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LOCAL

MLA Joshua D'Souza inaugurates hotmixing and road restoration works in Mhapusa, Goa



Goa Legislative Assembly Deputy Speaker and MLA Joshua D'Souza officially inaugurated road hotmixing and restoration works in various areas of Mhapusa city today.

Several roads in the Ekta Nagar and Housing Board areas were damaged during the laying of water pipelines, prompting the immediate commencement of repair and hotmixing operations for the affected sections.

Upon completion of these works, local residents will benefit from safe, smooth, and convenient traffic conditions, which is expected to reduce daily travel time.

MLA D'Souza stated that resolving road-related issues and developing basic infrastructure are his priorities, and continuous efforts are being made to improve connectivity and the quality of life for citizens in the city.

— sudesh mayekar

NATIONAL

Tiger Seen in Goa's Mahadi Basin After Two Years, Demand for Wildlife Reserve Grows



The Forest Department confirmed that a tiger was photographed in the Mahadi Basin along the Mahadi River in Goa, marking the first confirmed sighting since early 2022. The image came from motion-sensor cameras set up as part of routine monitoring of the Western Ghats wildlife corridor. The Mahadi Basin, a sensitive part of the Western Ghats, is identified as a potential tiger habitat. No tiger sightings had been confirmed in the area for the past two years, and the new photos suggest that the corridor may still support tiger movements. Environmental groups and local communities have intensified calls for a dedicated tiger reserve encompassing the Mahadi catchment. They argue that legal protection would curb fragmentation, illegal logging, and poaching, enabling a sustainable tiger population. State officials said the Forest Department will review the data and consider proposals to expand the reserve status. In the meantime, additional camera traps and field surveys will be deployed to assess tiger numbers and health.

TRAVEL

ELIVAAS Launches Heliconia Bungalows in Goa



ELIVAAS, a prominent name in the hotel industry, has recently launched 11 Heliconia bungalows in Goa. These luxurious bungalows feature private pools, providing guests with a tranquil and indulgent holiday experience. Designed to blend modern amenities with traditional Goan architecture, the Heliconia bungalows offer travelers a unique and memorable stay. Goa, known for its scenic beaches and vibrant culture, is a popular tourist destination, and these new bungalows are expected to further enhance the state's appeal.

NATIONAL

Heritage Sites in India to Begin Cleaning from Mid-December



The Ministry of Culture has announced that starting mid-December, heritage sites nationwide will commence a comprehensive cleaning drive. The initiative aims to preserve and restore India’s historic monuments and buildings. Officials explained that the program will involve coordinated efforts from local authorities, conservation experts, and volunteers. Cleaning will focus on debris removal, stone façade cleaning, and minor structural repairs. The government has allocated funds for the project and will monitor progress through regular inspections. This cleaning effort is part of a broader strategy to boost heritage tourism and safeguard cultural heritage for future generations.

EDUCATION

GSCPCR initiates activation of Child Protection Committees



The Gujarat State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (GSCPCR) has decided to activate Child Protection Committees to strengthen the safety of children. The Commission stated that these committees will be established at the district and local levels to monitor and address cases of exploitation, neglect, and abuse.

According to the GSCPCR, these committees will include representatives from government departments, civil society, and child welfare experts. Their mandate will involve collecting complaints, conducting investigations, and coordinating with the police and other authorities as necessary.

The activation of these committees will establish a structured framework for preventing violations of children's rights and enabling swift intervention. The Commission noted that this initiative will be implemented in the coming weeks, and training sessions will be conducted for committee members.

Stakeholders have welcomed this move, believing that a dedicated monitoring mechanism will improve response times and ensure that children's voices are heard in matters concerning their safety.

POLITICS

CJP’s Deepake, Das, Ranka to Organise Youth Meeting on 22 November



The CJP’s team, led by Deepake, Das and Ranka, has announced a youth summit to be held on 22 November. The event will bring together students and young professionals from across the country to discuss contemporary civic issues and the role of youth in governance.

Organisers say the summit will feature panel discussions, interactive workshops and Q&A sessions with senior policymakers. Participants will have the opportunity to voice opinions on topics ranging from digital rights to environmental sustainability.

