



Goemkarponn

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RS. 10/-

"IT'S THE BIGGEST SCAM"

Goa CM urges review of Co-operative societies Act

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant today said that Co-operative societies Act need to be amended to tighten the functioning as people have lost crores of rupees due to Co-operative societies.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant was addressing the gathering losing Ceremony of 71st National Co-Operative Week 2024 & Presentation of Co-Operative Awards

"Co-operative societies Act need to be amended to tighten the functioning as people have lost crores of rupees due to Co-operative societies," said Sawant

He further said that



this is also a kind of fraud, this is one of the biggest scam; many unknown co-operative societies scam runs into Rs 10-20 cr.

"Common man is the ultimate suffer; govt act is also restricted; we can only initiate inquiry; appeal experts to study Co-operative Act in other States and recommend amendment," he added

"Let us take pledge to

ensure that the common depositors does not suffer and their money is not duped. I appeal people not to take loan from unknown credit societies...loans are given beyond the credit limit ...people will lose faith and trust on credit societies..." he said

Sawant also urged citizens to be on the lookout for a number of scams that are common in the state, such as the cash-for-govt employment fraud, human trafficking, jewelry scam, etc.

"Avoid falling for such a racket," he said. He added that Goa Police have been stepping up their efforts to combat a number of these scams recently.

Additionally, he **CONTD TO PAGE 04..**



Passenger Arrested for Sexual Harassment Mid-Flight

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: A disturbing incident occurred on Air India flight AI-885 from Delhi to Goa on November 19, when a male passenger allegedly sexually harassed a woman onboard.

The victim, seated at 31A near the window, reported that Jitender Jaglan, 23, from Panipat, seated at 31B, engaged in obscene behavior under a blanket and partially exposed himself towards her.

The incident, which took place between 11:00 am and 1:20 pm, left the **CONTD TO PAGE 04..**

SFX Exposition: SP North says Quick Response Teams will be on standby

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Police have strengthened security measures in Old Goa in advance of the relics of St. Francis Xavier being exhibited. Tomorrow, November 21, marks the start of the 45-day event, which will end on January 5, 2025.

Speaking to reporters, SP North Akshat Kaushal stated that police are stepping up security to make sure the event is incident-free and safe.

400 CCTV cameras have been installed to provide close surveillance, and around 1,500 police officers will be stationed throughout the Exposition in shift fashion.

Furthermore, watch towers have been erected,



and the areas will be monitored by a specialized drone.

According to him, metal detectors would be placed in strategic locations, including both hand-held and door frame models. There will be Quick Response Teams available to react quickly to any issues.

Additionally, signboards and sand bunkers have been installed to instruct guests

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55th International Film Festival of India
20th - 28th November, 2024
Panaji, Goa



Grand Opening

In the gracious presence of,

Dr. Pramod Sawant

Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Goa

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw

Hon'ble Union Minister
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

Dr. L. Murugan

Hon'ble Minister of State
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

Opening Ceremony on 20th November, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.
at Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Taleigao, Goa

We kindly request your presence to be seated 30 minutes before the event begins.

For more Information & Registration log on to www.esg.co.in and www.iffigoa.org
IFFI Helpline number **08326741717** (8.00 a.m. - 10.00 p.m.)

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Country Focus:

Lounge Partner:

Goa Bracing for a Traffic Mess This November end

“*The St. Francis Xavier Exposition, hailed as a highlight in Goa’s calendar, attracts lakhs of pilgrims and tourists eager to participate in the spiritual celebrations surrounding the revered relic of St. Francis Xavier.*

With this event set to kick off the peak tourism season, authorities expect a significant surge in footfall, leading to increased vehicular congestion in Old Goa and surrounding areas. The proximity of the exposition to numerous heritage sites adds to the allure; however, it also forebodes potential bottlenecks as visitors navigate through the region’s often narrow roads.

Meanwhile, the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), held in Panaji, further intensifies the festive atmosphere. Festival attendees flock from all over, hoping to catch a glimpse of filmmakers, actors, and the latest cinematic works.”

As November unfolds, Goa prepares for an influx of tourists and various significant events that promise to draw crowds but may also create a logistical challenge for locals and visitors alike.

The anticipation surrounding the St. Francis Xavier Exposition in Old Goa, beginning November 21, coincides with the International

Film Festival in Panaji from November 20. Both events highlight the state’s cultural vibrancy, but they come with their fair share of traffic implications.

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The combination of both the exposition and the film festival means Panaji will be buzzing with activity, but it also raises concerns about how the city’s infrastructure will cope with the expected increase in traffic.

Exacerbating the situation are the ongoing flyover projects at Porvorim. Construction has been characterized

by delays and diversions, which have made navigation through this vital commuter stretch a frustrating experience for many. With heavy machinery and construction materials cluttering the roads, drivers may find themselves facing additional delays, further complicating commutes during an already busy month.

Moreover, the Smart City project in Panaji, which aims to revamp the urban landscape and improve infrastructure, continues to be a work in progress. While its ultimate goal is to create a more efficient, modern city, the current state of construction zones and worker activities can impede traffic flow. As authorities strive to implement smart solutions for transportation and urban planning, the immediate ramifications are being felt by those traversing through the congested streets.

As the peak tourism season commences, the convergence of these events and projects creates a perfect storm

for traffic woes. Locals know all too well the trials of getting around during this time of year, particularly as weekends see an influx of day-trippers and vacationers seeking the coastal charm of Goa. What was once a scenic drive may soon become an exercise in patience, with long lines of vehicles and packed roads.

