



Luthra brothers to be arrested at Delhi airport tomorrow

Owners of Birch by Romeo Lane to be taken into custody at Delhi airport; Thailand trip by Goa Police called off.

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: In a significant breakthrough in the investigation into the deadly Goa nightclub fire, sources on Monday confirmed that Saurabh Luthra and Gaurav Luthra, owners of the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub, are set to be arrested at Delhi airport upon their return to India. According to sources, the Goa Police will no longer travel to Thailand, as the brothers are expected to arrive in Delhi on Tuesday, where they will be taken into

custody immediately after landing. The move follows the completion of legal and procedural formalities required for their arrest. The case pertains to the December 6 fire tragedy at the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub in Arpora, North Goa, which claimed the lives of 25 persons, including 20 staff members and five tourists, while six others sustained injuries. Fire department officials said the majority of the victims died due to asphyxiation caused by dense smoke after

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Birch by Romeo Lane Fire Tragedy: HC Takes Suo Motu Cognizance

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The High Court of Bombay at Goa has taken suo motu cognizance of the tragic fire incident at Birch by Romeo Lane and initiated proceedings to examine lapses leading to the incident. The High Court has appointed Advocate Rohit Bras De Sa as amicus curiae to assist the court in the matter. During the hearing, the High Court observed that the core issue lies in the existence of illegal structures. The court noted that there are adequate provisions empowering local bodies to take



action against illegal constructions; however, such action was not taken. The court further observed that in certain cases, commercial licences were granted to establishments operating from illegal structures, raising serious concerns about regulatory failures.

BJP Playing Delay Tactics in ZP Poll Campaign: MLA Viresh Borkar

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Alleging discrimination in the run-up to the Zilla Panchayat elections, MLA Viresh Borkar on Monday accused the BJP of playing delay tactics to hamper the opposition's election campaign in Tiswadi Taluka. Borkar claimed that the government administration is working against opposition parties by deliberately delaying permissions required for campaigning. He said



that despite completing all formalities, permission to use campaign vehicles fitted with sound systems has not been granted by the Returning Officer (RO) in Tiswadi Taluka. "While permissions have been issued in other talukas, Tiswadi continues to face unexplained delays.

Over 100 Flights Cancelled, 300 Delayed as Delhi Smog Disrupts Travel

Over 105 flights cancelled in Delhi as low visibility, severe air quality hit air and road movement.

New Delhi: Air travel across North India was disrupted on Monday morning as dense fog and smog sharply reduced visibility, with Delhi's Indira Gandhi International

Airport bearing the brunt of the impact. Flight operations were affected as airlines cancelled and delayed services to ensure safety amid challenging

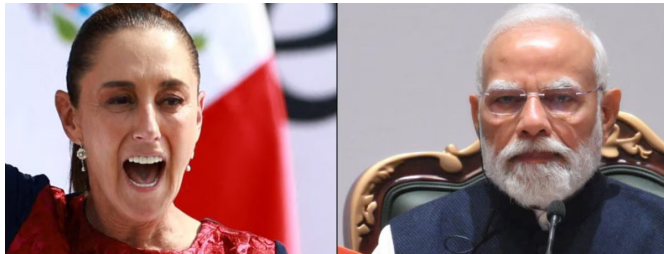
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India Engages Mexico Over 50% Tariff Hike, Signals Possible Countermeasures

Talks underway as New Delhi seeks to protect exporters from steep duties.

New Delhi: India has raised concerns over Mexico's unilateral decision to impose a 50% tariff on goods imported from countries without a free trade agreement, including India. The new tariff regime, approved by the Mexican Senate, will take effect from January 1, 2026, and mirrors similar actions taken



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Bhoma Activist Sanjay Naik Slams MLA Govind Gaude Over "Election-Time" Stand on Bypass Road

Team Goemkarponn

BHOMA: Social activist Sanjay Naik of Bhoma today has strongly slammed Priol MLA Govind Gaude, accusing

him of indulging in political opportunism by opposing the Bhoma Bypass Road only with the Zilla Panchayat elections around the

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Passion Without Planning: The Messi Event That Went Off the Rails

What unfolded in Kolkata during Lionel Messi's visit was not merely a sporting embarrassment. It was a reputational wound that travelled far beyond the boundaries of Salt Lake Stadium and into the global imagination. In an era where images travel faster than explanations, visuals of angry fans hurling chairs and bottles became shorthand for how India handles global icons, mass events and public expectations. The damage was not local. It was national. India today is eager to project itself as a confident, competent host for international summits, sporting spectacles and cultural showcases. From G20 meetings to Olympic ambitions, the pitch is clear. We are ready for the world. That is why the Kolkata episode mattered so much. It punctured that narrative in the most public way possible. What should have been a soft power moment turned into a cautionary tale. Global coverage did not dwell on the love Indian fans have for football.

Instead, it focused on anger, mismanagement and disorder. The underlying message was unmistakable. Passion in India is abundant, but planning and crowd management remain suspect. Once such a narrative takes hold, it is difficult to dislodge. For international audiences unfamiliar with India's diversity, one chaotic stadium becomes representative of a billion people. The real tragedy is that this chaos was avoidable. Fans did not erupt out of thin air. They reacted to broken promises, poor communication and the feeling of being treated as props rather than participants. Tickets were expensive by Indian standards. Many travelled long distances. What they saw was a stage crowded with VIPs, photographers and officials, while the central figure barely interacted with those who had paid to be there. When expectation and reality collide without explanation, frustration turns combustible. This is where

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the contrast with Hyderabad and Mumbai becomes instructive. Hyderabad demonstrated what competent organisation can achieve even with the same superstar and similar levels of hype. Crowd movement was controlled, access points were managed, and expectations were aligned with delivery. Messi stayed longer, interacted more and the atmosphere remained celebratory rather than volatile.

