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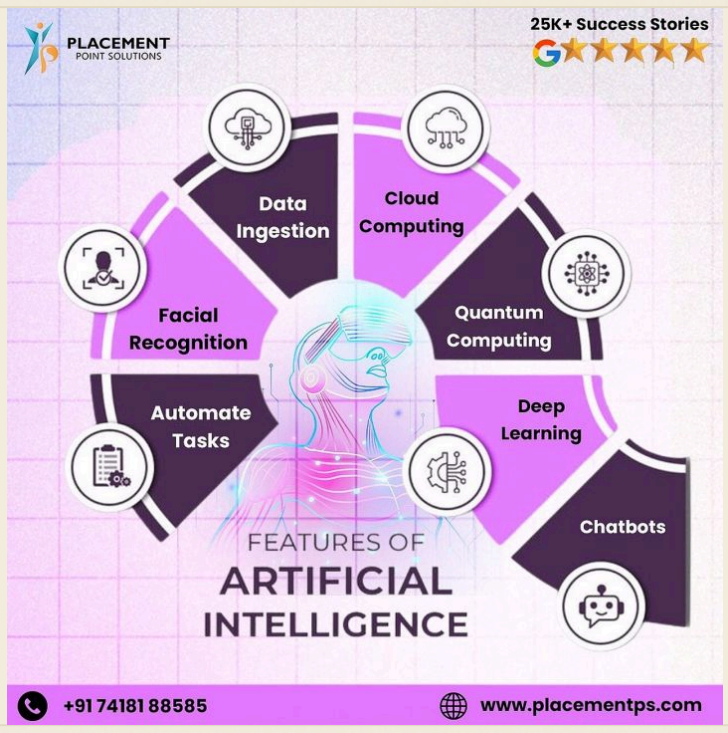
GOA | NEED 24 NEWS · Every Story, Every City | 21 November 2026

EDUCATION

State to Launch AI Training for Students and Professionals



The state government has announced plans to provide comprehensive training in Artificial Intelligence (AI) to students, professionals, and job seekers. The program aims to bridge the skill gap in the rapidly evolving AI sector by providing participants with the knowledge and expertise necessary to succeed in the industry. Details regarding the training curriculum, eligibility criteria, and registration process will be released shortly.

SPORTS

Daman Removes Chabe from Delegate Position for AIFF Elections



The Daman Football Association announced on Tuesday that it has removed Chabe from its delegate position for the upcoming All India Football Federation (AIFF) elections. The decision was taken during an internal meeting of the association, although the reasons behind it have not been made public.

The AIFF elections are scheduled to be held later this year and will determine the composition of the national football council, thereby influencing the development of the sport in the country. Each state and union territory has the right to appoint a delegate who will represent their region’s voice in the voting process.

By changing its delegate, Daman aims to ensure representation that aligns with its strategic priorities. The new delegate has not yet been announced, and the association stated that the appointment will be notified soon.

This move comes amidst a reshuffling of delegates in several regions as the AIFF prepares for a crucial election cycle that could shape the future of Indian football.

FOOD

Mini Holige and Paneer Curry Served on Bengaluru-Goa Vande Bharat



Indian Railways' Bengaluru-Goa Vande Bharat train has now introduced a menu showcasing regional flavors. Passengers can now enjoy mini holige, a traditional sweet, and paneer curry prepared with local spices. Along with these, other Konkani and Karnataka dishes will be served, highlighting the culinary heritage of both states.

The menu was featured in a video report by Asianet Newsable, which captured the train's kitchen and the presentation of the dishes. Railway officials said the initiative is aimed at providing passengers with a more comfortable and culturally enriched travel experience.

The inclusion of these dishes aligns with Indian Railways' broader strategy to promote regional food in its premium services, allowing passengers to taste local cuisine without leaving the train. The Vande Bharat, known for its speed and modern amenities, is now adding a culinary dimension to its appeal.

CRIME

Cochin Accused Sentenced to 12 Years for Raping British Tourist in Palolem, Goa



Goa court sentenced a Chennai accused to twelve years in prison for raping a British tourist on Palolem beach. After trial it was established that the accused directly participated in the 2018 offence.

The incident occurred on the popular Palolem beach in South Goa in 2018 when a British tourist was traveling. Police investigation linked the Chennai individual to the crime, leading to his arrest and trial.

