



NIT Goa Vacancies Put on Hold Following CM's Intervention

■ Sawant Says Recruitment Process Paused After Taking Up Issue of Local Opportunities With Union Education Minister

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has said that vacancies at National Institute of Technology Goa have been kept on hold after he raised concerns with the Union Education Minister over opportunities going to candidates from outside Goa.

Speaking after his visit to New Delhi, Sawant said he urged the Centre to review the recruitment process to ensure that Goan youth receive a greater share of



employment opportunities at the institute.

The Chief Minister stated that following discussions with the Union Education Ministry, the ongoing recruitment exercise has been temporarily paused. He said the move would provide an opportunity to examine the process and



He added that discussions with the Centre are continuing and expressed hope that the revised recruitment

process would better address the aspirations of Goan youth. The Chief Minister reiterated the government's commitment to safeguarding employment opportunities for locals and ensuring that concerns regarding recruitment in key institutions are appropriately addressed.

explore ways to enhance local participation in future recruitment. Sawant noted that the state government has consistently maintained that institutions operating in Goa should create maximum opportunities for qualified local candidates while maintaining merit and institutional standards.

Shack Policy Extended for One More Year, Licence Renewals Soon: Khaunte

Tourism Department Targets August 15 Deadline for Shack Permissions; Drone Surveillance and High-Speed Internet Planned for Beaches

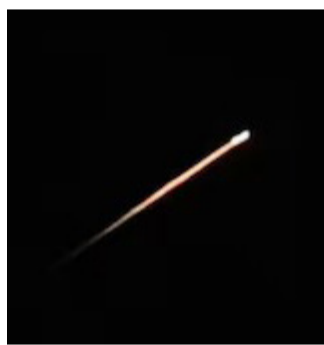


Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte on Monday announced that the existing shack policy has been extended for another

year with the same terms and conditions after consultations between the Tourism Department and shack associations.

Addressing the media, Khaunte said the policy, which has been in force for the last three years, will continue unchanged, providing stability and clarity to shack operators ahead of the upcoming tourist season.



India Urges Citizens to Leave Iran Amid Escalating Iran-Israel Conflict

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: India on Monday issued a fresh travel advisory for its citizens in Iran, urging them to avoid all travel to the country and advising those currently there to leave at the earliest through available means of transport. The advisory comes amid a sharp escalation in hostilities between Iran and Israel, raising concerns over regional security.

In a statement, the Indian Embassy in Tehran reiterated its earlier warning, citing the deteriorating situation in the region. "In view of the latest developments in the region, all Indian nationals are advised to avoid travel to Iran. Those presently in Iran should exit the country through available means of transport," the embassy said.

Shetye Opposes SIT Closure, Seeks Independent Probe Into Goa Matka Gambling Nexus

■ Petitioner tells High Court illegal gambling remains widespread and alleges failure to investigate larger network behind operations

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Petitioner Kashinath Shetye has opposed the proposed closure of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing illegal matka gambling in Goa, contending before the Bombay High Court at Goa that the investigation

has failed to address the principal issues raised in the public interest litigation. In objections filed before the court, Shetye argued that the large number of gambling cases registered and arrests made over the years demonstrates that illegal matka gambling continues to operate across the state.

Goa ST Reserva'n Issue Progresses Following CM Sawant-Shah Talks

■ Chief Minister Says Centre Is Working on the Legal Framework and Has Assured Full Cooperation for Implementation

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant today said that the issue of political reservation for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Goa has moved forward following discussions with Union Home Minister Amit Shah during his recent visit to New Delhi.

Sawant stated that



the Central Government has already initiated the legal process required for implementing ST political reservation in the Goa Legislative Assembly. He

added that he urged the Centre to expedite the process so that the long-standing demand of the tribal community can be fulfilled at the earliest.

Jaipur Under Tight Security Ahead of Major Anti-Encroachment Drive in Malviya Nagar

■ Mobile internet suspended and over 3,000 police personnel deployed as authorities prepare to clear religious structures obstructing a key road-widening project

New Delhi: Authorities in Jaipur have imposed extensive security measures, including a temporary suspension of mobile internet services and the deployment of more than 3,000 police personnel, ahead of a major anti-encroachment drive in the city's Malviya Nagar area.

The operation, led by the Jaipur Development Authority (JDA), is part of a long-pending



road-widening project on Nandpuri Road. The project seeks to expand a 1.5-kilometre stretch running parallel to a railway line from its existing width of approximately 25 to

30 feet to the legally recorded width of 80 feet.

According to officials, the drive will involve the

removal of five religious structures, including a mosque, temple, satsang hall and shrine, which fall within the designated road boundary as per revenue records.

Goemkarponn

WE ARE HIRING!

VIDEO EDITOR

Join our team!

What You'll Do:

- Edit news videos, reels, interviews, and podcasts
- Add graphics, captions, effects, and music for engaging output
- Work closely with our content and newsroom teams
- Deliver sharp, deadline-friendly edits every day

How to Apply:

Send your portfolio + resume to [our email/DM] Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for a quick test edit.

Apply Now

SEND YOUR CV TO:
goemkarponnnews@gmail.com

CALL US:
+91 89568 93882

Prepared on Paper, Missing on the Ground

The annual monsoon has once again exposed the gap between official assurances and ground reality. Statements declaring that North Goa is “fully prepared” for monsoon emergencies may offer comfort in press briefings, but the true test of disaster management is not what is said in conference rooms. It is what citizens experience when roads flood, trees collapse, electricity fails, and emergency services struggle to reach affected areas.

Every year, authorities issue familiar assurances.

Disaster management teams are activated, control rooms are established, coordination meetings are held, and departments are placed on alert. Yet every monsoon brings the same scenes: waterlogged roads, blocked drains, uprooted trees, traffic chaos, damaged homes, and residents left waiting for assistance.