The meeting is part of a broader initiative to increase democratic participation among youth. Officials estimate that several hundred participants, including representatives from universities, NGOs and youth organisations, will attend.

The summit will be hosted at a prominent venue in the capital and will offer live-streaming options to reach a wider audience. Organisers urge all interested young citizens to register early, as space is limited.

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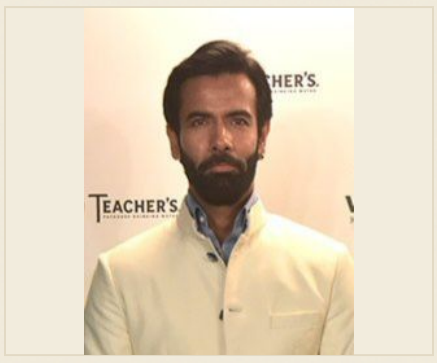
TRAVEL

Denish Pandor Explains How Goa Turns Everyday Moments into Memories



Travel blogger Denish Pandor, known for his vibrant travel content, recently shared his experiences in Goa in a feature for The Times of India. He highlighted how Goa's relaxed atmosphere, beautiful beaches and lively local culture turn even the simplest moments into lasting memories. Pandor spoke of exploring coastal towns, savoring fresh seafood and enjoying sunset views without elaborate planning. His article underscores Goa's charm, where simplicity and natural beauty combine to create enduring impressions for visitors.

ENTERTAINMENT

57th International Film Festival Opens in Goa with Grand Ceremony at Talagao Stadium



The 57th International Film Festival (IFFI) opened today at the Talagao Stadium in Panaji with a grand ceremony. The event was organized by the Goa government and the Film Federation of India and will present a selection of Indian and international films over the next ten days. The opening night featured screenings of award-winning films and the festival’s flagship feature, drawing a large crowd of cine-enthusiasts and industry professionals. Key guests, including the Chief Minister of Goa, attended the program, reinforcing Goa’s emerging identity as a cultural hub. The festival aims to promote intercultural dialogue and support emerging filmmakers.

Tourist Raises Questions Over Goa Taxi Issues, Doubts State's 'Comfortable' Image



A tourist visiting Goa posted on social media about the difficulties of hailing a metered taxi, raising doubts about whether the state lives up to its 'comfortable' image. The traveler reported struggling to find a metered taxi, having to negotiate fares with drivers, and uncertainty about the correct rate. The post went viral, prompting many users to share memes, offer tips for finding reliable taxis, and spark a discussion about Goa's traditional image. While Goa remains a major tourist destination, the incident has prompted both locals and visitors to consider the need for greater transport transparency.

TECHNOLOGY

Goa Cabinet Approves AI Policy 2026 and Five Major Schemes



In a cabinet meeting held in Goa, the state's first comprehensive artificial intelligence strategy, Goa AI Policy 2026, was approved. The policy lays out a roadmap for integrating AI into government services, industry and education, strengthening innovation and digital infrastructure. In the same session, ministers announced five flagship schemes to complement the AI agenda. While detailed outlines were not released, the schemes are expected to focus on skill development, startup incubation, research collaboration, digital literacy and infrastructure improvement. Officials say the joint initiative marks a step toward making Goa a regional hub for AI-driven development, attracting investment and creating new employment opportunities. The policy also emphasizes ethical AI use and data protection in line with national guidelines. Academics and private sector representatives welcomed the move, noting that a clear policy framework will accelerate project implementation and foster public-private partnership. The cabinet will now forward the policy and schemes to the finance department for budget allocation and to the legislative assembly for formal approval.

Van Seized for Sewage Dumping, Driver in Custody



Police stopped a commercial van and inspected it, discovering that it was illegally dumping sewage into public drains. Inspection confirmed that the vehicle had been transporting waste without permission. The van was seized immediately and the driver was taken into custody for violating environmental regulations. Further investigation will identify other parties involved and assess the volume of sewage dumped. The incident highlights the growing problem of illegal waste disposal in urban areas. The driver remains in police custody, and the case has been registered under relevant environmental and criminal provisions. This action aims to deter similar violations in the future and strengthen enforcement of waste-management laws. Local environmental agencies have been notified and a detailed examination of the seized van's documents will be conducted to trace the sewage source and any larger dumping network.