The verdict imposed a twelve-year sentence, reflecting the gravity of such offences under Indian law. No information is available about appeals or additional penalties after the sentence.

POLITICS

Chief Minister Says Congress Is Divided, Modi and Shah United the Country



An unnamed chief minister of an Indian state said today that the Congress party is deeply divided. He added that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shah have united the country. The comment was made during a press conference held in the state capital. The chief minister did not specify which faction of Congress he was referring to, but the remark was widely interpreted as a critique of the national opposition. Analysts believe the statement was aimed at strengthening the ruling party's narrative before upcoming elections.

TRAVEL

Goa Beaches Target Blue Flag 2026-27



The Blue Flag certification is an internationally recognised environmental label awarded to beaches that meet stringent environmental, safety and accessibility standards. The Goa government is actively working to obtain this recognition for its beaches, investing in infrastructure development, waste management and public awareness campaigns. Mandrem and Galgibaga have been identified as potential candidates for certification based on their existing infrastructure and commitment to sustainable practices. 2026-27 is the target year when these beaches aim to achieve the desired Blue Flag status.

ENTERTAINMENT

Over 230 Films to Be Screened at IFFI 2026 in Goa; Spain Honoured as Country of Honour



The International Film Festival (IFFI) 2026 will be held in Goa, featuring over 230 films from around the world.

The programme includes feature films, documentaries, and short films in various genres, curated by festival selectors.

Country of Honour for this edition, with a special focus on Spanish cinema and cultural programmes.

Organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the festival promotes cross-cultural dialogue and provides a platform for emerging filmmakers.

The festival will run for ten days, attracting industry professionals, critics, and audiences from India and abroad.

AUTOMOBILE

India’s Longest Vande Bharat Express Now Live: Timetable, Fare and Non-Running Day



India’s longest Vande Bharat Express has been launched, offering a fast and comfortable travel option across the country. The train’s timetable has been finalized, with departure and arrival times announced by Indian Railways. A fare structure has also been released, detailing costs for various classes and seat options. Additionally, the service will be closed on a specific day, as noted in the timetable. Passengers can book tickets online or at stations to take advantage of this new high-speed facility.

CRIME

Goa Police Arrest Teacher Accused of Pursuing and Harassing Minor Student in Bicolim



Goa police arrested a teacher in Bicolim on charges of pursuing and harassing a minor student. The incident was reported to local authorities, who immediately detained the teacher. Police are conducting an investigation. Further legal action is expected in the case.

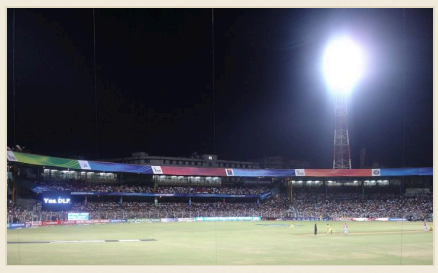
AUTOMOBILE

Royal Enfield Launches Himalayan 750 at Goa Festival



Royal Enfield has announced that the new Himalayan 750 will be launched at a festival in Goa as part of the MotoVers 2026 series. The event will showcase the motorcycle to a wide audience. The Himalayan 750, the latest version of the popular Himalayan line, is expected to bring new features and performance improvements. The festival will give riders a chance to experience the bike before it hits the market.

IPL 2027 Retention Deadline Today: Franchises Must Submit Final Squad



The IPL 2027 season is set to begin soon, and today is the last day for all franchises to file their final squads. Each team can retain up to 25 players from the previous season before the auction commences. This retention rule has been in place for several seasons, allowing teams to secure key players while freeing up budget for new signings. Franchises are now deciding which players to retain and which to release, a decision that will shape their auction strategy. As the deadline approaches, clubs are preparing legal documents and submitting them to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). These decisions today will have a profound impact on the teams’ rosters for the upcoming tournament.

HEALTH

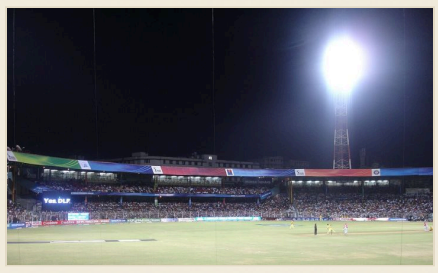
Type 1 Diabetes: Travel Preparation Focused on Safety



Traveling with type 1 diabetes requires careful planning to ensure safety and well-being. Individuals often pack a comprehensive kit that includes a backup insulin pen, spare batteries for medical devices, a cooling pouch for insulin storage, snacks to manage hypoglycaemic episodes, a glucagon injection for emergencies, medical letters explaining their condition, chargers for electronic devices, and as a precaution against device failure or accidental removal, an additional continuous glucose monitor (CGM) sensor.