If preparedness is truly in place, why do the same vulnerabilities continue to surface year after year?

The problem is not the absence of plans. It is the absence of visible, sustained implementation. Disaster management cannot begin when heavy rain is forecast. It must start months earlier with scientific planning, risk assessment, infrastructure maintenance, and community engagement. A district cannot claim readiness when drains remain clogged, dangerous trees are left unattended, construction debris blocks natural water channels, and vulnerable settlements continue to face flooding risks.

One of the biggest shortcomings is the tendency to treat disaster management as a seasonal exercise rather than a continuous responsibility. Emergency response teams are important, but they represent the last line of defence. Real preparedness means reducing the need for emergency interventions in the first place. It means ensuring that stormwater drainage systems function effectively, retaining walls are inspected, vulnerable slopes are monitored, and flood-prone locations receive special attention before the rains arrive.

Citizens often find themselves becoming the first responders. Residents clear blocked drains in their neighbourhoods, remove fallen branches from roads, and share emergency information through social media long before official assistance reaches them. While community participation is valuable, it should complement government action, not substitute for it. A disaster management framework that relies heavily on

“Disaster management teams are activated, control rooms are established, coordination meetings are held, and departments are placed on alert. Yet every monsoon brings the same scenes: waterlogged roads, blocked drains, uprooted trees, traffic chaos, damaged homes, and residents left waiting for assistance.

If preparedness is truly in place, why do the same vulnerabilities continue to surface year after year?

The problem is not the absence of plans. It is the absence of visible, sustained implementation.

Disaster management cannot begin when heavy rain is forecast. It must start months earlier with scientific planning, risk assessment, infrastructure maintenance, and community engagement. A district cannot claim readiness when drains remain clogged, dangerous trees are left unattended, construction debris blocks natural water channels, and vulnerable settlements continue to face flooding risks.”

public resilience while infrastructure weaknesses remain unaddressed is fundamentally flawed.

The increasing intensity of weather events makes this issue even more urgent. Climate change has altered rainfall patterns, resulting in more intense downpours over shorter periods. Traditional assumptions

about monsoon behaviour no longer apply. What may have been adequate preparedness a decade ago may be insufficient today. Authorities must adapt their strategies to emerging risks rather than relying on outdated models and routine administrative exercises.

Transparency is another missing component. Citizens rarely receive detailed information about preparedness measures. How many vulnerable locations have been identified? How many drainage systems have been cleaned? How many trees have been assessed as dangerous? How quickly can emergency teams reach remote areas? What resources are available in each taluka? Public confidence grows not from assurances but from evidence. Preparedness should be measurable and publicly verifiable.

There is also a tendency to focus on response rather than accountability. After every major incident, explanations are offered and inquiries promised. Yet recurring problems suggest that lessons are not being systematically incorporated into future planning. If a road floods every monsoon, it is no longer an emergency. It is a known infrastructure failure. If trees repeatedly fall in specific areas, the issue lies in maintenance and monitoring. Calling these events unavoidable acts of nature ignores preventable administrative shortcomings.

Disaster management must move beyond ceremonial preparedness. It requires investment in resilient infrastructure, modern forecasting systems, trained personnel, and continuous risk reduction measures. Most importantly, it demands a shift in mindset. Success should not be measured by the number of emergency teams deployed after a crisis, but by the number of crises prevented through proactive action.

The people of Goa do not expect miracles from the administration. They understand that extreme weather cannot be controlled. What they do expect is visible preparation, efficient infrastructure, timely intervention, and accountability when failures occur. Until preparedness is reflected in safer roads, functioning drainage systems, quicker emergency responses, and reduced disruption to daily life, official declarations will continue to sound less like evidence of readiness and more like annual monsoon rituals.

True disaster management is not demonstrated through assurances. It is demonstrated on the ground, where citizens face the consequences of every administrative success and every administrative failure.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Who Is Warning of Penalties Now?

I read with disbelief the recent statement by Health Minister Vishwajit Rane promising to protect Goa's land and environment and warning of strict action against illegal hill cutting. The statement may sound reassuring, but many Goans cannot ignore the irony behind it.

For years, large-scale land alterations, hill cutting and environmental degradation have taken place across Goa. Vast stretches of land running into lakhs of square metres have been disturbed, often triggering public protests, environmental concerns and questions about enforcement. During these years, citizens repeatedly raised alarms about the destruction of natural landscapes, loss of green cover and the impact on fragile ecosystems. Yet, action appeared slow, selective or absent.

Now, as elections draw closer, sudden declarations about preserving Goa's environment raise legitimate questions. Why were these concerns not addressed with the same urgency when people first complained? Why were stronger preventive measures not implemented before extensive damage had already occurred? Environmental protection cannot become a seasonal concern activated only when political convenience demands it.

Goa's hills, forests and open spaces are not political slogans. They are part of our identity and heritage. The people of Goa deserve consistent enforcement of environmental laws, regardless of who is involved or where violations occur. Accountability must be based on action, not announcements.

If the government is genuinely committed to protecting Goa's environment, it should begin by transparently reviewing past cases, fixing responsibility where violations occurred and ensuring that environmental laws are applied fairly and without exception.

Goans will judge commitments not by promises, but by results.

- Santosh Sawant

Congress Must Earn Public Trust Through Action

The announcement by the Congress leadership that it will undertake an organisational overhaul and launch agitations across Goa from June 18 to corner the BJP government deserves attention. While every strong democracy needs an effective opposition, the people of Goa will judge political parties not by announcements but by their credibility and performance.

There is no doubt that several issues affecting Goa, including unemployment, environmental concerns, infrastructure challenges and the rising cost of living, require sustained public debate. If the Congress intends to highlight these matters, it is well within its democratic role. However, before seeking to position itself as the alternative, the party must also address the concerns many Goans have regarding its own organisational weaknesses, internal divisions and the defections that have repeatedly weakened its presence in the State.

