



Goa Bids Final Farewell to Jennifer Monserrate; Thousands Pay Last Respects

■ *Leaders across party lines, family, friends and citizens gather to honour the three-time MLA as Goa observes state mourning

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa bid an emotional farewell to former minister and Taleigao MLA Jennifer Monserrate on Monday as thousands of mourners, including political leaders, government officials, party workers and members of the public, gathered to pay their final respects.

Jennifer Monserrate, 56, passed away on Sunday after a prolonged



illness at a private hospital in Dona Paula. Her mortal remains were kept at her residence in Taleigao from the morning, where a steady stream of people arrived throughout the

day to offer floral tributes and condolences to the bereaved Monserrate family.

A funeral Mass was held at Taleigao Church in the afternoon, attended

by leaders from across the political spectrum, cutting across party lines. Following the Mass, her mortal remains were taken to the Hindu Crematorium at St Inez, Panaji, where the last rites were performed in accordance with her final wish.

Several senior political leaders, ministers, MLAs, former legislators, local representatives and citizens joined the

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Jennifer Monserrate's Passing Marks Second BJP MLA Loss In Ten Months

Taleigao Legislator's Death Reduces BJP's Assembly Strength To 26 As Party Faces Another Setback Ahead Of 2027 Polls

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The passing of Taleigao MLA and former minister Jennifer Monserrate has dealt a significant political setback to the ruling BJP, making her the second sitting legislator from the party to die within the last ten months.

Jennifer Monserrate died on Sunday after a prolonged illness. She

had been receiving medical treatment in Goa and Mumbai and had remained away from public and political activities for several months due to her health.

Her death follows the demise of Ponda MLA and former Agriculture Minister Ravi Naik in October 2025. With two sitting legislators lost within a

▶ CONTD TO PAGE 06

HC Stays ECI Order Deregistering Goa Vikas Party

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Bombay High Court at Goa has granted interim relief to the Goa Vikas Party (GVP) by staying the Election Commission of India's (ECI) order that removed the party from the list of recognised political parties in the state. The interim order means the party will continue to be eligible to contest elections in Goa while its challenge against the Commission's decision is pending before the court.

Lathicharge, Metro Closures As Delhi Police Stop CJP's 'Chalo Sansad' March

■ Heavy security, prohibitory orders and internet restrictions enforced as protesters attempt march to Parliament

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Heavy security and widespread restrictions were enforced across central Delhi on Monday as thousands of supporters of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) gathered for the proposed "Chalo Sansad" march on the opening day of the Monsoon Session



of Parliament.

Ahead of the protest, Delhi Police imposed prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik



Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), banning unauthorised assemblies across the New Delhi district. Authorities clarified that no permission

had been granted for the march, stating that demonstrations involving five or more people were prohibited outside designated protest sites

with prior approval.

Despite the restrictions, large numbers of protesters assembled at Jantar Mantar before attempting to march towards Parliament. Police intervened to stop the procession, using batons to disperse the crowd as clashes and chaos unfolded in parts of the city.

World Belongs To Spain! La Roja End 16 Year Wait With Historic World Cup Glory

■ Ferran Torres' extra time winner seals Spain's second world title as La Roja complete an unbeaten campaign

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Spain were crowned FIFA World Cup 2026 champions after defeating defending champions Argentina 1-0 after extra time in a gripping final, ending Lionel Messi's dream of retaining the title and confirming the arrival of a new era in world football.

Substitute Ferran Torres emerged as the match winner, scoring



in the 106th minute with a powerful finish beyond Emiliano Martinez to secure Spain's second

men's World Cup title and their first since 2010. The victory also completed an unbeaten tournament for

Luis de la Fuente's side, who conceded just one goal in eight matches.

Spain dominated the final from start to finish, controlling possession and creating the majority of the chances. Argentina struggled to threaten the Spanish defence, managing only one shot on target throughout the contest before being reduced to ten men in extra time after Enzo Fernandez received a second yellow card.

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If Not IIT-Goa, Then What Deserves Priority?

The transfer of nearly 4.65 lakh square metres of land to IIT-Goa at Farmagudi should be a moment of celebration for the state. After almost a decade of operating from a temporary campus, one of India's premier institutions of higher learning is finally moving closer to getting a permanent home. Yet amid the celebrations, an uncomfortable question remains: why did it take Goa so long to provide land for an institution that should have been a top priority from day one?

When IIT-Goa was established in 2016, it was projected as a game changer for the state. The arrival of an IIT was expected to elevate Goa's educational profile, attract talent from across India and create opportunities for research, innovation and entrepreneurship. The institute promised to place Goa on the national academic map in a way few institutions could.

Ten years later, the institute is still known more for its struggle to secure land than for the campus it was promised.

The delay reflects a larger problem that Goa has repeatedly failed to address. The state often speaks about becoming a knowledge hub, attracting investment and creating opportunities for young people. Yet when it comes to creating the infrastructure necessary for those ambitions, progress frequently gets trapped in endless discussions, bureaucratic hurdles and political indecision.

An IIT is not just another government project. It is a national asset. Across India, IIT campuses have become centres of innovation, research and economic growth. Entire ecosystems have developed around them, attracting industries, start-ups and skilled professionals. States compete fiercely to host such institutions because they understand the long-term benefits they bring.

Goa, on the other hand, seemed unable to decide where its own IIT should be located.

