Goemkarponn

TRUE GOEMKARS AT HEART

Reg No: GOAENG/2020/79967 VOL: 5 | ISSUE : 209 PANAJI | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2026 | Pages-8 RS. 10/-

Internal dispute erupts into violent clash at Karapur

Seven persons injured, one critically; eight two-wheelers damaged during confrontation at Sarvan

Team Goemkarponn



BICHOLIM: A dispute between two groups turned violent at Karapur-Sarvan in Bicholim taluka on Thursday evening, leaving seven persons injured and eight two-wheelers damaged. One of the injured sustained serious injuries and was referred for further medical treatment.

According to preliminary information, the confrontation began when a group of youths from Karapur went to Dhavaskarwada in Sarvan to question a local youth over an alleged threat made to another person from their village.

What started as a verbal exchange soon escalated into a physical confrontation, with both sides allegedly assaulting each other using sticks and iron rods.

The injured have been identified as Gaurish Ghadi, Rama alias Pappu Dhavaskar, Satish Ghadi, Ajit Narvekar, Vishnu Munji, Nikhil Munji and Shivam Satardekar.

All seven were taken to the Community Health Centre at Sanquelim. Some of them were subsequently referred to Goa Medical College and Hospital at Bambolim for further treatment.

Gaurish Ghadi reportedly suffered a serious injury to his hand while attempting to ward off a sickle attack,

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Congress delegation meets DGP, demands immediate arrest of Karapur-Sarvan assault accused

Party leaders visit injured Gauresh Ghadi at GMC; GPCC says Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has failed to maintain law and order and should resign



Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: A delegation of the Goa Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC), led by its president Girish Chodankar, on Friday met Director General of Police Alok Kumar and demanded the immediate arrest of all those involved in the assault on Gauresh Ghadi in the Karapur-Sarvan incident. Before meeting the DGP, the Congress delegation visited Ghadi and his family at Goa Medical College and Hospital (GMC), Bambolim, and enquired about his health and treatment. The leaders expressed solidarity with the family and assured them of the party's support in seeking justice. The delegation included Leader of Opposition Yuri Alemao, GPCC Working President Sunil Kawthankar, Media Chairman Amarnath Panjikar, District President Mangaldas Naik and other party members.

During the meeting with the DGP, the

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Vigilance officials search suspended police driver's residence in Valpoi

Team Goemkarponn

VALPOI: The Vigilance Department conducted a search at the residence of suspended police driver Gauresh Naik at Betkekarwada, Nanus, Valpoi, early on Friday morning. A team of vigilance officials reached Naik's residence and carried out an investigation, with the search continuing through the morning. The action comes amid corruption-related issues raised by Aldona MLA Carlos Ferreira in the Goa Legislative Assembly, where Naik's alleged wealth and assets had come under scrutiny. Ferreira had reportedly alleged that Naik functioned as a "collection agent" and questioned how a police constable could acquire a multi-crore bungalow, land and a luxury vehicle registered in his wife's name. The MLA had raised questions about the alleged disparity between Naik's known position in the police force and the assets reportedly held by the family.

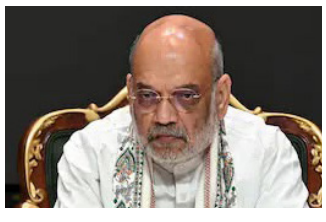


With Tulsi Vivah approaching, markets are selling sugarcane and other pooja essentials as devotees prepare for the sacred Hindu ritual commemorating Tulsi's ceremonial marriage to Lord Vishnu. *Photo Rozario Estibeiro*

"Kashmir Free From India-Born Terrorists After 35 Years": Amit Shah

Home Minister credits PM Modi's zero-tolerance policy as security forces eliminate Lashkar terrorist Lateef Bhat, calls for stronger nationwide counter-terrorism coordination

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday declared that Kashmir is free from India-born terrorists for the first time in 35 years, describing it as a major milestone in the country's fight against terrorism. He credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism for achieving significant progress on the ground.

The announcement followed the killing of Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist Lateef Bhat during an encounter with security forces in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Wednesday. Bhat carried a reward of Rs 15 lakh and was wanted in connection with a November 11 attack on a CRPF post that injured three personnel.

"Safety of Indian Seafarers Is a Very High Priority": Hardeep Puri

Centre steps up efforts to protect Indian maritime workers amid repeated attacks on commercial vessels and rising security concerns around the Strait of Hormuz

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri has assured that the safety of Indian seafarers remains a very high priority for the government, stressing that the Centre is making every possible effort to protect them amid growing maritime security concerns.

Speaking to reporters on Thursday, Puri acknowledged the difficult circumstances faced by Indian seafarers and highlighted India's significant presence in the global maritime industry. He said the government remains committed to assisting Indian citizens working across international shipping routes.

Puri stated that the safety of seafarers has been raised during the Prime Minister's foreign engagements, with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and other government officials also working towards addressing their concerns.

DO WE WAKE UP ONLY AFTER THE FIRES?

Another fire, another devastating loss and another round of assurances. From Vasco's Sunday Market to Calangute's beach shacks, Goa's recurring fire incidents expose a disturbing failure of preparedness, accountability and preventive governance.

