



Missing Accused In CM Convoy Case Traced, All Six Arrested

■ Fifth friend rushes to police for help after tragedy near Kulleem bridge; victims were residents of Mormugao

Team Goemkarponn

AMONA: All six accused, including a police constable, who were reported missing after a case was registered over an incident involving Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant's convoy, have now been arrested by Bicholim Police.

The accused had allegedly disappeared after a criminal case was filed, prompting police to launch a search operation. Investigators have since traced and taken all six



into custody.

The case stems from an incident on Thursday night at Amona when a Bolero jeep allegedly entered the Chief Minister's convoy while he was travelling from Sanquelim to Panaji. The

unexpected movement of the vehicle triggered a security alert, following which the convoy's security personnel intercepted it and moved it to the roadside. According to the police, the occupants of the Bolero

were allegedly under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident. While some of the occupants were detained immediately, the driver—identified as a police constable attached to the Ponda Sub-Division—and the remaining accused were later traced during the investigation. Police have confirmed that all six are now in custody, and further investigation is underway to determine the circumstances surrounding the security breach.

Congress Has Not Started 2027 Candidate Exercise, Clarifies Chodankar

GPCC President Says Aspirants Are Free To Build Their Base; Any Merger Decision Will Be Taken By Party Leadership



Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Girish Chodankar has clarified that the party is yet to begin the exercise of identifying or shortlisting candidates for the 2027 Goa Assembly elections, dismissing any impression that the selection process is already underway.

Addressing questions over statements made by former CCP Mayor Surendra Furtado, Chodankar said those interested in contesting the elections are at liberty to work in their respective constituencies and connect with the public. He noted that political aspirants promoting

themselves cannot be prevented from doing so.

He further explained that decisions on party nominations have not been initiated and stressed that he does not have the authority to award election tickets. According to him, the final selection of candidates will be made through the Congress party's established process.

When asked to react to remarks by Goa Forward Party leader Vijay Sardesai, Chodankar refrained from commenting, saying he would not respond to the statement.

On the possibility of a merger involving the Congress, he said that while such a proposal had been put forward by Vijay Sardesai, the matter rests entirely with the party's high command, which will take the final call.

PM Modi Welcomes US-Iran Understanding, Hopes It Restores Peace And Stability In West Asia

■ Prime Minister says India looks forward to a lasting settlement as Washington and Tehran move towards

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday welcomed the understanding reached between the United States and Iran to end months of conflict in West Asia, expressing hope that the development would pave the way for lasting peace, regional stability and the smooth flow of global trade.

In a post on X, PM



Modi described the agreement as a significant step forward after a conflict that had disrupted economies worldwide and claimed lives across several countries. He said India hoped the

implementation of the understanding would help restore normalcy in the region.

"I welcome the understanding reached between the United States and Iran on ending the conflict in West Asia, which has caused serious economic disruption across the world and led to loss of life in many countries," the Prime Minister wrote.

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Sal Couple Die In Truck-Two-Wheeler Crash At Dhargal

Team Goemkarponn

DHARGAL: A husband and wife from Sal were killed in a road accident after the two-wheeler they were travelling on was involved in a collision with a truck at Mahakhajan in Dhargal on Sunday.

The impact of the crash proved fatal, and both victims succumbed to their injuries at the scene before medical assistance could arrive. Local police rushed to the spot, secured the area, and began the investigation.

The bodies were later shifted for post-mortem examination. Authorities are gathering evidence and recording statements as part of their inquiry to establish the circumstances that led to the accident.

14 Killed As Vehicle Carrying Pilgrims Falls Into Well In Maharashtra's Pandharpur

■ Rescue teams recover bodies and shift injured to hospitals after pickup vehicle veers off road and plunges into a well

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: At least 14 people were killed after a pickup vehicle carrying devotees plunged into a well in Maharashtra's Pandharpur on Sunday, officials said. According to preliminary information, the vehicle was transporting a group of pilgrims when the driver allegedly lost control, causing the



vehicle to veer off the road and crash into a nearby well. Several passengers were trapped inside as the vehicle sank into the water. Local residents,

police personnel and rescue teams rushed to the spot soon after the accident and launched a massive rescue operation. Authorities

recovered multiple bodies from the well, while several injured passengers were pulled out and shifted to nearby

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When Carelessness Turns Deadly: The Cost of Ignoring Nature's

When Carelessness Turns Deadly: The Cost of Ignoring Nature's Warnings

The tragic drowning of four young men from Vasco in the Collem river near the Dudhsagar belt is not merely another accident to be recorded in police files. It is a stark reminder of a growing culture of irresponsibility that continues to claim lives across Goa's rivers, waterfalls, beaches, and other natural attractions.

Four lives were lost in a matter of minutes because a group of young visitors reportedly assumed that the river was shallow and safe. That assumption proved fatal. Behind every such tragedy lies a painful truth: nature does not forgive carelessness.

The Dudhsagar region is one of Goa's most visited destinations, attracting thousands of tourists and local visitors every year. During the monsoon season, however, the landscape changes dramatically. Rivers swell, currents become unpredictable, and water levels can rise suddenly. What may appear calm on the surface can conceal deep pockets, strong undercurrents, and dangerous drop-offs.

Yet, despite repeated warnings and numerous past incidents, people continue to enter unfamiliar waters without understanding the risks involved. Many ignore warning signs, underestimate river depths, or overestimate their swimming abilities. Some are driven by excitement, others by overconfidence, and increasingly by the desire to capture photographs and videos for social media. The result is often devastating.