The crowd responded accordingly. Enthusiasm stayed within the boundaries of order because people felt respected. Mumbai, too, offered a different lesson. The city's crowd was loud, expressive and emotional, but not destructive. There were chants, surges of excitement and moments of frustration, yet the line was not crossed. This is not

accidental. Mumbai's long exposure to large-scale events, from cricket finals to international concerts, has shaped a culture of crowd behaviour where passion coexists with restraint. People know the drill. Authorities anticipate flashpoints. The system absorbs pressure instead of collapsing under it. Kolkata's failure therefore cannot be brushed aside as an inevitable byproduct of football madness. It was a failure of governance, communication and crowd psychology.

To frame it merely as unruly fans is to miss the point and unfairly shift blame. Crowds reflect the conditions they are placed in. Treat them as partners in an experience, and they usually respond in kind. Treat them as obstacles to be managed after the fact, and chaos is never far away. The larger concern is what this signals to the world. International stars, event promoters and sporting bodies watch these moments closely. They assess risk, optics and audience behaviour. When a visit ends with police cases, detentions and viral clips of violence, it raises questions about whether India can be trusted with bigger, more complex events.

That hesitation has consequences, economic and symbolic. India's image problem here is not about one city versus another. It is about inconsistency. Hyderabad and Mumbai showed that India can get it right. Kolkata showed how quickly things can unravel when preparation gives way to spectacle. Until this gap is addressed, every global event will carry an element of reputational gamble. The lesson is blunt but necessary. Soft power cannot be improvised. Passion is not a substitute for planning. And global attention is unforgiving. If India wants to be seen as a mature host on the world stage, it must understand that how crowds are treated, guided and respected matters as much as who is invited. The Messi episode should not be dismissed as a one-off mess. It should be treated as a warning.

EDITOR'S SPEAK

Everyone Is Lying, and Rural Goa Is Paying the Price

- By Vishwesh Karapurkar

As Goa heads into Zilla Panchayat elections, voters are once again being treated not as thinking citizens but as an audience to be managed. The ruling party, the opposition and the self proclaimed alternatives are all peddling selective truths, loud accusations and convenient amnesia. Lies are not limited to one side. They cut across party lines, ideologies and campaign platforms. What makes this deception particularly troubling is that Zilla Panchayat elections are being fought like Assembly or parliamentary contests. National and state leaders descend on villages, tempers are raised and grand promises are made, even though ZP members simply do not have the authority to deliver most of what is being promised. Voters are being misled about what these institutions can realistically do. A Zilla Panchayat member does not control mining policy, industrial approvals, tourism planning or large infrastructure projects. They do not decide land conversions or control the state's finances. Their role is limited but not insignificant.

Rural roads, drainage, sanitation, minor irrigation, maintenance of schools and health facilities, and the implementation of government schemes fall within their purview. They are meant to be a bridge between villages and the state administration, not miracle workers. Yet campaign speeches suggest that electing a particular party will magically eliminate corruption, unemployment and governance failures overnight. Every party contesting these elections is complicit in this dishonesty.

The BJP, which has governed Goa for over a decade, speaks as though it has only now discovered the state's problems. Rural infrastructure remains uneven, waste management continues to be a mess and basic services are far from reliable. After years in power, blaming others is not an argument. It is an admission of failure to take responsibility. Congress, meanwhile, behaves as if voter memory is short and selective. It speaks about protecting Goans and local interests but avoids confronting its own record of internal squabbles, weak leadership and missed opportunities when it held power. Credibility cannot be rebuilt by pretending the past never happened. Goa Forward Party emerged as a voice of regional assertion and resistance to Delhi driven politics.

Yet its leaders now sermonise on corruption and governance without honestly addressing their own political compromises and shifting alignments. Principles lose meaning when they are applied selectively. The newer entrants offer little comfort. The Aam Aadmi Party arrives with lectures on corruption, even as its government in Delhi was voted out amid serious allegations and public dissatisfaction. Preaching morality without introspection convinces few.

The Revolutionary Goans Party claims to represent Goan identity but often replaces policy clarity with confrontation and theatrics. Breaking alliances before they are even formed and then blaming others reflects opportunism, not political maturity. There is also an uncomfortable truth that deserves equal attention.

Some voters will accept cash, gifts or favours and vote for the highest bidder. Political dishonesty survives because electoral dishonesty enables it. When votes are sold, accountability collapses and governance suffers. Zilla Panchayat elections are about local governance, not grandstanding. Roads, drains, sanitation, schools and the delivery of basic services matter more than slogans and celebrity campaigners. Until parties stop lying about power and performance, and voters stop rewarding those lies, rural Goa will continue to pay the price.

Goa SEIAA Clears Onda Mineral Block, Boosting Iron Ore Mining Push

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: In a move that strengthens the revival of iron ore mining in Goa, the Goa State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), functioning under the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has granted prior environmental clearance (EC) to the Onda Mineral Block (X) located in Onda village of Sattari taluka. The mineral block is held by Agravanshi Pvt Ltd. During a recent meeting held earlier this month, the Authority also approved an EC in favour of Chowgule and Company Pvt Ltd for the handling of an iron ore dump



situated outside the lease boundary on privately owned land in Onda village. Both clearances were issued based on recommendations made by the Goa State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC). For the Onda Mineral Block, SEIAA has approved an annual production capacity of 0.5 million tonnes of

iron ore. However, the Authority has clarified that the clearance will remain subject to the final outcome of a writ petition currently pending before the High Court, which challenges the constitutional validity of the tender documents issued under Phase I of the mineral block auction process.