Goans are increasingly looking for political leadership that is consistent, accountable and connected to grassroots realities. Agitations and campaigns should not become mere exercises aimed at preparing for elections. They must result in constructive solutions and meaningful engagement with citizens.

The BJP government, too, must be held accountable wherever public interest is compromised. But criticism alone is not enough. The opposition must present a clear vision, practical policies and a united leadership capable of inspiring confidence among voters.

As Goa moves closer to another electoral cycle, citizens deserve politics centred on governance, transparency and development rather than slogans and political theatre.

Yours faithfully,

- Sebastian D'Souza, Panjim Goa

CBI Probe Sought Into Samuel Braganza Death; Questions Raised Over Investigation

■ Sunil Kawthankar Writes to Chief Minister Pramod Sawant Demanding Independent Inquiry, Cites Autopsy Findings and Concerns Over Appointment of Investigating Officer

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) Leader Sunil U.R. Kawthankar has written to Chief Minister Pramod Sawant seeking a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the death of 22-year-old Samuel Braganza, describing the

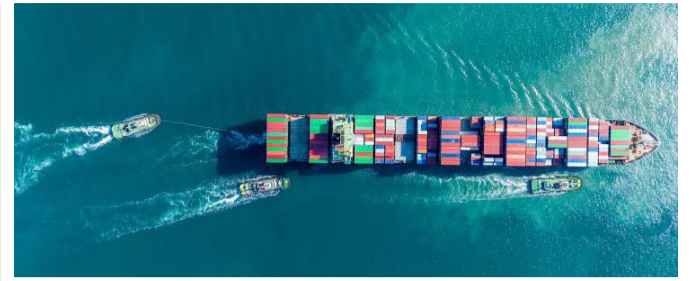


circumstances surrounding the case as suspicious and raising concerns about the credibility of the ongoing investigation. In his letter dated June 7, Kawthankar

said the autopsy findings, which reportedly revealed fractures and other injuries on Samuel's body, have intensified public suspicion regarding the events leading up to his death.

He noted that Samuel had been present at a police station shortly before the alleged suicide, making a thorough and

impartial investigation essential. Kawthankar also questioned the government's decision to appoint SP Vishvesh Karpe to investigate the case, alleging that the officer's past record in matters relating to police conduct could undermine public confidence in the probe.



CFD Calls for Immediate Formation of Goa State Maritime Board

■ NGO Says State Must Align Port Administration With Provisions of Indian Ports Act, 2025

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Citizens for Democracy (CFD) has urged the Goa government to establish the Goa State Maritime Board at the earliest, stating that the move is necessary to comply with the provisions of the Indian Ports Act, 2025.

In a memorandum addressed to Captain of Ports Minister Digambar Kamat, CFD representatives Elvis Gomes and Yogesh Nagvenkar highlighted that the new legislation, which came into force in August 2025, envisages the creation of State Maritime Boards to oversee maritime and port-related affairs.

According to the organisation, Goa needs to take prompt steps to bring its administrative structure in line with the updated legal framework governing ports. The representation stresses that the establishment

of a Maritime Board is not merely an administrative decision but a requirement arising from the implementation of the new law. CFD also raised concerns regarding permissions and approvals issued under the previous legal regime. It noted that the Indian Ports Act of 1908 has been repealed and replaced, and argued that regulatory actions must now derive authority from the provisions of the new legislation. The organisation cautioned that failure to align procedures with the current law could lead to legal complications in future development-related approvals. The NGO has called on the government to review and frame all port-related regulations and administrative decisions in accordance with the Indian Ports Act, 2025. It said such steps would provide clarity to stakeholders while ensuring that statutory requirements are fully observed.



Court Refuses Bail to Devidas Barve in Shравan Barve Murder Case

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The North Goa Additional Sessions Court has dismissed a second bail application filed by Devidas Barve, an accused in the alleged murder of his son, Shравan Barve, ruling that delays in trial proceedings cannot be the sole basis for granting bail in a grave criminal case.

Barve is among three persons facing trial in connection with the Valpoi-Sattari murder case, alongside Vayudev Ozarekar and Uday Barve. His earlier attempt to secure bail had also been unsuccessful, with the High Court declining relief after taking note of the seriousness of the allegations.

In the latest plea, the defence argued that circumstances had changed since the previous bail rejection. It submitted that the accused had spent a lengthy period in custody and that the trial was progressing slowly.

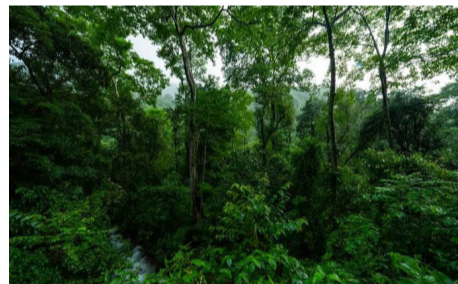
Study Reveals Goa Has Lost 200 sq km of Interior Forests in Five Decades

■ Researchers Link Growing Forest Fragmentation to Development Pressures, Advocate Regenerative Tourism Model

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa has lost nearly 200 square kilometres of interior forests over the last five decades, with dense forest cover also witnessing a gradual decline, according to a new study that raises fresh concerns about the long-term health of the State's ecosystems.

The research, conducted by scholars



from the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) Allahabad and Banaras Hindu University, analysed satellite imagery collected between 1973 and 2022 to map changes

in Goa's forests and identify environmentally sensitive areas. The findings were presented at the 2025 IEEE International Conference on Information and Communication Technology.

The study found that dense forest cover in Goa has reduced by 3.75 per cent since 1990.