Year after year, promises were made. Announcements were

“An IIT is not just another government project. It is a national asset. Across India, IIT campuses have become centres of innovation, research and economic growth. Entire ecosystems have developed around them, attracting industries, start-ups and skilled professionals. States compete fiercely to host such institutions because they understand the long-term benefits they bring.”

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Year after year, promises were made. Announcements were issued. Assurances were given that the land issue would soon be resolved. Yet the institute continued functioning from temporary facilities. Students adapted. Faculty adapted. “

issued. Assurances were given that the land issue would soon be resolved. Yet the institute continued functioning from temporary facilities. Students adapted. Faculty adapted. Administrators adapted. But should they have been forced to do so for nearly a decade?

What makes the delay even more frustrating is the contrast with how quickly land is often identified for other purposes. Whether it is tourism projects, commercial developments or infrastructure proposals, governments often find ways to move matters forward when there is sufficient political will.

The prolonged uncertainty surrounding IIT-Goa created the

impression that higher education was not receiving the urgency it deserved.

The cost of delay cannot be measured merely in years. Every year without a permanent campus meant limitations on expansion, research facilities, student amenities and long-term planning. It meant opportunities that could have benefited Goa's economy and academic community were postponed.

The state frequently laments the migration of talented young Goans seeking opportunities elsewhere. It speaks of creating a future where knowledge-based industries can thrive. Yet such ambitions require institutions that can anchor that future. IIT-Goa was meant to be one of those anchors.

Instead, the institute spent much of its first decade waiting.

To be fair, land acquisition in Goa is never simple. The state's limited geographical area, competing interests and environmental concerns make every major project challenging. Public consultation and transparency are important. However, there is a difference between careful planning and prolonged paralysis. A decade is simply too long for a project of this importance. The recent land transfer is therefore both a success and an indictment. It is a success because it finally clears a major obstacle. It is an indictment because it highlights how much time was lost reaching this point. Goa should welcome the beginning of IIT-Goa's permanent campus. But it should also reflect on the lessons of the past ten years. If a premier national institution can spend nearly a decade waiting for land, what message does that send about the state's ability to execute long-term educational projects? IIT-Goa deserved certainty, not delay. The students, faculty and future generations who will benefit from the institution deserved better. The land has finally been found. The bigger challenge now is ensuring that Goa never again takes ten years to make room for its own future.

EDITOR SPEAKS

Subsidies Alone Won't Create Engineers

Suraj Nandekar

The Goa government's decision to fund 75 per cent of tuition fees for eligible engineering students is undoubtedly a welcome relief for many families.

At a time when higher education costs continue to rise, financial assistance can make professional courses more accessible and encourage students from modest backgrounds to pursue engineering. The intention behind the scheme is commendable.

However, the announcement also raises a larger question: is the lack of financial support really the main reason students are turning away from engineering?

For years, engineering was considered one of the most sought-after career paths in India. Today, the situation is very different. Across the country, engineering colleges struggle to fill seats despite offering modern facilities, scholarships and incentives. The problem is not merely affordability. It is confidence in the future.

Students and parents increasingly evaluate courses based on employment prospects. Many engineering graduates find themselves unemployed, underemployed or working in fields unrelated to their qualifications. As a result, families have become more cautious about investing time and money in engineering education.

In this context, offering a 75 per cent fee subsidy may help increase admissions, but it does not address the underlying concerns that discourage students from choosing engineering in the first place.

The Chief Minister's observation that nearly 450 engineering posts remain vacant in government departments is certainly significant. But the existence of vacancies does not automatically translate into opportunities. Students want clarity about recruitment timelines, transparency in hiring and assurance that jobs will actually be filled. If vacancies remain unfilled year after year, merely citing their existence is unlikely to inspire confidence among aspiring engineers.

There is also the issue of quality. Increasing enrolment should not become an objective in itself. Goa must ensure that engineering graduates possess skills that match industry requirements. Employers today seek expertise in artificial intelligence, robotics, automation, data science, renewable energy and advanced manufacturing. Producing more graduates without strengthening skill development could simply create a larger pool of degree holders struggling to find meaningful employment.

The government must therefore focus not only on subsidising education but also on improving outcomes. Stronger industry partnerships, internships, research opportunities and placement support are equally important. Students need to see a clear pathway from classroom learning to career success.

Another concern is whether public funds are being directed towards the right priorities. Higher education subsidies are valuable, but they must be accompanied by accountability. Institutions receiving the benefits of increased enrolment should demonstrate improvements in academic standards, faculty quality, research output and employability. Otherwise, the scheme risks becoming another expenditure that generates headlines without delivering long-term results.

The Chief Minister's remarks about government engineers mentoring students are well taken. Professional guidance can play an important role in shaping careers. However, mentoring alone cannot overcome systemic challenges. Students need modern laboratories, exposure to emerging technologies and opportunities to engage with real-world projects.

The state's focus should also extend beyond traditional engineering. The future economy will demand expertise in multiple technical and vocational fields. Goa must avoid creating the impression that engineering is the only pathway to success. Young people should be encouraged to pursue careers aligned with their interests, talents and market demand.

The new subsidy scheme may succeed in reducing the financial burden on families. That is an important achievement. But affordability is only one piece of a much larger puzzle.

If Goa truly wants more engineers, it must create an environment where students see engineering not merely as an affordable degree, but as a rewarding and secure career. Until that happens, subsidies may fill classrooms, but they may not necessarily build the skilled workforce that the state needs.

