



## Fresh Worm Sightings In Valpoi Escalate Water Safety Concerns In Sattari

Discovery On Drain Covers Comes Days After Organisms Were Reported In Drinking Water; GHRC Seeks Accountability From Departments

**Team Goemkarponn**

**VALPOI:** Concerns over water quality and public health in Sattari have intensified after worm-like organisms were reportedly spotted on drain covers in parts of Valpoi, days after similar organisms were found in drinking water supplied to households in Zarme village.

The fresh sightings



have deepened public anxiety and prompted calls for a comprehensive investigation into the source of the organisms and the possibility of a

broader environmental or sanitation issue affecting the area.

Residents have demanded that authorities urgently determine whether the organisms found in the water supply and those now appearing around drainage infrastructure are related. Many have also questioned whether existing monitoring

mechanisms are adequate to detect and prevent such incidents.

The issue has already attracted the attention of the Goa Human Rights Commission (GHRC), which recently took suo motu cognisance of reports regarding the presence of worm-like organisms in drinking water supplied to Zarme village.



## One Killed, Four Seriously Injured In Self-Accident Near Bhoma Temple

Karnataka-Registered Vehicle Loses Control On Ponda-Panaji Road; Traffic Briefly Disrupted

**Team Goemkarponn**

**BHOMA:** One person was killed and four others sustained serious injuries in a self-accident involving a Karnataka-registered vehicle near Bhoma

Temple on Saturday. According to preliminary information, the vehicle reportedly lost control and crashed, resulting in the death of one occupant on the spot.

## Three-Year-Old Boy Dies After Electrocution In Mangoor Hill

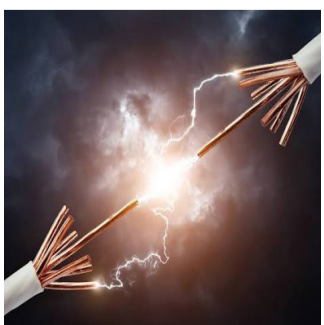
**Team Goemkarponn**

**VASCO:** A three-year-old boy tragically lost his life after reportedly coming into contact with a live electric wire entangled with a metal shed near his residence at Mangoor Hill on Friday afternoon.

According to preliminary information, the child was playing near his home when he allegedly touched the metal shed that had come in contact with a live electric wire. He suffered a severe electric shock and collapsed on the spot.

Family members and local residents immediately rushed the boy to the Sub-District Hospital (SDH), Chicalim, for treatment. However, doctors declared him brought dead upon arrival.

Following the incident, Vasco Police registered an unnatural death case and initiated an investigation to ascertain the exact circumstances that led to the tragedy.



## "He's a Very Tough Guy": Trump Hails PM Modi as One of the World's Greatest Leaders

US President Praises Modi's Leadership, Stability and Role in India's Economic Rise

**Team Goemkarponn**

**NEW DELHI:** US President Donald Trump has described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as one of the world's two greatest leaders, praising his leadership, political longevity and contribution to India's growth.

Speaking in response to a question about whom he considered the world's top leaders, Trump named Modi



alongside Xi Jinping. He highlighted India's strong economic performance and commended Modi's approach to international conflicts, noting that the Indian leader has largely stayed away from wars while focusing on national development.

## Rare Handshake at LoC as Indian Army Repatriates Pakistani National

Captured Man Returned to Pakistan After Week-Long Detention in Kupwara Sector


**Team Goemkarponn**

**NEW DELHI:** In a rare moment of military courtesy amid strained relations between India and Pakistan, officers from both armies exchanged a handshake during the repatriation of a Pakistani national who had crossed the Line of Control (LoC) into Indian territory.

The individual, identified as Asad Khan



from Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, was handed over to Pakistani authorities after being detained by the Indian Army for nearly a



# International Yoga Day


Theme: Yoga for Wellness, Wisdom, and World Peace

Yoga adds years to our life and life to our years. This year Yoga Day focuses on holistic health, fostering emotional balance, and global harmony.

Let us celebrate Yoga Day by breathing deeply, stretching fully, and living mindfully today and always.

May yoga bring us harmony and health every day. Let us breathe in peace, breathe out stress and bring balance to our body, mind & soul.

Wishing everyone strength & inner peace!  
**Happy International Day of Yoga !**



Improve Health

Reduce Stress


Enhance Focus

Create Harmony

June 21, 2026  
Sunday

6.00 am  
Onwards

Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee  
Indoor Stadium, St. Cruz



Issued by:  
Department of Information and Publicity  
Government of Goa

**AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT**  
**SWAYAMPURNA GOA**

# Water Wastage Amid Scarcity: Goa Cannot Afford Official Indifference

The temporary pause in Goa's monsoon should serve as a warning, not a comfort. Recent reports indicating that several reservoirs are witnessing declining water levels despite the arrival of the monsoon have exposed a deeper and more troubling reality. While delayed rains have certainly added pressure on the state's water resources, the larger crisis lies elsewhere. Massive water losses through leaking pipelines, poor infrastructure maintenance and administrative complacency continue to drain a precious resource that Goa can no longer take for granted.

Every year, discussions around water scarcity begin and end with the monsoon. When rains arrive on time, concerns fade. When rainfall is delayed, officials cite weather conditions as the primary reason for shortages. This narrow approach ignores a chronic problem that has persisted for decades. Large quantities of treated drinking water are being lost before they even reach households. Aging pipelines, unattended leaks, illegal connections and poor distribution management are silently wasting millions of litres every day.