Goa seems to have developed a dangerous habit of waking up only after a fire has destroyed lives, livelihoods and property. Every incident brings shock, sympathy, compensation announcements and promises of corrective action. But once the flames are extinguished and media attention fades, the larger questions remain unanswered. How many more establishments must turn to ashes before fire safety becomes a serious governance priority?

The latest incident at Gauravaddo in Calangute, where four beach shacks were completely gutted in a fire on Thursday, November 19, causing estimated losses of Rs 1.4 crore, is yet another reminder of this recurring problem. Strong winds reportedly caused the flames to spread from one shack to three adjoining structures. While financial assistance has been announced by the Tourism Department, Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte, Calangute MLA Michael Lobo and the local panchayat, the bigger question is whether this tragedy could have been prevented or its damage minimised.

Deccan Chronicle

What makes this incident particularly concerning is its timing. It comes barely weeks after the devastating fire at Vasco's Sunday Market, where around 140 shops were gutted, leaving scores of traders facing enormous financial losses. The Vasco incident exposed serious shortcomings in fire safety infrastructure, including reports of non-functional fire hydrants, congested access routes and difficulties faced by firefighters in reaching and manoeuvring around the affected area.

The question Goa must now confront is simple: are we learning anything from these disasters?

Beach shacks are an integral part of Goa's tourism identity. Every tourist season, hundreds of temporary structures come up along the coastline, serving thousands of visitors and providing livelihoods to local families. However, the nature and location of these establishments demand special fire safety arrangements. Many shacks are situated along sandy stretches where conventional fire engines cannot easily reach. In several locations, access is restricted, narrow or unsuitable for heavy emergency vehicles.

When a shack catches fire, particularly in windy conditions, flames can spread rapidly to neighbouring structures. So, how exactly is a fire tender expected to reach a shack located deep along the beach? Where are the designated emergency access routes? Are there adequate water points, firefighting equipment and trained personnel stationed in vulnerable coastal stretches?

These are not questions that should arise after a disaster. They should have been addressed before the tourist season even began.

The Fire and Emergency Services Department cannot be expected to perform miracles if the necessary infrastructure is missing. Firefighters may arrive at the scene, but what happens when their vehicles cannot access the location? What happens when there is no immediate water supply or specialised equipment to tackle a fire in a difficult terrain?

Interestingly, following the Calangute incident, the Tourism Minister spoke about pursuing specialised 4x4 foam fire tenders for Candolim and Calangute, along with discussions to procure all-terrain firefighting vehicles for North and South Goa. While this is a welcome acknowledgement of the problem, Goa cannot afford to treat such equipment as a future proposal when the risks are already evident.

Deccan Chronicle

The responsibility does not rest with the Fire Department alone. The Tourism Department, local panchayats, municipalities, district administrations and the state government must work together. Bureaucrats and officials responsible for permissions, inspections and safety compliance must be held accountable for ensuring that basic safeguards exist.

Every licensed beach shack should undergo mandatory fire safety inspections before operations begin. Electrical installations, cooking equipment, LPG connections, extinguishers and emergency exits must be checked. Clearly marked access routes must be maintained, and no structure should be permitted to obstruct emergency movement. Dedicated firefighting arrangements suitable for sandy terrain must become a priority.

Similarly, the Vasco incident should have triggered an immediate statewide fire safety audit of markets, commercial complexes, restaurants, warehouses and other densely packed establishments. The reported failure of hydrants at the market should not become another forgotten observation.

Compensation is necessary, but compensation is not prevention. Announcing financial assistance after people lose everything is not a substitute for protecting their investments and livelihoods in the first place. Goa prides itself on being an international tourist destination. Yet, what message are we sending when basic emergency preparedness remains questionable at some of our most important commercial and tourism locations?

The government must stop treating every fire as an isolated incident. These are warnings of a larger systemic failure that demands urgent intervention.

Goa does not need another inspection after the next fire. It needs functioning fire safety infrastructure before the next fire.

The flames may eventually die down, but the responsibility of those entrusted with public safety must never fade with them.

The responsibility does not rest with the Fire Department alone. The Tourism Department, local panchayats, municipalities, district administrations and the state government must work together. Bureaucrats and officials responsible for permissions, inspections and safety compliance must be held accountable for ensuring that basic safeguards exist.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Violence in Karapur Raises Serious Concerns Over Public Safety

The violent clash reported at Dhavaskarwada in Sarvan, which left seven people injured and eight two-wheelers damaged, is deeply disturbing. Disagreements between individuals or groups must never be allowed to escalate into physical violence involving iron rods, sticks and sickles.

The reported injuries, including a serious hand injury and a head injury requiring stitches, underline the gravity of the incident. Such violence creates fear among residents and threatens the peace and security of the local community.

The fact that both groups have approached Bicholim Police with counter-complaints makes a fair and impartial investigation essential. The police must establish how the confrontation began, identify those responsible and take appropriate action based on evidence. No individual or group should be allowed to take the law into their own hands.