AAP Targets BJP, Congress At Betalbatim Meet; Palekar, Kejriwal Highlight 'Goa Model'

Team Goemkarponn

BETALBATIM: Taking a sharp dig at the BJP and Congress, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Goa president Adv. Amit Palekar on Sunday said the BJP must be rattled by the work carried out by AAP MLAs in South Goa, claiming it showcased the party's alternative governance model for the State. Addressing a public meeting at Betalbatim in the presence of AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal, Palekar said the initiatives undertaken in Benaulim and Velim reflected what he described as AAP's "Goa Model" of governance. He cited neighbourhood healthcare facilities, improved roads and an administration free from extortion and



intimidation as key achievements. "The work done by our MLAs is there for everyone to see. Healthcare has been brought closer to people, infrastructure has improved and there is no gundaraj or hafta culture. This is the model we want to replicate across Goa," Palekar said, while taking a swipe at the former MLA by remarking that seeing AAP's work would be enough to raise his blood pressure. Palekar also extended an open invitation

to Congress workers and supporters who, he said, were disillusioned by what he termed the party's repeated understanding with the BJP. He asserted that those serious about defeating the BJP and ushering in clean governance should rally behind the AAP. "This fight is not about political parties, but about safeguarding Goa. If you truly want honest governance, AAP is the only credible option," he said.

Diaz Club Sealed At Anjuna Over Repeated Licence Violations

Team Goemkarponn

ANJUNA: The State government on Saturday shut down the much-discussed Diaz Club in Anjuna as part of an ongoing drive against nightlife venues accused of breaching licence conditions. Officials confirmed that the premises were sealed following a coordinated inspection by the Excise Department, Fire and Emergency Services, the Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department and the local panchayat. The inspection was triggered by multiple complaints alleging unlawful operations, overcrowding and serious safety concerns. During the visit, authorities reportedly found the club functioning without a valid fire safety clearance and violating key conditions laid down under its trade and excise licences. A senior government official said the establishment had been granted ample opportunity to address shortcomings flagged during earlier inspections.



"Despite repeated notices and sufficient time to comply, the violations continued. In view of the persistent non-compliance, sealing the premises became unavoidable," the official stated. Sources revealed that Diaz Club had previously received show-cause notices and warnings for exceeding permitted operating hours and capacity limits. Inspecting teams also pointed out unauthorised structural changes and the lack of essential safety arrangements, including proper emergency exits and crowd control measures. A senior officer from the Fire and Emergency Services department said the action was taken with public safety as the primary concern.

GBA To Hold Protest Seeking Accountability After Arpora Club Fire

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Bachao Abhiyan (GBA), under the leadership of its convenor Sabina Martins, has announced a public protest at Azad Maidan on December 19, pressing the State government to fix responsibility for the deadly fire at the Arpora nightclub Birch by Romeo Lane that resulted in 25 deaths. Speaking at a media briefing held at Azad Maidan on Sunday, Martins along with other GBA members charged the government and the administrative



machinery with failing to act against rampant violations, which they alleged ultimately led to the tragedy. Describing the incident as a preventable catastrophe, Martins

said the fire was the outcome of negligence rather than chance. She stated that the protest would not only demand accountability but also commemorate those who lost their lives. "The loss of 25 lives cannot be brushed aside as misfortune. Each death reflects institutional failure and neglect of duty," Martins said. The GBA alleged serious shortcomings in licensing procedures, fire safety compliance and enforcement, claiming that the establishment continued operations despite repeated complaints and known violations.

Over 500 Government Vehicles Scrapped, Rs 2.77 Cr Earned Through Scrap Fairs

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: More than 500 condemned vehicles belonging to government departments, State-owned corporations and autonomous bodies have been scrapped across Goa in the last seven months, easing congestion in public spaces and generating significant revenue for the State. As per official data, the Goa Waste Management Corporation



(GWMC) conducted four specially organised 'scrap melas', through which 518 obsolete vehicles — including two-wheelers and four-wheelers — were

disposed of, fetching Rs 2.77 crore for the government. Many of the vehicles had remained unused for years, with some lying abandoned

for over 15 years outside government offices or along public roads, adding to traffic snarls and visual clutter. Officials said that earlier, the disposal of condemned vehicles was carried out through a tender-based system that was often delayed by procedural hurdles. The scrap mela model was introduced to speed up the process and ensure a more efficient and transparent mechanism.

Scrapyards Set Ablaze at Cortalim; Loss Estimated at Rs.20.5 L.

Team Goemkarponn

VERNA: A case of arson has been registered at Verna Police Station following a complaint that multiple scrapyards were deliberately set on fire at Queolossim, Cortalim, causing losses running into lakhs of rupees. According to police, Sharif Hassan, a resident of Davorlim, lodged a complaint stating that on December 12, 2025, between 12.00 hrs and



13.00 hrs at Queolossim, Cortalim, a suspected accused identified as Rijayl Mustafa, resident of Queolossim, Cortalim, intentionally set fire to the scrapyards belonging to the complainant and three others. The complainant

has estimated his loss at approximately ₹50,000, while the other affected scrapyard owners—Asif Shaikh, Athiq Shaikh and Sahid Nizami—have suffered combined losses estimated at around ₹20 lakh.