The deaths at Collem highlight a troubling pattern. Every monsoon season brings reports of drownings, rescue operations, and near-fatal incidents across Goa. In most cases, the victims are not hardened adventurers seeking extreme challenges. They are ordinary people who make a single reckless decision, believing that nothing will go wrong.

What makes these incidents particularly tragic is that many are preventable. Basic caution could

"Yet, despite repeated warnings and numerous past incidents, people continue to enter unfamiliar waters without understanding the risks involved. Many ignore warning signs, underestimate river depths, or overestimate their swimming abilities. Some are driven by excitement, others by overconfidence, and increasingly by the desire to capture photographs and videos for social media. The result is often devastating."

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save lives. Avoiding entry into unknown water bodies, respecting warning notices, listening to local advice, and understanding seasonal dangers are not extraordinary measures. They are simple acts of responsibility.

The swift response by Drishti Marine lifesavers deserves recognition. Their team reached the remote location quickly and recovered the missing victims within minutes. Their professionalism ensured that

the operation was carried out efficiently under difficult conditions. However, even the most skilled rescuers have limitations. Rescue teams can respond to emergencies, but they cannot prevent individuals from making dangerous choices in the first place.

This tragedy also raises questions about public awareness. Despite years of safety campaigns, many visitors remain unaware of the hazards associated with rivers and waterfalls during the monsoon. Authorities must continue to strengthen awareness drives, install clearer warning systems, and identify high-risk zones where access may need to be restricted during dangerous periods.

At the same time, responsibility cannot rest solely with government agencies. Citizens must accept that personal safety begins with personal judgment. There is a tendency to treat natural sites as recreational playgrounds without acknowledging the risks they pose. Rivers are not swimming pools. Waterfalls are not amusement parks. They are dynamic natural environments that can become deadly without warning.

Families across Goa and beyond have been left grieving because of choices made in moments of excitement and carelessness. Four young men between the ages of 26 and 28 should have returned home after a day of adventure. Instead, their families are preparing for funerals. Their futures have been erased in an instant.

The lesson from Collem is painfully clear. Every drowning is not simply an unfortunate accident. Often, it is the consequence of ignoring warnings, underestimating danger, and failing to respect the power of nature. As Goa enters another monsoon season, this tragedy should serve as a wake-up call for everyone who ventures into rivers, waterfalls, and other natural water bodies.

No photograph, thrill, or moment of adventure is worth a human life. Respect for nature is not optional. It is the difference between returning home safely and becoming the next headline.

OPED

NaMo: The Knight in Shining Armour

Itfan Iqbal Gheta

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Ji was independent India's first Prime Minister. He led the country for nearly 17 years until his demise on May 27, 1964.

Now, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, our incumbent Prime Minister, has surpassed that record by becoming one of India's longest-serving Prime Ministers.

Needless to say, the BJP is leaving no stone unturned to celebrate this milestone.

As common citizens, however, an obvious question arises: Why is this important for us?

What has Shri Modi Ji done for the middle class?

Well, rhetorical flourish apart, one of the most significant achievements of Shri Modi Ji as Prime Minister has been his ability to provide the country with a stable government.

When he first took oath as Prime Minister in 2014 after securing a thumping majority, many political pundits predicted that the so-called Modi tsunami would eventually lose steam. They believed that once the initial euphoria faded, the government would collapse under the weight of the enormous expectations it had generated.

But that never happened.

The Modi government successfully completed its first term, returned with an even bigger mandate for a second, and is now well into its third term.

Today, it appears that no political force has been able to mount a serious challenge to the Modi juggernaut that continues to drive India towards the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047."

What does this signify?

Shri Modi Ji, often described as a rank outsider to Lutyens' Delhi, today enjoys a firm grip over the Delhi establishment. Is that good for India?

Well, the answer depends on which side of the political fence one sits. For his supporters, Shri Modi Ji has become synonymous with a no-compromise approach to national security. Infiltrators are identified and dealt with firmly. Those accused of anti-national activities face swift action. Law and order, they argue, is enforced without fear or favour. The objective is simple: ensuring that ordinary citizens can go about their lives in peace and security.

What about India's adversaries?

Supporters point out that under Shri Modi Ji's leadership, India has adopted a more assertive posture on matters of national security and foreign policy. The message, they say, is loud and clear: India will respond firmly whenever its sovereignty or interests are threatened. Apart from these headline-grabbing developments, Shri Modi Ji's government also undertook major policy initiatives.

His first term witnessed the implementation of demonetisation, one of the most debated economic decisions in independent India's history. The country transitioned to a new currency regime, and the move dominated national discourse for months.

Another landmark decision was the abrogation of Article 370, which ended the special constitutional status of Jammu and Kashmir and integrated the region more closely with the Indian Union. While supporters hailed it as a historic correction, critics viewed it differently. Nevertheless, it remains one of the defining decisions of the Modi era. Then came the Covid-19 pandemic.

The nationwide lockdown brought normal life to a standstill almost overnight. Businesses shut down, movement ceased, and uncertainty gripped the nation. During this unprecedented crisis, Shri Modi Ji led the country through one of the most challenging periods in modern history.

India's vaccination programme eventually emerged as one of the largest in the world. Indian-made vaccines reached not only domestic citizens but also several countries across the globe. Many nations acknowledged India's assistance, giving rise to what came to be known as vaccine diplomacy.

The list of achievements and initiatives is long, and one can go on and on. Yet, what Shri Modi Ji has given the country can perhaps be summed up in a few words.

