



One Killed, Two Injured After Car Catches Fire Following Self-Accident Near Siridao

Vehicle bursts into flames near Holy Cross Shrine in early morning mishap; investigation underway

Team Goemkarponn

BAMBOLIM: One person was killed and two others sustained injuries after a vehicle caught fire following a self-accident near the Holy Cross Shrine (Fulancho Khuris) on the road to Siridao in the early hours of Saturday.

According to the Goa Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), Panaji



Fire Station received a distress call at 4:01 am and immediately

dispatched a team to the accident site. Fire personnel brought

the blaze under control and assisted the injured before further emergency response was carried out. One occupant succumbed in the incident, while two others suffered injuries.

The exact cause of the accident is yet to be ascertained. Police have launched an investigation to determine the circumstances that led to the vehicle catching fire.

Cockroach Party Has More Value Than Congress, Says MLA Vijay on Pre-Poll Alliance

GFP chief says even a "Cockroach Party" could secure more votes than Congress, but reiterates alliance



Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Goa Forward Party (GFP) president Vijay Sardesai launched a sharp attack on the Congress, claiming that even a "Cockroach Party" has more political value than the grand old party in the current political scenario.

Addressing the media after the GFP sammelan in Canacona, Sardesai said electors in Goa were nobody's "fiefdom" and accused the Congress of assuming voters would support it blindly.

"The amount of votes they (Congress) claim to have, we (GFP) too can have that many votes. Congress leaders think Goan electors are fools who can be easily misled and will

vote blindly for the party. That is no longer the case. In the present circumstances, even the Cockroach Party can get more votes than the Congress. That is the reality today. The Cockroach Party has more value than Congress," he said.

Sardesai said no political party, including the Congress, could claim to have a larger vote base than the GFP. In a sarcastic remark, he added that the GFP was "with the Cockroach Party" and was looking for "better cockroaches" to contest elections, while jokingly asking who would "break the legs of the cockroaches."

On the absence of party leader Isidore

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PM Modi Chose Compassion Over Abuse, Says CM Sawant

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant said Prime Minister Narendra Modi demonstrated the qualities of a true leader by responding with compassion rather than anger despite being subjected to abusive language during recent protests. Addressing a gathering, Sawant said leadership is defined by restraint, empathy and the ability to rise above provocation. He remarked that instead of responding with hostility, the Prime Minister chose a message of compassion, setting an example of responsible public conduct. The Chief Minister also appealed to Goa's youth to remain vigilant against misinformation and divisive narratives circulating on various platforms.

Thivim Man Critically Injured in Road Rage Stabbing; Accused Arrested

Heated argument over driving turns violent in Moira; victim shifted to GMC as Mapusa Police launch probe

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: A road rage incident in Moira turned violent, leaving a 25-year-old man critically injured after he was allegedly stabbed in the back during an altercation over driving.

The victim, Manthan Agarwadekar (25), a resident of Thivim, sustained serious injuries in the attack that took place at Moira around



5:30 pm. He was initially rushed to the North Goa District Hospital before being referred to the Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), where

he is currently undergoing treatment.

Police said the dispute began as an argument between the victim and the accused over driving on the road. The confrontation allegedly escalated when the accused, Suraj Kasbe (28), a resident of Mayde and originally from Maharashtra, allegedly attacked Agarwadekar with a knife, stabbing him in the back.

Kulgam Terror Attack Death Toll Rises to Two as Injured Migrant Worker Succumbs

TRF claims responsibility as security forces intensify search operation and J&K announces compensation for victims' families

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The death toll in the terrorist attack on migrant workers in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district has risen to two after an injured labourer succumbed to his injuries while undergoing treatment. The attack, which took place in the Kellam area, has once again raised concerns over the targeting of non local workers in the Valley.



The second victim has been identified as Bupinder Kumar, while another labourer, Deepak, had died earlier following the shooting. A third worker from Chhattisgarh remains under medical treatment.

Jaishankar Urges Iran to Prevent Attacks on Commercial Ships and Seafarers Amid West Asia Conflict

India reiterates support for dialogue as concerns grow over maritime security and loss of Indian lives in the region

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has urged Iran to ensure that commercial shipping and seafarers are not targeted under any circumstances during the ongoing conflict in West Asia. During a conversation with Iranian Foreign Minister



Seyed Abbas Araghchi, Jaishankar conveyed India's deep concern over the continuing hostilities in the region and stressed the importance of safeguarding international maritime trade routes.

In a post on X, the External Affairs Minister said India strongly condemns attacks on commercial shipping and seafarers, regardless of the party responsible. He also noted that he was briefed on Iran's perspective regarding the evolving situation and the diplomatic discussions currently underway.

Zero FIR Was Avoidable. So Was the Student's Conduct

The registration of a Zero FIR against a student protester for allegedly using abusive language against Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sparked a predictable political divide. One side sees it as an attack on free speech. The other justifies it as necessary to uphold the dignity of public office. Lost in this shouting match is a simple truth: the entire controversy could have been avoided had the student exercised basic restraint and responsibility.

The young protester did not become the centre of national attention because she raised an important issue. She became the headline because of the language she allegedly used. That is a lesson every student activist should remember.

Students have historically been the conscience of society. They have challenged governments, fought injustice and influenced national policy. Their strength has never come from abusing political leaders. It has come from the power of their ideas. From the freedom movement to protests against corruption and educational reforms, successful student movements earned public respect because they combined courage with discipline.

Unfortunately, that standard appears to be slipping.

Today, many young protesters confuse aggression with activism. Social media has amplified this trend. The louder the abuse, the greater the attention. The more offensive the statement, the more viral the clip. But viral fame is not the same as meaningful political engagement.