To navigate the anticipated challenges, it is essential for residents and visitors alike to plan their journeys accordingly. Utilizing public transportation whenever possible, carpooling, and keeping abreast of traffic updates can alleviate some congestion pains. As Goa preps to welcome visitors and celebrate its rich cultural heritage, proactive measures will be key in ensuring that the spirit of the season is not overshadowed by traffic chaos. With an engaging calendar of events ahead, it’s a unique time for Goa, but preparation and adaptability will be paramount for anyone looking to enjoy all that this beautiful state has to offer.

Ailing senior citizens duped by woman at Quepem

Team Goemkarponn

QUEPEM: A woman connected to an NGO that works for the care of older persons in Curchorem is accused of defrauding a number of elderly people, many of whom were patients, out of crores of rupees in a startling fraud case.

By gaining access to her victims’ SIM cards, taking money out of their fixed deposits, and even snatching gold jewelry from their bank vaults, the accused is accused of abusing their confidence.

The woman is the subject of a complaint filed



at the Curchorem Police Station. Locals, however, are furious over what they perceive to be the police’s tardiness in filing the complaint.

Residents rushed the Curchorem Police Station on Tuesday night, demanding an immediate inquiry and justice for

the victims, frustrated by the lack of action.

Concerns regarding the exploitation of weaker groups and the requirement for more

stringent oversight of organizations that assist senior folks have been brought up by the occurrence. The unfortunate elderly have been reassured by police that they are looking into the situation and would deal with the offender appropriately.

Criminal Suleman used multiple bank accounts in his girlfriends’ names: SP

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Siddhique, also known as Suleiman Mohammad Khan, was arrested by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on November 12 for land grabbing cases from Hubbali. According to the Goa police on Tuesday, he used the SIM cards and bank accounts of most of the 35 women he befriended to stay hidden and carry out illicit activities.

“Suleiman was wanted in three SIT cases for land grabbing and was declared proclaimed offender in two cases filed at Anjuna and Mapusa Police Stations,”



stated Rahul Gupta, Superintendent of Police (SP), Crime Branch, during a press conference.

According to the SP, Suleiman has been the subject of seven cases filed at the Mapusa, Valpoi, and Anjuna police stations.

In addition, he has four FIRs filed against him in Hyderabad, three in Pune, and one in Delhi, where the Delhi Court has deemed him a proclaimed

criminal.

According to Gupta, Suleiman had been detained in a number of prisons throughout the nation, including Cherlapally (Hyderabad), Tihar, Yerawada, and Colvale. Six properties in all—two in Tivim, three in Gaulim Mola, and one in Mapusa—are at issue in the cases filed against him in SIT.

According to the SP, police are also investigating four additional houses where he may be engaged. According to the police officer, his personal possessions in Belgaum and Mapusa would be attached.

My thoughts & opinions differ from others in the party: Tawadkar

Team Goemkarponn

QUEPEM: Speaker Ramesh Tawadkar expressed disagreement inside the party on by reiterating his displeasure with the work of some state ministers. He claimed to have already brought up the matter with the party's leadership.

Tawadkar was speaking to a crowd during the Margao Bhagwan Birsa Munda Gaurav Yatra, which was organized to increase public awareness of the national Scheduled Tribe leader's life and legacy.

"There is no question of showing strength with



this rally," he remarked in response to a query about whether the turnout was a sign of support for Tawadkar. There has been strong support for raising awareness about Birsa

Munda everywhere we have gone. Our objective is to inspire young people and draw attention to his contributions.

The turnout for the rally was larger than anticipated.

Tawadkar attributed the reaction to the people's enthusiasm for the cause, saying, "We expected 700-800 attendees, but around 1,500 people joined on the first day, and thousands participated from Quepem in Salcete."

Tawadkar rejected the idea of competitiveness in response to rumors of a confrontation with Minister Govind Gaude, equating disagreements with those within families or communities. "I have different ideas and opinions than other party members. There is no competition, and they are working to the best of their skills," he stated.

PIL filed against Sunburn festival in Dhargalim

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: A Dhargalim resident is attempting to get permissions for the Sunburn festival in Goa revoked by filing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Bombay High Court in Goa.

Bharat Bagkar claimed in his appeal that Dhargalim is undertaking infrastructure development with the goal of achieving general socio-economic prosperity.

He expressed worries that issues including drug and alcohol abuse, excessive noise, and light pollution could result from the festival's proposed new location in Dhargalim, which was publicized on its social media page.

In addition, he claimed that the festival organizers had errors in their tax payments and arrears and had not



followed earlier High Court orders.

According to the petition, "there is no quick alternative but to approach the Court through this PIL given the larger public interest at risk due to the Sunburn Festival 2024."

Additionally, it asks the Court to rescind or annul the festival's licenses. As an alternative, the petitioner proposed relocating the event to a private place outside of Dhargalim, ideally somewhere that promotes travel. In addition, the petitioner requested that the Court halt the festival's ticket sales and authorization while the case is pending.

GCCI seeks VAT reform for liquor dealers

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: To avoid more taxes on incentives and discounts that booze merchants receive, the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCI) has urged the government to alter the Goa VAT law.

Rohan Bhandare, the chair of the GCCI Taxation Committee, expressed concerns about the Tax Department's interpretation of the legislation in a letter to the State Commissioner for Commercial Taxes.

According to Bhandare, booze



dealers buy products from vendors and claim a credit for input taxes on the taxes they pay. Suppliers frequently provide discounts or incentives, including cash refunds or sales promotions. "The Tax Department has reversed input tax credits from liquor dealers' balances and demanded interest on these amounts because it believes that these incentives are taxable in their hands," Bhandare said.