Goa to Fund 75% of Engineering Tuition Fees; CM

■ Dr. Pramod Sawant unveils new financial support scheme, cites 450 vacant engineering posts and urges professionals to inspire the next generation

Team Goemkarponn

SANKHALI: In a major push to strengthen technical education, Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant announced that the Goa government will finance 75 per cent of tuition fees for eligible engineering students pursuing courses in the state.

The financial assistance will be available to students enrolled in both government and private



engineering colleges, including institutions such as Rajeswar College of Engineering and Don Bosco College of Engineering. Applications for the scheme can be submitted through the CM

Scholarship App/CARES portal, which has been introduced to simplify the application process.

Announcing the initiative during the inauguration of the Sankhali Engineers Association, Dr. Sawant said the scheme is intended to make engineering education more affordable and encourage more students to opt for technical careers.

He pointed out that Goa continues to face a

shortage of engineering professionals, with nearly 450 engineering positions lying vacant across government departments. According to the Chief Minister, these vacancies reflect the growing need for skilled engineers and highlight the importance of increasing enrolment in engineering courses.

Dr. Sawant also expressed concern over what he described as a lack of professional engagement among some government engineers.



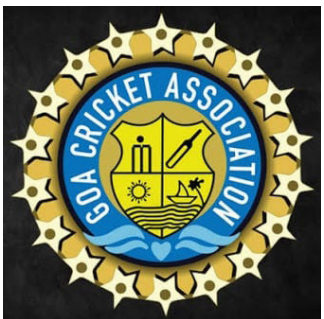
Goa Transfers 4.65 Lakh Sq M Land to IIT-Goa for Permanent Farmagudi Campus

■ State to acquire nearly 2 lakh sq m of private land to support future expansion of academic, research and residential facilities

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government has formally transferred nearly 4.65 lakh square metres of land to the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Goa for the construction of its permanent campus at Farmagudi, while preparations are underway to acquire an additional around two lakh square metres of private land for future expansion. Sources said the transfer of the government land was completed two days ago, marking a significant step towards establishing a dedicated campus for the premier technical institution after years of planning. Since its inception in 2016, IIT-Goa has been operating

from a temporary campus located within the Goa Engineering College (GEC) premises at Farmagudi. According to sources, the proposed acquisition of adjoining private land is aimed at ensuring sufficient space for the institute's long-term development. The additional area is expected to accommodate future academic buildings, advanced research centres, student hostels, faculty residences, sports infrastructure and other facilities planned under the institute's master plan. The state government had earlier identified the Farmagudi site after the Union Ministry of Education revised its land requirement for new IIT campuses.



Goa Government Appoints Three-Member CA Panel to Audit Goa Cricket Association

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Registration Department has appointed a three-member panel of Chartered Accountants to independently audit the affairs, accounts and financial records of the Goa Cricket Association (GCA) after the High Court of Bombay at Goa and the Supreme Court declined to stay the audit order.

The panel comprises CA Shree Shashi Nair, CA Akshaya Prabhakar Raut, and CA Elce Francisco Vaz.

The auditors have been directed to conduct a comprehensive examination of the association's financial records and submit their report to the Inspector General of Societies within 90 days.

According to the order issued by the Inspector General of Societies, the audit will cover compliance with the Goa Co-operative Societies Act and relevant rules.

GMC Super Speciality Block Ends OPD Token Generation

■ Walk-in patients to report at offline counter; online appointments to be encouraged

Team Goemkarponn

BAMBOLIM: Goa Medical College's (GMC) Super Speciality Block has discontinued token generation for OPD registration with immediate effect, according to a circular issued by the Administrative Section.

As per the circular dated July 18, 2026, all walk-in patients who have not completed online registration will now be required to report directly to the Offline Counter.



Senior citizens and Persons with Disabilities (PwD) will also be guided through the designated offline registration process, as applicable.

The circular further states that patients should be encouraged to book online appointments

for OPD consultations henceforth, signalling a shift towards a digital appointment system to

streamline patient registration and reduce dependence on physical token generation.

The circular has been issued by Prof. Dr. Yuri Dias Amborcar, Nodal Officer, Super Speciality Block, Goa Medical College, Bambolim.

Goa Notifies 1.02 Crore Sq M Of Ecologically Sensitive Land As No Development Zone

■ Fresh TCP Notification Covers Paddy Fields, Natural Slopes And Low-Lying Areas Across South Goa; Public Invited To Submit Suggestions And Objections

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government has notified 1.02 crore square metres of ecologically sensitive land as No Development Zone (NDZ), further strengthening efforts to protect paddy fields, natural slopes and other environmentally fragile areas from future development.

The notification was issued by the Town and Country Planning



(TCP) Department on July 16 following a meeting chaired by TCP Minister Vishwajit Rane. It comes days after the government proposed an additional 82 lakh square metres

for NDZ status. With the latest move, the total area identified for protection under the Regional Plan has crossed 15 crore square metres over the past two months.

According to the draft notification, 1,02,67,954 square metres have been proposed for inclusion under the NDZ category.

