# D H E R A L D (

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# The Voice of Goa – since 1900

Panjim | MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025 | PRICE ₹10.00 | AIR SURCHARGE ₹10 | REG. NO. G2/RNP/GOA/101/2021-23 | PAGES 12 | GOA'S LARGEST CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER

# **GU TEACHER'S NAME COMES UP IN QUESTION PAPER THEFT SCANDAL**

Asst Prof of Physics accused of stealing paper to help female student; complaint filed at Agassaim PS; university initiates inquiry

## **Team Herald**

PANJIM: Goa University has been rocked by allegations that an assistant professor stole a question paper to help a female student secure high marks in the examination. The university administration has initiated an inquiry into the incident, confirmed Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Harilal Menon.

A group of activists including Kashinath Shetye, Inacio Pereira, Ramchandra Manjrekar, John Nazareth, Premindra

The matter was brought to the notice of Goa University but no action was taken. The incident was hushed up by the **Registrar and Vice Chancellor** of the University. We have now filed a complaint demanding that the earlier question paper be cancelled and a fresh examination be conducted -Kashinath Shetye, social activist

# **DUPLICATE KEY USED TO ACCESS QUESTION PAPERS: COMPLAINT**

The complaint alleged that an assistant professor from the Physics Dept allegedly accessed the question papers using a duplicate key a few days before the examination After logging into the computer in another professor's cabin, the accused reportedly provided the stolen question paper to a particular student, enabling her to secure high marks in the exam

> We tried to contact the Goa University vicechancellor but his mobile was switched off. Being a Sunday, the university is closed and we will visit the vice-chancellor tomorrow to conduct any inquiry - Agassaim Police

The complaint names the accused professor, high-ranking university officials, and a political leader as being complicit in the incident The complainants have demanded a thorough probe and strict action against those involved They alleged the professor tried to get the student into the Physics Dept despite she securing very low marks

> The university will launch a full-scale inquiry starting Monday. The administration will not tolerate any action that compromises the integrity of the institution -Prof Dr Harilal Menon, Vice Chancellor of Goa University

Vernekar, Krishna Pandit, and Mariano Ferrao lodged a formal complaint at the Agassaim Police Station.

According to the complaint, an assistant professor from the Physics Department allegedly accessed the question papers using a duplicate key a few days before the examination. After logging into the computer in another professor's cabin, the accused professor reportedly provided the stolen question paper to a particular student, enabling her to secure high marks in the examination, the complaint claimed.

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# Macedonia nightclub fire kills 59, leaves 155 injured

AP, KOCANI: A massive fire tore through a nightclub in North Macedonia's eastern town of Kocani early Sunday, killing 59 people and injuring 155, authorities said. The blaze broke out

around 2.30 am during a concert by a local pop group at Club Pulse, Interior Minister Panche Toshkovski told reporters. He said 39 of the dead

had so far been identified. He said, following an initial assessment, pyrotechnics likely caused the roof to catch fire. Videos showed chaos inside the club, with young peo-ple running through the smoke as the musicians urged people to escape as quickly as possible. As relatives gathered outside hospitals to await news, Kocani resident

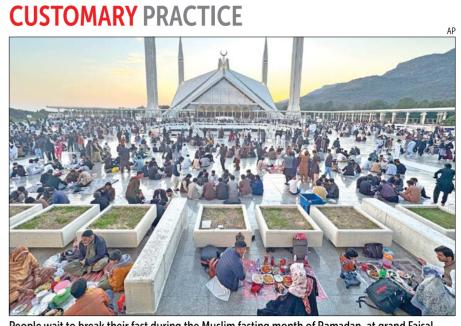
Dragi Stojanov was informed that his 21-yearold son Tomce had died in the fire. "He was my only child. I don't need my life anymore," he said. "One hun-

dred and fifty families have been devastated." Officials said the injured have been taken

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to hospitals around the country, including the capital, Skopje, many with severe burns. The effort was being assisted by multiple volunteer organisations.

during summer. by Dr Ketan Bhatikar said, "It is the duty of the government to provide us with clean drinking water. Dur-



People wait to break their fast during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, at grand Faisal Mosque, in Islamabad, Pakistan, on Šunday

# Hit by water crisis, Curti locals file police complaint

# **Team Herald**

**PONDA:** With no solution in sight to the water crisis affecting Curti's Prabhu Nagar, the residents on Sunday filed a complaint at Ponda Police Station, to ascertain the reason behind the water scarcity in their area.

The residents of Prabhu Nagar complained that they have been hit hard on account of the water crisis

The locals accompanied ing students' exams, we are



The residents of Prabhu Nagar, Curti, submit the complaint copy to Ponda Police

compelled to rely on packthe bus stand." aged water for drinking Later, the locals met Chief purposes and also forced to hire tankers for cooking and other purposes. At times we have to depend on others to meet our daily water needs and are forced to use the public toilet at

Minister Pramod Sawant at his Sankhali residence where he assured them that the problem will be solved by Monday.

