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# ENGINES SHUT, FUEL CUT OFF

#### AAIB report points to a series of possibilities and also raises multiple questions

New Delhi: On June 12, Air India Flight Al171, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, departed from Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at 1:39 pm, bound for London Gatwick. Within just 32 seconds of takeoff, the aircraft crashed into a nearby medical hostel, claiming the lives of 241 passengers and crew on board and 19 people on the ground. Only one passenger-a British-Indian man seated in Row 11A-survived. This tragedy marked the first fatal crash involving a Boeing 787 since its commercial introduction in



A preliminary investigation into the crash, conducted by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB), has revealed a chilling sequence of events that unfolded in a matter of seconds. The probe highlights a mix of technical anomalies and cockpit confusion, while also raising questions

about possible mechanical failure or human error. Flight data retrieved from the aircraft's Enhanced Airborne Flight Recorder shows that the takeoff was routine. The aircraft reached a takeoff speed of 153 knots (approximately 283 km/h) and continued to climb, peaking at an airspeed of 180 knots

(around 333 km/h). Flap settings and landing gear positions were standard for departure. Weather conditions were clear, visibility was high, and there was no indication of bird activity or turbulence. Yet, almost immediately after liftoff, the fuel control switches for both engines moved from "RUN" to "CUTOFF" within a second of each other. These switches are critical; they control the fuel supply to the engines. Their sudden movement halted the fuel flow, leading to a rapid loss of thrust and initiating a descent from which the aircraft never recovered.

**CONTD TO PAGE 06...** 

#### Air India Suspends Goa-Gatwick Flights Amid Strategic Shift to Heathrow, Citing Aircraft Shortages

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Air India will suspend its flights to Goa (GOX) through the end of the Summer 2025 schedule, as part of a larger network realignment driven by ongoing aircraft shortages.

The airline confirmed that several of its Boeing 787 Dreamliners remain grounded, forcing a cutback in international services,



particularly across Europe and North America.

Starting August 2025, Air India will begin a new threetimes-weekly service to London Heathrow, prompting a reduction in flights between Bengaluru (BLR) and

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#### Marathi Schools Struggle for Survival as Parents Shift to Urban Areas: Goa CM

**Team Goemkarponn** 

PANAJI: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has said that the state government is not inclined towards closing Marathi-medium schools, but is often left with no choice due to dwindling student enrolments, especially as parents move

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#### **Balrath Buses Only for Students Within 3 km: Goa CM**

PANAJI: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has clarified that Balrath buses are meant strictly for high school students residing within a 3 km radius of their schools. He warned that some schools were misusing the service for longer routes of 15–20 km, which goes against the scheme's purpose. "The government is giving full grants for CONTD TO PAGE 06



#### Forest Officials Seize Illegal Khair Wood, Detain Three in Dharbandora

Team Goemkarponn

DHARBANDORA: In a swift operation by the Range Forest Officials, a tempo was caught red-handed while illegally transporting Khair wood in the Marad area of Dharbandora. The officials successfully detained three individuals

involved in the illegal activity. The authorities seized the tempo, which was being used to transport the precious Khair wood, estimated to be valued between Rs 50,000 and Rs 60,000. Khair, known for its use in medicinal applications and its strong, durable timber, is a

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# editorial

# Hindi Is Not the Enemy—It's Time to End the Language War

n India today, a troubling shift is happening. The narrative of division is no longer just communal it's becoming increasingly linguistic. The growing tension isn't about Hindu vs Muslim anymore. Now, it's Hindi vs Tamil, Hindi vs Kannada, Hindi vs Marathi. And it begs a serious question: Where are we headed as a country when even our languages are being turned against each other?

But let's be clear from the start—Hindi is not the enemy here.

Hindi, spoken by over 40% of Indians and understood by many more, is not some foreign import. It is as Indian, as rooted in our soil, as any other regional language. Yet, in recent times, we see rising anger against it—portrayed unfairly as a language of imposition or dominance. We must ask: Is the resentment truly against Hindi, or is it a reaction against power and centralisation, dressed up as a language issue?

The answer lies in how language politics have evolved. In states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra, resistance to Hindi often masks deeper regional anxieties—about cultural identity, autonomy, and fear of being overshadowed. The central government's push to promote Hindi has, at times, been misread as an attempt to impose it. That perceptionwhether accurate or not—has become political ammunition. But let's not confuse Hindi, the language of poets. playwrights, farmers, and

common citizens, with the politics of Hindi, which is something else entirely.

Hindi has never asked to be used as a weapon.

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"The answer lies in how language politics have evolved. In states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra, resistance to Hindi often masks deeper regional anxieties about cultural identity, autonomy, and fear of being overshadowed. The central government's push to promote Hindi has, at times, been misread as an attempt to impose it. That perception whether accurate or not—has become political ammunition. But let's not confuse Hindi, the language of poets, playwrights, farmers, and common citizens, with the politics of Hindi, which is something else entirely. Hindi has never asked to be used as a weapon. Hindi didn't demand to be "national." The Constitution never even declared a national language—only official languages, Hindi and English, for administrative purposes. In fact, Hindi itself is a victim—caught in the crossfire of emotional politics, linguistic pride, and historical grievances."



national language—only official languages, Hindi and English, for administrative purposes. In fact, Hindi itself is a victim—caught in the crossfire of emotional politics, linguistic pride, and historical grievances.

We must also ask: Why is there less anger toward English, a true colonial import, which dominates our education system, courts, corporate world, and

media? We accept English unquestioningly as a passport to upward mobility, yet bristle at Hindi—which, for all practical purposes, is the mother tongue of a significant portion of our population. Why this hypocrisy?

The truth is, this isn't about Hindi vs Tamil, or Hindi vs Kannada. It's about centre vs state. It's about power vs pride. Language is merely the easiest battlefield.

So where do we go from

So where do we go from here?

First, we need to stop

First, we need to stop demonizing Hindi or glorifying English as the neutral middle ground. Hindi is not a threat. It's not a tool of oppression. It's a part of who we are—just like Bengali, Malayalam, Assamese, or Konkani. Second, there needs to be a stronger national understanding that India doesn't have to choose one language to feel united. We're not a monolith, and our strength lies in that diversity.

Third, policymakers must ensure that promotion doesn't feel like imposition. Encouraging Hindi shouldn't mean ignoring or sidelining regional languages. Equally, defending local languages shouldn't mean vilifying Hindi.

