



## Second Assault Inside Colvale Jail In A Week Raises Serious Security Concerns

■ Injured inmate shifted to Mapusa District Hospital after alleged attack by fellow prisoners

Team Goemkarponn

**COLVALE:** Serious concerns have emerged over security and inmate safety inside Colvale Jail after another violent assault was reported within the prison premises, marking the second such incident in less than a week.

According to sources, an inmate was allegedly attacked by fellow prisoners inside the jail and sustained injuries in the assault. Following the



incident, prison authorities reportedly arranged immediate medical assistance before shifting the injured inmate to

Mapusa District Hospital for further treatment.

The repeated incidents of violence inside the state prison have raised serious

questions over internal security arrangements, supervision of inmates and the overall law-and-order situation within the correctional facility.

Sources said growing tension among prisoners and recurring assault cases have become a matter of concern for both authorities and the public. The latest incident has once again brought attention to the need for stricter monitoring and stronger preventive measures inside the jail.

## Goa Railway Police Intensify Checks To Trace Illegal Bangladeshi Nationals

Special drive conducted at Margao and Thivim stations; passengers from key interstate routes screened



Team Goemkarponn

**MARGAO:** In a statewide security initiative, the Railway Police of Goa Police have stepped up passenger verification and surveillance operations at major railway stations to identify illegal Bangladeshi nationals allegedly entering the state through railway networks.

The special inspection drive was jointly undertaken by the Railway Police and the Railway Protection Force (RPF) at Margao Railway Station in South Goa and Thivim Railway Station in North Goa.

During the operation, officials checked identity documents and travel records of

passengers arriving on trains originating from states including Delhi, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh. Authorities said the verification process was aimed at confirming the nationality and legal travel status of passengers entering Goa. Railway Police personnel also carried out awareness activities onboard trains, urging commuters to immediately report any suspicious persons or activities noticed during their journey.

Police officials stated that stringent action under the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, will be taken against individuals found entering or residing in India without valid documents or official authorization.



## "Pakistan Must Face Consequences": India Blasts Cross Border Terrorism At United Nations

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India launched a strong attack on Pakistan at the United Nations Security Council, accusing Islamabad of sponsoring cross border terrorism and repeatedly violating the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and peaceful coexistence.

Speaking during a UNSC Open Debate, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Harish Parvathaneni said Pakistan's long standing policy of supporting terrorism had directly threatened regional stability and international peace. He stressed that India has every right to protect itself against terror attacks originating from across the border.

The Indian envoy

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## Maharashtra Man Arrested In Margao Hit-And-Run Case

■ Attempt to murder charge invoked; injured woman undergoes surgery after accident

**MARGAO:** Margao Police have arrested a man from Maharashtra in connection with the hit-and-run case reported on Tuesday in Margao.

The accused, identified as Swaraj Jagtap, was taken into custody after police intensified investigations into the incident. Officials said an offence has been registered against him under attempt to



murder provisions along with Section 190 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

Police sources informed that the accused is scheduled to be produced before

the court today for remand proceedings. Meanwhile, the husband of the injured woman said she underwent surgery following the accident and is currently receiving medical treatment.

## NEET-UG Leak Probe Deepens As CBI Arrests Doctor And Coaching Faculty

■ Total Arrests Rise To 13 As Investigators Expand Search Across

**New Delhi:** The investigation into the NEET-UG 2026 paper leak case intensified on Wednesday after the Central Bureau of Investigation arrested two more accused, taking the total number of arrests in the case to 13. The latest arrests include a doctor from Latur and a physics teacher associated with a Pune based coaching



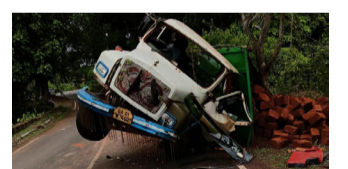
institute. Officials said the accused were allegedly linked to the circulation of leaked examination questions before the medical entrance test.

According to investigators, Manoj Shirure allegedly played a crucial role in helping three students gain access to

chemistry questions that were reportedly sourced from NEET paper setter P V Kulkarni. Among the students was the son of Shivraj Motegaonkar, who

had earlier been arrested in the case. The agency also arrested Tejas Harshadkumar Shah, a physics teacher at Dr Abhang Prabhu Medical Academy.

Investigators alleged that he received leaked physics questions from another accused, Manisha Havaladar, who was previously taken into custody.



## Illegal Laterite Trade Under Scanner After Truck Overturns Near Sacorda

Team Goemkarponn

**SACORDA:** A truck allegedly carrying laterite stones from illegally operating quarries overturned near the Canara Bank junction at

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# Goa Cannot Ignore the Growing Illegal Immigration Threat

The recent verification drive conducted by the Railway Police and the Railway Protection Force at Margao and Thivim railway stations has once again brought attention to a serious and sensitive issue facing Goa and several other Indian states: illegal immigration. The authorities reportedly carried out checks to identify suspected illegal Bangladeshi nationals entering Goa through railway routes, particularly in the backdrop of intensified crackdowns and demolitions in parts of West Bengal and Bandra.

This issue cannot be dismissed as mere politics or communal rhetoric. Illegal immigration is a matter of national security, law enforcement, and demographic balance. Goa, despite being India's smallest state, is already struggling with pressure on infrastructure, housing, jobs, and law and order. Any unchecked influx of undocumented migrants only increases these concerns further.

