



Congress releases first ZP list as alliance talks stall

■ Party names 11 candidates; discussions with GFP and RGP remain unresolved

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Congress today finalised its first set of 11 candidates for the December 20 Zilla Panchayat (ZP) elections, even as its efforts to form a pre-poll alliance faced internal disagreements, leaving talks with the Goa Forward Party (GFP) and Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP) inconclusive. The Pradesh Election Committee (PEC), which met in Panaji late Monday evening, could not reach a consensus on whether the party should formally join hands with the two regional outfits. A senior PEC member confirmed the split in

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PRESS RELEASE

The below names have been finalised for the ensuing Zilla Panchayat elections in the State of Goa.

North Goa Zilla Panchayat		
No. and Name of Constituency	Name of Candidate	Reservation
10 - Calangute	Smt. Carmelina Angela Fernandes	Women
11 - Socorro	Shri. Sahil Mandrekar	General
12 - Reis Magos	Smt. Sonal Malvankar	Women
15 - Taleigao	Shri. Viju Diukar	ST
16 - Chembel	Adv. Shejal Kalangurkar	Women
22 - Pale	Shri. Bhanudas Datta Sonnak	OBC
24 - Quetim	Shri. Ayush Sitaram Kerkar	SC

South Goa Zilla Panchayat		
No. and Name of Constituency	Name of Candidate	Reservation
01 - Usgao - Ganje	Smt. Manisha Usgaonkar	Women
11 - Velim	Shri. Julio Fernandes	General
15 - Curtorim	Shri. Alexinho Da Silva	OBC
17 - Sanvordem	Shri. Rajendra Shirodkar	ST

The list for balance Constituencies will follow.

Anil Patkar
President
Goa Pradesh Congress Committee

opinion, noting there was “no unanimity” on forming an alliance ahead of the polls. GPCC president Amit Patkar said the Congress would proceed in constituencies where there is no friction with potential partners. “We are releasing our first list in seats where there is no dispute. Discussions continue over certain constituencies that are Congress strongholds,” he said. Meanwhile, rival parties continue to expand their footprint. The BJP and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) have already declared multiple candidates across the State. Nominations opened on Monday, though **CONTD TO PAGE 06...**

Congress Has Cheated Us: RGP Chief Manoj

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP) president Manoj Parab on Tuesday accused the Congress of “cheating” the party after alliance discussions between the two sides reportedly collapsed. Speaking to the media, Parab said the RGP had been waiting for the Congress to finalise the alliance framework, but the process was dragged on without clarity. “The Congress has cheated us. We were waiting for the alliance to happen, but they kept delaying and misleading us,” Parab alleged. He said the RGP Central Election



Committee will meet later today to discuss the developments and decide the party’s next course of action for the upcoming elections. Parab also hinted that the party is prepared to contest independently if required, asserting that the RGP will not compromise on principles for political convenience.

HJS Seeks Legal Action Against Actor Ranveer Singh for Alleged Insult to Goddess Chamundidevi

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Hindu Janajagruti Samiti (HJS) has demanded legal action against Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh for allegedly insulting the revered deity Chamundi Daiv of the Kotitulu community during the closing ceremony of the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) held in Goa. According to



the complaint submitted by HJS to the Inspector of Panaji Police Station on December 1, Ranveer Singh mimicked the divine avatar depicted in the Kannada film Kantara – Chapter 1 onstage and referred to the sacred Chamundi

Daiv as a “female ghost.” The Committee stated that this act amounted to disrespect toward the deity and had hurt the religious sentiments of Hindus. The memorandum was handed over to PSI Sahin Shetye by HJS representatives Pramod Tuyekar and Dilip Shetye. In its submission, HJS said the Chamundi deity is the revered family goddess of the Tulu **CONTD TO PAGE 06...**

Ranveer Singh issues apology after IFFI Controversy

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh has issued a public apology after facing criticism for imitating a divine form depicted in the Kannada film Kantara – Chapter 1 during the closing ceremony of the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa. In a statement posted on social media, Singh clarified that his intention was solely to appreciate the performance of actor

Rishab, whose portrayal in the film he described as “incredible.” He said that, as an actor, he understood the effort required to deliver such an intense scene and wished only to acknowledge that. Singh added that he has always respected all cultures, traditions and beliefs, emphasising that he did not mean to offend anyone. “If I’ve hurt anyone’s sentiments, I sincerely apologise,” he wrote.

‘World Leaders Listen When PM Modi Speaks as India’s Influence Grows,’ Says Bhagwat

■ RSS chief calls for renewed commitment to unity as organisation marks its centenary

New Delhi: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat said India’s rising global influence has become increasingly evident, adding that world leaders now listen closely when Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks because

the country’s strength is gaining international recognition. He made the remarks in Pune during an event commemorating 100 years of the organisation. Bhagwat said such milestones should not be the focus and urged



introspection on why the organisation’s larger **CONTD TO PAGE 06...**

Indian Relief Efforts Earn Deep Appreciation Amid Sri Lanka’s Devastating Cyclone Crisis

■ Colombo Residents Praise Timely Assistance as Operation Sagar Bandhu Intensifies Support

New Delhi: Sri Lanka is grappling with one of its most severe natural disasters in recent decades after Cyclone Ditwah unleashed torrential rain, widespread flooding and deadly



landslides across multiple districts. The scale of destruction has left more

than 400 people dead or missing, overwhelming local response capacities and triggering urgent appeals for support. Amid this crisis, India has emerged as a major **CONTD TO PAGE 06...**

Goa's Voter Roll Cleanup Needs Firm Scrutiny and Public Trust

Goa's ongoing overhaul of its electoral rolls has drawn unusually sharp attention for an administrative exercise that usually unfolds quietly. Yet the stakes are clear. With nearly ninety thousand voter entries flagged as absent, shifted, deceased or duplicated during the Special Intensive Revision, the state is confronting a long overdue reality check. The numbers are striking, and when placed in the context of Goa's tight electoral margins and lingering concerns about bogus voting, they take on deeper meaning. The revision began in early November and has involved a sweeping verification effort that required booth level officers to visit more than eleven lakh registered voters. Officials say they collected and digitised more than ninety six percent of the forms. This strong response rate suggests the exercise has been more participatory than many expected. Still, the headline figure of ninety thousand names likely to be dropped from the draft rolls is bound to raise questions.