Among the notified areas, Cuncolim accounts for the largest share with 40,89,800 sq m, followed by Deussa (16,73,530 sq m), Cavorim (15,71,572 sq m), Chandor (9,50,188 sq m), Davorlim (9,31,483 sq m) and Veroda (8,19,371 sq m), all located in Salcete taluka of South Goa. The notification also

includes 1,46,451 sq m at Pilliem in Dharbandora taluka, along with 21,922 sq m at Deao, 10,512 sq m at Xeldem and 1,125 sq m at Sirvoi in Quepem taluka. The proposed NDZ areas consist of ecologically sensitive landscapes such as paddy fields, natural slopes and low-lying regions that play a vital role in groundwater recharge, flood mitigation and biodiversity conservation.

Daughter, Boyfriend Booked for Alleged Gold Theft in Verna

■ Woman alleges daughter eloped after stealing gold ornaments worth Rs 2 lakh and pledging them for a loan

Team Goemkarponn

VERNA: Verna Police have registered a case against a young woman and her boyfriend for allegedly stealing gold ornaments worth around Rs 2 lakh from the woman's mother and pledging them to obtain a loan.

According to the complaint filed by Munni Gupta, a resident of Sancoale, she had entrusted her gold ornaments to her



daughter Kajal Gupta for safekeeping between February 2026 and March 10, 2026. The complainant alleged that while she

was hospitalised, Kajal, with the alleged abetment and inducement of her boyfriend Anand, stole the ornaments from the

cupboard.

The accused allegedly eloped together and later pledged the stolen gold in Anand's name at a finance institution to obtain a loan. The complainant further alleged that the duo misappropriated the loan amount for their personal use, causing her a wrongful loss of approximately Rs 2 lakh.

Verna Police have registered the offence, and further investigation is being carried out by PSI Rajdatt Arsekar.



Calangute Police Detain Scooter Rider Seen in Viral Video

■ Man denies stalking allegations, says he was drunk and only asked girls for directions; preventive action initiated under BNSS

Team Goemkarponn

CALANGUTE: Acting swiftly on a viral video circulated on social media and broadcast by several news channels, Calangute Police traced and apprehended the scooter rider who was alleged to have been stalking girls. According to a police press release, the video surfaced on July 18, 2026, prompting an immediate inquiry. The individual was identified as Ratan, son of Premsing Gorkha (25), a resident of Bardez, Goa, originally from West Bengal. During questioning, Ratan told police that he was under the

influence of alcohol at the time of the incident and had approached the girls only to ask for directions. He denied allegations of stalking, harassment or any other wrongful conduct. Police stated that the man was found to be intoxicated in a public place and that his behaviour had the potential to create public apprehension and disturb public peace. As a preventive measure, he was arrested under the relevant provisions of Section 35 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, to prevent any further breach of peace or disturbance.



British National Dies While Undergoing Treatment at GMC

Team Goemkarponn

SALIGAO: Saligao Police have registered an unnatural death case following the death of a 78-year-old British national while undergoing treatment at Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim. According to police, Raymond Philip Gamble, a British national presently residing at Dando Wado, Olim, Nerul, Bardez, died during medical treatment at GMC.

The case was registered under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, based on a wireless message and medico-legal case (MLC) received from the hospital.

Preliminary inquiry revealed that the deceased had been suffering from heart-related ailments for a considerable period and had been unwell prior to his hospitalisation.

Police said there is no suspicion of foul play in the death. The Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO), Panaji, has been informed about the incident.

Four Truck Owners Booked for Illegal River Sand Transport in Ponda

■ Police seize trucks loaded with illegally extracted sand; probe underway to trace illegal mining operation

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: Ponda Police have registered a case against four truck owners and another accused for allegedly illegally extracting and transporting river sand without lawful authority or permit.

According to the state complaint filed by PSI Krishna Gawas, the incident occurred at around 2:39 am on July 19, 2025, at Simer, Vazangal, Shiroda, Ponda. Police alleged that



the accused — Mario Colaco and Johny Ivon Colaco, both residents of Panchawadi, Ponda, Siddharth Tilve of Bagwada, Curchorem, and Flaviano Estibeiro of

Panchawadi, Ponda — were found in possession of trucks loaded with illegally extracted river sand.

During the investigation, police found that the sand had allegedly been extracted from the river by Sujay Gaonkar, a resident of Mapa, Panchawadi, without any valid permit or legal authority.

Canter Overturns at Anmod Ghat, Two Injured

■ Driver booked for rash and negligent driving after vehicle overturns and crashes into roadside barrier at Mollem

Team Goemkarponn

MOLLEM: Collem Police have registered a case against the driver of an Ashok Leyland canter after the vehicle allegedly overturned at Anmod Ghat, leaving two persons injured.

According to the state complaint filed by HC Guno Damekar, the accident occurred at around 3:45 pm on July 10, 2026, when the canter was travelling from Dharwad, Karnataka, towards Mollem.



Police identified the driver as Manjunath Kanavi, a resident of

Dharwad, Karnataka. He is alleged to have driven the vehicle in

a rash and negligent manner, endangering human life. On reaching

Anmod Ghat, Mollem, the driver reportedly lost control of the vehicle, which veered off the road to the extreme left, overturned and crashed into the roadside safety barrier.

The driver sustained a fracture to his nose, while Mahadevappa Hubballi, a resident of Dharwad who was travelling in the vehicle, suffered a fracture to his left leg. Collem Police have registered a case, and further investigation is being carried out by HC Guno Damekar.