Reports from different parts of the country suggest that many illegal immigrants move frequently to avoid detection, often settling in construction sites, labour colonies, and densely populated urban pockets. Goa's booming tourism and construction sectors make it an attractive destination for undocumented labour. The concern becomes even more serious when fake identity documents, forged Aadhaar cards, and illegal rental arrangements enter the picture.

At the same time, authorities must handle the issue carefully and lawfully. Genuine Indian citizens, migrant workers, and people from minority communities should not face harassment merely based on appearance, language, or religion. Verification drives must be intelligence based, professional, and within the framework of the Constitution and human rights.

The state government cannot

*“Reports from different parts of the country suggest that many illegal immigrants move frequently to avoid detection, often settling in construction sites, labour colonies, and densely populated urban pockets. Goa's booming tourism and construction sectors make it an attractive destination for undocumented labour. The concern becomes even more serious when fake identity documents, forged Aadhaar cards, and illegal rental arrangements enter the picture.*

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afford to remain complacent. There is an urgent need for better coordination between railway police, local police stations, intelligence units, panchayats, municipalities, and labour departments. Tenant verification systems must be

strengthened. Contractors and employers hiring workers from outside the state should be required to maintain proper identification records. Railway stations, bus stands, and border entry points must remain under strict surveillance.

Goa has always welcomed people from across India who come honestly to work, study, and contribute to the economy. Migrant labour has played an important role in the state's development. However, there is a clear difference between legal migration and illegal infiltration. Confusing the two only weakens meaningful discussion and policymaking.

The larger concern is that if illegal immigration is ignored today, the consequences tomorrow could be severe. Several Indian cities have already witnessed problems related to illegal settlements, organised crime networks, identity fraud, and pressure on civic infrastructure. Goa must learn from these examples instead of reacting only after the problem spirals out of control.

Citizens also have a responsibility. Locals should cooperate with authorities and report suspicious activities responsibly, without spreading rumours or targeting innocent individuals. Social media misinformation and hate campaigns can create panic and division, which only complicates genuine security efforts.

The recent railway verification drive should therefore be viewed as a preventive measure rather than a cause for alarm. Law enforcement agencies must continue such operations consistently and transparently. At the same time, the Centre and state governments must frame stronger long term policies to monitor illegal immigration routes and prevent misuse of the country's identity systems.

Goa's peace, security, and demographic balance are too important to ignore. Sensitivity, legality, and strict enforcement must go hand in hand.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Manoj Parab's Legacy Will Continue To Inspire Goa

The recent resignation and withdrawal of RGP President Manoj Parab from active politics has left many Goans emotional and reflective. While political journeys often witness ups and downs, some individuals leave behind a legacy that goes beyond elections and public office. Manoj Parab is one such personality who inspired thousands of Goans, especially the youth, with his fearless voice and commitment towards Goa and Goenkarponn.

Though he may have stepped away from politics for now, the hope and faith of countless supporters still remain alive. True revolutionaries believe that setbacks are never the end of a journey, but often a phase that prepares a leader for a stronger comeback. Perhaps this is part of a larger plan destined by the universal power that Manoj Parab himself always believed in.

Politics today often lacks sincerity and sacrifice, but leaders who work selflessly for society are never forgotten. The sacrifices, struggles, and dedication shown by Manoj Parab towards the people of Goa will always remain etched in public memory.

For many, he is not merely a political leader, but a symbol of courage, honesty, and resistance against injustice. Whether in politics or outside it, his contribution to Goa's socio-political landscape will continue to inspire future generations.

- Gauresh Agarvadekar

### Reckless Driving By Tourists Is Becoming A Serious Concern In Goa

Goa has always welcomed tourists with warmth and hospitality, but the increasing incidents of reckless driving by visitors using rent-a-bike and rent-a-car vehicles have become a major concern for locals and daily commuters. Roads across tourist hotspots are witnessing dangerous driving, overspeeding, rash overtaking, drunken riding, and complete disregard for traffic rules.

Many tourists, unfamiliar with Goa's narrow roads and traffic conditions, ride rented bikes without helmets and drive cars carelessly, putting the lives of pedestrians, residents, and other motorists at risk. Several accidents reported in recent months have involved rented vehicles, raising serious questions about road safety and enforcement.

The issue is not tourism itself, but the lack of strict monitoring and accountability. Rent-a-bike and rent-a-car operators must ensure that vehicles are provided only after proper verification of valid driving licences and basic awareness of traffic rules. Authorities should also increase police patrolling in tourist belts and impose heavy fines on violators involved in drunken or reckless driving.

Tourism is the backbone of Goa's economy, but public safety cannot be compromised. Responsible tourism must be promoted where visitors respect local laws, culture, and the safety of residents. Unless strict action is taken immediately, reckless driving by tourists will continue to endanger lives and damage Goa's image as a peaceful destination.

- Shawn Simoes, Parra

# Goa BJP Renews Push For ST Political Reservation Ahead Of 2027 Elections

■ Party Urges Centre To Accelerate Process For Reserving Assembly Seats For Tribal Community

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Bharatiya Janata Party's Goa unit intensified its campaign for political reservation for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the State Assembly by adopting a resolution calling for swift action from the Centre before the 2027 Assembly elections.

After the BJP core committee meeting, Goa BJP president Damu Naik told reporters that the party



would continue engaging with the Union government and the central leadership to ensure reservation for the tribal community is implemented within the current electoral cycle.