SPORTS

IPL 2027 Auction: Dhoni's Farewell, Hardik Pandya Trade, Team Retentions



At the IPL 2027 auction in Goa, teams finalized their rosters for the upcoming season.

Franchises made decisions to retain their key players, thereby determining the strength of teams for the next season.

MS Dhoni's exit from the league at this auction was a significant change.

Additionally, Hardik Pandya was involved in a trade, moving him from one franchise to another.

These decisions set the stage for IPL 2027, with teams now ready to compete in forthcoming matches.

FC Goa's New Home for Second Stage ISL Matches: Bambolim Stadium



FC Goa announced that all home matches for the second phase of the Indian Super League will be held at Bambolim Stadium, Goa. The Times of India reported this news, which comes as the schedule resumes after the league's mid-season break. Bambolim, located in North Goa, boasts a stadium that meets the league’s technical standards and provides ample facilities for both players and spectators. The club expects the new venue to offer a more comfortable experience for its supporters, who travel from across the state to watch the matches. The relocation will impact the team’s logistics and fan-engagement strategies, as the club will need to arrange travel, ticketing and security specifically for Bambolim. Officials said the decision aligns with the overall ISL calendar and is intended to ensure the smooth running of the competition.

CRIME

Fourth suspect arrested in Serailim murder attempt



Gurgaon police have arrested the fourth suspect in a murder attempt that took place in Serailim village earlier this week. The suspect's identity has not yet been disclosed, but they were taken into custody following a coordinated operation by local police units.

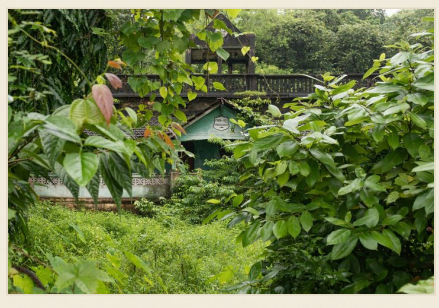
The incident, in which a resident of Serailim was attacked with the intent to kill, prompted calls for a swift investigation. Police linked the suspect to the crime scene through surveillance footage obtained from nearby establishments.

Officials stated that the arrest is part of an ongoing inquiry aimed at uncovering the motive behind the crime and the network of individuals involved. The suspect is currently in custody for questioning and will face charges under the Indian Penal Code.

The case has highlighted the need to strengthen security measures in rural areas of Goa, and local officials have urged residents to report any suspicious activity immediately.

HEALTH

Goa government establishes Dental Council to regulate profession



The Goa government has established a new statutory body, the Goa Dental Council, to oversee the dental profession in the state. The council will be responsible for the registration of dentists, ensuring compliance with professional standards, and monitoring dental education institutions.

other Indian states that have established dental councils to enhance the quality and safety of oral healthcare services. Officials believe the council will streamline the licensing process and facilitate the prompt resolution of complaints related to dental practice.

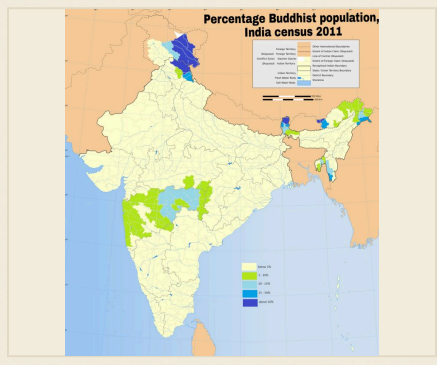
Several stakeholders, including dental colleges and professional organizations, have welcomed the decision, noting that a state-level council can address the specific issues of Goa's healthcare system more swiftly.

The council will operate under the state health department and is expected to commence operations in the coming weeks, following formal notifications and the appointment of its governing members.

The establishment of the Goa Dental Council marks a significant step toward strengthening the regulatory framework for oral healthcare in the state.

NATIONAL

Census 2027 self-enumeration begins; helpline 1855 activated



New Delhi — The Ministry of Home Affairs announced that self-enumeration for the 2027 Census has now begun across the country. Citizens can fill out online forms with their household details without waiting for a visit from a census officer.