Some will see room for political manipulation. Others will welcome it as necessary correction. Both reactions reflect genuine concerns. Clean and reliable rolls are central to any democracy. An inflated list erodes public trust and creates opportunities for malpractice. At the same time, removing names without careful verification can disenfranchise legitimate voters, including the elderly, migrants and tenants who are often hardest to trace. The CEO has said that deletions were proposed only after multiple failed attempts to contact individuals or after confirmation of death or ineligibility. That assurance matters, but it must be backed by transparency. Publishing the list and allowing objections through Form 6 is essential. More complex is the question surrounding the two point two lakh voters whose names or family lineage cannot be traced back to the 2002 rolls. They will appear provisionally in the draft

"More complex is the question surrounding the two point two lakh voters whose names or family lineage cannot be traced back to the 2002 rolls. They will appear provisionally in the draft but will need to submit proof of citizenship. Goa's history of migration, layered identities and cross border ties makes this a sensitive exercise. Many families, especially in rural or coastal areas, may not have complete documentation.

The intention to verify citizenship is valid, but officials must ensure that the process does not become arbitrary or burdensome. The strength of the Election Commission's credibility depends on measured handling of this phase. The identification of nearly eighteen hundred duplicate registrations is another reminder of how voter lists can drift from accuracy. Duplicate voting is a criminal offence and deserves firm enforcement."

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The identification of nearly eighteen hundred duplicate registrations is another reminder of how voter lists can drift from accuracy. Duplicate

voting is a criminal offence and deserves firm enforcement. Yet duplication sometimes stems from routine mobility. Students, seasonal workers and those who maintain more than one residence may leave unintentional traces across constituencies. Enforcement should be fair and proportionate, and complemented by better communication on timely updates.

The issue of voters with possible foreign citizenship, including those who have obtained Portuguese passports, adds another layer of sensitivity. The law is clear that foreign citizenship ends Indian citizenship. The system's reliance on self declaration makes it difficult to ensure full compliance. If misrepresentation goes unchecked, the rolls remain compromised. If enforcement becomes aggressive, it risks creating anxiety among communities that have long lived with complex citizenship histories. The state must approach this with consistency and clarity.

Despite the magnitude of the revisions, the process has not yet sparked major controversy. Civil society groups have asked for greater transparency, but political parties have been restrained. That is encouraging in a state where elections are often decided by slim margins. The current revision will not affect the Zilla Panchayat polls later this month, which gives the administration time before the final list is published next year. This is the most ambitious voter roll audit Goa has undertaken in more than twenty years. It presents an opportunity to strengthen public trust in the electoral process, but only if authorities remain open and responsive. Citizens should review the draft rolls when they are published and raise objections where needed. A clean and credible roll is not just an administrative task. It is a collective safeguard for the fairness of every election the state will face in the years ahead.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Goa's Quiet Revolution: From EDM Drops to Tukaram's Abhang

By Vaman S Sankhalkar

Something remarkable is unfolding in Goa, and it is not the thumping noise of the beach festivals that once defined our New Year's seasons. It is happening in packed auditoriums and open halls where young Goans, many still in college sweatshirts, raise their hands and sing "Chal ga Sakhe Pandharila" as if the path to Pandharpur begins in their own backyard. The shift began on the night of 31 December 2024. While most of the state chased parties and electronic beats, Sanquelim's open air Ravindra Bhavan turned into a sanctuary of classical music and abhangas. The programme, organised by Sulakshana Sawant and her Padmini Foundation, was free. Yet the twelve hundred seats could not contain the crowds. People stood on the aisles, sat on the floor and gathered on the grass outside, recording every abhang not for social media but for their playlists. That night quietly signalled what was to come. A month later, the Padmini Foundation brought Mumbai's Abhanga Repost to Goa. Again the entry was free. Again the response was overwhelming. I was there among elders who grew up listening to Pt Jitendra Abhisheki and Ajit Kadkade, singing beside teenagers in sneakers. When the Pasaydaan began, the entire ground swayed like a single wari. It felt less like a concert and more like a shared rediscovery. Two paid concerts followed in Ponda and Mapusa. Both sold out faster than major EDM events in recent years. The same youth who once chased Sunburn tickets now refreshed booking sites for abhang nights. This is more than a passing trend. It feels like a cultural reclamation taking shape in real time. For years, the social life of many young Goans revolved around imported beats and borrowed identities. Sunburn became a modern pilgrimage.

Many sensed the hollowness but had no alternative. These concerts changed that. They opened a doorway to a different kind of high, one rooted in music that speaks to history, devotion and belonging. Prime Minister Modi's call for civilisational confidence seems to have found an echo here. A twenty year old in Sanquelim who once chased wristbands now finds himself moved by Tukaram's words set to a fresh rhythm. The youth are not being pulled toward tradition. They are running toward it. Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has encouraged this revival through heritage restoration. The renewed Saptakoteshwar Temple at Narve, the ongoing work on ancient shrines and the vision for the Harvalem Rudreshwar Temple all suggest that the administration recognises this cultural shift. Goa has never lacked heritage. From the twelfth century Mahadev Tambdi Surla and the rock cut caves of Rivona and Arvalem to the living traditions of Sant Sohrobanath and the enduring bhajan mandlis, the roots were always present. What we needed were reminders, and they arrived through harmoniums, pakhawajs and the voices of young Goans who refuse to let the saints be forgotten. Today parents sit beside their children at these concerts and sing Tukaram's abhangs with the same enthusiasm. This is the Goa I want for my young nephew and for the generation that follows. A Goa that can celebrate with joy but also bow with reverence. A Goa that no longer needs to borrow its identity because it has begun to embrace its own melody again. The bass drops were loud, but the call of the abhangas has proved deeper. And the youth of Goa are finally dancing, singing and praying to their own timeless rhythm.

