



Goa presses Centre for inspection of Karnataka's Mhadei works

■ State seeks monsoon assessment of Kalasa-Bhandura sites amid continuing water-sharing dispute

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government has urged the Centre to send officials to Karnataka's Kalasa and Bhandura project sites for an on-ground assessment during the monsoon, citing concerns over changes to the flow of water from the Mhadei basin.

Goa has approached the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti seeking an inspection by the Mahadayi Prawah authority. The state wants the inspection team to



examine the condition of the works at both locations and determine whether any breaches have resulted in water moving towards the Malaprabha

basin. The government has also questioned the Central Water Commission's technical appraisal of Karnataka's

revised proposal for diverting water through the Kalasa-Bhandura scheme. Goa has asked the Centre to reconsider the appraisal and keep it in abeyance pending further examination.

Another issue raised by Goa concerns structures built under earlier versions of Karnataka's diversion plans. The state has sought details of such works that are no longer required and has called for redundant structures to be removed and affected

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Goa liquor smuggling busted in Telangana, 30 bottles seized

STF intercepts car carrying 41.95 litres of non-duty-paid liquor allegedly brought from Goa



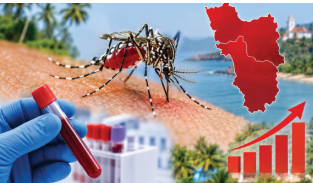
Team Goemkarponn

NALGONDA: Telangana Prohibition and Excise Department officials seized 30 bottles of non-duty-paid liquor allegedly brought from Goa during a special task force (STF) operation near Cherughat on the Narketpalle-Nalgonda road.

The STF was conducting a route watch at Cherughat when it intercepted a car suspected of being used to transport liquor illegally from Goa.

Officials seized 30 bottles containing a total of 41.95 litres of NDPL liquor.

A four-wheeler and a mobile phone were also seized, while Aithagone Kiran Kumar, 36, of Kotha Colony in Chennaram, Nalgonda, was arrested in connection with the case. The STF team later handed over the seized liquor, vehicle and mobile phone, along with the arrested accused, to the Nalgonda Station House Officer for further action.



Dengue cases surge across Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa has witnessed a sharp surge in dengue infections, with the State recording 136 confirmed cases up to September this year, more than double the 64 cases reported during the corresponding period last year. The spike has been particularly pronounced in August and September, according to surveillance data.

The State recorded 46 confirmed cases in August and 66 in September, compared to just four cases each during the same two months in 2025. As a result, 112 confirmed cases were reported in the two-month period this year, against only eight during the corresponding period last year.

The rise follows a relatively lower incidence during the first seven months of 2026. Between January and July, Goa recorded 24 confirmed dengue cases, compared to 56 during the same period in 2025. The trend changed sharply from August onwards.

South Goa has emerged as the major

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Lobo calls for arrests, escalating fines to curb tourist touts

■ Calangute MLA seeks stricter enforcement and coordinated action ahead of tourist season

Team Goemkarponn

CALANGUTE: Calangute MLA Michael Lobo has called for stringent action against tourist touts, including arrests and a graded system of fines for repeat offenders, to prevent visitors from being harassed and allegedly overcharged in the coastal tourism belt.

Lobo proposed that



the penalty for a first offence should be ₹5,000, with fines increasing to ₹10,000, ₹15,000, ₹20,000 and ₹25,000 for subsequent violations.

He said imposing

financial penalties alone may not be sufficient to deter persistent offenders and stressed the need for arrests in cases of repeated touting. According to Lobo, touting has the potential to damage Goa's image as a tourist destination, particularly when visitors are subjected to persistent solicitation or allegedly

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17-Year-Old PoK Girl Detained After Crossing LoC Into Rajouri

■ Security agencies verify whether the teenager crossed into India inadvertently or had another motive

Team Goemkarponn

Rajouri: A 17-year-old girl from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir was detained after crossing the Line of Control (LoC) and entering Indian territory in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district late at night.

The incident took place in the Lam sector of Nowshera, where an Army patrol detected suspicious movement near the LoC fence. The personnel challenged



the person and moved in to verify the identity of the individual. The person was found to be a teenage girl who identified herself as a resident of Khuiretta in Pakistan-occupied

Kashmir. Following preliminary questioning at the spot, the Indian Army handed her over to the Nowshera Police for further verification and investigation.



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After Every Tragedy, Godinho Blames Speeding. But Where Is the Accountability?

Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho is right about one thing: speeding kills.

But after yet another tragedy on Goa's roads, repeating that motorists must slow down cannot be the beginning and end of the government's road-safety response.

The more uncomfortable question is this: after years of identifying speeding, black spots and dangerous stretches as major causes of accidents, what exactly has the Transport Department under Godinho done to ensure that motorists cannot simply continue breaking the rules?

The Baina flyover tragedy has once again brought this question to the forefront. Police have attributed the crash that killed two people to speeding.

But when a minister responds by telling motorists that no matter what the government does, speeding can cost them their lives, the public is entitled to ask: what has the government actually done to curb that speeding?

This is not a new problem.

In May 2023, Godinho himself said speeding and rash driving were major causes of road accidents. At the time, the government announced portable speed radar guns, AI-enabled cameras, new signage and additional breath analysers. The government also said AI cameras would become operational from June that year.

