Goemkarponn

TRUE GOEMKARS AT HEART

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Diwali night horror: Three-year-old girl allegedly sexually assaulted in Mapusa; accused absconding

Shocking incident reported during festive celebrations; child battles for life at GMC as Mapusa Police launch manhunt for accused

Team Goemkarponn



MAPUSA: A shocking case of alleged sexual assault involving a Three-year-old girl has been reported in Mapusa, sending shockwaves through the locality. According to reports, the accused allegedly abducted the daughter of a balloon vendor and took her to an abandoned building in the city, where the alleged assault took place. The child is reportedly in critical condition and is currently undergoing treatment at the Goa Medical College (GMC). Meanwhile, Mapusa Police have launched an investigation into the incident. The accused is reportedly absconding, and efforts are underway to trace and apprehend the suspect.

Investigation Underway Into Alleged Sexual Assault, Child Stable: SP North

Police find leads in case; abandoned building where incident allegedly occurred being examined

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MARGAO: The investigation into the alleged sexual assault of a three-year-old girl by an unidentified man is underway, with police having found some leads in the case, SP North Rahul Gupta said.

Gupta said the child is stable and is receiving the necessary care. Police are examining the abandoned building where the alleged

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Yuri Alemao demands swift justice in Mapusa child rape case, calls for stronger child protection measures

Leader of Opposition urges immediate arrest of perpetrators, fast-track POCSO trial and best medical and psychological support for the two-year-old survivor; cites Goa's high child sexual abuse cases and low conviction rate

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MAPUSA: Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao has expressed deep anguish over the brutal rape of a two-year-old child in Mapusa, praying for her speedy recovery and demanding immediate government intervention to ensure the survivor receives the best possible medical treatment, counselling and family support.

In a strongly worded statement, Alemao stressed that the child's identity must be protected at all costs and demanded the immediate arrest of the perpetrators, followed by a time-bound investigation and speedy trial through a fast-track court. "No delay, no leniency," Alemao asserted, calling for swift justice in the case.

Highlighting the wider concern over crimes against women and children in Goa, the Leader of Opposition cited NCRB data, stating that Goa recorded 13.3 rape and child sexual abuse cases per lakh population in 2024, the highest among all States and more than three times the national average. He further pointed out that over 61 per cent of survivors were children. Alemao also expressed concern over the reported conviction rate of just 9.4 per cent in crimes against women, with more than 91 per cent of cases remaining pending. "Goa, once known for safe streets, now carries this shameful distinction. Citizens feel they are on their own. The Government must answer for this failure," he said.

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Repeated warnings, no preventive action? Three-year-old girl's alleged assault in Mapusa raises serious questions over Home Department

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PANAJI: Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) President Girish Chodankar has expressed deep shock and outrage over the alleged sexual assault of a Three-year-old girl near Lohia Garden in Mapusa, questioning the Home Department over the reported failure to address earlier complaints about suspicious activities and unsafe conditions in the locality. Describing the incident as a horrific tragedy, Chodankar said that the alleged assault on a child inside an abandoned building in a prominent area of Mapusa raises serious concerns about public safety and preventive policing.

"A Three-year-old child, reportedly found bleeding and in unbearable pain, has been subjected to an ordeal that no child should ever have to endure. As a father, I cannot even begin to imagine the agony and trauma her parents are going through.

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Mapusa police question father of 3-year-old girl in alleged sexual assault case

Child reportedly assaulted in abandoned building near Lohia Garden; found bleeding and shifted to Mapusa District Hospital, police investigation underway

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: Mapusa Police have questioned the father of a three-year-old girl in connection with an alleged sexual assault incident reported near Lohia Garden.

According to preliminary information, the child was allegedly taken by an unidentified man into an abandoned building opposite Lohia Garden. She was subsequently found bleeding and was rushed to the District Hospital in Mapusa for medical treatment.

Police have questioned the child's father as part of the ongoing investigation to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident and identify the accused.

The identity and whereabouts of the alleged perpetrator remain unclear. Police are investigating the matter and are working to establish the sequence of events.

'Armed Naxals Eliminated, But Dimagi Naxals Still Remain': PM Modi's Strong Message From Bastar

Celebrating Diwali with security personnel in Chhattisgarh, the Prime Minister says ideological Naxalism continues to pose a threat to India's democracy

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NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrated Diwali with security personnel deployed in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region, marking what he described as a historic occasion following the country's major success in its decades long fight against Naxalism.

Addressing the security forces, Modi said Diwali 2026 was particularly significant as it was the first time every district in the country was free from Naxalism. He highlighted the progress made against Maoist insurgency and said millions of citizens could now celebrate the festival without the fear that had affected several regions for decades.

However, the Prime Minister cautioned that the threat had not completely disappeared.

"We Will Not Let a Single Infiltrator Remain": Suvendu Adhikari Issues Strong Warning Along Bengal Border

West Bengal Chief Minister visits BSF camp in Hingalganj, stresses stronger border security and coordination between security forces and police

Team Goemkarponn



KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari on Sunday visited a Border Security Force (BSF) camp along the India-Bangladesh border in Hingalganj, emphasising the need for stronger security measures and declaring that illegal infiltration would not be tolerated in the state. Taking inspiration from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's tradition of celebrating Diwali with security personnel, Adhikari spent much of Sunday with BSF personnel at the 74th Battalion camp in Hingalganj.

Narkasur Cannot Be Above the Law, But Neither Can Nightclubs

Goa's midnight crackdown on traditional Narkasur celebrations raises an uncomfortable question: Is noise pollution a concern only when ordinary Goans take to the streets, while commercial nightlife continues to enjoy a different set of rules?