Jai Shri Ram. Jai Hari Vitthal. Jai Goa.

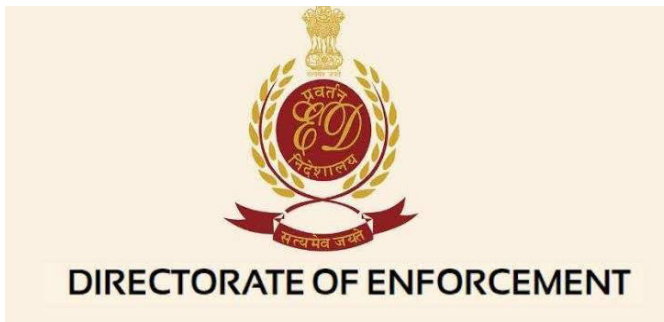
(Writer is a faculty member at a Polytechnic school in Goa and Vice President of Yuva Panaji)

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ED Attaches Rs.1,268 Crore Worth of Prime Goa Land in Massive PMLA Case

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached 19 immovable properties measuring over 5 lakh sq. m in premium locations such as Anjuna, Assagao and Ucassaim, valued at approximately ₹1,268.63 crore, in a major money-laundering action carried out under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002. The attachments were made on November 27. According to the ED's Panaji Zonal Office, the



properties were allegedly acquired illegally by a group led by Shivshankar Mayekar using forged and fabricated land documents, including fake Aforamento Certificates, allotment records, demarcation certificates, historical sale deeds, and

other falsified ownership papers.

This development follows earlier search operations on September 9 and October 10, during which the agency had seized and frozen assets and bank accounts worth ₹12.85 crore.

'Goans Will Benefit First': CM on Mining Sector Revival

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Signalling a major turning point for Goa's long-stalled mining sector, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant handed appointment letters to newly hired employees of the Fomento Group, declaring the industry's long-awaited comeback after more than a decade of inactivity. At the ceremony held at the International Centre in Dona Paula — attended by Speaker Ganesh Gaonkar, Fomento Group Chairman Auduth Timblo, former MP Vinay Tendulkar and others — Sawant positioned the event as more than a



routine recruitment drive. He framed it as evidence that Goa's mining economy is finally "back on track" with the reopening of the Kalay Iron Ore Mine and the Cudegal Processing Plant after nearly 12 years. Calling the revival a "confidence booster" for the State's economy, Sawant said the return of mining will not only revive thousands of livelihoods but also

restore financial stability in mining-dependent regions. He stressed that the government has deliberately moved away from past practices by enforcing transparency, accountability and legality through systems like e-auctions and dump auctions. Sawant lauded the Fomento Group for prioritising Goans in their hiring, describing it as a crucial step toward ensuring that the economic benefits of mining flow directly to local families. He encouraged the new employees to see themselves as part of a sector that is key to Goa's long-term economic sustainability.

Court Drops Culpable Homicide Charge in Old Mandovi Bridge Accident Case

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: In a significant legal relief for 23-year-old Ankit Tripathy, an Odisha native accused in last year's fatal Old Mandovi Bridge accident, the North Goa Additional Sessions Court has ruled that the charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder cannot be sustained. The



court observed that the material placed on record did not justify framing the more serious offence and ordered that the case be transferred to the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) for trial on lesser charges. Tripathy will now

face proceedings for rash and negligent driving, endangering human life, and causing death by negligence. The Judge also directed that action under Section 185 of the Motor Vehicles Act which deals with driving under the influence of alcohol should continue. Tripathy has been instructed to appear before the JMFC on December 17.

Scrapyard Fire: Sancoale Panchayat Issues Showcause Notices After Multiple Incidents

Team Goemkarponn

SANCOALE: The Sancoale Panchayat has tightened its stance on scrapyards operating within its jurisdiction following two major fire incidents reported in recent months. Sarpanch Anusha Yadav confirmed that showcause



notices have been issued to all scrapyards in the area, along with on-site inspections to assess compliance. Yadav said the Panchayat will not permit any illegal scrapyard activity, emphasizing that the recent fires highlight the risks posed by unregulated operations.

CM Sawant Kicks Off BJP's ZP Campaign in Pale

Team Goemkarponn

PALE: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant launched the BJP's campaign for the upcoming Zilla Panchayat elections in Pale by offering prayers at Shri Laxminarayan Devasthan, Naveli-Sakhali, on Tuesday. The CM was joined by party karyakartas as the BJP formally rallied behind its ZP candidate, Shri Sundar Naik. Sawant said the campaign beginning with divine blessings symbolised the party's commitment to development-driven governance. "I am confident that the people of Pale and North Goa will once again bless the BJP with a decisive mandate in the Zilla Panchayat

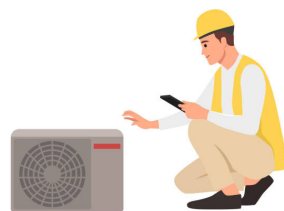


elections, strengthening our Triple Engine Sarkar and accelerating all-round development for Viksit Goa, Viksit Bharat," he said. The BJP is banking on its "Triple Engine" narrative—Centre, State, and Local Body under BJP rule—to appeal to voters and reinforce its development agenda. The Chief Minister asserted that Pale has consistently supported the party and will continue to play a key role in advancing Goa's growth under BJP leadership.