A stable government. A leadership that enjoys the confidence of a large section of the population. A strong emphasis on border security. A belief that adversarial nations will think twice before attempting to undermine India's interests. The ability to steer the country through crises ranging from the Covid-19 pandemic to global economic disruptions caused by international conflicts.

As things stand today, Shri NaMo Ji continues to enjoy the blessings and support of millions of Indians who believe that he can lead Bharat towards newer heights and help realise the dream of a developed nation by 2047.

Rane Proposes Massive NDZ Expansion in Salcete to Protect Ecologically Sensitive Areas

■ Nearly 10 Crore Sq Metres of Land May Be Brought Under No Development Zone as Govt Pushes for Sustainable Planning

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Town and Country Planning Minister Vishwajit Rane has said that around 10 crore square metres of land in Salcete is proposed to be classified under the No Development Zone (NDZ) category as part of efforts to strengthen environmental protection and regulate future



development.

Rane said the proposal has emerged from requests made by several village panchayats in Salcete, which have sought stronger

safeguards for ecologically sensitive and vulnerable areas facing increasing development pressure.

He stated that the move is intended to correct long-standing land-use planning issues and bring greater balance between development needs and environmental conservation.

According to the minister, the government

is focusing on a planning approach that ensures growth does not come at the cost of Goa's natural ecosystems and fragile ecological zones.

Rane emphasized that protecting green cover, wetlands and other environmentally important regions is essential for maintaining ecological stability and long-term sustainability in the State.



Sardesai Launches 'Operation Vijai', Calls for United Fight Against BJP in 2027

■ GFP Leader Announces Statewide Outreach Campaign, Says Goa Must Prepare for a Decisive Electoral Battle

Team Goemkarponn

FATORDA: Goa Forward Party (GFP) president Vijai Sardesai on Sunday used his birthday gathering as a political platform to mobilize supporters, urging Goans to gear up for what he described as a crucial fight in the 2027 Assembly elections. Unveiling plans for a statewide outreach programme titled ***"Operation Vijai"***, scheduled to begin after Ganesh Chaturthi, Sardesai said the coming elections would be pivotal for preserving Goa's unique identity and interests. Addressing party workers and supporters, the GFP chief asserted that the next Assembly polls would be a defining moment for the State, calling on citizens to actively participate in shaping Goa's future.

Sardesai said the proposed yatra would

focus on taking the party's message across Goa while highlighting issues that, according to him, have emerged during the BJP's tenure in power.

While several speakers at the event advocated a stronger standalone political campaign against the BJP, Sardesai signalled that the party would carefully assess its future strategy and potential alliances before taking any major decisions. Quoting advice received from Fr Alban, Sardesai stressed the need for patience and responsibility in opposition politics. He said the party would not act hastily and would instead evaluate developments before deciding its next course of action. The GFP leader also took aim at the Congress, accusing the principal opposition party of not being visible enough on issues affecting ordinary citizens.



Sawant Unveils Private Sector Welfare Push, Urges Youth to Embrace Industry Jobs

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Pramod Sawant announced a broad set of measures aimed at strengthening welfare and job security for private sector employees, while urging young Goans to look beyond government employment and tap into opportunities emerging across various industries.

Speaking at a Mega Job Fair hosted by the Labour Department at the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Sawant said the government is working on policy reforms that will improve working conditions and create a more secure environment for employees in the private sector. As part of these efforts, Labour Inspectors have been instructed to monitor employment trends in industrial units located within Goa's industrial estates.

The exercise will focus on assessing how many Goans are employed in these establishments and whether workers are being provided long-term employment opportunities.

Goa to Enforce Water Recharge Measures for Borewell Owners as Reservoir Levels Dip

■ CM Pramod Sawant Calls for Immediate Conservation Efforts, Warns of Greater Water Stress if Rainfall Remains Weak

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Alarmed by the steady decline in water reserves across Goa, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has directed the Water Resources Department (WRD) to make water conservation and groundwater recharge measures mandatory for borewell owners, saying proactive steps are necessary to safeguard the State's water security.

The directive comes as several reservoirs continue to report low storage



levels ahead of the peak monsoon period, raising concerns about drinking water availability in the months ahead. Sawant said the State cannot afford to ignore the warning signs, particularly amid indications that rainfall this season may not meet expectations.

"With uncertainty over rainfall, it is important that

we focus on conserving every possible source of water," the Chief Minister said, stressing that groundwater replenishment and rainwater harvesting should become a priority.

Under the proposed guidelines, borewell owners will be required to adopt measures that help recharge underground aquifers and improve water retention. The government believes such interventions will reduce pressure on reservoirs and strengthen water availability during dry periods.

Goa Rolls Out First Large-Scale Fatty Liver Screening Programme

■ Three Lakh Adults to Be Screened Under 'Liver Forever' Initiative as State Strengthens Preventive Healthcare Efforts

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Taking a significant step towards combating lifestyle-related illnesses, the Goa government has launched a comprehensive screening campaign that aims to assess three lakh adults for fatty liver disease over the next three years.



The programme, named 'Liver Forever', is designed to identify liver-related health risks at

an early stage and reduce the long-term burden of chronic diseases. The initiative is being implemented through a collaboration between the State Health Department and Zydus Healthcare.

Health Minister Vishwajit Rane said the campaign reflects the government's commitment to preventive healthcare by focusing on early

detection rather than waiting for diseases to progress into serious medical conditions.

As part of the initiative, screening services will be offered through Goa's network of Primary Health Centres, enabling healthcare workers to reach residents at the community level. Patients requiring specialised assessment or treatment

will be referred to Goa Medical College, which will serve as the programme's central referral facility.