Mandrem Police Register Case for Noise Pollution at Morjim Restaurant

Team Goemkarponn

MANDREM: Mandrem Police Station has registered Crime No. 114/2025 on 14/12/2025 at 10.06 hrs under Section 15 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Section 5 of the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000. The case has been registered on the complaint of Mr. Vaman Chari, Scientific Assistant attached to the Goa Pollution Control Board, Saligao. As per the complaint,



on 13/12/2025, beyond 22.00 hrs, loud music was being played at M/s Morjim Culture, located at Gaude Waddo, Morjim, Pernem, without obtaining the requisite permission from the concerned

authority. The accused has been identified as Mr. Deepanshu Narang, owner of M/s Morjim Culture, a resident of Surat, Gujarat. The complainant stated that the loud music exceeded the permissible time limit and caused noise pollution in the locality. The music was subsequently stopped at around 22.20 hrs following intervention. Further investigation in the matter is in progress and is being conducted by PI Girendre Naik of Mandrem Police Station.

Batteries worth Rs. 4 lakh stolen from Sancoale industrial unit

Team Goemkarponn

SANCOALE: Burglars broke into Agam Batteries Pvt. Ltd at the IDC Sancoale industrial estate and decamped with batteries worth around ₹4 lakh, triggering a probe by Verna police. The theft occurred between 8 December 2025 at 17:30 hrs and 9 December 2025 at 12:00 hrs, when unknown accused persons allegedly gained entry into the company premises by forcefully opening the rear-side door. During the break-in, the intruders reportedly

stole 45 batteries before fleeing with the stolen property. Based on a complaint filed by Pratik Gupta, proprietor of Agam Batteries Pvt. Ltd, IDC Sancoale, and a resident of Vasco, Verna police registered an offence under sections 331(3), 331(4) and 305 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Further investigation is being carried out by lady PSI Pramila Fernandes of Verna police station, under the supervision of PI Anand Shirodkar and the guidance of Mormugao DySP Gurudas Kadam.

Two youths killed after motorcycle crashes into divider, hits car at Cortalim flyover

Team Goemkarponn

CORTALIM: Two youths riding a motorcycle were killed in a road accident at the Cortalim flyover after their vehicle allegedly rammed into a road divider, crossed into the opposite lane and collided with a car in the early morning hours of Sunday. The accident occurred on Sunday at around 01.20 hrs, when the rider of a TVS motorcycle, K. H. Bikram Singha, a resident of Consua, Cortalim and a native of



Assam, was proceeding from Panaji towards Verna with pillion rider S. Pariton Singha, also a resident of Consua, Cortalim and a native of Assam. Police said the motorcycle was being ridden in a rash and negligent manner

and, upon reaching the Cortalim flyover bridge, dashed against the road divider, veered into the opposite lane and further collided with a Skoda car coming from Verna towards Panaji. Both the rider and the pillion

rider sustained serious injuries in the impact. A wireless message was later received from the casualty police at GMC Bambolim informing that both K. H. Bikram Singha and S. Pariton Singha were brought dead, making it a case of fatal vehicular accident. Based on a state complaint filed by HC 5767 Sudeshkumar Dessai of Verna police station, Verna police registered an offence under sections 281 and 106(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

Hit-and-Run Case: Elderly Pedestrian Killed at Arambol, Truck Driver Arrested

Team Goemkarponn

ARAMBOL: An elderly pedestrian was killed in a hit-and-run accident at Varchavaddo, Arambol, on Friday evening, following which the accused truck driver has been arrested by Mandrem Police. According to police, on December 13, 2025, at around 23:50 hrs, LHC Sheetal Sadanand Kinalkar (B. No. 5214) of Mandrem Police Station lodged a complaint on behalf of the State. The incident occurred earlier at about

17:45 hrs at Varchavaddo, Arambol, Pernem—Goa. The accused, identified as Javed Khan (53), a service employee and resident near the football ground, Valpoi, Sattari, was driving an Eicher pick-up truck bearing registration number GA-04-T-6121 from Arambol towards Korgao. He allegedly drove the vehicle in a rash and negligent manner, endangering human life, and struck a pedestrian, Govind Vasudev Narse (78), a resident of Bhatwadi,



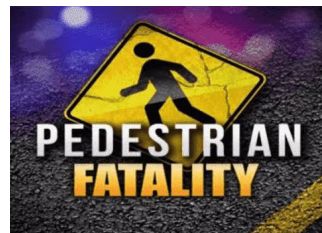
Korgao, Pernem, who was walking on the left side of the road with the support of a bamboo stick. As a result of the impact, the elderly man sustained serious injuries and was rushed to CHC Tuem, where he was declared brought dead. Police further stated that

the accused driver fled the spot after the accident, leaving the vehicle behind, without providing medical assistance to the injured or informing the police. Mandrem Police later arrested the accused, and further investigation in the case is in progress.

Pedestrian Killed in Bus Accident Near Malim Jetty

Team Goemkarponn

PORVORIM: A fatal road accident was reported at Malim near Malim Jetty, Betim, on Friday evening, in which an unknown male pedestrian lost his life after being hit by a passenger bus. According to Porvorim Police, on December 13, 2025, at around 22.45 hrs, HC Shripad S/o Keshav Teli (B. No. 4595), attached to Porvorim Police Station, lodged a complaint on behalf of the State. The incident had occurred earlier at about 15.45 hrs



near Samarath Liquor Shop, Betim—Goa, when the driver of a passenger bus bearing registration number MH-14-MH-4383, proceeding from Verem towards Malim Jetty, allegedly drove the vehicle in a rash and negligent manner and dashed against an unknown male pedestrian aged approximately 50 years.