The irony is difficult to ignore. While residents in many parts of Goa are asked to conserve water, avoid unnecessary usage and prepare for supply cuts, valuable drinking water continues to flow into drains and roads through damaged pipelines. Citizens often report leaks that remain unattended for weeks or even months. In many areas, overflowing water from burst pipes has become such a common sight that it no longer attracts attention. This normalization of wastage reflects a disturbing failure of governance.

The Public Works Department and the agencies responsible for water supply cannot continue to place the blame solely on rainfall patterns. Climate uncertainty is real and rainfall has become increasingly erratic. However, climate challenges make efficient water management more important, not less. A state that loses significant quantities of treated water through preventable leakages cannot credibly claim that shortages are caused only by nature.

The financial implications are equally serious. Water treatment

***“The irony is difficult to ignore. While residents in many parts of Goa are asked to conserve water, avoid unnecessary usage and prepare for supply cuts, valuable drinking water continues to flow into drains and roads through damaged pipelines. Citizens often report leaks that remain unattended for weeks or even months. In many areas, overflowing water from burst pipes has become such a common sight that it no longer attracts attention. This normalization of wastage reflects a disturbing failure of governance. The Public Works Department and the agencies responsible for water supply cannot continue to place the blame solely on rainfall patterns. Climate uncertainty is real and rainfall has become increasingly erratic.”***

and distribution involve substantial public expenditure. Electricity is consumed to pump water, chemicals are used to treat it and infrastructure is maintained through taxpayer funds. When treated water is lost through neglected pipelines, public money is effectively flowing down the drain. Citizens are not only deprived of a vital resource but are also paying for inefficiency through taxes and utility charges. Goa's growing population and expanding tourism sector further increase the urgency of the problem. Demand for water is rising steadily. New residential projects, commercial establishments and tourism facilities place additional pressure on existing infrastructure.

Without significant improvements in water management, shortages that are currently seasonal could become a regular feature of life in the state.

What is most concerning is the apparent lack of urgency among authorities. Water security should rank among the highest priorities of any government. Yet responses often appear reactive rather than preventive. Repairs are frequently undertaken only after major disruptions occur. Long-term planning remains inadequate. Public communication tends to focus on appeals for conservation rather than accountability for systemic losses.

The solution is neither mysterious nor impossible. Goa requires a comprehensive audit of its water distribution network to identify areas with high losses. Modern leak detection technologies should be deployed across vulnerable sections of the system. Aging pipelines must be replaced in a time-bound manner. Real-time monitoring of water flows can help authorities detect abnormal losses before they become major problems. Most importantly, officials must establish transparent targets for reducing non-revenue water and regularly report progress to the public.

Citizens also have a role to play. Responsible consumption and prompt reporting of leaks are important. However, individual conservation efforts cannot compensate for institutional neglect. The burden of protecting water resources cannot be shifted entirely onto households while large-scale wastage continues unchecked within the distribution system. The recent lull in the monsoon is a reminder that water security cannot depend solely on the generosity of the rains. Goa's reservoirs may. The real danger facing Goa is not merely a delayed monsoon. It is the continued acceptance of avoidable water wastage as a normal part of governance. Until authorities treat every leaking pipeline as a threat to public welfare, the state will remain vulnerable to recurring water crises. Nature may be unpredictable, but administrative negligence is entirely preventable.

## OPED

### Questions Raised, Answers Pending

James Sardesai

In politics, raising concerns is easy. Following through on them is what earns public trust. On March 2, 2023, St. Andre MLA Viresh Borkar stood outside the Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department and publicly objected to the Vista De Bambolim project in Curca, developed by Manas Developers. The concerns he highlighted were serious and significant. Hill cutting, environmental degradation, and increased flooding risks were not minor allegations. They were matters that directly affected public interest, environmental sustainability, and the future of local communities.

The protest received media attention. It was also shared on the MLA's own social media platforms, reinforcing the message that the project posed concerns worthy of public scrutiny. Three years later, the situation presents an obvious question.

The project has been completed. Residents have moved in. Life around the development continues as normal. Yet the concerns that once prompted a public protest appear to have disappeared from public discussion.

This leaves the people of St. Andre with legitimate questions.

If the environmental concerns raised in 2023 were serious enough to warrant a protest outside a government department, what happened afterward? Were investigations conducted? Were violations identified? Were corrective measures imposed? Did government agencies conclude that the project complied with all regulations?

The public has heard little, if anything, about what followed.

Accountability does not end with raising an alarm. In fact, that is where accountability begins. When elected representatives publicly warn of environmental risks, citizens naturally expect updates on what action was taken and what conclusions were reached.

If authorities found the concerns to be unfounded, the public deserves to know that. If the developer addressed specific issues, the public deserves to know that as well. And if the concerns remain valid even today, then the public deserves to understand why a project allegedly carrying such risks was allowed to proceed to completion.

Silence creates uncertainty.

The issue here is larger than a single project. It concerns the relationship between public representatives and the people they serve. Political leaders often demand transparency from government departments, developers, and institutions. Citizens are equally entitled to expect transparency from those who raise public concerns in the first place.

Environmental protection is not a matter of political convenience. It cannot become an issue only during protests and then disappear once media attention fades. If hill cutting and flooding risks were genuine threats in 2023, residents deserve to know whether those threats have been mitigated, ignored, or reassessed.

The people of St. Andre are not demanding confrontation. They are asking for clarity.

A simple explanation would go a long way. What is the MLA's position on the Vista De Bambolim project today? Does he still believe the project posed environmental risks? If not, what changed? If yes, what action is being pursued now?

Public trust is strengthened when leaders explain their decisions and positions, even when circumstances evolve. In fact, changing one's position is not the issue. Failing to explain the change is.