Goa Yet to Receive Strong Monsoon Spell as Rainfall Falls Short of Seasonal Average

■ First Week of June Ends With Deficit Rainfall Despite Widespread Showers Across State

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: While the southwest monsoon has officially covered Goa, the season has so far lacked the vigorous rainfall usually associated with its arrival, leaving the State with a significant rain deficit during the opening week of June.

Latest weather data indicates that Goa received substantially less rainfall than the



long-period average between June 1 and June 7. The State recorded

71 mm of rain during the period, compared to the normal 101.5 mm,

resulting in a shortfall of about 30 per cent.

Although rain-bearing clouds and thunderstorms have been active over most parts of Goa, precipitation levels have generally remained modest. Meteorological observations show that rainfall intensity has not crossed the threshold required for classification as heavy rain at any location since the onset of the monsoon.

The wettest conditions

during the latest 24-hour observation period were reported from the southern taluka of Canacona, while parts of North Goa, including Mapusa, also received notable showers. Coastal areas such as Mormugao and urban centres including Margao and Panaji experienced moderate rainfall, whereas some interior regions received only scattered light showers.

Man Assaulted With Firearm During Quarrel At Poira Bar

■ Two Shirgao Residents Booked For Assault, Threats And Causing Injury

Team Goemkarponn

SHIRGAO: A 44-year-old man from Shirgao sustained a bleeding injury after he was allegedly assaulted with the barrel of a firearm during a quarrel at a bar in Poira, Bicholim.

According to Bicholim Police, complainant Yaduvir Madhukar Gaonkar, a plumber and resident of Madhalawada, Shirgao, lodged a complaint alleging that



the incident occurred at around 9 pm on June 5 at Uttam Pole Bar and Restaurant, Poira.

Police stated that the accused, identified as brothers Prajyot Laxman Gaonkar (42) and Girish

Laxman Gaonkar (43), both residents of Madhalawada, Shirgao, allegedly picked up a quarrel with

the complainant while he was seated at the establishment.

During the altercation, accused Girish Gaonkar allegedly pulled the complainant's T-shirt and pushed him to the ground.

Subsequently, accused Prajyot Gaonkar allegedly abused and threatened the complainant before striking him on the forehead with the barrel of a firearm, causing a bleeding injury.

Following the incident, both accused reportedly fled the scene on a scooter.

Bicholim Police have registered a case, and further investigation is being carried out by LPSI Archan Sharma.



Woman Suffers Grievous Injuries In Road Accident At Siolim Junction

■ Self-Drive Rental Car Allegedly Driven Rashly; Owner And Driver Booked By Anjuna Police

Team Goemkarponn

SIOLIM: A 28-year-old woman sustained grievous injuries after a car allegedly collided with her scooter at a four-road junction near Jimmy's Super Market at Portawado, Marna, Siolim, on June 4.

According to Anjuna Police, an offence was registered on June 7 based on a complaint filed by HC Rupesh P. Shetgaonkar. Police stated that accused Yashmita Shrikant Naik, a resident of Arpora and owner of a Hyundai i10 car bearing registration number GA-03-Y-2917, allegedly rented out her private vehicle on a self-drive basis to accused Vikram Shankar Patel (43), originally from Delhi and currently residing at Oxel, Siolim.

Investigations revealed that Patel was allegedly driving the vehicle without a valid Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificate and in a rash and negligent manner. While attempting to take a right turn at the four-road junction near Jimmy's Super Market, the car allegedly struck a TVS Jupiter scooter bearing registration number GA-03-AG-6556 on its left rear side.

The scooter was being ridden by Sushmita Benker alias Nagvekar (28), a resident of Xelpem, Duler, Mapusa. She suffered grievous injuries in the accident.

Anjuna Police have registered a case against both the vehicle owner and the driver. Further investigation is being carried out by HC Rupesh P. Shetgaonkar.

TVS Ntorq Scooter Stolen From Surla Junction Parking Area

Team Goemkarponn

SURLA: A TVS Ntorq scooter valued at around ₹60,000 was allegedly stolen from an open parking area at Ghodbye Junction in Surla, Sankhali, prompting Bicholim Police to register a theft case.

According to police, complainant Aditya Uday Betkikar (27), a resident of Vithal Nagar, Digne, Kudnem, Sankhalim, reported that his black Panther Edition TVS Ntorq scooter bearing registration number GA-04-P-4447 went missing between 10 pm on June 5 and 2 am on June 6.

The theft reportedly occurred while the scooter was parked in an open space at Ghodbye Junction, Surla. Police stated that an unidentified accused person stole the vehicle, causing wrongful loss to the owner.

A case has been registered, and efforts are underway to trace both the unknown accused and the stolen scooter. Further investigation is being conducted by ASI Rajendra Gawas of Bicholim Police Station.



Senior Citizen Killed In NH-66 Road Accident At Goa Velha

■ Innova Driver Booked For Rash And Negligent Driving After Fatal Collision With Scooter Rider

Team Goemkarponn

GOA VELHA: A 63-year-old scooter rider lost his life in a road accident on NH-66 at Goa Velha after an Innova Hycross car allegedly rammed into his two-wheeler from behind on Friday afternoon.

According to Agacaim Police, the offence was registered on June 6 following a complaint lodged by HC Vinit Kurtikar on behalf of the State. Police stated that the accused, Mohamad Shahir Hamid Shaikh (20), a resident of Margao, was driving a white Innova Hycross bearing



registration number GA-08-AD-9009.

The accident reportedly occurred at around 2:30 pm on NH-66, opposite the Benetton Store at Goa Velha. The accused driver was allegedly proceeding from Panaji towards Margao when he drove the vehicle in a rash and negligent manner at high speed and crashed into the rear right

side of an Activa scooter bearing registration number GA-07-V-3023, which was travelling in the same direction.