BJP A Haven For Paper Leak Culprits, Responsible For 25 Student Suicides: Girish Chodankar

■ GPCC President Alleges 152 Paper Leaks In A Decade, Demands Accountability And Calls On Students To Join Rahul Gandhi's Campaign

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Girish Chodankar on Sunday launched a sharp attack on the BJP-led Central Government, alleging that it has become "a haven for culprits" involved in paper leak cases and is responsible for the deaths of 25 students by suicide linked to the examination



scandal.

Addressing a press conference at Congress House in Panaji, Chodankar claimed that around 152 paper

leak cases have taken place across the country over the past ten years, causing immense stress and uncertainty among students. He said every

household with students has been affected by the recurring examination leaks, which have undermined confidence in the education system. Media & Communication Department Chairman Amarnath Panjikar, Youth Congress President Archit Naik, and NSUI State General Secretaries Kumar Arjun Gauli were also present at the press conference.



State Launches Drive Against Illegal Plant Nurseries

■ Agriculture Department Asked To Inspect Unlicensed Nurseries And Ensure Compliance With State Regulations

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Government has initiated a statewide enforcement drive to curb the operation of unauthorised plant nurseries and strengthen compliance with laws governing the sale of fruit and ornamental plants.

The Agriculture Department has been instructed to identify nurseries functioning without valid licences and take appropriate action against operators found violating the provisions of the Goa Fruit and Ornamental Plant Nurseries (Regulation) Act.

The exercise aims to ensure that nurseries maintain the required

standards for plant production, storage and sale while safeguarding buyers from purchasing substandard or unhealthy planting material.

Officials will conduct inspections across the State to verify licences, examine records and check whether nurseries are adhering to prescribed norms. Legal action will be initiated wherever violations are detected.

The government believes the initiative will help regulate the nursery sector, improve the quality of planting material available to farmers and gardeners, and reduce the risk of pests and plant diseases spreading through unregulated trade.



CM Promises Swift Solution To JNV Valpoi Land Issue

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has assured that the State Government is taking steps to resolve the long-pending land issue concerning Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) at Valpoi.

Responding to concerns over the matter, the Chief Minister said the government is actively pursuing a solution and will make efforts to settle the dispute at the earliest so that the institution's development is not affected.

Dr. Sawant stated that the concerned departments will work together to address the pending issues and complete the required process in a time-bound manner. He emphasised that providing quality educational infrastructure remains one of the government's priorities.

He also said that resolving the land dispute would help facilitate future expansion and infrastructure development at the school, ensuring a better learning environment for students.

Proud Residents Felicitate 180 'Pride Of Agonda' Awardees

■ Agonda's achievers, community heroes and professionals honoured for helping the village earn national and global recognition as a premier beach destination

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: In a grand celebration of community spirit and achievement, the Proud Residents of Agonda felicitated more than 180 individuals from different walks of life with the 'Pride of Agonda' award for their outstanding contributions to the village's growth, development and global recognition.

Among the prominent awardees



Fernandes, Professor (HAG) at IIT Bombay and a native of Agonda, who was honoured for his remarkable achievements and contributions to the field of chemical sciences. The organisers

beach destinations. The village first gained international recognition after Agonda Beach topped the TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Awards 2018. In 2023, Agonda Panchayat was recognised as Goa's only 'Clean & Green' village by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Five Bulls Rescued In Police Action Against Illegal Transport

■ Vehicle Seized, Case Registered As Authorities Probe Alleged Violations Of Animal Welfare And Transport Laws

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: In a major action against the illegal transportation of livestock, Goa Police rescued five bulls that were allegedly being transported in violation of animal welfare regulations.

During the operation, police intercepted a vehicle suspected of carrying the animals unlawfully. On



inspection, officials found the bulls being transported under conditions that allegedly breached prescribed transport norms and animal welfare

guidelines. The animals were rescued and shifted to a safe facility for proper care, while the vehicle used in the transportation was seized as part of the

investigation.

Police have registered a case under the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and other applicable laws. Further investigation is underway to ascertain the source, destination and purpose of the transport, as well as to identify all those involved in the alleged offence.

Three-Day Spiritual Programme By Naga Sadhus Begins At

Team Goemkarponn



KARAPUR: A three-day spiritual programme

organised by Naga Sadhus began with religious fervour on Sunday at Carapur-Sarvan, with devotees gathering to participate in the ceremonies led by Param Pujya Dattapuri Datt Maharaj.

Naga Sadhus from the Juna Akhada, along with members of several other Akhadas, arrived in Carapur village on Sunday morning to take part in the spiritual event.

Vikram 1 Opens A New Era For India's Private Space Industry

■ Mission Aagaman marks a breakthrough as startups prepare for commercial launches and rapid expansion

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India's private space sector has entered a new chapter after Skyroot Aerospace's Vikram 1 rocket successfully completed its maiden orbital mission under Mission Aagaman. The launch has not only demonstrated the country's growing technological capabilities but also created fresh opportunities for more than 400 Indian space startups aiming to compete in the global commercial space market.

Launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Vikram 1 became the world's first privately developed orbital launch vehicle to successfully deploy multiple customer payloads into Low Earth Orbit on its very first attempt. The achievement places India among a select group of nations with private orbital launch capability and marks a major milestone for the country's rapidly expanding space ecosystem.

The 22 metre tall, multi stage rocket successfully completed all phases of its 15 minute flight, placing technology demonstration satellites and commercial payloads into a 450 kilometre orbit. The mission also



carried symbolic items celebrating India's scientific achievements.

