# HERALD

## The Voice of Goa – since 1900

Panjim | FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2025 | PRICE ₹10.00 | AIR SURCHARGE ₹10 | REG. NO. G2/RNP/GOA/101/2021-23 | PAGES 14 | GOA'S LARGEST CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER

# **Ripples in Goa as Kejri says no coalition with Congress**

#### **Team Herald**

PANJIM: The political rift between Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Congress appears to be widening, with AAP's Goa unit backing party chief Arvind Kejriwal's categorical declaration in Ahmedabad that the alliance with the Congress is over. This has drawn guarded responses from Congress leadership in the State, exposing the fragility of Opposition unity post-Lok Sabha elections.

Speaking in Ahmedabad on Thursday, Kejriwal said the INDIA Bloc - the Opposition front formed to take on the BJP - was "only for the Lok Sabha elections" and that AAP has no alliance with the Congress going forward. He accused the Congress of tacitly helping the BJP during the recent Visavadar bypoll in Gujarat, where the Congress finished third.

"If there was any alliance,



🛃 If there was any alliance, why did they (Cong) contest the bypoll in Visavadar (in Gujarat)? They were sent by the BJP to cut AAP's votes. The Congress has failed as an opposition and is indirectly aiding the BJP - Arvind Kejriwal, AAP supremo

why did they contest the has failed as an opposition bypoll in Visavadar? They were sent by the BIP to cut the BIP," Kejriwal charged,

ty's 'Gujarat Jodo Abhiyan' and is indirectly aiding ahead of the 2027 Assembly polls. AAP's votes. The Congress while launching his par-Reacting to the remarks,

What Kejriwal is saying is right. Congress refused to ally

with AAP in the Haryana Assembly

elections. Even here in Goa, after

the Lok Sabha results, Congress

themselves. When it suited them,

- Amit Palekar, AAP Goa chief

Arvind Kejriwal is AAP's national convener and it is

Congress is concerned, the INDIA

Command will decide policy and

General Secretary in charge of Goa

alliance matters going forward

- Manikrao Thakare, AICC

their internal matter. As far as

Bloc was formed for the Lok

Sabha elections and the High

they spoke of unity. Now, they talk

leaders started distancing

about going solo

AAP Goa State President Adv Amit Palekar fully endorsed Kejriwal's statement, asserting that Congress treats alliances as tools of convenience. "What Kejriwal is saying

is right. Congress refused to ally with AAP in the Haryana Assembly elections. Even here in Goa, after the Lok Sabha results, Congress leaders started distancing themselves. When it suited them, they spoke of unity. Now, they talk about going solo," Palekar said.

Palekar also confirmed that AAP is preparing to contest the 2027 Goa Assembly elections independently, adding that the party has already started strengthening its grassroots network in the state. "It's too early to talk about alliances in Goa, but we are moving forward on our own



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Cont on Pg 11 >>

strength," he added.

## **Pune techie** raped at home by man posing as delivery agent

PTI, PUNE: An unidentified man allegedly raped a 22-year-old IT professional after entering her flat in Pune city by posing as a courier delivery executive, and was yet to be nabbed nearly 24 hours after the crime.



He clicked a selfie us-



operation could begin soon at Chorao

### **Team Herald**

PANJIM: A second pontoon, equipped with an additional crane, has arrived at Chorao to aid the ongoing effort to recover the stranded ferry Betim, fuelling hopes that a fullscale salvage operation is finally set to begin.

The ferry has remained partially submerged at the Chorao Island ramp since July 23, when one of



The ferry Betim still submerged at Chorao

been repeatedly hampered by poor underwater visibility. Divers tasked with fastening chains to the subits tanks became flooded.

pontoon is being seen as a major step forward. Local resident Eusebio D'Silva voiced cautious optimism:

he said.

## Delhi fuel ban for old vehicles revoked

hi government has written to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), arguing the fuel ban on overage vehicles is not feasible due to technological challenges and has requested the panel to put it on hold with immediate effect. with them. Sirsa also said the Del-

Addressing a press conference here, Delhi hi government is trying Environment minister to find out a solution to Manjinder Singh Sirsa on the ban on end of life ve-Thursday said that there hicles (EOL) including was discontent among 10-year and older diesel people due to the move and 15-year-old petrol

and the government stood vehicles.

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> "We are trying to ensure that the vehicles are not banned according to their age rather on the basis of pollution caused by them," Sirsa said.

> > Cont on Pg 11 >>

## Insurance Bhi, Savings Bhi



PTI, NEW DELHI: The Del-

ing the woman's phone in which her back and a part of his face are seen, and left a message warning that he had taken her pictures and would release them on social media if she reported the incident, police said.

"I will come again," the message read, according to police.

The incident took place at a housing society in Kondhwa area of the city at around 7.30 pm on Wednesday, said Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 5) Rajkumar Shinde.

The woman, who works in a private firm, was alone at home as her brother had gone out of town, the official said. The accused told her he was a courier delivery person and showed her what looked like a bank-related document, she told police.

He asked for a pen to sign a document, and as she turned her back on him, he stepped inside the apartment and latched the door before forcing himself on her, as per the complaint.

The woman told police that she passed out at this point.

"She does not remember anything (after this) as she gained consciousness around 8.30 pm. She then informed her relatives and the police were alerted," DCP Shinde said.

The man clicked a selfie with the woman's phone while she was unconscious. He also left a message on her phone that he had taken her photos, and if she reported the incident, he would circulate them on social media.

Police were probing if any kind of spray was used to make her unconscious, the DCP said.

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While three parked bikes that sank along with the vessel were recovered the same evening, the ferry itself has posed a far greater challenge for the River Navigation Department (RND), which has now been battling the situation for over 10 days.

es, the operation to secure complete the task. the ferry to the pontoon has

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the chains kept slipping off during multiple attempts. RND Director Vikram Raje Bhosale explained that the vessel could only be secured from beneath the surface — something that only divers can do - but murky waters ren-According to RND sourcdered it impossible to

merged vessel struggled, as

The arrival of the second

Cont on Pg 11 >>

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"Finally, a second pontoon

has arrived, increasing the

possibility of lifting the ferryboat soon. What I've learnt

is that once it's secured,

pumps will be deployed to

drain water from the engine

room. That should allow the

ferry to float again. Probably

this will happen tomorrow,"

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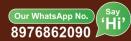
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