The allegation raised by activist Swapnesh Sherlekar that one of the injured persons was targeted because of his opposition to a proposed mega housing project in Karapur is particularly serious. This claim must be investigated independently to determine whether the violence had any connection with the ongoing disagreement over the project.

Development-related differences should be resolved through democratic discussion, lawful procedures and public consultation, not intimidation or violence.

The administration must ensure that residents can express their views on projects affecting their villages without fear. At the same time, those responsible for assault, vandalism or any other unlawful activity must face the consequences.

Karapur and its surrounding villages deserve peace, safety and respect for differing opinions. The police must ensure that this incident is thoroughly investigated and that law and order are upheld without fear or favour.

- Milind Naik, Sanquelim, Goa

IFFI 2026: GOA MUST ENSURE GLOBAL CINEMA EXPOSURE BENEFITS LOCAL FILMMAKERS

The 57th International Film Festival of India, beginning in Goa on November 20, is an important occasion for the state and the country's film fraternity. With the theme "Stories Without Borders", this year's festival brings together cinema from across the world and provides a platform for filmmakers, artists and audiences to connect.

The screening of over 150 international films from 86 countries, alongside 76 Indian films, reflects the diversity and reach of global cinema. Events such as WAVES Film Bazaar, Creative Minds of Tomorrow, masterclasses and workshops also create opportunities for emerging talent to learn, collaborate and showcase their work.

Goa has hosted IFFI for several years, and the festival has become an important part of its cultural calendar. However, its success should not be measured only by the number of films screened or delegates attending. It should also be judged by how meaningfully local filmmakers, students, artists and businesses benefit from the event.

The government and festival organisers must ensure that Goan talent receives adequate opportunities and visibility. Local film professionals and young creators should be encouraged to participate in workshops, networking sessions and industry interactions.

The festival must also remain accessible to ordinary residents, with clear information on screening schedules, transport and delegate facilities.

IFFI is an opportunity to strengthen Goa's position as a cultural and creative destination. As the world of cinema gathers here, the state must ensure that the festival leaves behind lasting opportunities for local talent and contributes meaningfully to Goa's artistic ecosystem.

- Aarav Kamat, Porvorim, Goa

Printed and Published by Rupali Suraj Nandrekar for M/s Daily Scoops Media Pvt Ltd. Published from H.No 5/56, Donwado, Saligoa, Bardez, North Goa, Goa – 403511 and Printed from H.No 5/56, Donwado, Saligoa, Bardez, North Goa, Goa – 403511. Editor Suraj Arjun Nandrekar (responsible under the PRB Act)



International Film Festival of India | NFDC cinemas of india | सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING | ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY OF GOA (GOVERNMENT OF GOA UNDERTAKING)

57th International Film Festival *of* India, Goa

Grand Opening

In the gracious presence of

Dr. Pramod Sawant
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Goa

Shri. Ashwini Vaishnaw
Hon'ble Minister of Information & Broadcasting,
Railways and Electronics & Information Technology
Government of India

Opening Ceremony on 20th November, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.
at Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium, Taleigao, Goa

We kindly request your presence to be seated 30 minutes before the event begins.

For more Information & Registration log on to
www.esg.co.in and **www.iffigoa.org**
IFFI Helpline number **08326741717** (8.00 a.m. - 10.00 p.m.)

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True Goemkar at heart

Minor girl rescued from 16-year-old CCL in Pune; POCSO charges added

Panaji police apprehend CCL in Maharashtra following kidnapping complaint; further investigation underway

Team Goemkarponn



PANAJI: A kidnapping complaint was lodged at Panaji Police Station on November 17, 2026, at 3.34 pm, alleging that a 16-year-old Child in Conflict with Law (CCL) had kidnapped his 15-year-old minor sister from the lawful guardianship of her family.

According to the complaint, the incident took place on November 16, 2026, at around 3 pm at Chinchinim, Taleigao, Tiswadi, Goa. The complainant further alleged that the CCL had concealed the whereabouts of the minor girl. During the course of the investigation, a team from Panaji Police Station, acting on information gathered through its sources, traced and apprehended the CCL at Pune, Maharashtra, and rescued the minor girl.

Further investigation revealed that the CCL had allegedly sexually assaulted the minor girl. As the accused was found to be 16 years old, he was lodged at Apna Ghar, Merces, as per the applicable procedure for a child in conflict with law.

Subsequently, Section 64 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Sections 4, 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act were added to the case. Further investigation is in progress under the supervision of LPSI Harshal Raika.



Man posing as police officer robs man of ₹10,000 in Nerul; accused arrested

Accused allegedly threatened to kill complainant and forcibly took cash before fleeing; arrested by police

Team Goemkarponn

NERUL: A 33-year-old man was allegedly robbed of approximately ₹10,000 by a person impersonating a police officer at Fattawado, near the washing centre, Nerul, Bardez, Goa.