Industry experts believe the success significantly reduces technological uncertainty for investors and shifts the focus towards scaling commercial operations. The launch also offers satellite operators a cost effective alternative for placing small satellites into customised orbits, with launch costs expected to be substantially lower than many competing international services.

The milestone is expected to accelerate growth across India's booming space sector, which is projected to expand from \$8.4 billion

to \$44 billion by 2033. Startups involved in satellite manufacturing, launch vehicles, Earth observation, propulsion systems and orbital services are now expected to move from technology demonstrations to commercial deployments.

Skyroot plans to conduct a second Vikram 1 mission later this year before gradually increasing launch frequency to monthly missions by 2027. The company is also developing the more powerful Vikram 2 rocket, capable of carrying heavier payloads into orbit.

Other Indian spacetechnology companies,

including Agnikul Cosmos, Pixxel, Digantara, Bellatrix Aerospace, GalaxEye Space and EtherealX, are also preparing new launch vehicles, satellite constellations and advanced propulsion technologies over the next few years.

The successful mission has strengthened investor confidence in India's private space industry, with the sector attracting significant funding and creating thousands of high technology jobs. As commercial launches become more frequent, India is positioning itself as a major global hub for affordable satellite launches, advanced space technology and private space innovation.

India's Forex Reserves Rise To \$675.16 Billion As Foreign Currency Assets Increase

■ Gold holdings also edge higher, though reserves remain below March levels

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India's foreign exchange reserves increased by \$964 million to \$675.16 billion for the week ended July 10, supported primarily by a rise in foreign currency assets, according to the latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

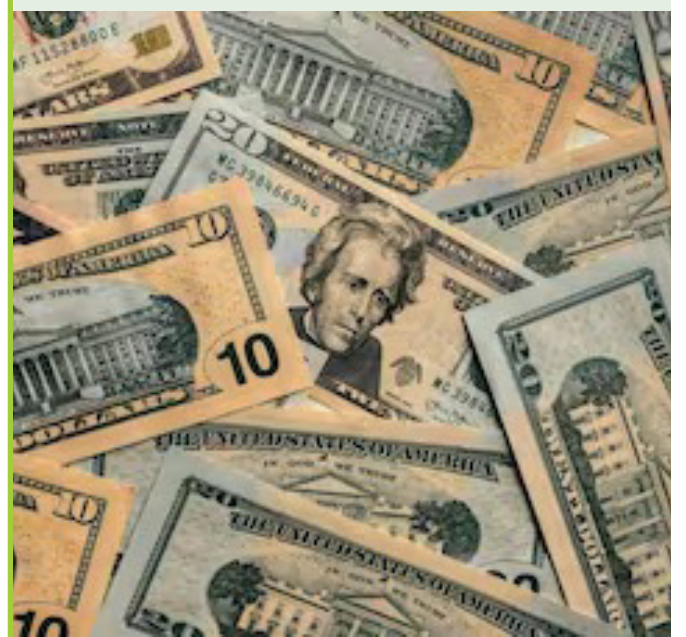
Foreign currency assets, which account for the largest share of the country's forex reserves, climbed by \$930 million to \$546.51 billion during the reporting week. In rupee terms, the value of these assets increased by ₹14,078 crore. The value of foreign currency assets is influenced by fluctuations in major international currencies such as the euro, pound sterling and Japanese yen against the US dollar.

India's gold reserves also recorded a modest increase during the week, rising by \$24 million to \$105.23 billion. In rupee terms, the value of gold holdings grew by ₹1,235 crore, reflecting continued stability in the country's bullion reserves.

The Reserve Bank's data also showed that India's holdings of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) with the International Monetary Fund increased by \$3 million to \$18.63 billion, while the country's reserve position with the IMF rose by \$7 million to \$4.79 billion.

Despite the weekly improvement, India's overall foreign exchange reserves remain below the levels recorded at the end of March 2026. Since then, total reserves have declined by nearly \$15.95 billion, mainly due to a fall in both foreign currency assets and gold holdings. Over the same period, SDR holdings have recorded a marginal increase, while the reserve position with the IMF has eased slightly.

On a year on year basis, India's forex reserves are \$21.52 billion lower than the corresponding period last year. While foreign currency assets have declined significantly over the past year, the value of gold reserves has risen sharply, partially offsetting the overall decline in the country's reserve position.



Goa Bids Final Farewell to Jennifer Monserrate; Thousands Pay Last Respects

funeral procession, remembering Jennifer as a compassionate leader who remained committed to public service and was always accessible to the people.

Tributes continued to pour in from across Goa, with leaders recalling her contributions to the state's political landscape and her pioneering achievement as the first woman elected from the Taleigao Assembly constituency.

Jennifer served three consecutive terms as MLA and was a Cabinet Minister from 2019 to 2022, handling the Revenue, Information Technology, and Labour and Employment portfolios. She was the only woman

minister in the Goa Cabinet during that period and was credited with several initiatives in her departments.

She began her political career as Chairperson of the North Goa Zilla Panchayat in 2005 before entering the Goa Legislative Assembly in 2012. In 2019, she joined the Bharatiya Janata Party along with her husband, Atanasio "Babush" Monserrate, and retained the Taleigao seat in the 2022 Assembly election.

Jennifer is survived by her husband, Atanasio "Babush" Monserrate, and their two sons, Panaji Mayor Rohit Monserrate and Amit Monserrate.

The Goa government observed a two-day state mourning following her demise, with the National Flag flown at half-mast on government buildings and official entertainment programmes suspended as a mark of respect.

