



BJP Cracks Whip on Indiscipline; MLAs Told to Avoid Internal Blame Game

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: In a clear message aimed at strengthening internal unity, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leadership has directed its legislators to steer clear of engaging in public blame games within the party. The directive was issued during a meeting of the party's state core committee held on Monday. State BJP President Damodar 'Damu' Naik, while briefing the media after the meeting, said that all ministers and MLAs have been firmly instructed to maintain party discipline going forward.

"The party will not tolerate internal squabbling. Our focus must remain on governance and unity," Naik



said, underlining the leadership's stand against infighting. This strong internal messaging comes amid

rising political tensions and public spats among some party members in recent weeks. The leadership has now made it clear that any public airing of grievances will be dealt with seriously. The core committee meeting also saw the formation of an 11-member panel led by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant to address the contentious issue of app-based taxis in the state — an issue brought into sharp focus following a recent assault incident in Pernem.

Naik further hinted at a possible cabinet reshuffle after the monsoon session of the state legislative assembly, signaling that performance and discipline will play key roles in upcoming political decisions.

CM Warns: Youth Health at Risk Due to Mobile Addiction

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has raised concerns over the growing health risks among the state's youth, attributing

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CM Urges Sports Associations to Take Responsibility for Ground Maintenance

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has called upon sports associations in Goa to step

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Shocking! 3 Detained for Impersonation in National-Level Exams at NIO, Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Panaji Police have detained three individuals for allegedly impersonating candidates during the national-level Stenographer and Junior Secretariat



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Yuri Alemao Refuses to Comment on Vijai Sardesai's Criticism, Says Focus is on Opposition Unity

Margao: Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao on Monday declined to respond to Goa Forward Party chief Vijai Sardesai's recent critical remarks, stating that his priority is to coordinate the Opposition and not get entangled in personal agendas.

Sardesai had earlier lashed out at the Congress leadership, alleging a lack of direction and accusing some Opposition leaders of functioning without a clear strategy against the ruling BJP. His comments sparked speculation about growing friction within the Opposition camp, especially with the



Assembly session approaching. Reacting to the controversy, Yuri Alemao said, "I don't want to comment on any individual's statement. It is my duty to call for the Opposition meeting. I don't want to make any statements and complicate this or give any advantage to the BJP."

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Air India Crash: Debate Erupts Over Fuel Switches and Pilot Intentions Deliberate Or Mechanical Flaw?

■ In a roundtable of four aviation experts and ex-pilots, Captain Ranganathan's views were questioned, who stood by his claim of "deliberate manual selection".

New Delhi: The preliminary report into the tragic crash of Air India flight AI171, which claimed 260 lives on June 12, has triggered a fierce debate

in aviation circles. At the heart of the controversy is whether the aircraft's fuel switches were manually moved from 'RUN'

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Goa Police Shows Prompt Action, But Broader Safety Measures Still Needed

The Goa Police have in recent weeks displayed commendable efficiency in responding swiftly to several high-profile incidents. In a state often under the spotlight due to its tourism-centric image, maintaining law and order with speed and sensitivity is crucial—not only to ensure public safety but also to preserve Goa's reputation as a secure destination.

A string of incidents showcases this timely police action. In the recent Parra murder case, both accused were apprehended within four hours of the crime being reported—an impressive feat that demonstrates the force's operational preparedness. Similarly, in the taxi driver assault case near Pernem, the police not only chased the accused across state borders into Maharashtra but managed to arrest all three individuals within 24 hours. In another significant update, out of six reported vehicle thefts in the last week, five have already been solved, with stolen vehicles recovered and the accused in custody.

These responses reflect well on the Goa Police's growing technological and tactical readiness. With increased use of surveillance systems, inter-state coordination, and active patrolling, law enforcement seems more proactive than reactive—an essential shift in today's fast-evolving crime landscape.

However, while these successes deserve recognition, they also open up space for necessary introspection. The very frequency of such violent or disruptive incidents—murders, assaults, thefts—suggests a deeper, systemic problem. Crime may be handled swiftly, but it continues to occur at an unsettling pace, especially in the North Goa belt, which includes hotspots like Calangute, Anjuna, and Pernem. These areas, while being the heart of tourism in the state, often see recurring law-and-order issues ranging

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In the recent Calangute assault case reported just last night, the police were quick to file an FIR and form multiple teams to track down the accused. But again, one must ask—why do such incidents keep happening so frequently in this region? Why does it take a crime to trigger action, when preventive policing should ideally be the norm?

It's worth noting that the Goa Police do take daily preventive measures such as tenant and labourer verification, and regularly monitor history-sheets

under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS). But perhaps the outreach and visibility of these measures need to be stronger. Awareness among local communities about these checks seems limited, and more often than not, migrants or temporary residents are able to fly under the radar. With the state seeing a growing influx of migrant labour, especially in the construction and tourism sectors, better coordination with panchayats and local municipal bodies is essential.

The rising number of incidents also underscores the urgent need for more boots on the ground. Goa's police stations—especially those in high-footfall zones like Calangute and Margao—are often under-resourced and under-staffed. Policemen work long shifts without breaks, and this can affect morale and efficiency over time. The state government must step in to improve both manpower and infrastructure, ensuring that stations are well-equipped not just for rapid response but for sustained community engagement and preventive policing.

Additionally, while chasing down criminals across borders is laudable, the same rigour must be applied to long-pending cases that have slipped out of public memory. Swift responses must not be limited to viral or high-profile cases alone. Justice must be consistent—visible not only in urgent reaction but in long-term resolution.

To its credit, the Goa Police remains committed to protecting residents and tourists alike. But in an era of growing urbanisation, increased tourism pressure, and socio-economic shifts, policing must evolve beyond emergency response. It must become predictive, community-oriented, and transparent.