Goa has once again found itself caught between the letter of the law and the spirit of its traditions. This time, the controversy surrounds the traditional burning of Narkasur effigies, an integral part of Diwali celebrations, and the police action to enforce the Bombay High Court's restrictions on loudspeakers and sound amplification systems between midnight and 6 am.

The police may argue that they were merely implementing a court order. Legally, they have a responsibility to do so. But the manner, timing and apparent selectiveness of enforcement have raised legitimate questions that the government cannot simply brush aside.

Across Panaji, police teams seized DJ consoles and sound equipment in areas such as Patto and St Inez. Their action triggered protests and tense confrontations with youth groups in Mala and Tonca. While some organisers voluntarily switched off their music at midnight, others resisted the action.

But what needs to be understood is the sentiment behind these celebrations.

For several days, sometimes weeks, young people across Goa work tirelessly to prepare their Narkasur effigies. They invest their time, money and energy in designing, constructing and presenting these figures. For many, it is not merely a competition or a display of creativity. It is an emotional and cultural expression associated with one of Goa's most celebrated festivals.

Narkasur night is the culmination of that effort. It is the one night when these young groups come together, celebrate their creations and participate in a tradition passed down through generations.

Naturally, when police teams arrive with instructions to switch off music and seize equipment, frustration is inevitable.

The question is not whether the law should be respected. It must be. The question is whether the government has made any serious effort to balance the legal restrictions with the cultural realities of Goa.

More importantly, why does noise pollution suddenly become such an urgent policing priority during Narkasur celebrations?

Goa's coastal belt has been struggling with uncontrolled nightlife, loud music and noise pollution for years. In several coastal areas, residents complain of sleepless nights because of music emanating from nightclubs, bars and entertainment establishments. These are not isolated complaints. They have become part of the everyday experience of people living in certain tourism-heavy areas.

Where is the same urgency when residents complain about loud music from commercial establishments? Where are the midnight inspections, equipment seizures and decisive police interventions when noise pollution continues beyond permissible hours in nightlife zones?

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If the law says loudspeakers and sound amplification systems cannot operate between midnight and 6 am, that restriction must apply equally to everyone. A DJ playing at a nightclub cannot be treated differently from a DJ playing during a traditional community celebration.

The police cannot be strict with local youth and accommodating towards commercial establishments. The law cannot have one interpretation for cultural celebrations and another for businesses that earn money from nightlife.

This is where the government faces a serious credibility problem.

Goa Forward Party president Vijai Sardesai has criticised the government and the Advocate General's office, alleging that they failed to adequately defend the cultural significance of pre-dawn music associated with Narkasur celebrations. His criticism raises another important issue: Did the government make a genuine attempt to place the cultural context before the appropriate legal forum and explore a reasonable solution?

Cultural traditions cannot automatically override environmental and noise regulations. But neither should the government treat cultural practices as inconveniences that can be dealt with through police action alone.

There was an opportunity to engage with organisers well before Diwali. The government could have consulted youth groups, local committees, police officials and legal experts to work out a practical arrangement within the framework of the law. Instead, the enforcement exercise appears to have left many young people feeling humiliated and frustrated.

The larger concern is the growing disconnect between governance and the people. Goa celebrates its cultural identity, promotes its festivals and showcases its traditions to tourists. Yet, when young Goans come together to celebrate one of their most important traditions, the government appears unable to provide clarity or a workable solution.

This is not an argument for unrestricted noise. Residents have a right to peaceful sleep. Patients, senior citizens, children and people living near celebration venues must also be protected. Traditional celebrations cannot become an excuse for disturbing entire neighbourhoods.

But the same principle must apply to nightclubs, beachside establishments, commercial events and every other source of noise pollution.

If the police can seize DJ consoles from Narkasur organisers, they must demonstrate the same determination against establishments violating noise regulations throughout the year. If authorities can act against youth groups in Panaji, they must also act against powerful commercial operators wherever violations are established.

Selective enforcement is not law enforcement. It is an invitation to public resentment.

The government must also clarify whether it approached the legal authorities in time to seek appropriate directions or a lawful accommodation for the traditional celebrations. If it did not, it owes the people an explanation.

Goa's youth should not be made to feel that their traditions are expendable while commercial nightlife is allowed to flourish. The government must protect both the right to celebrate and the right to live in a peaceful environment.

The victory of good over evil, which Narkasur symbolises, should not become a night of confrontation between the police and the people.

The real test of governance is not how firmly the law is enforced against the weakest, but whether it is enforced equally against everyone.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Narkasur Celebrations: Law Must Be Enforced Equally for Everyone

The recent police action against Narkasur celebrations in Panaji has raised serious questions about the balance between law enforcement, cultural traditions and equal treatment. While the police are duty-bound to implement court orders restricting loud music between midnight and 6 am, the government must ensure that these rules are enforced uniformly.

Young people across Goa spend weeks preparing Narkasur effigies, investing their time, money and creativity in a tradition that holds considerable cultural and emotional significance. For them, Narkasur night is not simply a celebration but an opportunity to preserve a tradition passed down through generations.

However, respecting traditions does not mean ignoring noise regulations. Residents, senior citizens, children and patients also have the right to peaceful surroundings. The law must be respected by everyone.

What raises concern is the perception that strict action is taken against local youth during traditional celebrations, while complaints about loud music from nightclubs, bars and commercial establishments in tourism areas often appear to receive less attention.

If sound restrictions apply between midnight and 6 am, they must apply equally to cultural gatherings and commercial establishments. There cannot be separate standards for ordinary citizens and businesses.

The government should have engaged with Narkasur organisers well in advance and explored lawful arrangements to avoid confrontation. It must also ensure consistent inspections and action against all noise violations. Goa's cultural identity deserves protection, but so does the public's right to peace. The responsibility of the authorities is to strike a fair balance between the two.