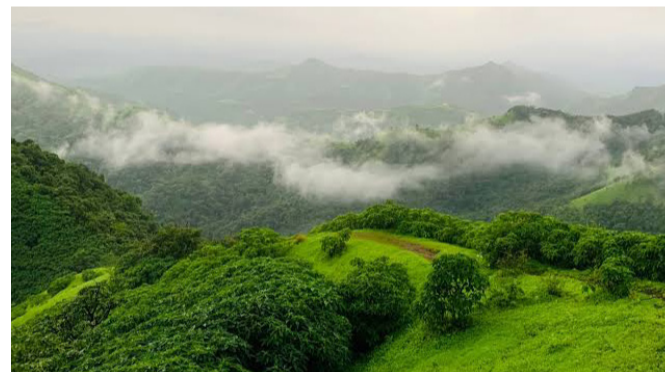
ESA Central team to visit Goa for verification

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Beginning on November 26, the expert committee appointed by the Union Ministry for Environment, Forests, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to review the State governments' opinions and objections regarding Western Ghats Eco-Sensitive Areas (ESA) will travel to Goa for four days in order to verify the State's submission on the ground.

In its submission to the Union Ministry, the Goa government suggested removing 21 villages off the ESA list.

This proposal was based on the findings of a



seven-member committee constituted by the State and led by Dr. Devendra Pandey, the former director general of the Forest Survey of India.

The committee has suggested that 87 communities be classified as ESA since they satisfy the Ministry's requirements.

The committee, led by former Forest Director-General Sanjay Kumar, will work with the state government to determine whether its requests to exclude villages designated as ESA are warranted.

The Environment Minister suggested that they visit the State and

those areas because the ESA committee had certain concerns during the State response.

Twelve villages are from Sattari, five are from Dharbandora, three are from Sanguem, and one is from Canacona taluka, according to the government's proposal.

Out of the 87 villages that were suggested under the ESA categories, 51 are located in Sattari taluka, 23 in Sanguem, 8 in Dharbandora, 4 in Canacona, and 1 in Ponda. A total of 1,247 square kilometers of Goa are suggested for ESA classification. Once finalised, villages marked as ESA

IPSCDL Highlights Panaji's Smart Waste Management Solutions at Swachhata Margdarshak Training Programme

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Imagine Panaji Smart City Development Ltd. (IPSCDL) showcased Panaji's waste management solutions during the Swachhata Margdarshak Training Programme, which was held on November 18-19, 2024.

This initiative was

part of a broader effort to empower Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) across Goa and India with the knowledge and tools to drive sustainable waste management.

Organized by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in collaboration with GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale

Zusammenarbeit) and the All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIIILSG), the two-day event was hosted at the Goa State Pollution Control Board Auditorium.

It brought together key stakeholders, including representatives from Port Blair, Kerala, the State Mission for Clean Ganga and ULBs across Goa.

Speaking at the event, IPSCDL MD & CEO, Mr. Sanjit Rodrigues said "The Swachhata Margdarshak Programme is a testament to the transformative power of simple innovation and community-driven solutions in urban waste management. At IPSCDL, we would showcase Panaji's sustainable waste management

practices, inspiring change makers to replicate these successes nationwide." The Swachhata Margdarshak Programme, a cornerstone of Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 (SBM 2.0), aims to equip Margdarshaks with the skills and tools needed to lead waste management initiatives in their cities. It

addresses the unique challenges of urban waste management, particularly in vulnerable coastal regions, aligning with India's goal of creating Garbage-Free Cities.

The program featured opening remarks from Mr. Sebastian Markart, Project Director, GIZ.



Oppn MLAs write to PM Modi in cash for job scandal



Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: All seven opposition MLAs, including Congress, AAP, RGP and Goa Forward held a meeting in Margao and have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene in the 'cash for job' scandal, which has deprived deserving candidates from getting government jobs.

The way Goa police are investigating and giving certificates of 'clean chit' to BJP Ministers is shocking and we know that 'big fishes' involved in it will not be caught by damaged fishnets of police. Police have become spokesperson of BJP.

It is learnt that today one who was arrested

by Mardol police was a staff of one BJP Minister. There may be several such agents employed by ministers to make money by selling jobs. That should be investigated and hence we have decided to write to the Prime Minister as it is a serious issue.

Deserving candidates are not getting government jobs as these agents are manipulating the process by taking bribes. Police have caught these small fishes, big fishes are trying to weaken these complaints and hence there is a need that this scandal should be handed over to SIT or should be probed by retired High Court judge.

If undeserving candidates get

government jobs by paying bribes to BJP's agents, how will departments function with such persons who are into corruption. In the future they will take bribes from people to recover their money spent to get a job. So the corruption cycle will continue.

BJP came to power with a false narrative of mining scam and promising unemployment dole in 2012. Since then, Mining dependents are waiting for resumption and unemployed youths for dole.

Mining resumption and creation of employment were two main promises of BJP's manifestos. In 2012, BJP had promised unemployment dole. What happened to that

promise?

BJP is responsible for mining suspension and increased unemployment rate due to it.

Now as their involvement has been exposed, BJP Govt is using police officials to break the chain of investigation. It is shocking to note that Police are giving clean chit to politicians in power. Police are proving that they are spokesperson of BJP.

How can police jump to conclusions when cases are still being lodged? Is the investigation over of all cases? Have they checked audios which are viral of MLAs and other agents? Have the police filed Chargesheet? Then how come they give clean chit to politicians in power? Don't protect criminals.

Have the police checked how many candidates these agents have provided jobs? I am sure the police will not do it because they want to protect their bosses.



Sensitisation programme on promoting safe & legal migration held

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: In wake of recent cases of job recruitment scams targeting public in the state and abroad, a sensitization programme was held at South District Headquarters, Margao for all Senior Police Officers of South District in the afternoon session by Sunita Sawant SP South Goa.

