



## Mystery Surrounds Death of GMC Intern Doctor as Police Launch Multi-Angle Probe

Forensic teams scour Hawaii Beach for evidence; post-mortem report expected to provide crucial answers

### Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:**The mysterious death of a young intern doctor from Goa Medical College (GMC), whose body was found at Hawaii Beach in Dona Paula on Wednesday evening, has triggered an intensive investigation, with police and forensic experts examining every possible angle to unravel the circumstances leading to



the tragedy.

The deceased, identified as 24-year-old Gauri Narayan, had completed her internship at GMC and was preparing to leave,

hospital authorities said. Her identity was established after police found her wearing a doctor's gown bearing her name.

The discovery prompted an extensive search operation at the scene, with forensic experts and police personnel combing the beach and surrounding area for medical equipment, personal

belongings and any other material that could provide vital clues. Investigators continued to examine the site in an effort to reconstruct the sequence of events preceding her death.

Panaji Police have registered an unnatural death case and stated that no possibility is being ruled out at this stage. Investigators are

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## Delhi Hotel Fire Death Toll Rises To 23 After Injured Bangladeshi Woman Succumbs

Fatality count increases a week after the devastating blaze at a guesthouse in South Delhi's Hauz Rani area



### Team Goemkarponn

Wednesday.

**NEW DELHI:** A Bangladeshi woman who suffered severe burn injuries in the devastating hotel fire in South Delhi's Malviya Nagar area has died while undergoing treatment, raising the death toll in the tragedy to 23.

The woman had been receiving medical care since sustaining critical injuries in the blaze that engulfed Flourish Stays Bed and Breakfast in the Hauz Rani locality on June 4. Despite efforts to save her, she succumbed to her injuries on

With her death, the number of lives lost in one of Delhi's deadliest recent fire incidents has climbed further. Authorities confirmed that the deceased was a Bangladeshi national who had been hospitalised since the incident. The fire tore through the guesthouse, trapping several occupants and causing widespread devastation. Twenty one people were killed in the immediate aftermath, while a number of others were rescued and admitted to hospitals with varying degrees of burn injuries and smoke inhalation.

## Somanna Says Talks Ongoing on Mhadei Issue, Assures Interests of All States Will Be Protected

### Team Goemkarponn



**PANAJI:** Union Minister of State for Railways

V. Somanna has said that discussions are ongoing between the Chief Ministers of Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka regarding the Mhadei River diversion issue, while assuring that the interests of all the concerned states will be protected.

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## 3 Indian Sailors Killed After US Strike On Tanker Near Oman

India condemns attack on Palau flagged vessel, lodges protest with Washington as tensions in Gulf shipping

### Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** The death of three Indian seafarers following a US military strike on an oil tanker in the Gulf of Oman has triggered diplomatic concern and renewed attention on escalating tensions in the region's vital shipping routes.

Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal confirmed that the three crew members, who were initially reported missing after the attack, have now been found dead. The



victims were identified as deck cadet Aditya Sharma, engine fitter Shivanand Chaurasiya and chief engineer Patnala Suresh. The tanker, MT Settebello, was sailing under the Palau flag and carried a crew of 28, including 24 Indian nationals and four foreign citizens. According to officials, 21 Indian crew members

were rescued following the incident, while efforts were launched to locate the missing sailors. Expressing grief over the tragedy, Sonowal described the deaths as a major loss for India's maritime community. He said the government is extending full support to the families of the deceased and has directed authorities to expedite the return of both the rescued crew members and the mortal remains of those who lost their lives.

## Anjuna Residents Protest Soaring Power Bills

Anjuna Residents Allege Unfair Penalties, Call for Relief Measures and Statewide Awareness Campaign

### Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** A section of residents from Anjuna staged a protest outside the office of the Chief Engineer of the Electricity Department, demanding an inquiry into what they described as an alarming surge in electricity bills and seeking urgent intervention from the state government.

The protesters



claimed that several households had received bills far exceeding their usual monthly payments, raising concerns over the financial impact on consumers. They alleged that the sudden increase

had caused distress among residents and called for immediate corrective measures.

During discussions with the protesters, Electricity Department officials reportedly stated that the higher bills were the result of penalties imposed on consumers whose electricity consumption had exceeded their sanctioned load limits. Officials advised

consumers to apply for an enhancement of their sanctioned load to avoid similar charges in the future. Residents, however, maintained that many consumers were unaware of the implications of exceeding sanctioned load limits and questioned whether adequate information had been provided before the penalties

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# The Begging Racket in Goa: Compassion Must Not Become Complacency

The recent observation before the High Court that there are no native Goan beggars and that most beggars arrive from outside the state during peak tourist seasons has once again brought public attention to a long standing issue. Whether every individual on Goa's streets is local or from elsewhere is ultimately a secondary question. The real concern is that begging in many parts of Goa has evolved beyond isolated poverty and, in several instances, appears to operate as a systematic and organised activity.

Goa's image as a prosperous tourism destination often masks a troubling reality. At traffic junctions, markets, religious sites, beaches and tourist hotspots, the same groups of beggars appear repeatedly, often transported from one location to another. Residents and tourists alike have observed patterns that suggest coordination rather than desperation alone. This does not mean every person seeking alms is part of a racket. Genuine poverty exists and deserves empathy. Yet it would be naïve to ignore the possibility that vulnerable individuals, including women, the elderly and even children, are being exploited by organised networks that profit from public sympathy.