2 Fake AC Technicians Arrested in Margao for Cheating Homeowners Across Goa

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: Margao Police have arrested two men from Uttar Pradesh who were allegedly operating a statewide cheating racket by impersonating air-conditioner technicians and duping residents



during "servicing" visits. Investigators say the pair would visit homes under the pretext of routine AC maintenance and intentionally release the coolant gas. After completing a basic cleaning — for which they charged ₹650 — the

suspects would claim the AC required an urgent gas refill and demand around ₹3,500 from customers. During interrogation, both accused reportedly confessed to using the same method to deceive more than a dozen households across Goa.

Goa Forward Party expels Frank Viegas over violation of party discipline

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Forward Party (GFP) has expelled State Executive Member Frank Viegas from the party's primary membership for violating party discipline.

According to the party, a detailed review by GFP leadership found that Viegas engaged in actions inconsistent with the party's principles and organizational discipline, undermining unity within the party. The decision

was announced by Mohandas Loliencar, General Secretary of the Goa Forward Party, emphasizing that the move was taken in the interest of maintaining cohesion and upholding the party's core values in Goa.



Mormugao council debates fish market shift, Dy Collector office relocation & crematorium upgrade

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: The Mormugao Municipal Council (MMC) convened a council meeting to take up a series of pending civic issues, including the inauguration of the new Vasco fish market, relocation of vendors, the return of government offices to the renovated municipal building, and the planned upgrade of the Hindu crematorium at Kharewado. MMC Chairperson Girish Borker, speaking to reporters after the meeting, said the long-awaited Vasco fish market was ready for inauguration and the process of shifting vendors from the temporary shed would now begin. "The fish market is ready, but we



must issue a notice to the vendors to vacate the temporary shed because we are paying rent for that space to the Revenue Department," he said. Borker added that the council was finalising arrangements to bring the Dy Collector and Mamlatdar offices back into the MMC building. "We are planning to bring back the Dy Collector and Mamlatdar offices,

but they have to clear previous rent dues of around ₹41 lakh. The Revenue Department has already deducted ₹15 lakh as rent for the temporary shed being used to house the fish vendors, and they are now willing to pay the remaining ₹26 lakh. The offices have agreed to settle the dues before shifting back, and they are currently installing AC units and electrical fittings

as per their requirements," he said. The council also deliberated on the seating plan and relocation process for the fish vendors once the market opens. "We discussed how to shift the vendors and finalise their seating arrangements. The Dy Collector has already asked us to vacate the present space as they may construct a building there. The sewage issue at the new market has been resolved, and now we will ask vendors to mutually decide their seating. If they cannot, we can opt for a lot system to avoid disputes about front and back rows," Borker explained. He added, "We don't want fights among vendors over placement.

FDA Intensifies Crackdown in Arambol

5 Establishments Penalised for Violations

Team Goemkarponn

ARAMBOL: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has intensified its surveillance in Arambol, Pernem, reiterating its "zero-tolerance" stand against unlicensed and unhygienic food operations. During a verification drive, officials revisited units previously instructed to halt operations and discovered that several had resumed business in violation of the earlier directives. Out of the eight premises inspected, five were compounded for non-compliance, with penalties ranging between ₹5,000 and ₹20,000. The total amount collected in fines stood at ₹85,000, officials said. Health Minister



Vishwajit Rane reaffirmed the government's firm stance on food safety, stating, "Our commitment to ensuring safe and hygienic food for every Goan remains unwavering. Strict action will continue against any establishment that violates food safety norms. Public health is our priority, and we will not allow unlicensed or unhygienic operations to endanger consumers."

Art Is Not a License to Insult": Dr. Abhijit B. Patil Slams Ranveer Singh

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goan filmmaker, legal historian and public advocate Dr Abhijit B. Patil has issued a strong condemnation of Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh over his controversial remarks referencing Chamunda Devi during the closing ceremony of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa. Dr Patil accused the actor of insulting a revered deity and hurting the sentiments of the Hindu community, saying Singh's conduct on stage was unacceptable. "Art is not a license to insult. Stardom is not immunity from accountability. We will not tolerate the mockery of our deities. We stand for Dharma. We stand for Devi," he said. Calling the incident a betrayal of cultural values, Dr Patil said Singh, despite being born into a Hindu family, had shown a lack of reverence for the faith. He described Goa as his holy place of birth and emphasised that the issue went beyond cinema, touching the core of cultural and spiritual respect. He demanded a



public apology from the actor, stressing that it was a moral obligation owed to millions of devotees whose beliefs had been offended. Dr Patil also highlighted the significance of Chamunda Devi and Shantadurga in Goan tradition, explaining that both are manifestations of Goddess Durga—Chamunda as the destroyer of adharma and Shantadurga as the restorer of dharma. He said the two forms are complementary aspects of divine feminine energy and must be treated with utmost respect. Concluding his statement, Dr Patil said faith cannot be used as a prop for performance and urged public figures to uphold cultural sanctity, especially on national platforms.

Former MLA Naresh Sawal Announces Meghshyam Raut as IND Candidate for Latambarse ZP Election

Team Goemkarponn

BICHOLIM: Former MLA of Sanquelim, Naresh Sawal, announced the candidature of Meghshyam Raut as an independent candidate for the upcoming Latambarse Zilla Panchayat election, positioning him against the BJP. Sawal, addressing a press conference in the presence of his



workers and supporters, said that Raut enjoys "strong support from all five panchayats" in the constituency and will contest independently with

the backing of their group. Speculation over Raut's political move had intensified last week after reports emerged that the Congress leader had quit

the party and was likely to contest the 2025 Zilla Panchayat elections. Today's announcement by Sawal has now confirmed Raut's independent candidature. Sawal emphasised that the group is united and committed to backing Raut in the upcoming polls, signalling a direct challenge to the BJP in the Latambarse ZP segment.