Finally, let's take a step back from the politics and look at people. Millions of Indians are multilingual. A person in Goa might speak Konkani, understand Marathi, learn Hindi, and work in English. That's India. That's the real India. And that India isn't at war with itself.

Let's not fall into the trap of turning our languages into weapons. Let's speak, listen, and respect—all our languages. Including Hindi. Especially Hindi. Because Hindi is not trying to dominate. Hindi is trying to belong. And that's something we should all understand—not fight.

#### **OPINION**

#### Goa's Unsung Hero: Police Constable Shri Sandesh Bab Aroskar

aturday evening in Mapusa — one of Goa's most vibrant towns — was bustling with activity. There was the usual clamour of traffic, with vehicles jostling for space on the busy market stretch. It was a typical Saturday evening, with over-the-top hustle and bustle in Mapusa, known for its proximity to the world-famous beaches. To cut a long story short, the rain-soaked Saturday evening fever was at its peak across the town.

Mapusa Police Station Constable Shri Sandesh Bab Aroskar had no inkling of what that fateful Saturday had in store when he began his day. Donning his crisp khaki uniform and offering a smart salute to his superiors at the police station, Constable Sandesh Bab began his duty. He proceeded to supervise the beat within his jurisdiction. Sandesh Bab was acutely aware that it was a challenging evening — Mapusa was teeming with tourist vehicles honking impatiently as they tried to navigate past locals returning home. His responsibility was to ensure that tourist behaviour did not spiral out of control and create chaos on the already congested market road. Keeping a hawk's eye on every nook and cranny, Sandesh Bab silently praved for the evening to pass peacefully. Suddenly, from the corner of his eye, he noticed a tiredlooking woman in her early thirties with two children in tow, frantically searching for help.

No, she did not look like an alms-seeker. A closer inspection through the trained eyes of a policeman revealed she was in distress. She appeared heavily pregnant. And, in all likelihood, abandoned. She had nowhere to go. Constable Sandesh Bab was torn. A part of him wanted to look the other way. Maybe the woman would move along, melt into the crowd. He could simply stick to his duty and go home. But the kind and compassionate human being within him urged him to go beyond the call of duty and help the helpless woman — visibly distressed, weary-faced, and with two small children beside her. And worse still, she was carrying one more child in her womb. Dark clouds were gathering in the July sky above Mapusa. Sandesh Bab closed his eyes and prayed to Shri Dev Bodgeshwar. In a split second, his mind was made up. He jumped out of his police jeep and rushed across the road toward the woman who stood helplessly, lost in sorrow, waiting - perhaps — for some divine intervention. Constable Sandesh Bab wasted no time in taking the woman under his protective wing. Calls were made, networks were activated, and everything fell into place like a jigsaw puzzle in the blink of an eye. Help was soon on its way. The woman was rescued and sent to a shelter, where she would be welcomed and protected. The unsung hero, Constable Shri Sandesh Bab Aroskar, became the talk of the town. Overnight, he became a household name, his popularity soaring. This ever-smiling, soft-spoken police constable had pulled off what many would call the impossible.

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# **GSIDC Clears Major Infrastructure Projects** Worth ₹149 Crore at 206th Board Meeting

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant on Thursday chaired the 206th Board Meeting of the Goa State Infrastructure **Development Corporation** (GSIDC) in Panaji, during which several key infrastructure projects aimed at urban rejuvenation, public convenience, and institutional development were approved. The meeting was held in the presence of GSIDC Vice Chairman Shri Kedar Naik and senior government officials. Addressing the board, Dr. Sawant emphasised



unwavering commitment to modernising civic infrastructure across the state. He stated that the newly approved projects are aligned with the vision of Viksit Goa 2037, which aims to deliver accessible, efficient, and futureready public spaces and institutions. Among the major projects approved were the upgradation of the municipal market in Sankhali and the demolition and

#### **Projects Green Signalled....**

- Upgradation of Sankhali Municipal Market
- Demolition and reconstruction of St. Estevam Bridge, Tiswadi at an estimated cost of ₹21 crore
- Construction of a new boys' hostel at Goa Medical College, Bambolim, at a cost of ₹113 crore
- Redevelopment of old government buildings in Margao, including the Old Collectorate Building and Police Headquarters
- Development of the Old Bus Stand in Margao, with a budget of ₹12 crore
- Ancillary and maintenance works at Ravindra Bhavan, Sankhali, costing ₹3 crore

reconstruction of the ageing St. Estevam Bridge in Tiswadi, which has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹21 crore. Another significant project includes the construction

of a new boys' hostel at Goa Medical College in Bambolim, with an estimated investment of ₹113 crore, aimed at enhancing accommodation facilities for students.

#### **LIC Officer Booked by ACB for** Rs 43.80 Lakh Premium Fraud

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: An officer of the Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) posted at the Panaji branch has been booked by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Goa unit, for allegedly siphoning off ₹43.80 lakh through fraudulent transactions involving premium payments over a span of seven months.

The accused, an administrative officer working in the Pension and Group Scheme Unit, is facing serious charges including criminal conspiracy, breach of trust, misappropriation of funds, tampering with records, and professional misconduct. According to officials, the officer masterminded a scheme to divert LIC funds into third-party accounts between July 2023 and January 2024, and subsequently routed the money back to himself or his associates.

The CBI has also booked a local wine store owner as a coaccused, along with other unidentified individuals. Investigations revealed that the fraudulent



transfers-ranging from ₹2.90 lakh to ₹13.90 lakh—were made through seven transactions. An internal LIC probe uncovered that the beneficiaries were not enrolled in any official LIC group insurance schemes.

While some recipients returned the money after the scam was detected, the CBI noted that the accused made deliberate attempts to tamper with financial records to conceal the fraud. The Central agency has now filed an FIR citing serious breaches of trust and financial misconduct.

Although a significant portion of the embezzled amount was recovered, LIC suffered a net loss of approximately ₹30 lakh due to the fraud.

This incident has raised concerns about internal control mechanisms within LIC and has prompted calls for stricter financial oversight in group insurance schemes.