According to Naik, the BJP is of the view that four Assembly constituencies

in Goa should be reserved for Scheduled Tribes based on data from the 2011 Census. He cautioned that delaying the exercise until a fresh census is conducted could slow down the process and affect implementation before the next state elections. He said the party remains determined to secure adequate political representation for the tribal population in Goa and would persist in

pursuing the matter at the national level. Although Parliament approved the Readjustment of Representation of Scheduled Tribes in Assembly Constituencies of the State of Goa Bill in August 2025 and the legislation later received Presidential assent, the groundwork needed to enforce the reservation system has reportedly seen little progress over the past several months.



## Heavy Rain Alert Issued For Goa As Pre-Monsoon Activity Picks Up

■ IMD Predicts Thunderstorms, Lightning And Intense Showers Across The State

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** Goa is expected to witness a sharp increase in rainfall activity over the next four days as pre-monsoon conditions strengthen across the region, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The weather department has forecast spells of heavy to very heavy rain in Goa, while neighbouring states such as Kerala and Karnataka are also likely to receive intense showers during the same period.

The IMD has further warned that thunderstorms and lightning may accompany the rainfall. Authorities have advised people to remain cautious as

persistent downpours could trigger waterlogging in vulnerable areas, affect visibility on roads and create temporary disruptions in low-lying localities.

Several other parts of the country, including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Lakshadweep, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, are also expected to receive light to moderate rainfall with thunderstorm activity in the coming days.

Goa has already been experiencing scattered pre-monsoon showers over the past few days, with moderate rainfall reported in isolated pockets. Keeping the evolving weather situation in mind, the Goa IMD has issued.



## Court Clears Mumbai Resident In Calangute Human Trafficking Case

Team Goemkarponn

**MAPUSA:** The Additional Sessions Court at Mapusa has acquitted a Mumbai-based man accused in a 2018 prostitution and human trafficking case registered in Calangute, ruling that police evidence alone was insufficient to secure a conviction.

Additional Sessions Judge Dvijple V Patkar, while pronouncing the verdict, observed that the recovery of women during a police raid or the seizure of items from a premises cannot by itself conclusively establish offences related to trafficking or sexual exploitation.

The court underlined that in cases involving allegations of recruitment, coercion, inducement and exploitation, the statements of the alleged victims are considered the most crucial form of evidence since such facts are directly within their personal knowledge.

In its order, the court noted that the testimony of the investigating officer could only confirm that a raid had taken place and certain materials were recovered from the site.

## Goa CM Hints At Filling Vacant Goa Cabinet Post Soon

■ Decision On New Minister Expected After Months Of Political Discussions

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI :** Chief Minister Pramod Sawant suggested that the vacant position in the Goa cabinet may be filled in the near future, raising expectations of an impending ministerial appointment after months of uncertainty.

Interacting with reporters in Porvorim, the Chief Minister did not disclose who was being considered for the post or when the announcement would be made. He stated that the media would



be informed once the government reaches a final decision regarding the induction of a new cabinet minister.

The ministerial vacancy arose after the passing of former Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik on October 13, 2025. Since then, political discussions have continued over the possible inclusion of a

new face in the state cabinet.

Sawant's remarks come at a time when speculation surrounding a cabinet reshuffle or expansion has been gaining momentum within political circles in Goa.

While the ruling BJP has so far remained tight-lipped on the matter, political observers believe the selection of the next minister could influence internal party equations as well as regional and social representation ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections in the state.

## Anticipatory Bail Granted To Delhi Businessman In Birch Licence Case

■ Mapusa Court Says Alleged Forgery Linked To Initial Excise Approval, Not Renewal Stage

Team Goemkarponn

**MAPUSA:** The Additional Sessions Court in Mapusa has granted anticipatory bail to Delhi-based Dinesh Khera in the alleged fake excise licence document case connected to the Birch by Romeo Lane nightclub at Arpora.

In its order issued on Tuesday, the court observed that the alleged forged No



Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Health Department was reportedly used during the process of obtaining the original excise licence

and not during its later renewal. The court further noted that Khera's name surfaced only at the renewal stage. Additional Sessions Judge Dvijple Patkar

stated that custodial interrogation of Khera was not necessary at this point, as preliminary investigation records indicated that the

questioned document was allegedly submitted before the Excise Department by owner Gaurav Luthra.

The matter relates to allegations that officials linked to Being GS Hospitality LLP and Birch by Romeo Lane used a fabricated NOC, purportedly issued by the Candolim Primary Health Centre, to secure an excise licence for the nightclub.

## Financial Assistance Announced For Govt School Students In Goa

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Directorate of Education has rolled out financial assistance for students studying in Classes I and III in government primary schools across Goa to help them purchase school uniforms and raincoats for the academic year. Around 8,200 students are expected to benefit from the initiative, with each eligible student set to receive Rs 1,100 directly in their bank accounts through the Aadhaar-Based Payment System (ABPS).

# Goa Cyber Police Arrest Satara Man In ₹14 Lakh 'Digital Arrest' Fraud

■ Accused allegedly posed as ED and CBI officer, kept Caranzalem woman under 'house arrest' during scam

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Cyber Crime Police Station, Goa, has arrested a 45-year-old man from Satara, Maharashtra, in connection with a "digital arrest" cyber fraud case involving ₹14 lakh.

According to police, the offence was registered on January 27, 2026, under Crime No. 04/2026 based on a complaint filed by a resident of Caranzalem, Goa. The case has been booked under Sections 318(4), 319(2) read with 3(5) of the Bharatiya



Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 66-D of the Information Technology Act.