According to the complaint lodged by Ajay Kumar Sahni on November 18, 2026, at 6.27 pm, the incident occurred on November 17 at around 6.30 pm. The complainant alleged that the accused, identified as Agostinho Carvalho (43), a resident of Majorda, South Goa, arrived at the spot on a red and black scooter bearing registration number GA-08-AY-2437. The accused allegedly impersonated a police officer, wrongfully restrained the complainant, threatened to kill him, pushed him and forcibly took approximately ₹10,000 from his possession before fleeing from the scene. During the course of the investigation, police arrested the accused Agostinho Carvalho at 8 pm after observing all Supreme Court guidelines. He was subsequently lodged in the police station lockup. Further investigation is in progress under the supervision of PSI Manesh Dabhale.



Two camera traps worth ₹63,960 stolen from Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary

Team Goemkarponn

SANGUEM: Two camera traps installed by the Forest Department for the All India Tiger Estimation exercise have allegedly been stolen from a restricted forest area within Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary at Verlem village, Sanguem.

According to a complaint lodged by Devidas Velip, Range Forest Officer of Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary, the theft occurred on November 18, 2026, at around 10.50 am. The stolen equipment includes two camera traps, two 32 GB SD memory cards and 16 AA Duracell batteries, collectively valued at approximately ₹63,960. The theft came to light during a routine inspection when a forest guard and wildlife trekker noticed that the camera traps and associated equipment installed in the forest area were missing. The incident has raised concerns over the security of monitoring equipment installed in the sanctuary for wildlife surveillance and tiger estimation activities.

Colvale jail assault victim undergoing treatment at GMC; condition awaits medical assessment

Convict prisoner Vikat Bhagat sustains head injuries after alleged attack by fellow inmates inside high-security block; police probe attempt to murder

Team Goemkarponn

BAMBOLIM: Convict prisoner Vikat Bhagat, who was allegedly brutally assaulted by fellow inmates inside the High Security Block of Central Jail, Colvale, is presently undergoing medical treatment at Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim, following the attack. According to police enquiries conducted at the GMC casualty ward, Bhagat sustained injuries to his head, allegedly caused by a hard object. His current medical condition and the extent of his injuries are yet to be officially ascertained.



Colvale jail assault victim seriously injured, undergoing treatment at GMC

Convict prisoner Vikat Bhagat, who was allegedly attacked by a group of fellow inmates inside the High Security Block of Central Jail, Colvale, is undergoing treatment at Goa Medical College (GMC), Bambolim, after sustaining serious head injuries in the assault.

Unidentified Man Found Dead on Railway Tracks Between OHE Masts

Around 45-Year-Old Man Suspected to Have Been Hit by a Moving Train; Vasco Railway Police Register UD Case

Team Goemkarponn

VASCO: An unidentified man, aged around 45 years, was found dead on the railway tracks between OHE masts after reportedly being hit by a running train in the Vasco railway section during the early hours of November 19. According to Vasco Railway Police, information was received at 1.02 am from the Deputy Station Manager, Vasco da Gama, who stated that the Station Master at Sankval had received a message from the loco pilot of a YPR train about an unidentified body lying on the railway tracks. Police visited the spot and found the body of an unidentified male lying between the railway tracks with severe locomotive injuries. The deceased is estimated to be around 45 years old, approximately five feet tall, with a strong build, wheatish complexion and a round face. He was wearing a grey half-sleeved T-shirt and green half-pants.



Police conducted an inquest panchanama at the scene, following which the body was shifted to SGDH Hospital, Margao, for further medico-legal formalities.

Preliminary enquiry suggests that the deceased was possibly a labourer and may have been hit by a moving train while walking along or crossing the railway tracks.

19-Year-Old Man Succumbs to Burn Injuries at Hospital

Team Goemkarponn

ANJUNA: A 19-year-old man, identified as Ratnesh Chavan, succumbed to his burn injuries while undergoing treatment at a hospital on November 18. According to Anjuna Police, a wireless message was received from CP Bambolim at 4.56 pm on November 18, informing that Ratnesh Chavan, who was admitted to Ward SSB-74 under MLC No. 26/9167, had passed away.

57th IFFI Opens Today in Goa With 'Stories Without Borders' Theme

Nine-Day Film Festival to Showcase Over 150 International Films From 86 Countries; Grammy Award-Winner Ricky Kej to Headline Opening Ceremony

Team Goemkarponn



PANAJI: The 57th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) opens in Goa today, November 20, bringing together filmmakers, artists, delegates and cinema enthusiasts from across the world for nine days of cinematic celebrations. Organised under the theme 'Stories Without Borders', the festival will continue until November 28, celebrating international cinema, cultural diversity and creative exchange through film screenings, musical performances and industry-related activities. The grand opening ceremony will be held at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium in Goa, featuring musical presentations, cultural performances and ceremonial proceedings. The ceremony will be attended by Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant and prominent personalities from the Indian film industry, including MP Ravi Kishan, filmmaker and festival director Ashutosh Gowariker, Madhur Bhandarkar and Aanand L. Rai. One of the major highlights of the opening ceremony will be a symphonic orchestra presentation titled 'A World of Cinema Through Music' by three-time Grammy Award-winning composer Ricky Kej. The programme will also feature 'Music Without Borders', bringing together musicians from different countries, along with a special dance presentation titled 'Beyond the Frame'.