The questions remain straightforward, reasonable, and firmly in the public interest.

The people of St. Andre heard the warnings in 2023. Now they deserve the answers in 2026.

Because accountability does not end when the protest ends. It ends when the public receives the truth.

# Goa Faces Drinking Water Concerns as Reservoir Levels Remain Critically Low

■ State Has Water Reserves for Only About a Month; Government Warns of Possible Restrictions if Rainfall Does Not Improve

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Goa could face a drinking water crisis in the coming weeks if the monsoon fails to gain momentum, with the state currently having water reserves sufficient for only about a month, according to Water Resources Minister Subhash Phal Dessai.

The minister said the delayed arrival of widespread monsoon showers and the continued dry spell have prevented reservoirs from receiving the expected inflow, resulting in rapidly



declining water storage levels across the state.

Authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have indicated that water supply restrictions may have to be introduced

from July if rainfall remains inadequate over the next fortnight.

The state has experienced significantly lower-than-normal rainfall during a period when

reservoirs are usually replenished after the summer months. The shortage of rain has raised concerns not only about drinking water availability but also about its impact on agriculture and other water-dependent sectors.

Government officials have urged citizens to use water judiciously and avoid wastage as the state navigates the uncertain monsoon season. Efforts are also being made to manage existing water resources efficiently while keeping a close watch on weather forecasts and reservoir conditions.



## Goa Stares At One Of Driest Junes In 16 Years As Rainfall Deficit Touches 70%

■ IMD Says Weak Monsoon Winds Behind Sharp Shortfall; Rain Activity Expected To Revive From June 22

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** Goa is experiencing one of its weakest monsoon starts in over a decade, with the State recording a rainfall deficit of nearly 70 per cent by mid-June, raising concerns over agriculture, water resources and overall monsoon performance.

Data released by the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Goa Centre, shows that only about 160-166 mm of rainfall was recorded between June 1 and June 20, against the normal average of more than 500 mm for the period. The shortfall places 2026 among the driest June seasons recorded in the State since 2010 and makes it the second-worst year in terms of rainfall deficiency during the first

20 days of June.

According to IMD officials, the delayed strengthening of the monsoon after its onset on June 5 has been the primary reason behind the unusually low rainfall. Despite the monsoon arriving on schedule, persistent dry north-westerly winds have weakened the moisture-bearing monsoon currents, preventing widespread rain activity across Goa.

IMD Goa Centre Head Nahush Kulkarni said the prevailing atmospheric conditions have restricted the intensity of the monsoon over the region.

He noted that a similar situation had been observed in 2013, when rainfall remained significantly below normal during the early part of the season before recovering later.

**STOLEN**

## Brass Puja Articles, Utensils Worth ₹1.2 Lakh Stolen From Margao House

**Team Goemkarponn**

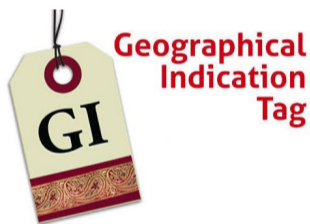
**MARGAO:** A house at Comba, Margao, was allegedly burgled in broad daylight, with brass puja articles and kitchen utensils worth ₹1.20 lakh stolen from the premises, police said. The complaint was lodged by Mahesh Rivankar, a resident of Borda, Margao, who reported that the theft occurred on June 10 between 9 am and 5 pm. According to the complaint, two unidentified men aged between 30 and 40 years had been engaged to clean the backyard of the house earlier that day. Police said the suspects allegedly broke open the rear door of the residence and entered the house. They are accused of stealing two brass hanging lamps (lamindives), two brass samayas, one brass pancharati, one brass ekarati and other puja articles from the household temple. The accused also allegedly decamped with five brass cooking utensils and four to five aluminium utensils from the kitchen.

## Goa Pursues GI Tags For Coconut, Salt, Traditional Breads And Culinary Specialties

■ State Seeks Geographical Indication Recognition For Five More Heritage Products Following Recent Successes

**Team Goemkarponn**

**PANAJI:** After securing Geographical Indication (GI) status for five traditional products earlier this year, Goa has intensified efforts to obtain similar recognition for another set of products closely associated with the State's culinary traditions, agriculture and cultural identity. Applications seeking GI registration for Goa coconut, Goa salt, Goan bread varieties such as pao, poi and



undo, Goan doce and Goa recheado masala were submitted in December last year and are presently under examination by the GI Registry. The Bardez Taluka Farmers Producer Company Limited has applied for GI recognition for Goa coconut, while the Tiswadi

Taluka Farmers Producer Company Limited has filed applications for Goa salt and Goa recheado masala. Applications for Goan doce and the traditional bread varieties have been submitted by the Department of Science, Technology and Waste Management (DST&WM). According to the applications, Goa coconut is among the State's most historic agricultural products and has been cultivated along the coastal belt for

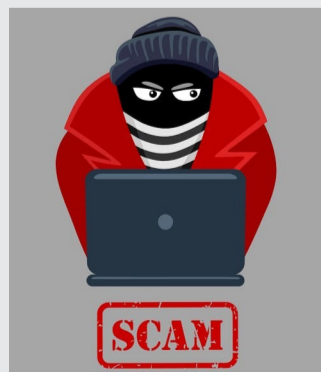
## Margao Resident Duped Of ₹1.15 Lakh In Online Machinery Purchase Scam

■ Fraudsters Allegedly Used Fake Facebook Advertisement For Samosa Manufacturing Machine To Cheat Buyer

**Team Goemkarponn**

**MARGAO:** A resident of Davorlim, Margao, has allegedly been cheated of ₹1.15 lakh by unidentified cyber fraudsters who lured him through a Facebook advertisement offering a samosa manufacturing machine for sale.