Police said that between January 14 and January 22, 2026, the accused and his associates allegedly contacted the complainant

through multiple Signal App accounts while impersonating Enforcement Directorate (ED) and CBI officers.

The fraudsters allegedly told the complainant that a SIM card, Aadhaar details and an ATM card issued in her name were linked to a

human trafficking case in Bengaluru. Using fear and intimidation, the accused reportedly placed the complainant under a so-called "digital house arrest" and coerced her into transferring ₹14 lakh through RTGS transactions to an Axis Bank account.

Following a detailed technical investigation, a police team led by PSI Mandar Gaonkar along with PC Mahesh Naik and PC Santaram Narse traced the suspect to Shirwal in Khandala taluka of Satara district, Maharashtra.

## Prabhav Naik Demands End To 'Rent-A-Car' Menace In Goa

■ Youth leader calls for strict action after alleged rented Thar crash on Margao-Sirlim road

Team Goemkarponn

**MARGAO:** Reacting to the viral video of a recent accident on the Margao-Sirlim road, youth leader Prabhav Naik has demanded decisive action against what he described as the growing "Rent-a-Car menace" on Goa's roads.

Addressing the media in Margao, Naik said the time had come to put an end to reckless driving involving rented vehicles, particularly after Tuesday's accident in which a rented Thar allegedly rammed into a two-wheeler rider.

He claimed the rider was reportedly not at fault and said the incident highlighted the dangers posed by irresponsible driving by some tourists using rented vehicles in the state.

Naik stated that while tourism remains vital to Goa's economy and visitors are welcome, repeated road accidents involving rent-a-cars and rent-a-bikes have raised serious safety concerns for local residents and regular commuters.

He alleged that several fatal and serious accidents linked to



rented vehicles over the years have exposed the failure of authorities to tackle the issue effectively. According to him, temporary measures and sporadic enforcement drives have not been sufficient to curb reckless driving on Goa's roads.

Calling for stronger enforcement, Naik urged the Traffic Police and Transport Department to intensify checks at tourist hotspots and accident-prone areas across the state.

He also demanded strict action against drunken driving, overspeeding, rash overtaking and dangerous driving practices, regardless of whether the offenders are tourists or locals.

"The safety of human life must come before commercial interests. Goa's roads cannot become a playground for reckless drivers," Naik said, while urging the government to take firm and immediate measures to prevent further loss of life.



## Goa Cyber Police Arrest Thane Man In ₹2.09 Crore Trading Fraud

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Cyber Crime Police Station, Goa, has arrested a 25-year-old man from Thane, Maharashtra, in connection with an alleged online trading fraud amounting to ₹2,09,78,612. According to police, the case was registered on May 8, 2026, under Crime No. 56/2026 based on a complaint filed by a resident of Margao. The offence has been booked under Sections 318(4), 319(2) read with 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 66-D of the Information Technology Act. Police said the accused and his associates allegedly contacted the complainant through multiple WhatsApp numbers while posing as representatives of the Angel One trading platform. The complainant was reportedly introduced to a fake trading application named "Trendlytic", which promised high returns through share market investments.

## Traffic Diversion At Porvorim From May 27 To June 15

■ NH-66 lane near Neo Majestic Hotel to remain closed for road work; traffic to be diverted via service roads

Team Goemkarponn

**PORVORIM :** The Executive Engineer, Work Division-VII (NH), PWD Panaji, has announced a traffic diversion on NH-66 at Porvorim from May 27 to June 15, 2026, to facilitate the smooth and speedy completion of ongoing road works.

According to the order, the right-hand side stretch of the existing NH-66 from the approach road of A2 near Neo Majestic Hotel



up to Gauri Petrol Pump, Porvorim, will remain closed for all types of vehicular traffic during the period.

As per the diversion

plan, traffic moving from Panaji towards Mapusa will be diverted through the left-side service road near Neo Majestic Hotel.

## CCP Withdraws Azad Maidan Permission Granted To 'Enough is Enough'

■ Permission for May 30 public meeting cancelled citing Statehood Day exhibition by Government at Azad Maidan

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Corporation of the City of Panaji has withdrawn the permission earlier granted to citizens' group "Enough is Enough" for holding a public meeting at Azad Maidan on May 30.

As per the cancellation order issued



by the CCP Administrative Section on May 25, the earlier NOC dated

May 21 permitting use of Azad Maidan from 3 pm to 7 pm now stands withdrawn.

The corporation stated that the Government is setting up an exhibition at Azad Maidan to commemorate Goa Statehood Day.

The original permission letter had allowed the gathering subject to

several conditions, including police and fire department approvals, maintaining public safety, avoiding traffic obstruction and ensuring cleanliness of the venue.

The CCP further stated that any fees paid towards permission would be refunded upon submission of the original payment receipt.

## Govt Appoints Administrators For Three Municipal Councils

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Government of Goa has appointed administrators for the Margao, Mormugao and Mapusa Municipal Councils after the tenure of the elected councils ended on May 26, 2026. The appointments were made by the Department of Urban Development in view of the forthcoming municipal elections and based on the proposal approved by the State EC.