Criticising the Prime Minister is every citizen's democratic right. In fact, democracy demands that those in power face constant questioning and criticism. Government policies must be debated, challenged and even condemned where necessary. But criticism is entirely different from personal abuse.

Once a protest crosses that line, it loses its moral authority.

Instead of discussing the concerns that brought students onto the streets, the nation ends up debating one individual's offensive remarks. The original cause suffers while opponents find an opportunity to dismiss the entire movement. The student, therefore, does not merely damage

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her own credibility. She weakens the credibility of every genuine protester standing beside her.

This is precisely what appears to have happened in the present case.

The registration of a Zero FIR has now become the bigger story than the students' demands. Whether one agrees with the legal action or not, it was the protester's conduct that handed authorities the opportunity to shift the conversation from public issues to criminal proceedings.

That is why responsibility matters.

Freedom of speech is one of India's greatest constitutional guarantees. But it is not a licence for vulgarity. Every right carries corresponding responsibilities. Students, who aspire to shape the country's future, should be held to an even higher standard than ordinary political workers. They

are expected to persuade society through facts, logic and conviction, not through insults.

The student should have realised that the Prime Minister is not merely an individual politician but the holder of the country's highest elected office. Disagreeing with the office holder is legitimate. Humiliating the office through abusive language lowers the quality of democratic debate.

Educational institutions also have a role to play. Colleges must encourage critical thinking while also teaching constitutional values, civility and respectful disagreement. Student politics should produce future lawmakers and administrators, not social media influencers chasing viral outrage.

Political parties, too, deserve criticism when they celebrate abusive rhetoric simply because it targets their rivals. Decency cannot be selective. If abusive language is condemned against one leader, it must be condemned against every leader, regardless of political affiliation.

The police action will continue to be debated in courts and television studios. Legal experts will argue whether a Zero FIR was appropriate in these circumstances. But that discussion should not distract from the more fundamental issue.

The student herself crossed a line. Had she expressed her anger firmly but respectfully, her message may have received widespread sympathy. Instead, abusive language transformed a political protest into a law and order issue. That is a loss not only for her but for the larger cause she claimed to represent.

Student activism remains one of democracy's greatest strengths. But activism demands maturity as much as passion. Young protesters must understand that words carry consequences. They can inspire change, but they can also destroy credibility in an instant.

The Zero FIR may now become a legal matter. The student's conduct, however, remains a lesson in how not to protest. In a democracy, the strongest voice is not the one that abuses the loudest. It is the one that argues with dignity and leaves the government with no excuse to change the subject.

EDITOR SPEAKS

Fix the Roads Before Fining the Drivers

Suraj Nandrekar

Goa has entered a new era of traffic enforcement with the activation of AI-powered cameras across 26 key junctions. The objective is commendable. Road accidents claim hundreds of lives every year, and stricter enforcement of traffic rules is long overdue. Drivers using mobile phones, jumping signals, speeding, riding without helmets or seat belts and driving on the wrong side deserve to be penalised.

But before the government celebrates technology driven enforcement, it must answer a simple question: Has it fulfilled its own responsibility of providing safe and motorable roads?

Traffic discipline cannot become a one way street where only citizens are held accountable while the government escapes scrutiny for the pathetic condition of roads across the State.

Goa's roads tell a story of neglect. Every monsoon, potholes appear like clockwork. Craters emerge on national highways, village roads and city streets alike. Waterlogged stretches hide deep potholes that damage vehicles and throw two-wheeler riders off balance. Road markings disappear, streetlights remain non-functional, drains overflow and ongoing infrastructure projects create dangerous diversions.

In such conditions, motorists are expected to drive safely while constantly dodging potholes and broken surfaces.

The irony is impossible to ignore.

An AI camera may issue a challan for crossing a lane marking, but what happens when the lane marking itself has vanished? A motorcyclist may be penalised for swerving, but what if he swerved to avoid a crater large enough to cause an accident? A driver may be fined for stopping at the wrong place, yet many roads have no proper parking facilities or clear signage.

Technology cannot compensate for poor infrastructure.

The government's argument is that AI cameras are meant to save lives rather than generate revenue. That is a welcome assurance. However, the credibility of this claim will depend on whether authorities show the same urgency in repairing roads as they have shown in installing cameras.

Road safety is a shared responsibility.

Citizens must obey traffic rules. There can be no excuse for speeding, drunken driving, reckless overtaking or using mobile phones while driving. These violations kill innocent people and deserve strict punishment.

But governments, too, have responsibilities. They cannot demand perfect compliance from motorists while failing to maintain basic road infrastructure.

The Public Works Department and local bodies should be subjected to the same standards of accountability imposed on drivers. If a pothole causes an accident because it remained unattended for weeks despite complaints, who pays the price? The victim certainly does. But does any official face penalties for negligence?

The answer is almost always no.

Imagine if AI could also monitor government performance. Cameras could identify dangerous potholes, broken traffic signals, missing road signs, malfunctioning streetlights and flooded roads. Alerts could automatically reach engineers with deadlines for repairs. Citizens would then see technology serving both enforcement and governance.

Unfortunately, accountability remains largely one-sided.

Goa has invested significantly in smart enforcement. It should now invest equally in smart infrastructure. Roads should undergo regular audits before the monsoon. Potholes should be repaired within days, not months. Road markings must be repainted, traffic signs maintained and drainage systems cleaned before the rains arrive.

Only then will motorists feel that the system is fair.

Law enforcement earns public respect when it is accompanied by good governance. Otherwise, AI cameras risk being viewed not as instruments of safety but as machines designed to issue automated fines while motorists continue to navigate dangerous roads.

