



Goa CM Warns Citizens Against Fake Agents While Distributing 'Mhaje Ghar Yojana' Forms

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant, along with Mormugao MLA Sankalp Amonkar and Vasco MLA Krishna Salkar, distributed 'Mhaje Ghar Yojana' application forms to residents of Mormugao as a Diwali gift, while cautioning people to stay vigilant against fake agents and unscrupulous individuals claiming to fast-track approvals. He urged citizens not to fall prey to political mischief or misleading tactics and assured that all legitimate applications would be processed within fixed timelines to ensure swift



relief and legal recognition. Speaking during the first round of form distribution under the scheme, Dr. Sawant said beneficiaries in Maem and Bicholim were issued forms on Monday. Launched on October 4, the Mhaje Ghar Yojana aims to provide legal ownership, dignity, and security to Goan households whose homes lack formal titles. The Chief Minister outlined that nine types of forms are

available, including house repair and house separation certificates, which will be issued within three and seven days respectively. He added that forms will soon be accessible in all panchayats and Deputy Collector offices. Highlighting the broader impact of the initiative, Dr. Sawant said the scheme would help reduce conflicts in villages while giving citizens the pride of stating, "Mhaje Ghar, Mhajo Hakk." He urged Goans to directly avail themselves of the government scheme and avoid intermediaries who promise fast-tracking, reinforcing the message that the government's process is transparent and timely.

CM Hits Out at Oppn Over Mhaje Ghar Yojana Misleading Claims

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant launched a sharp attack on the Congress and other opposition parties for allegedly misleading citizens about the Mhaje Ghar Yojana.

Addressing residents, Sawant said that when the housing bill was passed in the Assembly, Congress members had walked out and later criticized him outside, claiming the legislation would "finish Goa."

Taking a dig at his opponents, the CM remarked, "Now all these parties—RG, AAP,



Congress—will come to your doorsteps to help fill forms. You should tell them there's no need. Our Chief Minister, MP, and MLAs are here to fill our forms."

Sawant reaffirmed that the Mhaje Ghar Yojana is designed to provide legal ownership and security to Goans who have lived for years under the threat of their homes being deemed illegal.

Electricity Dept Bars Power Connections to Illegal Structures in Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Electricity Department of Goa has issued a circular directing all sub-divisional officers to stop releasing new electricity connections to illegal structures that do not possess valid permissions from competent authorities. The directive, issued by Chief Electrical Engineer Stephen Fernandes on September 30,



2025, refers to earlier communications and a circular from the Chief Secretary stating that "no new electricity connection shall be released to illegal structures where permission is not obtained from concerned

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Goa Govt to Grant Diwali Bonus to Eligible Employees; Payment by October 20

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Government of Goa has announced the grant of a Non-Productivity Linked Bonus (Ad-hoc Bonus) to eligible State Government employees for the year 2024–25, in line with the Central Government's latest Office Memorandum dated September 29, 2025. As per the circular issued by the Finance (Expenditure) Department, Secretariat, Porvorim,



all Group 'C' employees and non-gazetted Group 'B' employees of the State Government, who are not covered under any Productivity Linked Bonus scheme, will be entitled to the Diwali bonus. However, employees in Group 'A' and those in Group 'B' drawing a Grade Pay of

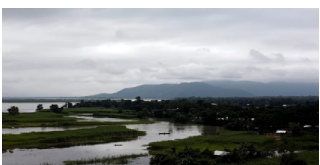
₹4,600 and above (Level 7 and above as per the Seventh Pay Commission) as on April 1, 2025, will not be covered under this scheme. The bonus, equivalent to 30 days' emoluments (subject to a calculation ceiling of ₹7,000 per month), will be paid through e-payment mode and disbursed on or before October 20, 2025. The memorandum further clarifies that the scheme will also apply to employees of Autonomous

Bodies that are either fully or partly funded by the Government, provided they follow the State Government's pattern of pay and do not operate any separate bonus or ex-gratia scheme. The decision follows the Central Government's similar announcement extending the Non-Productivity Linked Bonus for 2024–25 to Central Government employees, Para Military Forces, and Armed Forces.

India Unveils \$77 Billion Hydro Power Plan To Harness Brahmaputra's Potential

■ The Brahmaputra River, which rises in Tibet, China, and flows through India and Bangladesh, holds significant hydro potential in its Indian stretch, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh on the China border.

New Delhi: India has announced an ambitious Rs 6.4 trillion (\$77 billion) plan to develop and transmit over 76 gigawatts (GW) of hydroelectric power from the Brahmaputra basin by 2047, marking one of the country's largest clean energy initiatives to date. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA), in its latest report, outlined the roadmap to strengthen the power grid and unlock the immense hydro potential of India's northeastern states. The blueprint covers



208 major hydro projects spread across 12 sub-basins in the region, with a combined capacity of 64.9 GW, alongside 11.1 GW from pumped storage plants. The plan aims to support India's rising electricity demand while accelerating its transition away from fossil fuels. The Brahmaputra River originating in Tibet and

flowing through India and Bangladesh offers vast untapped hydro potential, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh, which alone accounts for 52.2 GW. However, the river's transboundary nature and proximity to China make it strategically sensitive. India has long expressed concern over Beijing's dam construction on the upper Yarlung Zangbo section, which could potentially reduce dry-season water flow into India by as much

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Pakistan Misjudged India's Resolve, Operation Sindoor Set the Record Straight: CDS Chauhan

■ The CDS noted the armed forces are responsible for providing a safe and secure environment to the country, while nation-building is the collective responsibility of its citizens.

Gwalior: Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan said that Operation Sindoor, conducted in May, reshaped India's approach to warfare and sent a clear message that Pakistan's nuclear threats would no longer dictate regional stability. Speaking at the 128th Foundation Day of Scindia School in Gwalior, General Chauhan said the successful mission marked a decisive shift—showing that talks and terrorism cannot go hand in hand.