# South Goa Collector Reviews Implementation of Solid Waste Management

■ District-level committee discusses Supreme Court directives, action against violators and monitoring of illegal dumping

**Team Goemkarponn**

**MARGAO:** Collector and District Magistrate of South Goa and H/C Kushavati District, Eгна Cleetus chaired a meeting of the District Level Committee for implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016, in compliance with directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil



Appeal No. 6174/2023.

The meeting was attended by Additional Collector-II Ramesh Gaonkar, Deputy Collector South II Prajeet R. Chodankar, along with

SDMs, Mamlatdars, BDOs, Municipal Council officials and representatives from the Health, Urban Development and Tourism departments. Officials

from the Goa Waste Management Corporation, Goa State Pollution Control Board and PI were also present. During the meeting, the Supreme Court directives and the powers vested with the District Collector under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for monitoring and implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules were discussed in detail.

## UIDAI Urges Residents To Update Aadhaar Documents After 10 Years

■ Free online document update facility available on myAadhaar portal till June 14, 2027

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI :** The Unique Identification Authority of India has advised residents to update their Aadhaar supporting documents by submitting Proof of Identity and Proof of Address after completion of 10 years from the date of enrolment.

According to UIDAI, keeping Aadhaar details updated helps ensure ease of living, better



service delivery, accurate authentication and continued accuracy of information in the Aadhaar database. Aadhaar is a unique 12-digit

identification number issued to residents and is mandatory for availing several Government subsidies, benefits and services where Aadhaar authentication is required.

The Aadhaar update service can be availed at Aadhaar Centres on payment of a fee of Rs. 75 approved by UIDAI.

## Inquiry Ordered After Two Constables Argue At Margao Railway Station

**Team Goemkarponn**

**MARGAO:** An inquiry has been initiated after two police constables were involved in an argument at the Margao Konkan Railway Station on Tuesday. According to PI Vikram Naik, a quarrel had broken out among daily wage workers in the area while police personnel were on duty at the railway station. On-duty constable Manjunath Doddamani rushed to the spot and attempted to pacify the situation.



## 'Swasth Police – Sashakth Police' Program Held At Central Jail Colvale

■ Health and wellness initiative focuses on stress management, tobacco control and fitness for police personnel and prison staff

**Team Goemkarponn**

**COLVALE:** A health and wellness awareness programme titled "Swasth Police – Sashakth Police Program" was organised at the Central Jail Colvale on Tuesday for police personnel and prison staff.

The programme was jointly organised by Goa Police, VIANAAR Group, Indian Medical Association Bicholim and the Telemedicine Society of India Goa Chapter.

K. R. Chaurasia, Inspector General of Prisons Goa and Inspector General of Police Goa, attended the event as Chief Guest, while Sucheta B. Dessai, Superintendent of Prisons at Central Jail Colvale, was the Special Guest.

Addressing the gathering, Chaurasia highlighted the importance

of physical and mental well-being, discipline and healthy living among uniformed personnel. Dessai appreciated the initiative and stressed the need for wellness and stress management among staff.

The inaugural session included the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, presentation of mobility support aids by Jones Samuel of VIANAAR Group to two needy inmates in the presence of jail authorities, and presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Central Jail Colvale.

Shekhar Salkar, President of IMA Bicholim and President of the National Organisation for Tobacco Eradication (NOTE), spoke on tobacco control, drugs and substance abuse awareness.

## Drone Flying, Road Digging Banned In Parts Of Goa For VVIP Visit

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** The Office of the District Magistrate North Goa has imposed restrictions

on drone flying, aerial photography and road digging activities in parts of Goa ahead of the visit of a VVIP for the Goa Statehood Day celebrations. District Magistrate Ankit Yadav issued the orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita.



## FDA Strengthening Food, Drug Safety Monitoring Across Goa: Vishwajit Rane

■ Health Minister reviews enforcement measures, quality standards and public health initiatives with FDA Department

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Goa Health Minister Vishwajit Rane said that ensuring safe and hygienic food along with quality medicines for every Goan remains a top priority of the Government. Rane chaired a detailed review meeting with the Food and Drugs Administration Department to assess various ongoing measures and initiatives



being implemented across the State. During the meeting, discussions were

held on strengthening monitoring mechanisms, improving enforcement

and ensuring that citizens continue to receive safe food products and medicines maintaining the highest standards of quality and care. The Health Minister reiterated the Government's commitment towards protecting public health and building a healthier Goa through stronger regulatory oversight and effective implementation of food and drug safety measures.

## Nagoa Panchayat Tackles Waste Challenge Amid Rising Migrant Population

**Team Goemkarponn**

**NAGOA:** The Nagoa Village Panchayat has emerged as a model for sustainable waste management despite facing mounting pressure from a large floating migrant population linked to the nearby industrial belt.



# “We Have To Be Prepared”: DEA Secretary Warns West Asia Conflict Could Fuel Inflation Risks

■ Government Closely Monitoring Oil Prices, Trade Disruptions And Global Economic Uncertainty

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** Rising tensions in West Asia are beginning to impact global inflation expectations and business confidence, creating fresh challenges for central banks worldwide, according to Anuradha Thakur.

Speaking at the CNBC Awaaz Bharat Economic Samvad, the Department of Economic Affairs Secretary said central banks are facing the difficult task of controlling inflation while also ensuring that economic growth remains stable. She noted that geopolitical uncertainty, especially in energy producing regions, could continue to affect global markets even if tensions ease in the coming months.