CM: Strong Public Support Reflects Faith in BJP's Vision for Saksham Goa

Team Goemkarponn

CALANGUTE: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant said that the overwhelming public response to the BJP's Zilla Panchayat outreach programmes across North Goa constituencies reflects the people's deep trust in the party's commitment to development, good governance and last-mile



delivery "The enthusiastic response from people across constituencies

shows their confidence in BJP's development-oriented approach and

our resolve to build a Saksham Zilla Panchayat and a Saksham Goa. Our karyakartas are working tirelessly to take the government's vision and welfare initiatives to every doorstep," said Chief Minister Pramod Sawant. The Chief Minister was referring to a series of BJP outreach programmes held in Calangute, Anjuna and Siolim Zilla Panchayat constituencies.

Man Found Dead Behind Casa Amora at Old Goa

Team Goemkarponn

OLD GOA: A man was found dead after allegedly committing suicide by hanging himself behind Casa Amora at Old Goa on Sunday morning. According to police, at around 08:36 hrs on December 14, 2025, the PCR Panaji informed Old Goa Police that a person had committed suicide by hanging behind Casa Amora. Acting on the information, LPSI Jasvita Naik along with police staff rushed to the spot.



Upon reaching the location, police confirmed that a male person had committed suicide by hanging himself. The deceased was later identified by his brother, Nitesh Kumar Singh, son of Ramdhari Singh, a resident near the Railway Station, Margao, and originally hailing from Bazidpur Malahi, Vaishali district, Bihar.

Damodar HSS of Science, Margao Wins Cuncolim United HSS Inter-HSS Quiz Competition

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Shree Damodar Higher Secondary School of Science, Comba, Margao, secured first place at the All-Goa Inter-Higher Secondary Quiz Competition hosted by Cuncolim United Higher Secondary School recently. The competition, organised



by the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) of Cuncolim United HSS, marked the institution's first All-Goa Inter-Higher Secondary Quiz

Competition and brought together twelve higher secondary schools from across the State for an engaging and intellectually stimulating afternoon.

Sadbhav Milan Promotes Interfaith Harmony at Fr. Agnel College, Pilar

Team Goemkarponn

PILAR: Fr. Agnel College of Arts and Commerce, Pilar, in collaboration with Sadbhav, an interfaith initiative of the Society of Pilar, organised an interfaith programme titled "Sadbhav Milan" with the aim of fostering peace, unity and mutual respect among people of different faiths. Held at the Heritage Hall of the college, the programme witnessed the



participation of students and staff, providing a platform for dialogue and understanding. The event was graced by Dr. Fr. Elvis Fernandes, Convenor of Sadbhav, as the keynote speaker, along with Dr. Fr. Fredrick Rodrigues, Principal of

Fr. Agnel College, and Dr. Resham Bhambra, IQAC Coordinator. The programme began with a soulful rendition of "Take Me to the River" by students Vaibhavi Dicholkar and Siya Almeida, setting a reflective tone.

Man Booked for Obstructing Election Work at Navelim Programme

Team Goemkarponn

NAVELIM: A case has been registered at Margao Town Police Station against a resident of Navelim for allegedly trespassing into a restricted area and obstructing election-related duties during an official programme held

at the District Library, Navelim. According to police, the complaint was filed by Ramesh Gaonkar, Additional Collector-II and District Election Officer, South Goa District. The incident occurred on November 26, 2025, during a programme held at the District Library, Navelim, Margao.

'Changing Mediums of Publication': Discussion with 'Sadhana' Editor Vinod Shirsath at ManoShobha Kalaghar, Loliem

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Goan publishers and writers are invited to a discussion on the evolving mediums of literary publishing in the digital era. The event, titled "Changing Mediums of Publication: Challenges

and Opportunities", will be held on 19th December at 4:30 PM at ManoShobha Kalaghar, Agas, Loliem-Canacona, featuring Vinod Shirsath, Editor of Sadhana, a renowned Marathi weekly from Maharashtra. Shirsath will highlight key trends and



developments in today's publishing landscape,

particularly in the digital sphere. Under his leadership, Sadhana has digitised all 3,350 issues published over the past 77 years, comprising more than 32,500 articles, now accessible online via the weekly's official website, weeklysadhana.in.

'Crematorium in Every Village and a Gaushala Will Be My Priority,' Says BJP's Poinguinim ZP Candidate Ajay Loliemkar

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: BJP's Poinguinim Zilla Panchayat candidate Ajay (Ajit) Loliemkar has assured that providing a crematorium

in every village and setting up a gaushala for stray cattle will be among his top priorities if elected.

Addressing residents during his door-to-door



campaign, Loliemkar said he aims to ensure at least one crematorium in each of the four village panchayats in his constituency.

He also expressed concern

over the growing number of stray cattle on roads and said a gaushala is essential to provide shelter to abandoned animals and to prevent fatal road accidents.