The screening drive will focus on identifying individuals suffering from metabolic liver disorders commonly associated with obesity, diabetes, hypertension and other lifestyle-related conditions.

Vasco Resident Assaulted By Group At Dabolim; Police Launch Investigation

■ Seven To Eight Unknown Persons Allegedly Abused And Attacked Complainant Near Bogmalo Road; Probe Underway

Team Goemkarponn

VASCO: A case of assault has been reported from the Bogmalo road area in Dabolim after a Vasco resident alleged that he was abused and attacked by a group of unidentified persons late on June 13.



According to the complaint filed by Sudarshan Rajput, a resident of Alto Vaddem,

Vasco, the incident occurred at around 10 pm when he was confronted by approximately seven to eight unknown persons. The group is alleged to have formed an unlawful assembly and used abusive language against him before physically

assaulting him.

The complainant stated that he was slapped on the back and near the back of his neck, resulting in injuries. Following the complaint, Vasco Police have initiated an investigation into the matter.



Tragedy At Collem River Highlights Hidden Monsoon Risk Near

■ Four Young Men From Vasco Drown After Misjudging Water Depth; Swift Drishti Marine Response Brings Bodies To Shore

Team Goemkarponn

COLLEM: A fatal drowning incident near the Collem-Metawada bridge on Saturday morning has once again raised concerns over water safety in the Dudhsagar waterfall belt, after four young men from Vasco lost their lives in a river believed to have been misjudged as shallow.

According to police, the group of seven to eight men had travelled to the location by train and reached the riverside between 9.30 am and 10 am. The incident is reported to have taken place shortly thereafter, when the victims entered the water under the assumption that it was safe and shallow.

Drishti Marine lifesavers were alerted through Captain Niraj

Gaonkar following a request from Goa Police. A rescue team was immediately deployed to the site, located around 2 km from Dudhsagar Waterfalls. By the time rescuers arrived, one body had already been recovered, while three others remained submerged. Lifesavers Maruti Atwadkar, Irfan Shaikh, and Sagar Dushi entered the river without delay and conducted a search operation in water estimated to be about three metres (10 feet) deep. Within 15 minutes, all three missing victims were located and retrieved. Medical personnel from the 108 emergency service, who were present along with police, examined the victims and confirmed that all four had no signs of life.

FRAUD

Quepem Man Duped Of ₹2.19 Lakh In Facebook Scooter Sale Scam; Fake CISF Identity Used

Team Goemkarponn

QUEPEM: A case of online fraud has been reported from Quepem, where a man was allegedly cheated of ₹2,19,919 after responding to a Facebook advertisement for the sale of a second-hand scooter. According to the complaint filed by Balu Konkre, resident of Camona, Maina, Quepem, the incident occurred between May 4, 2026, and June 13, 2026.

Bus Driver Flees After Collision With SUV At Sanvordem Tisk

■ Rash And Negligent Driving Alleged Near Fish Market As New Tata Bus Strikes Oncoming Vehicle

Team Goemkarponn

CURCHOREM: A road accident was reported near the fish market at Sanvordem Tisk on June 13, after a New Tata Bus allegedly hit an oncoming Mahindra Thar and fled the scene, causing damage to the SUV.

According to a complaint lodged by Head Constable Shrikant Velip (HC 6404) of Curchorem Police Station, the incident occurred at around 4.40 pm when the bus, driven by Sukhlal Muwel Mishri Lal, a resident of Tarapur in Dhar district, Madhya Pradesh, was proceeding



from Sanvordem towards Curchorem. It is alleged that the driver operated the bus in a rash and negligent manner and veered to the extreme right side of the road near Sanvordem Tisk fish market, resulting in a collision with the rear right side door and wheel of the Mahindra Thar. Following

the impact, the bus driver allegedly fled the accident spot without stopping. The collision caused damage to the SUV's rear right wheel and door. Curchorem Police have initiated further investigation into the incident, which is being handled by HC Shrikant Velip.

Margao Man Succumbs To Injuries After Cuncolim Self-Accident; Trip To Temple Ends In Tragedy

■ 31-Year-Old Driver Dies At GMC Bambolim After Vehicle Loses Control Near Cuncolim On Return Journey From Karnataka

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: A 31-year-old man from Margao died while undergoing treatment at Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim, after sustaining critical injuries in a road accident reported under Cuncolim Police Station limits.

According to police information received on June 14 at 12.37 pm, the hospital authorities



informed that Ajay Pandrekar, a resident of Malbhat, Margao, had succumbed to his injuries during treatment at GMC.

Enquiry revealed that the deceased was involved in Accident No. 61/2026 dated June 13.

Tipper Truck Falls Into Valley At Anmod Ghat; Driver Dies In Self-Accident

■ West Bengal Resident Succumbs To Injuries After Vehicle Loses Control On Ghat Section Near Mollem

Team Goemkarponn

MOLLEM: A fatal road accident was reported at Anmod Ghat on June 14 morning after a tipper truck reportedly lost control and fell into a valley, resulting in the death of its driver.

According to police information, Head Constable Tulshidas Gaonkar (HC 5432) of BCP Mollem informed authorities at around 6.45 am that a tipper truck had met with a



self-accident at Anmod Ghat and that the driver had succumbed to his injuries.

Upon reaching the spot and conducting an enquiry, police confirmed that the driver, identified

as Tapash Mistri (33), a resident of Sukantapalli, Dakshin Chatra in West Bengal, died in the accident. An inquest panchanama was conducted over the body, which was later preserved at South Goa District Hospital, Margao, for medico-legal formalities.

