

## 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

### 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

■ 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 her securing very low marks

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 people 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-year-old son Tomce had died in the fire.

"He was my only child. I don't need my life anymore," he said. "One hundred and fifty families have been devastated."

Officials said the injured have been taken to hospitals around the country, including the capital, Skopje, many with severe burns. The effort was being assisted by multiple volunteer organisations.

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## CUSTOMARY PRACTICE



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

## 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 during summer.

The locals accompanied by Dr Ketan Bhatikar said, "It is the duty of the government to provide us with clean drinking water. During students' exams, we are



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

compelled to rely on packaged water for drinking 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

the bus stand." Later, the locals met Chief 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.

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

## 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 police official said on Sunday.

Two South African nationals were arrested in Bengaluru in connection with 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 apprehended one Haider Ali in Pumpwell, Mangaluru, and confiscated 15 grams of MDMA from him.

Subsequent investigations led authorities to a Nigerian national named Peter, who was arrested

### MAJOR HAUL

■ Mangaluru CCB police arrested two South Africans -- Bamba Fant and Abigail Adonis -- in B'luru on March 14

■ Taken into custody in Neeladri Nagar, Electronic City in B'luru

■ Authorities discovered MDMA concealed in trolley

bags, alongside four mobile phones, passports, & Rs 18,000 in cash

■ The duo was allegedly supplying drugs to Nigerian peddlers operating in B'luru & other regions

■ They are suspected of using forged passports & visas for travel

in Bengaluru with MDMA worth Rs 6 crore. Further probes pointed to an international drug network with links to traffickers using air routes between Delhi and Bengaluru, he said.

Acting on intelligence, the Mangaluru Central Crime Branch (CCB) police arrested two South African

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 Sunita 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



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

when they launched on Boeing's first astronaut flight. They hit the nine-month mark earlier this month.

The Boeing Starliner capsule encountered so many problems that NASA insisted it come back empty, leaving its test pilots behind to

wait for a SpaceX lift.

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 GREETED

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■ Weather permitting, the SpaceX capsule carrying 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

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