The challenge is that the state has often treated begging either as a law and order issue or as a welfare issue. In reality, it is both. Arresting or removing beggars from public spaces without addressing the forces that place them there merely shifts the problem from one location to another. At the same time, turning a blind eye in the name of compassion allows criminal networks to flourish.

The first remedy is intelligence driven enforcement. The police, municipal authorities and social welfare departments must work together to identify patterns. Where do these groups come from? Who transports them? Who collects their earnings? Are children being used as tools to increase public sympathy? These questions require systematic investigation rather than sporadic drives conducted before major events or tourist seasons.

Second, Goa must establish a dedicated anti trafficking and anti

*“Goa's image as a prosperous tourism destination often masks a troubling reality. At traffic junctions, markets, religious sites, beaches and tourist hotspots, the same groups of beggars appear repeatedly, often transported from one location to another. Residents and tourists alike have observed patterns that suggest coordination rather than desperation alone. This does not mean every person seeking alms is part of a racket. Genuine poverty exists and deserves empathy. Yet it would be naïve to ignore the possibility that vulnerable individuals, including women, the elderly and even children, are being exploited by organised networks that profit from public sympathy.”*

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exploitation mechanism focused on organised begging. Across India, investigations have uncovered cases where vulnerable people were recruited, coerced or trafficked into begging. If such elements exist in Goa, the state must target the organisers rather than the victims. The masterminds behind these operations should face stringent legal consequences.

Third, rehabilitation must become central to policy. A person

rescued from a begging network should not simply be relocated and forgotten. Shelters, counselling, skill development programmes and employment opportunities are essential. NGOs with proven expertise can play a crucial role in helping vulnerable individuals reintegrate into society. The High Court's suggestion of involving civil society organisations is therefore both practical and necessary.

Public awareness is equally important. Citizens and tourists often give money out of genuine concern. However, indiscriminate cash donations can unintentionally sustain organised rackets. Instead, visitors should be encouraged to support recognised charities, shelters and community welfare initiatives. Compassion should reach those in need, not those who exploit them. Technology can also help. CCTV surveillance at major tourist locations, data sharing among departments and periodic audits of identified hotspots can provide valuable insights into recurring patterns. Goa, which prides itself on being a modern tourism destination, should employ modern tools to address a persistent social challenge.

Most importantly, policymakers must avoid framing the issue in regional terms. The problem is not whether a beggar is Goan or non Goan. Poverty, exploitation and trafficking do not recognise state boundaries. A person forced into begging remains a victim regardless of origin. The objective should be to dismantle exploitation networks while protecting human dignity.

Goa's success as a tourism destination depends not only on beautiful beaches and vibrant culture but also on safe and well managed public spaces. The state owes it to its residents, visitors and vulnerable populations to address organised begging with seriousness and sensitivity.

The solution lies neither in denial nor in indiscriminate crackdowns. It lies in a balanced strategy of enforcement, rehabilitation and public awareness. If Goa can combine these elements effectively, it can root out organised begging rackets while ensuring that genuine human suffering receives the support and dignity it deserves.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### FDA Raids Alone Cannot Guarantee Food Safety

The recent penalty imposed on sweet shop operators in Panaji for selling substandard Mysore Pak containing excessive levels of tartrazine highlights a troubling reality. Despite repeated FDA raids, inspections and enforcement drives, food safety violations continue to surface across Goa. Almost every few months, consumers read reports of adulterated food, excessive colouring agents, unhygienic kitchens or products failing laboratory tests. While the FDA deserves appreciation for detecting these violations, one cannot help but wonder why such illegalities continue unabated. The answer appears simple: the penalties are not acting as an effective deterrent.

For businesses that earn substantial profits, a fine of ₹20,000 may be too insignificant to discourage malpractice. If violations continue despite frequent inspections, authorities must consider stricter action against repeat offenders, including suspension of licences, closure of establishments and publication of the names of violators so that consumers can make informed choices.

Food safety is not merely a regulatory issue. It is a public health concern. Consumers trust that the sweets, snacks and food products they purchase are safe for their families. When businesses compromise standards to cut costs or enhance appearance, they put public health at risk. The FDA's efforts should therefore be complemented by stronger penalties, more surprise inspections and sustained awareness campaigns. The objective must be not only to catch offenders but to create an environment where violations become too costly to contemplate.

Goa's reputation as a tourism destination also depends on maintaining high standards of food safety. The time has come to move beyond routine raids and ensure lasting compliance.

Seby Fernandes, Porvorim, Goa

### Justice Must Not Be Seen Through a Political Lens

The credibility of any democracy rests not merely on elections but on the independence and integrity of its institutions, particularly the judiciary. Unfortunately, there is a growing perception among many citizens that justice in India is becoming increasingly unequal.

The principle that "bail is the rule and jail the exception" appears to apply selectively. Individuals with political influence often secure relief even when facing grave allegations or convictions, while countless undertrials spend years behind bars without their guilt being established. The prolonged incarceration of persons booked under stringent laws such as the UAPA has raised serious concerns about the balance between national security and individual liberty. Equally troubling is the tendency to view dissent through the prism of nationalism. Peaceful protests against government policies are frequently portrayed as anti-national activities. Public discourse has become so polarised that inflammatory slogans are often normalised, while speeches advocating constitutional values, non-violence and democratic engagement are subjected to intense scrutiny and legal action. A democracy thrives when institutions are seen as fair, impartial and above political considerations. When citizens begin to lose confidence in the justice delivery system, the damage extends far beyond individual cases. It weakens faith in the rule of law itself.