"Operation Sindoor created a new matrix of decision and timing in warfare. Pakistan thought it could do anything with nuclear capability, but the operation proved it wrong," he said. The CDS stressed that wars are not fought by the armed forces alone, but by the entire nation, where political leaders,

diplomats, and citizens each have vital roles to play. He emphasised that while the military ensures the country's security, nation-building is a shared duty. "The future belongs to India, and together, we can make it stronger and more secure by 2047," he said, referring to the Prime Minister's vision of a developed India. General Chauhan also highlighted the increasing importance of modern technologies such as drones, air

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Porvorim's Traffic Nightmare: PWD's Trial Run Was a Trial on People

Traffic in Porvorim has turned into a daily ordeal. On Monday, the Public Works Department carried out what it called a trial diversion on National Highway 66, as part of preparations for the construction of the elevated corridor. The test run was supposed to help the department assess how traffic could be managed once the main work began. Instead, it created chaos. Vehicles crawled for hours, tempers flared, and residents found themselves trapped in long, exhausting jams. What was meant to be a controlled trial felt more like a punishment for commuters.

The chaos revealed what many have feared for months that the authorities are venturing into a massive infrastructure project without a credible, comprehensive plan to manage traffic. The idea of closing down stretches of one of Goa's busiest corridors without first ensuring smooth alternatives is a recipe for misery. A diversion plan cannot be improvised on the road while people suffer. It needs careful design, advanced preparation, and coordination between multiple agencies.

What happened in Porvorim was the opposite: confusion, poor signage, and roads that were never meant to bear such volume.

During the trial, heavy vehicles headed for Panaji were diverted through Karaswada and Bicholim, while others were pushed into the Old Goa-Sankhalim-Assonora-Tivim route. Lighter vehicles were told to move through Socorro, Sangolda and Guirim. Anyone familiar with these stretches knows that these are narrow, residential roads that already struggle with local traffic. Pushing hundreds of additional vehicles through them was bound to cause gridlock.

The PWD's own assessment later admitted that congestion and long snarls occurred, yet the department appeared more interested in proving that a diversion could be attempted than in proving that it could work. This is not the first time Goa has seen haphazard management during infrastructure work.

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"This is not the first time Goa has seen haphazard management during infrastructure work. Each project seems to begin with lofty claims of minimal inconvenience, only for commuters to be left stranded for months."

What makes Porvorim's situation particularly concerning is that this is not a remote bypass but a vital link between North Goa and the state capital. The stretch between Coqueiro Circle and the Shivaji statue is used by thousands of vehicles daily, including office-goers, school buses, intercity travelers, and tourists. Shutting down or diverting traffic here without a rock-solid plan is not just inefficient, it is irresponsible"

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Shutting down or diverting traffic here without a rock-solid plan is not just inefficient, it is irresponsible.

The government must understand that traffic management is not about barricades and diversions alone. It requires data, design, and discipline. Roads cannot be closed piecemeal with the hope that traffic will find its own way around. Alternate routes must

be prepared in advance, not just identified on paper. Widening, resurfacing, and signage should be completed before diversions begin.

Traffic police need real-time monitoring tools, communication systems, and authority to enforce discipline. Technology can help too sensors, signal synchronisation, and public information systems can make a difference if used intelligently.

What is needed now is a complete rethinking of the diversion plan. Heavy vehicles should be kept out of Porvorim altogether and given a proper bypass route that avoids residential areas. Light vehicles can be routed through CHOGM Road and Sangolda or Guirim, but only after ensuring these roads are ready for increased volume. Each intersection must be equipped with proper signals, and marshals should be stationed at key junctions to guide drivers. Service roads should be kept open for local access and deliveries, but through-traffic should be regulated to prevent bottlenecks.

Importantly, closures should happen in phases so that traffic can be studied and adjusted before the next segment is shut. The government cannot treat Porvorim's commuters as test subjects in a grand experiment. Every wasted hour on the road translates into lost productivity, fuel, and peace of mind.

Businesses along the route are already suffering as customers avoid the area. Emergency vehicles are struggling to get through. When a plan causes this much disruption during its trial, it signals that the groundwork is incomplete. Instead of pushing ahead blindly, the PWD must halt full closures until a proven, detailed, and publicly shared diversion plan is ready. Infrastructure development is necessary, but it must not come at the cost of everyday life grinding to a halt.

The Porvorim corridor will eventually ease travel between Mapusa and Panaji, but until then, people deserve a traffic system that works. The chaos of the past week should serve as a wake-up call. Goa deserves better planning, better communication, and above all, respect for the time and patience of its citizens.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Outside Gangs Threaten Goa's Peace

It is shocking and disturbing to read about the recent incident in Calangute, where two intoxicated tourists from Jaipur created chaos at a hotel and later attacked police officers while being taken to the station. Their alleged claim of belonging to the Bishnoi gang and boasting of immunity from action is not just arrogance it is a direct challenge to Goa's law and order.

If such elements from outside the state now feel emboldened to threaten our police and disturb public peace, it raises serious questions about the effectiveness of our home ministry and its leadership. Goa, once known for its safety and hospitality, seems to be losing its hold on both. How can tourists behave like gangsters and still feel untouchable?

What is even more worrying is the repeated denial by police officials that no organised gangs operate in Goa. Are they unaware, or are they protecting someone? If such incidents are dismissed as isolated, we risk allowing criminal networks to spread quietly. The government must act firmly. There should be zero tolerance for such lawlessness, whether by locals or outsiders. Tourists must respect Goa's laws and its people, and the police must be supported not attacked while doing their duty. Goa's peace and reputation cannot be compromised any further.

By Noronha Antonio

Need for a Fair and Transparent Probe in Rama Kankonkar Case

The recent clarification by SDPO Sudesh Naik in the Rama Kankonkar assault case raises more questions than answers. According to the police, the victim did not name any politician in his initial statement, which was also video recorded. However, this only deepens public curiosity and suspicion about what really happened and who was involved.