A toll-free helpline on number 1855 has been set up to facilitate the digital process. The service will be available 24 hours a day to assist with registration, data entry, and technical issues.

The self-enumeration phase will last for several months, after which field verification will commence. Officials say this method will make data collection faster and more accurate while reducing the logistical burden of traditional door-to-door surveys.

The government has appealed to citizens to use the portal and helpline to submit timely and complete information, as this data will serve as the basis for future policy-making and resource allocation.

POLITICS

Yuri says two months before elections will decide Goa's future



Local political leader Yuri has warned that the two months preceding the upcoming elections will determine the future of Goa. Yuri, who frequently comments on state affairs, described this period as critical for fulfilling promises and resolving key issues.

state elections scheduled for the end of this year, which will determine the composition of the Legislative Assembly. Due to the limited time, all parties and the current government are under pressure to demonstrate tangible progress in development, tourism, and public services.

Yuri appealed to all stakeholders to make the most of the remaining two months, noting that decisive actions taken during this time could influence voter sentiment and shape the direction of governance in the state.

SPORTS

Pakistan poses stiff challenge to India's title defense in SAFF



India is preparing to defend the title it won in the previous edition of the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship. In the upcoming match, India will face regional rival Pakistan, a fixture that has always attracted significant attention from spectators.

Analysts note that Pakistan has shown significant improvement in recent qualifiers, making this contest more competitive than before. Both teams are likely to field their best lineups, and the match is considered a tough test for India's title defense.

A victory for India would secure the title for a second consecutive time, strengthening its dominance in South Asian football, while a win for Pakistan could signal a shift in the regional balance of power. The result will also impact preparations for future continental tournaments.

SARKARI YOJANA

Self-Enumeration Begins in UP, Punjab, Goa and Uttarakhand for Census 2027



The Indian government has officially launched the self-enumeration phase for the 2027 Census, which will be implemented in parts of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Goa and Uttarakhand. Announced by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the move aims to improve data accuracy and reduce the need for field enumerators. Under the new scheme, residents can register on the Census 2027 portal, upload photographs, and complete the online questionnaire. The portal also allows verification and updating of demographic details such as age, gender, occupation and household information. The self-enumeration period is expected to last a few weeks, after which the data will be verified by census officials. The government says the initiative will streamline the census process and facilitate timely publication of population statistics. Officials urge citizens to participate promptly, as the collected information will be used for planning public services, resource allocation and future development policies.

Kholapyt of Goa Demands Public Toilets at Cabo de Rama



Kholapyt of Goa has highlighted the lack of adequate sanitation facilities at the historic Cabo de Rama fort, a popular tourist destination in South Goa. The village council has appealed to relevant authorities to address the issue and provide public toilets for visitors. Cabo de Rama attracts a large number of tourists each year, and the absence of proper sanitation poses a challenge for both tourists and the local community.

Upgrade of Power Grid in Becholim: Accelerated Underground Cable Laying



The project to lay underground power cables in Becholim is progressing rapidly. The initiative aims to modernise the region's power grid by replacing existing overhead lines with underground cables. The upgrade will improve the reliability of electricity supply and reduce the likelihood of outages caused by extreme weather or other external factors. The project was launched to meet the growing electricity demand in the Becholim area and to ensure a stable supply for residents and businesses.

Taj City de Goa Launches Electric Shuttles, Promotes Sustainable Travel



Taj City de Goa has launched a fleet of electric shuttles within its premises to reduce its environmental footprint. Battery-powered vehicles will offer guests a zero-emission option between key resort locations and nearby attractions. The move is part of the hotel’s broader sustainability strategy, aligning with India’s green tourism and low-carbon emission initiatives. Guests can now enjoy convenient, eco-friendly mobility during their stay, further strengthening Taj’s reputation for responsible hospitality.

Sacred Forest in Goa Preserved by Centuries-Old Tradition



In the village of Adavo, Goa, a sacred forest has remained remarkably preserved thanks to a centuries-old local tradition. Passed down through generations, the custom continued to prohibit clearing the forest even after India’s independence in 1947. Consequently, the forest has become a sanctuary for native trees and a repository of historical artefacts. Among the most noteworthy discoveries are 16th-17th-century Ravalanath statues, revered in the region. The preservation of this sacred grove demonstrates the enduring power of tradition and its capacity to safeguard cultural heritage.