According to a complaint lodged by Imran Khan Nagroli of Davorlim,



the incident occurred on March 15, 2026, when he came across

an advertisement on Facebook for the purchase of a samosa manufacturing machine. Believing the advertisement and the vendor to be genuine, he clicked on the link provided and paid the full purchase amount. The complainant stated that after receiving the payment, the vendor assured him that the machinery would be delivered within a few days and also shared a

tracking link indicating that the parcel was being prepared for dispatch. However, after a few days, the status of the order reportedly changed to "cancelled". When the complainant contacted the company representative seeking clarification and a refund, he was allegedly told to forget about the matter and was refused reimbursement of the amount paid. Police said

the unknown accused person allegedly used the fraudulent scheme to deceive the complainant and dishonestly obtain ₹1,15,660, causing wrongful financial loss to the victim and corresponding wrongful gain to the accused. registered, and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Ashutosh Naik of Maina Curtorim Police Station.

# Calangute Police Seize Liquor Worth ₹43.39 Lakh In Raid

Over 1,058 Litres Of Liquor Allegedly Stored Without Valid Documents Recovered From Porbawado

## Team Goemkarponn

**CALANGUTE:** Calangute Police seized liquor worth approximately ₹43.39 lakh during a raid conducted at Porbawado, Calangute, on June 19, uncovering an alleged illegal liquor storage and distribution operation.

The raid was carried out following specific information received by the police regarding the illegal possession and sale of liquor. A team comprising PSI Prajit Mandrekar, HC Vidyanand Amonkar, PC Amir Garad,



PC Vijay Naik and PC Raj conducted the operation at a premises located opposite Boho Bliss Hotel in Porbawado.

During the raid, police allegedly found liquor of various brands being

stored without valid invoices, permits or other supporting documents. The stock was reportedly intended for sale to local retailers.

According to the police, preliminary investigations

suggest that the liquor was being possessed and traded without payment of the requisite excise duties, taxes and other statutory charges payable to the Government of Goa. Authorities suspect that the activity was aimed at evading government revenue, resulting in wrongful loss to the State Exchequer.

A total of 1,058.4 litres of liquor of different brands, valued at approximately ₹43,39,500, was seized during the operation in the presence of panch witnesses.



# Man Booked in Goa for Sexually Assaulting Minor, Swindling Gold Under False Promise of Marriage

Accused faces stringent POCSO and cheating charges after victim files formal police complaint

## Team Goemkarponn

**OLD GOA:** The Old Goa Police have registered a statutory rape and cheating case against a 30-year-old unemployed man from Chorao for allegedly sexually assaulting a girl repeatedly when she was a minor, and subsequently swindling her family's gold ornaments under a false promise of marriage. According to law enforcement officials, the case was formally registered late Thursday evening, on June 18, following a detailed complaint filed by the victim, who has now attained majority. The accused, a resident of Chorao, in the Tiswadi taluka. Police sources revealed that the alleged abuse began prior to July 2018. The accused reportedly established a close relationship with the complainant when she was a 16-year-old

minor and subjected her to repeated penetrative sexual assault. The victim stated in her complaint that the physical relationship continued even after she reached adulthood, as the accused repeatedly assured her that he would marry her. Exploratively leveraging this trust, accused allegedly cited pressing financial requirements and the impending marriage expenses to dishonestly convince the victim to hand over her mother's gold jewelry. The systematic exploitation came to light after the accused explicitly refused to honor his promise of marriage and failed to return the family's gold ornaments despite multiple requests. Finding no alternative, the victim approached local police authorities to seek legal intervention. Given that the inception of the offense.

# Dakshin Kannada man found dead in a rented room at Polem, Canacona

## Team Goemkarponn

**CANACONA:** A 42-year-old man from Dakshin Kannada committed suicide in a rented room at Polem in Canacona on Thursday. According to Canacona police, one Prakash Gowda, age 42 yrs, native of Bantwal, Dakshin Kannada, Karnataka committed suicide in a rented room of a Polem resident locked from inside.

Police with the help of Fire and Emergency personnel had to break open the rented room to recover the body. Stating the man was in depression for the past few days (reasons not known), Canacona police after conducting the scene of UD occurrence and inquest panchanama over the dead body, despatched the body to SGDH, Margao to conduct further medico-legal formalities. Police registered an Unnatural Death u/s 194 of BNSS, and further enquiry is conducted by PSI Babu Dessai of Canacona Police Station.

# Two Booked For Alleged Trespass On Property At Siolim

Complaint Filed By Security Management Firm Over Unauthorized Entry Into Land Bearing Survey Nos. 193/7 And 193/8

## Team Goemkarponn

**SIOLIM:** Siolim Police have registered a case of criminal trespass against a man and an unidentified accomplice for allegedly entering a private property at Sodiem, Siolim, without authorization.

According to police, the offence was registered on June 18 at 8.25 pm based on a complaint lodged by Sanjeev Paul, representing M/s Scientific Security Management Services Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

The complainant alleged that prior to March 19, 2026, the accused, identified as Vasim Khan, residing at Tahasheem Furnitures, Sodiem, Siolim, along with unknown persons, acting in furtherance of their common intention, criminally trespassed into the complainant's landed property bearing Survey Nos. 193/7 and 193/8 of Village Siolim in Bardez taluka. Based on



the complaint, police have registered an offence against the accused persons under the relevant provisions of law. Further investigation is being conducted by PSI Yashwant Mandrekar.