If the video clearly shows 6 or 7 individuals attacking Rama, why are only a few behind bars? Why has there been no clarity about whether the victim named anyone like Zenito or others in his later statements? People deserve to know whether the investigation is truly being carried out without bias, as claimed. It is often seen that literate people, and even advocates, sometimes twist facts or play games for personal or political interests. This only confuses the public and weakens faith in justice. The police must ensure that their inquiry is based on facts, not on influence or reputation. Every person seen in the video must be identified and questioned.

Goans are not asking for special treatment, only for the truth. Justice delayed or manipulated is justice denied. The investigation should reveal not only those who attacked Rama but also the mastermind behind this violent act. The people of Goa are watching and expecting a fair, transparent, and unbiased investigation.

By Monica Esteves

Goa's Cooperative Sector Posts Rs 13,523 Crore Turnover

Govt Partners with Tribhuvan University for Cooperative Studies

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI:Cooperation Minister Subhash Shirodkar announced that Goa's cooperative sector has continued its upward trajectory, clocking a turnover of ₹13,523 crore for the financial year 2023–24 — a notable rise from ₹9,923 crore recorded in the previous year. He added that the audit for the current financial year (2024–25) is presently underway. Sharing details on the sector's performance, Shirodkar said Goa has about 1,000



active cooperative credit institutions, including dairy cooperatives, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), and cooperative banks, all of which play a vital role in supporting the State's rural economy and farming community. In a significant move to strengthen

education and skill development in the cooperative sector, the government has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Tribhuvan University to launch certification and degree programmes in cooperative studies. The minister further announced that the State will celebrate Cooperation Day on November 1, followed by Cooperation Week from November 14 to 20, featuring several initiatives aimed at enhancing awareness and public participation in Goa's cooperative movement.

Goa to Accelerate Infrastructure Growth Through 100% Centrally Funded Schemes

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI:In a bid to fast-track infrastructure development, the Goa government has decided to prioritise projects under central government schemes that provide full (100%) financial assistance. The initiative aims to drive progress across key sectors including transport, healthcare, education, agriculture, water supply, and ports while minimising the financial burden on the State's exchequer. To streamline the process, the government plans to appoint specialised consultants who will coordinate with various departments. These consultants will be tasked with preparing detailed project reports (DPRs), submitting proposals, and ensuring compliance with the guidelines of relevant central ministries. Officials said the move is expected to increase Goa's success rate in securing central funding and expedite project execution. According to senior officials, this strategy aligns with the government's larger vision



of transforming Goa into a "model developed state." By leveraging centrally funded schemes, the State hopes to close critical infrastructure gaps, improve essential services, and stimulate economic and tourism growth. Experts have welcomed the decision, noting that it could significantly boost both urban and rural development. With the central government covering the entire project cost, Goa can now implement ambitious plans in areas such as road networks, water infrastructure, healthcare, education, and social welfare, without straining its fiscal resources. Departments have been directed to identify eligible projects and work closely with the appointed consultants to ensure timely proposal submissions and swift implementation once projects receive approval.

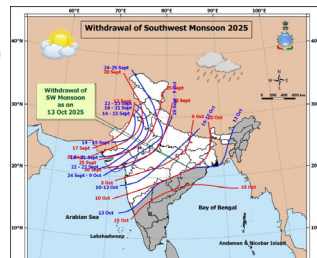
Southwest Monsoon Withdraws Early from Goa; IMD Issues Yellow Alert Despite Retreat

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Amid intermittent rainfall, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) Goa on Monday declared the withdrawal of the southwest monsoon from the State. This year's retreat occurred slightly ahead of schedule on October 13 three days earlier than in 2024, when the monsoon withdrew on

October 16. "Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from Goa, October 13," the IMD said in its statement, noting that the official withdrawal date remains October 14. Even as the withdrawal was announced, the IMD issued a Yellow alert for Goa, cautioning of possible thunderstorms and moderate rain through Thursday. The lingering activity, the department

said, is being driven by a low-pressure system over the west-central Arabian Sea, coupled with a cyclonic circulation extending up to 5.8 km above mean sea level. According to IMD's end-of-season summary released on September 30, Goa witnessed a "normal" monsoon this year, receiving 104 per cent of the long-period average (LPA) rainfall during the



June–September period. The State recorded an overall average of 3,135 mm with North Goa receiving 100 per cent of its usual quota and South Goa slightly exceeding at 108 per cent. However, the rainfall this year was lower compared to the previous two years, which saw exceptionally high precipitation 147 per cent of the LPA in 2024 and 113 per cent in 2023.

Goa Govt Tells High Court Lokayukta Appointment to Be Finalised in Six Weeks

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI:The Goa government has informed the High Court of Bombay at Goa that the process of appointing a new Lokayukta is in progress and is expected to be completed within six weeks. Accepting this assurance, the court disposed of the petition filed by TMC leader Trajano D'Mello, who had sought action over the prolonged vacancy in the State's anti-corruption ombudsman's office. The Directorate of Vigilance had first written to the Chief Secretary in February 2025 to begin shortlisting candidates, but the procedure saw little movement until recently. The post of Lokayukta has



remained vacant since December 2024, nearly two months after the tenure of Justice (Retd.) Ambadas Joshi came to an end. As a result, around 20 corruption-related cases continue to remain pending before the office. Justice Joshi had been appointed to the post in April 2021, following a six-month gap after the term of Justice (Retd.) P. K. Misra ended in September 2020. A previous nominee, Justice (Retd.) U. V. Bakre, had withdrawn his consent in March 2021 due to personal reasons.

GTDC Faces GCZMA Action for 'Beautification' Works That Damaged Morjim Beach Ecosystem

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI:The Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA) has come down heavily on the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) for carrying out large-scale excavation and sand levelling activities at Morjim beach under the pretext of beautification, allegedly causing serious ecological damage to the turtle-nesting coastline. According to the Authority, GTDC's actions led to the destruction of beach vegetation and altered the natural coastal morphology within a No Development Zone (NDZ), in clear violation of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) norms. The GCZMA has now ordered GTDC to immediately stop



all ongoing work and has sought the deployment of coastal police to conduct regular patrols in the area to prevent further violations.