Timely arrests are important—but creating a climate where such crimes don't occur in the first place is what will truly define the next era of policing in Goa.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Goa Foundation Continues to Fight for Goa's Future

Through your respected publication, I would like to express deep appreciation for the continued efforts of the Goa Foundation in protecting the state's environment and natural heritage. At a time when short-term development agendas often take precedence over long-term sustainability, the Foundation remains one of the few voices consistently standing up for Goa's ecological integrity. Its recent appeal to the Prime Minister against destructive projects inside wildlife sanctuaries such as Bhagwan Mahaveer and Mhadei is a reminder that someone is watching, questioning, and holding the government accountable. From opposing mining excesses to challenging illegal constructions in eco-sensitive zones, the Foundation has tirelessly fought legal and public battles for decades. What sets the Goa Foundation apart is not just its activism, but its reliance on facts, law, and scientific reasoning. It doesn't oppose development—it opposes blind, unregulated, and damaging development that threatens our forests, rivers, coastlines, and wildlife. In a state where governance often bows to commercial interests, the Goa Foundation gives citizens hope that Goa's future is not yet lost. Their battles in courtrooms and public forums may not always be popular, but they are necessary—for our environment, for future generations.

- Joaquim Antao, Cortalim

Chorão Needs a Permanent Bridge, Not Just a Ferry Fix

Through your esteemed publication, I wish to draw the attention of the authorities and the public to the long-pending demand of the people of Chorão for a permanent bridge connecting the island to the mainland. While the recent restoration of the Ro-Ro ferry service has brought temporary relief, the larger issue remains unresolved. For decades, residents of Chorão have depended on ferry services, which frequently face breakdowns, delays, and weather-related disruptions. This has affected daily life, including access to schools, hospitals, and workplaces. The Ro-Ro service, though appreciated, cannot substitute for a permanent and reliable road connection. In today's time, it is unacceptable that an entire island community should continue to depend on an outdated and inconsistent mode of transport. Other parts of Goa have seen massive infrastructure development—why should Chorão be left behind? A bridge will not only ensure uninterrupted connectivity but also boost emergency services, the local economy, and the overall quality of life for residents. The people of Chorão are not asking for luxury—just basic infrastructure that most others take for granted. I urge the government to treat this as a priority and take concrete steps toward building a bridge that the people of Chorão rightfully deserve.

- Vasudev Chodankar, Mayem

Goa Foundation Urges Prime Minister to Stop Projects in Wildlife Sanctuaries

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Foundation has written to the Prime Minister of India, raising serious concerns about a series of projects proposed or underway inside Goa's protected wildlife areas. The Foundation claims these activities violate wildlife protection laws and could cause irreversible damage to the state's forests and biodiversity. In its formal representation, the environmental group highlighted ongoing and proposed activities within three protected areas:



Bhagwan Mahaveer National Park, Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary, and Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary. These areas form part of the Western Ghats, a globally recognised biodiversity hotspot.

Among the major

concerns listed:

Ore Handling in Kalay: The Goa government is reportedly attempting to permit the loading and unloading of mineral ore from Karnataka within the Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary. This activity had earlier been

stayed by the High Court due to environmental concerns, but efforts are reportedly being made to push it through the State Board for Wildlife.

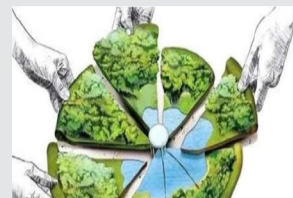
Tourism Project in Surla: A luxury tourism resort worth ₹8 crore is being planned inside the core zone of the Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, which has been proposed as a Tiger Reserve. The project includes plans to install electric fencing around the resort to keep wildlife out. The Foundation says this would violate sanctuary laws and endanger animal lives.

Loliem-Polem Comunidade Flags 79 Illegal Structures, Calls for Joint Action

Team Goemkarponn

Canacona: In a proactive move to safeguard traditional community lands, the Loliem-Polem Comunidade has identified 79 illegal houses and encroachments across multiple survey areas in Dapot and Madditalap. Terming it a "significant step" to uphold the integrity of comunidade lands, the body has appealed for cooperation from all stakeholders in enforcing the law.

Acting on directives from the High Court of Bombay at Goa to remove encroachments from comunidade lands, a team appointed by the comunidade surveyed plots under Survey Nos. 358/1, 355, 351, and 350,



uncovering widespread illegal occupation.

"Based on our records, 79 encroachments have been documented and submitted to the Administrator of Comunidade, South Zone, Margao," confirmed comunidade president Vishwajit Warik.

The comunidade believes more illegal structures remain undetected and is preparing for a joint survey involving its team and government surveyors on Sunday, July 20, to verify and document additional encroachments.

Mauvin Godinho Defends Regularisation of Houses on Comunidade Land

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Panchayat Minister Mauvin Godinho has defended the government's decision to regularise houses built on comunidade

land, stating that the issue is not new and has been previously addressed by the courts. Reacting to the recent threat by comunidade bodies to challenge the government's move in

court, Godinho said, "The courts have already dismissed similar cases in the past." He added that earlier, comunidade components themselves had agreed to the regularisation process.



Illegal Bullfight in Curtorim: Two Arrested, Released on Bail

Team Goemkarponn

CURTORIM: Two individuals were arrested in connection with organizing an illegal bullfight in an open field at Curtorim, posing risks to public safety and violating animal cruelty laws. According to a state complaint registered under HC-4542, filed by Head Constable Sagar Mandrekar of Maina Curtorim Police Station,

the incident took place on July 13 at around 5:30 PM. The accused, identified as Menino Fernandes, a resident of Nuvem, and Antonio Pacheco from Curtorim, allegedly arranged the bullfight with the intent to entertain gathered spectators. Police stated that the event not only subjected the bulls to cruelty but also endangered the lives of the public present at the location.