- Rohan Dessai, Taleigao, Goa

Child Safety Cannot Be Compromised: Mapusa Incident Demands Urgent Action

The disturbing incident involving a four-year-old girl found injured near an abandoned building in Mapusa is a matter of grave concern. No child should ever have to face such a situation, and the incident raises serious questions about child safety in public spaces.

The child, reportedly the daughter of migrant workers selling balloons for their livelihood, belongs to a family that may already be struggling with the challenges of daily survival. While the exact circumstances of the incident are yet to be established, the authorities must leave no stone unturned in identifying what happened and bringing the person responsible to justice.

The efforts of the motorcycle pilot who noticed the child and alerted others deserve appreciation. Such alertness and timely intervention can make a crucial difference when a vulnerable person is in danger.

Mapusa Police must conduct a thorough investigation, examine available CCTV footage, question relevant witnesses and establish the sequence of events. The child's privacy and dignity must also be protected throughout the investigation.

This incident should also prompt the administration to examine the safety of abandoned buildings and isolated public spaces, particularly in areas frequented by children and vulnerable families.

Child protection cannot remain limited to awareness campaigns and official statements. It requires vigilance, accountability and coordinated action by the police, local authorities and society.

Every child, irrespective of economic background or place of origin, deserves safety, dignity and protection. The investigation must reach its logical conclusion, and justice must be ensured.

- Sanjay Sawant, Mapusa, Goa

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Community effort saves stranded false killer whale at Mandrem Beach

Locals, tourists, fishermen and rescue teams join hands to protect and release marine mammal within four hours

Team Goemkarponn



MANDREAM: A live-stranded false killer whale was successfully rescued at Mandrem Beach on Sunday following a coordinated community effort. The Goa-wide marine stranding response network was activated, bringing together Forest Department personnel, veterinarians, fishermen, lifeguards and volunteers to ensure the animal received timely care. In a remarkable display of teamwork, locals and tourists formed a human line to shield the whale from incoming waves while it was being treated and stabilised.

Following the rescue operation, the whale was safely released offshore within four hours. The successful operation highlights the importance of community participation, coordinated response mechanisms and collective efforts in protecting marine wildlife.



Winter Takes A Back Seat As Goa Braces For 40°C Heat

November brings little respite from the heat, with temperatures likely to reach 38°C and the feels-like reading touching 40°C between November 14 and 19

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa's wait for cooler November weather could get longer, with forecasts pointing to another spell of intense heat over the coming days. Instead of the usual seasonal transition towards winter, the State is experiencing temperatures well above normal, with little immediate relief in sight.

The maximum temperature touched 35.4°C on Saturday, registering 2.1°C above the seasonal average. Adding to the discomfort was humidity of 92 per cent, making conditions particularly oppressive.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Goa, has forecast above-normal maximum and minimum temperatures over the next five days. Partly cloudy skies and morning haze are expected over the next 48 hours, with temperatures likely to hover around 34°C during the day and 24°C at night.

The heat could become more pronounced in the second half of the month. AccuWeather's extended forecast indicates daytime temperatures could climb to 36°C-38°C between November 14 and 19, while the feels-like temperature may approach 40°C.



Court finds man guilty in 2018 assault on British tourist in Palolem

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: A 2018 criminal case involving the sexual assault and robbery of a British tourist in South Goa has reached the conviction stage, with the South Goa Principal District and Sessions Court finding Ramchandran Chendayelappa guilty of the offences.

The case relates to an incident on December 20, 2018, when a 48-year-old British national was returning to her accommodation from Canacona railway station in the early hours of the morning. According to the prosecution, the woman was targeted while travelling on foot along an isolated stretch of road in Palolem.

The accused allegedly took her into a nearby field and sexually assaulted her before escaping with three bags containing cash worth ₹20,000, her passport, debit cards and other personal belongings.

The police investigation relied on CCTV recordings from the railway station area to establish the suspect's identity.

Vasco youth killed as two-wheeler crashes into parked truck at Mollem Market

Kulem Police investigate fatal accident; impact of collision proves deadly for rider

Team Goemkarponn



MOLLEM: A youth from Vasco lost his life after the two-wheeler he was riding rammed into a heavy truck parked along the roadside near Mollem Market. The accident reportedly occurred near Mollem Market, when the rider collided with the stationary truck. The impact of the collision proved fatal, resulting in the youth's death. Kulem Police have taken up the investigation and are working to ascertain the exact circumstances that led to the accident. Further details, including the identity of the deceased, are awaited.

Mapusa Rape Reflects Everyday Narkasur Raj in Goa: Prabhav Naik

Team Goemkarponn



MARGAO: "While Goa celebrated the Festival of Lights and the triumph of good over evil, an innocent minor girl's childhood was brutally shattered in Mapusa. This horrific crime exposes the dark reality of the everyday 'Narkasur Raj' prevailing in Goa," stated Madganvcho Awaaz & Youth Leader Prabhav Naik. He strongly condemned the incident, questioning how little daughters can feel safe when such heinous crimes continue to occur. Prabhav Naik said that the incident is deeply disturbing and heartbreaking, especially when the child had reportedly accompanied her family, who were selling balloons at the Mapusa market for Diwali. He expressed anguish over the trauma inflicted upon the innocent child and demanded strict action against the accused. Prabhav Naik recalled the mysterious death of Siddhi Naik in August 2021, whose case remains unresolved even after five years. Referring to the reply given by the Chief Minister in the Goa Legislative Assembly in February 2024, he pointed out that the government had confirmed that the investigation was still ongoing. Her family continues to await answers and justice. Prabhav Naik further recalled the horrific sexual assault of a seven-year-old schoolgirl inside her school premises in Vasco in January 2013.