#### Officials Pulled Up by HC for Ignoring Coastal Authority Demolition Order

■ Bombay High Court slams Pernem officials for delaying GCZMA's demolition order in Morjim, cites "unavailability of squad" as unacceptable excuse

**Team Goemkarponn** 

the government's

Panaji: The High Court of Bombay at Goa has taken a stern view of the inaction by government officials in implementing a demolition order issued by the Goa Coastal Zone Management

Authority (GCZMA). The Court has now directed the Deputy Collector and Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) of Pernem to ensure that a demolition squad is deployed within 10 days to enforce the GCZMA's directive, originally issued

on Februarys 28. The court expressed dismay that the order had not been implemented due to the alleged "unavailability of a squad," calling it an unacceptable excuse for defying a statutory mandate.



#### **Tourism dept initiates action** against unauthorised tourist service providers at Mopa Airport

Team Goemkarponn

MOPA: As part of its continued efforts to curb unauthorised and illegal tourist-related activities in the state, the Department of Tourism, in coordination with the Mopa Airport Police Station, has recently taken action against four individuals who were found violating the Goa Registration of Tourist Trade Act, 1982.

The incident occurred at Manohar International Airport, Mopa, where these individuals were found carrying illegal activities to detriment the smooth movement of tourist persons/passengers as well as causing inconvenience

to the tourist visiting Goa. Shri Krishna Ashok Chandgadkar, resident of Morod, Mapusa, Bardez; Shri Mahesh Jairam Pirankar, resident of Naibag, Pernem; Shri Naseeb Sabbir Shaikh, resident of Pedamaol, Sirvoi, Quepem; and Shri Vishal Indrajeet Nishad, resident of Pinto Wado, Verla, were found engaging in unauthorised tourist-related activities at Manohar International Airport, Mopa, in violation of Section 2(g) read with Section 26 of the Registration of the Goa Tourist Trade Act, 1982 and the individuals have been produced before the

Department of Tourism.



#### **Crime Branch Seizes Over** 11 Kg of Ganja in Morjim, **Odisha Native Arrested Team Goemkarponn**

MORJIM: In a major crackdown on narcotics, the Goa Police Crime Branch arrested a 34-yearold man from Odisha for illegal possession of nearly 12 kilograms of suspected Ganja near Arabian Sea Beach Resort in Morjim, Pernem. Acting on specific and reliable intelligence received through sources, a team led by PI Kishor Ramanan, along with LPSI Pragati Malik and other officials, conducted the operation on July 11. The accused, identified as Laxminarayan Bhimsen Dora, a native of Golapalli, Baragan, Ganjam district, Odisha, was caught redhanded with 11.914 kg of flowering and fruiting tops of a plant suspected to be Ganja, worth an estimated ₹12 lakh in the illegal market.



#### **Congress Sounds Bugle in Ponda: Alemao Highlights Governance Crisis, Youth Discontent**

Team Goemkarponn

Ponda: Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao on Thursday spearheaded the Samvidhan Bachao Abhiyan in Ponda, where Congress workers and supporters from Shiroda, Marcaim, and Ponda constituencies gathered to reiterate their commitment to defending democracy and the Constitution.

Addressing the gathering, Alemao lashed out at the ruling BJP, accusing it of indulging in politics of defection and division. He said the Congress was determined to counter the BJP's alleged attempts to destabilize opposition parties and weaken democratic institutions. "Wherever we have held the Samvidhan Bachao Abhiyan, people have voiced serious concerns about issues like unemployment, inflation, deteriorating law and

order, and administrative



paralysis. There is growing frustration with the BJP's politics of hatred and vendetta," Alemao said Highlighting specific issues affecting Ponda taluka, Alemao pointed to the critical shortage of facilities at the Sub District Hospital in Ponda, calling it a long-pending demand of the local community that continues to be neglected. He emphasized the urgent need to improve healthcare infrastructure in the region. The Congress leader also lauded the active participation of youth in the event, noting that their growing awareness and involvement signal a hopeful future for the region. "It was encouraging

to see young people raising issues and remaining vigilant about the future of their constituencies," he said. Alemao further stated that despite the BJP's attempts to undermine Congress strongholds like Shiroda and Ponda by poaching MLAs, the party remains confident of regaining lost ground in the upcoming elections. The event saw the presence of several senior leaders, including Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Amit Patkar, South Goa MP Capt. Viriato Fernandes, Rajesh Verenkar, and Ponda Block President Williams Aguiar, among others.

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# - Goemkarponn

## Three held in ₹9.75 land fraud case in Cuchelim

**Team Goemkarponn** 

MAPUSA: Mapusa Police have arrested three individuals for allegedly cheating a woman of ₹9.75 lakh in a fraudulent land dealing at Cuchelim, Bardez.

The arrests were made following a complaint filed by Rinki Rajesh Jha, a resident of Khadpawado, Cuchelim. In her complaint lodged on July 4, Jha stated that prior to June 10, 2025, at TNK in Mapusa, the accused—identified



as Sumit Maheshwar Fadte (34), Raju Krishna Mandrekar (50), and Raja Anthony (43)—induced her into purchasing a 270 sq. metre plot belonging to the Communidade of Cuchelim.

The trio allegedly carried out financial transactions and allotted the plot to the complainant but failed to transfer the legal rights of the property.

Despite repeated follow-ups, the accused neither transferred ownership nor refunded the amount received, thereby cheating her of ₹9.75 lakh.

Based on the complaint, a case was registered and all three accused were taken into custody.

They were produced before the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Mapusa, and were remanded to four days of police custody.

Police have confirmed that the investigation is ongoing.



Adhikary, 31, a native of Barrage, Farakka, Murshidabad (West Bengal), currently residing in Valshi, Bicholim, Goa, in connection with the theft.

The accused is being questioned, and further investigation is underway to determine whether he is linked to other auto thefts in the region.

#### **GU** bags prestigious awards at the national Geospatial Awards 2025

**Team Goemkarponn** 

**PANAJI:** Goa University has been conferred with the most prestigious 'Best University (National) Award' at the National **Geospatial Awards** 2025. The award will be presented during 'Open Source GIS Day' celebrations at IIT Bombay on July 17, 2025 under the FOSSEE (GIS) project of the National Mission on Education through ICT (NMEICT), Ministry of Education, Government of India, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai.

Ramrao Wagh, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Technology, Goa Business School, Goa University, has also been conferred with the 'National Geospatial **Emerging Faculty Fellow** (Interdisciplinary Category - Jury) Award' 2025 for adopting innovative concepts related to Geographic Information System (GIS) technology.