Daylight Robbery in Pernem: Cash, Gold Valued at ₹4.5 Lakh Stolen

Team Goemkarponn

PERNEM: In a daring daylight robbery, unidentified miscreants broke into a house at Kondalwada, Pernem, and decamped with cash, gold, and other valuables estimated to be worth ₹4.5 lakh.

According to police sources, the burglary took place between

11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on Monday, when the residents were not at home. The theft was discovered around noon when the homeowner's wife returned to find the main door forcibly opened and the electricity turned on inside the house.

The accused reportedly used a cutter to gain entry. Locals claimed to have seen two

individuals on a scooter—without number plates—loitering in the area prior to the incident. Stolen items include a laptop, ₹1.2 lakh in cash, and gold ornaments valued at ₹2.75 lakh, comprising two mangalsutras and a bracelet.

The Pernem police conducted a panchanama at the scene and



summoned forensic experts and the dog squad. Fingerprints were lifted from the site and further investigation is ongoing. Authorities have intensified efforts to trace the culprits and have appealed to the public for any information related to the robbery.

Goa to Introduce AI in School Curriculum Under New AI Mission 2027

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government on Monday announced plans to integrate Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the school curriculum as part of its upcoming Goa Artificial Intelligence Mission 2027.

Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said that the initiative will align with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's national-level India AI Mission.

Speaking at a press conference alongside State Information Technology Minister Rohan Khaunte, Sawant



revealed that the groundwork has begun for the mission, with a dedicated Goa AI Council to be set up soon. This council will include both government officials and industry stakeholders and will help chart the mission's roadmap.

"A key component of the Goa AI Mission will

be the introduction of AI in school-level education. This will ensure early exposure for students to emerging technologies and equip them for future opportunities," Sawant said.

He emphasized that the state's broader vision includes embedding AI across public services and policy frameworks, such as the Goa Start-Up Policy and the Goa Information Technology Policy. These policies, already in force, will be expanded to include innovation and cyber security as well.

The Chief Minister

noted that Monday's discussions with industry leaders near Panaji helped outline a concrete roadmap for Goa's IT future, with visible changes expected within six months.

Meanwhile, IT Minister Rohan Khaunte said the state is determined to become a frontrunner in AI adoption. "Goa has always been a hub for creativity. Now we want to evolve further, beginning with our students," he said, adding that the AI mission would also aim to curb brain drain by improving employment prospects for graduates.

Goa Government Revises Mid-Day Meal Rates Under PM POSHAN Scheme

Porvorim: The Directorate of Education, Government of Goa, has announced a revision in the material cost of mid-day meals under the PM POSHAN scheme, effective from May 1, 2025. The revised rates apply to all Parent Teacher Associations, Self Help Groups, and Mahila Mandals involved in the provision of meals to students across Balvatikas, Government and Government-Aided Primary, and Upper Primary Schools in the state. According to the circular issued by Director of Education Shailesh R. Zingde, the



new daily per-child meal rates are as follows:

- Pre-primary/Balvatika: ₹9.33
- Primary: ₹9.33
- Upper Primary: ₹12.00

The Directorate has clarified that the revised rates only reflect changes in the cost structure, while the quantity, nutritional content, and other guidelines related to the meals will remain unchanged.

French national and culinary professor found dead in Verna hotel room

Team Goemkarponn

VERNA: In a tragic incident, a 64-year-old French national, identified as Patrick Albert, was found dead in his room at the Maharaja Hotel in Verna on Monday afternoon. According to Verna police, the incident came to light after the Police Control Room in Margao received a phone call alerting them that a male person was lying unresponsive on a bed at the hotel. A team from Verna Police Station rushed to the spot and found Patrick Albert lying motionless in his room.



Albert, who had been residing at the hotel for the past three years, was immediately shifted to South Goa District Hospital in Margao for medical attention. However, hospital authorities declared him brought dead. Initial enquiries revealed that Patrick Albert was a Professor and Head Chef

at the Kamaxi College of Culinary Arts, located at Nagao, Verna. He had been living alone in the hotel room but was under the care of two caretakers.

On Monday around 12 noon, the caretakers found him unresponsive and raised an alarm. Locals promptly contacted the 108 emergency ambulance service and

the police control room. Verna police later conducted a scene panchanama and inventory proceedings. The deceased's body has been preserved at SGDh for medico-legal formalities. Police have registered a case of unnatural death under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023. Further investigation is being carried out by PSI Carey Fernandes of Verna Police Station under the supervision of PI Anand Shirodkar and guidance of Mormugao DySP Gurudas Kadam.



Peddem stadium without lights for more than a week: Adv Carlos slams govt

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: Aldona Congress MLA Adv Carlos Alvares Ferreira slammed the authorities for failing to restore power supply to the Peddem Sports Complex that has been without power on account of a fault for nearly a week now.

The local MLA toured the facility to see for himself that not only was there no supply at the complex but he also saw how budding athletes had to practise in the dark, or with torchlight whereas with other disciplines they couldn't practice altogether.

"I saw that the athletes including weightlifters were practising in the dark. They have told me that there is no power supply at this indoor

stadium for more than a week now and there is no one to repair the fault," Adv Carlos said.

"I will take up the matter with the Chief Minister, because the portfolio is now with the Chief Minister," he added.

"The Peddem stadium is supposed to be a Centre for Excellence under the Khelo India Mission. Here on account of this many athletes had to leave for the day early and couldn't continue with their practices on account of there being no lights," he added.

He said that he was informed that athletes were going to the toilets using the torchlights and that the toilets had no water which only compounded matters further.

Sword brandished during family feud in Zuarinagar; businessman arrested

Team Goemkarponn

ZUARINAGAR: A family dispute turned violent in Zuarinagar on Monday morning, leading to a public brawl and sword threats that left locals shaken. Verna Police arrested one businessman Parshuram Harijan (41) in connection with the incident.