"These scammers take advantage of the

eagerness of young people particularly who are very actively seeking employment," SP said

In order to sensitize about The Emigration Act, 1983, challenges in promoting safe & legal migration & fake recruitment abroad by fraud recruiting Agencies, Avaneesh Shukla, Protector of Emigrants, Bengaluru, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India delivered awareness session and talk.

Speaker Tawadkar admitted that he is not an independent neutral authority: Girish

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Congress Leader Girish Chodankar today said that Dr Ramesh Tawadkar, the Speaker of the Goa Legislative Assembly, has shamelessly admitted that he is not an independent neutral authority sitting over the most highly respected constitutional position but is an agent of the BJP government. .5

In a recent interview with one of the TV channels, Dr. Ramesh Tawadkar admits that he belongs to the BJP government, when the speaker should be above all the political parties and uphold the sanctity of the constitutional office.

"But, sadly, he admits through this statement that he is a party man, which means he simply does not



want to be impartial," said Chodankar. He further said that the speaker's role in a democracy is to uphold neutrality and fairness as an impartial arbitrator above political considerations.

"Precisely this is the reason Dr Tawadkar sat down on the disqualification petitions over 24 months, to save "his government". And while disposing of the petitions, more strikingly, he said, "Let them go to court and appeal against my verdict." he added

Initially through his actions and now with

the public submission, Dr Tawadkar has proved beyond doubt that the authority like the Speaker simply cannot decide over most crucial issues like disqualifications, he added

"I must remind the speaker that his own partial inaction has compelled me to approach the High Court and Supreme Court to hear my petition. It is also crystal clear that he played with democratic norms and hoodwinked the Constitution of India by sitting over his decisions on disqualification petitions for so long" Chodankar said

He asserted that defections are detrimental; however, despite having the authority to disqualify them, he upheld defection, undermining the very essence of the Anti-Defection Law.

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"IT'S THE BIGGEST SCAM"

reiterated his claim that the state's crime rate had increased as a result of the growing migrant population. According to him, in jewelry scams, con artists arrive with police officers from other states and say they have sold the stolen gold to Goan jewelers.

Crime branch arrested two people for allegedly trafficking a woman from Goa to Muscat on the

pretext of a job. Police said the accused were running an overseas recruitment agency illegally.

The complainant told the police that the accused transported her to Muscat by deception and under the garb of providing a job as a domestic help. In Muscat, she was confined in a flat, starved and asked for sexual favours, police

said.

"I am saying this because I want to tell you (people), including the business community, to be alert. Day by day, the police department is cracking down on such cases. Scams like job rackets, human trafficking and gold rackets are on the rise, but people should remain cautious and avoid falling for them," said Sawant.

Passenger Arrested for Sexual Harassment Mid-Flight

complainant humiliated. Upon landing at Dabolim International

Airport, a case was registered, and the accused was arrested

under relevant sections of the law. Authorities are investigating further.

SFX Exposition: SP North says Quick Response Teams will be on standby

on what to do and what not to do during the event. According to Kaushal, police are collaborating closely with the Exposition Secretariat and Church officials to make sure the event runs well and safely. In order to clarify what is and is

not permitted within the event parking, PWD has also placed numerous signage in strategic locations.

The signs have been effective in raising awareness of these rules. Additionally, we want to reassure you

that Goa is dedicated to making sure everything is excellent and safe, even though they have been working closely with the church and the exposition secretariat to ensure that any security-related concerns they may have are promptly handled.

There is no salvation without education', Shrimad Vidyadhish Tirtha Swami Maharaj



Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: 'Without education there is no salvation in life. However, never attempt to force your children for a particular type of education; give them a chance to choose their path, the field of their interest', said Partagal Mutt Shrimad Vidyadhish Tirtha Swami Maharaj at the centenary celebration of Sri Damodar Vidyalyaya of Sri Damodar Vidyaprasarak Sanstha in Loliem Canacona.

Speaking further, iln

1924, the 20th Swami of Partgal Mutt, Srimad Indirakanth Tirtha Swami Maharaj, had a love and affection for the community. He recognized the importance of education during the Portuguese period.

Education supports a person in his every aspects of his life and till his last breath. Setting up an organization or a society may be as easy task, however to keep it running is a challenge, The Shri Damodar Vidhyaprasarak society should be grateful

to all those who have worked hard and with determination to keep this institution going ahead and that too on good and moral principles'.

Similarly Swami Maharaj advised the management and the school staff not to discriminate in education and also not to put children of any age under undue pressure.

;Partgali Mutt and this educational institution (Damodar Vidyalyaya) have a very old and long relationship; stated

Chairman of Dhempo Group of Industries Srinivas Dhempo, speaking as the chief guest at this centenary function. Speaking further Dhempo while praising the work of Sri Damodar Vidyalyaya, he said that Children should be given the opportunity to choose their field as per the present time and never treat the young ones in an authoritarian manner. 'Teach children the Indian way of education without imitating the foreign culture.

No matter what, but hard work is a giant step to success', Dhempo advised on the occasion. Earlier on this occasion, Swami Maharaj unveiled the oil painting of Indirakanth Tirtha Swami Maharaj in Indirakanth Auditorium, before Swami Maharaj visited Shree Keshav and Shree Damodar Devalayas.



ESG organises Akash Kandil competition as part of IFFI Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), in collaboration with the Government of Goa, is delighted to announce the Aakash Kandil (lantern-making) competition as part of the 55th International Film Festival of India 2024 (IFFI). This initiative celebrates Goa's rich cultural heritage, fostering creativity and community spirit through a stunning showcase of traditional and innovative lantern designs.