GMC appointment fraud case: Mapusa court grants bail to Maharashtra youth

Team Goemkarponn

MAPUSA: The Mapusa JMFC Court has granted bail to a 24-year-old Maharashtra resident arrested in connection with an alleged online appointment fraud targeting people seeking medical consultations at Goa Medical College (GMC).

The accused, identified as Sumit Rajesh Ingole from Amravati, was taken into custody by Porvorim Police on November 3 in connection with a reported fraud involving ₹1,93,096.

Man dies after being hit by tempo at Margao railway station

■ Driver allegedly flees without informing police or shifting injured man to hospital; victim declared brought dead

Team Goemkarponn



MARGAO: A man died after allegedly being knocked down by a Force tempo driven in a rash and negligent manner within the Konkan Railway Station premises at Margao on November 5, 2026. According to a complaint lodged by ASI Santosh Gaonkar of Margao Town Police Station, the incident occurred at around 9 am in front of Benjo Canteen, inside the Konkan Railway Station compound. The accused driver, identified as Anand Kumar, a resident of Delhi, was allegedly driving a Force tempo from the railway station entrance gate towards the exit gate when, upon reaching near Benjo Canteen, he dashed against Shankar Kale, a native of Solapur, Maharashtra, who was sitting on the side near the right turn. Kale sustained fracture injuries in the accident. However, the accused driver allegedly failed to inform the police about the incident and did not shift the injured man to hospital for medical treatment. As a result, the injured man reportedly remained at the railway station premises until around 3 pm. He was subsequently shifted to hospital by 108 ambulance staff, where he was declared brought dead.



Goods carrier driver arrested for stealing 2,514 metres of 33 KV cable in Margao

■ Yash Electrical Contractors' site supervisor files complaint; accused released on bail after arrest

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: A goods carrier driver was arrested in connection with the alleged theft of 2,514 metres of 33 KV cable from a warehouse of Yash Electrical Contractors at Navelim, Margao.

According to the complaint lodged by Ajay Kumar, a resident of Veroda, Cuncolim, originally from Jaipur, Rajasthan, and site supervisor of Yash Electrical Contractors, the incident occurred on November 6, 2026, at around 1.30 am.

The complainant stated that the theft took place at the company's warehouse located beside Furtado Petrol Pump at Navelim, Margao. The accused, identified as Satya Gogre, a resident of Khareband, Margao, and driver of an Intra V50 Gold goods carrier, allegedly stole 2,514 metres of 33 KV electrical cable from the warehouse.

The accused was subsequently arrested in connection with the case and later released on bail.

Further investigation is being conducted by PSI Sameer Gaonkar of Margao Town Police Station.



Man assaulted with iron rod at his house in Shiroda, brother injured while intervening

Team Goemkarponn

PONDA: A man was allegedly assaulted with an iron rod at his residence in Panchwadi, Shiroda, on November 7, 2026, leaving him with bleeding injuries to his head. His brother also sustained injuries while attempting to rescue him.

According to the complaint lodged by Sujay Gaonkar, a resident of Panchwadi, Shiroda, the incident occurred at around 12 noon when the accused, identified as Manjunath Tilve, a resident of Sanvordem Tisk, allegedly criminally trespassed into the courtyard of the complainant's house and assaulted him with an iron rod. As a result of the assault, Gaonkar sustained bleeding injuries to his head. His brother, Deepak Gaonkar, who intervened to rescue him, also sustained injuries.

Ponda Police have registered an FIR vide Cr. No. 109/2026 under Sections 329(3) and 118(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

Man dies after falling from coconut tree while plucking coconuts in Canacona

■ 57-year-old from Gaondongrim sustains fatal head injuries; body shifted to SGDH Margao for medico-legal formalities

Team Goemkarponn



CANACONA: A 57-year-old man died after allegedly falling from a coconut tree while plucking coconuts at Karvem, Gaondongrim, Canacona, on November 7, 2026.

According to Canacona Police, the deceased has been identified as Diwakar Velip, a resident of Karvem, Gaondongrim.

Police received a phone call from the doctor on duty at CHC Canacona at around 4.37 pm, informing them that Velip had been brought dead to the hospital following a fall from height.

During the enquiry, police learnt from the deceased's son, Devanand Velip, that his father had climbed a coconut tree near the residence of Rajendra Dessai at Karvem to pluck coconuts when he accidentally fell down and sustained serious head injuries.

He was subsequently shifted to CHC Canacona, where the doctor declared him brought dead.

Police conducted the inquest panchanama and scene of occurrence panchanama. The body has been preserved at South Goa District Hospital (SGDH), Margao, for further medico-legal formalities.

Petrol pump floor supervisor booked for misappropriating Rs 60,111

■ Calangute police register offence of criminal breach of trust following complaint by company representative

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CALANGUTE: An offence was registered on November 7, 2026, at 7.30 pm, following a state complaint lodged by Rohit Barreto, representative of M/s Emeralda Barreto, Calangute.

According to the complaint, between April 6 and April 19, 2026, an employee of Emeralda Barreto Petrol Pump at Calangute, identified as Nihar Rajan Pila (30), allegedly dishonestly misappropriated funds amounting to Rs 60,111 for his personal use instead of depositing the money into the business accounts.

Pila, who had been working as a floor supervisor at the petrol pump for the past three years, allegedly violated the legal and contractual obligations of his employment and committed criminal breach of trust by misappropriating the amount. Further investigation in the case is being conducted by PSI Sagar Vazarkar.