The key objectives of the 'National Geospatial Awards 2025' are to honour the enablers of Geospatial Technology in India, cutting across professions (Institutions, Faculty, Industry professionals, Individuals, etc.), along with celebrating the spirit of Open Source Geospatial/ GIS tools which has empowered stakeholders and policymakers to adopt the latest technologies.

With this national award, IIT, Bombay has opened up many **FOSSEE GIS (NMEICT)** project benefits to Goa University and Affiliated Colleges faculty members and students.

#### **Scooter Theft in Mapusa: One Arrested** in Connection with Auto Theft Case

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: Mapusa Police have registered a case of auto theft under Crime No. 105/2025, invoking Section 303(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023, after a Yamaha Fascino scooter was reported stolen from Morod, Mapusa.

The complaint, lodged by Mr. Datta Dharma Arolkar, a resident of Morod, Bardez, stated that between the night of June 30 and the morning of July 1, 2025, his grey Yamaha Fascino scooter (Registration No. GA-03-X-2421), parked in an open area near his residence, was stolen by

an unidentified person.

The two-wheeler, valued at ₹70,000, was a 2024 model with chassis number ME1SEK721R0023242 and engine number E33SE0547590. Following investigations led by HC 5874 Nilesh Ghadi, police identified and arrested Jayanta Babulal

#### Vijai Sardesai Joins Protest at Azad Maidan, Slams "Undeclared Emergency" in Goa

**Team Goemkarponn** 

**PANAJI:** Goa Forward Party (GFP) President and Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai, along with other party leaders, joined a public protest at Azad Maidan in Panjim on Thursday.

The demonstration was organized by a citizens' collective under the banner Citizens For Goa, who issued a "Call for Protest Against the Undeclared Emergency" in the state.

Addressing the media, Sardesai accused the ruling BJP government of suppressing democratic freedoms and operating in a manner akin to a state of emergency, without officially declaring one.

"There is an undeclared emergency in Goa which becomes evident the moment you speak to the people," Sardesai said. "The government may not have invoked Articles 352 or 360, but the restrictions and the fear imposed on the public mirror that era."

He alleged that after poaching Congress MLAs, the BJP had only worsened the state's condition. "Corruption has increased manifold. Lokayukta cases are piling up, but there is no Lokayukta. The police force is under pressure not to act. It is being run by non-Goan IAS officers who are more interested in covering up scams than delivering justice," he claimed.

#### **Madgavancho Awaaz urges Salcete MLAs to** raise Ravindra Bhavan issue in Assembly

**Team Goemkarponn** 

MARGAO: Madganvcho Awaaz has come out strongly against what it terms as the "arrogant and dismissive behaviour" of the Chairman of Ravindra Bhavan, Margao, during the recent Supaari Aandolan held by Kala Rakhan Maand.

The civic group condemned the chairman's response to peaceful demands by artists, who were calling for greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the cultural institution.

"The artists were simply demanding transparency and accountability in an institution meant to serve, not suppress, Goa's cultural community," said youth leader Prabhav Naik, speaking on behalf

of Madganvcho Awaaz.

Naik further highlighted that the issues plaguing Ravindra Bhavan go well beyond programming and finances.

"There are serious infrastructure concerns, including visible disrepairs, repeated leakages, and lingering questions over the building's structural safety," he said. "Instead of responding



with responsibility, the Chairman chose hostility and disregard."

The group expressed full solidarity with the Supaari Aandolan and has called upon all Salcete MLAs to raise the issue forcefully in the upcoming session of the Goa Legislative Assembly.

### **Youth Arrested in Vagator Rape and Theft Case**

**Team Goemkarponn** 

**ANJUNA:** Anjuna Police Station has registered a case of rape and theft against a 19-year-old male from Nachinola, Bardez Goa, following a complaint by a lady from Mayem, Bicholim Goa.

The accused, identified as Elian Alijah D'Abreu, was arrested on July 10, 2025, at 10:54 PM.

According to the complaint filed on July 10, 2025, at 9:55 PM (Cr. No. 104/2025), the incident is

alleged to have occurred in March 2025 at a resort in Vagator, Bardez Goa.

The complainant stated that Elian Alijah D'Abreu allgedly had exual intercourse with her against her will and also stole her gold chain from the room.

The case has been registered under Sections 64 (punishment for rape) and 305 (theft in a dwelling house) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Section 64 of the BNS



deals with punishment for rape, which can lead to rigorous imprisonment for a term not less than ten years, extending to life imprisonment, and also a

Section 305 of the

BNS addresses theft committed in a dwelling house or a place used for the custody of property, carrying a punishment of imprisonment which may extend to seven years and a fine.

Elian Alijah D'Abreu, son of Jackson K D'Abreu, residing at H. No. 317 Borven Waddo, Nachinola Bardez Goa, was taken into custody by LPSI Leesha Kharbe of Anjuna Police Station. Further investigation into the matter is underway.

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# goa

# Goa Govt Revises Tariffs at Goa Bhavan, Mumbai; New Rates Effective from July 9

**Team Goemkarponn** 

PANAJI: The General Administration Department of the Government of Goa has announced a revision in the daily accommodation tariffs at Goa Bhavan, Mumbai.

The new rates will come into effect from July 9, 2025, and will remain applicable until further notice.

As per the revised structure, officers and officials of the Government of Goa, including those from public sector undertakings, statutory bodies, the Goa Public Service Commission, as well as Central Government officials on duty in Goa, accredited journalists, and elected



representatives (MLAs, MPs, ex-MLAs, ex-MPs) will be charged ₹1,000 per day for A/C rooms and ₹400 per day for dormitory accommodation.

Freedom Fighters of Goa will be provided accommodation at concessional rates of ₹600 per day for A/C rooms and ₹200 per day for dormitory facilities.

For private individuals, the tariff remains at ₹1,000 per day for A/C rooms and ₹400 per day for dormitories.

Students on study tourswill also be charged

₹400 per day for dormitory accommodation, and an extra mattress in A/C double rooms will cost ₹300.

In a significant relief for Goans undergoing medical treatment in Mumbai, the department has announced a 50% discount on private person tariffs for those who possess a valid EPIC issued by the Election Commission of India from Goa, subject to the submission of a certificate from the treating hospital specifying the requirement and duration of stay.

However, individuals without a Goa-issued EPIC will face a steep hike, with charges set at ₹4,000 per day for A/C rooms and ₹1,600 per day for dormitory beds.