Mamlatdar Intervenes at Baga STP; Issue Resolved, Arpora Sewage Tankers Allowed Entry

Team Goemkarponn

BAGA/ARPORA: Tensions at the 5.6 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant in Baga finally eased after timely intervention by North Goa Mamlatdar Anant Mallik, who visited the site on the request of Calangute PI Paresh Naik. The Arpora-Nagoa Sarpanch Roshan Redkar, along with irate villagers, had gathered at the plant in protest



after sewage tankers from their village were denied entry for over two months. Locals insisted on meeting the Managing Director, Rajesh Kumar Khanna, but were instead

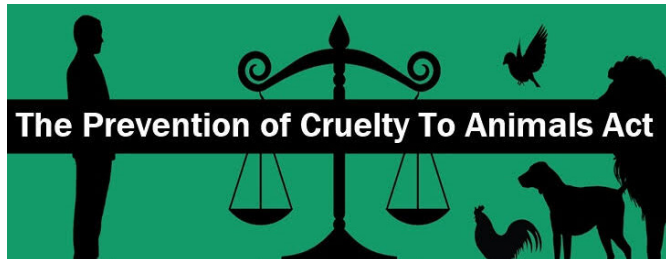
asked to speak to the Mamlatdar by the police team present at the site. Sarpanch Redkar stated that just four days ago, residents were assured by SIDCGL that the sewage

disposal issue would be resolved, making the sudden refusal a shock for the village. After assessing the situation and holding discussions with all parties, Mamlatdar Mallik addressed the concerns of the villagers and successfully resolved the matter. Following his intervention, the sewage tankers from Arpora-Nagoa were finally allowed to discharge at the Baga STP as usual.

Cows Illegally Transported in Pickup; Ponda Police Register Cruelty Case

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: The Ponda Police have registered a case of animal cruelty after a complaint was filed by Raj Pratik of the District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (South Goa), attached to the Office of the Collector, South Goa. According to the complaint, on December 1, at TNK, Bethoda, two



cows and a calf were found being transported in a Mahindra Bolero pickup in conditions that violated animal welfare norms. The unidentified owner of

the cattle and the driver of the vehicle have been accused of transporting the animals without proper care, food, adequate space, ventilation, or

safety measures. Officials also noted that the ear tags of the animals had been removed, indicating suspected maiming for the purpose of slaughter. The transportation was reportedly undertaken without mandatory permission from the authorities, thereby constituting violations under relevant animal cruelty and transport laws.

24-Year-Old Man Found Dead Near Porvorim Fire Station

Team Goemkarponn

PORVORIM: Police have registered an Unnatural Death case (UD No. 51/2025) under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) after a 24-year-old man was found dead near the Fire Station at Porvorim. At around 8:50 am, Porvorim Police received a PCR call reporting that a person was lying motionless near the Fire Station. A team rushed to the spot and found an



unknown male lying dead in the compound of Parasi The Goa Building, Alto Porvorim. During enquiries in the surrounding area, the deceased was identified by Khokan Hemran as his brother, Swapan Hemran, son of Purma Hemran, originally from West Bengal. Police said no signs of homicidal injury were found at the scene.

Dissidence Brews in Canacona BJP as Core Worker Threatens Independent ZP Bid

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: A fresh bout of discontent has surfaced in the Canacona BJP unit, with long-time party worker and former Poinguinim Deputy Sarpanch Vipin Prabhugaonkar warning that he will contest the upcoming Poinguinim Zilla Panchayat election as an independent if denied a party ticket. Addressing a hurriedly called press conference on Monday, Prabhugaonkar said he has been a "hardcore BJP

karyakarta" for over 24 years and has consistently worked for party-backed candidates, including former MLA Vijay Pai Khot and current MLA and minister Ramesh Tawadkar. Stating that his family has held elected positions in Poinguinim Panchayat for over two decades, Prabhugaonkar said he had formally conveyed his desire for a ZP ticket to Tawadkar and



other party leaders. "I am confident I will get the BJP ticket. But if the party refuses, I will certainly contest as an independent," he declared.

He said he has spent the past eight months meeting voters across the four panchayats—Poinguinim, Gaondongrim, Khotigao and Loliem-Polem—that fall under the Poinguinim ZP seat, and claimed to be receiving strong support.

Rash Driving Claims Life of 55-Year-Old in Rumdawada

Team Goemkarponn

RUMDAWADA: A fatal accident was reported on Saturday evening near the motor vehicle washing centre beside Shirodkar building at Rumdawada, Mormugao. Police have registered an offence based on a complaint filed by Head Constable Hirilual Naik of Mormugao Police Station. According to the inquiry, the accused, Srikrishna Bandekar (20), a resident of Baina, allegedly drove his Hyundai i10 sports car (GA 06 E 5006) in a rash



and negligent manner while travelling from Sada to Vasco. Upon reaching Rumdawada around 3:10 pm, the vehicle reportedly rammed into an Activa scooter (GA 06 H 8654) that was halted on the roadside. The scooter rider, Mallinath Goudar (55), a resident of MPT Colony, Headland Sada, sustained severe injuries

in the impact. He was rushed to SDH Chicalim but succumbed to his injuries on the way. Mormugao Police have registered an offence under Sections 281 and 106(1) of the BNS. Further investigation is underway under PSI Suraj T. Naik under the supervision of PI Sheriff Jacques and guidance of Mormugao

38-Year-Old Man Dies After Fall From First-Floor Balcony in Parra

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: A 38-year-old man from Parra, Bardez, died after reportedly falling from the first-floor balcony of a house at Bhatiwada, Parra. The District Hospital, Mapusa, informed the police at 1:12 pm that Shivanand Jana, originally from Odisha and residing in Parra, was



brought dead to the casualty ward following the incident. Mapusa Police have registered an Unnatural Death (UD) case No. 78/2025 under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) 2023. Further investigation is underway to ascertain the circumstances leading to the fall.