The Authority noted that GTDC had been granted a No Objection Certificate (NOC) only for basic beautification of the Morjim promenade and the installation of public amenities with explicit instructions to avoid any digging or alteration of the

landscape.

However, an expert site inspection revealed extensive excavation using two JCB machines, which had dug up beach sand to depths between 1.5 and 2 metres over an estimated 2,000 square metre area.

The affected site lies within 80 metres of the ecologically sensitive turtle nesting and conservation zone at Tembwada, Morjim. "The activities

have caused major damage to the fragile beach ecosystem, leading to loss of vegetation and irreversible changes to coastal morphology," the GCZMA observed in its findings.

In response, the Authority has directed the Goa State Biodiversity Board to conduct a detailed inspection and prepare a restoration and management plan for the site. Based on the findings, the violators will face environmental compensation for the damage caused.

Interestingly, the violations first came to light after two alert locals raised the alarm and reported the illegal excavation to GCZMA officials, prompting a swift inquiry into the matter.

Two Tourists Booked for Assaulting On-Duty Police Personnel in Calangute

Team Goemkarponn

CALANGUTE: Two tourists from Rajasthan were booked by Calangute Police for allegedly assaulting and obstructing police personnel on duty near Union Bank, on the road leading to Baga Circle, on Monday night.

According to the complaint filed by Police Constable Sindesh Sawant, who is presently attached to the PCR vehicle of Calangute Police Station, the incident occurred



around 9:35 p.m. on October 13, 2025. The accused, identified as Baksa Ram (25) and Gautam Ram (22), both staying at Miia Bella Cottage Resort, Baga, allegedly abused and threatened Constable Sawant and PCR driver PC Sameer

Mandrekar, who were on duty in the area.

The duo reportedly caught hold of and pulled the collar of PC Mandrekar while he was driving the PCR vehicle, thereby using criminal force to deter public servants from discharging their official duties.

Calangute Police have registered an offence under Sections 352, 351(2), and 132 read with 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. Further investigation is in progress.

1 Booked for Submitting Fake Marksheet to Goa Police HQ

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Panaji Police have registered a case against a former barber attached to the Goa Police Department for allegedly producing a fake educational certificate during his recruitment process. According to the complaint lodged by Superintendent of Police (HQ) Dharmesh G. P. Angle, the accused Premanand Gurudas Majgaonkar, a former barber, allegedly prepared a forged Secondary School Certificate (SSCE) marksheet purportedly

issued by the Chhattisgarh Madrasa Board. The accused is alleged to have presented the fabricated marksheet as a genuine document before the Director General of Police, Police Headquarters, Panaji, to secure employment as a barber. Based on the complaint, Panaji Police registered Crime No. 139/2025 under Sections 336(3) and 340 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023 for offences related to forgery and use of forged documents. The investigation is being conducted by LPSI Rashmika Kavle.



Motorcyclist Booked for Hitting Pedestrians, Fleeing from Accident Spot in Nuvem

Team Goemkarponn

NUVEM: Maina-Curtorim Police have booked a motorcyclist for rash and negligent driving after he allegedly knocked down two pedestrians and fled the scene without offering help.

According to a complaint lodged by ASI Suresh Velip of Maina-

Curtorim Police Station, the incident occurred on October 12, 2025, around 5:15 p.m. near the Nuvem bypass service road.

The accused, identified as Lakshman Kumar Singh, resident of Consua, Verna, and native of Ramgarh, Jharkhand, was reportedly riding a Hero Splendor motorcycle towards Margao when



he rammed into two pedestrians—Francisco Fernandes of Nuvem and Remetin Fernandes of Consua, Verna—who were drying raw rice along the roadside. In the impact,

Francisco Fernandes sustained grievous injuries, while Remetin Fernandes suffered simple injuries. The accused allegedly fled the spot without providing medical assistance or informing the police. Further investigation into the case is being conducted by ASI Suresh Velip of Maina-Curtorim Police Station.



4 Karnataka Tourists, Two Russians, Among Nine Rescued Off Goa Beaches

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Four tourists from Karnataka were rescued, in two separate incidents, off Calangute beach by Drishti Marine lifeguards over the weekend. Two Russians and three domestic tourists from Kolkata were also rescued in separate incidents after being caught in rip currents off Sinquerim and Agonda beaches.

Calangute beach: In a double rescue, two men from Karnataka who walked into the sea at night, were rescued by lifeguards on duty Subham Mukhiya, Manoj Manjhi, Narendra Kubal, Biliyam Surim and beach marshal Yogendra Yadav, with a rescue tube and safely brought back to shore. In another incident, two

Karnataka men were caught in a rip current. They were rescued by lifeguards Shivam Rajbhar and Chhrap Mestri, using a rescue tube, rescue board and brought safely back to shore.

Agonda beach: In a triple rescue, two women and one man from Kolkata, who were caught in a rip current and began drowning, were rescued by lifeguard Vikas Velip using a surfboard. Velip brought the trio safely back to shore.

Sinquerim beach: Two Russian women caught in a rip current were rescued by lifeguard Santosh Linda using a rescue board. They were a part of a group of five women who were swimming near the rip current, three of whom managed to reach the shore safely.

Man Arrested in Ponda for Blackmail and Sexual Assault

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: Ponda Police have arrested a man for allegedly sexually assaulting a woman on multiple occasions after blackmailing her with private photographs.

According to police, the accused, identified as Sumit Kumar, resident of Usgao, Ponda and native of Bihar, had allegedly threatened the victim by stating that he would circulate her intimate photographs, which were reportedly taken without her consent.



Under duress, the accused is alleged to have forcefully established physical relations with the complainant on several occasions at TNK, Usgao, prior to October 9, 2025.

The accused has since been arrested, and further investigation is being conducted by LPSI Anjali Dhulapkar of Ponda Police Station.