# Kerala Driver Booked For Rash Driving After Head-On Collision Near New Mandovi Bridge

Woman

## Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** Panaji Police have registered a case against a Kerala-based driver for allegedly driving rashly and negligently, resulting in a road accident that left a woman seriously injured near the entrance of the New Mandovi Bridge.

According to police, the offence was registered on June 18 at 10.58 pm based on a complaint lodged by Jose Gomes, a resident of Candelariawada, Verem-



Mansher, Pilerne, Bardez. The complainant alleged that on June 12 at around 4.30 pm, the accused, identified

as Thulsidas M., a resident of Palad, Kerala, was driving a white Bolero vehicle bearing registration

Suffers Grievous Injuries As

number KL-17-R-4444 from Porvorim towards Panaji. Police said that when the vehicle reached near the entrance of the New Mandovi Bridge, an area designated as a no-entry zone, the accused allegedly drove the vehicle in a rash and negligent manner and collided head-on with a Splendor motorcycle bearing registration number GA-01-H-6883 belonging to the complainant. As a result of the

collision, Jose Gomes sustained bodily injuries, while his wife, Maria L.R. Rodrigues, who was travelling as a pillion rider, suffered grievous injuries, police said. Based on the complaint, Panaji Police have registered an offence against the accused driver under the relevant provisions of law. Further investigation is being carried out by HC Samir Naik (Buckle No. 5108) of Panaji Police Station.

# MLA Anton Vas Slams Years Of Inaction Over Verna Sewage Discharge Issue

■ Cortalim MLA Confronts Officials, Demands Time-Bound Solution To Long-Pending Public Health Concern

## Team Goemkarponn

**VERNA:** Frustration over the long-pending sewage discharge issue at Verna came to the fore on Thursday as Cortalim MLA Anton Vas confronted health officials, alleging that repeated complaints from residents and elected representatives have gone unaddressed for years. Accompanied by officials from the Panchayat and Health Department, Vas visited the affected site to assess the situation firsthand. During the



inspection, he expressed strong dissatisfaction over what he described as the authorities' failure to take effective action despite several representations made by

local residents and public representatives. A heated exchange reportedly took place between the MLA and the Health Officer during discussions at the site.

Vas questioned why the issue remained unresolved despite numerous complaints and inspections conducted over the years. He said residents have repeatedly raised concerns about sewage being discharged into the area, yet no permanent solution has been implemented. The MLA pointed out that the continued discharge of sewage poses a serious threat to public health and the environment.



# Uncertainty And Anguish Grip Neogi Mansion Occupants Ahead Of Demolition

■ Tenants And Business Owners Scramble To Vacate Landmark Building Following High Court Order

## Team Goemkarponn

**VASCO:** Anxiety and uncertainty have gripped the occupants of the iconic Neogi Mansion as preparations gather pace for the demolition of the decades-old structure following directions issued by the High Court. With the demolition expected to commence within the next few days, tenants and long-time occupants expressed distress over what they described as a lack of communication from the building owners regarding the legal proceedings that ultimately led to the demolition order. Several occupants claimed they became aware of the situation only after authorities began directing them to vacate the premises. The High Court, while hearing a petition filed by Rajiv Nevgi challenging an earlier

order of the Mormugao Municipal Council (MMC), directed that the building be demolished within two weeks. Sources said the owner had expressed willingness to undertake the demolition at his own expense instead of allowing the MMC to carry out the work, which was estimated to cost around ₹20 lakh. The court further directed that if the owners fail to demolish the structure within the stipulated period, the MMC should proceed with the demolition after four weeks. Police and Fire Services have also been directed to make the necessary arrangements to facilitate the process. Following the court's directions, police reportedly informed occupants to vacate the premises. Throughout Friday, tenants and business



# Century-Old Lord Ganesha Idol Discovered In Chinchinim

## Team Goemkarponn

**CHINCHINIM:** The discovery of a centuries-old idol of Lord Ganesha in Chinchinim has drawn attention to the rich cultural and historical heritage of the region, with social activist and political leader Savio Rodrigues calling for its preservation and scientific documentation. Reacting to the discovery, Rodrigues described the find as a matter of great pride for the people of the Velim constituency and said it highlights the deep-rooted spiritual, cultural and historical legacy that continues to exist in Goa's villages. In a social media post, Rodrigues noted that despite the passage of time and prolonged exposure to the elements, the idol continues to display the remarkable craftsmanship of earlier generations. He congratulated the local residents who brought the discovery.

# GFP Constitutes Mormugao Block Committee, Pledges To Intensify Fight Against Coal Pollution

■ Durgadas Kamat Says People's Issues, Environmental Protection And Grassroots Strengthening Will Remain Party's Key Priorities

## Team Goemkarponn

**MORMUGAO:** The Goa Forward Party (GFP) on Friday formally inducted its newly constituted Mormugao Block Committee, reaffirming its commitment to addressing local issues, particularly coal pollution and environmental degradation in the constituency. The induction programme was held in Mormugao in the presence of GFP General Secretary (Organisation) Durgadas Kamat, party leaders and



workers from across the constituency. Addressing the gathering, Kamat said the formation of the Mormugao Block Committee marked an important step in

strengthening the party's grassroots presence and building a strong organisational structure capable of effectively addressing the concerns of the people.