Benaulim Social Worker Seeks Urgent Pump Installation at Seraulim Underpass

Team Goemkarponn

BENAULIM: Social worker Warren Alemao has called on the Public Works Department (PWD) to urgently install a submersible pump at the Seraulim underpass, citing repeated flooding that has hindered movement in the area. In a written

appeal to the PWD Minister, Alemao said residents have long faced waterlogging problems, especially during the monsoon when the underpass often becomes unusable. An inspection conducted with locals last week reportedly confirmed that both commuters and pedestrians are



inconvenienced every time the stretch floods. Alemao met the Minister on Tuesday to press for immediate action, stressing that a pump would help maintain proper drainage and prevent recurring blockages. With Christmas approaching and public movement expected to

increase, he said the issue needs prompt attention. Calling it a matter of safety and daily convenience for Seraulim residents, Alemao said he will continue to pursue the matter until a solution is implemented.

16 Persons, Including 5 Foreigners, Rescued From Drowning by Drishti Marine Lifesavers Over Weekend

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Sixteen people — including five foreign nationals — were rescued from drowning at various beaches and at Dudhsagar waterfalls over the weekend by Drishti Marine lifesavers. During the same period, lifesavers also traced a missing child and administered first aid in two separate cases, including treating a jellyfish sting. At Mandrem beach, a Russian couple, aged 41 and 38, was pulled nearly 100 metres out by a rip current before lifesavers Karan Tandel (on a rescue board) and Dattaguru Korgankar (on a jet ski) brought them ashore. In another incident on the same beach, a 38-year-old man from Uttar Pradesh was rescued by Suraj Kelushkar using a rescue board. At Morjim, a 37-year-old tourist from the UK was dragged 60 metres offshore by a rip current. Lifesavers Nutan Mote and Vikram Talakar carried out the rescue



using a board and jet ski. At Baga beach, lifesavers Sudhar Singh and Sujan Nagvekar assisted a 23-year-old tourist from Maharashtra who struggled to return to the shore. At Candolim, 19-year-old tourist from Telangana was unable to swim back to safety and was rescued by Krishna Shiddekar with a rescue tube. At Bogmalo, an 11-year-old girl from Baga suffered a jellyfish sting. Lifesavers provided immediate first aid before handing her over to the 108 ambulance service. At Velsao, a 54-year-old woman from Zuarinagar who fell in shallow water and had difficulty breathing was stabilised by lifesavers,

who cleared her airway and provided oxygen support. At Betalbatim, two Russian women aged 72 and 63 were caught in a rip current. Unable to understand warnings due to a language barrier, they were rescued by lifesavers Mayur Lahane and Suraj Girap. At Benaulim, a 29-year-old man from Hyderabad was pulled offshore by strong waves before lifesaver Miraj, supported by nearby teams, brought him to safety. At Colva, a five-year-old boy from Karnataka who was found wandering alone was reunited with his parents after identification procedures. At Palolem, lifesaver Parshuram Tari rescued a 25-year-old man

and a six-year-old child after their kayak capsized around 500 metres from the shore.

At Agonda, a couple swimming outside the safe zone ignored repeated warnings, resulting in a 27-year-old woman from Maharashtra drifting into a rip current. Lifesaver Datta Velip rescued her using a rescue board. At Patnem, two tourists from Uttarakhand, aged 25 and 28, were rescued by Megraj Girap after being caught in strong currents. At Dudhsagar waterfalls, lifesaver Sangam Dushi rescued a three-and-a-half-year-old girl from Kerala who slipped into deep water without a life jacket. In another incident, Sagar Dushi rescued a 30-year-old man from Hyderabad who also entered the water without a life jacket. Drishti Marine has once again urged visitors to follow safety instructions, remain in demarcated swim zones, and wear life jackets at waterfalls and other high-risk water bodies.

Centre Says Over Rs 5,500 Cr Spent in 3 Years on Efforts to Clean Yamuna in Delhi

■ Government cites progress in water quality but highlights major gaps in sewage and waste management

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: The central government informed the Rajya Sabha that the Delhi Jal Board has spent approximately Rs 5,536 crore over the past three financial years on initiatives aimed at improving the condition of the Yamuna River. The river enters Delhi at Palla, where the Central Pollution Control Board monitors its quality through the Delhi Pollution Control Committee. According to CPCB data, median Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Dissolved Oxygen levels at Palla between January and July 2025 were recorded at 4 mg/l and 6 mg/l. The DPCC reported further improvement during its September 2025 monitoring, noting a BOD level of 2.5 mg/l and DO of 9.5 mg/l, figures that



fall within prescribed healthy limits. Despite these indicators, the river continues to face major pollution challenges. The primary cause remains the discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage. As of August 2025, the sewage treatment gap in Delhi stood at 414 million litres per day. Additional issues include the absence of effluent treatment facilities in several approved industrial areas, along with delays in completing or upgrading sewage treatment infrastructure. Solid waste management also contributes significantly to the problem.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

Congress releases first ZP list as alliance talks stall

no submissions were received on the first day. They will be accepted until December 9 between 10 am and 1 pm, except on December 3 and December 7. On the same day, AAP released its third list of seven more candidates, adding to the 22 names announced previously. Chief Minister Pramod Sawant confirmed the allotment of

three ZP constituencies to the Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP) as part of ongoing seat-sharing arrangements. He also stated that the BJP would support selected independent candidates where necessary. Earlier, Sawant, BJP State president Damu Naik, and two general secretaries briefed the

party's candidates about election rules, campaign conduct, and strategy. The remaining BJP candidate names are expected to be declared on Tuesday. The BJP had released its first list on Sunday, naming 19 candidates — 12 from North Goa and seven from South Goa. Goa has a total of 50 Zilla Panchayat constituencies.