Thakur cautioned that the impact of instability may persist for some time and stressed the need for constant monitoring of India's current account deficit and broader economic indicators. She added



that both domestic and international investors have repeatedly expressed concerns over global tensions and their possible economic consequences. According to the senior official, the world economy is already under pressure from higher commodity prices, disrupted trade routes, and tighter financial conditions. Emerging economies are also experiencing rising bond yields and volatile capital flows as investors react cautiously to geopolitical developments.

Despite the challenges, Thakur said India's economic position remains

stronger compared to earlier periods of global uncertainty. She highlighted domestic consumption, capital expenditure, and the services sector as key drivers supporting the country's growth momentum.

She also pointed to lower retail inflation, a stronger banking system, and foreign exchange reserves of nearly 700 billion dollars as important stabilising factors for the Indian economy. However, she warned that a sustained rise in crude oil prices could eventually affect inflation, fiscal management,

and the current account deficit because of India's dependence on imported energy.

The official added that prices of fertilisers, metals, and several raw materials have already increased, raising concerns that wholesale inflationary pressures could gradually be passed on to consumers.

On the energy front, she said India has diversified its crude oil sourcing network significantly in recent years and now imports oil from around 40 countries, reducing dependence on regions directly affected by ongoing conflicts.

Meanwhile, market participants largely expect the Reserve Bank of India to maintain interest rates at its upcoming monetary policy meeting. However, some analysts believe persistent inflationary pressures linked to geopolitical tensions could eventually force the central bank to begin tightening rates later in the financial year

## From \$22 Billion Giant To Global Courtroom Battles: How Byju's Crisis Unfolded

■ Once The Face Of India's Startup Boom, The Edtech Company Is Now Fighting Insolvency, Lawsuits And Allegations Across Multiple Countries

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** There was a time when Byju's symbolised the rise of India's startup economy. Backed by global investors, promoted through massive advertising campaigns, and featured on the jersey of the Indian cricket team, the company grew into one of the world's most valuable edtech firms during the pandemic era.

Founded in 2011 as Think & Learn Pvt Ltd by Byju Raveendran, the company capitalised on India's growing online education market and rapidly expanding smartphone usage. The Covid 19 pandemic accelerated its growth further as schools shifted to virtual learning. At its peak in 2022, Byju's was valued at nearly 22 billion dollars.

The company expanded aggressively through major acquisitions including Aakash Educational Services, Great Learning, and Epic, reportedly spending close to 3 billion dollars to strengthen its global presence. However, beneath the rapid expansion, financial and governance concerns were beginning to surface.

The turning point came after Byju's raised a 1.2 billion dollar term loan from overseas lenders in 2021. While initially viewed as a

landmark achievement for Indian startups, the loan later became central to the company's troubles. Delayed financial filings, mounting losses, and questions around revenue reporting began to erode investor confidence.

The situation worsened after auditors resigned, citing communication delays and concerns related to financial statements. Lenders later accused the company of moving hundreds of millions of dollars without proper disclosure, triggering legal disputes in the United States and Singapore. Singapore courts recently sentenced Raveendran to six months in jail for contempt after he allegedly failed to comply with court orders linked to asset disclosures. At the same time, insolvency proceedings against Think & Learn were initiated in India over unpaid dues to the Board of Control for Cricket in India.

One of the most contentious battles now centres on Aakash Educational Services, considered Byju's most valuable acquisition. The company risks losing significant control in Aakash as financial restructuring and rights issue disputes continue.

Meanwhile, layoffs, salary delays, board resignations, and collapsing investor confidence have severely damaged the company's reputation.



## “Pakistan Must Face Consequences”: India Blasts Cross Border Terrorism At United Nations

said Pakistan's strategy of “bleeding India by a thousand cuts” revealed the contradiction between its public statements and its actual conduct. He asserted that New Delhi would continue to defend itself against terrorism and warned that Islamabad must understand there would be consequences for backing such activities. The remarks came during a UN Security Council debate chaired by China under its presidency of the 15 member body for May. During the session, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar raised the issues of Jammu and Kashmir and the Indus Waters Treaty.

India had placed the treaty

in abeyance following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack that killed 26 civilians. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by The Resistance Front, which India identifies as a front for the Pakistan based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba.

## Illegal Laterite Trade Under Scanner After Truck Overtakes Near Sacorda

Sacorda after reportedly crashing into a roadside divider, bringing the issue of illegal quarrying and unchecked transport of mining material back into focus.

According to local sources, the truck was travelling along the Malle-Sacorda route after allegedly loading laterite stones from Malpan, where illegal laterite quarrying activities are reportedly continuing despite previous enforcement action by authorities.

The incident has sparked anger among residents, who alleged that overloaded trucks transporting illegally extracted laterite stones regularly use the route, posing a serious threat to commuters and schoolchildren in the area.

Residents pointed out that a nearby secondary and higher secondary school witnesses the movement of nearly 400 to 500 students daily, increasing fears over road safety. Locals further claimed that although the

Mining Department had conducted raids in Malpan in September against alleged illegal quarrying operations, the extraction and transportation of laterite stones have reportedly resumed openly. Following the accident, residents have demanded strict action against illegal quarry operators, tighter monitoring by authorities, and restrictions on heavy vehicle movement through the populated stretch before a major tragedy occurs.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

# “Demographic Change Poses Major Challenge”: Centre Sets Up High Level Panel On Illegal Migration

■ Committee To Study Population Shifts, Border Management And Deportation Mechanisms Across India

**New Delhi:** The Centre has constituted a high level committee to examine demographic changes across the country, particularly those linked to illegal migration and other unusual factors. The move fulfils an assurance made earlier by Prime Minister Narendra Modi regarding concerns over demographic imbalance and infiltration. The newly formed panel has been tasked with conducting



a comprehensive assessment of changing population patterns in different regions of India and recommending measures to address the issue. These measures could include the identification, detention, and deportation of illegal immigrants residing in the

country. The committee will be headed by retired judge Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar and will include Census Commissioner officials along with retired IAS officer Durga Shankar Mishra and former IPS officer Balaji Srivastava.