10 Films to Compete for ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal at 57th IFFI

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Ten Indian and international films have been selected to compete for the prestigious ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), scheduled to be held in Goa from November 20 to 28. The selected films explore themes of peace, tolerance, empathy, social justice and intercultural dialogue, reflecting the festival's emphasis on cinema as a medium for promoting understanding across cultures. The four-member international jury will be headed by Prof. (Dr.) Ahmed Bedjaoui of Algeria, a university professor, filmmaker, producer and film critic. The other members include Maria Cristina Iglesias of Argentina and France, former Head of Programme at UNESCO's Cultural Sector; Georges Dupont of Luxembourg, former Director-General of CICT-ICFT; and Indian filmmaker Manouj Kadaamh.

100 Young Filmmaking Talents to Participate in Creative Minds of Tomorrow

Sixth Edition of CMOT to Feature 13 Filmmaking Disciplines, 48-Hour Film Challenge and Industry Talent Camp

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: A total of 100 aspiring young creative talents from across India will participate in the sixth edition of Creative Minds of Tomorrow (CMOT) at the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), which begins in Goa today, November 20. An initiative of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, implemented by the National Film



Development Corporation (NFDC), CMOT aims to provide emerging filmmakers and creative professionals with practical industry exposure, mentorship and opportunities to showcase their talent.

This year's cohort brings together participants from 13 filmmaking crafts, including direction, acting, cinematography, editing and subtitling, scriptwriting, playback singing, music composition, sound recording, costume design, hair and makeup, art direction, animation, visual effects, augmented reality, virtual reality, voice-over and dubbing.



Panaji Decked Up in Cinematic Grandeur Ahead of 57th IFFI

Golden Peacock Installations, Illuminated Canopies, Film-Reel Tunnels and Thematic Decorations Transform Goa's Capital as Nine-Day Film Festival Begins Today

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa's capital city has transformed into a vibrant celebration of cinema and culture as preparations for the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) reach their final stage. The nine-day festival begins today, November 20, and will continue until November 28. Themed around 'Stories Without Borders', Panaji is witnessing a colourful makeover, with elaborate installations, illuminated decorations and cinematic attractions welcoming delegates, filmmakers and cinema enthusiasts from across the country and abroad. Major festival venues, including the Entertainment Society of Goa (ESG) complex, Kala Academy and surrounding avenues of Panaji, have been adorned with thematic installations celebrating India's rich cinematic heritage. One of the prominent attractions is a grand entrance arch featuring the iconic Golden Peacock motif, symbolising the prestigious festival. Colourful geometric installations, illuminated structures and decorative displays bearing the 57th IFFI emblem have also been installed at prominent locations. A special attraction for visitors is the giant cinema-reel-themed walk-through tunnel, decorated with film posters and visual elements celebrating the world of cinema.

Anthony Chen's 'We Are All Strangers' to Bring 57th IFFI to a Poignant Close

Singaporean Film Explores Love, Family and Intergenerational Bonds; Feature to Be Screened as Closing Film on November 28

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: The 57th edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), which opens in Goa today, November 20, will conclude on November 28 with the screening of 'We Are All Strangers', a Singaporean feature film directed by acclaimed filmmaker Anthony Chen. The 2026 production will



be screened as the festival's closing film, offering audiences an exploration of human relationships, family ties and the complexities of contemporary life. Set against the backdrop of modern-day Singapore, the film revolves around 21-year-old Junyang, whose carefree life takes an unexpected turn when changes in his relationship force him and his girlfriend to confront the responsibilities of adulthood. At the same time, the arrival of a spirited woman in the life of Junyang's hardworking father gradually changes the relationship between the father and son. Through these parallel stories, the film explores love, loss, accountability and the delicate relationships that shape families across generations. 'We Are All Strangers' is the latest instalment in Anthony Chen's acclaimed 'Growing Up' trilogy. The filmmaker earlier won the prestigious Cannes Caméra d'Or for his debut film 'Ilo Ilo' (2013), and subsequently directed 'Wet Season'.

Before its screening at IFFI in Goa, the film was presented at the 2026 Berlin International Film Festival and received appreciation at the Melbourne and Helsinki International Film Festivals.

Goa Explores Major Business Partnerships With Norway Across Ocean Industries, Technology and Tourism

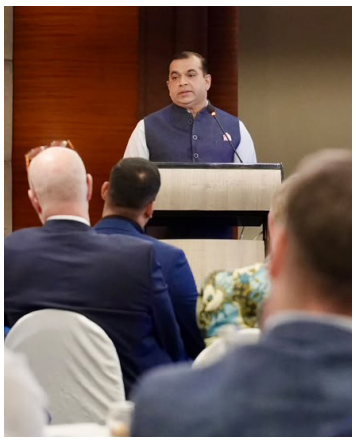
NICCI Goa Connect 2026 brings Norwegian businesses and government representatives together to explore investment, innovation and talent-sharing opportunities

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa is exploring stronger economic and strategic partnerships with Norway across ocean industries, shipbuilding, technology, education, sports and tourism. The opportunities were discussed at NICCI Goa Connect 2026, held in Panaji on November 19, bringing together Norwegian business representatives, Indian enterprises, government officials and industry stakeholders.