According to police, the incident occurred around 8:30 am near the Hanuman Temple in Zari,

Zuarinagar. A group of six individuals, all residents of Zuarinagar, engaged in a heated fight in a public place over a family dispute.

The accused have been identified as Parshuram Harijan (41), Yamnappa Harijan, Manjunath Harijan, Hanumantha Madar, Rudreshkumar Madar, and Parshuram Madar — all adults and residents of Zuarinagar, Sancoale. During the altercation,

accused Parshuram Harijan allegedly brandished a sword and threatened the opposing party, causing fear and panic among onlookers.

His actions reportedly disturbed the public peace and created a tense atmosphere in the locality. Based on a complaint filed by PSI Ramchandra Naik on behalf of the state, Verna Police registered an offence under Section 194(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)



2023 and Section 27(1) of the Arms Act.

Parshuram Harijan, who is a businessman by profession and resides in Zari, Zuarinagar, was arrested on Monday evening and has been placed in police lock-up. Further investigation is being carried out by PSI Mahesh Bomkar of Verna Police Station under the supervision of PI Anand Shirodkar and guidance of Mormugao DySP Gurudas Kadam

Rider dies, pillion injured in self-fall accident on new flyover

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: A tragic accident claimed the life of a 23-year-old scooter rider and left his 19-year-old pillion grievously injured, after their vehicle met with a self-fall on the newly constructed flyover in Mormugao.

According to the complaint filed by Police Sub-Inspector Suraj Naik of Mormugao Police Station, the incident occurred on Sunday evening at around 5:00 pm. The deceased, Satyam Patel, a carpenter assistant by profession and resident of near Ganapati Temple at New Vaddem, was riding a Honda Activa (GA-06-Y-0159) in a rash and



negligent manner. He was accompanied by pillion rider Sarvesh Patel, aged 19.

The duo, originally from Jamalpur in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh, were heading from Ravindra Bhavan towards MPA Mormugao on the new flyover. While descending the flyover, Satyam reportedly lost control of the vehicle, causing both rider and pillion to fall off the scooter.

Vijai Sardesai Refutes Land Conversion Allegations, Challenges BJP to Prove Claims

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Goa Forward Party President and Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai has strongly refuted allegations that he was involved in converting nearly five lakh square metres of land in Bicholim taluka during his tenure in office. Terming the



accusations as "blatant lies", Sardesai accused the ruling party and its allies of resorting to diversionary tactics due to

the growing public support for his movement.

Taking to social media, Sardesai said, "I have heard an individual making claims of me having converted around 5 lakh sqm of land in Bicholim Taluka. This accusation is a blatant lie and enquiries reveal that the said land (Sy. No.

113/3 & 114/3 at Carapur in Bicholim taluka) was never converted during my tenure."

He further clarified that the application for zone change under Section 16B for another property (Sy. No. 104/4, Carapur – Bicholim) was received in 2021, "much after I demitted office in 2019."

Viresh Borkar Slams BJP Over Support for Nauxim Marina Project

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP) MLA Viresh Borkar has lashed out at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for its continued support and silence over the controversial Marina project at Nauxim.

Borkar accused the BJP of disregarding local sentiments and pushing ahead with the proposed project despite strong opposition from villagers. "The BJP has once again shown its disregard for the will of the people by backing a project that locals have vocally



opposed," he said. He also questioned the silence of local BJP leaders, particularly Silveira and the St. Andre BJP Mandal, alleging their inaction

amounted to a betrayal of the trust placed in them by the people of Nauxim. "The continued silence of the local BJP leadership is not just disappointing — it is a clear sign of complicity," Borkar charged, demanding an immediate withdrawal of support for the project.

Ponda Youth Commissioned as Class One Officer in Indian Armed Forces

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: In a proud moment for Goa, Captain Tejas Nitin Kolvekar, a resident of Ponda, has been commissioned as a Class One Gazetted Officer in the Indian Armed Forces. Captain Tejas, the son of noted Goan theatre artist Shri Nitin Kolvekar, has brought immense pride not only to his family but also to the entire state. His achievement marks a significant milestone and reflects the growing contribution of Goan youth to national service.

Tejas's commissioning follows rigorous



training and selection, underscoring his dedication, discipline, and determination. Family, friends, and well-wishers have extended

their congratulations and best wishes as he embarks on a prestigious career in defence. Prominent Goans have taken to social media to

salute Captain Tejas's accomplishment, describing it as an inspiration for the younger generation and a matter of pride for Ponda and Goa.

Captain Tejas's achievement also brings recognition to his father, Shri Nitin Kolvekar, a respected name in Goa's theatre fraternity, highlighting a family tradition of excellence and public contribution.

As Captain Tejas steps into his role with the Armed Forces, Goa celebrates yet another young citizen answering the call of duty with honour and commitment.

Minor Detained for Alleged Voyeurism in Usgao

Team Goemkarponn

USGAO: A 17-year-old boy has been detained by police in Usgao for allegedly recording a 32-year-old woman while she was bathing, in what authorities have described as a case of voyeurism.

According to police, the incident occurred when the woman noticed a mobile phone being pointed at her through a bathroom window. Alarmed, she screamed, prompting the suspect to flee the scene. The woman later filed a complaint against the unidentified individual.

During the



investigation, police examined CCTV footage from the vicinity and conducted local inquiries, leading to the identification and detention of the minor. The suspect's mobile phone, allegedly used to record the video, has been seized as evidence.

Police have informed the minor's parents, and further inquiry into the matter is ongoing.



Canacona's Pride: Anamika Kumari Tops State in Geography with 99 Marks

Team Goemkarponn

Canacona: In a moment of immense pride for Shree Mallikarjun Higher Secondary School, Char-Rasta, and the entire Canacona taluka, student Anamika Kumari has emerged as the state topper in Geography in the Goa Board HSSC examinations, scoring an outstanding 99 out of 100 marks.