Jennifer Monserrate's Passing Marks Second BJP MLA Loss In Ten Months

year, the BJP's strength in the 40-member Goa Legislative Assembly has now come down to 26. Both leaders began their political careers in the Congress before joining the BJP. Ravi Naik entered the BJP ahead of the 2022 Assembly elections, while Jennifer Monserrate joined the ruling party in 2019 as part of the merger of 10 Congress MLAs. The Taleigao and Ponda Assembly constituencies are now expected to remain without elected representatives until the next Assembly elections, which are due in early 2027. Although the Election Commission had initiated the process for a by-election in Ponda after Ravi Naik's death, the Bombay High Court later set aside the notification, leaving the seat vacant.

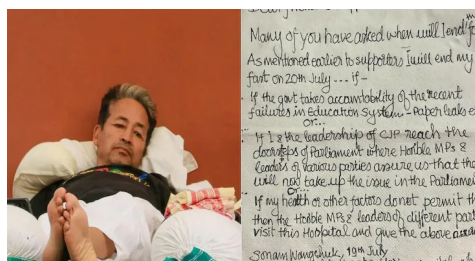
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"Meet My Three Conditions": Sonam Wangchuk Agrees To End Hunger Strike If Demands Are Accepted

■ Activist seeks action on education reforms and assurances from political leaders

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Activist and educator Sonam Wangchuk has said he is prepared to end his hunger strike of more than 20 days, but only if three key conditions are fulfilled. The announcement came through a handwritten letter from Safdarjung Hospital in New Delhi, where he is currently



undergoing medical care after being shifted from the protest site.

In his letter, Wangchuk stated that his first

condition is for the government to acknowledge and take responsibility for alleged shortcomings in the

education system, particularly in light of the recent NEET examination paper leak controversy. His second demand is that

political leaders publicly assure him that the issue of examination paper leaks will be raised in Parliament.

His third condition is that senior political leaders personally visit him at the hospital and provide assurances on the first two demands if his health does not allow him to participate in the planned Parliament march.



"This Might Be My Last Call To My Family": Iran's Foreign Minister Recalls High Stakes US Talks

■ Abbas Araghchi says Iranian negotiators faced constant threats as renewed fighting deepens regional tensions

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has described the immense pressure faced by Tehran's negotiating team during talks with the United States, saying every discussion took place under the constant fear of military strikes.

Recalling his conversations with US Middle East envoy Steve Witkoff, Araghchi said he asked whether American negotiators had ever participated in talks believing the meeting could be bombed at any moment or spoken to their families wondering if it might be their final conversation. He said such fears had become a

reality for Iranian officials because of what he described as persistent threats from the United States and Israel.

Araghchi maintained that Iran refused to compromise on its nuclear programme despite mounting pressure. He said Tehran rejected demands to completely halt uranium enrichment, insisting that negotiations could not succeed through threats or coercion. According to him, when diplomatic efforts failed to secure those demands, the conflict escalated into military confrontation.

The foreign minister also dismissed suggestions that military action could force political change in Iran.



"Political Change In Bengal Is Unmatched Since Independence": Amit Shah

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that the political transformation witnessed in West Bengal is unlike any seen in the country since Independence. He made the remarks while virtually laying the foundation stone for what is set to become the world's largest curd production plant under the Amul Bengal Dairy Project.

The ceremony was held at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre in New Town, Kolkata, with senior government leaders and officials in attendance.

Addressing the gathering, Shah said West Bengal had experienced decades of rule under different political ideologies before undergoing a significant shift. He described the state's political transition as unique in the country's post Independence history and criticised the previous administrations while highlighting the current government's governance initiatives.

Balochistan Independence Claim Puts Spotlight On Pakistan's Most Strategic Province

■ Growing unrest highlights the region's critical role in trade, energy, security and maritime access

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Fresh claims of Balochistan declaring independence from Pakistan have brought renewed attention to the country's largest and most strategically important province. The developments come at a time when both Balochistan and Pakistan occupied Kashmir are experiencing unrest, though the nature and



significance of the crises differ considerably.

Pakistan occupied Kashmir has witnessed repeated protests in recent months, with demonstrations largely

driven by rising living costs, electricity prices, food inflation and demands for greater political rights. The latest wave of protests escalated into

clashes and widespread shutdowns.

In contrast, Balochistan has seen a sharp increase in militant violence targeting Pakistani security forces.

Monsoon Session Begins With Key Bills, Women's Quota Push And Opposition Showdown

■ Government to table major legislation as Opposition seeks debate on examination irregularities and other pressing issues

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Monsoon Session of Parliament commenced on Monday with the Centre preparing to introduce several significant bills while the Opposition geared up to press for detailed discussions on a range of national issues.

The 25 day session, comprising 19 sittings, is expected to witness intense debates over



legislative proposals and political issues, making it one of the most closely watched sessions of the year.

Among the key proposals on the government's agenda is a bill that seeks to make insulting the national

song Vande Mataram a criminal offence. The Centre is also expected to reintroduce the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which proposes increasing the strength of the Lok Sabha to 850 seats while implementing 33 per cent reservation for women in the House. The legislation had failed to secure passage earlier this year and is now being brought back for consideration.

"I'm Not Talking About A 56-Year-Old Youth": PM Modi's Dig At Rahul Gandhi As Monsoon Session Begins

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

on Monday called for a constructive and productive Monsoon Session of Parliament, urging lawmakers to engage in meaningful discussions based on facts while highlighting India's economic progress and the achievements of its young innovators.