#### GFP Questions Legitimacy of Loliem Land Leases; Vows to Oppose Projects on Bhagwati Plateau

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Stepping up its opposition to proposed mega projects in Loliem, the Goa Forward Party (GFP) has questioned the legitimacy of land deals made by the Loliem-Polem Communidade and pledged to resist any development on the eco-sensitive Bhagwati Plateau and surrounding areas.

Speaking at a press conference in Canacona on Friday, **GFP Environment Cell** Chairman Vikas Bhagat strongly criticized the leasing of land by the Loliem-Polem Communidade to private entities, including for a proposed Film City and a multi-fruit processing unit at Madditalap. He questioned whether 141 members of the Communidade alone could decide the future of the entire Canacona taluka.

"The government has failed to provide even basic amenities to the people of Canacona—electricity, water, roads, and health infrastructure. Yet, it is promoting projects on land that holds ecological and religious



significance for the locals," Bhagat said.

He emphasized that the Bhagwati Plateau, known for its biodiversity and spiritual value, belongs to all Canconkars and not just the Communidade. "No project will be allowed at Bhagwati Plateau or Madditalap. We will strongly oppose and conduct awareness meetings across the taluka," Bhagat asserted.

GFP also raised concerns about the 99-year lease granted to Shri Mallikarjun Multifood Processing Company for the Madditalap land, alleging possible collusion and favoritism. Bhagat claimed the company has only five directors, including a politician.

"If setting up fruit processing units is really the goal, there are thousands of square meters available in the Shristhal Industrial Estate. Why not use that?" he questioned.

# Approval Granted for Underground Cabling from Cuncolim to Canacona

**Team Goemkarponn** 

CANACONA: In a major boost to South Goa's power infrastructure, the long-awaited underground HV/MV cable network connecting the 220/33KV Cuncolim substation to the 33/11KV Canacona substation has received final approval for energization from the State

Electrical Inspectorate.

The approval, issued via communiqué dated July 10, 2025, paves the way for the commissioning of the 33KV underground cable network. This marks the formal conversion of the existing 33KV double circuit overhead line—long plagued by disruptions due to forest cover



and harsh terrain—into a modern underground system.

The existing overhead network, particularly in the Padi and Karmalghat sections, frequently suffered breakdowns, leading to power interruptions in the entire Canacona taluka.

#### Goa's Samiksha Velip and Gauri Mavlinkar appointed Konkani Translator/Interpreter in Lok Sabha

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Lok Sabha Secretariat appointed Samiksha Velip of Canacona and Gauri Mavlinkar of Mapusa as the Konkani Interpreters in the Lok Sabha, New Delhi. It is learnt that Samiksha Velip, who hails from Bhupar-Gaondongrim has been appointed to the post of one of the two Konkani Interpreters in the parliament (Lok Sabha).

Ms Velip completed her M.A in Konkani from Goa University and is an alumna of Department of Konkani in Shree Mallikarjun & Chetan Manju Desai College, Canacona.

Wishing her best on Ms. Velip's appointment, Shri Mallikarjun & Chetan Manju Desai College



Principal Dr. Rupa Chari said, 'Samiksha Velip's achievement as the Konkani Interpreter in the Lok Sabha is a matter of pride to our college and serves as a true inspitation for all students. We wish her great success in her future endeavours'.

Gauri Mavlinkar is the other Goan girl from Mapusa appointed as Konkani Interpreters in lok Sabha after clearing Consultant Interpreters Empanelment Test.

### Fatal Collision in Ponda Claims Two Lives, Two Injured in Head-On Crash

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: A tragic road accident at Bethora, Ponda on the afternoon of July 10 resulted in the death of two individuals and left two others grievously injured.

The collision occurred opposite HKGN Granites and Marble, Bethora, around 2:49 PM, when two scooters collided

head-on due to alleged rash and wrong-side driving.

According to a complaint filed by Head Constable Ramdas Gawas (HC 4579) of Ponda Police Station, the accused rider, Aditya Dessai, a resident of Bethora, Ponda, was riding his Vespa scooter from Amigoes Junction towards Bethora in a rash

and negligent manner, allegedly in the wrong lane, thereby endangering human life.

As he approached the area opposite HKGN Marbles, his scooter reportedly crashed into an oncoming Ola scooter.

The impact was fatal: Isha Gawas, the rider of the Ola scooter and a resident of Ravan, Sattari, succumbed to her injuries



on the spot.

Aditya Dessai, the accused Vespa rider, also died due to severe injuries sustained in the crash.

Two pillion riders,
Aditi Manjrekar of Parye,
Sattari (riding with Isha)
and Yogesh Patilbof
Ponda (riding with Aditya),
suffered grievous injuries
and were rushed to the
hospital for medical
treatment.

#### Curtorim Man Injured in Late-Night Collision; Accused Rode Without Valid License

Team Goemkarponn

currorim: A late-night collision between two motorcycles at Vagule, Ramnagari, has left two individuals injured, one of whom is alleged to have been riding without a valid driving license. The incident occurred at around 11:50 p.m. on Saturday, July 5, when Shivraj Borat, a resident of Curtorim and native of Koppal, Karnataka, was riding his Yamaha MT

motorcycle from Maina Curtorim towards Ramnagari.

According to police sources, Borat was riding in a rash and negligent manner when he collided head-on with an oncoming Royal Enfield Bullet



motorcycle.

The rider of the Royal Enfield, Benny Lydio Fernandes, sustained injuries in the crash, along with the accused himself. Both were reportedly taken to a nearby medical facility for treatment.

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# NABARD Goa Celebrates 44th Foundation Day, Emphasizes Cooperative Growth and Rural Empowerment

**Team Goemkarponn** 

Panaji: The Goa Regional Office of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) marked its 44th Foundation Day with a grand celebration on July 11, 2025, at the Head Office of the Goa State Cooperative Bank (Goa StCB) in Patto, Panaji. The event brought together a distinguished gathering of dignitaries, banking professionals, academicians, and cooperative sector stakeholders to reflect on NABARD's journey and its vital role in rural development.