Key Details of the Competition:
 • Participation Criteria: Open to all residents of Goa.
 • Entry Limit: A maximum of 600 entries, with a cap of 50 entries per Taluka,

accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

• Participation Reward: Each participant will receive ₹500 as a token of appreciation for their effort and creativity.

• Submission Deadline: Completed Aakash Kandils must be submitted by 22nd November, 10:00 AM at ESG Promenade ESG will provide holders, bulbs, and electricity connections for display purposes.

• Materials: Participants may use any material except thermocol, promoting environmentally friendly creations.

Judging and Rewards:
 • Selection Process: Three winners will be chosen from each taluka, and they will receive prestigious prizes as recognition of their craftsmanship.

BJP failed to protect dignity of women, block escort websites: Congress

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: In a scathing attack, Manisha Usgaonkar, General Secretary of Goa Pradesh Congress Committee on Tuesday attacked BJP government over failing to protect the dignity of women.

Manisha Usgaonkar along with Zilla Panchayat member Mrs Michelle Moreno Rebelo and Goa Adivasi Congress chairman Ramkrishna Jalmi addressed a press



conference at Congress office in Margao and said that BJP government has failed in all aspects.

Praising the Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao, Congress leader Manisha Usgaonkar said that the former opened the eyes of police over escort service

websites and now they are taking action.

"Several escort websites are operating in Goa, which have spoiled the image of the state and also have created a picture that Goa is famous for escorts. However, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, who also holds Home portfolio, had failed to identify these websites and take action. Police department swung into action only after our leader Yuri Alemao raised the issue," she said.

Exercise Sea Vigil 24 Concludes: Strengthening India's Maritime Security

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: The fourth edition of Exercise Sea Vigil, India's largest coastal defence drill, concluded successfully on November 19, 2024. Spanning eight days, this pan-India initiative aimed to enhance maritime security and readiness against potential coastal threats. Organized by the Indian Navy in collaboration with six ministries and 21 organizations, including



the Coast Guard, Intelligence Bureau, and state authorities, the exercise involved extensive participation.

Conducted in two phases, Phase 1 focused on auditing

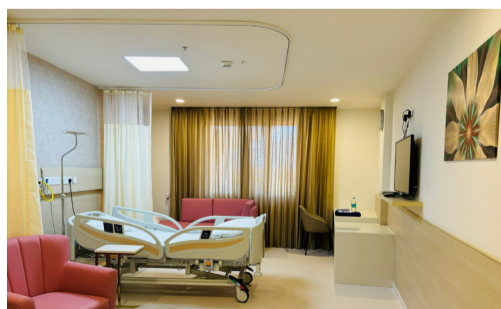
coastal infrastructure and evaluating security readiness, while Phase 2 simulated real-life threat scenarios with the deployment of ships, aircraft, and boats. The exercise

Manipal Hospital Goa Unveils Advanced Women & Child Care Unit in Honor of 30th Anniversary

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Manipal Hospital Goa launched its new Women & Child Care Unit, on November 16th, 2024 at a special event held at the Panjim Convention Centre.

This state-of-the-art facility is a significant step forward in the hospital's mission to provide specialized, high-quality healthcare to women and children in Goa.



With a focus on comprehensive care and advanced medical services, the new unit reinforces the hospital's commitment to addressing

the unique healthcare needs of this vital segment of the population.

This launch also coincides with the hospital's 30th anniversary



celebrations, marking three decades of dedicated service to the people of Goa. The event was attended by local dignitaries, healthcare

professionals, and community leaders, who gathered to commemorate three decades of Manipal Hospital Goa's dedication to healthcare excellence.

The evening featured a formal inauguration ceremony, followed by keynote speeches that highlighted the hospital's journey, its current achievements, and its future vision for healthcare in the region.

The new Women

& Child Care unit is designed to address the growing demand for specialized maternal, pediatric, and gynecological services.

With a focus on providing comprehensive care, the unit combines advanced technology, expert healthcare professionals, and a compassionate approach to ensure the well-being of mothers and children throughout all stages of life.



Breaking Barriers: 55th IFFI Sets New Standards for Accessibility in Films

Sabka Manoranjan: 55th IFFI aims to redefine Inclusivity in Film Festivals

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) proudly creates an inclusive cinematic experience, championing the theme "Sabka Manoranjan" (Entertainment for All). IFFI continues its tradition of accessible film festival, ensuring the festival remains welcoming to cinephiles of all abilities year after year.

With support from key collaborators like the Inclusion Partner, State Commission for Persons with disabilities, Goa and Accessibility Partner Svayam, IFFI sets a benchmark for inclusivity in cinema.

Key Accessibility Initiatives at IFFI 55 will be as follows:

- Inclusive Opening and Closing Ceremonies: For the first time in IFFI's history, the opening and closing ceremonies will feature live sign language interpretation, ensuring that all attendees, including those with hearing impairments can fully engage in the festival's audio-visual treat.
- Accessible India Films Section: A major highlight of IFFI 2024, this section will screen select Indian and international films enhanced with audio descriptions and Indian Sign Language, allowing visually and hearing-impaired audiences to immerse themselves in the

narratives. 55th IFFI will also screen Indian and International films with audio descriptions supported through the app, further enhancing the inclusive screening experience.

The section commences on November 22nd with a screening of 12th Fail, featuring audio descriptions and sign language interpretation. The new chapter in accessible cinema will open with a classical dance performance in Indian Sign Language by the acclaimed artist Ms Methil Devika, symbolizing the festival's commitment to inclusivity.

- Digital and On-Site Accessibility:
 - o Online platforms, including

the festival's website, app, and social media channels, aim to enhance user accessibility.