Collem Police have registered the case and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Rohan Naik of Collem Police Station.

Monsoon Brings Dangerous Seas Across Goa; Drishti Marine Intensifies Safety Deployment and Public Advisory

Over 450 Lifesavers Deployed Across Beaches, Waterfalls And Inland Water Bodies As Authorities Warn Against Swimming And Water Sports

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: With the onset of the monsoon season across Goa, Drishti Marine has issued a strong public advisory urging residents and tourists to avoid entering the sea and other water bodies due to highly dangerous conditions caused by rough weather, strong currents, and unpredictable waves.

The state government-appointed lifesaving agency has deployed more than 450 trained lifesavers and beach



marshals across 54 beaches in Goa, including 30 in South Goa and 24 in North Goa. Additional deployment has been made at key inland locations such as

Mayem Lake in Bicholim, Dudhsagar Waterfall, Savri Waterfall in Sanguem, and Mhovacho Guno in Sattari.

Officials have confirmed that swimming, coastal water sports, and fishing activities remain strictly prohibited during the monsoon period. Red flags have been placed across beach stretches to clearly indicate unsafe conditions and warn visitors against entering the water.

Drishti Marine CEO Navin Awasthi said the

sea may appear calm at times but can quickly turn hazardous during monsoon months due to sudden surges, strong undercurrents, and changing weather patterns. He urged the public to strictly follow safety instructions and avoid ignoring warning flags. "The safest choice is to stay out of the water completely during the monsoon. Our lifesavers are on duty across the coastline, but prevention is always better than rescue," he said.



MSAA elects new committee for 2026-2029 term

Team Goemkarponn

MORMUGAO: The Mormugao Shipping Agents Association (MSAA) has announced its new office bearers and executive committee members for a three-year term from 2026 to 2029 following its annual general meeting.

Addressing a press conference on Sunday, Raghoba Kotkar, Vice President of Delta Ports, said the outgoing committee was dissolved during the annual general meeting held on June 9, following which members unanimously selected a new team to lead the association until March 31, 2029. Gajanan Pandurang Naik of Sai Shipping & Co. has been elected President, while Snehendru Shekhar of J M Baxi & Co. will serve as Vice President. Pramod Tawde of Tawde & Sons Shipping Services has been appointed Secretary and Keshav Krishna Shetye of James Mackintosh & Co. will serve as Treasurer.

The other office bearers

include B. S. Kumaran of Merchant Shipping Pvt. Ltd. as Joint Secretary and Rohan Sakhalkar of Inchcape Shipping Services Pvt. Ltd. as Joint Treasurer. D. S. Thakkar of Hiralal & Co. and Vinod Parkot of Agencia Commercial Maritima have been named Senior Advisors. Thakkar has also been nominated to represent the association before MANSA and FEDSAI. The executive committee comprises Jairam Naik of Atlantic Global Shipping, Manoj Mayekar of Inter Ocean Shipping, Kaustubh Kamat of Keshav Narayana Kamat & Co., Sachin Shirodkar of Chowgule & Company, J. Glorio of Joanes & Co., and Nilesh Navelkar of Barbados Maritime. The association congratulated the newly elected team and expressed confidence that the committee would work towards the growth of the shipping industry, stronger stakeholder engagement, and the promotion of the maritime sector at Mormugao Port.



Congress Targets BJP Over Treatment Of Regional Parties, Says MGP Must Reassess Alliance

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Girish Chodankar on Sunday accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of eroding the strength of regional political parties across the country and suggested that the Maharashtra Gomantak Party (MGP) is experiencing a similar situation in Goa. Speaking to reporters, Chodankar argued that several regional parties which entered into political arrangements with the BJP eventually lost their influence and electoral standing. He cited examples from different states, claiming that parties which once held significant political space were weakened after aligning with the BJP. Turning his focus to Goa, Chodankar said the MGP, currently a partner in the BJP-led government, should evaluate its position within the alliance and decide how long it wishes to remain associated with it.

GPCC Urges SEBI To Withhold Vedanta Iron & Steel Listing Over Alleged ₹16,500 Crore Liability

Complaint Claims Non-Disclosure Of Contingent Public Dues; Seeks Immediate Regulatory Action Before Scheduled June 15 Listing

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) has written to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), urging it to withhold the proposed listing of Vedanta Iron & Steel Limited (VISL) scheduled for June 15,



2026, citing alleged non-disclosure of a contingent liability of approximately ₹16,500 crore. In the complaint addressed

to the SEBI Chairperson, GPCC president Girish R. Chodankar alleged that Vedanta Limited failed to

disclose what it describes as a substantial public dues liability linked to historical iron ore mining operations in Goa.

850 Farmers Attend Organic Farming Awareness And Fertiliser Distribution Drive In Porvorim

Programme At Socorro Focuses On Sustainable Agriculture, Farmer Empowerment And Direct Support Through Input Distribution

Team Goemkarponn

PORVORIM: Around 850 farmers from the Porvorim constituency participated in an Organic Farming Awareness Session and fertiliser distribution drive organised at Shree Vetal Temple, Carrem Vaddem, Socorro, aimed at promoting sustainable agricultural practices and farmer empowerment.