Anamika's remarkable achievement was recently recognised by Rajhauns Publications, Panaji, a

reputed name in educational publishing, at a special felicitation ceremony in her honour.

Originally from Bihar and residing in Goa for the past 18 years, Anamika has overcome several challenges, including economic constraints, to achieve academic excellence — notably without the support of private tuition. Her success, she says, is rooted in dedication and the unwavering support of her teachers.

Canacona Councillor Flags Dangerous Roadside Trees, Seeks Urgent Action

Team Goemkarponn

Canacona: Highlighting the growing threat posed by dead and leaning trees along major roads, Canacona Municipal Councillor Shubham Komarpant has urged the Taluka Disaster Management Authority (DMA) and the Deputy Collector/ SDO of Canacona to take immediate steps for their removal to prevent accidents, especially during the monsoon.

In a formal petition submitted on Monday, Komarpant pointed to a significant safety hazard along the 40-km Canacona stretch of



NH-66 from Margao to Polem, where several dead, partially dead, and dangerously leaning trees have become increasingly unstable.

"These trees — many planted during afforestation drives in the 1970s and '80s, particularly Eucalyptus and Acacia species — have

now become overgrown and hazardous," Komarpant wrote. "Several are leaning perilously over the road in high-risk zones like Karmalghat, Padi, Balli, Panzorconni, and Dramapur."

He warned that with heavy monsoon rains loosening the soil and

weakening tree roots, the likelihood of tree falls has increased significantly. "Each year, lives are tragically lost due to preventable incidents involving falling trees," he noted.

Calling the situation critical, Komarpant has requested a scientific survey to identify trees posing an immediate danger and urged that they be removed or trimmed without delay to safeguard commuters and nearby properties.

He further emphasized that internal PWD roads across Canacona taluka also face similar threats and must not be overlooked.

Three More Held in Cunchelim Land Scam, Remanded to Two Days Police Custody

Team Goemkarponn

Mapusa: In a significant development in the Cunchelim Comunidade land scam, Mapusa Police have arrested three more suspects — Raja Anthony, Raju Mandrekar, and Sumit Phadte — for their alleged role in fraudulently selling Comunidade land to over 140 unsuspecting families. The trio was produced before the

Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Mapusa, on Monday and has been remanded to two days of police custody for further interrogation. According to police sources, the accused were part of a larger syndicate involved in the illegal sale and transfer of Comunidade land parcels, with several forged documents and bogus registrations being used in the process.

Team Goemkarponn

Honda (Sattari): In a move aimed at promoting inclusive mobility, specially fitted side-wheel scooters were distributed to persons with disabilities at a function held in Honda Panchayat on Sunday. The initiative, facilitated by the Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), was funded by the North Goa District Mineral Foundation (NGDMF). The event was attended by



senior officials and local representatives, including Smt. Varsha Naik, Director of DEPwD; Shri Ratnakar Govenkar, Member Secretary of NGDMFT and Deputy Director of Mines & Geology; Shri Gauresh

A. Pilgaonkar, Managing Director of GEDA; Shri Sanjeev S. Joglekar, Member Secretary, GEDA; Dr. Sachin Tendulkar, Team Lead, PMU; Dr. Mrs. S. Monteiro, Deputy Director, DEPwD; ZP Member

Shri Sagun Wadkar; Smt. Devyani Gawas, Sarpanch of Honda; Shri Shivdas Madkar and other panchayat members from Honda; along with several Sarpanches from the Poriem Constituency.

Poriem MLA Deviyan Rane, under whose leadership the program was facilitated, stated that the initiative was "not just about mobility, but about empowering individuals, restoring dignity, and ensuring equal opportunity."

Tesla Officially Enters Indian Market with Mumbai Showroom and Model Y Launch

■ The electric carmaker officially enters the Indian market with a Model Y showcase at its Mumbai showroom.

New Delhi: Tesla has officially made its debut in India with the launch of its first showroom in Mumbai and the introduction of its all-electric SUV, the Model Y. Located in Mumbai's upscale Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), the 4,000-square-foot space marks the American EV giant's first physical footprint in the country.

Known as the Tesla Experience Centre, the showroom is expected to be the first of several across major Indian cities, with New Delhi likely next in line. This move is seen as a strategic entry by Tesla to tap into emerging markets amid a global slowdown in EV demand in established regions.

The Mumbai showroom gives Indian consumers a firsthand look at Tesla's much-anticipated offerings. Exclusive



images have shown the Tesla logo adorning the glass-fronted store, and a Model Y—partially covered—positioned prominently inside. The company has imported six Model Y units from its Shanghai gigafactory specifically for the launch. These vehicles were transported via flatbed trucks and placed in the store just days ahead of the grand opening.

Reports suggest Tesla is paying around ₹35 lakh

per month in rent for the prime location, signaling its serious intent to establish a premium brand presence in India. The showcased Model Y is the refreshed version, finished in a stylish dark grey with black alloy wheels and a coupe-like silhouette. It will be available in two variants for the Indian market: the Long Range Rear-Wheel Drive (RWD) and Long Range All-Wheel Drive (AWD). Inside, the Model

Y offers a minimalist cabin in a dual-tone black and white finish, anchored by a 15.4-inch central touchscreen.

The car comes loaded with features such as wireless charging, USB-C ports, voice command functionality, internet connectivity, and app-based vehicle access. However, the premium pricing may be a barrier for many Indian buyers.

The Model Y starts at ₹59.89 lakh, primarily due to the high import duties levied on completely built units (CBUs). India currently imposes a 70% to 100% tax on imported cars, significantly raising costs for buyers. Tesla CEO Elon Musk has been vocal in criticizing India's high tariffs, urging for lower duties to make Tesla vehicles more accessible.