Technology is not the problem. Selective accountability is.

The government has every right to demand discipline from road users. But it must first demonstrate discipline in maintaining the roads they travel on. Before issuing thousands of e-challans, Goa should ensure that every road is fit to drive on.

Road safety begins not with a camera on a pole, but with a road that is safe beneath the wheels.

Goa Pushes For Sustainable Sand Extraction Framework In Delhi

■ CM Pramod Sawant Discusses Environmental Policy With Union Minister, Highlights Goa's Fiscal Strength

Team Goemkarponn

DELHI: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant sought the Centre's support for a sustainable and well-regulated framework for sand extraction in Goa during a meeting with Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav in New Delhi.

The meeting focused on creating a balanced policy for sand extraction while



ensuring environmental conservation and sustainable development. Dr. Sawant described the discussions as fruitful and thanked the Union Minister for his guidance

in advancing Goa's balanced development. Earlier in the day, the Chief Minister met BJP MP Anurag Thakur and discussed a wide range of issues concerning Goa's

development. Thakur congratulated Goa for securing the second rank among all Indian states in the Fiscal Health Index 2026 and praised the state's progress in the tourism and information technology sectors.

He said Goa has set new benchmarks in all-round development under the seven-year leadership of Dr. Sawant, highlighting the state's achievements in governance, fiscal management and economic growth.

Dry July Pushes Goa Into Deep Monsoon Rainfall Deficit

■ Five Rain-Gauge Stations Receive Less Than 1,000 Mm As State Remains Under Yellow Alert

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: A weak spell of rainfall through July has significantly impacted Goa's monsoon performance, leaving the state with a 34 per cent seasonal rainfall deficit and placing it among the country's more rain-deficient regions this southwest monsoon.

The prolonged dry spell has been reflected across much of the state, with five of Goa's 14 rain-gauge stations recording cumulative rainfall below 1,000 mm so far this season. While the national monsoon has registered an overall deficit of 13 per cent, Goa's shortfall has been considerably higher.

Rainfall patterns have also varied sharply between the state's interior and coastal

regions. Sanguem has received the highest seasonal rainfall at 1,716 mm, followed by Dharbandora with 1,669 mm. In contrast, coastal and urban areas have recorded much lower totals, with Panaji receiving 841 mm, Dabolim 929 mm, Mormugao 946 mm, and Mapusa 970 mm. The biggest setback came in July, when the state received only 662 mm of rainfall. The figure is substantially lower than the rainfall recorded during the same month in the previous two years, underlining the subdued nature of this year's monsoon. Despite isolated heavy showers in parts of the state, rainfall has remained uneven and insufficient to offset the seasonal shortfall.



Bombay High Court At Goa Takes Up Stray Dog Issue Suo Motu

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Bombay High Court at Goa has commenced suo motu proceedings to oversee the implementation of measures aimed at addressing the stray dog issue in the state, in line with directions issued by the Supreme Court earlier this year. A Division Bench has issued notices to the Goa government, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, the Directorate of Panchayats and all municipal councils, calling upon them to place their responses before the court. The matter has been listed for hearing on Wednesday, when the Bench is expected to review the status of compliance and consider further directions. The proceedings follow the Supreme Court's judgment of May 19, which directed every State and Union Territory to strengthen infrastructure for the effective implementation of the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Programme within a specified timeframe. The apex court had also instructed High Courts to independently monitor compliance through suo motu proceedings.

Goa Introduces One-Year MBBS Engagement Scheme To Ease Doctor Shortage

■ Fresh Medical Graduates To Receive Rs 80,000 Monthly Under Voluntary Government Service Programme

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government has rolled out a new short-term engagement scheme aimed at addressing the shortage of doctors in government hospitals and health centres by inducting newly qualified MBBS graduates from Goa Medical College (GMC). Under the newly notified Voluntary Engagement Scheme for MBBS Doctors



(Short-Term Tenure) in Government Health Institutions of Goa, eligible graduates will be engaged as Junior Residents or Medical Officers for a fixed period of one year. Those selected under the programme will receive a consolidated monthly

remuneration of Rs 80,000. The initiative has been designed to strengthen the state's public healthcare system by filling vacancies with recently qualified doctors while giving them hands-on experience in government medical institutions. Participation in the scheme will be voluntary and will not create any claim for permanent government employment after the completion of the tenure.

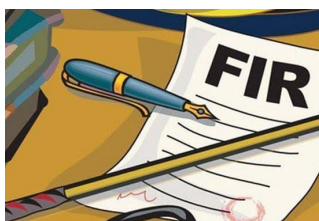
Anjuna Police Launch Probe Into Alleged Offensive Social Media Posts On Shree Swami Samarth

■ Case Filed Against Unidentified Individuals After Complaint By Siolim Religious Trust

Team Goemkarponn

ANJUNA: Anjuna Police have initiated legal proceedings against unidentified persons over alleged objectionable comments about Shree Swami Samarth circulated on social media.

The case was registered after a complaint from Nilesh Vernekar, founder of the Shree Swami Samarth Parivar Math in Siolim, who alleged that multiple anonymous Facebook accounts had posted



content insulting the revered saint on the "Amche Goa" Facebook page.

Based on the complaint, police have invoked Section 299 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, relating to deliberate acts intended to offend religious sentiments.

RGP Disciplinary Committee Awaits Ajay Kholkar; No Appearance Despite Notice

■ Committee Records Absence, Says Further Action Will Follow As Per Party Constitution And Natural Justice

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Disciplinary Committee of the Revolutionary Goans Party (RGP), headed by Pravin Harlankar, waited until late night for party leader Ajay Kholkar to appear before it in connection with disciplinary proceedings related to the suspension of ten RGP members.