C. Krishniah Chetty Group Continues to Spread Christmas Cheer in Goa as Grand Jewellery Exhibition Moves to Margao on 17 - 18 December

Goa: The Christmas season in Goa began on a radiant note as the iconic C. Krishniah Chetty Group of Jewellers, with a celebrated legacy of 155 years, successfully concluded the Panjim chapter of its much-awaited Christmas Jewellery Exhibition at Hotel Fidalgo. After an overwhelming response from jewellery lovers and festive shoppers from 12th to 15th December 2025, the exhibition now continues in South Goa at Hotel Nanutel, Margao, on 17th and 18th December 2025. The Panjim exhibition was officially inaugurated by Katya Ida Coelho, Athlete and India's 1st Women Wind Foiler, who lit the ceremonial lamp and commended the brand for its enduring legacy and craftsmanship. Speaking

at the inauguration, Katya Ida Coelho had said, "It's truly inspiring to see a 155-year-old Indian brand continue to innovate while staying rooted in its values. Walking through this exhibition feels like stepping into a world where history, art, and elegance come together beautifully. As someone who has travelled the world representing India, I love seeing homegrown brands setting global standards of luxury. I'm delighted to be part of this celebration and encourage Goans to experience these stunning collections this festive season." Visitors at the Panjim showcase were drawn into a festive world where heritage met contemporary elegance. The exhibition features an exquisite range of creations from radiant



citrines and regal emeralds to luminous pearls and ethically crafted lab-grown diamonds, all curated to reflect the warmth and sparkle of the Christmas spirit. Among the most admired collections are the Hoysala Collection, inspired by temple architecture; the Pharaoh Collection, reflecting the mystique of Ancient Egypt; and crash.club™ Lab-Grown Diamonds, offering a sustainable expression of modern luxury. Speaking on the successful opening



and response in Panjim, Mr. Gopal Singh, Store Manager, C. Krishniah Chetty Group, said, "Goa has always held a special place for us, and over the years we have been fortunate to host several successful exhibitions here. There is something truly magical about celebrating Christmas in Goa—the energy, the warmth, and the unique festive vibe bring out the best in everything we create. We are delighted with the response in



Panjim and look forward to welcoming customers in Margao with the same festive spirit." Enhancing the festive appeal, the exhibition continues to offer special Christmas deals, available only during the Goa showcase. Visitors can avail 2% off on Silver Jewellery, 4% off on Gold Jewellery, and 6% off on Diamond Jewellery, along with an exclusive 9% off on diamond jewellery purchases worth ₹18.69 lakhs and above for a limited time. Also featured

at the exhibition are crash.club™ Lab-Grown Diamonds and Rare Scents™ fragrances, available with discounts of up to 9%, along with 925 Silver Jewellery starting from just ₹599, with proceeds contributing towards rhinoceros conservation. These thoughtful additions allow visitors to celebrate the season with both luxury and purpose. With 155 years of excellence behind it, the C. Krishniah Chetty Group continues to set benchmarks in artistry, innovation, and ethical luxury. As the Christmas Jewellery Exhibition moves to Hotel Nanutel, Margao, it invites South Goa to be part of a festive journey where tradition meets modern style — and every jewel tells a story of celebration.

Cyber Hygiene Awareness Session for Students Held at St. Joseph Church, Shiroda

Shiroda: An awareness session on Cyber Hygiene Practices was organized for students at St. Joseph Church, Shiroda—Goa, on 14th December 2025 at 9:30 AM, with the objective of promoting safe and responsible use of the

internet among young users. The session was conducted by Mr. Allen Pauly Payappilly, Cyber Yoddha – Goa Police and Information Security Education and Awareness Ambassador. He addressed students on key cyber safety



topics such as safe social media usage, protection of personal information, online scams, cyber bullying, and the importance of strong passwords. The talk focused on practical, easy-to-follow steps that students

can apply in their daily digital activities. Students actively engaged during the session and gained valuable knowledge on identifying cyber threats and maintaining good cyber hygiene. PC Lavu Gawas was present during the program.

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Luthra brothers to be arrested at Delhi airport tomorrow

getting trapped inside the premises. Preliminary findings indicate that the fire may have been triggered by fireworks used inside the club, raising serious concerns over safety violations and crowd

management. Investigators also flagged narrow exits and a restricted access bridge, which severely hampered evacuation and delayed rescue operations, as fire engines were forced to remain at a distance

from the site. Immigration records revealed that the Luthra brothers left India for Thailand within hours of the incident, boarding an IndiGo flight from Delhi to Phuket while rescue efforts were still in progress.

Over 100 Flights Cancelled, 300 Delayed as Delhi Smog Disrupts Travel

weather conditions. At Delhi airport alone, more than 300 flights were impacted, including over 105 cancellations and several diversions. Poor visibility during the early morning hours forced authorities to

implement low visibility CAT III procedures, allowing aircraft operations to continue cautiously but with inevitable delays. Airport officials coordinated closely with airlines and air traffic control

to manage traffic while prioritising passenger safety. Airlines issued advisories urging passengers to check flight status before heading to the airport and allow additional travel time.

India Engages Mexico Over 50% Tariff Hike, Signals Possible Countermeasures

by the United States. An Indian official confirmed that New Delhi is actively engaged with Mexico to find a mutually acceptable solution while reserving the right to take appropriate measures to safeguard the

interests of Indian exporters. The impact of these tariffs will depend on the importance of Indian exports to Mexico's domestic supply chains and the ability of Indian firms to secure exemptions or pass on costs to local

consumers. The tariffs target a wide range of sectors, including automobiles and auto components, machinery, electrical and electronics, organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and plastics.