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# Immigration Bill: 7-yr jail for using forged passport

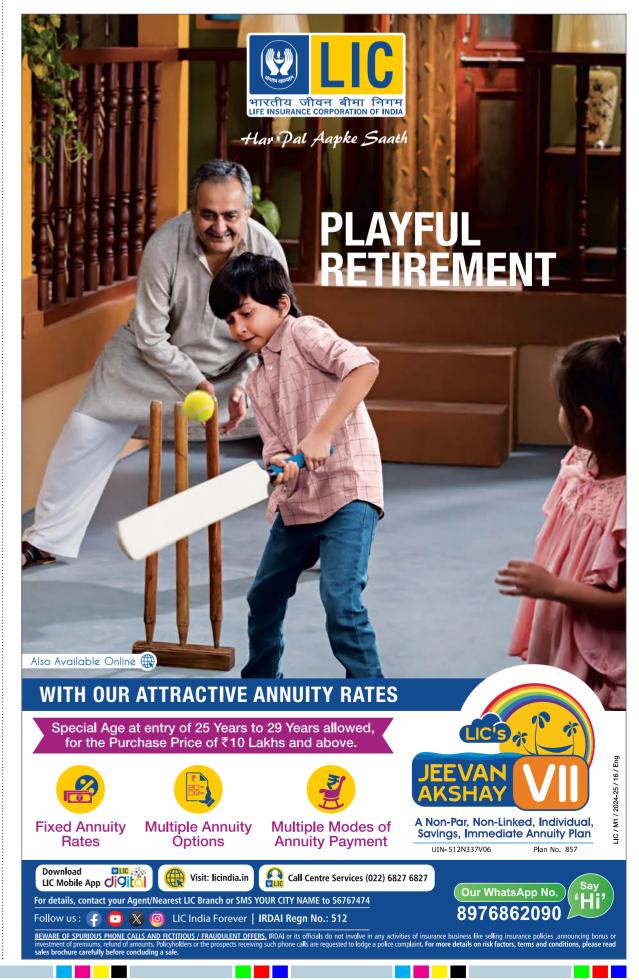
PTI, NEW DELHI: Anyone found using a forged passport or visa for entering. staying or exiting India will be punished with a jail term of up to seven years and a fine to the extent of Rs 10 lakh if the new immigration bill is approved by Parliament. The legislation, piloted by the Union Home Ministry, also provides for mandatory reporting of information about foreigners by hotels. universities, other educational institutions, hospitals and nursing homes to enable tracking of overstaying foreigners.

Drug cartel busted in K'taka MDMA worth Rs 75 crore seized, two South Africans held in Bengaluru

PTI, MANGALURU: Mangaluru Police seized over 37 kg of MDMA valued at Rs 75 crore, the biggest-ever drug haul in the State, a po-

**MAJOR HAUL** 

Mangaluru CCB police bags, alongside four mobile arrested two South Africans phones, passports, & Rs -- Bamba Fant and Abigail 18,000 in cash



The Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025 is a comprehensive legislation to regulate all matters relating to foreigners and immigration.

lice official said on Sunday. Two South African nationals were arrested in Bengaluru in connection with

apprehended one Haid-

er Ali in Pumpwell, Man-

galuru, and confiscated 15

grams of MDMA from him.

tions led authorities to a

Nigerian national named

Peter, who was arrested

Subsequent

this case, the official said. Addressing a press conference, Mangaluru Police Commissioner Anupam Agarwal stated that the operation stemmed from an earlier arrest six months ago. In September, police

investiga-

Adonis -- in B'luru on The duo was allegedly March 14 supplying drugs to Nigerian peddlers operating in B'lu-Taken into custody in Neeladri Nagar, Electronic ru & other regions City in B'luru They are suspected of Authorities discovered

routes between Delhi and

Acting on intelligence,

the Mangaluru Central

Crime Branch (CCB) police

arrested two South African

Bengaluru, he said.

using forged passports & visas for travel MDMA concealed in trolley in Bengaluru with MDMA worth Rs 6 crore. Further probes pointed to an international drug network with links to traffickers using air

nationals -- Bamba Fant (31) and Abigail Adonis (30) -- upon their arrival in Bengaluru on March 14. The suspects were taken into custody in Neeladri Nagar, Electronic City in Bengaluru, the senior police officer said.

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New crew reaches space station, Sunita Williams to be back soon Four newcomers will spend the next few days learning the station's ins and outs from Wilmore & Williams

AP, CAPE CANAVERAL: Just over a day after blasting off, a SpaceX crew capsule arrived at the International Space Station on Sunday, delivering the replacements for NASA's two stuck astronauts.

The four newcomers representing the US, Japan and Russia — will spend the next few days learning the station's ins and outs from Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams.

Then the two will strap into their own SpaceX capsule later this week, one that has been up there since last year, to close out an unexpected extended mission that began last June.

Wilmore and Williams expected to be gone just a week ing its test pilots behind to



Astronauts greeting each other after the SpaceX capsule docked with the International Space Station, on Sunday

They hit the nine-month

The Boeing Starliner cap-

sule encountered so many

problems that NASA insist-

ed it come back empty, leav-

mark earlier this month.

when they launched on Boewait for a SpaceX lift. ing's first astronaut flight.

Wilmore swung open the space station's hatch and then rang the ship's bell as the new arrivals floated in one by one and were greeted with hugs and handshakes.

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ARRIVALS

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Weather permitting, the SpaceX capsule carry-ing Wilmore, Williams and two other astronauts will undock from the space station no earlier than Wednesday and splash down off Florida's coast

Until then, there will be 11 aboard the orbiting lab, representing the US, **Russia and Japan**