The scooter rider, identified as Romeu Fernandes (63), a resident of Portel Bhat, Bhatim, Goa Velha, sustained grievous injuries in the collision. He was rushed to Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim, where doctors declared him brought dead. Agacaim Police have registered a case against the driver, and further investigation is being conducted by PSI Rushikesh Raikar.

Eight Booked For Alleged Conspiracy To Usurp Ancestral Property In Salcete

■ Forgery, Impersonation And Fraud Alleged In Mutation And Land Record Proceedings

Team Goemkarponn

FATORDA: Fatorda Police have registered a case against eight persons for allegedly conspiring to fraudulently acquire ancestral properties belonging to the estate of the late John Baptist Diniz through forged documents, false affidavits and impersonation.



The case was registered on the complaint of Royson Da Costa and Gayle Diniz, both residents of Majorda. According to the complaint, the alleged offences took place between May 21, 2024 and August 16, 2024 at the Office of the Mamlatdar, Salcete, and notary offices

within Margao. Police stated that the accused — Dyllan Robin Diniz, Melissa Aida Fernandes, Francisco Fernandes, Santosh Naik, Virendra Kumar Dessai, Cruz A.M. Fernandes, Francisca Fernandes and Rati Fernandes Nuchimamyanda — allegedly entered into a criminal conspiracy to unlawfully secure rights over ancestral properties belonging to the Diniz

family estate. As per the complaint, accused Dyllan Robin Diniz and Melissa Aida Fernandes, despite allegedly residing in the United Kingdom, submitted mutation applications containing forged signatures to have their names included in land records maintained by the Mamlatdar's office. It is further alleged that Santosh Naik and Virendra Kumar Dessai notarized

false affidavits and supporting documents, certifying the physical presence of Dyllan Robin Diniz despite claims that he was not present in India at the relevant time. The complaint also alleges that Dyllan Robin Diniz unlawfully obtained a marriage certificate through the Goa online portal by impersonating complainant Royson Da Costa.

Congress Alleges Government Failure On Vasco Coal Pollution

■ Nazir Khan, Nandadeep Raut Claim Residents Continue To Suffer Due To Coal Handling Operations

Team Goemkarponn

VASCO: Congress leaders Nazir Khan and Nandadeep Raut on Saturday accused the government of failing to effectively address the long-standing issue of coal pollution in Vasco, alleging that residents of Mormugao continue to face environmental and health risks due to coal handling activities.

Addressing a press conference, the leaders



said coal pollution remains a major concern for people living in and around Vasco despite repeated complaints and protests over the years. They alleged that inadequate action by authorities has allowed the issue

to persist, affecting the quality of life of local residents.

Khan and Raut further claimed that the Mormugao

Port Authority has been allowed to carry out coal-related operations without adequate safeguards to protect nearby communities. According to them, coal dust continues to impact air quality and poses a threat to public

health, particularly in areas close to port operations. The Congress leaders said residents have repeatedly raised concerns about pollution and its effects on their surroundings, but alleged that their grievances have not received sufficient attention from the authorities. They stressed the need for stronger measures to curb pollution while ensuring that development activities do not compromise public health.



MLA Sankalp Amonkar Inaugurates Upgraded Burial Ground At Bogda Crematorium

■ Facility Developed Under MLA LAD Scheme To Provide Dignified Space For Last Rites

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: MLA Sankalp Amonkar inaugurated the newly upgraded burial ground at the Hindu Crematorium in Bogda, a project undertaken under the MLA Local Area Development (LAD) Scheme and executed by the Public Works Department.

The redevelopment aims to provide a cleaner, safer and more dignified environment for families conducting last rites and addresses a long-pending demand of residents for improved facilities at the site.

For years, sections of the burial ground had reportedly remained neglected, with garbage accumulation, overgrown vegetation and inadequate maintenance causing inconvenience to visitors and bereaved families.

Speaking at the inauguration, Amonkar said the project was taken up following repeated representations from local residents regarding the poor condition of the burial ground. He emphasized that every family deserves access to a well-maintained and respectful space to perform the final rites of their loved ones and that civic amenities of this nature should receive due attention.

Residents welcomed the initiative, stating that the upgraded facility has significantly improved the overall condition of the area and made it more accessible and user-friendly.

Amonkar also assured that efforts would continue to strengthen public infrastructure across the constituency and address civic concerns raised by local communities.



Youth Congress Seeks Answers From CM on Meeting With Union Education Minister

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Youth Congress President Adv. Archit Naik has questioned Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant over his recent meeting with Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, asking whether the discussion addressed pressing concerns affecting students across the country.

In a statement issued on Sunday, Naik said the people of Goa deserve to know whether the meeting was focused on resolving issues related to the NEET paper leak controversy or was merely a ceremonial engagement.

He questioned whether the Chief Minister sought an explanation from the Union Minister regarding the alleged examination irregularities and the impact they had on lakhs of students. Naik also asked if the concerns of students facing stress and uncertainty due to examination-related controversies were brought to the Minister's attention.

Archdiocese Of Goa And Daman Launches Pastoral Year 2026–2027, Releases 'Abide In Me' Pastoral Letter

■ Cardinal Ferrão Calls Faithful To Deepen Faith Through Rootedness, Formation And Celebration

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Archdiocese of Goa and Daman formally inaugurated its Pastoral Year 2026–2027 and released the annual Pastoral Letter titled "Abide in Me" during a solemn Eucharistic celebration held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Chiplim, on the Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. The inauguration



was led by Filipe Neri Cardinal Ferrão along with Simião Fernandes, in the presence of priests, religious and lay representatives from across the Archdiocese. The pastoral year was

officially launched with the unveiling of the theme logo, centred on the biblical call "Abide in Me" (John 15:4), symbolising the faithful's relationship with Christ through faith and sacramental life.