The event aimed to strengthen bilateral economic relations, identify investment opportunities and establish long-term partnerships between businesses and institutions in both countries. Tourism and Information Technology Minister Rohan Khaunte highlighted Goa's growing economic potential and its readiness to attract Norwegian investments. He pointed to the Green Strategic Partnership between India and Norway, which has opened new avenues for cooperation in shipbuilding, the blue economy, renewable energy and startups.











Khaunte also highlighted Goa's startup ecosystem, which has around 830 DPIIT-registered startups, with more than 40 per cent led by women. He encouraged Norwegian companies to explore opportunities in the state, particularly in engineering, maritime projects and software development, while emphasising Goa's potential as a gateway to the wider Indian market.

NICCI Chairman Helge Tryti highlighted Goa's investment-friendly environment, skilled workforce and business opportunities. He identified the state's single-window investment facilitation system, strong educational institutions, industrial infrastructure and startup support policies as important advantages for international investors.

The programme featured keynote addresses, panel discussions, startup pitches and sector-specific matchmaking sessions. Discussions covered the Norway-India business corridor, artificial intelligence, academic partnerships and cooperation between Norway's Gjøvikregionen and India.

A major highlight was the springboard pitching session, where selected companies presented three-minute business proposals to an expert panel and received feedback on potential partnerships and market opportunities. Dedicated matchmaking sessions focused on academia and corporate partnerships, ocean industries, sports, wellness, tourism, Norwegian technology and Indian talent. The Norwegian delegation's second visit to Goa reflects growing interest in strengthening economic relations with the state. The delegation is scheduled to undertake further site visits to explore Goa's business ecosystem and identify opportunities for future collaboration.

...CONTD FROM PAGE 01

Internal dispute erupts into violent clash at Karapur

while Rama Dhavaskar sustained a head injury that required stitches. The remaining injured persons suffered injuries during the altercation.

The incident also resulted in damage to eight two-wheelers belonging to members of the Karapur group.

Bicholim police reached the locality after receiving information about the violence and took steps to assist the injured. Representatives of both groups subsequently approached the Bicholim police station, where counter-complaints were lodged.

Meanwhile, social activist Swapnesh Sherlekar alleged that the incident was connected to Ghadi's involvement in the agitation against the proposed mega project by the House of Abhinandan Lodha at Karapur.

Sherlekar claimed that Ghadi had been actively involved in the protest against the project and expressed concern that the incident could be linked to attempts to intimidate those opposing developments in their villages.

Congress delegation meets DGP, demands immediate arrest of Karapur-Sarvan assault accused

Congress leaders called for an impartial and time-bound investigation, stressing that the police must take concrete action against every person involved in the assault. They maintained that merely registering a case would not be sufficient and demanded arrests without further delay.

The delegation also raised concerns over what it described as a worsening law and order situation in Goa, holding Chief Minister Pramod Sawant responsible for the growing sense of insecurity among citizens.

The Congress leaders alleged that increasing incidents of violence and confrontations reflected a decline in public confidence in the police and administration. They said the government must ensure that disputes are resolved through the legal system rather than allowing people to take the law into their own hands.

Questioning the BJP government's claims of good governance, the delegation said citizens must be able to feel safe and have confidence in institutions responsible for protecting them.

The Congress leaders further accused Sawant of failing to discharge his responsibility of maintaining law and order and demanded that he accept moral responsibility for the situation.

The party said the Chief Minister should resign, alleging that his government had failed to provide effective leadership on the fundamental issue of public safety.

The delegation placed four key demands before the police and government: immediate arrest of all those involved in the assault on Gauresh Ghadi, a fair and time-bound investigation, strict legal action against every accused irrespective of political connections, and greater accountability on the part of the police and administration.

The Congress leaders cautioned that public confidence in democratic institutions and the justice system must be restored, adding that the people of Goa deserved safety, accountability and timely justice.

They reiterated that securing justice for Ghadi and other victims of the incident, along with restoring confidence in law enforcement, must remain the immediate priority.

Assam Police Seize 10.7 Kg Heroin Worth ₹85 Crore, Two Arrested

Major anti-narcotics operation in Kamrup exposes interstate drug smuggling route from Manipur to West Bengal

Team Goemkarponn

GUWAHATI: Assam Police have seized approximately 10.7 kilograms of heroin worth an estimated Rs 85 crore in the illegal market and arrested two people in a major crackdown on interstate drug trafficking in Kamrup district.

The seizure took place at Amingaon on Thursday during an operation conducted by the Special Task Force under the supervision of



Additional Superintendent of Police Kalyan Kumar Pathak. Acting on specific intelligence inputs, the police team intercepted a black Ford Endeavour suspected of transporting a large consignment of narcotics. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of approximately 10.7 kilograms of heroin.

The two occupants of the SUV were taken into custody. They were identified as Rakibul Islam, a resident of Nagaland, and Mohammad Jahangir Ali from Assam's Barpeta district. According to the police investigation, the seized heroin was allegedly being transported from Tengnoupal district in Manipur and was destined for West Bengal. The estimated value of the recovered narcotics stands at around Rs 85 crore, making the seizure a significant success in the state's efforts to curb drug trafficking. Police have launched a further investigation to identify the individuals and networks involved in transporting the consignment.