Three years later, the government is still talking about the rollout and effectiveness of AI enforcement.

In June 2026, the State Road Safety Council, chaired by Godinho, deferred the rollout of AI-enabled traffic enforcement cameras at 26 locations, citing the need for an awareness campaign.

By August, Godinho was still describing the AI camera system as being in a trial phase and acknowledged that enforcement remained lenient.

That raises a legitimate question: if speeding has been identified as a deadly problem for years, why has enforcement taken so long to become consistent and uncompromising?

The government cannot simultaneously say speeding is a principal killer and then operate enforcement systems cautiously, gradually or leniently.



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Goa already has a Road Safety Policy 2025, a State Road Safety Council and district-level road-safety mechanisms. The Transport Department itself lists these institutional structures and the policy on its road-safety portal. The government has also claimed that coordinated measures addressing black spots and accident-prone stretches helped reduce road accidents by 17% over two years.

But statistics alone cannot answer the questions raised by individual deaths.

If a particular stretch is known to encourage speeding, where are the physical speed-calming measures? Where are adequate warning signs? Where are functioning speed cameras? Where is regular enforcement during the hours when speeding

is most prevalent? Where is the engineering audit after every fatal crash?

And most importantly, where is the public accountability for measures promised years ago but still being implemented in phases?

Road safety cannot become a ritual in which every accident is followed by a statement asking citizens to drive carefully. Citizens undoubtedly have a responsibility. Goa's Transport Department itself advises motorists not to overspeed and to obey traffic signals and signs.

But government has a responsibility too.

A minister cannot merely tell citizens to behave better. The government possesses the law, enforcement machinery, technology and administrative authority. It must use them effectively.

The answer is not to absolve reckless motorists. Nor is it to blame infrastructure for every accident. The answer is to demand both responsible driving and responsible governance.

After the Baina tragedy, Goa does not need another general assurance that black spots will be examined. It needs a publicly accessible list of dangerous locations, the corrective measures prescribed for each, deadlines for implementation and periodic reports showing what has actually been completed.

If AI cameras are effective, they must be deployed consistently. If speed radar guns were purchased, the public deserves to know how frequently they are being used and what enforcement they have generated. If black spots have been rectified, the government should demonstrate the results.

After all, road safety cannot be measured by the number of press statements issued after accidents. It must be measured by the number of lives saved before the next accident happens.

Godinho is right: speeding can undo every road-safety measure.

But there is another uncomfortable truth: years of delayed, inconsistent or inadequate enforcement can undo every road-safety promise.

Goa's motorists must answer for reckless driving. So must the government for the effectiveness of the system it controls.

EDITOR SPEAKS

DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW FOR A BETTER WORLD

By Aires Rodrigues

In an ideal world, the welfare of any country and its people can only be enhanced and optimized if the elected representatives at all levels are knowledgeable, public service oriented and committed to applying their time, talent and experience for the common good. Those elected to public office carry a responsibility that goes far beyond political power. They are entrusted with the hopes, aspirations and interests of the people who elect them. Their decisions should therefore be guided by public interest rather than personal, political or partisan considerations.

The entire bureaucracy that supports the elected representatives must also be selected strictly on merit and must function independently, efficiently and professionally, free from political manipulation or pressure. A strong and impartial administrative system is essential for ensuring that government policies are implemented fairly and that public institutions serve citizens without discrimination or favouritism. The rule of law can have meaning only when those entrusted with enforcing it are themselves committed to upholding it.

Besides, the very crucial Judiciary, which serves as the guardian of justice and the rule of law by protecting individual rights and upholding the Constitution, must be able to fairly and fearlessly, aptly and promptly balance the scales of Justice. The independence of the Judiciary is fundamental to democracy. Citizens must have confidence that irrespective of their status, wealth or political influence, they can approach the courts and expect justice according to law.

But a quick look around the world shows that the ground reality in both developed and developing countries is far from ideal. Corruption, nepotism and daylight crime are there for all to see. Institutions can be weakened when political considerations take precedence over merit, accountability and transparency. Holding free and fair elections is therefore sacrosanct. Elections are the foundation of representative democracy and must provide citizens with a genuine opportunity to freely choose those who will govern them. What we witnessed in Russia recently was a mockery of stage-managed Parliamentary elections.

Despite all not being well, we need to look forward positively to a better world which will be fair to all, with the Rule of Law prevailing at all levels of Governance. A world where there is hope for the poor, deprived and vulnerable can only emerge when institutions remain strong and public authorities are held accountable.

All this will be a reality when all those in Power and Authority are accountable to the Rule of Law and to the people at large who democratically elect them to high office in good faith to represent their best interests. Transparency increases that credibility and accountability. It also strengthens public trust in democratic institutions and ensures that those in authority understand that public office is a responsibility and not a privilege.

Frank Herbert, the well-known author, wrote: "Good governance never depends upon laws, but upon the personal qualities of those that govern." Those words remain relevant because laws and institutions can provide the framework for good governance, but ultimately it is the integrity, commitment and sense of responsibility of those in authority that determine whether democracy and the Rule of Law truly serve the people.