Victor Hospital and Dhakankar Robotic Centre Launch Goa's First ROSA® Robotic Knee Replacement System

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Victor Hospital, in collaboration with the Dhakankar Robotic Centre, is proud to announce the inauguration of Goa's first ROSA® Robotic Knee Replacement System, a major technological breakthrough in orthopedic surgery. The state-of-the-art system will be officially launched on 16th July at 3:00 PM, marking a transformative moment in patient-centered orthopedic care in the state.

The ROSA® (Robotic Surgical Assistant) system represents a new frontier in joint replacement, combining the power of artificial intelligence with surgical expertise to deliver precision-driven, minimally invasive knee replacements. This AI-powered robotic platform ensures personalized treatment plans tailored to each patient's unique anatomy, with the goal of achieving a more natural-feeling knee after surgery. One of ROSA®'s standout features is that



it eliminates the need for a pre-operative CT scan, thereby reducing radiation exposure and overall treatment costs. The system offers unmatched accuracy in bone preparation, safeguards soft tissues such as ligaments during the procedure, and supports faster post-operative recovery thanks to smaller incisions and minimal disruption to surrounding tissue. It uses globally trusted Zimmer Biomet implants, renowned for their reliability and clinical success over decades.

The introduction of the ROSA® system highlights Victor Hospital and Dr. Dhakankar's unwavering commitment to innovation, excellence, and improving surgical outcomes. This cutting-edge technology places Goa at the forefront of advanced orthopedic care, offering patients safer, smarter, and more effective knee replacement solutions.

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Shocking! 3 Detained for Impersonation in National-Level Exams at NIO, Goa

Assistant (JSA) examinations held at the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), one of the designated centres in Goa. According to police sources, two of the suspects attempted to appear for the exams on behalf of other candidates by using forged identification documents. The third individual reportedly accompanied them to the venue and is suspected to be part of the conspiracy.

Authorities were alerted after discrepancies were noticed during the verification process at the examination centre. The suspects were taken into custody for questioning, and a case has been registered under relevant sections for impersonation and forgery. Investigations are currently underway to ascertain the extent of the impersonation racket and whether more individuals are involved.

Yuri Alemao Refuses to Comment on Vijai Sardesai's Criticism, Says Focus is on Opposition Unity

He further added, "I'm not aware of others' personal agendas, my agenda is to coordinate. I don't want to fuel any other personal agenda."

Yuri's refusal to engage with Sardesai's criticism is

being seen as a move to maintain unity within the Opposition bloc amid attempts to forge a cohesive strategy against the BJP-led government in the upcoming session.

Air India Crash: Debate Erupts Over Fuel Switches and Pilot Intentions Deliberate Or Mechanical Flaw?

to 'CUTOFF' — an action that would result in complete engine shutdown — or if a technical malfunction caused the deadly failure. Adding to the intrigue is a media report that surfaced just before the official findings, suggesting pilot error, which has raised questions about narrative shaping and

accountability. One aviation expert claimed that the fuel switches can only be moved manually, requiring a physical pull, and cannot transition on their own. He pointed out that the switches "transitioned" during the takeoff phase, which he argued implies deliberate action. While he did not accuse the pilot

of intentionally causing the crash, he mentioned that one of the pilots had a medical history and had recently returned from medical leave. He also called for the full Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) to be made public for transparency and clarity. However, many experienced pilots and professionals strongly

disagreed. One senior Dreamliner pilot explained that in modern aircraft, systems are capable of electronically shutting off fuel even if switches remain in the 'RUN' position. He noted that a critical failure, like a dual engine shutdown, could have occurred due to a software or electronic system issue.

CM Warns: Youth Health at Risk Due to Mobile Addiction

addiction and a decline in outdoor physical activity. Speaking at a financial assistance distribution event for sports bodies, Dr. Sawant emphasized the vital role of sports in ensuring both physical fitness and mental well-being. "Youth are increasingly addicted to mobile games and

avoiding outdoor play. This trend is contributing to a surge in lifestyle diseases such as diabetes," he warned.

Highlighting the importance of reviving Goa's sporting spirit, the Chief Minister announced continued financial assistance to State Sports

Associations, Sports Clubs, and individual sportspersons. He urged all stakeholders—parents, educators, and community leaders—to join hands in strengthening the state's sports ecosystem.

Looking ahead, Dr. Sawant called upon Goa's sports associations to set

their sights on the 2036 Olympics. He assured full government support through enhanced sports infrastructure, professional coaching, and training facilities. "We must work with vision and determination to ensure Goa's participation on the Olympic stage," he said.

CM Urges Sports Associations to Take Responsibility for Ground Maintenance

up and take responsibility for maintaining sports grounds in the state, citing poor upkeep of existing infrastructure. "Even though Goa is a small state, we

have developed good sports infrastructure. However, I have observed that the maintenance of this infrastructure is lacking. Some sports grounds remain

abandoned," Sawant said. The Chief Minister noted that several associations have approached the government seeking dedicated grounds.

S Jaishankar Meets Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing - First Visit Since Galwan Clashes

■ S Jaishankar said he apprised President Xi Jinping about the recent development in India-China bilateral ties.

BEIJING: In a significant diplomatic development, External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Tuesday, marking his first official visit to China since the deadly Galwan Valley clashes in June 2020 that severely strained India-China relations. Jaishankar's visit comes in the backdrop of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' Conclave, where he is representing India. Along with his counterparts from other SCO member nations, the Indian



foreign minister called on President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in the Chinese capital. Taking to social media platform X (formerly

Twitter), Dr. Jaishankar shared details of the meeting, stating, "Called on President Xi Jinping this morning in Beijing along with my fellow

SCO Foreign Ministers." He added that he had conveyed greetings on behalf of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Chinese leader. Importantly, Jaishankar said he apprised President Xi about the recent developments in the bilateral relationship between India and China. "Value the guidance of our leaders in that regard," he noted, highlighting the importance of high-level engagement in shaping the trajectory of ties between the two Asian giants.