The judiciary remains one of the last safeguards of constitutional democracy. It must not only be independent but also be perceived to be independent. Restoring public confidence should be a national priority before cynicism replaces trust altogether.

- Cyril D'Souza, Margao, Goa

# Goa Records Over 1,600 Snakebite Cases in Four Years, Study Finds

■ Experts Advocate Statewide Registry and Improved Emergency Preparedness

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** A recent study conducted by Goa Medical College (GMC) has revealed that Goa recorded 1,663 snakebite cases and 30 deaths between 2020 and 2024, highlighting the continuing public health challenge posed by snakebite incidents, particularly during the monsoon season.

The study, carried out by Dr Chetan Karekar and



Dr Purvi Mishal from the Department of Forensic Medicine and published in the international journal \*The Academic\*, found that snakebite cases increase significantly during the rainy months.

The researchers noted that young adults between the ages of 21 and 30 were the most

affected group, while men accounted for a larger proportion of cases.

According to the findings, most snakebite incidents occurred in rural and forested areas. However, urban centres

have also witnessed a rise in cases, a trend experts attribute to habitat disruption caused by rapid construction activity and deforestation.

The study estimates that Goa reports between 500 and 600 snakebite cases annually, averaging nearly two cases per day during the monsoon. The figures reflect a broader national concern, with India accounting for a substantial share of the world's snakebite burden.



## Tawadkar Chairs Review Meeting on Forest Rights Cases in Canacona

■ Minister stresses speedy disposal of pending FRC cases and coordinated action on Green Zone issues

**Team Goemkarponn**

**CANACONA:** Minister for Art & Culture, Tribal Welfare, Sports & Youth Affairs and Canacona MLA Ramesh Tawadkar chaired a comprehensive review meeting on Forest Rights Committee (FRC) cases of Canacona taluka on Tuesday at the PWD Rest House, Shrishthal.

The meeting reviewed the current status of FRC cases, addressed pending matters, evaluated survey reports and discussed key Green Zone issues affecting local communities.

Among those present were Director of Sports & Youth Affairs Ajay Gawade and officials from the Forest Department, Revenue Administration, Panchayats, along with

members of various Forest Rights Committees in Canacona taluka.

Tawadkar emphasized the timely resolution of all pending cases, transparency in survey processes and greater coordination among departments to safeguard the rights of local communities while ensuring sustainable development.

The meeting assumes significance in the wake of concerns raised by residents of Khotigao over the proposed expansion of the Green Zone in the Khushawati district. Locals have expressed fears of displacement and have sought the intervention of the Chief Minister to protect their residential areas, temples and farmlands.



## HC Considers Wider Measures to Combat Child Begging in Goa

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PORVORIM:** The Bombay High Court at Goa has signalled its intention to examine broader measures to address child begging in the State, while calling for detailed information from police authorities on children rescued from begging and action taken against those responsible for exploiting them. The observations were made on Wednesday by a Division Bench comprising Justice Valmiki Menezes and Justice Hiten S. Venegavkar during the hearing of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by advocate Moses Pinto, highlighting concerns over the increasing visibility of child beggars in Goa. During the proceedings, Advocate General Devidas Pangam informed the court that the issue required a sensitive approach, particularly as several of the children involved were believed to be from outside Goa. He pointed out that enforcement agencies could not simply act against the children themselves and that any intervention would need to focus on parents, guardians, or others responsible for compelling them to beg.

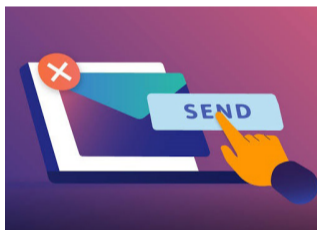
## Goa Govt Reviews Dormant Email Accounts to Cut Costs

■ 554 Inactive Official Accounts Identified; Departments Asked to Submit Reports Within 15 Days

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** In a bid to curb avoidable expenditure and strengthen digital governance, the Goa Government has initiated a comprehensive review of inactive official email accounts across departments and government-linked institutions.

The Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications (DITE&C) has identified



554 government email accounts that have remained unused for periods ranging from 90 days to more than 525 days. Following the review, all government departments, autonomous bodies, corporations and other public entities have been directed to verify the

status of such accounts and submit their findings within 15 days.

The exercise comes after the National Informatics Centre (NIC) shifted government email services to a subscription-based platform, under which each official email account costs approximately Rs 2,400 annually. Officials said the review is intended to ensure that public funds are not spent on maintaining accounts that are no longer required.

## HC Directs WRD to File Detailed Report on Illegal Borewells in Chimbel

■ 27 Unauthorised Borewells Sealed; Department Given Time Till July 6 to Submit Status Report

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** The Bombay High Court at Goa has directed the Water Resources Department (WRD) to place on record a comprehensive action-taken report by July 6 in the ongoing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) concerning illegal borewells in Chimbel.

The direction was issued by a Division Bench comprising Justice Valmiki Menezes



and Justice Hiten S. Venegavkar during a hearing on Wednesday.

During the proceedings, the WRD informed the court that enforcement action was underway and that 27 unauthorised borewells had already been sealed as part of the drive against

illegal groundwater extraction in the area.