HJS Seeks Legal Action Against Actor Ranveer Singh for Alleged Insult to Goddess Chamundidevi

community. Calling the deity a "ghost" and imitating the sacred form for entertainment, the Committee said, was "deeply insulting" and an attack on the faith of devotees. They warned that the incident had caused outrage among community members and could potentially disturb

public peace. The Committee urged the police to register a case against Ranveer Singh under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, pertaining to deliberate insult to religious sentiments and promoting enmity. HJS also called upon IFFI organisers and officials to frame a strict code of

conduct to prevent any future disrespect toward religious deities at public events. Additionally, the Committee demanded that Ranveer Singh issue a public apology and give an assurance that he would refrain from making such statements or performances in the future.

'World Leaders Listen When PM Modi Speaks as India's Influence Grows,' Says Bhagwat

mission of uniting society remains incomplete. He noted that the RSS has navigated challenges for a century, yet the objective of building social harmony still requires sustained effort. He emphasised that the organisation must reflect on the time it has taken to achieve its goals.

Highlighting historical patterns, he said periods of India's rise have coincided with greater global stability. He argued that the current geopolitical climate places added responsibility on the country and reiterated that volunteers continue to work with dedication toward strengthening

unity. Reflecting on the organisation's early years, Bhagwat recalled how its founder, Dr. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, and the first group of volunteers worked under difficult circumstances, setting in motion a transformation that has shaped the organisation's growth.

Indian Relief Efforts Earn Deep Appreciation Amid Sri Lanka's Devastating Cyclone Crisis

source of assistance through Operation Sagar Bandhu, deploying personnel from the National Disaster Response Force and the Air Force to aid search, rescue and relief missions. Indian naval ships already stationed in Sri Lanka have been mobilised to deliver emergency supplies, joining

air and ground operations aimed at reaching stranded communities. The support has been widely acknowledged by Sri Lankan citizens, with a message from a Colombo resident gaining significant attention online. The post expressed heartfelt appreciation for India's rapid response,

praising the efforts of Indian soldiers involved in rescue missions across cyclone-hit regions. Cyclone Ditwah made landfall on November 28 before returning over the Bay of Bengal, but not before causing extensive damage in Gampaha, Colombo, Puttalam and Mannar.

'Pakistan Has Rebuilt 72 Terror Launchpads Across LoC After Operation Sindoor'

■ BSF says most facilities have been shifted deeper into Pakistani territory following heavy damage in May

New Delhi : Pakistan has reconstructed and reactivated at least seventy two terror launchpads along the Line of Control months after suffering extensive damage during India's Operation Sindoor, senior officials of the Border Security Force said at their annual press conference. The military action, launched on May 7 in response to the Pahalgam terror attack,



targeted a wide range of terror infrastructure across Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir and remained active for four days. BSF DIG Vikram

Kunwar said many of the damaged facilities had been moved away from the border and revived in interior locations. He noted that twelve

launchpads are operating from depth areas in Sialkot and Zaffarwal while sixty others are functioning from positions further inside Pakistani territory. He stated that these shifts were made after several forward bases were destroyed by the BSF during the operation. According to Kunwar, the number of launchpads and the strength of groups using them change constantly.

'Ready To Discuss SIR, But Don't Insist on a Timeline,'

■ Government reiterates willingness for debate while urging Opposition to allow flexibility in scheduling

New Delhi : Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday that the government is willing to hold a discussion on the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls or broader electoral reforms, but stressed that the Opposition must not demand a fixed deadline for the debate. He said



parliamentary proceedings cannot be guided by rigid conditions and need to follow the schedule set by the Business Advisory Committee.

Rijju Accuses Opposition of Politicising Sanchar Saathi Amid Parliament Stalemate

■ Government urges constructive debate as protests continue over surveillance concerns and electoral roll revisions

New Delhi : Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju criticised the Opposition for escalating tensions in Parliament, arguing that several disruptions stem from attempts to introduce new points of contention despite an agreed legislative agenda for the Winter Session. His remarks came as political debate intensified

over the government's directive requiring the Sanchar Saathi app to be pre-installed on all new mobile handsets and added via software updates to devices already in circulation. Rijju said the Opposition was creating unnecessary friction by repeatedly raising fresh issues even though many of their demands were already



listed for discussion. He urged political parties not to turn every matter into an opportunity for confrontation, stressing that Parliament must be allowed to function smoothly. He rejected

Operation Sindoor "Remains In Progress": Navy Chief

■ The Navy chief, without elaborating, said Operation Sindoor "remains in progress".

New Delhi : Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi on Tuesday said his force's aggressive posturing during Operation Sindoor in May forced Pakistan Navy to remain close to their ports. In his annual press conference, Admiral Tripathi also said that the Indian Navy maintained a high operational readiness, including in the Western Arabian sea, in the last seven-eight months following the hostilities with Pakistan. The Navy chief, without elaborating,



said Operation Sindoor "remains in progress". "The aggressive posturing and immediate action during Operation Sindoor, including deployment of the carrier battle group forced Pakistan Navy to remain close to their ports

or near the Makran coast," he said. The Navy chief said Operation Sindoor has put financial strain on Pakistan as significant number of merchant ships avoided travelling to that country following the hostilities.