According to the government's mandate, the panel will study abnormal population shifts among various religious and social communities and prepare a systematic

framework to address these developments within a defined timeline. The committee will also examine how existing systems can be strengthened to identify undocumented immigrants more efficiently.

In addition, the panel has been authorised to recommend long term institutional mechanisms aimed at improving border management, population stabilisation, and identification systems.



## “Exclusion From Voter List Does Not End Citizenship”: Supreme Court Clarifies Limits Of ECI Powers

■ Top Court Says Election Commission Cannot Decide Citizenship During Special Intensive Revision Process

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Wednesday clarified that exclusion from an electoral roll does not result in the loss of citizenship, while upholding the Election Commission's authority to carry out the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists. In a significant observation, the apex court stated that the powers of the Election Commission during the SIR exercise are restricted to determining eligibility for inclusion in electoral rolls and do not extend to deciding questions of citizenship. The court stressed that the SIR process does not grant the Election Commission any absolute or unrestricted authority to determine whether an individual is a citizen. It further observed that if a person's name is absent from the voter list, it

cannot automatically be interpreted as failure to prove citizenship. Instead, the court said, such exclusion only reflects the Election Commission's inability to verify the individual's status during the verification process.

The bench also noted that any person excluded from the electoral rolls must be dealt with strictly in accordance with the law. It underlined that the entire SIR process remains open to judicial scrutiny and any arbitrary action or wrongful exclusion can be challenged before the appropriate legal forums. While defending the revision exercise, the Supreme Court stated that free and fair elections are not limited to the act of polling alone, but also depend on maintaining accurate and reliable electoral rolls.



## “We Must Understand The Numbers”: Shashi Tharoor Supports Centre's Demographic Change Panel

**New Delhi:** Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has expressed support for the Centre's decision to establish a high level committee to study demographic changes linked to illegal immigration and other factors, describing the move as an important step toward obtaining accurate national data.

Speaking on the issue, Tharoor said it was essential to first understand the actual scale of demographic changes before engaging in broader political debates surrounding the matter. He emphasised that reliable and comprehensive information was necessary to prevent the misuse of incomplete or inaccurate data for political purposes.

According to the Congress leader, any initiative aimed at gathering factual and detailed demographic statistics should be welcomed.

## “SIR Breathes Life Into Constitution”: Supreme Court Upholds Election Commission's Voter Roll Exercise

■ Top Court Says Special Intensive Revision Strengthens Electoral Integrity and Supports Free, Fair Elections

**New Delhi:** In a significant endorsement of the Election Commission's authority, the Supreme Court has upheld the legality and constitutional validity of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, declaring that the exercise strengthens the democratic framework and “breathes life into the Constitution.” The ruling brings to an



end months of intense legal and political debate surrounding the voter list revision process initiated in Bihar last year. The apex court concluded that the Election Commission acted within its statutory powers

and did not violate any constitutional provisions while conducting the exercise. A bench led by Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi observed that the SIR was aimed at ensuring an accurate and inclusive electoral roll, directly supporting the constitutional objective of conducting free and fair elections.

## “S-400 Proved Itself”: India In Talks With Russia For More Missile Defence Systems After Operation Sindoor

■ Centre Plans To Expand Air Defence Shield As Rafale Jet Deal With France Also Moves Forward

**Team Goemkarponn**

**New Delhi:** India is in discussions with Russia for the purchase of additional S-400 Triumf missile defence systems following their reported success during Operation Sindoor against Pakistan last year.

Russia's Federal Service for Military Technical Cooperation confirmed that negotiations are



underway for fresh deliveries of the advanced air defence platform. According to Russian officials, the S-400 system demonstrated strong operational capability

during Operation Sindoor, prompting India to consider expanding its current inventory beyond the five regimental units ordered under the 2018 defence agreement.

Reports indicate that India's Defence Acquisition Council has already approved plans to procure five additional S-400 regimental systems. The talks are progressing even as Russia continues deliveries under the earlier 5.4 billion dollar contract signed between the two countries. India received the first three S-400 systems by 2023, with deployments made along the western and northern borders to strengthen

protection against aerial threats. Deliveries of the remaining two units were delayed due to the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. However, Russian officials recently confirmed that the delivery schedule is back on track. The fourth S-400 unit is expected to arrive later this month, while the fifth and final system under the original deal is likely to be delivered in November.