Financial picture unclear for more than half of Goa's co-op societies

■ Government records show no financial data for 3,357 registered societies, while 696 are non-functional

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: More than half of Goa's registered cooperative societies do not have financial information available in government records, leaving a significant portion of the sector without a clear picture of its economic performance. Goa has 5,853 registered cooperative societies, according to government data. Of these, financial details are available for 2,489 societies, with



1,746 reporting profits and 743 reporting losses. Financial information is unavailable for the remaining 3,357 societies. The records also indicate that 696 societies are non-functional. Another 165 societies are currently under liquidation,

while eight have been dissolved. The government classifies 4,985 of the registered societies as functional. A sizeable share of the cooperative sector

consists of housing societies, which are not established primarily to generate profits. This is one factor that can make conventional profit-and-loss figures less applicable to a large section of the registered entities.

Cooperation Minister Subhash Shirodkar said the department monitors the financial position of cooperative societies through statutory audits, inspections and scrutiny of returns submitted under the applicable law. According to the minister, the operational status and financial performance of individual societies are influenced by decisions taken by their respective boards of directors, which formulate the policies governing their activities.

FDA Inspects 11 Food Units Across Bardez, Six Directed to Suspend Operations

■ Action follows inadequate compliance with earlier inspections; checks on milk products and labelling to continue across Goa

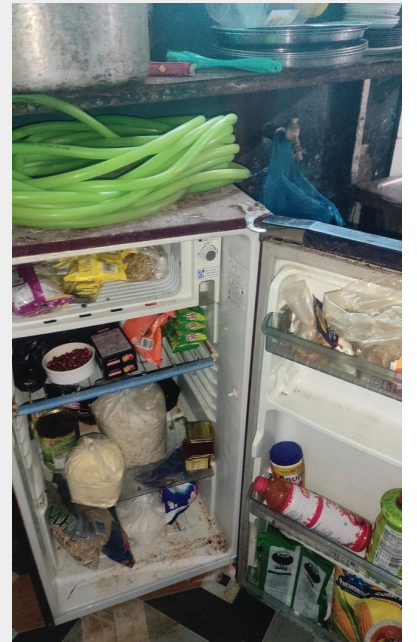
Team Goemkarponn

Government advisory concerning the labelling of products made

BARDEZ: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has intensified food safety surveillance across Bardez, inspecting 11 restaurants and chicken slaughter units as part of its ongoing enforcement measures. Following the inspections, six units were directed to suspend operations after the compliance submitted in

response to earlier inspections was found to be inadequate. The concerned premises will remain closed until the identified deficiencies are fully rectified and the required compliance is verified by the FDA. The department said inspections will continue across Goa, with particular attention being given to milk products and compliance with the

from milk analogues. The FDA will also scrutinise labels carrying potentially misleading claims as part of its food safety and consumer protection measures. The department said the enforcement drive is aimed at ensuring safe, hygienic and accurately labelled food products and protecting public health across the state.



Goa government steps up push for drug-free state, CM Sawant says

Team Goemkarponn

OLD GOA: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant on Thursday said the Government of Goa, with the support of the Central Government, was working towards building a drug-free and TB-free India, and stressed the need for collective participation to address the challenges.

Speaking at the state-level Gandhi Jayanti celebration at Gandhi Chowk, Old Goa, Dr. Sawant said efforts to tackle drug abuse must involve all sections of society. He placed the issue alongside broader initiatives aimed at public welfare and social development.

The Chief Minister said the government was pursuing these efforts in keeping with the values associated with Mahatma Gandhi, including cleanliness, rural development, farmer welfare and self-reliance.

Dr. Sawant also highlighted the 'Swachhata Hi Seva' campaign and cleanliness initiatives being undertaken under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Goa government plans to buy 9,100 tablets for teachers

■ Procurement aimed at giving educators easier access to digital learning tools and resources

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa government is set to acquire 9,100 tablet computers for teachers as part of efforts to expand the use of digital resources in the education system. The procurement is being taken up under the Samagra Shiksha programme, with the Info Tech Corporation of Goa Ltd (ITG) handling the tender process on behalf of Goa Samagra Shiksha and the Directorate of



Education. The proposed devices will enable teachers to access educational applications, digital study material and other resources made available by the Directorate of Education. The tender has been

issued through the State government's e-tendering system. Bidders seeking to participate are required to complete the prescribed registration process

and meet the technical requirements specified in the tender. The initiative is aimed at strengthening teachers' access to technology and supporting the growing use of digital tools in schools across Goa.

Justice Ferdino Rebello Says 'Enough Is Enough' May Move Court Over Goa Construction and Water Supply

■ Speaking to youth in Margao, Rebello raises concerns over water availability, multi-dwelling projects and the movement's 10-point charter

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: Former Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court Justice Ferdino Rebello said the 'Enough is Enough' movement is considering approaching the judiciary seeking a halt to construction of multi-dwelling units in Goa until adequate drinking water supply is ensured. Rebello was speaking to Goan youth at a meeting held at Grace



Church Hall, Margao, as part of the movement's efforts to involve young people in its campaign on issues concerning Goa's development and

governance. The meeting was scheduled as a 'Youth Connect' programme on October 2. Rebello said residents in some parts of Goa, including Dona Paula, face limited daily water supply while development permissions continue to be granted. He said the movement was considering legal intervention to seek a pause on multi-dwelling construction until the water situation improves.