Cyclone Akvan Near Odisha Coast: Over 3 Lakh Evacuated, Schools Shut and 47 Trains Cancelled

Emergency teams deployed as Odisha and Andhra Pradesh brace for heavy rainfall and winds of up to 90 kmph

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Cyclone Akvan has weakened into a cyclonic storm but continues to pose a threat to coastal Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, triggering large-scale evacuations, school closures and disruptions to railway services. Authorities remain on high alert as the storm is expected to cross the North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha coast near Gopalpur by the forenoon of November 20.

The India Meteorological Department has forecast wind speeds of 70 to 80 kmph, with gusts reaching up to 90 kmph, accompanied by heavy rainfall in several coastal areas.

Schools Closed, Train Services Affected

The Odisha government has ordered the closure of all government, government-aided and private schools, along with Anganwadi centres, in six districts from November 19 to 21.

Railway operations have also been disrupted as a precautionary measure. A total of 47 trains have been cancelled, while 28 others have been rescheduled to ensure passenger safety. Travellers have been advised to check updated train schedules before beginning their journeys.



"I Gave Tax Cuts, Have You Hiked Salaries or Created Jobs?" PM Modi Questions India Inc

Team Goemkarponn

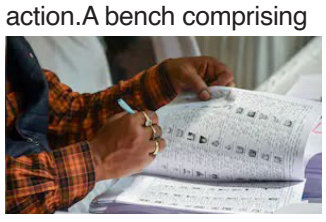
NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday questioned India's corporate leaders over the lack of significant salary increases and job creation despite substantial tax relief provided by the government, urging businesses to do more for their employees and contribute actively to the country's economic growth. Addressing the annual gathering of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) in New Delhi, Modi highlighted the government's decision to reduce the basic corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to 22 per cent. He also pointed to income tax relief for individuals earning up to Rs 12 lakh annually. However, he questioned whether companies had translated these financial benefits into better salaries or additional employment opportunities.

"Probe Fake Voter Deletion Claims": Supreme Court Directs EC to Verify Form 7 Applications in Delhi

Top court asks Election Commission to investigate alleged fraudulent requests to remove voters from Mustafabad electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Election Commission of India to investigate allegations of fraudulent Form 7 applications seeking the deletion of voters' names from electoral rolls in Delhi's Mustafabad Assembly constituency and take appropriate corrective action.A bench comprising



Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana passed the direction while hearing a petition alleging that false applications were submitted during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Form 7 is used to raise objections against the inclusion of names or seek the deletion of existing entries from electoral rolls. The petition referred to reports alleging that applications seeking voter deletions had been submitted in the names of certain booth-level agents (BLAs), who later denied having any knowledge of the requests.

"Rahul Gandhi Sounds Like Pakistan's Fanboy": BJP Hits Back Over 'Side Player' Remark

Congress leader questions India's global diplomatic influence at the University of Chicago, triggering a sharp political confrontation with the BJP

Team Goemkarponn

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi has sparked a fresh political controversy after describing India as a "side player" in global geopolitics, claiming that the country is losing its influence in important international discussions while Pakistan engages with major powers such as the United States and Iran. Speaking at



the University of Chicago in the United States, Gandhi said India had traditionally maintained an independent foreign policy, balancing international partnerships with its own strategic interests. However, he argued that the country was increasingly being excluded from significant global conversations.

Questioning the government's approach to international relations, Gandhi said personal friendships between world leaders should not determine diplomatic decisions. He argued that India's foreign policy must be driven by national interests rather than individual relationships. His remarks triggered a strong reaction from the BJP, which accused him of damaging India's international reputation by making such statements on foreign soil. BJP spokesperson CR Kesavan described Gandhi's comments as irresponsible and accused him of portraying Pakistan favourably while undermining India's diplomatic standing. He argued that India had strengthened its position as an important global voice under Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"This Is Just the Trailer": Ravichandran Ashwin Raises Alarm Over Mohammed Siraj's Future in Team India

Former India spinner questions team management's decision to drop Siraj from the Wellington Test and warns that the pacer could also face uncertainty ahead of the 2027 ODI World Cup.

Team Goemkarponn



NEW DELHI: Former India spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has strongly criticised the Indian team management for leaving Mohammed Siraj out of the playing XI for the first Test against New Zealand in Wellington, raising concerns about the fast bowler's future in the national team. India selected Jasprit Bumrah, Anshul Kamboj, Akash Deep and Prasidh Krishna as their four pace options, while Washington Sundar was included as the specialist spin option. The decision initially appeared effective, with Bumrah claiming three wickets to reduce New Zealand to 70/5 on the opening day. However, a strong recovery led by Henry Nicholls and Glenn Phillips brought the hosts back into the contest. Ashwin questioned why discussions surrounding Siraj's exclusion had continued for weeks before the match. He also expressed concern about the possibility of the fast bowler being overlooked for the 2027 ODI World Cup. Referring to Siraj's importance during India's 2023 ODI World Cup campaign, Ashwin suggested that his continued exclusion could signal a bigger problem.



