

TERRIBLE TUESDAY: Motorcycle pilot crushed under crane at Ponda

A speeding crane ran over Chodankar after its driver lost control; he was dragged along with his bike for 7.5 metres; his head was crushed and was found in a pool of blood

Team Herald

PONDA: In a tragic incident, a motorcycle pilot named Prakash Chodankar (58), resident of Kavalem, operating from KTC Bus stand, was crushed to death as a result of rash and negligent driving by a crane driver on Tuesday morning.

The deceased, a resident of Kavalem-Ponda and native of Kauthani-Sawantwadi, Maharashtra, was sitting on his stationary motorcycle and reading a newspaper when a speeding crane ran over Chodankar after its driver lost control. He was dragged along with bike and dragged for almost seven meters. His head was crushed and was found in a pool of blood.

The horrific incident shocked hundreds of passengers at the KTC Bus



The deceased, a resident of Kavlem, was sitting on his stationary motorcycle and reading a newspaper when the incident occurred, at the KTC bus stand in Ponda

Stand. Following the incident, Ponda police personnel rushed to the site. Shocked locals alleged negligence by the contractor involved in widening on the national highway (NH) work, which was responsible for the pilot's death.

Local social workers Vi-

raj Sapre and John Mascarenhas said the NH widening work being undertaken on the highway stretch near KTC Bus stand in a very casual manner, with no proper sign boards regarding the road widening work, nor proper supervision by the contractor.

The accused crane driver Ranjeet Kumar (20), a resident of Bihar, has been arrested by the police and a case has been registered under Section 279, 304-A of IPC.

According to Ponda PI Tushar Lotlikar, the crane driver drove the crane in a rash and negligent



Prakash Chodankar

manner, while proceeding from Farmagudi-Ponda towards KTC Bus stand Ponda, without taking proper care and caution, endangering human life.

He dashed against the stationary taxi motorcycle pilot and further dragged him up to 7.5 mts along with his motorcycle and also hit a mini bus in the process. The victim sustained grievous injuries, and succumbed to his injuries.

CM directs SEIAA to expedite environmental clearances for 9 auctioned mining blocks

Directs the auction lease holder of Shirgao to exclude the area of Shri Lairai Temple and habitation in and around the area

Team Herald

PANJIM: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Tuesday took status of all the nine auctioned mining blocks to ensure speedy clearances and resumption of mining activities and also directed the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) to complete the process of granting environmental clearances (ECs) expeditiously.

The directions were given at the Goa State Geological Programming Board Meeting 2024, chaired by the Chief Minister.

All the nine auction holders and the officers of Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB), Environment Department, Forest Department among others, were present at the meeting. Also, other officials

have been directed to grant the permissions as soon as possible.

Based on the review, it was concluded that around 3-4 mines will be operational by September-October 2024. Sawant also directed the auction lease holder of Shirgao to exclude the area of Shri Lairai Temple and habitation in and around the area.

The agenda of the meeting included discussions on several crucial topics including exploration of mining leases to be funded through the National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET).

The Board deliberated on the empanelment of agencies under the Directorate of Mines and Geology (DMG). Another key point of discussion was the strengthening of the DMG

office by establishing a laboratory for mineral analysis. The laboratory will be equipped with advanced instruments procured through NMET funds.

The meeting discussions also entailed that the profile of existing dumps will be studied by DMG-empanelled agencies utilizing NMET funds.

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) will extend its support to the DMG, Goa, in preparing proposals to tap NMET funds. Additionally, the GSI will assist in the preparation of geological reports for mineral blocks slated for upcoming auctions.

At the meeting, the chief minister, unveiled the geological and mineral map of Goa, along with the District Resource Maps for both the districts.

RECKLESS RISK-TAKER



A rider was caught jumping the red light and entering the 'No Entry' zone, while riding over a zebra crossing at Gurim junction, on Tuesday

Ponda civic body seals bike showroom for operating sans trade licence

Team Herald

PONDA: The Ponda Municipal Council (PMC) sealed a showroom located on Bethora Road for operating without obtaining a trade licence from PMC. The action followed a final order issued by the Chief Officer after a series of hearings on the matter.

Municipal Engineer Vishant Naik stated that the showroom owner had failed to secure a trade licence and a house number for the premises, despite being directed to do so by the PMC. The issue came to light following a complaint filed by a citizen, which was pursued by John Mascarenhas on behalf of the complainant.

Mascarenhas reported that the construction of the building commenced in 2022, during which a complaint was initially filed. The PMC had granted temporary permission on the condition that no business activities would take place. However, when the showroom started operating recently without proper documentation, a new complaint was filed against the ground plus one building where the bike show-

room was operating.