He said the movement

would have no objection to permissions for single-dwelling ground-plus-one houses, while calling for a halt on multi-dwelling units until adequate water supply is available. Rebello also spoke about the movement's 10-point charter of demands, including its proposal for legislation to protect Goa's agricultural land. The movement has previously advocated for a comprehensive agricultural land protection

bill and has sought legislative action on the issue. Addressing the gathering, Rebello stressed the role of young people in public affairs and urged them to participate in efforts concerning Goa's future. He also referred to concerns among young people regarding political developments in the State, including elected representatives changing political affiliations.

'Dudu' Arrested in Anjuna for Alleged Immigration Violation

■ Israeli national allegedly found staying in Goa without valid travel documents

Team Goemkarponn

ANJUNA: Anjuna Police have arrested a 51-year-old Israeli national, identified as David Driham alias 'Dudu', for allegedly staying in India without valid travel documents.

A case was registered at Anjuna Police Station on October 2, 2026,



at 1.39 pm as Anjuna P.S. Cr. No. 109/2026 under Section 23(a) of

the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025.

According to the police complaint filed by PSI Navneet Goltekar, the accused was allegedly found at Anjuna Police Station at around 11 am without valid travel documents, including a valid visa and passport.

Police stated that Driham, an Israeli

national, was residing at Peddem, Anjuna, Goa, and was allegedly in violation of Section 23(a) of the Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025.

The accused was arrested at 2.32 pm on October 2, 2026. The investigation is being conducted by PSI Navneet Goltekar of Anjuna Police Station.



Old Goa, Agassaim Police Rescue Two Minor Girls in Separate Kidnapping Cases; Two Arrested

■ Police teams trace accused in Goa and Bihar after weeks of investigation and rescue minor victims aged 14 and 15

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Old Goa and Agassaim Police have rescued two minor girls in separate kidnapping cases and arrested two accused following sustained investigations involving technical surveillance and police assistance in Bihar. 14-year-old rescued in Old Goa case Old Goa Police registered Crime No. 96/2027 under Section 137(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 8 of the Goa Children's Act, 2003, following a complaint from a resident of Chodan, Tiswadi, originally from

Uttar Pradesh. According to the complaint, the minor daughter of the complainant, aged 14, went missing from her residence at Madel, Chodan, between 9.45 pm and 11 pm on July 24, 2026. The family suspected that an unknown person had kidnapped her from the lawful guardianship of her parents. An investigation team was formed under the supervision of SDPO Panaji Sudesh Naik and SP North Harichandra Madkaikar. The team comprised PSI Dhulapkar and police personnel Kishan Naik, Nilesh Sakhalkar and Nikhil



42-Year-Old Man Dies at Chicalim Hospital After Suspected Poison Consumption

Team Goemkarponn

VASCO: 42-year-old man, identified as Madan Parab, a resident of New Vaddem, Vasco, died while being shifted to the Goa Medical College (GMC) in a 108 ambulance on October 1, 2026.

Police received information from the casualty department of SDH Chicalim regarding the death. Police visited the hospital and conducted an enquiry with the on-duty doctor, who reportedly stated that the death was suspected to have been caused by consumption of poison.

According to enquiries with the deceased's friends and relatives, Parab had arrived in Goa from Sawantwadi, Maharashtra, on October 1. He was later found lying and shivering near Harbour Sada and was subsequently shifted to SDH Chicalim for medical treatment.

However, he died while undergoing treatment at the hospital.

The body has been preserved at SGDHI Margao for further medico-legal formalities.

Two-Year-Old Girl Dies After Drowning in Farm Swimming Pool in Sanguem

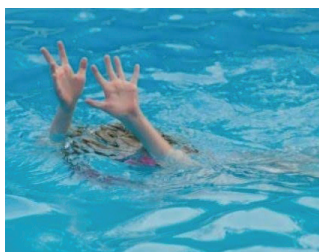
■ Child was found unresponsive in pool at Villien Bhati; autopsy confirms death due to drowning

Team Goemkarponn

SANGUEM: A two-year-old girl died after allegedly drowning in a swimming pool at a farm in Villien Bhati, Sanguem, on October 1, 2026.

Police received a call from PHC Sanguem at around 9.30 pm, informing them that the child, a resident of Villien Bhati and originally from Jharkhand, had been brought to the health centre in an unresponsive condition following the drowning incident.

According to police, the child's father, along with the farm supervisor and two labourers, was



working in the field while the child's mother was sitting near the swimming pool and feeding her newborn baby. The deceased child was reportedly playing near the pool.

After some time, the mother noticed that the child was missing and began searching for her. She subsequently found the child in the swimming pool and alerted her

husband. The child was taken out of the pool and shifted to PHC Sanguem, where the on-duty doctor declared her brought dead.

Police conducted an inquest panchanama and sent the body to SGDHI Margao for post-mortem examination. The police surgeon conducted the autopsy and certified the cause of death as "Asphyxia as a result of drowning in water."

The body was subsequently handed over to the family for the final religious rites.

The enquiry is being conducted by PSI Krishnadeep.