- Venues are equipped with wheelchair-accessible spaces, restrooms, and parking facilities. On-site sign language interpreters will also be available during the festival.
- Masterclasses and Press Conferences

A special masterclass titled "Exhibition of Feature Films in Cinema Theatres: The Question of Accessibility" will be conducted during IFFI 2024. Moreover, the masterclasses and press conferences will include live sign language interpretation, ensuring that key updates and discussions are

accessible to all.

- Screening Schedule of Embedded Accessible Features is as follows:
 - 12th Fail – November 22, 11:30 AM (Audio Description, Sign Language)
 - Bartali's Bicycle – November 24, 5:00 PM (Audio Description, Live Sign Language)
 - Beyond the Court: The Indian Wheelchair Basketball Journey – November 24, 5:00 PM (Audio Description, Sign Language)
 - Stride – November 26, 11:45 AM (Audio Description, Sign Language)
 - India Votes #WorldsLargestElection – November 26, 11:45 AM (Sign Language)

Bartali's Bicycle
 Director: Enrico Paolantonio
 Producer: Toonz Media Group, Lynx Multimedia Factory, Rai Ragazzi
 Supporting Organisation: Billion Readers
 A young Jewish cyclist, David, forms an unexpected friendship with Ibra, an Arab boy from a rival team. Both boys, passionate about cycling, find inspiration in the legacy of Gino Bartali—a renowned Italian champion who, during WWII, risked his life to save Jews by smuggling false documents. Against the backdrop of a divided Jerusalem, David and Ibra defy the deep-rooted hostilities between their communities, challenging prejudice through their bond and shared love for the sport.
 This story bridges two timelines: Bartali's wartime heroism in Florence, where he saved countless lives at great personal risk, and the present-day courage of two teenagers daring to break social barriers. Bartali's name, honored at Yad Vashem, reminds us of the enduring impact of friendship, bravery, and the fight against hate.
 Language: Audio Description with Live Sign Language

55th International Film Festival of India, 2024
Accessible India, Accessible Films
 Visit: www.iffigoa.org for more info.

12th Fail
 Director: Vidhu Vinod Chopra
 Producer: VC Films LLP
 Supporting Organisation: India Signing Hands
 Based on a true story, 12th Fail follows young Manoj Sharma, whose life is riddled with hardships. He fails his 12th-grade exams, lives in a dacoit-ridden village, and faces local political interference when his father loses his job for challenging corrupt superiors. With limited resources, his family survives by slowly selling off their livestock.
 Despite his circumstances, Manoj dreams of passing the UPSC exam, aiming to become a senior police officer to fight injustice. Competing against over a million candidates from prestigious institutions, Manoj faces staggering odds. Yet, he is buoyed by the support of his friend-turned-love Shradha and loyal friends.
 12th Fail is an inspiring story of a village boy who, despite poverty and lack of resources, pursues his dream with courage, honesty, and resilience.
 Language: Hindi with Audio Description & Indian Sign Language

The 55th International Film Festival of India welcomes its
Accessibility & Inclusion Partners

IFFIESTA: A Spectacular Fusion of Cinema and Culture unveils at 55th IFFI

The unparalleled cultural diversity of India to be at display in IFFI Parade

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Bringing music, art, and culture to the heart of entertainment, the 55th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) to be held in Panaji, Goa from 20th to 28th November, 2024 is set to unveil IFFIESTA. This exhilarating celebration will showcase a vibrant fusion of art, culture, and entertainment where the magic of cinema seamlessly intertwines with the pulse of live music and captivating performances.

The event will offer a curated experience of exciting choices and musical showcases to suit the taste buds of the participants. Kala Academy, Panaji will be the host of the landmark initiative.

The festival will present performance from various regional, traditional and cultural troupes coming from all over the country representing the unique and rich cultural diversity. IFFI Parade

A carnival rally on the theme of "Celebrating the Joy of Cinema" promises a unique blend of creativity and culture. The parade will feature an array of beautifully crafted performances. With the authentic Goan spirit, local float designers and parade groups will showcase their artistic brilliance and cultural pride through this initiative. In recognition of outstanding creativity and innovation, cash prizes will be awarded to floats and performances that best embody the theme. These awards aim to encourage innovation.

An Entertainment Extravaganza Like No Other This year, IFFIESTA Goa powered by District by Zomato, will dazzle audiences with live music and entertainment lineup. The festival's main stage will host performances by renowned artists, including:

- Asees Kaur: A chart-topping vocalist

IFFIESTA at the 55th IFFI
 A Weeklong Celebration of Film, Culture, & Community!
 IFFI 2024 proudly presents **IFFIESTA**—an exciting fusion of film, food, art, and interactive experiences. This unique celebration brings communities together, offering festival-goers and locals a lively mix of entertainment, cultural showcases, and immersive, film-inspired activities.

- Paradox: A dynamic hip-hop artist redefining India's music landscape
 - When Chai Met Toast: The indie-folk band known for their soulful tracks
 - The Yellow Diary: A genre-defying rock band
- Emerging talents will also take the spotlight, offering fresh and diverse sounds. Festivalgoers

will get an opportunity to experience the magical voice of Anumita Nadesan, the singer-songwriter, energetic performance of Chor Bazaar, vibrant Goan music from local star Reuben De Melo and electrifying mixes of DJ The Spinductor and Tsumyoki & modern beats by The Goa Trap Culture.

The IFFIESTA is more than just a visual spectacle—it is a union of art, community, and cinema. Come and witness this unforgettable highlight of the festival, where the magic of storytelling meets the vibrant culture of the nation in a grand celebration of life and creativity. Save the dates and join the magic!

PM Modi Meets Brazilian President, Thanks Him For Hosting G20 Summit

Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that Prime Minister Modi thanked President Lula for successfully hosting the G20 Summit.

