Goemkarponn

TRUE GOEMKARS AT HEART

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Sawant urges Gen Z to take Konkani literature forward

Chief Minister calls on youth to embrace reading and writing, announces move to seek Konkani Academy in Maharashtra

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PUNE: Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant has urged the younger generation, particularly Gen Z, to actively contribute towards the growth of Konkani literature by embracing reading and writing, stressing that the language's future depends on the participation of today's youth.

Inaugurating the 34th All India Konkani Convention in Pune, Sawant said the younger generation must connect with the rich literary heritage of Konkani and take it forward through their own contributions.

He observed that literature may not necessarily generate income, but it offers peace of mind and intellectual satisfaction, making it important for young people to remain connected with literary pursuits.

The Chief Minister also announced that he would write to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis seeking the establishment of a Konkani Academy in Maharashtra to promote the language and provide a platform for its literary development.

Highlighting the historical contribution of the Konkani-speaking community, Sawant recalled the role of Goan litterateurs in the freedom struggle. He also said the contribution of people from Pune and Mumbai towards Goa's liberation would never be forgotten.

Describing the growing reach of Konkani across the country as a matter of pride, Sawant said conventions such as the All India Konkani Convention play an important role in bringing together Konkani

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Woman held for allegedly duping Curti resident of ₹22 lakh through ritual promise

Accused allegedly used claims of money multiplication through mantras and religious ceremonies to gain complainant's trust



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PONDA: A woman has been arrested by Ponda Police for allegedly cheating a Curti resident of ₹22 lakh after convincing her that religious rituals and mantras could help multiply her money. The accused, identified as Durgamata alias Rupali (46), wife of Sunil Pawar, is originally from Karjat in Maharashtra's Raigad district. She was arrested from Kolhapur following efforts by the Ponda Police to trace her. According to the complaint, the woman had visited the complainant's residence at Curti last month and allegedly approached her with an unusual offer of doubling her money through certain mantras and religious ceremonies. Convinced by the claims, the complainant reportedly handed over ₹22 lakh in cash, hoping to receive a multiplied amount through the promised ritual. However, the woman allegedly left with the entire sum and did not return. After receiving the complaint, Ponda Police initiated an investigation. PSI Rajshekhar Reddy traced the accused to Kolhapur in Maharashtra and secured her arrest.



Yuri Alemao Says Vote Chori Tactics Will Fail in Goa, Launches Attack on BJP

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao has taken a strong stand against the BJP, alleging that electoral manipulation is among the methods used by the party to secure victories.

He maintained that such tactics would find no success in Goa and said the Congress had already brought its concerns over alleged vote irregularities to the attention of the Election Commission.

On the issue of the alliance meeting, Alemao said GPCC President Girish Chodankar was the designated person to provide details and comment on the discussions.

Alemao also criticised the state government's handling of law and order, expressing concern over the growing number of criminal incidents. In a sharp remark, he said Goa, which is increasingly being associated with crime, had become "swayampurna in crimes".

MLA Vijai rejects claims of six-seat demand, says alliance meeting scheduled for tomorrow

*GFP chief dismisses reports as false, asserts regional parties' importance in Goa politics and alleges BJP leaders are obstructing sanctioned development works in Fatorda

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FATORDA: Goa Forward Party (GFP) chief and Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai has dismissed media reports suggesting that his party demanded six seats as part of an alliance arrangement, describing the claims as false.

Speaking on the issue, Sardesai said a meeting of the alliance partners has been scheduled for tomorrow and clarified that he personally handles all alliance-related decisions.

He added that he has not yet held discussions with anyone on the matter. Emphasising the significance of regional political forces in Goa, Sardesai said the state's electoral history has consistently demonstrated the strength and relevance

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Over 500 Questioned, 20 Detained as Probe Intensifies Into Kulgam CRPF Camp Attack

Security agencies suspect Lashkar-e-Taiba network involvement, investigate local support and escape routes used by terrorists

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NEW DELHI: The investigation into the terrorist attack on a CRPF patrol party in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district has intensified, with security agencies questioning more than 500 people and detaining at least 20 suspects for further interrogation.

Investigators are focusing on a suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) network allegedly led by local operative Abdul Latief, along with two Pakistani terrorists. Preliminary findings indicate that the attack was planned in advance, with the terrorists conducting reconnaissance before carrying out the strike.

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Mandrem's Political Battle: Three Aspirants, One BJP Ticket

With Laxmikant Parsekar back in the BJP and Jit Arolkar reportedly eyeing an entry, the party faces a difficult choice between loyalty, winnability and political accommodation. Dayanand Sopte's opposition to an Arolkar candidature could make the contest even more complicated.

Mandrem is fast emerging as one of the most politically interesting constituencies in Goa ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections. What appeared to be a relatively straightforward political contest is now turning into a complicated battle of ambitions, loyalties and competing claims over the BJP ticket.

The return of former Chief Minister Laxmikant Parsekar to the Bharatiya Janata Party has added a new dimension to the political calculations in Mandrem. At the same time, sitting MGP MLA Jit Arolkar is reportedly getting closer to Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant and is widely expected, according to political sources, to consider joining the BJP and contesting the next election on its ticket. Then there is the incumbent BJP MLA Dayanand Sopte, who has his own claim to the constituency and is unlikely to quietly surrender his political ground.

The question facing the BJP is simple but politically explosive: Who will get the ticket?

Parsekar's return is significant. He is not an ordinary political worker seeking shelter in a party. He was once the Chief Minister of Goa and a prominent BJP leader in Mandrem. His political roots in the constituency are deep, and his re-entry could be seen as an attempt by the BJP to bring back an experienced leader who understands the local political landscape.