The Chief Officer's final hearing concluded that the business had been operating without obtaining the necessary permissions or licences, violating Section 265 of the Goa Municipalities Act, 1968, and the Trade and Licencing Bye-Laws, 1989. The permission for the structure expired on June 6, 2024, and the owner failed to pro-

duce any relevant documents or permissions for both the business and the structure. "Despite being given seven working days to produce the necessary permissions and having 11 months' time, the applicant failed to provide the required documents. The business was operating in blatant violation of all municipal laws, said the CO's order.

The Municipal Inspectors of the Council were directed to enforce the sealing, under the supervision of the Municipal Engineer.

CCP mulling over food, entertainment zone in Panjim

Team Herald

PANJIM: Corporation of the City of Panaji (CCP) Mayor, Rohit Monserrate on Tuesday said that the Corporation will propose to have entertainment and food zones in the city.

Speaking to reporters, he said, "We want to set up entertainment and food zones in the city. Nothing happens in Panjim in the night. Everyone has to go outside for any sort of entertainment. We are hoping to get a zone in Patta where we will have vendors and entertainment and people of the city will benefit from it. The area can cater to a lot of people from the city."

He said the CCP has discussed some of the areas and places like the National Theatre and Joggers Park which can be notified as a zone.

"Names of different areas have been suggested. These names will be sent to the District Collector for notifying them. Even if we notify the area we will have to see how many

PANJIM: Reacting strongly to CCP's plans to have entertainment and food zones in Panjim, residents of the capital city said that priority of the corporation should be completion of the Smart City works, which have been undertaken across the city and made people's lives miserable.

Advocate Rui Ferreira said, "They are acting as agents of some entertainment companies. While you are creating pay parking scheme saying parking is a problem, at the same time you are burdening the city with these type of things. What is the purpose? You are burdening the existing infrastructure in the city."

"It is not the business of the CCP to have an entertainment zone in the city. Everything is being shifted from Panjim. Most of the government departments have been shifted from Panjim to Porvorim. CCP's role is to collect revenue from the market which it is not doing. Already there is no space in Patta," Adv Ferreira said.

of them can be accommodated. Efforts will be made to spread them out evenly so that there is no traffic jam in the city," Monserrate said.

He said the number of zones will depend on the number of people who are to be accommodated.

"Depending on the people we have, we will try and accommodate them," he said.

He said there are 92 vendors who are on the priority list who need to be accommodated. However, he suggested that the number may increase. "We want to bring them under

a standard set of rules so that safety and cleanliness are not an issue. It should not cause any chaos in the area," he said.

He said the carts to be put in the zone will be redesigned as they are very old.

Speaking about the entertainment zone, the Mayor said, "It

will provide the city dwellers to spend some time together. If it comes up in Patta then it will be easier to maintain it. Advantage in Patta is that there are no residential complexes there. Right now we have to notify the area. It can be from Sesa Goa to the Spaces building."

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Konkan Railway to open bids for rent-a-bike service despite opposition

Team Herald

MARGAO: Despite Chief Minister Pramod Sawant's apparent reservations about the rent-a-bike service, Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) is proceeding with the opening of bids received for operating the initiative at railway stations. Even though the State government's permission is required for the service to commence in Goa, KRCL will still evaluate the tender proposals.

However, the service cannot be started in Goa if the State government does not grant permission, as conveyed by Santosh Kumar Jha, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd (KRCL), to Chief Minister Pramod Sawant. Jha, who has recently taken over office, paid a courtesy visit to CM Pramod-

Sawant on Monday.

Sawant on Tuesday stated that Jha informed him that the Konkan Railways' decision regarding the rent-a-bike service will be communicated to the State government within the next two days. According to the tender floated by KRCL, the rent-a-bike services are to be operated at seven railway stations - five in Goa and two in Karnataka - through a single contract encompassing all seven stations.

It is to be noted that this move by KRCL faced significant opposition from local taxi and rickshaw drivers stationed at the Konkan Railway stations in Goa, as well as from Opposition MLAs.

The primary concern raised was the potential impact on their livelihoods due to the introduction of the rent-a-bike service.

In an unrelated development,

several trains on the Konkan Railway route faced delays due to ongoing double-tracking work in Goa. Baban Ghatge, the Deputy General Manager of KRCL, addressed the issue on Tuesday morning, stating, "The delays were caused by the double-tracking work being carried out in Goa. He also gave an assurance that the regular train schedule was expected to resume by Tuesday evening."

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Employment Notification No.CO/P-R/3C/2024 dated 31.05.2024

Konkan Railway Corporation Limited has published Employment Notification for various posts in Civil / Project Department on fixed term Contract basis through walk-in-interview. Details are as under:

Sr. No.	Name of Post / Grade	UR	EWS	OBC	SC	ST	Total No. of Posts
1.	Sr. Technical Assistant	1	-	-	-	-	1
2.	Project Engineer + Project Engineer (Tender & Proposal)	3	1	3	1	-	8
3.	CAD/ Draftsman	1	-	-	-	-	1
4.	Assistant Engineer/ Contract	1	-	-	-	-	1
Total		6	1	3	1	-	11

Candidates may see the details of notification, eligibility criteria, etc. on the Konkan Railway's website www.konkanrailway.com at the link --> Recruitment --> Current Notification and apply accordingly.