The programme



was organised by BJP Porvorim Kissan Morcha in association with the Porvorim BJP Mandal and focused on natural farming methods, sustainable cultivation techniques, and strengthening agricultural productivity through modern awareness and

traditional practices. As part of the initiative, participating farmers were provided with essential agricultural inputs through a fertiliser distribution drive to support ongoing farming activities in the region. The event was attended

by several dignitaries including Porvorim MLA and Minister for Tourism, Information Technology, Electronics & Communications, Printing & Stationery Shri Rohan A. Khaunte, BJP Goa President Shri Damu Naik, Porvorim BJP Mandal President Shri Vinit Parab, Kisan Morcha State President Shri Vishwas Chodankar, ZP Member Socorro Shri Amit Asnodkar, and Sarpanch Smt. Sonia Pednekar,

along with members of the farming community.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rohan A. Khaunte highlighted the importance of strengthening the agricultural sector as part of the broader vision of Viksit Bharat. He emphasised the role of youth participation in agriculture and the need for innovative approaches to ensure long-term growth and sustainability in farming.

Made-In-India Airbus C295: Specs, Features And Why It Matters For India's Defence Sector

■ The first India-manufactured C295 has completed its maiden test flight, marking a major boost to the country's 'Make in India' defence ambitions

Team Goemkarponn

New Delhi: India's defence manufacturing programme achieved a significant milestone with the successful maiden test flight of the first Made-in-India Airbus C295 military transport aircraft from the Tata-Airbus Final Assembly Line in Vadodara, Gujarat. The C295 is being manufactured under a partnership between Airbus and Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL), making it the first military aircraft to be produced by a private company in India. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is procuring 56 C295 aircraft under a ₹21,935-crore deal signed in 2021. While the first 16 aircraft are being supplied in fly-away condition from Spain, the remaining 40 are being manufactured and assembled in India.

The aircraft is set to replace the IAF's ageing Avro HS-748 fleet, which has been in service for over six decades.

The Airbus C295 is a medium tactical transport aircraft designed for a variety of military and humanitarian missions.

The Airbus C295 is a medium tactical transport aircraft with a payload capacity of up to



9 tonnes. It can carry 71 fully equipped soldiers or 50 paratroopers and can also be configured for medical evacuation missions with space for up to 24 stretchers. Powered by two Pratt & Whitney Canada PW127G turboprop engines, the aircraft can achieve a maximum cruising speed of around 480 kmph. Depending on the payload and mission

profile, the C295 has a range of up to 5,600 kilometres and can remain airborne for more than 11 hours, making it suitable for long-duration military, humanitarian and surveillance operations.

The C295 is designed to perform multiple roles, including troop and cargo transport, medical evacuation, disaster relief, maritime patrol, search and rescue, and

special operations.

One of its standout features is its ability to operate from short and unprepared runways. This capability allows the aircraft to function effectively in remote regions, mountainous terrain and forward airbases, making it particularly valuable for India's diverse operational requirements.

The aircraft is equipped with advanced avionics and a digital glass cockpit, which reduces pilot workload and enhances situational awareness. It can operate efficiently during both day and night and in adverse weather conditions.

The C295 programme is expected to strengthen India's aerospace ecosystem and generate thousands of jobs. More than 125 Indian micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) are involved in manufacturing components for the aircraft. The first India-made C295 is expected to be delivered to the Indian Air Force in September 2026, marking another step in India's journey towards self-reliance in defence manufacturing and its ambition to emerge as a global aerospace hub.



Goa's Angela De Abreu Naik To Officiate At Prestigious Taekwondo Championships In Australia

Team Goemkarponn

Panaji: In a proud moment for Goa and Indian martial arts, Grandmaster Angela De Abreu Naik has been selected as an International Referee for the G2 Australia Open and G3 WT President Cup & Oceania Poomsae Championship, two of the most prestigious international Taekwondo tournaments scheduled to be held in Gold Coast, Australia, from June 17 to 22, 2026.

An International Referee since 2009, Angela Naik has officiated at numerous World and Asian Championships organised by World Taekwondo and was part of the referee selection process for the 2012 Summer Olympics and 2016 Summer Olympics.

Angela holds the distinction of being the first Indian woman Grandmaster to receive an 8th Dan Black Belt from Kukkiwon, the highest governing body for Taekwondo. She is also India's first WT International Referee Class 1 in both Kyorugi (sparring) and Poomsae (forms).

An accomplished athlete and official, Angela is an International Gold Medallist and was inducted into the International Taekwondo Hall of Fame with the Lifetime Achievement



Award in 2015 in Croatia.

Grandmaster Angela De Abreu Naik boasts an illustrious career spanning multiple martial arts disciplines. She is an 8th Dan Black Belt from Kukkiwon in Taekwondo and a 7th Dan Black Belt in Hapkido Korea. She is India's first WT International Referee Class 1 in both Taekwondo disciplines — Kyorugi and Poomsae — and also serves as a World B Ju-jitsu Referee and an International Referee Hapkido Class 3. An International Master Instructor with WTA and an International Gold Medallist, Angela has been recognised for her outstanding contribution to sports with Goa's prestigious Jivbadada Kerkar State Sports Award. Her selection for the international championships is being seen as another milestone in her illustrious career and a significant achievement for Goa's sporting community, further strengthening India's presence in the global Taekwondo arena.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

PM Modi Welcomes US-Iran Understanding, Hopes It Restores Peace And Stability In West Asia

(Moneycontrol)

Highlighting the importance of maritime security and global commerce, PM Modi added that India expected the agreement to ensure freedom of navigation and trade, particularly through key shipping routes affected by the conflict.

"We look forward to deliberations

on the remaining issues reaching a sustainable final agreement," he said, underlining India's support for continued dialogue and diplomacy. (The Times of India)

14 Killed As Vehicle Carrying Pilgrims Falls Into Well In Maharashtra's Pandharpur

hospitals for treatment. Officials said rescue operations continued for several hours as emergency responders worked

to ensure that no passengers remained trapped inside the submerged vehicle.