However, Parsekar has been careful not to make any direct claim to the Assembly ticket. His statement that the party will decide who gets nominated indicates that he is aware of the political sensitivities surrounding his return. It also gives the BJP leadership room to accommodate him without immediately committing to his candidature.

But can the BJP afford to ignore a leader of Parsekar's stature if he is willing to return and work for the party?

The bigger complication is Jit Arolkar. The MGP MLA has established his political presence in Mandrem and is understood to enjoy a close working relationship with Chief Minister Pramod Sawant. His possible shift to the BJP could strengthen the party's position, but it would also create an immediate question about the political future of Dayanand Sopte.

> *The BJP cannot indefinitely keep three ambitious political leaders waiting while hoping that everyone will eventually fall in line.*
>
> *The Mandrem contest is also a test of the party's ability to manage its own ambitions. Political expansion through defections and induction of leaders may help increase numbers, but it does not automatically translate into electoral unity. The real challenge begins when tickets are distributed.*
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> *For Parsekar, the return is an opportunity to reclaim political relevance. For Arolkar, a possible BJP entry could provide a new platform and a bigger political opportunity. For Sopte, the priority is to protect his existing political position and candidature.*

Arolkar's reported interest in contesting on a BJP ticket cannot be viewed in isolation. He is an elected representative with his own political network and support base. If the BJP decides to bring him into its fold, it will have to consider the consequences of upsetting its existing leadership in the constituency.

And Sopte has already made his position clear. He has reportedly indicated that he will not work for Arolkar if the party gives the latter the ticket. That statement should not be dismissed as an ordinary expression of political displeasure. It is a warning that a decision favouring Arolkar could create serious internal resistance.

For the BJP, this is precisely the kind of situation it would want to avoid before an election.

The party has to decide whether it wants to retain Sopte, accommodate Arolkar or give Parsekar another opportunity to return to electoral politics. Each option comes with political advantages and risks. Giving the ticket to Arolkar could strengthen the BJP's position through an additional political acquisition, but it could alienate Sopte and his supporters. Retaining Sopte could upset Arolkar if he has already been given assurances. Choosing Parsekar could revive an old political leadership structure but might leave both the sitting MLA and the prospective entrant dissatisfied.

There is also a larger question of political credibility. If the BJP welcomes leaders from other parties with the expectation of giving them tickets, what message does it send to those who have remained loyal to the organisation? Equally, if a former Chief Minister returns to the party, what role does the leadership envisage for him?

The BJP cannot indefinitely keep three ambitious political leaders waiting while hoping that everyone will eventually fall in line.

The Mandrem contest is also a test of the party's ability to manage its own ambitions. Political expansion through defections and induction of leaders may help increase numbers, but it does not automatically translate into electoral unity. The real challenge begins when tickets are distributed.

For Parsekar, the return is an opportunity to reclaim political relevance. For Arolkar, a possible BJP entry could provide a new platform and a bigger political opportunity. For Sopte, the priority is to protect his existing political position and candidature.

Ultimately, the BJP's decision will depend on its assessment of winnability, local support and the ability of a candidate to bring the constituency together. But winnability cannot be measured merely through political proximity to the Chief Minister or the stature of a former Chief Minister.

Mandrem voters will have their own assessment of these leaders, their performance and their political commitments.

One thing is certain: the battle for Mandrem has begun much before the election campaign. And while the three leaders may be waiting for the BJP leadership to make its choice, the party may soon discover that selecting one candidate is only half the battle. Convincing the other two to work together could prove far more difficult.

In Mandrem, the BJP may have three potential candidates, but it has only one ticket. The bigger question is whether the party can prevent its ticket decision from becoming its biggest electoral liability.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Political Returns Must Be Judged by Commitment and Public Service

The return of former Goa Chief Minister Laxmikant Parsekar to the Bharatiya Janata Party ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections has added another dimension to the state's evolving political landscape.

Parsekar's decision to rejoin the BJP and his willingness to accept any responsibility assigned by the party reflect his readiness to return to active political engagement. However, political comebacks should not be viewed merely through the lens of party strength or electoral calculations.

Goa needs experienced leaders who understand the state's administrative challenges, local issues and aspirations of its people. At the same time, political leadership must be judged by public service, accountability and the ability to address people's concerns. Political parties are entitled to welcome former members and strengthen their organisations. Similarly, individuals have the freedom to reconsider their political journeys. But ultimately, it is the electorate that evaluates the decisions and performance of political leaders.

With the 2027 Assembly elections approaching, political parties will naturally witness organisational changes, new alliances and returning leaders. However, the focus should remain on issues that matter to ordinary Goans, including unemployment, infrastructure, environmental protection, healthcare and governance.

Parsekar's return may generate political discussion, but what matters in the long run is the contribution he makes and the responsibility he undertakes.

Goa needs politics centred on development and public welfare rather than merely political positioning.

- Suresh Kamat, Sanquelim, Goa

Census 2027: Citizens Must Participate in Household Enumeration

The upcoming Census 2027 exercise is an important opportunity for Goa to establish accurate information about its population, households and socio-economic conditions. With online self-enumeration scheduled from November 16 to 30, residents should make use of the facility and ensure that their household details are submitted correctly. The census is not merely a government exercise involving the collection of numbers. Its findings play an important role in planning public infrastructure, healthcare, education, housing and other essential services. Accurate information is therefore in the interest of every citizen.

The Directorate of Census Operations has provided an online facility through which families can submit their details before the door-to-door enumeration begins on December 1. This is a welcome step towards making the process more convenient and accessible.

However, the government must ensure that people who are not comfortable with digital platforms, particularly senior citizens and those in rural areas, receive adequate assistance. Awareness campaigns should reach every village and household so that nobody is left behind.

Citizens must also cooperate with enumerators and provide accurate information. At the same time, authorities should clearly communicate the confidentiality safeguards surrounding personal information collected during the exercise.