The PIL pertains to allegations of large-scale groundwater extraction through borewells allegedly dug without obtaining the mandatory permissions. The department told the court that action on the ground was continuing in compliance with earlier directions issued by the High Court.

The crackdown gathered pace after the

court, during a previous hearing, instructed the Executive Engineer (North), Division-I, to proceed with sealing all borewells identified as illegal. Inspections carried out by the department had reportedly revealed around 70 such borewells in Chimbel.

According to officials, the exercise is being conducted in phases following field verification.



## Goa Police Arrest Karnataka Murder Accused at Margao Railway Station

**Team Goemkarponn**

**MARGAO:** In a swift and coordinated operation, the Konkan Railway Police of Goa apprehended a man wanted in a murder case registered in Karnataka within a short span after receiving specific intelligence about his movement.

# Man Allegedly Attacks Elder Brother With Knife In Cansaulim

■ Accused Flees After Assault; Verna Police Launch Investigation

Team Goemkarponn

**VERNA:** Verna Police have registered a case after a man allegedly assaulted his elder brother with a knife at their residence in Cansaulim on Tuesday afternoon.

According to the complaint lodged by Jose Francisco Filipine Sequeria, a resident of Cansaulim, the incident occurred at around 1:00



p.m. on June 9 at his residence.

The complainant alleged that his younger brother, Ricardo Cornel Sequeria, also a resident of Cansaulim, assaulted him with a knife and fled from the spot after the incident.

Verna Police have registered the case, and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Mahesh Bhomkar.



## Five Booked For Assault, Wrongful Confinement And Extortion At Siolim

Team Goemkarponn

**ANJUNA:** Anjuna Police have registered a case against five unknown persons for allegedly assaulting, wrongfully confining and extorting money from a man at Siolim, besides damaging the property of his business partner.

According to the complaint lodged by Manav Rajeev Mehta, a resident of Mumbai who is presently residing at Villa No. 7, La Donaira, Siolim, the incident occurred on June 8 at around 12:09 p.m. at the gate of La Donaira Society, Siolim, Bardez. The complainant alleged that five unknown accused persons, sharing a common object and forming an unlawful assembly, assaulted him with slaps, punches and kicks and threatened him. He further stated that the accused wrongfully confined him inside a security guard's cabin, where they allegedly assaulted both him and the security guard.

The complaint further states that when the complainant's business partner, Inderdeep Singh, arrived at the spot, he too was allegedly assaulted by the accused.

## Man Held For Alleged Matka Betting Near St. Cruz Church

■ Police Seize Cash And Betting Slips; Investigation Underway

Team Goemkarponn

**OLD GOA:** Old Goa Police have booked and apprehended a 51-year-old man for allegedly operating an illegal matka betting activity near St. Cruz Church, Tiswadi.

According to a complaint filed on behalf of the State by PSI Manohar N. Dhulapkar of Old Goa Police Station, the accused, Shankar Bhikaji Gawas (51), a businessman residing near Church, St. Cruz, Tiswadi, Goa, was caught red-handed at around 4:00 p.m. on June 9 while allegedly accepting bets from members of the public.

Police stated that the accused was accepting money and issuing paper



slips containing numerical figures used for betting. During the operation, officers seized ₹1,050 in cash from his possession, comprising one ₹500 note, one ₹100 note, seven ₹50 notes, and ten ₹10 notes,

along with other gambling-related articles. The case has been registered based on the State complaint, and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Manohar N. Dhulapkar of Old Goa Police Station.

## Illegal Betting Racket Busted At Old Goa, One Held With Cash And Slips

■ Accused Caught Red-Handed Accepting Bets In Open Public Place Near Santosh Garage

Team Goemkarponn

**OLD GOA:** Acting on a complaint lodged by ASI Anil Dessai of Old Goa Police Station, police apprehended one person for allegedly running an illegal betting operation in a public area near Santosh Garage, Old Goa on June 09, 2026 at around 15:25 hrs.

The accused has been identified as Naveen Kumar, 38, son of Limbadari Dasari, originally from Alkonda Building No. 42, Room No. 3, Ground Floor, MR Road, Kamathipura 7th Lane, Mumbai

Central, Maharashtra, and currently residing at c/o Rakesh Patil near Bangalore Bakery, Marcel, Ponda, Goa.

According to police, the accused was caught red-handed while accepting bets from members of the public on numerical figures and issuing paper slips in an open public place. During the raid, police seized cash amounting to ₹1,120 in different denominations along with other gambling-related materials from his possession.

Further investigation is being conducted by Old Goa Police Station.

## Man Caught Accepting Gambling Bets At Pernem, Cash Seized

■ Police Apprehend Accused Near Vishwanath Hotel; ₹1,100 And Gambling Material Recovered

Team Goemkarponn

**PERNEM:** Mandrem Police have registered a case against a 55-year-old man for allegedly accepting gambling bets from the general public in an open place at Boma, Palyiem, Pernem.

According to a State complaint filed by HC 4820 Satish Shetye of Mandrem Police Station, the accused, Shanker



Mangesh Gawade (55), a resident of House No. 364, Bhulkhajan, Korgao,

Pernem-Goa, was apprehended at around 6:30 p.m. on June 9

near Vishwanath Hotel, Boma, Palyiem.

Police alleged that the accused was accepting bets from members of the public on numeric-digit gambling in an open public place. During the operation, officers seized ₹1,100 in cash along with other gambling-related materials from his possession.