Rio de Janeiro: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and took stock of the full range of bilateral ties while reaffirming India's commitment to improving cooperation in sectors like energy, biofuels, defence and agriculture.

Modi, who arrived in the Brazilian city on Sunday after concluding a two-day trip to Nigeria, met Lula on the sidelines of the G20 Summit here and complimented him on various efforts of Brazil during their G20 Presidency.

"We took stock of the full range of bilateral ties between our nations and reaffirmed our commitment to improving cooperation in sectors like energy, biofuels, defence, agriculture and more," Modi said in a post on X after talks with Lula.

Brazil is hosting the 19th G20 Summit. India is part of the G20 Troika along with Brazil and South Africa.

Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said that Prime Minister Modi thanked President Lula for successfully hosting the G20 Summit.



"What Kind Of Doctors...": Brother Of MBBS Student Who Died Due To Ragging

Fifteen senior students have been arrested in connection with the ragging case. They face the charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, among other sections

Ahmedabad: Days after an 18-year-old MBBS student at a Gujarat medical college died, allegedly after he was made to stand for hours during a ragging session, his family has questioned what kind of doctors such seniors would become.

Anil Methaniya, a first-year student of GMERS Medical College and Hospital in Dharpur Patan this year, was among several first-year students who were allegedly harassed by seniors on Saturday night during "introduction". "Introduction" or "intro" is a word frequently used for ragging activities on residential campuses.



After standing for hours at a stretch, Anil collapsed and became unconscious. He was hospitalised and he told police that he was made to stand for three hours. He died soon after. Fifteen senior students have been arrested in this connection. They face the charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, among other sections.



India Urges COP29 To Ground Final Decision On Equity, Climate Justice, As Talks Enter Crunch Time

India also firmly highlighted how the developed countries have resorted to unilateral measures hindering climate actions in the Global South.

New Delhi: As COP29 entered its crunch time of negotiations in Baku, India stressed that the final outcome must be grounded in equity and climate justice. Countries are negotiating to finalise a finance deal to replace the previous \$100 billion target set in 2009.

Delivering India's national statement at the year's biggest annual climate summit in Azerbaijan, Union Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh, said COP29 is historic because the decisions made here will enable those in the Global South not only to take ambitious mitigation action but also to adapt to climate change. "The outcome must be clear and ambitious and consider the evolving

needs and priorities of the developing countries, and their commitment to sustainable development and eradication of poverty," he emphasised.

India has pushed for at least \$1.3 trillion every year until 2030 to be mobilised by the developed countries through grants, concessional finance and non-debt-inducing support, as part of the new climate finance target. Many developing countries, including India, have consistently highlighted the huge financial burden faced by these nations in mitigating climate change, as well as dealing with loss and damages. India emphasised that in such emergent situations, there is no option but to break all barriers to the flow of technology, finances and capacity to the Global South.

"Rama Krishna Hari": Supriya Sule On Cousin Ajit Pawar's Bitcoin Row Remark

BJP's Sudhanshu Trivedi accused Supriya Sule and Nana Patole of using illegal bitcoin transactions to influence election results

Mumbai: The Maharashtra government will order a probe and truth will come out, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said today when asked about allegations of bitcoin fraud against his cousin and Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule. "An inquiry will be done and the truth will come in front of the people," Mr Pawar, who is contesting the Assembly polls from Baramati, said this morning.

"Whatever audio clip is



being shown, I just know that I have worked with both of them. One of them is my sister and the other is someone with whom I have worked a lot. The



audio clip has their voices, I can figure out from their tone. An inquiry will be done and everything will be clear," he added.

The remarks play

out against the rivalry between the two camps of NCP -- one led by veteran politician and party founder Sharad Pawar and Ms Sule and the other by Ajit Pawar.

An Ajit Pawar-led mutiny split the NCP in 2023, following which the junior Pawar joined the BJP-Shiv Sena government in the state. This election is also a fight between two factions of NCP to prove who has the people's support.

Rally Protesting Against Reimposition Of AFSPA Stopped In Manipur

The incident occurred during a clash between security forces and a mob that was vandalising properties in the Babupara area of Jiribam

Imphal: Defying curfew, members of various civil society organisations on Tuesday held a rally in Manipur's Imphal West district to protest against the reimposition of AFSPA in parts of the northeastern state.

The procession was, however, stopped by the police at Keisampat junction as it defied curfew orders clamped in view of recent violence in the northeastern state.

Members of All Manipur United Clubs Organisation (AMUCO), Poirei Leimarol Meira



Paibi Apunba Manipur and other local bodies took out the rally from the Kwakeithel area in the district and covered around 3.5 km before being stopped, a protester said.

"We strongly condemn the reimposition of AFSPA in areas under six police

stations. A firing incident occurred in Jiribam district just a few days after AFSPA was reimposed in Jiribam," he said.

He referred to the Jiribam firing incident which left one person dead and another injured on Sunday night.

The incident occurred

during a clash between security forces and a mob that was vandalising properties in the Babupara area of Jiribam.

The AFSPA gives armed forces operating in disturbed areas sweeping powers to search, arrest and open fire if they deem it necessary for the "maintenance of public order".

The Centre has recently reimposed the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act in Manipur's six police station areas, including the violence-hit Jiribam.

India Beat Japan, Set Up Women's Asian Champions Trophy Title Clash Against China

■ Vice-captain Navneet Kaur converted a penalty stroke in the 48th minute while Lalaremsiami struck from field play in the 56th minute for India

New Delhi: Defending champions India continued their unbeaten run and defeated Japan 2-0 to enter the final of the women's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament in Rajgir on Tuesday. Vice-captain Navneet Kaur converted a penalty stroke in the 48th minute while Lalaremsiami struck from field play in the 56th minute for India, who had plenty of scoring chances including 13 penalty corners. India will face China, whom they defeated in the league stages, in the final on Wednesday. Earlier, China beat Malaysia 3-1 in the first semifinal.