# GPCC Chief Demands Immediate Filling Of Vacant PSI Posts

■ Girish Seeks Justice For Waiting List Candidates, Calls For Transparent And Time-Bound Recruitment Process

## Team Goemkarponn

**PANAJI:** Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Girish Chodankar has demanded immediate action from the State Government to fill vacant Police Sub-Inspector (PSI) posts in the Goa Police Department and provide justice to candidates awaiting recruitment through the official waiting list. In a letter addressed to the Chief Secretary of Goa and the Director General of Police on June 17, Chodankar highlighted what he termed as an inordinate delay in filling



the remaining vacancies under the ongoing PSI recruitment process. According to Chodankar, while 187 PSI posts were advertised, only 126 candidates reportedly joined the training programme conducted in Delhi, leaving more than

60 positions vacant. He pointed out that an official waiting list of qualified candidates was published in February 2026, but despite the availability of vacancies, authorities have not initiated the next stages of document verification and medical examinations for waiting list candidates. Chodankar said the delay of over four months has created uncertainty and hardship for candidates.

# Siddesh Naik To Organise International Day Of Yoga Celebration At Corlim

■ Event Aims To Promote Health, Wellness And Mental Well-Being Through Yoga

## Team Goemkarponn

**CORLIM:** Marking the International Day of Yoga 2026, Siddesh Shripad Naik, in association with Shree Foundation, will organise a Yoga Day celebration at Swarnam Hall, Corlim, on June 21 at 8:00 am. The event is being held to promote health, wellness, mental well-being and to create awareness about the importance of incorporating yoga into daily life. Inviting people from all walks of life to



participate, Siddesh Naik extended a warm invitation to karyakartas, friends, well-wishers and members of the public to join the celebration and experience the benefits of yoga.

# Char Dham Yatra Crosses 37 Lakh Pilgrims as Kedarnath Records Highest Footfall

■ Nearly 200 Deaths Reported During Ongoing Pilgrimage Season in Uttarakhand  
Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** The Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand has witnessed an overwhelming response this year, with the number of pilgrims crossing 37 lakh since the pilgrimage season began in April. Official figures show that 37.35 lakh devotees had visited the sacred shrines by Thursday, reflecting the scale of one of India's most significant religious journeys. Among the four shrines, Kedarnath Temple recorded the highest number of visitors, attracting 12.61 lakh pilgrims since its opening on April 22. Badrinath Temple followed closely with 11.67 lakh devotees since opening on April 23.

The pilgrimage to Gangotri Temple drew 6.17 lakh visitors, while Yamunotri Temple welcomed 5.83 lakh pilgrims. Meanwhile, Hemkund Sahib received 1.05 lakh devotees. An additional 5,795 pilgrims completed the trek to the Gaumukh Glacier, the



source of the Ganga.

On Thursday alone, 42,921 pilgrims reached the various shrines, accompanied by 4,984 vehicles. Authorities reported that more than 3.54 lakh vehicles have travelled on the yatra routes since the commencement of the season. The pilgrimage

season has also seen 198 reported fatalities among devotees since April 19. According to official data, 195 deaths were linked to medical complications and deteriorating health conditions, while three were attributed to natural causes. Kedarnath accounted for the highest number of deaths at 95,

followed by Badrinath with 59. Yamunotri reported 26 fatalities, while Gangotri recorded 18. Authorities continue to monitor pilgrim safety and health conditions as the yatra progresses, with large numbers of devotees expected to visit the Himalayan shrines in the coming weeks.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

## Rare Handshake at LoC as Indian Army Repatriates Pakistani National

week.

He had been apprehended on June 12 after crossing the LoC near Simari village in the Teetwal sector of Kupwara district in Jammu and Kashmir.

Photographs released during the repatriation process showed a major-rank officer of the Indian Army shaking hands with a Pakistan Army officer, an uncommon sight given the tense security environment along the heavily guarded border.

According to the Army, Khan was treated with dignity and compassion throughout his detention. Officials stated that his care and eventual return reflected the force's commitment to humanitarian principles and professional military conduct.

The repatriation was completed on June 18 through an established border crossing point. The Army said the safe return of the Pakistani national demonstrated adherence to military ethics, responsibility and internationally accepted humanitarian standards.

The incident had attracted attention on social media, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where several users and local groups had appealed for Khan's release following news of his detention.

While tensions between India and Pakistan continue over a range of security and diplomatic issues, the repatriation highlighted the functioning of established military protocols for handling inadvertent border crossings and civilian detainees.

The brief handshake between officers from the two sides stood out as a rare gesture of professionalism along one of the world's most sensitive and militarised borders, underscoring the role of military channels in managing humanitarian

matters even during periods of political strain.

## One Killed, Four Seriously Injured In Self-Accident Near Bhoma Temple

Four other occupants suffered serious injuries and were immediately shifted to a nearby hospital for medical treatment.

Police and emergency response teams rushed to the accident site and carried out rescue operations. The injured were provided assistance and transported for further treatment.

The accident led to a temporary closure of the Ponda-Panaji road, causing brief disruption to traffic movement in the area. Authorities later restored vehicular movement after clearing the accident site.

Police have initiated necessary legal formalities and an investigation is underway to determine the exact cause of the accident. Further details are awaited.

## Flood Threat in Northeast, Heat Persists in Delhi as Monsoon Delivers Contrasting Weather Across India

■ Heavy Rain, Landslide Warnings and Thunderstorms Hit Several Regions While Parts of North India Continue to Swelter

**New Delhi:** India's monsoon is producing sharply contrasting weather conditions across the country, with the Northeast and North Bengal facing the threat of flooding rains while large parts of northern and central India continue to experience intense heat and humidity.