Sanchar Saathi Can Be Deleted, Users Not Compelled to Use App: Communications Minister

■ Sanchar Saathi Meant for Fraud Protection, Not Mandatory Use

New Delhi : Amid controversy over the Centre's directive requiring mobile phone manufacturers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi app on all phones sold in India, Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia clarified that users will have the choice to delete

the app if they do not wish to use it. Addressing media queries, Scindia said, "Do not activate it if you don't want to. If you wish to keep it on your phone, you can. If not, delete it. Many apps come pre-installed on phones, like Google Maps. If you don't want to use them,



you can remove them." The minister emphasized that the government's intention is to protect users from cyber fraud, not to enforce mandatory use. He explained that the app can remain dormant for those who choose not to register or use it, and deleting it is entirely

optional. Scindia added that the directive aims to raise awareness about the app, ensuring citizens know about the tools available to safeguard themselves against fraud. "Not every person in the country knows there is an app to protect them from fraud."

“If This Happened Under Me, I’d Take Responsibility,” Shastri Says Amid Gambhir Scrutiny

■ Former Head Coach Says Both Gautam Gambhir and Players Must Own Recent Failures

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: India’s continued slump in Test cricket has intensified scrutiny on head coach Gautam Gambhir, with former head coach Ravi Shastri openly stating that responsibility must be shared at every level. India have managed to win only one of five Test series since Gambhir



took charge, with the lone victory coming against



West Indies. Defeats to Australia, New Zealand

and South Africa, along with a drawn series against England, have raised concerns about the team’s direction and consistency.

Shastri, who led India through multiple high-pressure campaigns in the past, said that the current situation demands honesty rather than protection.

Ugem Rising Club Books Final Spot With Hard-Fought Win Over Margao SC

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Ugem Rising Club secured their place in the final of the 3rd Late Uday Shirodkar Memorial Inter-Village Football Tournament after a determined 2-1 comeback victory against Margao Sports Club in the second semifinal held at the Subhash Chandra Bose Sports Complex in Karai, Shiroda. Margao SC took the initial lead, putting Ugem under early pressure. However, Ugem Rising Club responded with resilience, gradually taking control of the match



and pushing forward with intent. Their sustained efforts paid off as they found the equaliser and continued to build momentum. With the game finely balanced, Ugem delivered the decisive strike in the second half, completing their turnaround and securing a well-deserved win.

Maxwell Steps Away From IPL 2026 Auction After Injury and “Unforgettable Seasons”

■ Australian All-Rounder Ends His IPL Journey For Now, Reflects on Memories and Future

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: Glenn Maxwell has decided to withdraw from the 2026 Indian Premier League auction, bringing a temporary halt to his long association with the tournament. The Australian all-rounder, who fractured his finger during the 2025 season,

was not included in the longlist of players for the upcoming auction. In a message shared on social media, Maxwell said he chose not to participate in the auction this year, describing the decision as significant and filled with gratitude. He reflected on the opportunities and experiences the league has given him over the



years, noting that the IPL played a key role in shaping both his cricketing career and personal growth.

Goa Announces Squad for Senior Men’s Federation Cup T10 Tennis Ball Cricket Championships 2025

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The T10 Tennis Ball Cricket Association of Goa has unveiled its Senior Men’s Federation Cup team ahead of the national championships, scheduled from November 28 to December 1, 2025, at Sujapur Ground in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh. Goa Minister Shri Shubhas Shirodkar, St. Cruz MLA Rudolfo Fernandes, and Mahila Morcha North Goa General Secretary Gauri Kamat extended their best wishes to the players for a



successful campaign. The team announcement was attended by Association President Dayesh Vengurlekar, Treasurer Saahil Sawant, Member Ramdas Varak, and coaches Santosh Zore and Sachin Kolekar. The squad will be led by Captain Ajay

Yadav, with Yash Mahale appointed as Vice-Captain. The Association expressed confidence in the team’s abilities and wished them the very best for the tournament, highlighting Goa’s growing presence in the national T10 tennis ball cricket circuit.

Goa Shines as Lokvesh and Hrishikesh Gaonkar Make Indian Ball Badminton Team

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Two talented players from Goa, Lokvesh Gaonkar and Hrishikesh Gaonkar, have earned selection to the Indian Ball Badminton Team, set to compete in upcoming international events in Indonesia and Malaysia. The national selection trials were held from November 27 to 29 in New Delhi, where both players showcased exceptional skill and



determination. Their strong performance during the trials earned them spots on the national squad, reflecting their dedication and hard work.

Ishita Colaso Creates History With Four Titles as Chandan Caro Seals Triple Crown

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Late Manohar Sawkar Goa State Table Tennis Tournament 2025 concluded with a stunning display of talent, where Ishita Colaso delivered a landmark performance by capturing four titles in a single edition. Her exceptional run was matched by Chandan Caro, who secured three championships, marking one of the most memorable finishes



in the tournament’s history. The event was held at the Multipurpose Stadium in Fatorda and organised by the Goa Table Tennis Association in collaboration with the Sports Authority of Goa. Ishita demonstrated

remarkable consistency and composure as she swept through multiple categories. She secured the Girls U15 title with a straight-game victory over Sachi Dessai, followed by wins in the U17 and U19 events against

Neeza Kamat in tightly contested encounters. She completed her extraordinary campaign by dominating the Women’s Singles final against Urvi Surlakar, reaffirming her standing as one of Goa’s brightest young talents.

Chandan mirrored that dominance in the boys’ divisions, winning the Boys U15 and U17 titles with identical scorelines against Dhruva Kamat. He later claimed the Boys U19 crown after a hard-fought clash with Aaron Farias.