The success of Census 2027 will depend on public participation, accurate data collection and efficient administration. Every household has a responsibility to contribute to this important national exercise.

- Nilesh Kamat, Pernem, Goa

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BJP aims for 30 seats in 2027 Goa polls, says Pramod Sawant

Chief Minister signals confidence in party's electoral prospects; says Independents willing to support BJP's development agenda will be welcome

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PANAJI: With the next Goa Assembly elections approaching, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has set an ambitious target for the BJP, stating that the party is working towards winning 30 seats in the 40-member Legislative Assembly in 2027.

Sawant shared his electoral expectations while speaking at the Viksit Goa Summit organised by India Today on November 13. He indicated that the BJP was preparing for the next Assembly contest with the objective of improving its performance.

The Chief Minister also spoke about the possibility of Independent candidates winning seats in the forthcoming elections. He suggested that three to four Independents could emerge victorious and said those willing to associate with the BJP and its development agenda would be welcome. His remarks also brought attention to the possibility of post-election political realignments, a recurring feature of Goa's political landscape. When asked about the movement of elected representatives from opposition parties to the BJP in previous years, Sawant defended the party's approach towards leaders joining its fold. He maintained that everyone joining the BJP receives equal treatment, regardless of their political background or the time at which they became members. On his role in the next electoral battle, the Chief Minister indicated his willingness to lead the party's campaign, subject to the BJP leadership entrusting him with the responsibility. He also stated that preparations for the 2027 elections were already underway.



VHP demands immediate justice for four-year-old rape victim

Canacona block submits memorandum to police and local authorities seeking proper investigation and swift action against accused

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CANACONA: The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), Canacona Block, has submitted a petition to the Canacona Police, Deputy Collector and Mamlatdar, demanding swift justice for the four-year-old girl who was allegedly raped.

The petition, submitted on Friday, called for a thorough investigation and immediate legal action against the accused to ensure justice for the child.

"The accused should be punished immediately and action should be taken to ensure proper justice for the girl. Citizens of Canacona should remain vigilant to prevent such incidents from occurring in the future in a peaceful and holy place like Canacona," the petition stated.

The VHP Canacona Block Committee also submitted a memorandum to the police department and concerned officials, urging them to ensure a proper investigation into the case. Those present included Narayan Prabhugaonkar, Pramod Prabhudesai, Satish Vernekar, Sampada Vernekar, Sneha and Kshitija Desai, Kisan Desai, Dhanraj Desai, Mrs. Desai Shivraj and other members of the VHP Canacona block.

The VHP expressed its gratitude to the authorities for their cooperation and for patiently hearing the concerns raised by the delegation.



Goa seeks GI recognition for its traditional crochet heritage

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PANAJI: Goa has taken a step towards giving its traditional crochet craft wider recognition and legal protection, with the State government initiating the process of obtaining a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for the distinctive handicraft. The Department of Science, Technology and Waste Management has submitted an application for GI recognition of Goa Crochet Crafts on November 6, seeking to establish the craft's identity and protect its traditional methods and cultural significance. Crochet has long been associated with Goan homes, where women have passed down the skill through generations. Using a single crochet hook and thread, artisans produce a variety of handmade articles, including decorative linen, table covers, bedspreads, garments, bags, accessories and ornamental pieces. The craft also has a special connection with Goan wedding customs. Handmade crochet articles are traditionally included in a bride's wedding collection, known locally as dennem or vazze.

FRO Goa deports five foreign nationals for overstaying in India

Two women, including one from Bangladesh and another from Kazakhstan along with her three minor children, sent back to their home countries

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PANAJI: The Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRO), Goa, deported five foreign nationals on November 13, 2026, for overstaying in India.

According to information, those deported included one woman from Bangladesh and a woman from Kazakhstan along with her three minor children.

The deportation was carried out as part of the action against foreign nationals found staying in India beyond their permitted period of stay.

The FRO Goa has indicated that further deportation proceedings will be carried out in the coming days against other foreign nationals found overstaying in the country.

Mhaje Ghar delays: Panchayat secretaries face suspension warning

Director of Panchayats issues strict instructions to ensure beneficiaries receive scheme-related services without unnecessary administrative hurdles

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PANAJI: Village Panchayat Secretaries in Goa could face suspension if they hold up the delivery of services to beneficiaries under the Mhaje Ghar Scheme, following a strict warning issued by the Directorate of Panchayats.

Director of Panchayats Dasharath Redkar has instructed Secretaries to act promptly on applications from beneficiaries whose cases have already received approval from the competent authorities.

The directive makes it clear that documents and permissions sanctioned by Deputy Collectors, Additional Collectors and other authorised officials should not be subjected to another round of approval or discussion at the Village Panchayat level.

The department has taken a serious view of complaints that beneficiaries were being made to wait despite having secured the necessary government clearances. In some instances, matters were reportedly referred to Panchayat bodies, leading to further delays and difficulties for applicants.

The issue also came up during the special public outreach initiative, 'Sarkar Tumchya Dari', chaired by Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, where concerns over delays in extending scheme benefits were raised.

The government has maintained that the Mhaje Ghar Scheme is intended to provide relief to eligible residents and that procedural formalities at the local level should not obstruct the implementation of decisions already taken by authorised officials.

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Man cheated of Rs 4.19 lakh in vehicle transportation fraud in Goa

Four persons allegedly posing as Mahindra Logistics representatives collect a WagonR and Rs 11,500 to transport it from Goa to Delhi but fail to deliver the vehicle

Team Goemkarponn



PANAJI: A man from Punjab has allegedly been cheated of approximately Rs 4.19 lakh after four persons, including one unidentified individual, allegedly posing as representatives of Mahindra Logistics Ltd., took possession of his father's car and personal belongings on the pretext of transporting them from Goa to Delhi.