Agassaim and Old Goa Police Detect Rs 12 Lakh House Theft

■ Joint operation leads to recovery of cash, foreign currency and valuable documents from Siridao theft case

Team Goemkarponn

SIRIDAO: Agassaim Police and Old Goa Police, in a joint operation, have detected a house theft case involving property worth approximately Rs 12 lakh and traced the stolen property.

The case, Cr. No. 57/2026, was registered under Sections 305 and 329(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, following a



complaint by Joao Pires, 47, a self-employed resident of Jesus Nazareth, Siridao.

According to the complaint, the theft took place between 12.30 pm on September 29

and 8.30 pm on September 30, 2026, at the complainant's residence in Siridao. An unknown person or persons allegedly gained entry into the house by opening the main door and stole a bag containing approximately Rs 1 lakh in Indian currency, US \$5,900 and £3,500, along with an original Portuguese passport,

Citizen Card and OCI Card.

The total value of the stolen property was estimated at approximately Rs 12 lakh.

Following the complaint, investigation teams from Agassaim Police Station and Old Goa Police Station were formed under the supervision of SDPO Panaji Sudesh Naik and SP North Harichandra Madkaikar.

15 Booked in Colva Over Alleged Assault and Property Damage

Team Goemkarponn

COLVA: Colva Police have registered a case following a complaint by Pritam Ashok Vaid, a resident of Colva, alleging that a group of persons trespassed into his property, assaulted him and damaged property during a dispute. According to the complaint, the incident occurred at around 2.20 pm on September 30, 2026, at Colva. The accused have been identified as Ravi Shetty, Sangita Gawda and Prabhakar Gawada, along with 12 other unidentified persons.

Swayampurna Goa marks six years with focus on farmers, women and rural livelihoods

■ Goa Fresh brand logo launched by Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Chief Minister Pramod Sawant

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: Goa marked six years of Swayampurna Goa with the 'Seva Ki Kahani: Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Swayampurna Goa' programme held at Betoda, Ponda, showcasing initiatives in agriculture, rural development, livelihoods and grassroots delivery of government schemes.

A major highlight of the programme was the launch of the Goa Fresh brand logo and packaging



prototype by Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant. The initiative aims to provide Goa's agricultural produce

with a distinct identity and strengthen branding and market opportunities for local products.

The leaders visited stalls and pavilions showcasing agricultural products, government schemes, Self-Help

Group initiatives and local enterprises. Addressing the gathering, Union Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said Goa had taken important steps to strengthen agriculture, support farmers and promote local products. He appreciated the initiatives led by women entrepreneurs and Self-Help Groups and stressed the importance of better market linkages and wider opportunities for local produce to improve farmers' incomes.



Speeding can undo every road-safety measure, warns Godinho

■ Transport Minister stresses responsible driving, enforcement and safety measures after Baina flyover tragedy

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho said speeding could undermine even the most stringent road-safety measures, stressing that motorists must exercise restraint and follow traffic rules to prevent accidents and loss of life.

He was speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a cleanliness drive organised at Chicalim on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, a day after the tragic Baina flyover accident.

Referring to the latest tragedy, Godinho said the focus should remain on responsible driving and ensuring that motorists do not put their own lives or those of others at risk through rash or excessive

speeding.

"No matter what the government does, if a person does not stop speeding, he can lose his life," Godinho said.

He said the government was continuing efforts to address accident-prone locations across the State and that the Road Safety Council would examine such zones and recommend suitable short- and long-term measures.

Godinho said several identified black spots had already been taken up for corrective measures, while the remaining accident-prone locations would also be reviewed and appropriate solutions worked out. At the same time, he said road safety could not be achieved through enforcement and technology alone.



Highway Patrol team helps tourist recover lost bag with cash, valuables

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: A tourist who arrived in Goa through Dabolim Airport on Friday heaved a sigh of relief after a team of Goa Police's SPCR (Highway Patrolling) traced and helped recover his bag containing cash and valuables, which he had accidentally dropped while travelling from the airport. The tourist had stopped at a shop on the way from Dabolim Airport and, after making a payment through GPay, left the place. It was only later that he realised that his bag was missing. He returned to the shop hoping to find it, but the bag was nowhere to be found. While retracing his steps, the tourist approached a Highway Patrol team on duty in the area. The team, comprising Senior Police Constable Azim Patel and Police Constables Rupesh Bajantri and Shubam Lamani, immediately began making enquiries to trace the missing bag. The team received a crucial lead from a Swiggy delivery vendor, who provided information that helped the police establish that a taxi operator had found the bag.

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■ Swift police action and coordination with taxi operator lead to safe recovery of missing belongings

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Physiotherapy unit with regular physiotherapist opens at CHC Canacona

■ Free, well-equipped facility to offer daily OPD services to patients

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: A well-equipped Physiotherapy Unit with a regular physiotherapist has been opened at the Community Health Centre (CHC), Canacona, providing free physiotherapy services to patients.

According to CHC sources, the new unit has been set up on the first floor of the health centre and will offer outpatient department



(OPD) services daily.

The facility has

been established with

support from Parul University and will provide physiotherapy services free of cost. The initiative is expected to benefit residents of Canacona requiring physiotherapy and rehabilitation services.