Man attempts to break into Tato's Café at Santa Cruz

Team Goemkarponn

OLD GOA: An offence was registered at the Old Goa Police Station on November 7, 2026, at 11 pm, following a complaint lodged by Pranav Dhuri (34), a resident of Alto Torda, Porvorim, Bardez. According to the complaint, the incident occurred at around 3.15 am on November 7 at Santa Cruz, Tiswadi, where the accused, identified as Vinayak Khilari (35), a native of Ganesh Nagar, Kolhapur, Maharashtra, allegedly attempted to forcibly break into the complainant's establishment, Tato's Café.

Basilica of Bom Jesus issues safety advisory amid preparations for St Francis Xavier feast

Visitors, pilgrims and tourists urged to exercise caution around pandal area as works and arrangements continue from November 6

Team Goemkarponn



OLD GOA: The Basilica of Bom Jesus has issued a cautionary advisory for visitors, pilgrims and tourists in view of the ongoing preparations for the Novena and Feast of St Francis Xavier.

In a press release dated November 7, 2026, the Rector of the Basilica of Bom Jesus, Fr. Jovito D'Souza, S.J., stated that various works and arrangements are being undertaken in and around the Basilica, particularly in the pandal area, from November 6 onwards.

In view of the ongoing work, visitors have been advised to exercise caution while moving around the pandal area and remain alert to ensure their safety.

The advisory requests pilgrims and tourists to follow all safety instructions, respect barricades and restricted zones, and cooperate with the personnel and volunteers deployed on duty to prevent any untoward incidents.

The Rector has also appealed for the understanding and cooperation of the public during the preparation period, stating that the Basilica looks forward to welcoming pilgrims and visitors for the Novena and Feast celebrations.

"Your safety and cooperation are our priority," the advisory stated.



Around 200 youth participate in South Goa District-Level Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026

Union Minister Shripad Naik attends as chief guest; 'One Nation, One Election' takes centre stage at Margao programme

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: Around 200 young participants took part in the District-Level Viksit Bharat Youth Parliament 2026 organised by Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), South Goa, under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, at the Institute of Nursing Education, Hospicio, South Goa District Hospital, Margao, on November 7. Union Minister of State for Power and New and Renewable Energy Shripad Yesso Naik attended the programme as the chief guest and encouraged youngsters to actively participate in discussions on matters of national importance, democratic governance and nation-building.

The central theme of the Youth Parliament was 'One Nation, One Election'. The programme provided a platform for young participants to discuss the concept, its potential implications and various aspects of electoral reforms, democratic processes, governance and national development. Participants engaged in parliamentary-style deliberations, demonstrating their knowledge, confidence, communication skills and commitment to responsible citizenship. The initiative was organised under the broader vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.



Social activist flags off stalled projects in canacona; demands immediate commencement and completion

Team Goemkarponn

CANACONA: Social activist and youth leader Shubham Komarpant has urged the government to expedite the long-pending Krishi Ghar and Watershed Development projects in Canacona, alleging that despite being approved years ago and foundation stones being laid, neither project has made any significant progress on the ground.

Komarpant on Thursday submitted a memorandum to Director of Agriculture Chandrahas Naik Desai, urging the department to take immediate steps to revive and implement the stalled projects in the interest of local farmers and the farming community.

Following the representation, Director of Agriculture Naik Desai reportedly initiated a note to reopen the file and pursue the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) Watershed Development Component 2.0 project, estimated at Rs 10 crore, for the Gaondongrim panchayat area.

Goa Police move to strengthen beat policing, focus on surveillance and community outreach

IGP chairs meeting at Goa University Hall; e-Beat Book implementation, regular field visits and updated records discussed

Team Goemkarponn



PANAJI: The Inspector General of Police (IGP), Goa, chaired a meeting at Goa University Hall on strengthening the beat policing system across the state, with a focus on improving crime prevention, surveillance and police-public relations.

During the meeting, officers discussed the need for regular updating of information in Beat Books, including details of criminals, important locations and vulnerable persons falling within their respective jurisdictions.

The meeting also emphasised strengthening surveillance mechanisms and preventive policing to ensure better monitoring and timely intervention to prevent criminal activities.

Improving community interaction was another key area of discussion. Police personnel were urged to maintain regular contact with residents, particularly senior citizens, and conduct frequent visits to important and vulnerable locations within their beats.

Mickky Pacheco questions apprenticeship job assurances, seeks justice for contractual employees

Former Tourism Minister asks BJP government to clarify reported promise of absorption after one-year apprenticeship; demands employment security for Goans serving government departments for 10–15 years

Team Goemkarponn



BENAULIM: Former Goa Tourism Minister and former Benaulim and Nuvem MLA Francisco Xavier Pacheco, popularly known as Mickky Pacheco, has questioned the BJP government's reported assurance of government employment to youngsters completing one year of apprenticeship under the Chief Minister's Apprenticeship Scheme.

In a press statement dated November 9, Pacheco referred to announcements reportedly made in churches across Nuvem constituency on November 8, informing youngsters who had completed one year of apprenticeship to submit their names at the local MLA's office, with assurances of absorption into government service. Questioning the announcement, Pacheco asked why the government was making such assurances to fresh apprentices while hundreds of Goan youngsters working on contractual and temporary appointments in various government departments for the past 10 to 15 years continued to await employment security. He clarified that he was not opposed to providing employment opportunities to fresh Goan youth but maintained that the government must also address the grievances of existing contractual employees who had dedicated several years to public service. Highlighting the situation in the Health Department, Pacheco said several contractual employees had worked in government hospitals, health centres and other establishments for over a decade, despite repeatedly submitting representations seeking regularisation of their services.

As Goa's Premium Housing Market Evolves, Design and Lifestyle Take Centre Stage

A Dona Paula development reflects a design-led approach to seafront living

Team Goemkarponn



GOA: Goa's premium housing market is entering a more measured phase. A popular market research report recently quoted that North Goa prices corrected by 4% to 6% in the first half of 2026, while sales and enquiries slowed as buyers took longer to close high-value deals. Residential plots of 250 to 350 sq m account for a large share of the unsold stock.