DM South Goa Urges Citizens to Report Unsafe and Dilapidated Buildings

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: The District Magistrate (DM) of South Goa has issued a public notice urging citizens to report unsafe or structurally weak buildings and structures

within the district. The move comes amid growing concern over continued occupation of visibly dilapidated premises, posing serious risks to life and property. Residents have been advised to report such buildings to the

4,000 kg of Unhygienic Beef Seized at Mollem; Vehicle Abandoned

Team Goemkarponn

MOLLEM: Collem Police have launched an investigation after around 4,000 kilograms of beef transported from Karnataka was found abandoned in a private property at Mollem, Dharbandora.

According to a complaint lodged by Dr. Vrishabha Naik, Veterinary Officer at the Veterinary Dispensary, Mollem,

the consignment was discovered on October 12, 2025, in an unrefrigerated and unhygienic condition, rendering the meat unfit for human consumption. The unidentified accused reportedly transported the beef illegally across the border and abandoned the vehicle after entering Goa.

Collem Police have registered a case and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Sandeep Nimbalkar.



against residing in or conducting any activities from unsafe or structurally unsound premises. Owners and occupants have been reminded that ensuring the safety of their properties is their primary responsibility.

Mormugao councillors demand restoration of Sada area after Formula 4 venue shift

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: Councillors of the Mormugao Municipal Council (MMC) on Monday demanded immediate restoration of the Sada area, citing extensive damage to roads, water pipelines and gutters following preparatory work for the now-shifted Formula 4 race. The demand was raised during a special council meeting convened to discuss the issue along with other civic matters, including the proposed Kadamba Transport Corporation (KTC) bus stand project.



Councillor Damodar Naik said several civic utilities were damaged when work began for the race without prior permission or intimation to the MMC. "There has been massive destruction of roads, water pipelines, gutters and nullahs in the name of the race. The 600 mm diameter water pipeline supplying water from Seraulim has

holes at five locations, causing hardship as there has been no water supply for several days. Sewage chambers have also been damaged at multiple points, resulting in overflows," Naik said. He added that the water line supplying the Muslim burial site was uprooted and that a letter had been sent to the chief officer demanding restoration

at the organisers' cost. "The chief officer has assured us that necessary action will be taken and a site inspection will be conducted to assess the damage," Naik stated. Raising the issue of the proposed KTC bus stand, ward councillor Priya Raut said she has sought a special meeting to discuss the project in detail. "There was no proper discussion before the point was added to the agenda. We have objected to the PPP model under which 70 percent of the land will go to the project proponent and only 30 percent will be used for the bus stand.

Cyril Aleixo Fernandes elected unopposed as new President of CAG

Team Goemkarponn

VASCO: Cyril Aleixo Fernandes has been elected as the new President of the Catholic Association of Goa (CAG) for the next two years. The Catholic Association of Goa acts as a body representing the Catholics of the Archdiocese of Goa and Daman. It is recognized by the Office of the Archbishop of Goa. It works to promote and protect the rights and interests of the members of the catholic community in Goa and was formed in the year 1990. At the



Annual General Body meeting held at Maquinez Palace office of the CAG at Panaji. Fernandes was declared elected as President unopposed at the elections held. LML Addressing the attendees in his acceptance speech, Cyril Fernandes thanked the members for reposing faith in him to lead the CAG for the next two years at a crucial juncture wherein the Catholics of Goa are under pressure due to various reasons. He claimed that his leadership will be hands-on driven with renewed zeal and energy and will make a mark for itself in the annals of the history of CAG.

Agonda Parishioners Mark Our Lady of Fatima Apparition Anniversary with Grand Procession

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Hundreds of faithful from Agonda parish came together to commemorate the anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima with a solemn and vibrant village-wide procession on Sunday. The beautifully decorated statue of Our Lady of Fatima was placed on a motorcade and taken through the village streets, as devotees walked over 10 kilometres reciting the Rosary and singing hymns with deep devotion.



The entire procession route was adorned with festive decorations, with each of the ten Somudais (Small Christian Community Groups) setting up creatively themed arches to welcome Mother Mary. Special prayer halts were made in each locality invoking blessings for the needy, offering prayers for departed souls from the past year, and collecting petitions from parishioners.

Mauvin Godinho launches Buddy Mobility Care at Dabolim, calls it 'first in medical mobility'

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: In a major step towards inclusive transportation, Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho on Monday launched Buddy Mobility Care, an initiative led by entrepreneur Sartaj Lamba aimed at providing specialized mobility solutions for wheelchair users. Speaking at the launch, Godinho lauded Lamba for her pioneering effort in a male-dominated industry, describing the initiative as a breakthrough in Goa's journey towards accessibility and medical



tourism. "Now, a person arriving in a wheelchair at Dabolim Airport can be seamlessly transported to Goa's leading hospitals and clinics with the help of Buddy Mobility systems," he said, adding that the project would also open new employment avenues.

Lamba thanked the transport minister for his

constant support and guidance, stating that her team's mission is to make Goa an inclusive transport hub. She also acknowledged the assistance of Transport Secretary Abhishek Parimal, Transport Commissioner Pawaskar, and Asha for their encouragement.

Buddy Mobility Care

aims to enhance the dignity and quality of life of persons with disabilities by providing accessible, comfortable, and reliable transport options.

With this launch, Dabolim becomes the first location in Goa to introduce a medical mobility system, marking a milestone in inclusive mobility services.

Water, Electricity Woes Plague Colamb, Canacona; Residents Seek Immediate Intervention

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Residents of Colamb, Canacona, are grappling with severe water and electricity supply disruptions, urging local authorities and their MLA to take immediate action. According to locals, water supply has been erratic for the past four days, despite the ongoing monsoon season. "The authorities have failed

to pump water from the main tank in a timely manner," said resident Abhay Dhuri, highlighting the inconvenience faced by households. Electricity supply has also been unstable over the past five days, with frequent power trips affecting daily routines. "We have lodged complaints with the concerned department, but no concrete action has been taken," added Dhuri.

Residents further expressed concerns that the disruptions could negatively impact the nascent tourism business in the area, which is preparing for the upcoming season. They appealed to the local MLA and concerned minister to intervene promptly to restore essential services and implement measures to prevent such recurring issues in the future.