Bhoma Activist Sanjay Naik Slams MLA Govind Gaude Over "Election-Time" Stand on Bypass Road

corner. Naik was reacting to Gaude's statement, "I will be the first one to halt Bhoma road widening if a JCB touches any house

compound." He alleged that the statement was aimed at gaining political mileage rather than addressing the long-standing concerns of

Bhoma villagers. "For the past three-and-a-half years, we have been opposing the bypass road, but our MLA was nowhere to be seen.

'Apologise in Parliament': BJP Targets Congress Over Rally Slogans

■ Row erupts after controversial chants at Congress rally in Jaipur.

New Delhi: A political controversy has intensified after objectionable slogans targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi were raised during a Congress rally in Jaipur, prompting strong condemnation from the Bharatiya Janata Party. Senior BJP leaders have demanded a public apology from the Congress leadership, insisting that the matter be addressed openly on the floor of Parliament. Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju criticised the slogans and described them as deeply regrettable and contrary to democratic values. He



said the Prime Minister is globally recognised as the leader of the world's largest democracy and that such language against a sitting Prime Minister was unacceptable. Rijiju stressed that denial or clarification was not enough

and that an apology was essential to acknowledge the seriousness of the incident. He called upon the Congress president and leaders of the opposition in both Houses of Parliament to apologise publicly to the people of the country.

PM Modi Condemns Sydney Bondi Beach Terror Attack, Extends Condolence

■ PM Modi Affirms Zero-Tolerance Policy Against Terrorism.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi strongly condemned the terrorist attack that occurred at Sydney's Bondi Beach in Australia on Sunday, where two gunmen opened fire during a Hanukkah celebration, killing at least 11 people. Expressing condolences on X, he extended sympathy to the families of the victims and reaffirmed India's firm stance against all forms of terrorism. "Strongly condemn the ghastly terrorist attack at Bondi Beach, Australia, targeting people celebrating the first day of Hanukkah," PM Modi said. He stressed that India maintains zero tolerance for terrorism and stands in solidarity with Australia during this



tragic time. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar also condemned the attack in the strongest terms and expressed sorrow for the loss of lives, offering support to the victims' families. The attack unfolded when two gunmen opened fire at the Jewish festival gathering, shocking the local community. One attacker was shot dead by police, while the second was arrested in critical condition. Emergency services rushed 29 people

to nearby hospitals, and authorities discovered suspected improvised explosive devices in a vehicle linked to the deceased offender. Australian officials have classified the incident as a terrorist act. Premier Chris Minns said the attack was targeted at Sydney's Jewish community, while Prime Minister Anthony Albanese described it as an act of antisemitism and terror that struck at the heart of the nation.

Nitin Nabin Becomes BJP's Youngest National Working President

■ Hardworking, Trusted, and Future-Ready Leader from Bihar.

New Delhi: Nitin Nabin has been appointed as the Bharatiya Janata Party's youngest national working president at the age of 45, highlighting the party's focus on organisational strength and generational transition ahead of key elections. His elevation reflects the BJP's strategy to promote younger leaders into top positions while maintaining strong ties with party veterans. Known within the party as "hardworking," "politically curious," and deeply rooted in organisational work, Nabin is respected for his accessibility and coordination skills, often referred to as "samanvay." With nearly two decades of experience, he has risen through the ranks from the party's youth wing in Bihar to key election responsibilities, demonstrating his ability to handle complex political assignments. Nabin's political lineage further strengthens his profile.



His father, a former Jan Sangh member, served as a legislator, providing Nabin with deep roots in Bihar's political landscape. His caste background in the Kayastha community, considered politically neutral, has also helped him navigate diverse political dynamics. His organisational capabilities were particularly visible during major campaigns, including the BJP's successful Delhi campaign, which ended the party's three-decade-long electoral drought in the national capital.

Historic 3-Nation Tour: PM Modi Visits Jordan, Ethiopia, and Oman

■ Strengthening Diplomatic, Economic, and Cultural Ties Across West Asia and Africa.

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday began a landmark three-nation tour to Jordan, Ethiopia, and Oman, countries with which India shares long-standing civilisational links and extensive modern-day relations. In his departure statement, PM Modi highlighted the significance of the journey, noting the combination of historical bonds and contemporary partnerships that India maintains

with these nations. The first stop is Jordan, where he is visiting at the invitation of His Majesty King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein. The visit commemorates 75 years of diplomatic relations between India and Jordan. During his stay in Amman, the Prime Minister will hold detailed discussions with King Abdullah II, Prime Minister Jafar Hassan, and Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah. From Jordan,



PM Modi will travel to Ethiopia, marking his first visit to the country, at the invitation of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali.

Supreme Court Advises Hybrid Hearings as Delhi Air Quality Hits 'Severe'

■ Apex court encourages video appearances amid hazardous pollution levels.

New Delhi: As Delhi grapples with extreme air pollution, the Supreme Court has advised lawyers and parties-in-person to use hybrid mode for court appearances. In an order issued on December 14, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant recommended that members of the Bar and litigants avail

themselves of video conferencing facilities for hearings, given the severe air quality in the capital. The directive also hints at the possibility of shifting hearings entirely to virtual mode if conditions worsen. Delhi's air pollution has reached alarming levels, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 461



on Sunday, marking the second-worst December day on record. In some areas, readings

approached the 500 mark, the upper limit tracked by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

Indian Pacers Dismantle South Africa as Hosts Take Series Lead

■ Clinical bowling effort powers seven wicket win over South Africa in 3rd.T20I.