The same report notes that demand is holding for differentiated homes, including those with prime sea views, riverfront or hill settings, and smaller curated villa communities, as well as for developers with reliable track records.

At the same time, premium coastal locations such as Dona Paula offer a different proposition. Golden Abodes' Anantam Signature Waves reflects a design-led approach to premium living, with an emphasis on architectural character, intelligent space planning and the coastal lifestyle.

"Goa's premium homebuyers are increasingly looking beyond location and views. We believe thoughtful architecture, intelligent planning and the overall living experience will play a much bigger role in defining the next generation of premium developments," said Gaurav Mittal, Director and Co-founder, Golden Abodes. Anantam Signature Waves is being developed in phases. It offers 2, 3 and 4 BHK seafront Villaments, including Seafront Garden Villaments with private gardens of up to 110 sq. m. Seafront Villament units enjoy 180-degree Arabian Sea views, and residents have access to an infinity-edge pool, the Waves Sky Terrace and the Signature Club Pavilion. Prices start at ₹3.80 crore.

Inspired by the rhythm of the Arabian Sea, Anantam Signature Waves gives its architecture a coastal character.

Curved facades, open sightlines and landscaped spaces are designed to draw the shoreline into everyday life. Seafront Garden Villaments pair the ease of apartment living with the privacy of a home of one's own, while shared spaces such as the Waves Sky Terrace and Signature Club Pavilion are designed to make time by the sea part of the daily routine.

"Let Your Creativity Shine": ESG Announces Taluka-Wise Aakash Kandil Competition for IFFI 2026

Third edition of the lantern-making competition offers prizes worth ₹23,000 in each taluka, with registrations open until November 17

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG), in collaboration with the Government of Goa, has invited entries for the third edition of its Aakash Kandil (lantern-making) competition as part of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) 2026.

The competition aims to celebrate Goa's rich cultural heritage while encouraging creativity, traditional craftsmanship and community participation through innovative lantern designs. This year's theme is based on the IFFI mascot, the Peacock. The competition is open to all residents of Goa. Participants must prepare their lanterns using eco-friendly materials, with thermocol strictly prohibited. A maximum of 600 entries will be accepted, with each taluka having a limit of 50 participants. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Each registered participant will receive ₹500 as a token of appreciation for their creativity and effort. The last date for registration is November 17, 2026, until 5 pm.

Completed Aakash Kandils must be submitted at the ESG office on November 25 between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm. ESG will provide holders, bulbs and electricity connections to facilitate the display of the lanterns. Three winners will be selected from each taluka. The first prize carries a cash reward of ₹10,000, while the second and third prize winners will receive ₹8,000 and ₹5,000 respectively. The prize distribution ceremony will be held on November 27, 2026.

The decision of the judging panel will be final and binding.

For registration and further details, interested participants can contact Neelai Naik at 7350019149.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

Investigation Underway Into Alleged Sexual Assault, Child Stable: SP North

incident took place as part of the ongoing investigation. He said police have been conducting regular patrolling and migrant verification drives in the area. Further investigation is underway to identify and apprehend the accused.

Yuri Alemao demands swift justice in Mapusa child rape case, calls for stronger child protection measures

Demanding urgent corrective measures, Alemao called for the establishment of more fast-track POCSO courts, stronger policing and a comprehensive, time-bound government action plan to ensure the safety and protection of children across the State.

He also called upon society to introspect and confront the erosion of values that enables such heinous crimes.

Alemao assuAred that the Opposition would continue to pursue the case and hold the authorities accountable until justice is delivered to the young survivor.

Repeated warnings, no preventive action? Four-year-old girl's alleged assault in Mapusa raises serious questions over Home Department

The entire incident is deeply disturbing and demands an immediate response from the authorities," he said.

Chodankar pointed out that concerns regarding alleged prostitution, drug abuse and other illegal activities in and around the locality had reportedly been raised repeatedly by citizens and highlighted in the media.

Questioning the authorities over the alleged lack of preventive action, he asked, "If complaints about suspicious activities and unsafe conditions in this locality were repeatedly brought to the notice of the authorities, what preventive action was taken? Why was an abandoned building in such a prominent location allowed to remain a potential haven for illegal activities? Were these complaints investigated, or were they simply ignored? The government must answer these questions." Holding the Home Department accountable for explaining the preventive and policing measures undertaken in the area, Chodankar questioned Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant, who also holds the Home portfolio, over the reported failure to address safety concerns. "Public safety cannot be compromised through administrative indifference. The Home Department must explain what action was taken on earlier complaints, whether police patrols were conducted and whether the abandoned premises were inspected. Citizens cannot be expected to repeatedly raise concerns while authorities fail to act," he stated. Chodankar demanded an immediate, impartial and time-bound investigation into the alleged assault, along with the swift identification, arrest and prosecution of those responsible in accordance with the law. He also called for an independent inquiry into any possible negligence by the police and other concerned authorities, a review of earlier complaints regarding alleged illegal activities in the locality, and immediate measures to secure abandoned buildings and identify other unsafe locations across Goa.

Delhi Pollution Crisis Sparks Political War as BJP, AAP and Congress Trade Charges

BJP blames 25 years of inaction, while Opposition alleges AQI data manipulation as pollution reaches severe levels after Diwali

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Delhi's post-Diwali pollution crisis has triggered a political confrontation, with the BJP, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and Congress trading accusations over the worsening air quality and the government's response.