Tawadkar Meets Kala Rakhonn Mandd Delegation Over Kala Academy Concerns

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Minister for Art and Culture, Ramesh Tawadkar, held a meeting with members of the Kala Rakhonn Mandd delegation to deliberate on issues concerning the Kala Academy and related cultural matters.

During the discussion, the delegation apprised the Minister of their concerns regarding the management and accessibility of the Kala Academy's facilities.



Minister Tawadkar clarified that administrative authority over the institution rests with Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant, who also serves as its Chairman.

He further informed the delegation that they should seek an appointment with the

Chief Minister to present their views directly.

Tawadkar reiterated that the State Government remains committed to ensuring that the Kala Academy's resources and infrastructure are effectively utilized for the benefit of Goan artists and the general public.



Goa Hosts HamFest India'25, Showcasing Global Ham Radio Innovation

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa came alive with technological energy as HamFest India 2025 unfolded on October 11-12 at the Goa College of Engineering, Farmagudi Ponda. The event brought together radio enthusiasts, tech innovators, and experts from around the world, celebrating the global ham radio community and its cutting-edge developments. Organized by the Goa Radio Amateur Society (GRAS) in partnership with Goa College of Engineering and supported by the Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (DITE&C), the festival also saw participation from the Royal Omani Amateur Radio Society, AMSAT-India, and the Upagrah Amateur Radio Club. Over 700 delegates attended, representing countries across the globe. The inauguration was attended by Shri Rohan Khaunte, Minister of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications,



Goa; Group Captain and Astronaut Subhanshu Shukla VU2TNI; Shri Nitin Raiker, Director of Fire and Emergency Services, Goa; Dr. M.S. Krupashankara, Principal of Goa Engineering College; and Shri Sandesh Bhat VU2DX, Convenor of HamFest India Goa. Addressing the gathering, Shri Khaunte highlighted the significance of the event being hosted in Goa for the first time. "Known for its rich cultural heritage, vibrant educational ecosystem, and scenic landscapes, Goa provides the perfect backdrop for HamFest India. Over 600 licensed amateur radio operators from India and

abroad are here, making this a global platform for innovation, connectivity, and preparedness. The Government of Goa remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote technical excellence and social responsibility," he said. Over the two-day event, more than 40 technical sessions and eight live demonstrations engaged participants, alongside interactive workshops exploring practical applications of amateur radio. Thirty-seven exhibitors showcased antennas, radios, and related technology, giving attendees hands-on exposure to emerging innovations. Delegates also had the opportunity to meet renowned ham radio operators who shared insights on connecting remote communities and supporting disaster response efforts. For Goa, hosting HamFest India 2025 was a milestone, combining world-class technical sessions, interactive workshops, and the state's coastal charm to create an enriching and memorable experience for all participants.

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India Unveils \$77 Billion Hydro Power Plan To Harness Brahmaputra's Potential

as 85 percent. The basin spans parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, and West

Bengal, together representing more than 80 percent of the country's remaining hydro potential. The CEA's two-phase plan estimates an investment

of Rs 1.91 trillion for the first phase (up to 2035) and Rs 4.52 trillion for the second (2036-2047). Several central public sector enterprises including

NHPC, NEEPCO, and SJVN are expected to play key roles, with some projects already under development.

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Pakistan Misjudged India's Resolve, Operation Sindoor Set the Record Straight: CDS Chauhan

Pakistan thought it could do anything with nuclear capability, but the operation proved it wrong," he said. The CDS stressed that wars are not fought by the armed forces alone, but by the entire nation, where political leaders, diplomats, and citizens each have vital roles to play. He emphasised that while the military ensures the country's security,

nation-building is a shared duty. "The future belongs to India, and together, we can make it stronger and more secure by 2047," he said, referring to the Prime Minister's vision of a developed India. General Chauhan also highlighted the increasing importance of modern technologies such as drones, air defence, and electronic warfare in shaping future conflicts.

Calling the current period Amrit Kaal, he urged students and youth to actively contribute to national progress. Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, addressing the gathering, hailed Operation Sindoor as a symbol of India's courage and unity, crediting teamwork and advanced technology for its success. He added that the Maratha legacy continues to inspire discipline

and dedication toward protecting the nation. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, an alumnus of Scindia School, was conferred the Madhav Award for his contribution to diplomacy. Misri recalled how his school years shaped his leadership and resilience, qualities he carried into his service for the nation.

Electricity Dept Bars Power Connections to Illegal Structures in Goa

authorities." The department clarified that the grant of an Enabling Housing Number (EHN) does not confer any legal status on unauthorized structures and is meant solely for taxation purposes by local bodies. Henceforth, no new electricity connection will be released based on EHN numbers. Citing a

High Court order dated March 6, 2025, the circular emphasized that applicants seeking new connections must produce a valid construction license and technical clearance certificate. All sub-divisional officers have been instructed to strictly comply with the directions with immediate effect.

PM Modi Hails Trump, Netanyahu After Gaza Ceasefire; Welcomes Release Of Israeli Hostages

PM Modi welcomed the Gaza ceasefire, praised Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu, and celebrated the release of 47 Israeli hostages.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday welcomed the release of 47 Israeli hostages following the Gaza ceasefire and commended US President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for their leadership in restoring peace to the region. In a post on X, Modi expressed joy over the return of the last 20 surviving hostages, who had been held by Hamas for over two years and were freed earlier in the day as part of the first phase of Trump's Gaza peace plan. "We welcome



the release of all hostages after over two years of captivity. Their freedom stands as a tribute to the courage of their families, the peace efforts of President Trump, and the strong resolve of Prime Minister Netanyahu. India supports every sincere effort to bring peace and stability to the region," Modi said. The Prime

Minister's remarks came after a major breakthrough in the ceasefire that took effect last Friday, halting two years of intense conflict in Gaza that claimed tens of thousands of lives. Under the agreement, Israel released over 1,900 Palestinian prisoners and opened humanitarian corridors for food and aid supplies

into the war-torn enclave. This is the second time Modi has congratulated Trump over his role in the Gaza peace deal. Earlier, he had spoken with the former US President to commend the success of what he described as a "historic peace plan" and discussed progress in India-US trade relations. Meanwhile, the Sharm el-Sheikh Peace Summit, hosted by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and co-chaired by Trump, is being held today to chart a long-term roadmap for stability in Gaza and the wider Middle East.