Presiding over the event as Chief Guest was Dr. Vasant Jugale, an

eminent economist and cooperative sector expert, who delivered an inspiring keynote address. He highlighted the importance of cooperatives as a balanced and inclusive model of development and introduced the concept of "Coopreneurs" entrepreneurial individuals working within cooperative frameworks. Dr. Jugale commended NABARD's leadership in supporting rural credit institutions like PACS, SHGs, and FPOs, and urged for continued innovation to keep cooperatives relevant in a rapidly changing economy. Shri Prabhakar Jha, Regional Director of the Reserve Bank of India, Panaji, emphasized the close

historical and operational ties between RBI and NABARD. He praised NABARD's regulatory and developmental contributions to cooperative and regional rural banks, particularly in promoting financial inclusion and institutional strengthening.

Shri Santosh
Kenkre, Chairman
of the Committee of
Administrators, Goa StCB,
acknowledged NABARD's
proactive support in the
transformation of Goa's
cooperative banking
sector. He noted the
impact of NABARD's
initiatives under the
Cooperative Development
Fund (CDF) and Financial
Inclusion Fund (FIF) in
digitization, modernization,

and capacity-building among cooperatives in Goa. The event also saw the felicitation of three outstanding Multipurpose Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (mPACS) -Sattari Taluka Farmers Service Coop. Soc. Ltd., Shri Krishna Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Seva Soc. Ltd., and Shri Mahalaxmi Vividh Karyakari Sahakari Seva Soc. Ltd. — for their excellence in governance, credit delivery, and member services. The Goa State Cooperative Bank was also recognized for its remarkable turnaround, attributed to prudent financial management and NABARD's consistent support.

#### Young Innovators Bring Goa's Creative Capital Vision to Life at Maker's Asylum

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Goa is emerging as a creative hub where technology meets imagination, grounded in community, collaboration and purpose-driven innovation. This evolving identity aligns with the vision of the Startup and IT Promotion Cell, Department of Information Technology, Electronics & Communications (DITE&C), under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister Shri Rohan A. Khaunte, whose efforts are driving Goa's transformation into an innovation-led state.

Reflecting this vision at the grassroots,
Maker's Asylum has been welcoming young people from across the world to Goa for its immersive & hands-on learning experiences & programs since 2021.
753 young people, from 15 countries, 150 schools and 50 cities

across India have had the taste of the maker culture and immersed themselves in creativity and innovation through their space in Goa. This summer Maker's Asylum hosted five dynamic immersions of its flagship program, Innovation School, at its campus in Moira. The program has welcomed 77 young makers (aged 13-18), representing 5 countries, 30+ schools and 15 cities across India and beyond. Over the course of the last two months, these students grouped into 24 teams, engaged in design thinking and rapid prototyping to address real-world challenges. From drones for emergency healthcare delivery to Alpowered wearables and assistive tech devices for the differentlyabled, the teams built 24 working prototypes, demonstrating both technical skills and interdisciplinary learning





...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

#### **ENGINES SHUT, FUEL CUT OFF**

The cockpit voice recorder captured a brief but revealing exchange between the pilots. One of them asked, "Why did you cut off?" The other replied, "I didn't." This moment of confusion has become central to the investigation. The design of the Boeing 787's fuel switches makes accidental activation unlikely. Each switch must be lifted and pulled down deliberately, and the two switches are spaced a few inches apart. Despite this, both moved to the "CUTOFF" position within a single second. This raises critical questions: Was it an error? Miscommunication? Or something else entirely? Realizing the loss of thrust, the pilots acted swiftly. Within 10 seconds, they moved both switches back to the "RUN" position to restore engine power. Engine 1 responded positively—its core speed stabilized and began to recover. Engine 2 also showed signs of ignition but failed to regain full thrust. The flight data indicates that the thrust levers remained in the forward position throughout the descent, though they were later found near idle in the wreckage. Meanwhile, the Ram Air Turbine (RAT), a small emergency propeller that automatically deploys during engine failure to power essential systems, was activated. Airport CCTV footage confirmed its deployment. However, while RAT can supply hydraulic and electrical power, it cannot generate thrust.

#### Marathi Schools Struggle for Survival as Parents Shift to Urban Areas: Goa CM

to urban areas in search of better opportunities. Speaking at an educational event, CM Sawant acknowledged the growing concern over the declining number of Marathi schools across Goa. "The government does not wish to shut down any school, especially not Marathi-medium ones. But when enrolment drops drastically because parents shift their children to city-based English-medium schools, it becomes difficult to sustain these institutions," he said.

The Chief Minister's statement comes amid growing appeals from educationists and Marathi language proponents to safeguard the future of vernacular education in Goa. Many Marathi-medium schools in rural and semi-rural areas are struggling with low admissions, lack of infrastructure, and difficulty in recruiting qualified teachers. Dr. Sawant also emphasized the need to introduce value-based education (Mulyavardhan) in all schools to improve student-teacher relationships

and reduce behavioral issues. "There has been a sea change in student and teacher behavior after implementing Mulyavardhan in schools. Teachers should focus on identifying students' creativity and nurturing it through values," he said.

#### Balrath Buses Only for Students Within 3 km: Goa CM

these buses, but they must be used correctly," Sawant said. He added that a new scheme is in the works to expand the Balrath fleet and improve student transport facilities.

#### Air India Suspends Goa-Gatwick Flights Amid Strategic Shift to Heathrow, Citing Aircraft Shortages

Heathrow from daily to four times per week.

The move reflects the carrier's growing preference for Heathrow over Gatwick, due to better connectivity, higher yields, and operational efficiencies through consolidation. Goa and Amritsar (ATQ), both popular among diaspora and leisure travellers, were already impacted by earlier suspensions. Those routes will now remain paused at least until October 25, 2025—the end of the summer schedule.

#### Forest Officials Seize Illegal Khair Wood, Detain Three in Dharbandora

protected species under local forestry regulations. According to forest officials, the illegal activity was discovered during routine surveillance, and the operation was conducted seamlessly to prevent further exploitation of the resource. The three suspects have been taken into custody, and investigations are currently underway to uncover the full extent of the illegal wood trade in the region.