People have been requested to make use of the facility and avail themselves of the services available at the CHC. The unit is located at the CHC near the old hospital premises at Dokmi.

G7 Nations to Release 100 Million Barrels of Oil and Diesel as Fuel Prices Surge

■ Emergency stock release to begin with major diesel supplies as soaring energy costs put pressure on consumers

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Group of Seven nations has announced plans to release around 100 million barrels of oil and refined fuel products in the coming weeks as global energy prices continue to climb. The emergency move will begin with a substantial release of diesel, which has reached record prices in the United States and Europe.

The first major diesel supplies are expected to enter the market immediately, with the initial release planned within 20 days. The remaining volumes are expected to be made available over the following four months.

US diesel prices have risen sharply amid disruptions to global energy supplies. The national average recently climbed above \$6 per gallon, while prices in several European markets have also reached record levels.

The G7 decision comes as oil markets face pressure from the



ongoing conflict involving Iran, disruptions to refinery operations and restrictions on energy exports. Russia's decision to halt some fuel exports following attacks on its refineries has further tightened supplies, forcing several major buyers to compete for alternative sources.

The release is intended to increase the availability of petroleum products, improve market liquidity and ease prices. However, questions remain over

whether the 100 million barrels represent an additional release or part of an earlier international commitment to draw from strategic reserves.

The G7 also agreed against imposing restrictions on energy exports between member countries. The United States has ruled out a proposed ban on diesel exports, which some lawmakers had suggested as a way to reduce domestic fuel prices.

Energy experts

have warned that using strategic reserves could provide temporary relief while reducing emergency stocks available for future crises. Countries may eventually need to replenish those reserves, potentially creating additional pressure on energy markets later.

The G7 includes the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United Kingdom, along with representation from the European Union.

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FROM PAGE 01

Goa presses Centre for inspection of Karnataka's Mhadei works

areas restored.

Goa has maintained that observations made during earlier monsoons indicated movement of Mhadei-basin water towards the Malaprabha basin near the project sites. It has therefore sought an independent assessment rather than relying solely on records and reports relating to the projects.

Dispute over Mhadei waters

The Mhadei originates in Karnataka and flows westwards into Goa, where it is known as the Mandovi. Its waters are important to Goa's drinking-water supply, agriculture and ecological systems.

The sharing of the river's waters has been disputed by Goa, Karnataka and Maharashtra for several years. Karnataka's proposal to divert water from tributaries of the Mhadei towards the Malaprabha basin, particularly through the Kalasa-Bandura project, has been a major point of contention.

The Mahadayi Water Disputes Tribunal was constituted in 2010 to adjudicate the dispute. It delivered its final award in 2018, allocating water among the three states and setting conditions relating to the use and diversion of water.

The dispute, however, has continued over the implementation of the award, project approvals and construction-related activity. Goa has repeatedly raised objections to Karnataka's diversion plans and has sought scrutiny of the works being undertaken in the Mhadei basin.

Dengue cases surge across Goa

hotspot. Of the 66 confirmed cases recorded across the State in September, 63 were from South Goa, while North Goa reported three cases.

Surveillance data also showed 532 suspected cases testing positive for NS1, an antigen marker used for the early detection of dengue. Of these, 428 were reported from South Goa and 104 from North Goa.

Health authorities have cautioned that NS1-positive cases represent suspected or early detections and should not be equated with laboratory-confirmed cases. However, the high number of such detections points to a wider pool of suspected infections.

South Goa accounted for nearly 81 per cent of the NS1-positive cases and around 95 per cent of the confirmed dengue cases recorded in September.

The month-wise figures show the sudden escalation: Goa recorded five cases in January, one in February, four in March, one in April, five in May, one in June and seven in July, before cases jumped to 46 in August and 66 in September.

The Health Department has been maintaining surveillance and stressing measures to reduce mosquito breeding sites. Goa's National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme notes that favourable conditions for Aedes mosquitoes can contribute to an increase in dengue transmission and emphasises community participation in eliminating breeding sources.

Lobo calls for arrests, escalating fines to curb tourist touts

charged excessive amounts for services.

With the tourist season approaching, the MLA said the matter requires urgent attention and called for coordinated action by the police, government departments and local authorities.

He said a joint enforcement mechanism would help identify repeat offenders, ensure that complaints from tourists are acted upon promptly and maintain a safer and more welcoming environment for visitors.



LUMINOUS NIGHTS ON THE MANDOVI: The tranquil waters of the Mandovi River shimmer under the night sky, mirroring the golden glow of Panaji's vibrant waterfront and illuminated cruise vessels berthed along the jetty. With a delicate crescent moon hanging overhead, the nocturnal seascape captures Goa's scenic coast winding down after dusk. (Photo: Gautam Nandrekar)

'Highest Courage': Calls Grow to Honour Pilot Smit Machchhar With Ashoka Chakra

■ Mumbai pilot praised for saving 172 people after suffering serious injuries during an in flight emergency

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Calls for national recognition for flydubai pilot Smit Machchhar have intensified following his extraordinary handling of an in flight emergency that left him seriously injured.

Shiv Sena Rajya Sabha MP Milind Deora has urged the government to consider Machchhar for the Ashoka Chakra, India's highest peacetime military decoration, citing his courage and



self sacrifice during the September 30 incident.