Delhi minister and BJP leader Kapil Mishra accused AAP leaders of deliberately encouraging farm fires in Punjab to increase pollution in the national capital. He alleged that an investigation into the matter could even result in the arrest of former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

The Opposition, meanwhile, accused the BJP government of failing to control pollution and manipulating air quality data. Congress spokesperson Pawan Khera questioned why several monitoring stations had stopped displaying real-time pollution readings when air quality was deteriorating. According to Central Pollution Control Board data available on the Sameer application, Delhi's overall Air Quality Index (AQI) stood at 373 at 11.05 pm on Sunday. Several locations, including Alipur, Bawana, Burari, Chandni Chowk, Mundka, Punjabi Bagh, Rohini and Vivek Vihar, recorded AQI levels above 400.



Three Killed In Assam Oil India Fire, Four Officials Suspended Over Alleged Negligence

Oil India Limited suspends three officers and an employee following a massive explosion at its Tengakhat tank farm in Dibrugarh district.

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Oil India Limited (OIL) has suspended four personnel, including three officers and one employee, following a massive explosion and fire at its Intermediate Tank Farm (ITF) in Tengakhat, Assam's Dibrugarh district. The action was taken over alleged dereliction of official duties in connection with the incident. The death toll in the November 6 accident rose to three on Saturday after another injured worker succumbed to his burn injuries while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Guwahati. The latest victim, Rupam Gohain, a resident of Tengakhat, was initially admitted to Oil India Hospital in Duliajan following the explosion. Due to the severity of his injuries, he was subsequently shifted to Nemcare Hospital in Guwahati for specialised medical care. However, he could not survive despite medical efforts. Earlier, two people had died following the explosion and fire. One of the victims was engineer Tapas Jyoti Gogoi, who was employed with Spectron Engineering Pvt. Ltd. He succumbed to his burn injuries at a private hospital in Dibrugarh. Following the tragedy, Oil India Limited announced financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh each for the families of the deceased and Rs 5 lakh each for those injured in the incident.

FSSAI Seizes Banned Food Products Worth Rs 82 Crore in Nationwide Festive Season Crackdown

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has seized banned and non-compliant food products worth nearly Rs 82 crore during a nationwide enforcement drive aimed at preventing food adulteration during the festive season. The inspection campaign, which began on September 1, was conducted across the country to strengthen food safety monitoring and ensure that consumers have access to safe and quality food products during the festive period. Between September 1 and November 5, the regulator inspected 56,431 food establishments and seized a total of 3,279.57 tonnes of food products valued at Rs 81.80 crore. The seized items included paneer, ghee, milk, sweets and other products that failed to meet prescribed food safety standards. The enforcement drive also resulted in strict action against food business operators found violating safety regulations. The FSSAI cancelled 52 licences, suspended 1,133 licences and sealed 314 establishments for various violations.

'Why Only Punjab?': Haryana Hits Back With Its Stubble Management Model Amid Delhi Pollution Row

Punjab and Haryana trade accusations over farm fires as both governments defend their efforts to control crop residue burning and tackle Delhi's worsening air quality.

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: The political battle over Delhi's rising air pollution has intensified, with the BJP-led Haryana government defending its efforts to prevent stubble burning after Punjab questioned why the state was not facing similar scrutiny. The latest confrontation began after Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema questioned the BJP's repeated criticism of Punjab over Delhi's pollution. He asked why Punjab was being singled out when Haryana, another major agricultural state, was also reporting farm fires. In response, Haryana has highlighted its incentive-based crop residue management strategy, presenting it as a model that combines financial assistance, machinery, monitoring and strict enforcement. Under the Parali Protsahan Yojana, Haryana provides farmers with an incentive of Rs 1,200 per acre for effective crop residue management.

"Every Soldier Is a Diya of Diwali": Rajnath Singh Celebrates Festival With Army Personnel at India-China Border

Defence Minister honours fallen soldiers at Sherathang War Memorial in Sikkim, praises Army's courage and sacrifices in protecting the nation

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh celebrated Diwali with Indian Army personnel at the Sherathang War Memorial near Nathula in Sikkim on Sunday, honouring soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the service of the nation. Located along the India-China border, the memorial holds historical significance as a tribute to Indian soldiers who displayed exceptional courage during the 1967 Nathula and Cho La clashes between Indian and Chinese forces. Singh reached Sherathang by helicopter from the Sukna Army Base in West Bengal, accompanied by Chief of Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth and other senior Army officials. During the visit, the Defence Minister extended Diwali greetings to the troops, personally distributed sweets among the soldiers and paid floral tributes at the war memorial to honour the fallen heroes. Addressing the personnel, Singh said the country's ability to celebrate festivals peacefully was possible because of the dedication, discipline and sacrifices of the armed forces. He described the courage and determination of soldiers as the biggest lights of Diwali, comparing every jawan serving at the border to a traditional lamp illuminating the nation. Drawing a comparison between the festival of lights and military service, Singh said soldiers work silently to protect the country, just as a diya fights darkness without making a sound. Their presence, he added, gives confidence.

Gurnoor Brar, Auqib Nabi And Arshdeep Singh To Stay Back In New Zealand For Test Preparations

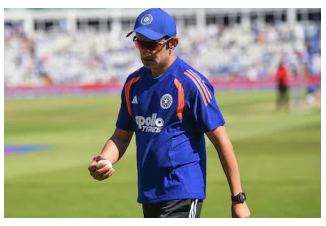
The three uncapped Indian Test pacers will join the red-ball squad as net bowlers and reserve options ahead of the two-match series against New Zealand

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: India's fast bowlers Gurnoor Brar, Auqib Nabi and Arshdeep Singh are set to remain in New Zealand after the conclusion of the ODI series to assist the team's preparations for the upcoming two-match Test series. The trio, who are yet to make their Test debuts, will serve as net bowlers and reserve options for the Indian squad.