Congress Focuses On Grassroots Strengthening, Targets BJP At Valpoi, Poriem And Sankhali Meetings

■ Party Leaders Call For Organisational Unity; Raise Concerns Over Governance And Recruitment Transparency

Team Goemkarponn

SANKHALI: The Congress party intensified its organisational outreach in North Goa over the weekend, holding workers' meetings in Valpoi, Poriem and Sankhali aimed at strengthening the party at the grassroots level and mobilising support ahead of future political



challenges. A Karyakarta Melava of the Valpoi and Poriem blocks was held under the leadership of Mhadei District Congress President Mangaldas Naik, bringing together party workers, office-



bearers and senior leaders. The meeting focused on organisational strengthening, expanding public outreach and reinforcing the party structure across the region. Addressing the

gathering, Manikrao Thakare stressed the importance of maintaining a strong grassroots presence and urged workers to stay connected with public issues.



Authorities Promise Relief For Staff Shortage, Facility Issues At Cansaulim PHC

Team Goemkarponn

CANSAULEM: Long-standing concerns over staff shortages and inadequate facilities at the Cansaulim Primary Health Centre (PHC) are expected to be addressed soon, with health authorities assuring that major issues affecting the institution will be resolved within the next two months.

Brain tumour diagnosis is not a death sentence, says Goa neurosurgeon Dr Omkar Churi

■ Early diagnosis and awareness can significantly improve outcomes for patients in Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: As Goa's population ages and access to advanced healthcare improves, specialists are stressing the importance of recognising the signs of brain tumours early and dispelling the myths that often surround the condition.

Ahead of World Brain Tumour Day, Consultant neurosurgeon Dr Omkar Churi of Manipal Hospital, Dona Paula, said that one of the greatest challenges in managing brain tumours is overcoming fear and misinformation.

For many patients and their families, a diagnosis of a brain tumour can be overwhelming, often leading to the belief that the condition is invariably fatal. However, Dr Churi emphasised that this is far from the truth.

"One of the biggest myths is that all brain tumours are cancerous and all of them are the same. That is simply not true," he said.

Globally, brain tumours account for only about 2 to 4 per cent of all tumours. While relatively uncommon, they can have a significant impact because they affect one of the body's most vital organs.

According to Dr Churi, nearly two-thirds of brain tumours are benign and can often be treated successfully. "About 65 per cent of brain tumours are non-cancerous. Once removed, many patients can do very well," he explained.

Brain tumours can develop in different ways. Some originate within the brain itself, while others spread to the brain from cancers elsewhere in the body, including the breast, lungs or colon. Among the most common primary brain tumours are meningiomas, which arise from the membranes covering the brain and typically grow slowly over



several years.

Because the brain itself does not feel pain, these tumours can often grow considerably before being detected. Having practised in Goa for the past five years, Dr Churi estimates that he sees around 50 to 60 brain tumour cases annually and performs approximately 25 to 30 brain tumour surgeries each year.

He noted that many patients seek treatment only after symptoms have progressed, as early warning signs are frequently ignored or mistaken for less serious conditions.

"The most common warning signs are early morning headaches associated with vomiting, seizures, gradually worsening weakness on one side of the body, speech problems, balance issues or changes in vision," he explained.

Dr Churi believes that greater public awareness can play a crucial role in improving outcomes. "Early diagnosis is extremely important. Smaller tumours are easier to treat and often allow better preservation of neurological function," he said.

Drawing on his experience in India, the United Kingdom

and Japan, Dr Churi observed that patients in countries with stronger awareness and surveillance programmes often present with much smaller tumours, making treatment less complicated.

Addressing another widespread misconception, he clarified that brain tumours are not usually hereditary. "Most brain tumours are not genetic. There are some rare inherited conditions, but for the majority of patients, family members do not need to worry that they will automatically develop a tumour," he explained.

Similarly, despite persistent concerns among the public, there is currently no conclusive scientific evidence linking mobile phone use to brain cancer.

"This is one of the most common questions I receive. As of now, there is no proven data showing that mobile phones cause brain tumours," Dr Churi said.

When it comes to prevention, experts acknowledge that there are no specific lifestyle habits known to directly cause or prevent brain tumours. However, maintaining overall health remains important for brain function.

"What is good for the heart is generally good for the brain," he said. "A balanced diet, physical activity, moderation in eating habits, fish, eggs and nuts all contribute to better overall brain health."

Advances in medical technology have also dramatically improved treatment outcomes in recent years. Modern MRI scans can detect very small tumours, while sophisticated navigation systems, intraoperative ultrasound, neuro-monitoring and awake brain surgery allow surgeons to operate with greater precision and

safety.

During awake brain surgery, patients remain conscious while surgeons monitor essential functions such as speech and movement, helping preserve neurological abilities even when tumours are located in highly sensitive areas of the brain.

Targeted therapies and personalised cancer treatments are also emerging, offering fresh hope to patients with more aggressive tumours.

Importantly, Dr Churi believes that the quality of brain tumour treatment available in India today matches global standards.

"I would rate our treatment standards at par with the rest of the world," he said.

While medical advancements continue to improve outcomes, Dr Churi stressed that emotional support remains a vital part of patient care.

"When patients hear the words 'brain tumour', they often feel that life is over," Dr Churi said. "Families need time, counselling and proper explanations to understand what type of tumour they are dealing with and what treatment options are available."

His message on World Brain Tumour Day is one of awareness, hope and timely intervention.

"A brain tumour diagnosis is not the end. Many tumours are treatable, many are curable, and outcomes today are far better than they were even a decade ago. The key is not to ignore symptoms, seek medical advice early and trust that there are effective treatments available."

For brain tumour patients and their families across Goa, Dr Churi's message offers reassurance that with early diagnosis, modern treatment and the right support, there is every reason to remain hopeful.

