attacked, but the family managed to chase the leopard away,” he said.

## Now, Pantemol locals join fight against Falnem bandhara project

Extend full support to the ongoing protests; want project scrapped immediately

Team Herald

**PANJIM:** Following strong opposition from the villages of Madel, Soliem, Falnem, Mirabag and Mugoli, now, the residents of Pantemol have voiced their protest against the proposed bandhara (weir) project at Falnem village on the Zuari River. In a recent meeting with municipal councillors Tony Fernandes and Pradeep Naik, Pantemol villagers extended full support to the ongoing protests and demanded that the project be scrapped immediately.

Speaking to reporters, councillor Pradeep Naik stated, “Work on the project has already begun, but there is no information displayed at the site. What is the name of the project? Who is executing it? Which agency is responsible? No presentation has been

made to the villagers. We fear that we will face serious difficulties if this bandhara is constructed.”

Echoing the concerns, councillor Tony Fernandes said, “If the people are saying they do not want the bandhara, then it is not needed. I don't understand why it is being constructed. We have asked for a presentation, but there has been none so far. People should be taken into confidence for any project to go forward. If the government wants to implement something, it must inform people about the benefits. But if the people don't want it, we don't need it either.”

The proposed Rs 280-crore bandhara project has faced mounting resistance from local communities, who have raised serious concerns about increased flooding, damage to agricultural land, and the

disruption of traditional livelihoods such as fishing and farming.

Despite being previously rejected due to environmental and social concerns, the project has been revived, sparking renewed protests and heightened tensions.

Residents have demanded transparency, proper public consultation, and a thorough environmental impact assessment before any further work proceeds. At least 15 houses are reportedly at risk, and locals worry about changes in river water flow and the broader ecological consequences of the construction.

Community members have called for an immediate halt to the project until a comprehensive assessment is carried out and their concerns are fully addressed.

## Garbage dumping near Khandola govt college raises health concerns

**PONDA:** Garbage dumping in the open space in front of Government College, Khandola, has become a major public nuisance and health hazard—especially for the students.

According to locals, the area has turned into a pollution hotspot due to constant dumping of waste by unidentified individuals. The site, located near the college and reportedly owned by a temple, is used regularly for sports practice and community events such as football and cricket matches.

Thousands of students attend the Government College at Khandola, and the presence of rotting vegetables, leftover food, and plastic waste has made the area unhygienic. The dumped food waste has attracted stray animals such as pet dogs and cattle, worsening the situation and creating foul odours.

Residents have raised serious concerns over the impact on students' health and the disruption of regular sporting activities. They have appealed to the local panchayat and concerned authorities to take immediate action to clear the garbage and maintain cleanliness in the area.

## Students at risk as drug influx rises in State

Team Herald

**CALANGUTE:** With Goa's popularity as a tourist destination contributing to the influx of narcotics, students—especially those aged between 16 and 22—are becoming increasingly vulnerable to drug abuse, experts warned at an awareness programme held in Calangute to mark the International Day Against Drug Abuse.

Calangute MLA Michael Lobo, speaking on the occasion, expressed concern over the rising number of students falling victim to drug addiction, attributing the trend to the steady inflow of narcotics into the State, facilitated by its tourism-driven economy. Lobo said, “Goa is a tourist destination. Drugs

come from different places by train, buses, cars, and those suppliers have their people here—stockists and peddlers—and because of them, our students become victims.”

He warned that students between the ages of 16 and 22 are particularly susceptible, as it is during this period that they begin to explore and encounter the availability of drugs. “Students form their friend groups in college or elsewhere. Someone will offer them a tablet on the beach, in a club or at a party. At first, it's free. Then you get used to it. You can't do without it. Then your friend asks you to bring money,” Lobo explained.

He further cautioned that once students exhaust

their pocket money, some resort to theft to fund their addiction. “There are so many youngsters, both boys and girls, in Arpora-Nagoa who are robbing houses and stealing gold to pay for their drug habit,” he claimed, urging students to firmly say ‘No’ to drugs.

“Say no to this. Never try this. The minute you try, you slowly start to become an addict,” he warned.

Also speaking at the event, Superintendent of Police (Anti-Narcotics Cell), Sunita Sawant, stated that the large number of drug seizures in the State reflects the Goa Police's zero-tolerance approach towards narcotics. “The ANC is doing its level best to seize the drugs coming into Goa,” she affirmed.

## Minor girl kidnapped in Ponda, case registered

Team Herald

**PONDA:** A case of kidnapping has been registered at Ponda police station after a parent lodged a complaint alleging that their minor

daughter was abducted from lawful guardianship on June 28.

According to police, the girl was reportedly kidnapped by an unknown person or persons from the

Ponda area. The matter is currently under investigation by PSI Krishna Gawas of Ponda Police Station.

Further details are awaited as the investigation progresses.

## power shutdown

**CORTALIM:** On July 2, from 9 am to 1 pm. Affected areas are Sancoale, Upasnagar, Nauta, Royal food and surrounding areas.

**MARGAO:** On July 2, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Quba Masjid, Shirvodem ground and surrounding areas.

**MARGAO:** On July 3, from 9 am to 6 pm. Affected areas are Bambino School, Caro house, Abade Faria road and surrounding areas.

**CORTALIM:** On July 3, from 9 am to 1 pm. Affected areas are Verna masjid, Mardol hotel, Meeting point, Kira Paulo, Kesarval hotel and surrounding areas.

**PORVORIM:** On July 3, from 9.30 am to 2.30 pm. Affected areas are Dominoz pizza, Apollo pharmacy, Charcoal kitchen and surrounding areas.

**CANACONA:** On July 3, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are entire village panchayat Cola, village panchayat Agonda and part of Devabag, Adpem and Nuvem.

**PORVORIM:** On July 4, 2025 from 9.30 am to 2.30 pm. Affected areas are Football ground areas, SRS twin Patel nagar, PWD water tank and surrounding areas.

**CANACONA:** On July 5, from 9 am to 2 pm. Affected areas are entire village Panchayat Cola, village Panchayat Agonda and part of Devabag, Adpem and Nuvem.

## APPOINTMENTS

**M/S LASHMATH DAMODAR NAIR**  
**COMPUTER OPERATOR**  
**DISPATCH SUPERVISER**  
 The incumbent should be **Male**, Computer knowledge with experience to work on **SAP** software with minimum **1 year** experience.  
 To work the **Beltranda Depot** in **Margao Industrial Estate** Resident of **Margao** or nearby area preferred.  
**Email: llnair@colsona.com**