According to the committee, Kholkar had been issued a notice directing him to appear before the panel, submit relevant records and provide evidence in the

matter. However, despite being given sufficient opportunity, he did not appear before the committee or submit the documents sought.

The committee has taken note of his absence and stated that further proceedings will continue in accordance with the provisions of the RGP Constitution and principles of natural justice.

Man Loses ₹1.5 Lakh In Fake Adani Gas Bill WhatsApp Scam

■ Cyber fraudsters allegedly tricked Zuarinagar resident into installing malicious APK file, stealing banking credentials

Team Goemkarponn

VERNA: A Zuarinagar resident was allegedly cheated of ₹1,50,666 after cyber fraudsters lured him into installing a malicious application through a fake WhatsApp message claiming his Adani Gas bill was pending. According to Verna Police, complainant Pavan Chauhan received a WhatsApp message on July 23 at around 10.38 am stating that his Adani Gas connection would be disconnected unless the pending bill



was paid immediately. Police said the fraudsters sent an APK file through WhatsApp and persuaded the complainant to install it on the pretext of facilitating the payment. After the application was installed, the accused allegedly gained

unauthorised access to the complainant's mobile phone and banking credentials. The accused then allegedly fraudulently debited ₹1,50,666 from

the complainant's HDFC Bank account without his knowledge or consent.

Based on the complaint, Verna Police have registered a case under Section 318 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Further investigation is being

carried out by PSI David Costa of Verna Police Station under the supervision of PI Anand Shirodkar and the guidance of Mormugao DySP Gurudas Kadam.

Police have advised citizens not to install APK files received through WhatsApp or other messaging platforms from unknown sources, warning that such applications are commonly used by cyber criminals to gain unauthorised access to mobile devices and bank accounts.



Two Afghan Nationals Arrested For Allegedly Staying Illegally In Goa

■ Mandrem Police book two foreign nationals in separate cases for allegedly remaining in India without valid visas or travel documents

Team Goemkarponn

MANDREM: Mandrem Police have arrested two Afghan nationals in separate cases for allegedly staying illegally in Goa without valid visas or travel documents.

In the first case, Police Constable Premnath Mhammal of Mandrem Police Station lodged a complaint against Abdul Fazeel Nudrat (26), an Afghanistan national residing near Aqua Bella Resort at Madhalamaj, Mandrem. Police said Abdul Fazeel Nudrat was intercepted near the Arambol Beach parking area on July 30 at around 6 pm during routine patrolling.

During interrogation, he was allegedly found staying in India and

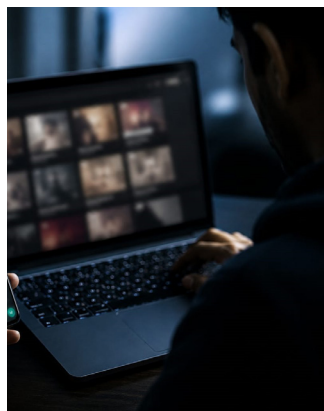
Goa without a valid visa or travel documents.

A case was registered under Crime No. 68/2026 under Section 23(a) of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025, and he was arrested later that night after following the prescribed Supreme Court guidelines.

In a second case, PSI Laximan S. Dessai lodged a complaint against Mohammad Naseer Hamidi (29), another Afghanistan national residing near Aqua Bella Resort at Madhalamaj, Mandrem.

According to police, Mohammad Naseer Hamidi was found near Aqua Bella Resort at around 6.15 pm on July 30 and was allegedly staying in India and Goa without a valid visa or travel documents.

Canacona Police Register Child Sexual Abuse Material Case Against Man



Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Canacona Police have registered a case against a local resident for allegedly accessing and sharing child sexual abuse material online.

According to police, the case was registered on a complaint filed by PSI Vishal Velip of Canacona Police Station.

Police alleged that on April 4, 2026, at around 7.37 pm, the accused, identified as Pruthvi Pagui, a resident of Colomb, Canacona, allegedly accessed a website containing child sexual abuse material, downloaded a video using an online link, and subsequently shared the file on WhatsApp groups using a mobile phone registered in his mother's name.

Further investigation is being carried out by PI Pravin Gawas of Canacona Police Station.

Bull Fight Case Registered At Margao Town Police Station

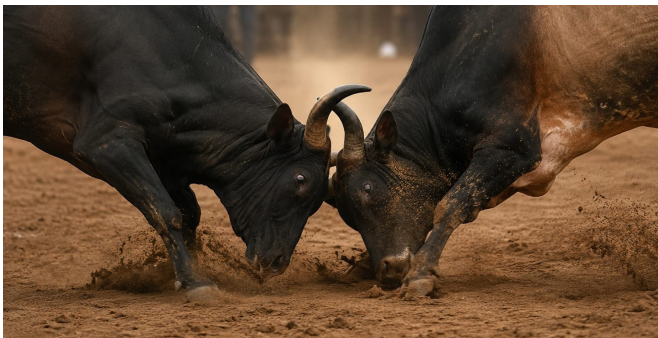
■ Police book unidentified persons for allegedly organising illegal bull fight at Mandopa, Navelim

Team Goemkarponn

MANDOPA: Margao Town Police have registered a case against unidentified persons for allegedly organising an illegal bull fight at Mandopa near Martins Place in Navelim, Salcete, on July 30.

According to the police, the offence was registered based on a complaint lodged by Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Umesh Gaude of Margao Town Police Station on behalf of the State.