According to the complaint lodged by Bharat Jallan, a resident of Punjab who is presently staying at Reis-Magos, Bardez, the incident occurred on October 29, 2026, before 4 pm.

The accused persons, identified as Ravi Singh, Pankaj, Karan and one unknown person claiming to be the driver, allegedly approached the complainant by falsely representing themselves as employees or representatives of Mahindra Logistics Ltd.

With a common intention to cheat, they allegedly induced the complainant to hand over his father's Maruti Suzuki WagonR VXI 1.2L, 2021 model, bearing registration number TN-59-CL-1911, along with his personal belongings, for transportation from Goa to Delhi.

Believing their representations, the complainant handed over the vehicle and belongings to the accused persons.





Two arrested in separate ganja seizure cases at Varca and Colva

Colva Police seize suspected hydroponic ganja worth approximately Rs 93,500; 71 grams of suspected narcotic substances recovered in two operations

Team Goemkarponn

COLVA: Colva Police have arrested two persons in separate narcotics cases after seizing suspected hydroponic ganja and ganja worth approximately Rs 93,500 during two operations conducted on November 13, 2026. In the first case, Colva Police, upon a state complaint lodged by PSI Anil Krishna, registered an offence after suspected hydroponic ganja was allegedly found in the possession of Anselm Joao Jose Furtado, a resident of Navelim. According to the police, the seizure was made between 3.15 am and 6.50 am at Varca Beach Parking, Varca, during the personal search of the accused. Police allegedly recovered 5 grams of suspected hydroponic ganja, comprising flowering and fruiting tops, valued at approximately Rs 12,500. The accused was arrested in connection with the case. Further investigation is being conducted by LPSI Varshda Naik Dessai of Colva Police Station. In the second case, Colva Police, following a state complaint lodged by PSI Manju Vantamuri, registered an offence after allegedly recovering suspected narcotic substances during a house search conducted at the residence of Loyston Locas Dourado, a resident of Colva.



Three community dogs allegedly poisoned to death in Karaswada

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MAPUSA: Three community dogs were allegedly poisoned to death by an unknown person at Karaswada, Mapusa, in an incident reported to the police on November 12, 2026.

According to the complaint lodged by Ms Aporva Ravi Naik (26), a District Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (DSPCA) officer for North Goa, the incident occurred prior to 8.30 am on November 6 at Karaswada, Bardez.

The complaint states that an unknown person, with deliberate intention and knowledge, allegedly administered poison to three community dogs, resulting in their deaths.

The act has been reported as an incident of cruelty towards community animals.

The complaint was lodged at Mapusa Police Station on November 12 at around 9.06 pm.

PSI Pandhari Chopdekar of Mapusa Police Station is investigating the case.

Minor girl allegedly assaulted with slippers in Carambolim

27-year-old man booked by Old Goa Police following complaint by a 17-year-old girl; PSI Manohar Dhulapkar investigating

Team Goemkarponn



OLD GOA: A 17-year-old minor girl was allegedly assaulted with slippers by a 27-year-old man at Carambolim on November 11, 2026.

According to the complaint lodged by the minor girl, the incident occurred at around 7 pm when the accused, identified as Dasrath Dhruv (27), a native of Gunapur, Mungeli, Nawadih, Chhattisgarh, allegedly assaulted her with slippers.

Based on the complaint, Old Goa Police registered an offence against the accused on November 12, 2026, at around 8.12 pm.

The identity and other personal details of the minor complainant have been withheld in accordance with legal provisions protecting the identity of minors.

Further investigation is being conducted by PSI Manohar Dhulapkar of Old Goa Police Station.

Drunk driver causes multiple collisions, four seriously injured in Pomburpa

Car allegedly rams into four scooters in a series of collisions while travelling from Pomburpa towards Aldona; driver also sustains injuries

Team Goemkarponn



POMBURPA: Four persons sustained serious bodily injuries after a Maruti Alto car allegedly driven by an intoxicated motorist rammed into four scooters in a series of collisions at Pomburpa, Bardez, on November 7, 2026, at around 10.15 pm. According to the complaint lodged by ASI Ajay Gaonkar of Mapusa Police Station, accused Michael Lobo (56), a resident of Poryo, Pomburpa, Bardez, and Guleacotto, Cuncolim, Salcete, was driving a Maruti Alto bearing registration number GA-08-P-3655 from Pomburpa towards Aldona. The accused allegedly drove the car at high speed and in a rash and negligent manner while under the influence of alcohol, without taking proper care and caution, thereby endangering the lives and safety of other road users.Upon reaching Pomburpa, the accused allegedly attempted to overtake a scooter bearing registration number GA-03-AX-6132 travelling ahead of him and dashed against it. Instead of stopping, he allegedly continued driving and moved towards the extreme right side of the road, colliding with two oncoming scooters bearing registration numbers GA-03-AK-0396 and GA-03-BE-9803.

Man assaulted with spade near Kesarval waterfall

Team Goemkarponn

CORTALIM: A man from Varca, Salcete, was allegedly assaulted with a spade by an unidentified person near Kesarval Waterfall, Cortalim, on November 5, 2026. According to the complaint lodged by Anand Malgimani, a resident of Varca, the incident occurred at around 4.30 pm near Kesarval Waterfall, Kesarval, Cortalim. The complainant alleged that an unknown person abused him and his wife using filthy language before assaulting him on the head with a spade.

FDA destroys 1,500 kg of chicken, shuts unlicensed processing unit in Siolim

Outlet allegedly operated without FSSAI licence and under unhygienic conditions; biryani kitchen also ordered to close

Team Goemkarponn

SIOLIM: The Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) has destroyed nearly 1,500 kg of processed chicken and ordered the closure of an unlicensed chicken processing outlet in Siolim following an early-morning surveillance drive.