Machchhar was piloting flydubai flight FZ1073 from Dubai to Tel Aviv when he was allegedly attacked and

stabbed by his co pilot inside the cockpit. Despite suffering serious injuries, he continued to control the aircraft and make critical decisions during the emergency.

The flight, carrying 172 passengers and crew members, was eventually diverted and landed safely at Tabuk in northwestern Saudi Arabia. The incident has prompted widespread appreciation for Machchhar's actions, particularly in Mumbai, where he is from.

His conduct has been described as an example of courage, professionalism and a strong sense of responsibility under extreme circumstances.



"A Lathi Can Stop a Crowd, But Not a Question": Rahul Gandhi Backs Protesters

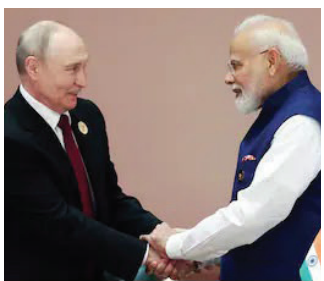
■ Congress leader demands CEC Gyanesh Kumar's resignation as over 500 protesters are detained in Delhi

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Gandhi Jayanti backed demonstrations against Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and the Election Commission, saying protesters were exercising their constitutional rights.

In a post on X, Gandhi said the demonstrators were raising concerns over alleged "vote theft" and demanded Kumar's resignation. He also criticised the detention of protesters, arguing that questioning electoral institutions should not be met with force. The remarks came as opposition parties, student organisations and civil society groups

gathered in Delhi and other cities over the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls. Delhi Police had denied permission for the proposed Jantar Mantar demonstration and imposed restrictions in the area. More than 500 people were detained during the protests, including AAP leaders Atishi and Saurabh Bharadwaj, activist Yogendra Yadav and AISA president Neha Bora. Gandhi invoked Mahatma Gandhi's emphasis on truth and non violence while defending the protesters. He said a police baton could stop a gathering but could not stop questions being raised over the electoral process.



"Modi Has Very Good Ideas": Putin Praises PM's Push to End Ukraine War

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Russian President Vladimir Putin has praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his continued efforts to promote a peaceful resolution to the Russia Ukraine conflict, saying the Indian leader has "very good ideas" for finding a solution acceptable to both sides.

Speaking at the Valdai International Discussion Club in Moscow, Putin said Modi regularly raises the issue of ending the conflict during their meetings, despite the close and friendly relationship between India and Russia. Putin described Modi as maintaining a neutral position while remaining strongly interested in bringing the war to an end. (The Indian Express)

Putin also expressed appreciation for Modi's approach and his emphasis on peaceful means to resolve the conflict. He said the Indian Prime Minister has shown a consistent interest in finding mutually acceptable solutions.

"I Couldn't Let All Those People Die": Captain Smit Machchhar Tells PM Modi

■ Injured pilot recalls fighting to regain control after co pilot attacked him mid flight

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke with Captain Smit Machchhar on Friday and praised the Indian pilot for his courage and presence of mind after a terrifying incident aboard a flydubai flight from Dubai to Tel Aviv. Captain Machchhar was seriously injured on Wednesday after his co pilot allegedly attacked and stabbed him inside the cockpit. The Boeing 737 Max carrying more



than 170 passengers and crew then plunged nearly 14,000 feet in less than 30 seconds. Passengers and crew members rushed into the cockpit after hearing the commotion and managed to overpower the attacker. Another pair of flydubai pilots who were travelling on the flight subsequently took control and landed

the aircraft safely in Saudi Arabia's Tabuk. Speaking to Modi from his hospital bed, Machchhar recalled the moments when he was struggling with multiple injuries inside the cockpit. He said he had collapsed after suffering several wounds but realised that the aircraft was rapidly losing altitude. With 17 years of flying experience and 11 years as a captain, Machchhar said he could recognise what was happening with the aircraft even while severely injured.

Srinagar Narcotics Module Busted: 2.19 Lakh Tablets, Cash, Gold and Gun Seized

■ Eight arrested as police uncover alleged interstate network linked to Chandigarh, Panchkula and Ambala

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: An alleged interstate narcotics network has been busted in Srinagar with the arrest of eight people and the recovery of more than 2.19 lakh tablets and capsules of pharmaceutical drugs, along with cash, gold, a firearm and other valuables.

The operation began with the arrest of Waseem Zargar in



Srinagar's downtown area, which led investigators to several other alleged members of the network. One of the accused was subsequently arrested

in Bengaluru, while further investigations are underway to identify additional links.

According to the investigation, the network

allegedly procured, transported and distributed banned pharmaceutical drugs across Jammu and Kashmir and neighbouring states. The trail has reportedly extended to Chandigarh, Panchkula and Ambala, where investigators are examining pharmaceutical establishments and transport agencies allegedly connected to the supply chain.

Two Pakistani Infiltrators Killed Near Punjab Border

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Two Pakistani nationals were killed after allegedly attempting to cross the India Pakistan international border in Punjab's Tarn Taran sector. The incident took place near Rajoke village, where BSF personnel reportedly spotted the two men moving towards Indian territory. The security personnel allegedly warned them to stop, but they continued advancing. The BSF subsequently opened fire, killing both men.