# “We Are Coming For You”: Rajat Patidar Reveals Aggressive Mindset Behind RCB’s Dominant Qualifier Win

■ RCB Captain’s Explosive 93 Off 33 Balls Powers Bengaluru Into Second Straight IPL Final

**New Delhi:** Royal Challengers Bengaluru captain Rajat Patidar credited his team’s fearless intent and attacking body language after a crushing 92 run victory over Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1 of the IPL. Patidar produced a sensational unbeaten 93 off just 33 balls to lead RCB to a massive total of 254 for 5, helping the franchise secure its place in a second consecutive IPL final. Reflecting on the



performance, the skipper said the team entered the contest with a clear attacking mindset and a determination to put pressure on the opposition

bowlers from the start. According to Patidar, the emphasis before the game was not necessarily on targeting specific

bowlers, but on showing intent and positive body language throughout the innings. He said every batter approached the match with confidence

and aggression, especially considering the importance of the playoff stage. The RCB captain also spoke about his personal batting approach, explaining that he usually takes a few deliveries to assess pitch conditions before switching gears aggressively. He added that once settled, his focus remains on putting bowlers under pressure rather than worrying about losing his wicket.



## Sports Governance Set For Major Overhaul As Centre Finalises Rules For New Tribunal And Sports Board

■ National Sports Tribunal And National Sports Board To Handle Disputes, Recognition And Governance Standards

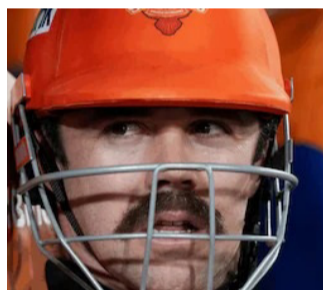
**New Delhi:** The Sports Ministry has notified the operational rules for the soon to be established National Sports Tribunal and National Sports Board, marking another significant step toward implementing the National Sports Governance Act passed last year.

The new framework is aimed at strengthening transparency, accountability, and dispute resolution within Indian sports administration through specialised institutions and digital systems.

According to the notification, the National Sports Tribunal

will function as an independent body dedicated to resolving sports related disputes across the country. The government expects the tribunal to reduce dependence on civil courts by providing a faster and more cost effective mechanism for handling conflicts linked to sports governance and administration.

A dedicated digital portal will also be developed for the tribunal. The platform will support online filing of disputes, submission of documents, notices, responses, and clarifications, along with virtual hearings and publication of orders.



## Pressure Takes A Backseat As Vaibhav Sooryavanshi And Travis Head Prepare For IPL Eliminator Showdown

**Team Goemkarponn**

**New Delhi:** As Rajasthan Royals prepared for their IPL 2026 eliminator against Sunrisers Hyderabad in Mullanpur, much of the attention centred around teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi and the fearless approach that has rapidly made him one of the tournament’s standout performers.

Ahead of the knockout clash, the 15 year old spent an extended session in the nets unleashing powerful shots across the ground, repeatedly smashing deliveries with remarkable confidence and intensity. Observers at the stadium watched as balls crashed into barriers and stands during an aggressive batting display that reflected the youngster’s natural attacking instinct. Despite the significance of the match, there appeared to be little visible tension around the venue.

## “Back Where He Belongs”: Lakshya Sen Returns To BWF Top 10 After 440 Days

■ Indian Shuttler’s Comeback Marks Reward For Strong Performances After Injury Struggles

**New Delhi:** Indian badminton star Lakshya Sen has returned to the top 10 of the Badminton World Federation men’s singles rankings for the first time since March last year, marking a major milestone in his comeback journey.

The Commonwealth Games champion and Paris Olympics semifinalist re-entered the top 10 after 440 days, following a series of consistent performances on the international circuit. Badminton Association



of India celebrated the achievement on social media, praising the shuttler for overcoming injuries, difficult recovery phases, and setbacks to reclaim his place among the world’s best. Lakshya has endured a challenging

period over the past year, battling fitness concerns and inconsistent form. However, his recent performances have shown

steady improvement and resilience against top level competition. One of the biggest highlights of his season came at the prestigious All England Open in March, where he finished runner up after an impressive campaign.

## “We’re Data Informed”: Bhuvneshwar Kumar Reveals RCB’s Winning Formula After Reaching Second Straight IPL Final

■ Veteran Pacer Credits Backroom Staff And Tactical Planning For Bengaluru’s Dominant Campaign

**Team Goemkarponn**

**New Delhi:** Bhuvneshwar Kumar praised the backroom staff and detailed planning behind Royal Challengers Bengaluru’s successful IPL 2026 campaign after the defending champions stormed into their second consecutive final with a commanding



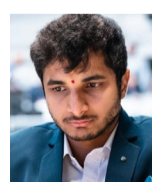
92 run win over Gujarat Titans in Qualifier 1. The experienced fast bowler played a major role in the victory with

an outstanding spell of 3 wickets for 28 runs in four overs, helping dismantle Gujarat’s batting lineup during their chase of a massive 255 run target at the HPCA Stadium in Dharamsala. His performance also helped him reclaim the Purple Cap as the tournament’s leading wicket taker. While RCB captain Rajat Patidar

grabbed attention with a blistering unbeaten 93, Bhuvneshwar highlighted the contribution of the coaching and analytical staff in shaping the team’s bowling success throughout the season. According to the senior pacer, the support staff has played a huge role in preparing match strategies and helping bowlers execute plans effectively.

## Vidit Gujrathi, Benjamin Bok Qualify For India Rising Chess LAN Finals In Mumbai

**New Delhi:** Indian



Grandmaster Vidit Gujrathi and Dutch Grandmaster Benjamin Bok have

secured places in the India Rising: Road to EWC Chess LAN Finals after impressive performances in the closed playoff stage of the tournament. The Mumbai LAN Finals will determine which player advances to the final stage of the Esports World Cup 2026 scheduled to take place in Paris.