"Stop Worrying, Enjoy Chess": Viswanathan Anand's Advice to Gukesh Ahead of World Championship Defence

Chess legend urges India's young world champion to relax and enjoy the game as he prepares for a historic title clash against Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Chess legend Viswanathan Anand has advised reigning world champion D Gukesh to focus on enjoying the game rather than worrying about results as he prepares to defend his world title against Uzbekistan's Javokhir Sindarov in Geneva next week.

The upcoming contest will make history, with both Gukesh and Sindarov aged 20, becoming the youngest pair of players to compete in a World Championship match.

Anand believes excessive pressure and worrying can affect a player's performance and has encouraged Gukesh to approach the challenge with a relaxed mindset. He revealed that he has been giving the same advice to the young Grandmaster for the past five to six years.

Recalling his own experiences as a young player, Anand said he also struggled with similar concerns at the age of 18 and 20. However, he believes that worrying excessively does not improve performance and that players should instead concentrate on enjoying their chess.



MCC Priority Titans Beat MCC Tigers by Three Wickets in MCL 12

Team Goemkarponn

MARGAO: MCC Priority Titans secured a three-wicket victory over MCC Tigers in the Members Cricket League (MCL 12), organised by Margao Cricket Club, at the MCC ground in Margao under floodlights on Wednesday.

Batting first, MCC Tigers struggled to build substantial partnerships and finished with 115 for nine in their allotted 20 overs. Vaibhav Naik top-scored with 36 runs off 33 deliveries, while Aditya Prabhugaonkar contributed 22 off 25 balls. The remaining batters failed to make significant contributions.

For MCC Priority Titans, Om Fadte delivered an impressive bowling performance, claiming two wickets for 20 runs. Vasudev Kundaiker and Dr Sunny Kamat picked up a wicket each to restrict the Tigers to a modest total.

Chasing 116 for victory, Priority Titans reached the target in 18.3 overs, finishing at 116 for seven. Sahish Mahambrey anchored the chase with a valuable 35 off 29 balls, striking three boundaries.

Goa Suffer 95-Run Defeat Against Delhi in Women's U-23 T20 Trophy

Pooja Kalel's four-wicket haul goes in vain as Shivi Sharma's 90 and Diksha Sharma's five-wicket spell power Delhi to a convincing victory.

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa suffered a heavy 95-run defeat against Delhi in the Women's Under-23 T20 Trophy Elite tournament, Group B, at the Gurugram Cricket Ground (SRNCC) on Thursday. After winning the toss and opting to bat, Delhi posted an imposing 168 for five in their allotted 20 overs, with opener Shivi Sharma delivering an outstanding performance.



Shivi dominated the Goa bowling attack, smashing 90 runs off just 61 deliveries to put Delhi in a strong position. Shweta Sehrawat added 25, while Riya Soni contributed 21 to strengthen the total. For Goa, Pooja Kalel produced an impressive bowling performance, claiming four wickets for just 11 runs in her four overs. Pooja Yadav also picked up one wicket, conceding 34 runs. However, Goa's batting line-up struggled badly while chasing the target of 169. The team managed only 73 for eight in 20 overs, falling well short of the required total. Captain Tanaya Naik remained unbeaten on 22, while wicketkeeper Joya Meer also scored 22.

GFDC Inter Centre Grassroots Tournament 2026: Collem Hit Eight as Day 3 Delivers Goal Fest

Divar, Cuncolim and Zarme also register convincing victories as young Goan footballers shine in the U-13 Boys category

Team Goemkarponn



PANAJI: The third day of the GFDC Inter Centre Grassroots Tournament 2026 produced an exciting series of matches, with young footballers showcasing their skills and competitive spirit across two venues in Goa.

The U-13 Boys category witnessed several high-scoring encounters at the DSYA Ground in Quitula, Aldona, and the DSYA Ground in Cuncolim.

GFDC Collem delivered one of the most impressive performances of the day, recording a commanding 8-0 victory over Fatorda. GFDC Divar also enjoyed a dominant outing, defeating Vagator 7-0. GFDC Cuncolim defeated Khandepar 5-0, while GFDC Zarme registered an identical 5-0 victory against Aldona.

In other matches, GFDC Navelim defeated Shiroda 4-1 in the U-13 Boys eliminator, while Siolim secured a convincing 4-0 win over Corlim. GFDC Paroda also impressed with a 3-0 victory against GFDC Maina Curtorim in another eliminator fixture.

Cortalim overcame Dabal 4-2, while Quepem defeated Sao Jose de Areal 2-0. Tuem also secured a 2-0 victory against Sanquelim.

Goa Bowled Out for 97 as Karnataka Take Command in Vijay Merchant Trophy

Team Goemkarponn

PANAJI: Goa suffered a disastrous start against Karnataka in their three-day Vijay Merchant Trophy Elite cricket encounter, getting bowled out for just 97 runs on the opening day at the Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium B Ground on Thursday.

After winning the toss and opting to bat, Goa struggled against Karnataka's disciplined bowling attack, managing just 97 runs in 31.5 overs.