Police said that on



July 30 at around 6 pm, unidentified persons allegedly organised an illegal bull fight at Mandopa, near Martins Place, Navelim, and subjected the bulls to cruelty. A case has been

registered at Margao Town Police Station under Crime No. 83/2026 under Section 11(1) (m) of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. Further investigation is in progress.

Man Alleges Assault, Extortion At Calangute Hotel; Police Register Case

■ Complainant claims he was assaulted and forced to transfer ₹70,000 over previous enmity; one accused served notice

Team Goemkarponn

CALANGUTE: Calangute Police have registered a case against one identified accused and two unidentified persons for allegedly assaulting and extorting money from a man at a hotel in Calangute.

According to police, the case was registered on the basis of a complaint filed by



Jay Mukeshbhai Patel, a resident of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

The complainant alleged that on July 27 at around 3 am, while he was at Hotel Avenue in Calangute, accused Yash Gautambhai Chawala, also a resident of Ahmedabad, along with two unidentified persons, allegedly assaulted him with slaps and a waist belt, abused him using filthy language, and

extorted ₹70,000 by threatening him over a previous enmity.

Police have registered the offence, and a notice under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) has been issued to the accused, Yash Gautambhai Chawala.

The investigation is being carried out by PSI Paresh P. Sinari.

*Officials check hygiene, food handling and storage practices; violations to invite action under food safety laws

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) carried out inspections at several fast food outlets and hotels in Panjim as part of its ongoing food safety enforcement drive aimed at ensuring compliance with hygiene and food safety standards.

During the inspections, FDA officials examined hygiene conditions, food handling practices, storage facilities and



overall compliance with food safety regulations to safeguard public health.

The department said the inspections are part

of its routine monitoring of food establishments to encourage adherence to prescribed food safety norms.

The FDA warned that any violations detected during the inspections will be dealt with in accordance with the Food Safety and Standards Act and other applicable regulations.

The department also urged food business operators to maintain proper hygiene, follow prescribed food safety practices and ensure full compliance with regulatory requirements to protect consumer health.



Goa Strengthens Monsoon Beach Safety With Refresher Training for 480 Lifesavers

■ Drishti Marine launches annual revalidation programme to enhance rescue capabilities and emergency response while ensuring uninterrupted beach safety services.

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: With the monsoon bringing rough seas and heightened risks along Goa's coastline, Drishti Marine has launched its annual refresher and revalidation training programme for more than 480 lifesavers and around 70 beach marshals deployed across 54 beaches and four inland waterbodies in the state. The initiative is aimed at strengthening rescue preparedness and emergency response without disrupting daily beach safety operations.

Conducted from mid-June to mid-August in batches at Morjim, Sinquerim, Majorda and Rajbagh, the mandatory programme combines practical

drills with classroom sessions covering first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), rescue techniques, swimming proficiency, physical fitness and medical response. Participants are also receiving expert training on marine animal strandings, mental resilience and other operational aspects of professional lifesaving. A key focus of this year's programme is preparing lifesavers for challenging monsoon conditions. Personnel are undergoing practical exercises in identifying rip currents, carrying out rescues in turbulent waters and operating rescue surfboards and rescue tubes in high surf, equipping them to respond swiftly during emergencies.



Goa Pushes Entrepreneurship in ITIs, Trains Over 1,600 Students Under MSRY

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government has expanded entrepreneurship education across all 10 Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), training more than 1,600 students under an initiative aimed at transforming skilled youth into entrepreneurs and job creators.

The Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (DSDE), in collaboration with the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), has implemented the Entrepreneurship Development initiative under the Mukhyamantri Swayam Rozgar Yojana (MSRY).

As part of the programme, 48 ITI instructors completed a six-day Faculty Mentor Development Programme (FMDP) at EDII, Ahmedabad, enabling them to mentor aspiring entrepreneurs within their institutes.

RFID-Enabled Waste Management Model in Valpoi, Usgao Reviewed

■ Vishwajit Rane says technology-driven system to be expanded across Goa's municipalities in phases

Team Goemkarponn

VALPOI: Forest Minister Vishwajit Rane reviewed the progress of the scientific RFID-enabled waste management initiative in Valpoi and Usgao, with a focus on strengthening implementation, improving accountability and accelerating the goal of achieving 100 per cent scientific waste management. During the review meeting, the team assessed the roadmap



towards achieving Zero Waste status and discussed measures to further enhance monitoring, execution and service delivery at the ground level. Rane

said the RFID-enabled model being implemented in Valpoi and Usgao is laying the foundation for a smarter and more accountable waste management system.

North Goa Sets August 5 Deadline to Register Bulk Waste Generators

■ Collector directs officials to complete BWG identification and step up inspections to enforce Solid Waste Management Rules

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: North Goa Collector Ankit Yadav, IAS, has directed officials to complete the identification and registration of all Bulk Waste Generators (BWGs) by August 5 as part of efforts to strengthen enforcement of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026.

The directive



was issued during the second meeting of the Special Cell on Solid Waste Management, North Goa, convened to review compliance with

the Supreme Court's directions in Civil Appeal No. 6174/2023.

The meeting was attended by deputy collectors, block

development officers (BDOs), representatives of panchayats, police, municipalities, the Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB)

and the Goa Waste Management Corporation (GWMC). Officials reviewed the progress of identifying and registering Bulk Waste

Generators, fortnightly compliance reports and the grievance redressal mechanism.

The Collector also instructed taluka-level teams to carry out regular inspections, monitor compliance on the ground and initiate prompt action against violations to ensure effective implementation of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026.

JLR INDIA DELIVERS RECORD Q1 RETAIL SALES PERFORMANCE

Team Goemkarponn

MUMBAI, INDIA :

JLR India delivered its strongest first-quarter retail sales performance on record, with 1,665 units retailed in Q1 FY27, up 11% year-on-year (YoY). Wholesales for the quarter stood at 1,694 units, up 4% YoY.