New Delhi: India produced a dominant all round performance to defeat South Africa by seven wickets in the third T20I at Dharamsala on Sunday, taking a 2 1 lead in the five match series. A ruthless display by the fast bowlers laid the foundation before the batters completed a comfortable chase with plenty to spare. After opting to bowl, India's pacers



exploited helpful conditions to devastating effect, bundling South Africa out

for a modest 117. The new ball proved decisive as early swing and seam

movement dismantled the visiting top order. Arshdeep Singh led the charge with figures of 2 for 13, redeeming himself after a difficult previous outing. Harshit Rana claimed 2 for 34 with sharp nip backers, while Hardik Pandya chipped in with 1 for 23. South Africa never recovered from their shaky start and slumped to 7 for 3 inside four overs.

RSB Cochin and Central Secretariat Delhi Set Up Title Clash

PANAJI: RSB Cochin and Central Secretariat Delhi have qualified for the final of the All India Civil Service Football Tournament after winning their semi final matches on Sunday. In the first semi final, RSB Cochin defeated RSB Mumbai 3 1. Finu Fawas, Sourav T P and Ajeesh P scored for Cochin, while Sanket Salokhe netted the lone goal for Mumbai. The second semi final saw Central Secretariat Delhi

edge past the Goan team 2 1 in a closely contested match. Nitesh Sharma and Mahip Adhikari were on target for Delhi, while Nellister Silveira scored for Goa. The final between RSB Cochin and Central Secretariat Delhi will be played on December 15 at 4 pm at the Athletic Stadium, Mumbai. The third place match between Goa and RSB Mumbai is scheduled for 2 pm at the same venue.

2 No 10s, 1 Night: Messi's Wankhede Moment Before Delhi Finale

■ Wankhede witnesses historic crossover as football icon meets Sachin Tendulkar and Sunil Chhetri.

New Delhi: Argentina football legend Lionel Messi is set to arrive in New Delhi on Monday, bringing his GOAT Tour of India 2025 to a close after visits to Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai. Messi is expected to land in the national capital in the morning before heading to his hotel, following which he will attend a series of engagements at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. Along with teammate Rodrigo De Paul, Messi is also scheduled to meet the Chief Justice of India, the Army Chief, the Argentina Ambassador and other senior government



officials. Mumbai provided one of the most memorable moments of the tour as the iconic Wankhede Stadium turned into a celebration of sport, culture and unity.

Goa Suffer Heavy Innings Defeat Against Baroda in Vijay Merchant Trophy

■ Batting collapses leave Goa winless after 2 matches in Vijay Merchant Trophy.

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa's struggles in the Vijay Merchant Trophy continued as they suffered a comprehensive innings and 195 run defeat against Baroda in their Elite Group D encounter on Sunday. The

Under 16 three day match was held at the Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh International Stadium in Raipur and ended decisively in Baroda's favour. Resuming the final day at 51 for 3 in their second innings, Goa were unable to mount

any resistance and were dismissed for 83 runs in 42.1 overs. Adeep Miskin was the lone bright spot for Goa with the bat, top scoring with 24 runs, while the rest of the batting order failed to cope with Baroda's disciplined bowling attack. Earlier in

the match, Baroda had put themselves firmly in control by piling up a massive 399 for 8 before declaring their first innings. Their batters dominated proceedings, setting a target that proved far beyond Goa's reach.

Goa Finalise Teams for 33rd Junior National Tennis Ball Cricket Championship

■ Boys and girls squads to represent the state at Agra event from Dec. 18 to 21

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Tennis Ball Cricket Association has announced the Goa state boys and girls teams for the 33rd Junior National Tennis Ball Cricket Championship, scheduled to be held in



Agra, Uttar Pradesh, from December 18 to 21, 2025. The selection marks an

important step for the young players who will represent the state on the

national stage. The boys team features Shaunak Naik, Saiesh Naik, Gourish Velip, Arnav Gaonkar, Rohit Lamani, Manikishor Singh, Vishal Jadhav, Mayur Narvekar, Faraan Shaikh, Usman Karol, Babi Dalvi, Yuvraj Malik, Sainath Naik and Mahadev Malik.

CKB Martial Art Academy Shines at Khelo India Kickboxing Championship

■ 11 Girls Achieve 100% Success, Showcasing Strength and Discipline

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: CKB Martial Art Academy made a remarkable mark at the Khelo India Kickboxing Championship held at the Mapusa Sports Complex in Peddem, with all 11 participating girls winning medals and upholding the academy's values of discipline, strength,

and girl empowerment through sports.

CKB's students delivered an outstanding performance, collectively securing multiple gold, silver, and bronze medals across various categories. The academy's founder, Sir Hussain Mulla, along with female coach Liby Mendonça, male

coach Imam Mulla, and secretary Mehrun Sheikh, were present to support and encourage the young athletes.

Top performers included Ahd Mulla, who bagged three golds and one silver, Ainsley Dsouza with three golds, and Afifa Mulla and Sejal Parsekar with two golds each.

"Pedal to Fitness, Pollution Ka Solution": Sports Minister Tawadkar Participates in 'Sundays On Cycle' – Goa Edition

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Emphasising that a healthy and active youth forms the foundation of a strong and progressive nation, Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Ramesh Tawadkar urged citizens to adopt fitness as a way of life. The Sports Minister was speaking after participating in the 53rd edition of "Sundays



On Cycle – Goa Edition", organised under the Fit India Movement along the scenic Goan coastline. The event was dedicated to Vijay Diwas, paying

tribute to the courage, discipline and sacrifices of the Indian Armed Forces, while promoting fitness, environmental awareness and an active lifestyle.