The inspection was conducted after traceability checks based on information gathered from hotels led the FDA team to an outlet operated



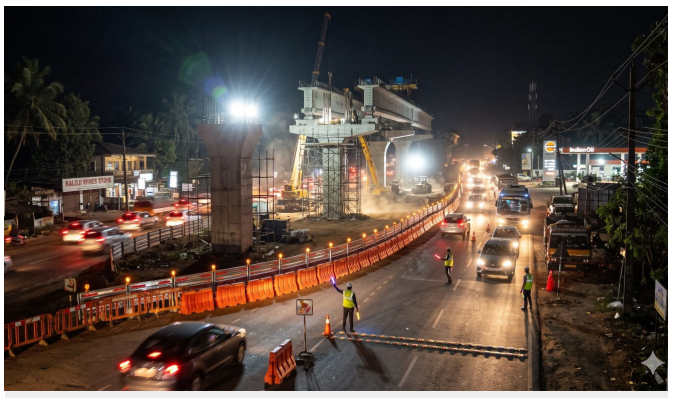
by Hassan Bepari under the name *Ample Fresh Chicken*.

According to the FDA, the outlet was processing and distributing chicken without a valid FSSAI licence and under unhygienic conditions. In the interest of public health, approximately 1,500 kg of processed chicken was destroyed, and the unit was directed to stop operations. A case has also been filed against the food business operator.

During the drive, officials found that the same operator was preparing biryani in an adjoining room and supplying it to his outlet in Porvorim. The kitchen was also ordered to shut down.

The FDA team also inspected another supplier, identified as *Siolimchick*.

During the investigation, one of its suppliers, *Riya Farms*, located in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, was found to be supplying chicken under a restaurant licence, according to the department.



Night traffic diversion announced at Dhargal for flyover construction

NH-66 traffic to be diverted along extended lanes on the right-side service road between 10.30 pm and 6 am until December 20, 2026

Team Goemkarponn

DHARGAL: The Public Works Department (PWD) has announced a night-time traffic diversion on a stretch of National Highway 66 at Dhargal to facilitate the launching of PSC girders for the ongoing flyover construction work. According to a notification issued on November 13, 2026, by Executive Engineer Gajanan R. Desai of Works Division VII (NH), traffic will be diverted onto temporary extended lanes along the right-hand-side service road between kilometre 494.418 and kilometre 494.548. The affected stretch is from Kaloji Wines Store to Indian Oil Petroleum. The diversion is intended to facilitate the flyover construction work being undertaken on the EPC mode. As per the notification, the diversion will operate between 10.30 pm and 6 am. The stated period is from November 14, 2025, to December 20, 2026. The contracting agency has been directed to put in place adequate road safety arrangements, including barricades, blinkers, traffic marshals and proper lighting during night hours to ensure the safety of road users. The agency has also been instructed to display signboards at diversion points in Konkani, English and Hindi, clearly mentioning the diversion period and dates.



Godinho assures compensation for crane accident victims; Dabolim flyover stretch likely to open by year-end

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: Transport Minister Mauvin Godinho has assured residents affected by Friday's crane accident at the Dabolim flyover construction site that they will receive compensation for damage to their property and assets.

Reacting to the incident, Godinho said his office would coordinate with MVR, the contractor executing the flyover project, to address concerns relating to damaged water pipelines, road conditions and losses suffered by residents in the crane accident.

He said his office and the contractor would jointly assess the damage and work towards compensating those affected. The minister further assured that if the contractor failed to pay compensation, he would personally ensure that the victims received it.

"There could be some inconveniences to the public when a major infrastructure project is being undertaken.

South Goa MP Viriato Fernandes assures support to protesting Goa Dairy employees

Employees of Goa Dairy Curti, Ponda, seek implementation of revised dearness allowance and payment of pending arrears

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PONDA: South Goa Member of Parliament Captain Viriato Fernandes, accompanied by Goa Congress Kushavati District President Rajesh Verenkar and other Congress leaders from Ponda, met employees of Goa Dairy at Curti, Ponda, who are protesting against the delay in implementing revised Dearness Allowance (DA) and clearing pending arrears. The employees have been expressing concern over



the prolonged delay in fulfilling their demands, alleging that despite repeated assurances from the government over the past several months, no concrete action has been taken. During the meeting, Fernandes interacted with the protesting employees and acknowledged their continued dedication to their duties despite financial difficulties and uncertainty over their pending dues. He appreciated the employees for ensuring that Goa Dairy continues to function smoothly and that the supply of milk to consumers remains uninterrupted even while their protest is underway.

Crane topples at Dabolim flyover site; two injured, house and vehicles damaged

Crane boom falls into residential area, narrowly missing house occupants and passing motorists; locals allege safety lapses

Team Goemkarponn

DABOLIM: A heavy crane deployed for the ongoing flyover construction work at Dabolim toppled onto the road on Friday, leaving its driver and operator injured and damaging a nearby house and several parked two-wheelers.

The incident occurred while the crane was engaged in construction work at the flyover site.



The driver and operator sustained injuries and were rushed to hospital for treatment.

Following the crane's collapse, its boom fell into an adjoining residential area, damaging the railings of a house and multiple two-wheelers parked outside. Fortunately, the occupants of the house, including a small child, were asleep inside and escaped unhurt. The crane narrowly missed vehicles travelling along the road, averting what could have been a major tragedy. No loss of life was reported. The incident has sparked anger among local residents, who have demanded strict action against the contractor, alleging serious lapses in safety arrangements at the construction site. Residents claimed that this was not an isolated incident, pointing to previous instances in which iron rods had allegedly fallen from the under-construction flyover onto vehicles travelling on the road below.