Range Rover, Range Rover Sport and Defender models accounted for over 85% of total retail sales in Q1 FY27, highlighting

their strength in the India luxury SUV segment. Defender also remained the company's top selling model, illustrating continued appetite for its 'tough luxury' proposition in India.

During the quarter, JLR India introduced revised pricing for Range Rover SV and Range Rover Sport SV under the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA), with benefits up to ₹ 75 lakhs depending on the model. The

announcement has driven an uptick in client interest, with a notable rise in SV enquiries and growing demand for Bespoke commissions across both models.

Mr. Rajan Amba, Managing Director, JLR India, said: "We have started FY27 strongly with our best-ever Q1 retail performance. Demand continues to grow for Range Rover, Range Rover Sport and Defender, and we are

seeing interest for SV and Bespoke increase following the India-UK FTA. We welcome the FTA as a key moment for luxury automotive in India. It allows us to bring more of our curated SV products, exclusive Range Rover special editions, and bespoke creations to our consumers, tailored to their aspirations. With a strong product pipeline ahead, we are well-placed to sustain this momentum in FY27.

Goa Beyond Beaches Quiz Showcases State's Rich Heritage at Reis Magos

■ Forty-five college teams compete in GTDC initiative to promote Goa's culture, history and hinterland tourism

Team Goemkarponn

REIS MAGOS: The Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) on Saturday concluded the "Goa Beyond Beaches" Quiz Competition at the historic Reis Magos Fort, bringing together students from across the state to celebrate Goa's rich cultural heritage beyond its famous coastline.

The competition attracted nearly 45 teams representing colleges from different talukas, with participants testing their knowledge of Goa's history, culture, traditions, architecture and heritage.

The prize distribution ceremony was attended by GTDC Chairman Kedar J. Naik, Managing Director Kuldeep Arolkar, General Manager Gavin Dias, Deputy General Manager Deepak Narvekar and Quiz Master Nagesh Sardesai.

G.R. Kare College of Law, Margao, emerged as the overall winner, while Smt. Parvatibai



Chowgule College, Margao, secured second place. Goa Engineering College, Farmagudi, finished third, followed by Goa University's History Department in fourth place and the College of Multidisciplinary Studies, Margao, in fifth.

The winning teams received cash prizes and trophies, while all participating colleges were presented with mementos in recognition of their participation.

Addressing the gathering, GTDC Chairman Kedar J. Naik said Goa's identity extends far beyond its beaches and highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting

the state's forts, temples, churches, festivals, music and traditions. He praised the enthusiasm shown by students and announced that GTDC plans to organise similar competitions across Goa in the future.

Managing Director Kuldeep Arolkar congratulated the participants for their performance and encouraged them to continue exploring and taking pride in Goa's heritage.

General Manager Gavin Dias said the participation of 45 teams reflected the growing interest among young people in learning about the state's history and



culture. He noted that hosting the event at the historic Reis Magos Fort added significance to the initiative.

Deputy General Manager Deepak Narvekar described "Goa Beyond Beaches" as more than just a quiz, calling it a movement aimed at inspiring students to discover and promote Goa's lesser-known destinations and hinterland attractions.

The programme was compered by Larisa Fernandes, while the vote of thanks was delivered by Deepak Narvekar. GTDC congratulated the winners, participants, teachers and organisers for making the event a success.

Indian Army Unveils Indigenous XWG Diesel That Keeps Military Vehicles Running at Minus 42°C

■ Army and BPCL jointly develop specialised fuel to boost operational readiness in extreme high altitude conditions

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army has unveiled an indigenously developed Xtreme Weather Grade (XWG) diesel, a specialised fuel capable of keeping military combat and logistics vehicles operational in temperatures as low as minus 42 degrees Celsius. The innovation marks a major step towards strengthening India's self reliance in defence logistics and enhancing operational capabilities in extreme weather conditions.

The advanced fuel has been jointly developed by the Indian Army and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited over the past year. Army Chief General Dhiraj Seth described the launch as a significant milestone, highlighting that the project reflects India's growing indigenous capability in defence technology.

Unlike conventional diesel, which thickens and clogs engine filters in freezing temperatures, the new BS VI compliant XWG diesel has been engineered to perform efficiently in extreme cold without requiring any modifications to the

Army's existing fleet of vehicles.

The introduction of the specialised fuel is expected to significantly improve the mobility and operational readiness of military units deployed in high altitude regions, where severe winter conditions have traditionally posed major logistical challenges. Earlier, conventional diesel often froze in sub zero temperatures, limiting the movement of military vehicles and affecting operational efficiency.

With XWG diesel now available, Army vehicles will be able to function reliably even in some of the country's harshest terrains, ensuring uninterrupted transportation of troops, equipment and supplies during extreme weather conditions.

The Indian Army said the development represents a major advancement in defence preparedness while reducing dependence on imported specialised fuels. By leveraging indigenous technology, the initiative supports the country's broader goal of achieving self reliance in critical defence infrastructure and logistics, while providing armed forces



...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

Cockroach Party Has More Value Than Congress, Says MLA Vijay on Pre-Poll Alliance

Fernandes from the sammelan, Sardesai said he had been invited but did not attend. "Maybe he will

come next time. During elections, new factors emerge. Our focus is to strengthen the party at the grassroots. We started with Canacona and will hold similar programmes in every constituency. Our main objective is to defeat the BJP," he said.

Responding to questions on a possible alliance with the Congress, Sardesai said he had previously gone

to the extent of offering to merge the GFP with the Congress to prevent a split in anti-BJP votes.

