

Goa SEC Reissues Ward Delimitation Notification For 11 Municipal Councils

■ Fresh Exercise Follows High Court Intervention Over Failure To Consult State Government On Ward Boundaries

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa State Election Commission (GSEC) has issued a revised notification on ward delimitation for all 11 municipal councils, following a High Court order that struck down its earlier notification over procedural lapses.

The fresh notification, issued on Monday, comes after the Bombay High Court at Goa directed the commission to revisit the delimitation process



and comply with the legal requirement of consulting the state government.

The municipal councils covered under the latest notification are Margao, Mapusa, Mormugao, Curcholem-Cacora, Bicholim, Pernem,

Canacona, Valpoi, Sanguem, Quepem and Cuncolim.

The court had earlier annulled the SEC's

September 9 notification after finding that the commission had proceeded with the ward delimitation without following the prescribed consultation process. It instructed the commission to examine objections

to the proposed ward boundaries and complete the exercise by October 26.

As part of the directions, the commission was required to submit all 77 objections received on the draft delimitation to the state government. The records were to include reports and maps prepared by Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), decisions on individual objections and other documents relevant to the exercise.



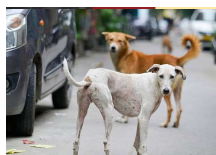
CM Sawant calls for more Goan entrepreneurs, stronger investment ecosystem

■ At dialogue with young CEOs and business leaders in Dona Paula, Chief Minister highlights 250 projects approved by the Goa Investment Promotion Board and stresses reforms to drive growth and employment

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DONA PAULA: Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has called for a stronger entrepreneurial ecosystem in Goa, urging more Goans to become job creators while reaffirming the state government's focus on investment, policy reforms and employment generation. Interacting with young CEOs, entrepreneurs and business leaders in Dona Paula, the Chief Minister discussed Goa's economic priorities, emerging business opportunities and the need to make it easier for enterprises to establish, operate and expand in the state. Dr. Sawant highlighted digitalisation, responsive

governance and industry-friendly policies as key drivers of Ease of Doing Business. He also stressed the importance of engaging directly with industry leaders to understand challenges and shape a more conducive business environment. Highlighting investment promotion efforts, the Chief Minister noted that around 250 projects have been approved by the Goa Investment Promotion Board. He also pointed to the IDC Connect initiative and the upcoming Vibrant Goa Global Business Summit as platforms to strengthen investor engagement, encourage innovation and unlock new economic opportunities.



Goa High Court Cracks Down On Civic Bodies Over Stray Dog Management

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PANAJI: The Bombay High Court at Goa has expressed strong displeasure over delays by municipal councils and village panchayats in carrying out its directions on stray dog enumeration and management, cautioning that officials who fail to comply could face disciplinary consequences and contempt action.

During a hearing on Monday in a suo motu public interest litigation, a Division Bench comprising Justices Valmiki Menezes and Amit S Jamsandekar questioned the lack of progress by several local authorities despite earlier instructions from the court.

The Bench warned municipal chief officers and panchayat secretaries that further delays would not be tolerated.

It also raised the possibility of adverse entries being made in the service records of officials found responsible for non-compliance.

ED arrests Mumbai advocate accused of fixing bribes to unfreeze cyber fraud accounts

■ Seventh arrest in nationwide money laundering case; accused allegedly helped release around 100 frozen bank accounts and attempted to flee through Mumbai airport

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PANAJI: The Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Panaji Zonal Office, has arrested Mumbai-based advocate Rashesh Bharatkumar Upadhyay alias Rashesh Shah for his alleged role in facilitating the release of bank accounts linked to a nationwide cyber fraud and money laundering network.



Upadhyay was arrested on October 24 under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, after being intercepted at the boarding gate of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International

Airport, Mumbai. He was allegedly attempting to leave for Delhi on an early-morning connecting flight without a return booking. The interception was carried out with the timely assistance of Mumbai Customs and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF).

The Special Court (PMLA), North Goa, has remanded him to ED custody until October 29.

North Goa Police Book 177 Touts in October 2026

■ 69 Arrested Under BNSS, 108 Prosecuted Under Goa Tourist Trade Act

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PANAJI: North Goa District Police has intensified its crackdown on illegal toutting across the district to curb the menace and ensure the safety and convenience of tourists and the general public.

According to a press note issued by the PRO, North Goa Police, a total of 177 persons were booked for illegal toutting during October 2026 under the provisions of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita



(BNSS) and the Goa Tourist Trade Act. Of

the total, 69 persons were arrested under

Section 170 of the BNSS, while 108 others were

prosecuted under the Goa Tourist Trade Act. Special enforcement drives were conducted in coastal police station jurisdictions and at Mopa Airport Police Station as part of the district-wide action.

North Goa Police stated that the drive would continue and warned that action would be taken against any future violations.

The initiative aims to curb illegal toutting and improve the overall experience and convenience of tourists visiting the district.