Adani Ports Wins 10-Year Marine Services Contract for Argentina's First LNG Export Project

■ Deal marks Adani Ports' entry into South America and strengthens India-Argentina energy cooperation through a major LNG infrastructure venture

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has secured a 10-year marine services contract for Argentina's first liquefied natural gas (LNG) export project, marking a significant milestone in the company's international expansion and its entry into the South American market.

The contract has been awarded to The Adani Harbour International FZCO, a step-down subsidiary of APSEZ, through a consortium formed with Argentina-based Meridian Group. The consortium emerged successful following a global competitive bidding process conducted by Southern Energy SA (SESA).

The agreement is linked to the Southern Energy Floating LNG (FLNG) project, which is expected to become Argentina's first operational LNG export facility.

The project is backed by an estimated investment of \$70 million and is projected to produce 2.45 million tonnes (MT) of LNG annually in its initial phase. This output is expected to translate into around 28 LNG cargo shipments each year.

Under the contract, the Adani-Meridian consortium will provide a comprehensive range of marine services, including tugboat operations for LNG carriers, offshore logistics support, supply operations and crew transfer services. The project will be supported by a fleet comprising four high-specification tugboats, an anchor handling tug supply vessel and a crew boat.

Ashwani Gupta, Whole-time Director and CEO of APSEZ, said the project highlights the company's growing expertise in supporting large-scale energy infrastructure across international markets. He noted that APSEZ currently operates marine services in 12 countries, serving ports, LNG terminals, national oil companies, refineries and offshore facilities.

The development also underscores strengthening energy ties between India and Argentina. Argentina is emerging as a key LNG supplier, with agreements supporting exports of up to 10 million tonnes annually to India from 2027. The Southern Energy FLNG project is expected to play a crucial role in connecting Argentina's growing LNG production with global energy markets.



Piyush Goyal Confident of India-US Trade Deal Despite Proposed US Tariffs

■ Commerce Minister says India will protect its interests and dismisses concerns over Section 301 tariffs as trade negotiations with Washington gather pace

New Delhi: Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has expressed confidence that India and the United States will successfully conclude a bilateral trade agreement, downplaying concerns over the proposed Section 301 tariffs announced by the US administration.

Speaking at the Financial Express India's Best Banks Awards in Mumbai, Goyal said there was no need



for undue concern regarding the Section 301 investigation initiated by the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The investigation recently led to a proposal for a 12.5 per cent tariff on

imports from India and several other countries over concerns related to goods allegedly produced through forced labour.

Addressing the issue, Goyal described the move as part of a broader mechanism being developed by the United States amid domestic political constraints. He

emphasised that the Indian government would take all necessary steps to safeguard national interests and respond appropriately to any trade-related challenges.

"We will protect India's interests, and I am very confident that the India-US trade deal will come through. It will be a good deal," the minister said, signalling optimism about the ongoing negotiations between the two countries.



Mamata Banerjee Faces Fresh Challenge as TMC Rift Threatens to Reach Parliament

■ After a major rebellion in the West Bengal Assembly, Trinamool Congress leadership scrambles to prevent a similar split among its MPs ahead of the INDIA bloc meeting in Delhi

New Delhi: The Trinamool Congress (TMC) is facing mounting political uncertainty as concerns grow that the internal revolt which recently shook the party in the West Bengal Assembly could spread to its parliamentary ranks. Party chief Mamata Banerjee arrived in New Delhi on Sunday amid speculation that a section of TMC MPs may be preparing to challenge the leadership in a manner similar to the rebellion led by dissident legislators in the state Assembly. The crisis deepened after a majority of the party's MLAs reportedly backed expelled legislator Ritabrata Banerjee as the Leader of Opposition in the Assembly, a move seen as a significant setback for the TMC leadership.

The development has raised fears that discontent within the party could now extend to both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. According to party sources, discussions are underway among some MPs regarding the formation of a separate group within the parliamentary wing and the election of alternative leadership. The party leadership is reportedly engaged in efforts to prevent any formal split, even as concerns grow over the lack of communication with several MPs. Rajya Sabha MP Sukhendu Sekhar Ray indicated that the process of dissent had already begun in the Lok Sabha and suggested that similar developments could eventually emerge in the Upper House.



Ayodhya Ram Temple Trust Rejects Donation Fund Allegations, Spars with Akhilesh Yadav

New Delhi: A fresh political controversy has erupted over the finances of the Ram Temple in Ayodhya after Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged that crores of rupees donated by devotees had gone missing and called for an independent investigation. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has strongly denied the allegations, maintaining that ongoing audits have not revealed any financial irregularities. The dispute began after Yadav claimed on social media that reports suggested a substantial amount of donation money collected at the temple could not be accounted for. Calling the matter highly sensitive for devotees across the world, he questioned the government's silence and urged the judiciary to take suo motu cognisance of the issue.

Mumbai Faces Major Water Crisis as Tanker Operators Launch Indefinite Strike

■ Suspension of tanker services threatens water supply to housing societies, hotels and essential facilities amid ongoing municipal water cuts and falling reservoir levels

New Delhi: Mumbai's water supply system came under severe strain on Monday after the Mumbai Water Tanker Association (MwTA) launched an indefinite strike, halting services provided by more than 2,000 water tankers across the city. The move has raised concerns of an acute water shortage for residential complexes, businesses and critical public facilities that rely heavily on tanker water.



The association, which supplies nearly 550 million litres of water daily—around eight per cent of Mumbai's overall water requirement—announced

the suspension from midnight on June 8. The strike comes at a particularly challenging time, with the city already facing a 10 per cent reduction in municipal water supply and reservoir levels under pressure ahead of the monsoon season.

DMK Exit, Trinamool Setback Cast Shadow Over INDIA Bloc Meeting

Opposition alliance faces fresh challenges after DMK's exit, Trinamool Congress setbacks, and growing differences among key partners ahead of the monsoon session

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: The Opposition's INDIA bloc is set to hold a crucial meeting in New Delhi on Monday as alliance partners attempt to address growing internal challenges and chart a common strategy for the upcoming monsoon session of Parliament.