New Criminal Laws Mark a Historic Reform, Promise Faster and Fairer Justice: Amit Shah

The exhibition at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC) showcases the shift in India's criminal justice system from a punitive approach to one focused on justice and transparency.

Jaipur: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday hailed the implementation of India's three new criminal laws as a landmark reform and the most transformative change in the nation's justice system in the 21st century. Speaking after inaugurating an exhibition at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC), he said the shift represents a move from a punitive to a justice-centric and transparent framework. Under the previous system, cases often lingered for decades without sentencing, denying victims timely justice. "The new

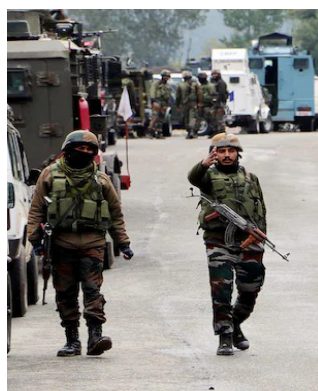


laws will ensure easy, transparent and time-bound justice for all," Shah said, adding that the reforms aim to make the system more accessible and efficient. The new legal framework comprising the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam replaced the colonial-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and Indian Evidence Act on July 1, 2024.

2 Terrorists Killed as Army Foils Infiltration Attempt Along LoC in Kupwara

Two terrorists were killed when the Indian Army foiled an infiltration bid on the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district.

J&K: Indian Army troops successfully foiled an infiltration attempt along the Line of Control (LoC) in Kupwara district, killing two terrorists in a fierce exchange of fire late Monday night. Officials said the operation began after soldiers detected suspicious movement near the LoC. When the infiltrators were challenged, they opened fire, prompting a swift and sustained response from the troops. "Two terrorists have been neutralised in the ongoing operation," an official confirmed, adding that search efforts continue in the area. Security forces have intensified their vigilance along the LoC and the hinterland as winter approaches, a period when terrorist groups attempt to cross over before mountain passes are blocked by heavy snowfall. Intelligence inputs indicate that

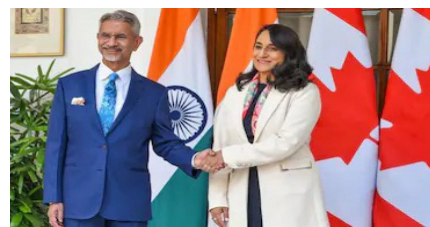


several terrorists are positioned at launch pads in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), waiting to infiltrate before weather conditions deteriorate. The Army, Jammu and Kashmir Police, and other security agencies remain on high alert, conducting coordinated counter-terrorism operations across the Union Territory. Their strategy focuses not only on neutralising infiltrators but also on dismantling the wider terror network by targeting overground workers and local sympathisers.

India, Canada Chart New Roadmap To Rebuild Ties, Boost Cooperation In Trade, Energy, AI, And Climate Action

The two sides agreed to commence ministerial-level discussions on bilateral trade and investment at an early date considering global economic realities and "strategic priorities".

New Delhi: After two years of strained relations, India and Canada have agreed on a comprehensive roadmap to revive bilateral ties, focusing on trade, clean energy, artificial intelligence, agriculture, and climate cooperation. The renewed engagement follows Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand's meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar in New Delhi. The two nations have decided to begin ministerial-level talks on trade and investment soon, taking into account shifting global economic



priorities. Both sides committed to strengthening their partnership based on shared democratic values, mutual respect, and sensitivity to each other's concerns. The joint statement outlined plans to pursue a "constructive and balanced" relationship. India reiterated its concerns over the activities of

pro-Khalistan elements in Canada, while both countries reaffirmed respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. As part of the roadmap, the two sides will resume high-level discussions on trade and investment and reactivate the Canada-India CEO Forum to enhance collaboration in clean technology, infrastructure, digital innovation, and agri-food sectors. A ministerial energy dialogue will be re-established to promote trade in LNG and LPG, develop clean fuels, and advance emission reduction technologies.

India Hits Back At Pakistan At UN, Defends 'Operation Sindoor' As Legitimate Counter-Terror Response

Dubey said that during Operation Sindoor, India carried out well-thought-out strikes on nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and killed several terrorists.

New Delhi: India launched a strong rebuttal against Pakistan at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), accusing Islamabad of grave human rights violations, cross-border terrorism, and the killing of children through military actions. Addressing the session, BJP MP Nishikant Dubey said Pakistan remains one of the

worst violators of the UN's Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) agenda, citing the UN Secretary-General's 2025 report that details Pakistan's role in the killing and maiming of Afghan children due to cross-border shelling and airstrikes. Dubey, who was part of the Indian parliamentary delegation led by MP PP Chaudhary, said Pakistan's



military operations and support for terrorism have repeatedly endangered civilian lives across borders. "Pakistan's actions, including attacks on schools, health workers, and border villages, have resulted in countless

deaths of innocent civilians and children," he said, calling Islamabad's attempts to lecture the world on child rights "deeply hypocritical." Referring to the April 22 terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, which killed 26 civilians, Dubey reminded the Assembly that Pakistan-trained terrorists were responsible for the carnage.

India Equals World Record with 2-0 Test Series Sweep Over West Indies

India matched a 'world record' in Test cricket with a 2-0 series sweep against West Indies.