"India Looks Grand": Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla's Inspiring Words from Space Echo Across the Nation

■ In a conversation with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Shubhanshu Shukla tied his journey to the aspirations of a rising India

NEW DELHI: As Indian astronaut and Indian Air Force pilot Shubhanshu Shukla prepares to return to Earth after a landmark 14-day mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), his powerful words and heartfelt reflections from orbit have ignited a wave of national pride and inspiration. A member of the Axiom-4 private space mission, Shukla became the first IAF pilot and only the second Indian to venture into space on a private flight—leaving behind more than scientific milestones. From the moment he reached the ISS on June 25, Shukla's tone was filled with wonder, pride, and a deep sense of connection to his country. "India looks grand



and bigger from space than it does on the map," he declared, sharing his first impressions while gazing at his homeland from orbit. His statement quickly became a viral message of national pride, resonating with millions back home. During the launch, Shukla carried the Indian tricolour on his shoulder, a gesture that symbolized not just personal achievement but the collective dreams of 1.4 billion Indians.

India Reports 11 Mayday Calls in 17 Months, 65 In-Flight Engine Shutdowns Since 2020

■ Sixty-five in-flight engine shutdowns since 2020, and 11 Mayday calls in just 17 months were reported in India, a report has claimed.

India's aviation sector has recorded 65 in-flight engine shutdowns over the last five years and 11 Mayday calls in just the past 17 months, raising concerns over aircraft safety and operational reliability in the country. The data, compiled from civil aviation records, highlights both mid-air and take-off engine failures.



On average, at least one engine malfunction is occurring every month. Notably, these numbers

do not include high-profile incidents such as the recent Air India flight crash in Ahmedabad on June 12 or a domestic IndiGo flight that was diverted due to operational issues.

In all recorded engine shutdown cases, pilots successfully managed to land the aircraft using the remaining operational engine.

India-US Trade Talks Resume in Washington, Focus on Bilateral Trade Agreement

■ Chief negotiator of India and special secretary in the Department of Commerce, Rajesh Agrawal, will join the team on Wednesday.

NEW DELHI: A high-level Indian delegation from the Commerce Ministry has arrived in Washington this week for a fresh round of negotiations on the long-anticipated Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) with the United States. The four-day dialogue, which began on Monday, is expected to cover several sensitive sectors,



with both countries aiming to finalize an interim pact before the U.S. deadline of August 1. According to official sources, India's chief negotiator and Special Secretary in the

Department of Commerce, Rajesh Agrawal, will join the talks on Wednesday, adding momentum to the ongoing discussions. India's deputy chief negotiator is already in Washington and is leading the initial phase of deliberations focused on finalizing the first tranche of the proposed agreement.

Modi Gave India Ram Mandir and 5G, Says Amit Shah, Emphasizing Blend of Tradition and Technology

■ Amit Shah also highlighted Modi government's broader efforts - from replacing colonial symbols with Indian ones to expanding AIIMS, IITs, and promoting education in regional languages.

New Delhi: Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership for striking a fine balance between India's cultural heritage and technological advancement. Speaking at the 63rd Foundation Day celebration of Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP), Shah said Modi's vision brought both the grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya and cutting-edge 5G

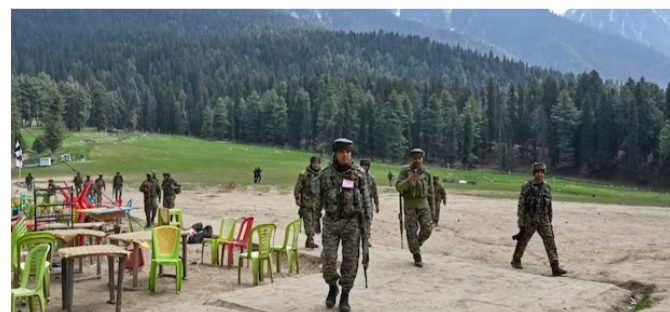


technology to India. "Some people with leftist mindsets question what was achieved by building the Ram Mandir. They will never understand," Shah remarked.

Pahalgam Terror Attack Orchestrated by Pakistan's Political and Military Leadership: Report

■ Pahalgam terror attack was ordered by Pakistani political and military brass, a report said, adding that no local terrorists were chosen for attack to maintain "secrecy" of plan.

NEW DELHI: The horrific terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22, which left 26 civilians dead, was reportedly carried out under the direct orders of Pakistan's political and military leadership. Intelligence inputs have indicated that the operation was coordinated by Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI in collaboration with Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and was designed to mirror the scale and secrecy of the 26/11



Mumbai attacks.

In a chilling detail, the attackers specifically targeted civilians at the popular Baisaran meadows after identifying their religion. The

assailants, all Pakistani nationals, were selected to ensure maximum operational secrecy. No local militants were involved in the execution, reportedly to keep the

plot tightly controlled and undisclosed.

The operation was reportedly spearheaded by Sulaiman, believed to be a former Pakistani special forces commando who had been involved in training LeT recruits at their Muridke headquarters in Pakistan's Punjab province.

Sulaiman infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir in 2022 and remained underground in the region for nearly two years.

Cricket World Reacts as India Fall Short in Thrilling Lord's Test Against England

■ Sachin Tendulkar and several former cricketers hailed the troika of Ravindra Jadeja, Mohammed Siraj and Jasprit Bumrah for putting up a headstrong fight.