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# **Record ₹1.06 Lakh Crore Submarine Deal Set to Transform Indian Navy** into a Global Undersea Force

■ The landmark deal, part of the ambitious Project 75I, will significantly elevate India's maritime strength and drive a new chapter in indigenous defence manufacturing

New Delhi: India is on the brink of executing its largest-ever defence contract, a game-changing ₹1.06 lakh crore mega deal aimed at catapulting the Indian Navy into a global undersea power. This historic agreement, part of the long-awaited Project-75I, represents a strategic leap forward in India's maritime capability and indigenous defence manufacturing, especially at a time of growing tensions in the Indo-Pacific. As China rapidly expands its naval dominance and Pakistan strengthens its undersea warfare capabilities with Chinese backing, India's maritime strategy is entering a



bold new phase. The Defence Ministry is expected to award two major submarine-building contracts to Mazagon **Dock Shipbuilders** Limited (MDL) by the end of the next financial year, bolstering India's deterrence and strike capability beneath the seas. India's current submarine

fleet comprises 16 conventional submarines, recently enhanced with the induction of INS Vagsheer, part of the original Project-75, which delivered six Frenchdesigned Kalvari-class Scorpene submarines. These vessels now form the backbone of India's undersea combat fleet. But officials believe

India needs to scale up quickly to counter regional threats. In comparison, China's navy commands over 355 warships and submarines, making it the world's largest. Pakistan, too, is ramping up its underwater fleet, supported by Beijing. Under Project-75I, the government is expected to finalise a ₹70,000 crore contract for six nextgeneration submarines equipped with advanced stealth, propulsion, and endurance capabilities. MDL will collaborate with ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) of Germany to construct six cutting-edge submarines based on the proven HDW Class 214 platform.

#### PM Modi Distributes 51,000 **Appointment Letters To New Recruits:** 'Rozgar Mela Empowering Youth'

india/world

Addressing the event, titled 'Rozgar Mela', PM Modi said that lakhs of youth have been employed under the initiative, and are contributing to the development of the nation.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday distributed more than 51,000 appointment letters to newly recruited youth under the government's flagship Rozgar Mela initiative. Addressing the recruits virtually, PM Modi hailed the program as a powerful engine for youth empowerment and

national development. Speaking at the 16th edition of the employment drive, held across 47 locations in India, the Prime Minister reaffirmed his government's commitment to transparent and merit-based recruitment. "Our motto is 'Bina Parchi, Bina Kharchi' - no recommendation, no expense. The Rozgar Mela has already provided jobs to lakhs of youth, who are now actively contributing to India's growth," he said. PM Modi emphasized that while the recruits will serve in different departments, their mission is united under a common goal — nation-building. "Your departments may differ, but your purpose is the same — to serve the country," he stated. Highlighting India's upward economic trajectory, PM Modi noted, "Our nation is moving rapidly towards becoming the third-largest economy in the world. In the past 11 years, we have witnessed progress across every sector - from



technology and health to defence and finance."

The Rozgar Mela is part of the Centre's broader push to generate employment and ensure that youth play a central role in India's development journey. The initiative facilitates recruitment across a range of central ministries, departments, and public sector units.

As of now, the government has issued over 10 lakh appointment letters through Rozgar Melas held nationwide. Saturday's event saw new appointments across departments such as the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Posts, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Financial Services, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment, among others. Addressing the recruits, the Prime Minister said that many would go on to serve as "guardians of national security," while others would act as "warriors of help and support," strengthen financial inclusion, or contribute to the country's industrial growth.

#### 'No Let-Up in Cross-Border Terror': MEA Slams Pakistan's **Continued Backing of Terrorism Against India**

■ The MEA, in its official report of 2024, India has consistently urged Pakistan to take concrete, verifiable and irreversible steps to curb terrorism emanating from Pakistan

New Delhi: India has once again issued a strong rebuke to Pakistan for its continued support of terrorism, stating there has been no reduction in cross-border terror activities targeting the country. In its official report for 2024, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) highlighted that despite repeated diplomatic



efforts, Pakistan has failed to take concrete, verifiable, and irreversible steps to dismantle the

terrorist infrastructure operating from its territory. The report stated that several UN-designated

terrorists and terrorist organisations continue to operate freely in Pakistan, and the country has not shown any sincerity in delivering justice for the 26/11 Mumbai attacks. Tensions between the two nations escalated earlier this year after the Pahalgam terror attack in April, which claimed 26

#### 'Don't Jump to Conclusions': Aviation Minister **Urges Patience Over Air India Crash Probe**

Union Minister of Civil Aviation Ram Mohan Naidu said that everyone should wait for the final AAIB report on Air India crash incident before jumping into any conclusion.

New Delhi: Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu has urged the public and media to refrain from drawing conclusions regarding the tragic Air India crash until the final investigation report is released. Speaking on Saturday, the minister emphasized that the findings published so far by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) are based only on preliminary data. The Air India Flight Al171, a Boeing 787 Dreamliner, crashed



on June 12, shortly after takeoff from Ahmedabad's Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, en route to London Gatwick. The aircraft plunged into a nearby medical hostel complex, resulting in the death of 141 people on



board and several on the ground. "We should not jump to any conclusion until the final report is made public," said Naidu, noting that aviation safety investigations are a thorough and methodical process.

#### State-Level Tennis Player Radhika Yadav Shot **Dead by Father Over Tennis Academy Dispute:** AUTOPSY CONTIFMS FOUR GUNSNOT WOUNGS

■ State-level tennis player Radhika Yadav was allegedly shot dead by her father, Deepak Yaday, who confessed to the crime. The dispute was over her running a tennis academy.

Gurugram: In a shocking case that has stunned the sports fraternity, 25-yearold state-level tennis player Radhika Yadav was allegedly shot dead by her father, Deepak Yadav, at their home in Sushant Lok, Gurugram. The motive, police say, was a long-standing dispute over Radhika's decision to run a tennis academy. The autopsy report has confirmed that Radhika sustained four bullet



wounds, all to her upper body. Three bullets were recovered from her body-one just below the neck, another near her lower back, and a third lodged internally. A fourth



bullet created an exit wound, making a total of four gunshot injuries. The report confirms that all bullets were fired at close range, aimed at the chest region.

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### **Jasprit Bumrah Breaks Silence on Ball Controversy in Third Test Against England:** 'Can't Control It, Just Focus on the Game'

Jasprit Bumrah held his tongue from making a controversial statement about the frequent Dukes ball change, which remained in the spotlight during the second day of the third Test against England at Lord's.

New Delhi: India's premier pacer Jasprit Bumrah chose caution over controversy as he addressed the frequent ball change incidents during the second day of the third Test match against England at Lord's. The ongoing Test series has seen the Dukes ball come under intense scrutiny, with several instances of the ball going out of shape and needing replacement — a situation that stirred visible frustration among players.