The India Meteorological Department has issued a red alert for parts of North Bengal, warning of extremely heavy rainfall in districts such as Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri. Some locations could receive more than 20 centimetres of rain within a single day, raising concerns about flooding, waterlogging and landslides.

The heaviest monsoon activity is currently concentrated across the eastern Himalayan region and the Northeast. States including Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura are expected to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall over the coming days, increasing the risk of flash floods and transport disruptions. Within West Bengal itself, weather conditions remain uneven. While North Bengal is witnessing persistent rainfall, southern districts have received

comparatively less rain since the monsoon's arrival. Recent showers in Kolkata have brought temporary relief, but widespread heavy rainfall remains uncertain.

Meanwhile, residents of New Delhi continue to grapple with high temperatures despite forecasts of thunderstorms and gusty winds. Maximum temperatures are expected to remain between 39 and 42 degrees Celsius, with humidity levels adding to discomfort. Similar conditions are likely across parts of Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. Thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and strong winds are forecast across large areas of northern and central India, including Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh. Some regions may experience wind speeds of up to 80 kmph, while isolated hailstorms are possible in the Himalayan states.

Along the western coast, the monsoon is expected to strengthen significantly. Heavy rainfall is forecast across Goa, Konkan, Coastal Karnataka and Kerala, offering a much-needed boost to seasonal rainfall. Meteorologists say the complex weather pattern is being influenced by interactions between western disturbances.



# “Bengal Has Enriched India’s National Consciousness”: PM Modi Marks Paschim Banga Diwas

■ Prime Minister Highlights West Bengal’s Cultural Legacy and Historical Role in India’s Formation

Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday extended greetings to the people of West Bengal on Paschim Banga Diwas, describing the state as a key contributor to India’s cultural and intellectual development. He said West Bengal has played an important role in shaping the country’s identity through its long standing traditions and achievements.



In his message, Modi highlighted the state’s wide ranging contributions in fields such as literature, music, art, spirituality, science, trade, commerce and social reform. He said West Bengal has

repeatedly strengthened and enriched India’s national consciousness through its historical and cultural influence.

The Prime Minister also referred to the significance of June 20 in the state’s history, noting its association with a major turning point linked to the creation of West Bengal. He also mentioned the ongoing 125th birth anniversary commemorations of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, stating that

his contribution to the historical developments of the region remains important in public memory.

Modi added that the central government remains committed to working with the state administration for the welfare and development of the people of West Bengal.

He said efforts would continue to support the aspirations of citizens and promote overall progress in the state.



## Ladakh Cracks Down on Single Use Plastics, Violators Face Fines Up to Rs 10,000

■ Airport Checks, Border Inspections and Expanded Enforcement Powers Introduced

Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** The Ladakh administration has announced a comprehensive ban on single use plastic items across the Union Territory, introducing stringent enforcement measures that include random inspections, hefty penalties and wider powers for local officials to tackle plastic pollution.

The new regulations aim to safeguard Ladakh’s environmentally sensitive landscape, which has come under increasing pressure from tourism, urbanisation and rising waste generation. Authorities will now conduct random checks at Kushok Bakula Rimpochee Airport and major entry points into the region to prevent banned plastic products from being brought into the

Union Territory.

Under the revised framework, individuals, businesses and institutions found using, selling or storing prohibited single use plastic items can face environmental penalties of up to Rs 10,000. Littering in public places will attract a separate fine of Rs 5,000 as part of efforts to improve cleanliness and reduce waste accumulation.

To strengthen implementation, the administration has expanded enforcement authority to field level officials. Block Development Officers, Tehsildars, Municipal Officers, Foresters and Forest Guards have been empowered to identify violations and issue challans, creating a wider monitoring network across urban centres.



## Northeast Can Power India’s Next Growth Story Through Organic Farming, Says Sitharaman

Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has said the Northeast has the potential to become a major driver of India’s economic growth by building on its strengths in organic agriculture, sustainable farming and high quality agricultural produce.

Speaking at the inauguration of the region’s largest organic spice processing facility in Lumdaitkhla, located in Ri-Bhoi District, Sitharaman stressed that changing global consumer preferences are creating significant opportunities for regions known for environmentally responsible farming practices.

She noted that agricultural success in the future will increasingly depend on quality rather than quantity, with consumers across international markets seeking premium, traceable and sustainably produced food products.

## “We Have Filed 20 Disqualification Petitions”: Abhishek Banerjee Escalates

■ Trinamool Seeks Action Against Rebel MPs as Recognition Dispute Reaches

Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** A major political confrontation has unfolded within the Trinamool Congress after party leader Abhishek Banerjee announced that 20 petitions seeking the disqualification of rebel Members of Parliament have been submitted to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

The petitions target MPs who have broken away from the Trinamool Congress and claimed



affiliation with the Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCPI), while seeking recognition as a separate parliamentary group in the Lok Sabha.

Following a meeting with the Speaker, Banerjee argued that the rebel MPs

Lok Sabha

had voluntarily abandoned the party on whose symbol they were elected and therefore attracted provisions of the

anti defection law. He maintained that legislators who leave their original political party cannot continue to retain their membership in the House and urged an early decision on the matter.

## Anti-India Protest in Dhaka Raises Concerns Over Growing Islamist

■ Bangladesh Azad Party March Near Indian Mission Sparks Security and Diplomatic Attention

Team Goemkarponn

**NEW DELHI:** A torchlight march organised by the newly formed Bangladesh Azad Party (BAP) in Dhaka has drawn attention amid concerns over increasing anti-India mobilisation by Islamist groups in Bangladesh. The demonstration, held in the Gulshan area of the capital, was aimed at



protesting what organisers described as India’s handling of undocumented migrants and border

management issues.