"I have been speaking about this for the last two years, but nothing came of it. The situation has changed now, but we are still open to talks. We believe an alliance would make it easier to defeat the BJP, and we will continue exploring that possibility," he

said.

However, Sardesai made it clear that the GFP would not accept any preconditions in alliance discussions.

"We will not accept conditions such as declaring a particular person as the Chief Ministerial candidate or any arm-twisting tactics. We will do what is necessary to achieve our goal of defeating the BJP," he added.

Rawalakot Killings Trigger Massive Protests Across Pakistan, Anger Spreads Beyond PoK

■ Demonstrators in Islamabad, Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi demand accountability over alleged crackdown and arrests

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Mass protests have erupted across several major Pakistani cities following the alleged crackdown on demonstrators in Rawalakot in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) on July 27. Demonstrators have accused the Shehbaz Sharif government and the country's military



establishment of using force to suppress demands for civil and political rights, sparking widespread unrest

beyond the region. Large scale demonstrations were reported in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Karachi, where protesters expressed solidarity with the Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC). Participants raised slogans against the authorities and demanded accountability for the reported deaths, injuries and arrests linked to the Rawalakot incident. In Islamabad, hundreds gathered at F 10 Markaz in support of the people of PoK. The rally called for an independent investigation into the alleged use of force in Rawalakot and urged authorities to address concerns over civil rights and governance in the region.

'People Follow Cleanliness Abroad but Litter in India': Bombay High Court Stresses Civic Responsibility



Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Bombay High Court has delivered a strong message on civic responsibility, criticising the tendency of people to maintain cleanliness abroad while littering public spaces in India without hesitation. The observations were made by a Bench comprising Justices G. S. Kulkarni and Aarti Sathe during the hearing of a batch of petitions related to pollution, foul odour, gas emissions and health hazards arising from the Kanjurmarg dumping ground in Mumbai. Expressing concern over public behaviour, the Bench remarked that many people who casually throw garbage on roads in India are the same individuals who carefully dispose of even a small chocolate wrapper in a dustbin when they are abroad. The judges questioned whether such conduct was consistent with the values of a responsible democracy.

Around Two Dozen Indians Still Serving in Russian Army, Centre Continues Efforts for Their Release

■ Government says 139 nationals have been brought back and warns citizens against fraudulent overseas job offers

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India has said that around two dozen Indian nationals are still serving in the Russian Army, with the government continuing diplomatic efforts to secure their release amid the ongoing Russia Ukraine conflict.

Addressing a media briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India has been consistently



engaging with Russian authorities to facilitate the return of all Indian nationals recruited into the Russian military, many of whom were reportedly serving in non combat support roles such as cooks and helpers.

According to the government, sustained

diplomatic efforts have resulted in the release of 139 Indian nationals so far. However, around 24 Indians are still believed to be serving with Russian military units, and discussions with Moscow are continuing to secure their return. The Ministry of External Affairs also issued a fresh advisory urging Indians to remain cautious of overseas employment offers that could involve significant risks.



India Closely Monitoring US Bill Proposing 100% Tariffs on Buyers of Russian Oil

■ Congress leader accuses BJP of intimidating students as row over NEET protest cases and police crackdown intensifies

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India on Friday said it is closely monitoring developments surrounding a proposed United States bill that could allow President Donald Trump to impose tariffs of up to 100 percent on countries purchasing large volumes of Russian oil and gas.

The proposed legislation, which was recently cleared by the US Senate with an 86 to 12 vote, will now move to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

If enacted, it would authorise the US President to impose additional tariffs and sanctions on countries that continue to import

significant quantities of Russian energy or facilitate sanctions evasion.

Responding to questions during a media briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India's approach to energy security remains based on national interests and the country's long term energy requirements.

He reiterated that India's energy policy is driven by the need to secure reliable and affordable supplies for its 1.4 billion people through diversified sources, including imports from the United States. He also said New Delhi remains engaged with relevant stakeholders in the US on the issue.

India and China Resume Border Trade Through Nathu La After Six Year Pause

■ Historic Silk Route reopens in Sikkim as cross border commerce and economic ties gradually return to normal

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Border trade between India and China through the historic Nathu La officially resumed on Saturday, marking the reopening of the ancient Silk Route after a six year suspension caused by the COVID 19 pandemic.

The resumption of trade through Nathu La, located in East Sikkim, is being seen



as a significant step in improving bilateral engagement between the two neighbouring countries. Trade through the strategic mountain pass was first reopened on July 6, 2006, after remaining closed for 44

years following the 1962 India China war. It was suspended again in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Under the mutually agreed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), cross border trade will operate for six months each year, from May to November, with trading activities taking place from Monday to Thursday. Both countries

will continue to trade the existing list of 36 approved commodities.

Authorities have completed refurbishment work at the Nathu La Integrated Check Post, restoring infrastructure that had deteriorated during the prolonged closure and harsh Himalayan winters. Security arrangements have also been strengthened for the reopening, with the Indo Tibetan Border Police>

deploying additional personnel at the border. For the first time, an all women platoon has also been assigned to assist with border trade operations.

The reopening follows the recent revival of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through the Nathu La route, signalling a gradual restoration of cross border exchanges between India and China.