They alleged that inadequate safety precautions had repeatedly placed motorists and residents at risk. Locals also referred to fatal accidents during construction-related activities in the past, which they attributed to alleged negligence and insufficient safety measures by contractors.

India Revises Maritime Flag Rules After 63 Years, Merchant Ships to Fly Red Ensign

New regulations introduce separate flag requirements for merchant vessels, government-owned ships and vessels operating exclusively for the Defence Ministry.

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: The Central Government has introduced a revised framework governing the flags flown by Indian vessels at sea, replacing regulations that had remained unchanged for more than six decades. The new rules establish separate flag requirements for merchant ships, government-owned vessels and ships operating exclusively for the Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways issued the notification on November 9, superseding the earlier order introduced on February 9, 1961. The revised provisions have been notified under Section 37(1) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025. However, actions already taken under the previous notification will continue to remain valid.

Under the new regulations, Indian merchant vessels registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, will fly the Red Ensign. The flag will feature the Indian National Flag in the upper canton, positioned closest to the flagstaff. Its length will be one and a half times its width, in accordance with the Flag Code of India, 2002.

Government-owned vessels will fly the Blue Ensign, regardless of whether they are registered under the Merchant Shipping Act. These vessels will display the official badge of the department, authority or organisation that owns them. However, ships belonging to the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard are exempt from this provision.

The government has also established guidelines for approving official badges displayed on the Blue Ensign. Organisations seeking to introduce new badges must obtain prior approval from the Centre through the Director General of Maritime Administration. Existing organisations using approved badges can continue displaying them. Merchant vessels receiving financial assistance from the Ministry of Defence and operating exclusively for the ministry will also fly the Blue Ensign. Their badges, however, must be authorised through a Warrant issued by the Chief of the Naval Staff.

The Blue Ensign will be royal blue, featuring the Indian National Flag in the upper canton and a light golden badge in the centre of the fly half. The badge must remain within a circular area measuring no more than 13/30th of the flag's width. The revised framework marks a significant update to India's maritime regulations, introducing clearly defined flag standards for different categories of Indian vessels.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

Sawant urges Gen Z to take Konkani literature forward

speakers, writers and cultural enthusiasts.

He called upon the community to preserve its linguistic and literary identity while ensuring that the next generation actively participates in strengthening Konkani.

MLA Vijai rejects claims of six-seat demand, says alliance meeting scheduled for tomorrow

of regional parties.

He pointed out that even the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had depended on a regional party to establish its political presence in Goa.

Taking a swipe at his political opponent, Sardesai remarked that a leader who has suffered defeat in three consecutive elections continues to project confidence about winning 30 seats. He asserted that, as the sitting MLA, he had defeated the same opponent in all three contests.

Reiterating GFP's political direction, Sardesai said the party remains committed to strengthening regional politics and working towards forming the next government in Goa.

Meanwhile, Sardesai also accused local BJP leaders of exerting pressure on ministers to stop development works that had already received official sanction in Fatorda.

He specifically cited the People's Path bridge project, alleging that attempts to stall such initiatives were driven by political frustration.

The GFP chief maintained that his party would continue to champion regional interests while pursuing its political and development agenda in the state.

Over 500 Questioned, 20 Detained as Probe Intensifies Into Kulgam CRPF Camp Attack

Investigators also suspect that overground workers (OGWs) provided shelter and helped the attackers escape. The attack took place on November 11 at around 2.15 pm, when terrorists opened fire on a CRPF naka party belonging to the 46th Battalion at Akhran, near Mir Bazar in Kulgam. Three personnel sustained injuries in the firing.

The injured were identified as Head Constable Somveer Singh, Constable Rakesh Dass and Constable Santosh Chandru. Singh suffered a bullet injury to his arm, while Dass was injured in the leg. Chandru sustained injuries to his abdomen and spine and was reported to be in a comparatively serious condition.

Old Systems, Data Overload Ground 8,000 US Flights, Disrupting Travel for 15 Lakh Passengers

Nationwide flight shutdown exposes weaknesses in America's ageing air traffic control network as authorities rule out a cyberattack or another 9/11-like threat.

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The United States experienced an unprecedented aviation disruption after a nationwide grounding of departing flights left more than 15 lakh passengers stranded at airports across the country. More than 8,000 flights were reportedly affected during the shutdown, which lasted approximately four hours before being lifted early Friday morning.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) ordered the nationwide ground stop at 3:54 pm Eastern Standard Time, temporarily suspending all departing flights across the country.

The decision was taken due to a telecommunications failure affecting air traffic control centres.

Aircraft already in the air were permitted to continue their journeys and land safely at their destinations. The restrictions were lifted at 8:15 pm EST after authorities assessed the situation and cleared the immediate safety concerns.

Ageing Technology Behind the Disruption

The disruption was attributed to America's outdated telecommunications infrastructure, which struggled to handle excessive data loads. The country's air traffic control network continues to rely on ageing equipment, including decades-old switches, routers and copper communication lines.

The failure resulted in inconsistent information being transmitted through the system, prompting authorities to suspend departures as a precautionary measure.

The incident also renewed concerns about the need to modernise America's aviation infrastructure, with calls for greater government funding to replace outdated technology rather than relying on temporary repairs.