## Woman Booked For Rash Driving After Car-Scooter Collision In Canacona

Team Goemkarponn

**CANACONA:** Canacona Police have registered a case against a woman for allegedly driving her car in a rash and negligent manner, resulting in a collision with a scooter and injuries to two women.

According to a State complaint filed by HC Anand Pagi (Buckle No. 5909) of Canacona Police Station, the accident occurred on June 6, 2026, at around 12:10 p.m. near Bhatpal Church, Bhatpal, Canacona.

# Teen drowns in abandoned Zuarinagar well; body recovered after search operation

Team Goemkarponn

**ZUARINAGAR:** A 19-year-old youth from Zorint, Zuarinagar, drowned in an abandoned well located at Zuarinagar on Wednesday afternoon, triggering a search and rescue operation involving the Vasco Fire and Emergency Services and Drishti Marine lifesavers.

The deceased was identified as Amrut Pundalik Parmar, a native of Karnataka who had reportedly arrived in Goa around 15 days ago and was staying with relatives in Zuarinagar.

According to



information available, Parmar had gone to the well along with a group of friends to bathe and enjoy the monsoon weather. The well, estimated to be around 50 metres deep, was left abandoned after an industrial plant ceased operations years ago.

A source said Parmar was unable to swim and had entered the water while holding onto a rope for support.

"He had come with friends to take a bath in the well. While the others completed their bath and came out, they realised he

was missing. His clothes were lying outside the well, but there was no sign of him in the water.

The group immediately raised an alarm and the people later informed emergency services," the source said.

Another youth who was present at the spot said a large group had gathered at the well.

"There were around 15 to 20 people swimming in the well. He wanted to join us and entered the water while holding a rope. After we came out, we could not find him anywhere. We searched for him and later called for help," he said.



## Kannada Sangha seeks Goa-Vijayapura, Goa-Belagavi train services during Railway Minister's visit

Team Goemkarponn

**DABOLIM:** Union Minister of State for Railways V. Somanna arrived at Dabolim Airport on Wednesday ahead of the flagging off of the Goa-Karwar train service from Margao Railway Station on Thursday.

Taking advantage of the minister's visit, a delegation of the Akhila Goa Kannada Maha Sangha submitted a memorandum seeking the introduction of direct train services connecting Goa with Vijayapura and Belagavi in neighbouring Karnataka.

The Sangha stated that a large number of people regularly travel between Goa and these cities for employment, education, business, medical

treatment and family visits. However, the absence of direct train connectivity often forces passengers to undertake longer and less convenient journeys.

The delegation urged the Railway Ministry to consider starting the proposed services to improve rail connectivity and provide affordable and comfortable travel options to commuters. It also pointed out that enhanced rail links would strengthen social, cultural and economic ties between Goa and Karnataka while benefiting workers, students, senior citizens and tourists travelling between the two states. The minister assured the delegation that their memorandum would be examined by the railway authorities.



## North Goa District Magistrate Imposes ₹20,000 Penalty On Sweet Shop For Sub-Standard Mysore Pak

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Directorate of Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) has informed that the District Magistrate, North Goa, has imposed a penalty of ₹20,000 on food business operators for manufacturing and selling sub-standard food products. The penalty has been imposed on Shri Vipul Rathi (Manager), Shri Dinesh Kumar Rathi (Proprietor), M/s Sunrise Sweet and Sunrise Kajuwalla, Shop Nos. 8 and 9, Velho Trade Centre, Opposite Municipal Market, Panaji, Tiswadi, Goa, and M/s Sunrise Sweets, H.No. 535, Malim, Betim, Bardez. According to the FDA, a sample of Mysore Pak collected from the establishment was found to contain Tartazine at 286.61 mg/kg, which exceeds the prescribed maximum permissible limit of 100 mg/kg under the specified standards.

## FDA To Launch Three Food Safety Initiatives On World Food Safety Day

■ Nutrition Education Series, Eat Right Culinary Challenge And Street Food Vendor Training To Be Introduced

Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** The Directorate of Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) will organise a State-level programme to mark World Food Safety Day on June 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at the Institute of Nursing Education, Bambolim. During the event, the Directorate will launch three major initiatives



aimed at promoting food safety and healthy eating habits across Goa. The three initiatives are the Nutrition Education Series, Eat Right Culinary Challenge, and Food Safety Training for Street

Food Vendors. Under the Nutrition Education Series, the FDA, in association with the Goa College of Home Science, will launch an official Forum of Nutrition Experts in Goa by bringing together certified nutrition professionals from across the State.

## Farmers urged to embrace modern practices at Pre-Kharif campaign in Cansaulim

Team Goemkarponn

**MORMUGAO:** In a bid to strengthen agricultural activities ahead of the kharif season, the Directorate of Agriculture, in association with the Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA) and the Zonal Agriculture Office (ZAO), Mormugao, organised the Pre-Kharif Campaign 2026 at the Cansaulim Panchayat Hall on Tuesday. The programme witnessed the participation of a



large number of farmers from Cortalim and surrounding areas.

Cortalim MLA Antonio Vas, ZP Member Merciana Vas, Cansaulim Sarpanch Savio Pereira, President of the Pale Tollem Xetkaranche Association (PTXA) Roquezinho

D'Souza, agriculture officials and other dignitaries attended the programme.