NEW DELHI: India's narrow 22-run defeat against England in the third Test at Lord's triggered an outpouring of reactions from cricketing legends and fans alike, who hailed the fighting spirit shown by the trio of Ravindra Jadeja, Jasprit Bumrah, and Mohammed Siraj. Despite a heartbreaking finish, the Indian team earned praise for pushing the contest to the final session on Day 5 in what was a true Test classic. In pursuit of a modest target of 193 on a pitch that became



increasingly challenging over the last six sessions, India found themselves in deep trouble at 58/4 and

later at a dismal 82/7. Just when it looked like a swift collapse was imminent, Jadeja, Bumrah, and

Siraj mounted a gritty resistance that reignited hope. The Lord's crowd, largely English, echoed with chants of "India, India" as the visitors clawed back into the game. However, the valiant effort ultimately fell short as India were bowled out for 170.

Legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar summed up the mood of the nation with his emotional tribute: "So near, yet so far... Jadeja, Bumrah & Siraj fought all the way till the end. Well tried, Team India."



Shubman Gill Reflects on India's Narrow Defeat at Lord's: "We Needed Just One More Partnership"

■ Shubman Gill was "extremely proud" of the fight that his team put up after being down and out but rued the absence of one fifty partnership and Rishabh Pant's first innings run-out in their 22-run defeat against England in the third Test at the Lord's.

NEW DELHI: After India's nail-biting 22-run loss to England in the third Test at Lord's, batter Shubman Gill offered a blunt assessment of what went wrong. Speaking during the post-match presentation, Gill expressed pride in the team's fighting spirit but pointed to a lack of key partnerships and a crucial run-out that tilted the match in England's favour.

"Extremely proud," Gill said of the team's performance. "It was as close a Test match as it can get — stretched over five days and coming down to the final session. I was confident in our chances. We just needed a couple of 50-run partnerships, but we couldn't string them together when it mattered most."

India, chasing a target of 192 on a deteriorating Day 5 pitch, collapsed for 170 despite a gritty unbeaten 61 from Ravindra Jadeja. He held firm with Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj, trying to take the game deep, but the lower order eventually crumbled under pressure.

Gill highlighted Rishabh Pant's first-innings run-out as a turning point. "Had Pant not been run out, we could've had a lead of 70 or 80 runs. That would've changed the complexion of the game completely — we wouldn't be chasing close to 200 on a tricky fifth-day track."

Responding to questions about players possibly being too focused on personal milestones — especially after KL Rahul admitted there was a conversation about Pant reaching his century before lunch — Gill downplayed the speculation.

"Actually, it was a judgment error in the running. These things happen. If you look closely, KL bhai was the one running to the danger end."

Gill also defended Jadeja's cautious approach while batting with the tail. "He's very experienced. There was no need for instructions from the dressing room. He batted beautifully. It was the final hour of the match on Day 4, and we could have applied ourselves better."

Fauja Singh, World's Oldest Marathon Runner, Dies at 114 in Tragic Road Accident

■ Fauja Singh, the iconic runner who earned the tag of world's oldest marathoner, died at the age of 114 in a road accident on Monday

NEW DELHI: Fauja Singh, the legendary centenarian marathon runner celebrated worldwide for redefining the limits of age and endurance, passed away on Monday at the age of 114 following a tragic road accident in Punjab. Known as the world's oldest marathoner, Singh's remarkable life journey came to a sudden end when he was hit by a car on the Jalandhar-Pathankot highway.

Born on April 1, 1911, in Beyas village in Jalandhar district, Singh became a global icon in the running community and a symbol of resilience and healthy living. On Monday afternoon, he suffered a serious head

injury after being struck by a vehicle while walking along the highway. Despite being rushed to a nearby hospital, he succumbed to his injuries at around 7:30 PM IST.

His body has been placed in a mortuary until the arrival of his children, who currently live abroad. His last rites will be conducted after their return.

Tributes poured in from across the globe, including from Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria, who shared a heartfelt message on social media: "Deeply saddened by the passing of Sardar Fauja Singh Ji, the legendary marathon runner and an enduring



symbol of resilience and hope. Even at the age of 114, he continued to inspire generations with his strength and commitment."

Kataria recalled his

last interaction with the marathoner during the 'Nasha Mukh – Rangla Punjab' march in December 2024, where Fauja Singh's presence energized the anti-drug campaign.

"His legacy will forever live on in the hearts of those fighting for a healthier, drug-free Punjab," Kataria added, offering condolences to his family and fans across the world. Fauja Singh's life was a testament to triumph over personal tragedy. After the deaths of his wife and son, he found purpose in running. At the age of 89, when most people retire to a quiet life, Singh chose the marathon path.

Margao SC Thrash Carmona 6-0 to Storm Into Quarterfinals of St. Anthony Festival Cup

Team Goemkarponn

Margao: Margao Sports Club delivered a dominant performance to outclass Carmona Sports Club 6-0 and seal their spot in the quarterfinals of the 17th St. Anthony Festival Cup 2025, organized by St. Anthony Sports Club Assolda and played at the Moll Ground in Assolda. The match began under challenging conditions as persistent rain made ball control difficult for



both teams. Despite the slippery surface, Margao

found their rhythm early and broke the deadlock in



the 16th minute through Alfred Noronha, who

headed the ball into the net to give his team a 1-0 lead.

Carmona nearly responded moments later with a powerful shot by Kayne Cardozo, but Margao goalkeeper Karol Soares pulled off a brilliant save, pushing the ball out for a corner. The score remained 1-0 at the half. Margao returned with renewed energy in the second half and completely dominated the proceedings. Forward

Hanslum Furtado stole the show with a stunning hat-trick, netting goals in the 33rd, 35th, and 46th minutes to sink Carmona's hopes. Clencio Pinto and Sarineo Fernandes added one goal each to round off a commanding 6-0 victory.

For his outstanding performance, Hanslum Furtado was named Man of the Match. The award was presented by Custodio Fernandes, Sarpanch of Village Panchayat Assolda.