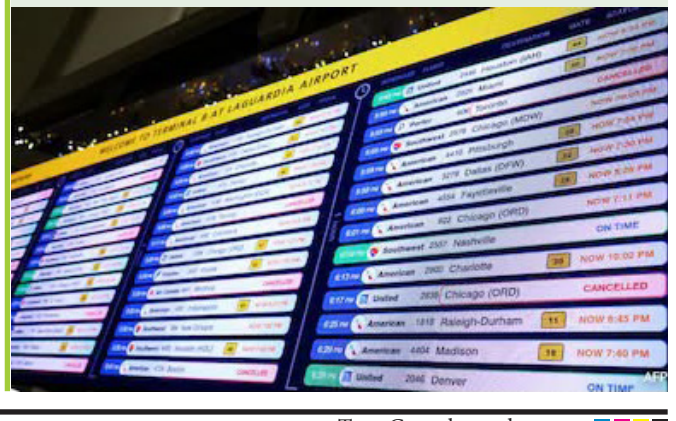
Authorities Rule Out Cyberattack

Homeland Security officials ruled out any connection between the disruption and the recent Microsoft outage. They also dismissed concerns about a possible terrorist attack or another incident resembling the September 11 attacks.

Authorities maintained that passenger safety remained the priority and that emergency agencies were coordinating with airports and state administrations to assist stranded travellers.

Passengers Face Travel Chaos

The sudden shutdown disrupted business trips, family gatherings and important personal commitments. Several passengers reported cancellations, lengthy delays and uncertainty over their departure schedules.



Airfares Surge 50% Ahead of Wedding Season, Traders Urge Centre to Impose Price Cap

■ Delhi to Patna tickets touch Rs 18,000 and Delhi to Darbhanga fares reach Rs 20,000 as traders demand government intervention against soaring air travel costs

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Airfares across several major domestic routes have surged by nearly 50 per cent in just 15 days, triggering concerns among travellers ahead of the Chhath festival and the upcoming wedding season. Traders have urged the Central Government to intervene and introduce a maximum limit on ticket prices to prevent airlines from charging excessively during periods of high demand.

The Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI) has written to Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu, seeking immediate measures to regulate airfares and establish a transparent pricing mechanism.CTI Chairman Brijesh Goyal said the sudden increase was placing an additional financial burden on businesspeople, middle-class families and ordinary passengers. With the wedding season beginning on November 20 and Chhath celebrations underway, thousands of people are looking to travel to their hometowns.



Man Posing as PMO Joint Secretary Threatens CCTV Firm for Free Installation and Heavy Discounts

■ CBI books accused after alleged misuse of Prime Minister's Office identity to pressure CP Plus into installing surveillance equipment

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against a man accused of impersonating a senior official in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and threatening a CCTV company to obtain equipment and installation services free of cost or at heavily discounted rates.

The accused, identified as Manish Kumar, also known as Manish Kumar Gupta, allegedly posed as a joint secretary in the PMO and used the false identity to put pressure on a leading CCTV manufacturer. The case was registered following a complaint from the PMO.

According to the FIR, Gupta contacted Aditya Khemka, managing director of CP Plus, through WhatsApp and introduced himself as the joint secretary for administration in the PMO.

He allegedly instructed the company to arrange and install indoor and outdoor CCTV surveillance systems at his parents' residence in Gaur Green Avenue, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad. He also shared the address and contact details of his brother, Mukesh Kumar Gupta.

When company representatives sought clarification, the accused allegedly threatened serious consequences if the installation was not completed immediately.



Centre Extends Ban on Zakir Naik's Islamic Research Foundation for Another Five Years

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Central Government has extended the ban on controversial Islamic preacher Zakir Naik's Islamic Research Foundation (IRF) for another five years, declaring the organisation an unlawful association with immediate effect. The decision was announced through a gazette notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on November 13. The government invoked Sections 3(1) and 3(3) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, to continue the restrictions. The previous five-year ban was scheduled to expire on November 14, 2026. The IRF was first declared unlawful in November 2016, with the restriction subsequently extended in November 2021. Both earlier decisions were upheld by the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Tribunal in May 2017 and March 2022. In its latest notification, the Home Ministry alleged that the organisation and its members, particularly its founder and president, Dr Zakir Abdul Karim Naik, had been encouraging.

Indian Seafarer Stranded at Karachi Port, India Seeks Consular Assistance From Pakistan

■ Six crew members have reportedly been stuck at the Pakistani port for months as India engages their shipping company and Pakistani authorities to secure their return.

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: The Indian Government has approached Pakistan for consular assistance after an Indian merchant navy officer and five other crew members reportedly remained stranded aboard a vessel at Karachi port for several months.

The Ministry of External Affairs confirmed that a consular request had been made to the Pakistani authorities and that efforts were underway to resolve the situation. The government is also in contact with the stranded crew members, their shipping company and its local agent to facilitate their return.

The issue came to light after the families of the Indian seafarer began appealing to authorities for assistance, seeking their safe return home after months of uncertainty.

The Ministry of External Affairs clarified that the situation primarily involves a commercial dispute between the vessel's owner and its employees.

"No One Can Stop Mekedatu Dam": DK Shivakumar's Stand Sparks Congress vs Congress Row

■ Tamil Nadu Congress chief Manickam Tagore opposes Karnataka's Mekedatu project, accusing Shivakumar of ignoring Tamil Nadu's water rights and farmers' interests.

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: The proposed Mekedatu dam project on the Cauvery river has triggered a political confrontation within the Congress, with its Karnataka and Tamil Nadu leaders taking opposing positions. Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar has firmly defended the project, while Tamil Nadu Congress president Manickam Tagore has strongly criticised his remarks, calling them unacceptable.

The controversy intensified after Shivakumar urged the Centre to expedite statutory clearances for the proposed dam during an event attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bengaluru on Friday. He maintained that the Supreme Court had cleared the way for the project and asserted that nobody could prevent its construction.

Reacting to the statement, Tagore accused the Karnataka Chief Minister of adopting a rigid position that goes against Tamil Nadu's interests. He argued that Shivakumar's remarks disregard the Supreme Court's directions and the final award of the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.