The meeting, scheduled at the



Constitution Club, comes at a time when the coalition is grappling with significant political developments, including

the departure of the DMK and recent electoral setbacks faced by the Trinamool Congress. The venue marks a

shift from previous gatherings, which were typically hosted at the residences of Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi or Mallikarjun Kharge. The alliance has been unsettled by the Congress party's decision to end its long-standing partnership with the DMK following disagreements over power-sharing in Tamil Nadu.



Patna Court Reserves Order on Khan Sir's Anticipatory Bail Plea in Firing Case

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: A court in Patna on Monday reserved its order on the anticipatory bail plea of educator and YouTuber Faisal Khan, widely known as Khan Sir, who has been named in an FIR linked to a firing and vandalism incident at his coaching institute earlier this month.

Manav Suthar Makes Dream Test Debut With Six-Wicket Haul Against Afghanistan

■ Rajasthan spinner records 6/33 to enter India's elite list of bowlers with five-wicket hauls on Test debut as Afghanistan are forced to follow on

New Delhi: Left-arm spinner Manav Suthar produced a memorable performance on his Test debut, claiming six wickets to help India bowl out Afghanistan for 152 and enforce the follow-on on the third day of the one-off Test on Monday.

The 23-year-old Rajasthan cricketer returned impressive figures of 6 for 33 from 22 overs, becoming only the 10th



Indian bowler to take a five-wicket haul on Test debut.

He is also the seventh

Indian spinner to achieve the feat, marking a remarkable start to his international career.

Suthar's figures

rank among the finest by an Indian on Test debut, second only to Narendra Hirwani's iconic 8 for 61

against the West Indies in 1988. His performance played a crucial role in giving India complete control of the match.

Afghanistan resumed the day at 113 for 5 but struggled against India's disciplined bowling attack. Fast bowler Prasad Krishna struck early by dismissing Azmatullah Omarzai without scoring, setting the tone for the morning session.

PV Sindhu Chases Title Drought End, Ayush Shetty Leads India's Challenge at Australian Open

■ Two-time Olympic medallist seeks first BWF World Tour title of the season as a strong Indian contingent begins its campaign at the Super 500 event

New Delhi: India's badminton contingent will be led by former world champion and two-time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu and rising men's singles star Ayush Shetty at the Australian Open Super 500 tournament, which gets underway on Tuesday. Sindhu enters the competition as the third seed and will be aiming to end a lengthy title drought. The 30-year-old has not won a BWF World Tour title since her triumph at the Syed Modi International in 2024. Her best performance this season came at the Malaysia Open, where she reached the semifinals.

The Indian star begins her campaign against Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo and is expected to enjoy a

favourable route in the early rounds. However, tougher challenges could await later in the tournament, including a potential semifinal clash against Japan's world No. 3 Akane Yamaguchi. Sindhu holds a narrow 15-13 advantage in their head-to-head record. A possible final could see her face Thailand's Pornpawee Chochuwong, against whom she also enjoys a positive record. Sindhu arrives in Australia after a round-of-16 exit at the Indonesia Open, where she was defeated by South Korean world No. 1 and reigning Olympic champion An Se-young.

In

men's singles, world



Tamim Iqbal Creates History, Becomes Bangladesh's Youngest Cricket Board President

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: Former Bangladesh captain Tamim Iqbal has scripted history by becoming the youngest person to head the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB), taking charge at the age of 37 following a decisive victory in the board's elections.

Tamim, who was appointed interim president earlier this year after the newly elected government dissolved the previous BCB administration over alleged irregularities, has now secured a full mandate to lead the country's cricketing body. His elevation marks a significant transition from a celebrated playing career to one of the most influential administrative roles in Bangladesh cricket.

The former opener topped the board elections with 73 votes from 75 councillors, emerging as the clear choice among a field of 16 candidates contesting for 12 director positions.

KL Rahul Admits to 'T20 Hangover' After Scoring 12th Test Century Against Afghanistan

■ Subheading: Star batter says IPL influence tempted him to play attacking shots but credits discipline and game awareness for his composed hundred

New Delhi: India wicketkeeper-batter KL Rahul revealed that transitioning from the fast-paced Indian Premier League to Test cricket was not entirely straightforward, admitting he occasionally felt the urge to play aggressive shots during his century against Afghanistan. However,



he insisted that carrying some influence from T20

cricket is not necessarily a disadvantage.

Rahul's composed innings of 100 off 165 balls laid the foundation for India's dominance on Day 3 of the one-off Test. The century was his 12th in Test cricket and showcased a blend of patience, discipline and elegant stroke play.

Pune Grand Tour Gets Major UCI Backing, Eyes Place Among Cycling's Elite Races

■ Global cycling body praises inaugural event's scale and organisation, boosting ambitions of making the Pune Grand Tour a world-class sporting spectacle

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: India's aspirations of establishing the Pune Grand Tour (PGT) as a premier international cycling event have received a significant boost, with the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) expressing strong support for the race's future growth and global ambitions. Following the successful debut edition earlier this year,



the sport's governing body commended the event's organisation, scale and execution, describing it as

comparable to some of the finest cycling races on the international calendar. The endorsement has

strengthened hopes of positioning the Pune Grand Tour as a major fixture in global cycling and a catalyst for sports tourism in India.

The praise came during a special presentation before the UCI Management Committee in Lake Garda, Italy, where organisers outlined their vision for the event and highlighted its rapid rise. According to organisers, UCI officials were particularly impressed by

the fact that the race was conceptualised, planned and delivered within just six months while maintaining international standards.

One of the most striking achievements of the inaugural edition was the massive public response. More than 2.5 million spectators reportedly attended the five-day event, making it one of the largest sporting gatherings in the country.