The identities of the deceased are yet to be officially confirmed, and efforts are underway to inform their families.

Senior district administration and police officials visited the accident site to oversee rescue efforts and assess the circumstances that led to the tragedy. A detailed investigation has been ordered to determine the exact cause of the accident.

Pandharpur, located in Solapur district, is one of Maharashtra's most prominent pilgrimage centres and

attracts lakhs of devotees every year, especially during religious festivals and temple visits dedicated to Lord Vitthal.

The incident has cast a shadow over the pilgrimage town, with political leaders and local authorities expressing grief over the loss of lives.

Messages of condolence poured in as rescue teams continued their work at the site.

Officials said further details regarding the victims and the circumstances surrounding the accident would be released after the completion of the rescue and investigation processes.

India, France Aim To Double Bilateral Trade To \$32 Billion In Five Years, Unveil Innovation And Defence Initiatives

PM Modi and President Emmanuel Macron announce roadmap for cooperation in AI, trade, defence, digital payments and education during talks in Nice

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India and France on Sunday agreed to nearly double their annual bilateral trade to \$32 billion within the next five years and announced a wide-ranging set of initiatives covering technology, innovation, defence and education following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron. The two leaders unveiled 13 key outcomes of their discussions,



including an India-France Innovation Roadmap 2030, the creation of a Joint Artificial Intelligence Working Group, expansion of India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) in France and a high-level mechanism to achieve the

ambitious trade target.

The agreements were finalised during bilateral talks in Nice, where PM Modi is on the first leg of his week-long visit to France and Slovakia.

In a post on X after the meeting, PM

Modi described the talks as productive and reaffirmed the strength of the strategic partnership between the two countries. Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said the discussions covered the entire spectrum of bilateral ties, including defence, civil nuclear energy, space, trade, investment, technology, innovation and people-to-people exchanges. A major focus of the talks was cooperation in emerging technologies.



UP Govt Forms SIT To Probe Allegations Over Ram Temple Trust Donation Boxes

Three-member panel to investigate social media claims after Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust seeks independent inquiry

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Uttar Pradesh government has constituted a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe allegations and claims circulating on social media regarding donation boxes associated with the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust in Ayodhya.

The decision comes after the Trust requested an independent inquiry into the matter, urging the state government to examine the allegations thoroughly and establish the facts. According to an official statement, the SIT will comprise Lucknow Divisional Commissioner Vijay Vishwas Pant, Inspector General of Police Kiran S., and Special Secretary (Finance) Neel Ratan Kumar.

The panel has been tasked with conducting a comprehensive investigation and submitting its report to the government. The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust recently wrote to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath expressing concern over rumours and allegations being circulated on social media regarding donation boxes installed at the Ram temple complex. The Trust maintained that an impartial investigation was necessary to verify the authenticity of the claims and ensure transparency in the matter. It also alleged that the reports and allegations being spread online were aimed at tarnishing the image of the Trust and hurting the sentiments of devotees associated with the temple.



TMC Rebellion Deepens As Kakoli Claims Support Of 22 MPs, Seeks Separate Bloc Status

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The internal crisis within the Trinamool Congress (TMC) appeared to intensify on Sunday after rebel MP Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar claimed that two more parliamentarians were set to join the dissident camp, taking its strength in the Lok Sabha to 22.

Speaking to reporters before leaving Kolkata for New Delhi, Dastidar said the rebel group had secured an appointment with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and would seek formal recognition as a separate parliamentary bloc. "We are going to Delhi for a meeting. Twenty-two MPs are with us. The Speaker has given us time. We will meet him on Monday and seek recognition as a separate bloc," Dastidar said. While she refrained from revealing the identities of the two MPs expected to join the faction, she indicated that their names would be announced once they align with the group.

TMC Rebellion Deepens As Kakoli Claims Support Of 22 MPs, Seeks Separate Bloc Status

Dissident MPs to meet Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in Delhi amid growing rift within the Trinamool Congress following the West Bengal Assembly polls

Team Goemkarponn

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seek formal recognition as a separate parliamentary bloc. "We are going to Delhi for a meeting. Twenty-two MPs are with us. The Speaker has given us time. We will meet him on Monday and seek recognition as a separate bloc," Dastidar said.

Standoff At India-Bangladesh Border: Nine Bangladeshi Nationals Stranded In No-Man's Land

BSF and Border Guard Bangladesh fail to resolve issue in first round of talks as tension persists in Assam's Mankachar sector

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: A standoff continued at the India-Bangladesh border in Assam's Mankachar sector on Monday, with nine Bangladeshi nationals stranded in the no-man's land between the two countries after the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) allegedly refused to accept them.



According to sources, the individuals have been stuck in the area separating the two countries for more

than a day, prompting heightened tension along the border. Officials said a flag meeting was held between the Border

Security Force (BSF) and the BGB in an attempt to resolve the issue, but no breakthrough was achieved.

BSF sources said another round of talks is expected to take place later in the day.

The situation first came to light on Sunday when the nine individuals were found stranded in the no-man's land near Mankachar. Videos

circulating on social media showed them expressing uncertainty over their future, with some seen crying.

In one of the videos, a man claiming to be among the stranded group said they were Bangladeshi citizens who had come to India in search of work. "We have documents to prove we are from Bangladesh.