The three pacers are expected to join the Test contingent in Wellington on November 16, following the fifth and final ODI against New Zealand at Bay Oval on November 15. Brar and Nabi were part of India's Test squad during the previous series against Sri Lanka, while Arshdeep is also expected to be involved in the preparations. The decision will provide the team with additional fast bowling options during its training sessions. Brar has been particularly impressive in the ongoing ODI series, claiming seven wickets across the first two matches. He picked up three wickets in the opening ODI on November 4 before producing another strong performance with four wickets in the second match. Arshdeep has taken four wickets in the series, all coming in the opening ODI, where he returned figures of 4/70 and earned the Player of the Match award.



Gautam Gambhir Holds Final Say As India's Coaching Staff Splits Ahead Of New Zealand Test Series

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India's coaching staff is likely to split into two groups following the third ODI against New Zealand in Hamilton on Tuesday, as the team shifts its focus towards the upcoming Test series. Head coach Gautam Gambhir will have the final say on the arrangements, with preparations for both formats expected to continue simultaneously.

Gambhir and spin bowling coach Sairaj Bahutule are likely to travel with the ODI squad to Mount Maunganui for the remaining two matches. Meanwhile, batting coach Sitanshu Kotak and fast bowling coach Morne Morkel are expected to join the Test squad in Wellington for a preparatory camp ahead of the opening Test on November 19. Kotak indicated that the arrangements were not yet finalised and could change depending on Gambhir's decision. The coaching staff will focus on managing players' workloads.

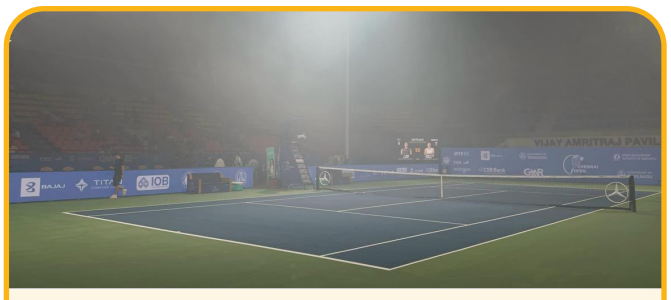
Goa Basketball Association to Host Khelo India ASMITA Women's 3x3 Basketball League

Panaji and Navelim to host two-day tournament on November 13 and 14; registrations free for girls and women

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Basketball Association will organise the ASMITA Khelo India Women's 3x3 Basketball League in Goa on November 13 and 14, 2026, providing an opportunity for young girls and women to showcase their basketball talent.

The league will feature three categories: Sub-Junior, Junior Girls and Women. The initiative is part of the nationwide Khelo India programme, which aims to encourage greater participation of women in sports and promote sporting opportunities at the grassroots level. The tournament will be conducted at two venues across North and South Goa. The North Goa matches will take place on November 13 at the Youth Hostel, Miramar, Panaji, starting at 8 am. The South Goa event is scheduled for November 14 at the Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium, Navelim, beginning at 10 am. Schools, colleges, clubs and other institutions have been invited to register their teams for the competition. Participating teams can choose either the North Goa or South Goa venue depending on their location and convenience. Registration for the league is completely free, making it accessible to aspiring basketball players from different institutions and sporting backgrounds. Interested teams must complete their registration on or before November 11, 2026.



Rain And Heavy Smog Force Chennai Open Women's Singles Final To Be Postponed

Janice Tjen and Magda Linette will battle for the title on Monday at 11 am IST after repeated weather interruptions disrupted Sunday's schedule

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The women's singles final of the Chennai Open 2026 between Janice Tjen and Magda Linette has been postponed to Monday after rain and heavy smog disrupted proceedings at the tournament venue. The championship match was originally scheduled to begin at 6:30 pm IST on Sunday. However, persistent rain resulted in multiple delays, preventing the organisers from starting the highly anticipated contest as planned. Although the doubles final was completed without interruption, the singles showdown continued to face scheduling difficulties. After the weather conditions improved, organisers initially planned to start the match at 9 pm IST. However, another setback emerged when heavy smog affected visibility at the venue, making it difficult to proceed with the match. Following further assessment, the decision was taken to postpone the final. The Women's Tennis Association confirmed that the singles championship match would now take place on Monday, November 9, at 11 am IST. Weather disruptions have been a recurring challenge at this year's tournament, with rain also forcing the cancellation of all matches on the opening day.

PT Usha Faces Crucial Test As Saina Nehwal Enters IOA Electoral Battle

Four women's Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit positions are up for grabs, with the results potentially influencing the Indian Olympic Association's December 5 leadership elections

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: The leadership battle within the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) is gaining momentum, with president PT Usha facing a significant electoral test as Olympic medallist Saina Nehwal joins the contest for Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) positions. The outcome of Monday's elections could have an important bearing on the association's upcoming leadership contest scheduled for December 5. Usha and Saina are among six candidates competing for four available positions in the women's SOM category. Although neither is directly contesting the other's candidature for the presidency, their electoral performance could influence their standing ahead of the Executive Council elections, where the next IOA president will be chosen. The other candidates in the women's category include former long jumper Anju Bobby George, former archer Dola Banerjee, former Indian women's hockey captain Rani Rampal and former basketball player Anitha Paul Durai.

While the women's category remains competitive, the men's SOM positions have already been decided without a contest. Olympic medallists Gagan Narang, Yogeshwar Dutt and Vijender Singh, along with former table tennis player Kamlesh Mehta, have been elected unopposed after eight candidates withdrew from the race. The SOM elections form an important part of the IOA's electoral process for the 2026 to 2030 term. Elected representatives will become members of the General Assembly, gaining voting rights and eligibility to contest the December 5 Executive Council elections. One male and one female SOM representative will also receive positions in the Executive Council.