Chief Personnel Officer

Traffic violations drop, yet road accidents unabated in Goa

Team Herald

MARGAO: In the first four months of 2024, police in Goa issued 31,729 challans to riders violating the Motor Vehicle (MV) Act, a decrease from the 51,816 issued during the same period last year. Notably, in April 2024 alone, 9,800 cases of traffic violations were booked across the State. Police said the traffic violations recorded included not wearing helmets, not using seat belts, tinted glass usage, over-speeding, red-light jumping, and driving without a licence.

Kashinath Naik, a resident of Margao, acknowledged the visible impact of the traffic drive, noting that more people now use seat belts while driving cars and wear helmets while riding scooters.

Additionally, compliance with driving licences, speed limits, and other regulations has improved. However, Naik expressed concern that despite these efforts and the issuance of MV cases, road accidents have not decreased.

From January to April this year, Verna recorded the highest number of accidents at 84, with six fatalities, while Cuncolim and Maina-Curtorim reported seven fatalities each. The Collem police booked the highest number of traffic violations at 2,883 in four months. (see box)

Despite the numerous traffic violations booked and preventive measures implemented, the data reflects that road accidents and fatalities continue to be a concern in South Goa.

NUMBER OF TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS, ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES RECORDED BY S GOA POLICE STATIONS FROM JAN TO APRIL 2024:

Police Station	Traffic Violations	Accidents	Fatalities
Verna	413	84	6
Maina-Curtorim	1,107	60	7
Ponda	1,497	53	6
Cuncolim	1,120	50	7
Canacona	1,457	38	4
Colva	545	36	4
Fatorda	1	36	5
Margao	779	33	2
Quepem	378	24	1
Vasco	538	24	3
Curchorem	1,030	16	2
Collem	2,883	9	4
Sanguem	1,409	7	0
Mormugao	457	5	0
Dabolim	71	-	-
Vasco Railway Police	178	-	-
Mardol	-	21	1

Traffic Cell book 150 violations of drunken driving during special drive

PANJIM: In a special drive undertaken between June 7 and June 9, 2024, the Traffic Cell of Goa Police has booked 150 violations of drunken driving across the state. The drive was undertaken between 8 pm and 11 pm.

"In continuation with the action against drunken driving, a special drive was held from June 7, 2024, to June 8, 2024, between 8 pm to 11 pm and total of 150 violations of drunken driving were booked during the special drive," a statement from Superintendent of Police, Traffic, Rahul Gupta said.

He said that so far 2,318 drunken driving cases have been booked from January 1, 2024, to June 9, as compared to 535 cases booked during the same period last year.

GOA STATE MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Institute of Psychiatry and Human Behaviour,
Bambolim Goa - 403 202.
Email id: ceo-gsmha@goa.gov.in

Ref. No. GSMHA/MHA/01/2019-20/Vol.1/026 Date: 11/06/2024

Applications are invited for appointment of non-ex-officio members of the "Goa State Mental Health Authority" under section 45 & 46, sub-section (1) of the Mental Health Care Act 2017 in the various categories as mentioned in the given table.

Sr. No.	Composition of state Authority	Designation	Qualification	Number	Maximum Age
1.	Two Persons representing person who have or have had mental illness	Members	----	2	Not exceeding the Age of 70 years.
2.	Two persons representing care-givers of persons with mental illness or organizations representing care-givers.	Members	----	2	Not exceeding the Age of 70 years.

Note: Those who have already applied in response to the advertisement dated 02-11-2024 need not apply again.

- The Applicant should be a citizen of India.
- Interested candidates fulfilling the above mentioned criteria should submit application in the office of Chief Executive officer, Goa State Mental Health Authority administrative Block, Institute of Psychiatry and Human Behaviour (IPHB) Bambolim-Goa on or before 20 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. Applicants should be submitted on plain paper indicating (a) Name of the category applied for (b) Full Name in block letters (c) Communication Address with Phone/Mobile No. & E-mail ID. Soft copy of the application in addition to hard copy can also be emailed at ceo-gsmha@goa.gov.in along with self-attested copies of the relevant documents as proof. Applications received after the cutoff date will not be considered. For any queries visit this office.

Place: Bambolim - Goa.
Date: 11/06/2024

Sd/-
(Kapil Phadte)
Chief Executive Officer
Goa State Mental Health Authority

DI/Advt/154/2024-25