"Rohit And Virat Still Have Plenty Left": BCCI Backs Veterans Despite England Series Defeat

■ Vice President Rajeev Shukla says India's team combination remains strong after 2-1 ODI series loss

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has thrown its weight behind veteran batters Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli following India's 2-1 ODI series defeat to England, with vice president Rajeev Shukla insisting the team's combination remains solid despite the setback.

Speaking after India's



27 run loss in the series decider at Lord's, Shukla praised Rohit and Kohli for leading the fightback with outstanding performances

and dismissed concerns over the team's balance. "Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli proved once again that they are world class

batters and still have plenty left in them.

Shubman Gill also batted brilliantly. The team combination is good and everything is fine," Shukla said. India came close to pulling off a record chase after England posted 387 for 3, the highest ODI total ever recorded at Lord's. Ben Duckett led the hosts with a career best 142, while Jacob Bethell contributed 91.



"I Kept Believing That I Could Do It": Emotional PV Sindhu Eyes World Championships After Japan Open Triumph

■ Indian star ends title drought with biggest victory in six years and targets record sixth World Championships medal

Team Goemkarponn

Championships in 2019.

NEW DELHI: An emotional PV Sindhu said her unwavering belief and relentless hard work finally paid off after lifting the Japan Open title, describing the victory as one of the most significant moments of her career.

The two time Olympic medallist defeated home favourite and three time world champion Akane Yamaguchi 21-17, 21-17 in a commanding final to claim her biggest title since winning the World

Overcome with emotion after the victory, Sindhu admitted she had tears in her eyes as she reflected on the challenges she had faced during a difficult phase of her career. "I kept believing that I could do it," Sindhu said, adding that despite questions from many people about her form and future, she never lost confidence in herself. She credited her family, coaches and support staff for standing by her throughout the journey.



"If There Is No Noise, There Is No Fun": Rohit Sharma Silences Critics With Lord's Century

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Rohit Sharma delivered a captain's knock under immense pressure, smashing a magnificent 138 off 110 balls at Lord's to answer his critics and firmly dismiss speculation surrounding his ODI future. However, his heroic effort was not enough to prevent India from suffering a 27 run defeat against England, who clinched the three match ODI series 2-1. Chasing a daunting target of 388, India finished on 360 for 7, with Rohit leading the fightback alongside Shubman Gill (77) and Virat Kohli (74). Rohit's innings, featuring 17 boundaries and five sixes, was his 34th ODI century and the first by an Indian batter at the historic Lord's Cricket Ground. The skipper shared crucial partnerships of 147 runs with Gill and 113 runs with Kohli, keeping India's hopes alive before England struck back in the closing stages.

Umar Shaikh and Niharika Parwar Eye Triple Crown Glory at State Major Ranking Badminton

■ Several shuttlers remain in contention for multiple titles ahead of the finals

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Umar Shaikh and Niharika Parwar are on course for a remarkable triple crown as the finalists were confirmed in the State Sub Junior Under 15 and Under 17 Badminton Ranking Tournament at the Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium in Navelim. Organised by Salcete Badminton Club under the aegis of the Goa



Badminton Association, the tournament has produced several standout performances ahead of the title clashes.

Umar Shaikh continued his impressive run by securing a place in the



Under 15 Boys Singles final after defeating Vishwa Parab in the semi finals.

He also advanced to the Under 17

Boys Singles final and booked his spot in the Under 15 Mixed Doubles final alongside Niharika Parwar, keeping his hopes of winning three titles alive.

Ishaan, Yug, Ashank and Aarish March Into Semi Finals at Verenkar Memorial Table Tennis Tournament

■ Young paddlers deliver dominant performances to keep title hopes alive

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Promising young table tennis players produced an impressive display as the 6th Naguesh and Sushila Verenkar Memorial Table Tennis Ranking Tournament reached its knockout stages at the Chandor Club Multipurpose Hall. Organised by Chandor Club under the aegis of the Goa Table Tennis Association, the tournament witnessed several commanding



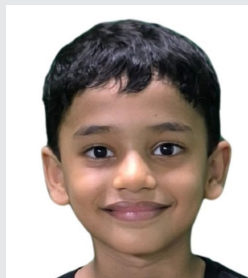
victories in the junior categories.

In the Boys Under 11 quarter finals, Ashank Dalvi secured a convincing 3-0 win over Urvansh Pathak to book his place in the last four. Kedar Nair also advanced comfortably



after defeating Ved Sanvordekar 3-0. Vardhan Verlekar registered a solid 3-1 victory against Ronan Menezes Gama, while Aarish Shaikh completed the semi final lineup with a dominant 3-0 triumph over Cladwyn Miranda.

The Boys Under 13



quarter finals also featured a series of one sided contests. Yuvaan Sanke eased past Kaushik Nair with a 3-0 victory to move into the semi finals. Yug Prabhu maintained his impressive form, defeating Aarish Shaikh in straight games with a 3-0



scoreline.

Mission Lalpekhlua delivered another commanding performance, blanking Aryan Kanji 3-0 to secure a place among the final four. Completing the semi final lineup was Ishaan Colaso, who produced a clinical display to overcome Shreysht Rane 3-0.

With the competition entering its decisive stage, the semi finalists will now battle for a place in the championship matches.