Harsh Singh and Asmita Dey Create History With India's First Ever Judo Golds at CWG 2026

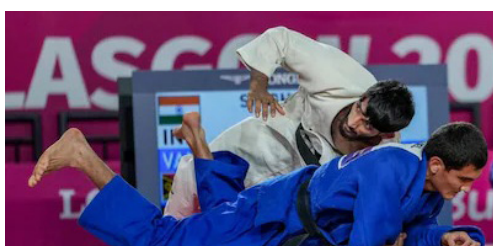
■ India's medal tally reaches 19 as Harsh and Asmita script historic Commonwealth Games triumphs

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India scripted history at the Commonwealth Games 2026 as Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh became the country's first ever Commonwealth Games judo gold medallists, ending a long wait for the top prize in the sport. Asmita Dey created history by becoming the first Indian judoka to win



a Commonwealth Games gold medal after defeating Canada's Heidi Quach in the women's 48kg final. The closely contested bout was decided in golden score, where the 23 year



old Indian produced a decisive attack to secure victory and clinch the historic title. Asmita reached the final after defeating Scotland's Eva Ewing in the quarterfinals and fellow

Indian Summer Shaw in the semifinals. Before her triumph, India had won only five silver and six bronze medals in judo across previous editions of the Commonwealth Games.



Lovlina Borgohain Eyes Commonwealth Games Gold, Says Final Will Be Even Tougher

■ Lovlina, Narender Berwal and Sachin Siwach advance to boxing finals as India targets more gold medals in Glasgow

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Indian boxing star Lovlina Borgohain has set her sights on a Commonwealth Games gold medal after securing a place in the women's 75kg final, saying the toughest challenge still lies ahead.

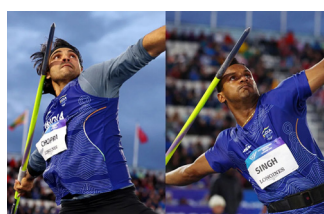
The Tokyo Olympic medallist advanced to the title bout at the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow after registering a dominant 5-0 unanimous decision victory over Tuvalu's Taronu Taafaki in the semifinals.

Speaking after her win, Lovlina expressed confidence in her preparation and said the team's hard work

and guidance from the coaching staff had put her in a strong position to compete for the gold medal.

She acknowledged that the final would be more demanding but said she is determined to give her best and convert her impressive campaign into a championship victory.

India also received a major boost in the men's heavyweight division, with Narender Berwal advancing to the 90kg final after defeating Trinidad and Tobago's Nigel Paul in the semifinals. Berwal described the contest as one of his toughest, noting that he was up against an experienced opponent with strong punching power.



Neeraj Chopra Wins Silver, Yashvir Singh Claims Bronze as India Secures Historic Javelin Double at CWG 2026

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India enjoyed a memorable outing in the men's javelin throw at the Commonwealth Games 2026, with Neeraj Chopra winning the silver medal and debutant Yashvir Singh clinching bronze to complete a historic double podium finish.

Competing in challenging cold and windy conditions, the 28 year old Olympic champion produced a season best throw of 85.83 metres in his second attempt. Although it was enough to secure the silver medal, Chopra was unable to match the outstanding performance of Sri Lanka's Rumesh Tharanga Pathirage, who claimed the gold medal with a superb throw of 89.75 metres. The biggest surprise of the competition came from Yashvir Singh, who delivered a remarkable personal best throw of 85.41 metres on his sixth and final attempt. The 24 year old had been in seventh place before his last throw but

Shree Damodar College, Margao and Don Bosco College, Panjim Clinch Goa University Inter Collegiate Judo Titles

■ Arif Nawar and Riyansha Naik named Best Judokas as colleges dominate 2026-27 championship

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: VVM's Shree Damodar College of Commerce and Economics, Margao, and Don Bosco College, Panjim, emerged as the overall champions in the men's and women's categories respectively at the Goa University Inter Collegiate Judo Championships 2026-27, held from July 28 to 30 at the Sports Authority of



Goa's Multipurpose Hall in Peddem.

Shree Damodar College delivered an impressive performance to secure the men's overall title, while P.E.S.'s Ravi

S. Naik College of Arts and Science, Farmagudi, finished runners-up. Rosary College of Commerce and Arts, Navelim, claimed third place.

Ishita, Tisha, Aarna and Sachi Dessai Storm into U15 Girls Semi-finals at BPS Major Ranking Table Tennis Tournament

■ Top young paddlers continue impressive run as U13 girls' semi-finalists are also confirmed in Fatorda

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Ishita Colaso, Tisha Shaikh, Aarna Lotlikar and Sachi Dessai booked their places in the Girls Under 15 semi-finals of the Ulhas Jewellers BPS Major Ranking Table Tennis Tournament 2026, currently being held at the Multipurpose Stadium in Fatorda.

Organised under the aegis of the Goa Table Tennis Association



and powered by Ulhas Jewellers, the tournament witnessed several dominant performances in the quarter-finals as the state's emerging table tennis talent continued to shine.

Ishita Colaso produced

a confident display to defeat Samaira Verlekar in straight games, sealing a comfortable 3-0 victory to become the first player to secure a semi-final berth. Tisha Shaikh followed with an impressive performance, overcoming

Vanlalrinzuali 3-1 after dropping the opening game before taking control of the contest. Aarna Lotlikar also enjoyed a commanding outing, defeating Gianna George 3-0 to progress with ease. Completing the semi-final lineup was Sachi Dessai, who registered another convincing 3-0 win against Bretnia Laishram to keep her title hopes alive. The Girls Under 13 quarter-finals also produced exciting encounters, with

Sachi Dessai continuing her excellent form by defeating Trisha Kamat 3-0 to enter the last four. Vanlalrinzuali bounced back from her Under 15 defeat to record a dominant 3-0 victory over Kavya Mahambre.

One of the closest matches of the day saw Inara D'Souza edge past Anaya Shukla in a thrilling five-game battle, eventually winning 3-2 after a hard fought contest.