Tagore also highlighted Karnataka's position as an upper riparian state, arguing that it cannot independently undertake a project that could affect the water rights of downstream states. He urged the Centre not to grant any approval without obtaining Tamil Nadu's consent, warning that the project could seriously affect farmers in the Cauvery delta districts.

He further asserted that the Centre must prevent construction work from beginning and declared that the Tamil Nadu Congress would oppose the project at every level to safeguard the state's interests.

"India's Middle Order Has Been Vulnerable": Dinesh Karthik Highlights Major Concern After 244-Run Defeat to New Zealand

■ Former India wicketkeeper questions batting consistency as New Zealand make a strong comeback in the ODI series

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: India's batting struggles have come under the spotlight after New Zealand registered a massive 244-run victory in the third ODI at Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui on Friday. The emphatic win helped the visitors reduce India's lead in the five-match series after trailing 0-2.

Batting first, New Zealand posted an imposing total of 333 runs before their bowlers dismantled the Indian batting line-up. India, led by Shreyas Iyer in the absence of regular captain Shubman Gill, failed to recover after a disastrous start.

Matt Henry delivered a devastating opening spell, dismissing Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Shreyas Iyer in the very first over. The early collapse left India struggling to build any momentum and eventually resulted in one of their heaviest defeats in recent years.

Former India wicketkeeper Dinesh Karthik identified the middle order as a major concern, pointing out that India's batting has lacked consistency throughout the series, particularly while chasing challenging targets.



Lakshya Sen Stuns World No. 10 Alwi Farhan to Storm Into Kumamoto Masters Final

■ Indian shuttler wins thrilling three-game battle to boost his BWF World Tour Finals qualification hopes

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: India's Lakshya Sen continued his impressive run by defeating Indonesia's world No. 10 Alwi Farhan in three games to enter the men's singles final of the Kumamoto Masters Japan Super 500 badminton tournament on Saturday. The world No. 13 registered a convincing 21-12, 15-21, 21-11 victory over the sixth-seeded Indonesian to reach his second consecutive final after recently claiming the Hylo Open title. The victory has also strengthened his chances of qualifying for the BWF World Tour Finals, scheduled to be held in Hangzhou.

Lakshya, seeded eighth in Japan, is currently 12th in the World Tour Finals Race with 64,980 points. He needs to finish among the top eight to secure a place in the season-ending tournament. A title victory in Kumamoto would earn him 9,200 ranking points, while a runner-up finish would add 7,800 points, potentially taking him into the qualification zone. The Indian will face either Japan's Koki Watanabe or Thailand's second seed Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the final. The semifinal victory was particularly significant as Lakshya had lost both his previous encounters against Farhan without winning a single game.

GFDC Unveils Trophies, Logo and Jerseys Ahead of Inter-Centre Grassroots Tournament 2026

■ Six-day competition to feature Under-10 Boys, Under-13 Boys and Under-13 Girls across three venues in Goa

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The Goa Football Development Council (GFDC) has unveiled the trophies, official logo and jerseys for its upcoming Inter-Centre Grassroots Tournament 2026, which will be held from November 17 to 22 across three venues in Goa.

The tournament will bring together young footballers from various GFDC centres, providing them with an opportunity to showcase their skills, competitive spirit and development through the council's structured grassroots coaching programme.

The competition will feature three categories: Under-10 Boys, Under-13 Boys and Under-13 Girls. Matches in North Goa will be played at the DSYA, Quitla-Aldona Ground, while South Goa fixtures will take place at the DSYA, Cuncolim Ground.

The tournament will conclude at Atal Stadium, St Cruz, where the North Goa champions will face their South Goa counterparts in the respective finals.

The trophy, logo and jersey unveiling ceremony marked the beginning of the countdown to the six-day grassroots football competition.

The initiative aims to provide young players with regular competitive exposure while encouraging participation and nurturing emerging football talent across the state.

GFDC Chairman Glenn Souza Ticlo highlighted the importance of the tournament in providing young footballers with a platform to demonstrate their abilities and gain valuable match experience. He emphasised that the council's objective extends beyond football development, focusing on building discipline, confidence and other important life skills among children.

"Are We in Kindergarten?": Murali Kartik Questions Pat Cummins Over Sandpapergate Denial

■ Former India spinner backs Usman Khawaja, questions how Australian bowlers could have been unaware of the 2018 ball-tampering scandal

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Former India spinner Murali Kartik has strongly criticised Australian Test captain Pat Cummins over his denial of knowledge about the infamous Sandpapergate scandal that rocked Australian cricket in 2018.

The controversy has resurfaced following revelations in Usman Khawaja's memoir, Sabr, in which the former Australian opener suggested that the entire team, including Cummins, knew about the plan to use sandpaper to alter the condition of the ball during the Cape Town Test against South Africa. Cummins recently rejected the allegations, denying any involvement or prior knowledge of the ball-tampering plan.

Fellow Australian fast bowler Mitchell Starc also questioned Khawaja's claims, suggesting that the revelations were linked to the release of his book.

However, Kartik has backed Khawaja and questioned the credibility of the suggestion that Australia's bowlers were unaware of the plan. He argued that since the alleged activity was intended to benefit the bowling attack, it was difficult to believe that the bowlers had no knowledge of it.

Kartik pointed out that the bowlers would naturally have been among the first people informed if such a plan had been discussed and approved within the team.

He also expressed surprise that only three players faced disciplinary action following the scandal, arguing that the involvement and awareness could have extended beyond those directly caught carrying out the act.

Kartik further questioned why the Australian players were continuing to reject the allegations and suggested that several members of the team could be trying to maintain a consistent version of events.

The Sandpapergate controversy emerged during Australia's 2018 Test tour of South Africa. Cameron Bancroft was caught attempting to alter the ball's condition, leading to major disciplinary action against Bancroft, then captain Steve Smith and vice-captain David Warner.