The latest episode unfolded just a few overs into Day 2 when India raised concerns about the condition of the ball, which was barely ten overs old. The umpires attempted the standard hoop test to assess its shape, and



when the ball didn't pass through, it was replaced. Skipper Shubman Gill was seen engaging in a heated conversation with the officials, expressing clear dissatisfaction over the quality of the replacement ball.

Tensions flared again after just 48 deliveries, when the second ball also lost its shape and had to be changed. Later in the final session, England

raised their own concern, but that ball passed the test and continued to be used.

Fans and former cricketers took to social media and commentary platforms to question the quality control of the Dukes ball, especially in a marquee Test series.

When reporters quizzed Bumrah about the repeated ball changes during a post-day press

conference, the 31-yearold refrained from taking a provocative stance. Instead, he chose to sidestep controversy with a humorous yet composed response.

"The ball changes... I don't really control that," said Bumrah. "Obviously, I don't want to lose out on money because I work very hard and bowl a lot of overs. So I won't say anything controversial that could get my match fees deducted. We just bowled with the ball that was given to us. Sometimes it helps you, sometimes it doesn't that's the game." Despite the off-field distractions, Bumrah delivered a stellar performance, bagging 5 for 74 under challenging conditions.

> Radhika Yadav was killed on Thursday at her family's home in the upscale Sushant Lok area of Gurugram. According to police, her father, Deepak Yadav, allegedly shot her multiple times after an argument escalated. He was arrested shortly after the incident and remanded

#### 'Female Athletes Should Be Idolised, Not Silenced': Neeraj Chopra Condemns **Murder of Tennis Star Radhika Yadav**

■ Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra expressed sorrow over the murder of tennis player Radhika Yadav by her father.

New Delhi: Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra has expressed profound grief over the tragic murder of 25-yearold national tennis player Radhika Yadav, who was allegedly shot dead by her father following a dispute over her decision to run a tennis academy. The incident has sparked national outrage, with Chopra urging families to uplift and celebrate women athletes instead of suppressing their ambitions.

Chopra, speaking on the matter, said the tragedy is a stark reminder of the barriers female athletes still face despite their achievements. "We already have excellent examples of female athletes from Haryana doing wonders for the country," he said. "In families, you should support each other. Women athletes who are doing well should be idolised and followed, not silenced."



to one-day police custody by a local court, which described the case as "serious" and in need of a thorough investigation. Radhika's mother, Manju Yadav, told police that her husband had become increasingly controlling and resentful of their daughter's independence and success.

Despite her daughter's efforts to build a tennis academy from the ground up, Deepak allegedly insisted that she shut it down. Investigators believe that a remark from someone in their village implying that Deepak was profiting from his daughter's success may have further triggered the fatal confrontation.

According to the FIR filed by Radhika's uncle, the young athlete was shot in the chest while her mother was in another part of the house. She died on the spot. The autopsy confirmed that Radhika was shot four times, with three bullets recovered from her body.

#### **GBA Unveils State Ranking Badminton Tournaments for July–August 2025**

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: The Goa **Badminton Association** (GBA), in collaboration with its affiliated clubs, has announced a packed schedule of State Major Ranking Badminton Tournaments for July and August 2025. The tournaments will cover a

wide range of categories, providing a competitive platform for players across age groups.

The action kicks off with the U13 and U19 categories from July 18 to 20, hosted by Mapusa Shuttlers at the Peddem Badminton Hall, Mapusa. This will be followed by the U15 and U17



competitions from July 21 to 23, organised by Radiant Sports Club at the Ponda Sports Complex.

the season will feature Seniors (Men & Women) and Veterans categories from August 1 to 3 at the Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium in Navelim, hosted by Ponda Shuttlers. Participants are required to submit their entries online via gba.

The concluding leg of







#### Ishaan vs Ashank in U11 Final: Tisha, **Sachi Enter U13 Girls Title Clash**

**Team Goemkarponn** 

Ponda: The All Goa Major Ranking Table Tennis Tournament, hosted by Ponda TT Sports Club under the aegis of the Goa **Table Tennis Association** at the Ponda Sports Complex, delivered a thrilling day of upsets and rivalries as the finalists for the U11 Boys and U13 Girls singles categories were decided.

In the U11 Boys singles, familiar foes Ishaan Colaso and

Ashank Dalvi are all set to face off in a highly anticipated title clash. Top seed Ishaan showcased clinical form, easing past Kavin Hasija 3-0 in the quarterfinals and repeating the scoreline against Aarish Shaikh in the semifinals. On the other side of the draw, Ashank was equally dominant, blanking Kabir Dixit 3-0 in the quarters and overpowering Shrevsht Rane with another 3-0 win in the semis.

### **Candolim SC Blank SCC Loutoulim 3-0** to Enter Custodio Memorial Quarters

Team Goemkarponn

Raia: Candolim Sports Club stormed into the quarterfinals of the 52nd Custodio Memorial Football Tournament with a commanding 3-0 win over SCC Loutoulim, in a thrilling match held at the Raia Panchayat Ground.

The match got off to an energetic start, with Candolim SC asserting dominance early on. Their efforts bore fruit in the 9th minute when Anuj Kutikar unleashed a powerful strike from the edge of the box that rocketed into the net, giving no chance to the Loutoulim goalkeeper.

The second blow for SCC Loutoulim came just before the halftime whistle. In the 42nd minute, Candolim's forward was brought down inside the danger area, resulting in a penalty. Nikil Naik

made no mistake from the spot, converting it clinically to double Candolim's lead. In a cruel twist of fate for Loutoulim, their own striker Velroy Fernandes missed a golden opportunity to pull one back in the same minute.

Barely a minute into the second half, Candolim extended their lead even further. A well-taken corner by Chetan Dhobolkar in the 46th minute curled directly into the goal, catching the Loutoulim defense and keeper off guard, and effectively sealing the game at 3-0.

Despite the scoreline, SCC Loutoulim coach Jose Colaco was seen actively guiding his side from the touchline, attempting to rally a comeback. On the other end, Candolim SC coach Joe's strategic direction proved decisive, as his side played a composed and



disciplined game throughout.

Nikil Naik of Candolim SC was adjudged the Man of the Match for his solid performance, including a goal and his overall influence in midfield. The award was presented by Prakash Dessai, former GFA executive and current secretary of Cuncolim Educational Institute.

With this convincing victory, Candolim SC now advance to the quarterfinals, carrying strong momentum and high morale into the next stage of the prestigious tournament.

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