Japan Hold Netherlands, Germany And Sweden Register Big Wins

■ Daichi Kamada's late equaliser earns Japan a dramatic draw, while Germany thrash Curaçao and Sweden cruise past Tunisia

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Day 4 of the FIFA World Cup 2026 delivered plenty of drama as Japan staged a spirited comeback to hold the Netherlands to a 2-2 draw, while Germany and Sweden registered emphatic victories in their respective group matches.

At Dallas Stadium, Japan produced a stunning late fightback against the Netherlands in Group F. The Dutch twice took the lead through Virgil van Dijk and Crysencio Summerville, but Japan responded on both occasions.



After Van Dijk's opening goal, Keito Nakamura levelled the scores with a brilliant strike from outside the box. Summerville restored the Netherlands' advantage in the second half, but Japan refused

to give up and found an equaliser late in the match when Daichi Kamada rose to convert from a corner and secure a valuable point.

Meanwhile, four-time champions Germany made a dominant start

to their campaign with a crushing 7-1 victory over Curaçao. Although Curaçao, playing their first-ever World Cup match, briefly shocked Germany when Livano Comenencia cancelled out Felix Nmecha's opener, the European giants quickly regained control.

Nico Schlotterbeck restored Germany's lead before Kai Havertz scored from the penalty spot just before half-time. Jamal Musiala, Nathaniel Brown and Deniz Undav added to the tally in the second half, while Havertz completed his brace late in the game.



Deepti Sharma Becomes Highest Wicket-Taker In Women's T20Is With Record Five-For Against Pakistan

■ Indian spinner surpasses Thailand's Thipatcha Putthawong to claim 166 wickets as India begin Women's T20 World Cup 2026 campaign with a win

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India's star spin all-rounder Deepti Sharma etched her name into the record books on Sunday, becoming the highest wicket-taker in women's T20 Internationals after a sensational five-wicket haul against Pakistan in India's opening match of the 2026 Women's T20 World Cup at Edgbaston.

The 29-year-old off-spinner surpassed Thailand left-arm spinner Thipatcha Putthawong's tally of 165 wickets to take her overall count to 166. Deepti achieved the milestone in style, returning figures of 5/10, the third-best

bowling figures in Women's T20 World Cup history.

Her spell proved decisive as India restricted Pakistan and began their campaign with a convincing victory. Deepti struck first by breaking Pakistan's opening partnership when Gull Feroza attempted a reverse sweep but failed to keep the ball down, offering a simple catch at backward point. She added another wicket in her next over as Ayesha Zafar miscued a sweep shot and was caught by Smriti Mandhana at short fine leg, with Deepti using variations in pace and flight to keep the batters under constant pressure.



Harmanpreet Kaur Becomes India's Highest Run-Scorer In Women's T20 World Cups

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India captain Harmanpreet Kaur added another milestone to her illustrious career on Sunday, becoming India's highest run-scorer in Women's T20 World Cup history during the team's opening match against Pakistan at Edgbaston.

Harmanpreet entered the contest level with former captain Mithali Raj at 726 runs. Needing just one run to move ahead, she achieved the feat off her very first delivery, flicking a full toss on middle and leg stump to deep for a single. The landmark took her tally to 727 runs and counting, making her the outright leader among Indian batters in the tournament's history. She now sits ahead of Mithali Raj, who amassed 726 runs in 23 innings between 2009 and 2018. The milestone came at a crucial juncture for India after the team suffered two early setbacks.

GTTA Unveils Packed Schedule of Major Ranking Table Tennis Tournaments for June and July

■ Four All Goa Ranking Events to Be Held Across Fatorda, Ponda, Margao and Chandor

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Table Tennis Association (GTTA) has announced a busy tournament calendar for June and July 2026, featuring a series of All Goa Major Ranking Tournaments that will bring together players from across the state in



various age categories.

The season will begin with the MCC Sports Club

Ranking Tournament, scheduled from June 19 to 21 at the Multipurpose Stadium in Fatorda. The competition will cater to the Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 age groups, providing young paddlers an opportunity to earn valuable ranking points and gain competitive experience.

FIH Pro League: Manpreet Singh Equals Dilip Tirkey's 412-Cap Record As India Lose Thriller To Netherlands

■ Veteran midfielder reaches historic milestone, but Dutch side edges India 3-2 in Rotterdam

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Veteran midfielder Manpreet Singh equalled former captain Dilip Tirkey's long-standing record of 412 international appearances for India on Sunday, but the landmark occasion ended in disappointment as the Indian men's hockey team suffered a narrow 2-3 defeat to the Netherlands in the FIH Men's Pro League in Rotterdam.

The hosts struck early through Miles



Bukkens in the third minute, but India responded quickly as Dilpreet Singh found the equaliser in the ninth minute.

The Netherlands regained the lead in the

second quarter when Koen Bijen scored in the 23rd minute. India once again fought back, with Sukhjeet Singh restoring parity in the 33rd minute to keep the contest evenly poised.

However, Timjen Reyenga netted what proved to be the decisive goal in the 40th minute as the Dutch held on to secure victory and spoil what was otherwise a memorable day for Manpreet.

With his 412th appearance, Manpreet joined Dilip Tirkey at the top of the list of India's most-capped men's hockey players. He is also currently the only active player in world hockey to have crossed the 400-cap mark at the senior international level.

Congratulating Manpreet on the achievement, Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey praised the midfielder's commitment and longevity.

"I congratulate Manpreet on reaching this significant milestone, which is a remarkable achievement and reflects his dedication, commitment and consistency over the years. I wish him the very best for the matches ahead and hope to see him play on many more occasions," Tirkey said.