During the campaign, farmers were educated on sustainable farming methods, modern cultivation techniques, crop management

practices, water conservation measures and various government schemes available for the farming community. To support agricultural activities, farmers were also provided with agricultural inputs including ghamelas, quality seeds, cocopeat and protrays.

Speaking on the occasion, MLA Antonio Vas said that shifting the Zonal Agriculture Office to Cortalim had proved beneficial for the farming community.

"It was one of the best

decisions taken for the benefit of farmers. For many years, farmers had to travel to Margao for agriculture-related work and were often deprived of information on various schemes. Today, with the office functioning in Cortalim, farmers have easier access to services, guidance and government benefits," said Vas.

He noted that the strong turnout at the campaign reflected the growing interest among farmers in improving agricultural productivity.

# HAL Audit Finds 199 Allegedly Forged Test Reports In Tejas Mk-1A Supply Chain

■ Defence PSU files criminal complaint against Hyderabad firm after quality certification documents fail verification

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** A major quality control controversy has emerged in the supply chain of India's Tejas Mk-1A fighter aircraft programme after Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) accused a Hyderabad-based supplier of submitting forged test reports for aircraft components.

According to the complaint filed by HAL, TEC Aero Devices had received multiple purchase orders beginning in March 2022 for the manufacture and supply of parts used in the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-1A programme. Following technical scrutiny, the company was approved to produce 35 categories of components covering 172 individual items.

Under procurement rules, suppliers are required to provide original quality certification reports when delivering components. TEC Aero Devices subsequently submitted 199 test reports covering critical quality parameters such as



tensile strength, hardness, break load, shear testing, non destructive testing, microstructure analysis and salt spray evaluation.

Concerns emerged when HAL's Quality Control Department initiated a verification exercise and sought confirmation from Axis Inspection Solutions, whose name appeared on the submitted documents. An audit conducted by HAL reportedly found that none of the 199 reports had been issued by the testing agency.

The investigation revealed that all reports submitted between

February and September 2023 were allegedly fabricated. Axis Inspection Solutions informed HAL that its name and signatures had been used without authorization and that the documents were not genuine. Following the findings, HAL initiated disciplinary action against the supplier. The company was removed from HAL's approved vendor list and barred from conducting business with the defence manufacturer for three years, until March 2027. HAL also clarified that no payments had been released in connection with the disputed supplies.

After completing internal audits, reviews and administrative proceedings, HAL decided to pursue criminal action and lodged a formal FIR against TEC Aero Devices. The defence manufacturer stated that the time taken to complete investigations and internal procedures led to the delay in filing the complaint.

Police have registered the case and launched an investigation into the alleged submission of forged quality certification documents linked to the Tejas Mk-1A fighter jet programme.

## "India's Bullet Train Journey Begins On August 15, 2027": High Speed Rail Project Nears Milestone

■ Mumbai-Ahmedabad Corridor Set To Transform Travel With Faster Connectivity And Advanced Rail Technology

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India is preparing to enter a new era of rail transportation with the launch of its first bullet train service, expected to begin operations on August 15, 2027. The landmark project, based on Japan's renowned Shinkansen technology, is set to revolutionise travel between Mumbai and Ahmedabad while significantly reducing journey times.

The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail Corridor, stretching approximately 508 kilometres, will be the country's first dedicated high-speed railway line. Designed to offer world-class speed, safety and efficiency, the corridor is expected to become a major milestone in India's transportation infrastructure.

According to the planned timeline, the first phase of the project is scheduled to be inaugurated on Independence Day in 2027. Once the entire corridor becomes operational, passengers will be able to travel between Mumbai and Ahmedabad in less than two hours, a dramatic improvement over existing rail travel times.

The project incorporates Japanese Shinkansen technology, widely regarded as one of the safest and most reliable high-speed rail systems in the world. The adoption of this technology is expected to enhance passenger

comfort while ensuring high standards of operational efficiency and punctuality.

The route will feature 12 stations, connecting key urban and industrial centres across Maharashtra and Gujarat. The stations are planned at Mumbai, Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad and Sabarmati, creating a seamless high-speed transport network across the region.

A significant feature of the project is the planned use of the indigenous B28 trainset during the initial phase. Manufactured by BEML, the trainset represents a major achievement for India's domestic railway manufacturing capabilities and aligns with the country's push for self-reliance in advanced technology.

Beyond reducing travel time, the bullet train corridor is expected to boost economic activity, improve regional connectivity and encourage investment along the route. Authorities plan to commission the project in stages, with the full Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor targeted for completion by the end of 2029.

Once operational, the high-speed rail network is expected to mark a transformative chapter in India's transportation landscape, bringing the country closer to the global leaders in modern rail infrastructure.



## Mystery Surrounds Death of GMC Intern Doctor as Police Launch Multi-Angle Probe

examining the victim's personal and professional background while attempting to establish whether she had arrived at the beach alone or in the company of another person.

Police are also working to determine how she travelled to the location and whether any vehicle connected to her was found in the vicinity. Officials have remained guarded about the investigation, stating that the exact circumstances surrounding the death are yet to be established. GMC Medical Superintendent Dr. Rajesh T. Patil said the post-mortem examination is underway and that the exact cause of death will only be known after forensic and medical findings are received. He added that any substance reportedly found near the body forms part of the ongoing investigation and should not be the subject of speculation. Dr. Patil

also clarified that anaesthesia drugs are not freely accessible and that the intern doctor would not have had access to them. He confirmed that Gauri had completed her internship and was preparing to leave the institution. The post-mortem report and forensic analysis are expected to play a crucial role in determining the cause of death, as investigators continue to piece together the final hours of the young doctor's life.