India Beat Pakistan by 19 Runs to Win Asian Games 2026 Cricket Gold

■ Tilak Varma and Washington Sundar shine as India seal a thrilling victory over arch rivals Pakistan in the men's cricket final

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India defeated Pakistan by 19 runs in a thrilling men's cricket final at the Asian Games 2026 in Nisshin on Saturday, securing the gold medal in a high pressure clash between the arch rivals.

After winning the toss, India captain Shreyas Iyer opted to bat first and his team produced a powerful batting display. India posted 211 for 6 in their allotted 20 overs, putting



Pakistan under significant pressure from the outset. Opener Abhishek Sharma provided India with a flying start, smashing 61 runs from just 28 deliveries. His aggressive innings gave India early momentum before the middle order

continued the assault.

Tilak Varma delivered another outstanding performance under pressure, remaining unbeaten on 51 from only 22 balls. His explosive finish helped India cross the 200 run mark

and gave the team a formidable total to defend.

Shivam Dube also made an important contribution with 27 off 14 balls as India maintained a strong scoring rate throughout the innings.

Pakistan's bowlers managed to strike back at regular intervals, with Arafat Minhas and Ahmed Daniyal claiming two wickets each. However, India's batting depth ensured that Pakistan were left with a daunting target of 212.

Pranavi Urs Wins Historic Golf Gold as Kumkum Mohod Shines in Archery, Wrestlers Reach Finals

■ India's medal charge continues with landmark performances across golf, archery and wrestling

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India enjoyed a strong Day 14 at the Asian Games 2026, with major performances across golf, archery and wrestling keeping the country's medal campaign on course.

Golf produced one of the biggest highlights of the day as Pranavi Urs created history by becoming the first Indian woman to win the gold medal in the Asian Games women's individual golf



event. Her achievement marked a landmark moment for Indian golf. Urs later combined with Aditi Ashok and Diksha Dagar to help India secure the silver medal in the women's team event.

Archery also delivered a memorable day for

India. Kumkum Mohod etched her name into the record books by winning

the women's recurve individual gold medal. She became India's first Asian Games champion in the discipline and also secured qualification for the LA 2028 Olympic Games.

The men's recurve individual event produced

another all Indian medal moment. Neeraj Chauhan defeated fellow Indian Dhiraj Bommadevara in the bronze medal playoff to claim third place. India completed its archery campaign with an impressive nine medals, comprising five gold, two silver and two bronze.

Wrestling added further excitement as Aman Sehrawat fought back strongly to secure a 14-8 victory and book his place in the men's 57kg freestyle final.



"We Have Full Respect For India": Ancelotti Eager To Showcase Brazil's Quality In Kolkata

■ Brazil coach highlights respect for India as his team prepares for a much anticipated friendly at Salt Lake Stadium

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Brazil head coach Carlo Ancelotti has expressed his team's full respect for India ahead of Saturday's high profile international friendly at Kolkata's Salt Lake Stadium. With cricket deeply rooted in Indian sporting culture, Ancelotti acknowledged the country's passion for the sport while stressing that football also has a strong following. The veteran Italian manager said Brazil were pleased to have the opportunity to play in India and showcase their football in front of local supporters.

Ancelotti said Brazil would approach the match as an opportunity to perform rather than

as a test for individual players. He also praised India's recent 1-1 draw against Panama and insisted that his squad respected the quality of the Indian side. The Brazil manager has used the current international window to bring together a mixture of experienced players and newcomers as the team begins shaping its next generation. Vinicius Jr and Marquinhos provide experience, while Arsenal pair Gabriel Magalhaes and Bruno Guimaraes remain important members of the squad. Brazil have also made significant changes in goal, with Hugo Souza taking the starting role after Alisson, Ederson and Weverton were left out.

"We Had More Than We Expected": Japan Olympic Chief Admits Asian Games Organisers Struggled With Athletes

■ Accommodation and transport problems overshadowed the Aichi Nagoya Games as organisers faced a larger than expected turnout

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Japan's Olympic chief has acknowledged that Asian Games organisers struggled to accommodate the large number of athletes and officials who arrived for the Aichi Nagoya Games.

Japanese Olympic Committee president Seiko Hashimoto said the number of participants was



significantly higher than organisers had anticipated, creating difficulties with

accommodation. Several teams had reported problems finding enough rooms for their delegations

after arriving in the host region. Organisers had expected around 15,000 athletes and officials to attend the Games, while the Olympic Council of Asia had placed the expected number above 17,000. The difference contributed to pressure on the accommodation arrangements.

Unlike many major multi sport events, the Aichi Nagoya Games did not have a dedicated athletes' village. Organisers chose alternative accommodation arrangements as part of efforts to reduce costs. Participants were housed in temporary wooden structures, hotels and a cruise ship docked at Nagoya's port. Accommodation was not the only challenge during the Games. Transport arrangements also came under scrutiny, with reports of buses failing to arrive on time

or taking athletes to incorrect venues. Some delegations faced long waits at the airport after arriving in Nagoya, with delays reportedly lasting several hours. Attendance was another concern, with several competitions taking place in front of large numbers of empty seats despite stronger crowds at some events. The opening ceremony also saw significant areas of vacant seating.