New Delhi: India achieved a historic milestone in Test cricket by equalling the world record for the most consecutive series wins against a single opponent. With their last defeat to the West Indies coming in 2002, Shubman Gill's team has now won ten consecutive series against the Caribbean side, matching South Africa's record of ten straight series wins against the same opponents from 1997 to 2024. This landmark was sealed after India secured a seven-wicket victory over Roston Chase's team in the second Test at Delhi's Feroz Shah Kotla on Tuesday. The series marked Shubman Gill's first home assignment as India's Test captain and his maiden series victory



in the longest format, following a 2-2 draw in England earlier this year. The win underscores India's dominance at home while highlighting Gill's growing stature as a leader.

The achievement places India alongside other notable records, including South Africa's ten consecutive wins against the West Indies, Australia's nine wins against the West Indies, and eight consecutive series wins for both

Australia vs England and Sri Lanka vs Zimbabwe. The second Test extended into the fifth morning, largely due to resilient centuries from John Campbell (115) and Shai Hope (103) and a determined tenth-wicket partnership.

Across both matches, India's bowlers claimed all 40 opposition wickets, blending pacer aggression with spinner patience on slow, low tracks. In the final innings, India comfortably chased a

modest target of 121 in 35.2 overs. KL Rahul remained unbeaten on 58 off 108 balls, hitting six boundaries and two sixes, while Dhruv Jurel was not out on six. Rahul also shared a crucial 79-run second-wicket partnership with Sai Sudharsan, who contributed 39 runs. Across the two Tests, Indian batters excelled with five centuries and a near-90 in the top six, while the bowlers maintained consistent pressure to ensure a comprehensive series victory. The triumph not only reinforces India's home supremacy but also marks a significant milestone in Shubman Gill's captaincy journey, setting a strong tone for the team's future in the longest format.



AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers: India Face Singapore in Crucial Clash

New Delhi: The Indian men's national football team will return to Goa for the first time since 2017 to host Singapore in a decisive AFC Asian Cup qualifying match at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Tuesday.

In their previous encounter in Singapore, the Blue Tigers displayed resilience despite being reduced to ten men, earning a late equaliser from Rahim Ali to secure a 1-1 draw.

However, India remains winless in the

qualifiers, sitting third in Group C with two points from three matches, trailing Hong Kong and Singapore.

With qualification hopes hanging by a thread, India must win all three of their remaining fixtures and rely on favourable results from other matches to advance to the next stage of the tournament.

Coach Khalid Jamil will be looking for a strong performance at home to keep India's Asian Cup ambitions alive.

Gambhir Clarifies Rohit-Kohli ODI Future, Defends Harshit Rana Amid Criticism

New Delhi: After India's 2-0 series sweep over the West Indies in the two-Test series, head coach Gautam Gambhir addressed questions about the ODI futures of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli. While the press conference primarily focused on India's performance in the Test series, Gambhir was asked whether the senior stars remain in the team's long-term plans for the 2027 ODI World Cup. Echoing BCCI chief selector Ajit Agarkar, Gambhir stressed that the World Cup is still over two years away, and the focus should remain on the upcoming Australia tour. "ODI World Cup is two and a half years away. It is important to stay in



the present. They are both quality players. Hopefully, those two will have a successful tour," he said. Currently, ODI cricket is the only format both Rohit and Kohli play, and their fitness and form will determine if they are part of India's long-term plans. Rohit, recently replaced by Shubman Gill as ODI captain, will be 40, and Kohli 38, by the time the World Cup arrives. Gambhir also responded

to criticism from former India captain Kris Srikkanth, who had alleged that pace bowler Harshit Rana was included in the ODI squad for Australia because of his relationship with Gambhir. "It is so unfair to target a 23-year-old kid for the sake of your YouTube channel. Whatever cricket he has played, he has done on his own, and he will continue to do so," Gambhir said.

Salesian Panjim Province Claims Runner-Up Spot at Inaugural U17 National Basketball Tournament

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Salesian Province of Panjim (INP), Konkan, made a remarkable impression on the national stage by finishing as runners-up at the first U17 All India Inter-Province Don Bosco Basketball Tournament, hosted by Don Bosco School of Excellence in Hyderabad. The tournament brought together teams from Don Bosco Provinces across India, including Bangalore, Trichy, Telangana, Goa, Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad, Shillong, and Guwahati, reflecting the growing sporting talent within the Salesian network. Panjim Province stunned fans with a series of commanding performances. They opened their campaign by defeating Mumbai [INB] 42-19,



followed by an impressive 67-48 win over hosts Telangana [INH], topping Pool A and advancing to the semifinals. In a high-stakes semifinal clash against the strong Chennai [INM] team, Panjim showcased resilience and skill, clinching a 37-29 victory to secure their place in the final. The championship match saw Panjim face a formidable Shillong side. Despite a determined effort and moments of brilliance, the Panjim team narrowly lost 33-41, earning a well-deserved runner-up finish. The squad featured standout players from across Goa, many

of whom had represented the state at the Junior Nationals, including David Xavier, Aaron Ponraj, Sean Fernandes, Jude Fernandes, Joshua Pillai, Darren Noronha, Alfez Pandial, Avner Mendonca, Kayden Mendes, Kevin De Souza, Jairam Agni, and Conrad Gomes. The team's success was guided by Fr. Ralin De Souza (SYM Delegate - Assistant Coach), head coach Royston Costa, and Br. James Marcus (INP Sports Coordinator), whose leadership and mentorship were pivotal in shaping the team's exceptional performance.

Goa University to Conduct Women's Football Team Trials for Inter-University & Khelo India Games

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa University will hold selection trials for its Women's Football team ahead of the Inter University

Football Championship 2025-26 and the Khelo India University Games 2024-25. The trials are scheduled for 17th October 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at the Sports Section

of Goa University. Students interested in participating are requested to report by 2:30 p.m. at the venue and must carry their college identity card, Aadhaar card,

birth certificate, and playing kit. Colleges are asked to inform the Sports Section via email at sports@unigoa.ac.in if any of their players are unavailable

for the trials, providing a valid reason. Such cases will be considered during the selection process. This initiative offers student-athletes an opportunity to

represent Goa University at prestigious national-level competitions, encouraging talent development and sports participation among women.