## Somanna Says Talks Ongoing on Mhadei Issue, Assures Interests of All States Will Be Protected

Speaking on the long-pending Mhadei issue, Somanna stated that Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka are "one" and emphasized the need for a coordinated approach to resolve the matter. He said the Chief Ministers of the three states are engaged in discussions and expressed

confidence that the concerns of every state would be safeguarded. The Union Minister further asserted that under the leadership of the Modi government, all issues related to the Mhadei dispute would be resolved through dialogue and mutual understanding.

## Anjuna Residents Protest Soaring Power Bills

were enforced. They warned that if the issue remains unresolved, consumers across Goa could face similar difficulties.

The protesters urged the government to launch a comprehensive public awareness campaign explaining sanctioned load norms and related charges. They also sought a grace period of three to four months during which consumers could regularise their sanctioned load without being subjected to hefty penalties.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

# Congress Moves Supreme Court Over Meenakshi Natarajan Nomination Rejection

■ Party seeks urgent hearing after lone Rajya Sabha candidate from Madhya Pradesh is barred from contesting

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** The Congress has approached the Supreme Court challenging the rejection of its Rajya Sabha candidate Meenakshi Natarajan from Madhya Pradesh, escalating a political and legal battle that has left the party without a candidate in the election.

The party is expected to seek an urgent hearing before the



court's vacation bench, arguing that Natarajan's nomination papers were unlawfully rejected by the Returning Officer following objections raised by the Bharatiya Janata Party.

The controversy centres on allegations

that Natarajan failed to disclose details of a legal matter in Telangana while filing her nomination

affidavit. The BJP maintained that the omission warranted the rejection of her candidature.

Natarajan has strongly denied the allegations, describing the episode as a politically motivated

conspiracy. She asserted that no criminal case had been registered against her and that the matter in question involved only a private complaint.

Speaking after the rejection, the Congress leader accused election officials of acting under political influence. She alleged that the Returning Officers were not functioning independently and were instead working in favour of the ruling establishment.



## "Engine Analysis Still Incomplete": Final Report On Air India Flight 171 Crash Likely Delayed

■ One Year After Tragedy That Claimed 260 Lives, Investigators Expected To Issue Status Update Instead Of Final Findings

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** A year after the devastating crash of Air India Flight 171, investigators are expected to delay the release of the final accident report as crucial analysis of the aircraft's engines remains unfinished.

The Boeing 787 aircraft crashed moments after taking off from Ahmedabad on June 12, 2025, resulting in the deaths of 260 people. Of the 242 individuals on board, only one survived, while 19 people on the ground were also killed when the aircraft struck buildings at the B.J. Medical College campus. Among those who lost their lives was former Gujarat Chief

Minister Vijay Rupani.

Instead of publishing a final report on the first anniversary of the tragedy, investigators are likely to issue a status update explaining the reasons for the delay. The probe has focused heavily on the aircraft's GE Aerospace engines, which remain under detailed examination.

A preliminary report released last year revealed that the aircraft's engine fuel control switches moved almost simultaneously from the "RUN" position to "CUTOFF" shortly after takeoff.

The change interrupted fuel supply to both engines, leading to a catastrophic loss of power during the critical climb phase.



## Bangladeshi Man Stranded In No-Man's Land After Border Standoff Between BSF And BGB

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** A brief but tense standoff unfolded along the India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya after a 55 year old Bangladeshi national was left stranded in no-man's land amid a dispute over his identity and nationality. The incident occurred at Nandirchar in the South West Garo Hills district, near Mahendraganj, where personnel of the Border Security Force and the Border Guard Bangladesh engaged in a heated exchange over the man's citizenship status. The man, identified as Sati Rajbanshi, was allegedly apprehended after entering India illegally through the Meghalaya border. Following his detention, BSF personnel attempted to return him to Bangladesh as part of a deportation process.

## Protests Erupt In Manipur After 6 Naga Hostages Found Dead

■ Anger spreads across Naga communities as recovered bodies show signs of mutilation, prompting shutdown calls and fresh demands for action

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** The recovery of the bodies of six Naga civilians who were abducted last month has sparked widespread outrage in Manipur, with Naga organisations demanding swift action against those responsible and announcing protests across affected areas.

The apex Naga body in the state, the United Naga Council, strongly



condemned the killings, describing the incident as a grave violation of human rights and human dignity. The organisation expressed solidarity with the victims' families and

called for a 24 hour shutdown in response to the tragedy.

According to community leaders, the six victims

were among 18 Naga civilians allegedly taken hostage on May 13 by armed groups linked to ongoing tensions between Naga and Kuki communities.

## India Summons US Diplomat, Demands End To Attacks On Commercial Shipping After Oman Vessel Strike

■ New Delhi lodges formal protest as regional conflict threatens maritime trade routes and Indian seafarers

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India has formally summoned the senior most American diplomat in New Delhi to protest an attack on a commercial vessel carrying Indian crew members off the coast of Oman, amid growing instability in West Asia and rising concerns over the safety of international shipping.