Members of the BAP, along with supporters from other Islamist

organisations, marched towards the Indian High Commission before being stopped by Bangladeshi police at the Gulshan-1 circle. After being prevented from proceeding further, the demonstrators staged a sit-in protest at the location.

During the protest, participants burned an effigy of Indian Home Minister Amit Shah, expressing opposition to

India’s policies regarding illegal immigration and deportation.

According to intelligence assessments cited in the report, the Bangladesh Azad Party is believed to have links with Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh and may represent an effort to broaden the reach of Islamist politics beyond the organisation’s traditional support base.

# USA Reach Knockout Stage as Paraguay Stay Alive and Brazil Revive World Cup Campaign

■ Dramatic Day at FIFA World Cup Sees Turkey Eliminated, Morocco Move Closer to Qualification and Co-Hosts USA Advance

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** A packed day of FIFA World Cup action produced major twists across the group stage, with the United States securing a place in the knockout rounds, Paraguay keeping their hopes alive, and Brazil reigniting their campaign with a convincing victory.

Paraguay recorded a hard fought 1-0 win over Turkey despite finishing the match with ten men. The decisive moment came just 63 seconds after kick off when Matias Galarza struck from long range to give his side an



early lead. The South Americans were later reduced to ten players after Miguel Almiron was sent off during first half stoppage time. Turkey pushed for an equaliser but failed to

capitalise on late opportunities, becoming the second team after Haiti to be eliminated from the tournament. The result also confirmed the United States as winners of

The USA sealed qualification for the last 32 with a comfortable 2-0 victory over Australia. An early own goal from Cameron Burgess put the Americans ahead before Alex Freeman doubled the advantage before half time. The co-hosts have now won both of their opening matches and advanced with a game to spare, continuing their impressive

start under coach Mauricio Pochettino. In Group C, Brazil responded strongly after an underwhelming opening draw by defeating Haiti 3-0. Matheus Cunha scored twice while Vinicius Junior added another before the interval as the five-time world champions dominated proceedings. The victory moved Brazil firmly back into contention for a place

place in the knockout stage and strengthened their challenge for top spot in the group. Morocco also boosted their qualification hopes with a 1-0 win over Scotland. Ismael Saibari scored just over a minute into the match, providing the only goal of the contest. Scotland battled hard for an equaliser but could not break through Morocco's defence. The result leaves Morocco in a strong position to progress, while Scotland may need a positive result against Brazil in their final group match to keep their campaign alive. Several teams have already secured progression, while others face must win enco

## CWG Qualification Secured Despite Fourth-Place Finish for Neeraj Chopra in Doha

■ Indian Javelin Star Registers Season-Best Throw of 85.69m and Books Glasgow 2026 Berth

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra secured qualification for the 2026 Commonwealth Games despite finishing fourth at the Doha Diamond League on Friday. Competing in his first major event of the season after an injury-enforced delay, the Olympic and world champion recorded a best throw of 85.69



metres. The effort came in his third attempt and ultimately earned him fourth place in a highly competitive field. The event was won by rising Sri Lankan star Rumesh Tharanga Pathirage, who produced a winning throw of 88.68m to strengthen his position as one of the season's leading performers.

## He Will Be Available": Neymar Set for World Cup Return Against Scotland, Confirms Ancelotti

■ Brazil Receive Major Boost as Star Forward Nears Full Fitness After Injury Layoff

**New Delhi:** Brazil have received a significant boost ahead of their final Group C match after head coach Carlo Ancelotti confirmed that star forward Neymar is expected to return for the crucial FIFA World Cup clash against Scotland. The announcement comes shortly after Brazil's convincing 3-0 victory over Haiti, a result that revived



the team's World Cup campaign and moved them closer to qualification

Following Brazil's victory over Haiti, Ancelotti provided the strongest indication yet that the forward is ready to return to competitive action. The Brazilian coach revealed that Neymar would continue individual training before rejoining full team sessions, adding that he is expected to be available for selection against Scotland.

# BCCI Keeps Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli's 2027 World Cup Future Under Wraps

■ Board Secretary Says Discussions on India's Long-Term Plans Are Ongoing but Not for Public Disclosure

Team Goemkarponn

**New Delhi:** The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has maintained its silence on whether Indian batting stalwarts Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli will be part of the national team's plans for the 2027 ICC Cricket World Cup. Amid growing speculation over the future of the two former captains, BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia said discussions regarding India's roadmap for the next World Cup are ongoing

but remain internal matters that are not meant for public disclosure. Rohit and Kohli, who have retired from Test and T20I cricket and now feature only in the ODI format for India, continue to be central figures whenever conversations turn to the 2027 World Cup. Both players are reportedly keen to remain available for the tournament, which is scheduled to be held in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. However, Saikia refrained from offering any indication



about their prospects, stressing that decisions concerning team planning involve multiple,

including selectors, the coaching staff, the cricket committee and the players themselves. According to the BCCI secretary, regular consultations are taking place within the system, making special meetings on individual players unnecessary. He described the process as continuous and collaborative, with all relevant parties contributing to discussions about the future direction of Indian cricket. His comments mirror the cautious approach previously adopted by chief selector Ajit Agarkar

and head coach Gautam Gambhir, both of whom have avoided making firm commitments regarding the inclusion of Rohit and Kohli in India's long-term ODI plans. At 39 and 37 respectively by the time of the 2027 World Cup, the two veterans would be among the oldest players in international cricket. His remarks suggest that no final decisions have yet been made as India continues to shape its strategy for the next global tournament.