Malaysia will take on Japan in the third-fourth place match, while Korea finished fifth after beating



Thailand 3-0 in the fifth-sixth place classification match.

The Indians continued their attacking game and put on early pressure on the Japanese defence, just like the last league game.

The play was mostly inside the Japanese half

as the Indian defence was hardly tested.

India had the first shot at the goal inside the initial five minute. Skipper Salima Tete's attempt was thwarted by Japanese goalkeeper Yu Kudo. The Indians repeatedly penetrated the Japanese citadel and in the process

secured two penalty corners in a span of two minutes but Kudo was alert under the bar to deny Navneet Kaur and Deepika.

Three minutes into the second quarter, India secured three back-to-back penalty corners but failed to find the back of the net. It was raining penalty corners for the hosts as they got back-to-back set pieces in the 21st minute but Kudo produced a brilliant save with her fully-stretched right leg to deny Deepika again.

In the 24th minute, India earned a penalty corner followed by another in the next minute but failed to get past Japanese goalkeeper Kudo, as they also lacked in execution.

"When I Got Married...": Rohit Sharma Sent 'Commitment' Message With No Clarity About BGT Plans

Rohit Sharma's participation in the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy Down Under remains uncertain

New Delhi: Rohit Sharma's participation in the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy Down Under remains uncertain, even after the birth of his second child, a baby boy. While the Indian skipper's presence would be vital for the series opener in Australia, former cricketer Surinder Khanna conveyed heartfelt wishes to Rohit but also emphasised the importance of joining the squad for the high-stakes encounter.

Rohit had earlier communicated to the BCCI, regarding his unavailability for the first Test due to the birth of the second child. With, Rohit certainly unavailable, vice-captain Jasprit Bumrah is poised to don the captaincy responsibility for India.

"First of all, I want to congratulate Rohit and his family on the birth of their



baby boy and wish them all the luck. But now the family is complete - a son and a daughter - so Rohit should go and play the Test match.

I recall when I got married, I had to return for a match on the same evening as my reception. By the time I reached my room, it was 4 am, and my wife woke me up to go to the airport for a game. That kind of commitment is what defines players," Khanna told IANS.

As India prepare to face Australia, their recent struggles in the New Zealand series add to the complexities.



Dimitri Smirnov Triumphs at 2nd Invitational Tennis League Finals

Team Goemkarponn

Porvorim: Dimitri Smirnov emerged victorious at the 2nd Invitational Tennis League, defeating Santosh Gorawar in a thrilling final match with a scoreline of 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 at Porvorim. The competitive event, organized by the First Serve Sports Club under the aegis of the Goa State Tennis Association (GSTA), saw 24 of Goa's top tennis players battle for supremacy over an intense weekend of competition.

In the semi-finals, Smirnov showcased his

resilience by overcoming Nagesh Naik 3-6, 6-0, 10-8, while Gorawar secured his finals berth with a hard-fought 5-7, 6-3, 10-4 win against Suraj Sadanah.

The prize distribution ceremony was graced by GSTA President Samir Kakodkar, Coach Valentino, and First Serve Sports Club members Allan Fernandes (President), Kedar Tari (Secretary), and Wayne Fernandes (Treasurer). The tournament reinforced Goa's growing stature in tennis while providing a platform for the state's top talents to shine.

PY Nuvrm down Dicarpali SC

Team Goemkarponn

Margao: Parish Youth Nuvem down Dicarpali Sports Club 6-4 via the tiebreaker to enter into the quarterfinals of the 30th Mandopa Cup org by Mandopa Sports Club and played at Mandopa Ground on Tuesday.

Dicarpali sports club scored

the first goal in 2nd minute of play when Agnelo Colaco gave a cross pass to Delton Colaco who ran down and beat the Nuvem goalkeeper and placed the ball into the net but their joy shortlisted as Dicarpali defender brought down Nuvem player in the danger zone and referee pointed finger to the penalty spot.



Unveiling Ceremony of Jersey and Trophy for Alcon GSB Unity Cup 2025

Team Goemkarponn

Margao: The Goa GSB Sports & Charitable Trust held a grand unveiling ceremony for the jersey and trophy of the Alcon GSB Unity Cup T-20 cricket tournament 2025 at the Margao Cricket Club Hall. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests including Chief Guest Dr. Satish Kudchadkar, Mr. Chirag Naik, Mr. Desh Prabhudesai, and

Mr. Balkrishna (Pinty) Hodarkar. The event also welcomed notable figures such as Mr. Yogesh Naik, President of MCC; Mr. Aditya Angle, GCA Managing Committee Member; Mr. Dada Naik, Councilor of MMC; and businessman Mr. Raghuvir Kuncolienkar.

Leading the event were Mr. Siddhit Pai Raiturker, President of Goa GSB Sports & Charitable Trust, and Mr. Venkat Biche, Secretary of the

Trust, along with trustees Kapil Borker, Siddharth Ghanekar, Pranav Biche, Tanmay Usgaonkar, and Sachin Sardesai. The event saw the enthusiastic participation of all captains of the eight teams that will be competing in the upcoming tournament.

The Alcon GSB Unity Cup 2025, now in its second edition, will commence on January 18 and run until March 8, 2025, with the finals scheduled to take place at

the Margao Cricket Club. This highly anticipated tournament will feature 150 talented players from the GSB community across Goa. During the event, Tournament Coordinator Kapil Borker provided insights into last year's tournament highlights and shared exciting plans for this year, including matches to be played under floodlights—a unique feature that is set to enhance the competition experience.