The diplomatic move came after the vessel Settebello was attacked near Oman, leaving three

Indian crew members missing at the time and prompting a large scale rescue operation. Of the

24 Indians on board, 21 were rescued, while efforts were launched to trace the remaining sailors.

The Ministry of External Affairs strongly condemned the attack and conveyed India's concerns to Jason Meeks, the United States Chargé d'Affaires in New Delhi. Senior MEA official Nagaraj Naidu was tasked with communicating

India's position and seeking clarity over the incident. India stated that attacks on commercial vessels operating in international waters are deeply troubling and linked to the escalating conflict across West Asia. The government stressed that civilian ships and maritime infrastructure must not become targets in regional hostilities.

# “India Remain ODI Kings”: Men In Blue Hold No. 1 Spot Despite Narrowed Lead In ICC Rankings

■ Annual ICC Update Sees New Zealand Close The Gap While South Africa Climb Above Pakistan Into Fourth Place

## Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India have retained their position at the top of the ICC Men's ODI Team Rankings following the latest annual update, reaffirming their status as the world's leading one-day international side. However, the gap between India and second-placed New Zealand has narrowed significantly.

The annual revision has seen India's rating drop by one point from



119 to 118. Despite the slight decline, the team continues to lead the standings. New Zealand

have made gains, improving by two rating points to reach 113 and reducing India's advantage from eight points to just five. Reigning ODI world champions Australia national cricket team remain firmly in third place with an unchanged rating of 109 points, maintaining their position among the elite sides in international cricket. The most notable

movement in the top five comes from South Africa national cricket team, who have climbed to fourth place with 102 points. Their rise pushes Pakistan national cricket team down to fifth after Pakistan slipped to 98 points.

Further down the table, the separation between ninth-ranked Bangladesh national cricket team and the West Indies cricket team has widened considerably, with a 10-point gap now dividing the two sides.



## “Indian Football Set For Fresh Start”: ISL 2026-27 Season Likely To Kick Off On September 4

■ New Club Led Financial Model, 14 Team Competition And Focus On OCI Players Signal Major Changes For Indian Football

### Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** The 2026-27 season of the Indian Super League is expected to begin on September 4, with 14 teams competing in a full home and away format. The development marks a significant step forward for Indian football, which has endured months of uncertainty regarding the future of its premier domestic competition. A key focus for clubs ahead of the new season is expected to be the recruitment and development of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) players. The initiative is being viewed as part of a broader effort to strengthen the

talent pool and improve the competitiveness of Indian football on the international stage.

The proposed start date comes shortly after a crucial meeting between ISL club representatives and Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. During the discussions, assurances were reportedly provided that the country's top tier football league would proceed as planned, bringing much needed stability to the domestic football ecosystem. One of the major outcomes of the meeting was the approval of a club led operational framework that is set to replace the previous Genius Sports arrangement.



## “One Of England's Greats Should Not Exit Like This”: Nasser Hussain Urges Ben Stokes To Avoid Emotional Retirement

### Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** England cricket has been rocked by controversy after star all-rounder Ben Stokes was removed as captain ahead of the second Test against New Zealand following an off-field disciplinary issue. The decision came after Stokes reportedly breached a team curfew and attended a nightclub in London after the opening Test. An alleged altercation involving a rugby player, Stokes and teammate Gus Atkinson prompted the England management to take action, resulting in the suspension of one of the country's most influential cricketers. The development has sparked speculation about Stokes' future, with discussions emerging over whether the England star could consider retiring from international cricket.

## “Teen Sensation Tanvi Steals The Show”: PV Sindhu Leads Indian Charge At Australian Open

■ Five Indian Women Reach Round Of 16 As Tanvi Sharma Produces Stunning Upset Over Fifth Seed In Sydney

### Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India enjoyed an impressive day at the Australian Open Super 500 badminton tournament in Sydney, with PV Sindhu and a host of other Indian women advancing to the round of 16. The standout performance came from



teenage sensation Tanvi Sharma, who registered a memorable upset victory over a higher-ranked opponent. Two-

time Olympic medallist PV Sindhu began her campaign in dominant fashion, defeating Peru's Ines Lucia Castillo Salazar 21-13, 21-11 in just 32 minutes. The former world champion controlled the match from start to finish, dictating rallies and never allowing her opponent to gain momentum.

## India Brace For High Stakes Women's T20 World Cup Challenge

■ Harmanpreet Kaur's Side Opens Campaign Against Pakistan As Group Stage Battle Promises No Easy Route To The Knockouts

### Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** India will begin their campaign in the 2026 ICC Women's T20 World Cup with a high pressure clash against Pakistan on June 14, as Harmanpreet Kaur's team prepares to tackle what is widely being described as the tournament's “Group of Death”.

Despite being one of the strongest teams



in women's cricket, India are still chasing their first Women's T20

World Cup title. Their best finish came in 2020 when they reached the final before falling short against Australia in front of a record crowd at Melbourne Cricket Ground. However, India's performances over the years suggest they have often been among the tournament's top contenders. They remained unbeaten until the semi finals in 2018 and reached the title clash in 2020. In

2023, they came close to defeating eventual champions Australia in the semi finals, while in 2024 they were drawn alongside Australia and eventual winners New Zealand, making progress difficult. The challenge is no less demanding this year. With the tournament expanded to 12 teams, India have been placed in Group A alongside Australia, South Africa, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Netherlands.

Any slip against the stronger sides could put their qualification hopes at risk, making every match crucial. A major strength for India will be their explosive opening pair of Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana. Mandhana has significantly improved her scoring rate in T20 cricket this year, while Verma continues to be one of the format's most aggressive and productive batters.