ENTERTAINMENT

Nine-day IFFI in Goa to open with 'Dhurandhar' and 'Becoming'; Spain named Country of Honour



The nine-day International Film Festival (IFFI) in Goa is set to begin, with a special lineup of films selected for the opening ceremony. The festival will kick off with screenings of two key titles: 'Dhurandhar' and 'Becoming'. This selection reflects the festival's commitment to showcasing diverse cinematic narratives.

As a significant cultural and diplomatic guest, Spain has been named the 'Country of Honour' for this edition. This designation highlights the strong cultural ties between India and Spain, allowing for a special focus on Spanish cinema and its artistic contributions during the festival.

The event serves as a major platform for the film industry, bringing together filmmakers, actors, and industry professionals from around the world. The selection of opening films and the honour bestowed upon Spain set a high-profile tone for the upcoming screenings, discussions, and awards in Goa.

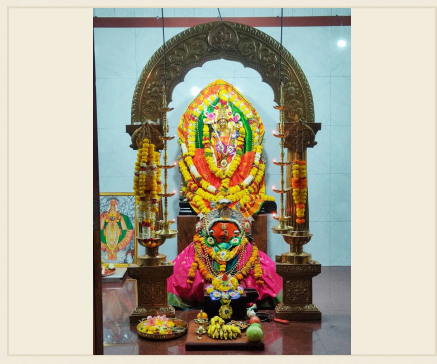
57th International Film Festival Opens in Goa with ‘Stories Without Borders’ Theme



The International Film Festival (IFFI) kicked off its 57th edition today in Goa. Organisers selected ‘Stories Without Borders’ as the theme, giving prominence to cross-border stories. The opening ceremony was held at the Goa State Central Library, attended by film makers, actors and several government officials including the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. Selected feature films and a few short films were also screened in competition. The ten-day festival will showcase more than 200 films from around the world, encompassing documentaries, mainstream cinema and independent productions. The platform aims to provide opportunities for emerging talent and to foster dialogue between Indian and international filmmakers. Set against Goa’s picturesque locales, the festival continues to serve as a cultural hub for Indian cinema, attracting both industry stakeholders and audiences.

AGRICULTURE

Crop loss of Rs 18.7 lakh due to weather deficit; Sankwelim most affected



The latest rainfall reports indicate that the region has suffered crop losses of Rs 18.7 lakh due to a weather deficit.

Sankwelim village in Goa has been the most severely affected, with the largest impact on crops.

Farmers in Sankwelim and nearby areas are facing financial difficulties due to the damage to their harvests.

Local officials are assessing the extent of the damage and considering assistance measures for the affected farmers.

SPORTS

Coach Viedero says FC Goa's potential is not being understood



FC Goa head coach Viedero told The Times of India that the club's capabilities are often overlooked, despite the team making notable progress in recent seasons. He highlighted the team's depth and the strategic investments made by the franchise, suggesting that many do not understand the club's true strength.

continues its campaign in the Indian Super League, where it is seeking to solidify its position among the top clubs. Viedero's statement reflects confidence in future prospects, indicating that the team's performance will soon prove the potential power he has described.

Although no specific statistics were provided, the coach's remarks underscore that the team's on-field performance will soon validate the untapped potential he has outlined.

SPORTS

Bhauchung Bhutia and former players demand Chabbi's removal from Sports Ministry



Veteran Indian football icon Bhauchung Bhutia, joined by several former national players, has formally requested the Ministry of Sports to remove Chabbi from his position. The letter, addressed to the Sports Minister, expresses concern over Chabbi's decisions in sports matters and demands immediate action.

The former players claim that several decisions made during Chabbi's tenure have been detrimental to the development of football and other sports. They believe that a change in leadership will restore stakeholder confidence and ensure transparent governance.

The Ministry of Sports has not yet issued a public response to this demand. The petition highlights growing dissatisfaction within the sports community and may prompt further scrutiny of the official's performance.

LOCAL

Five-Century-Old Palace Left in Neglect, Heritage at Risk



A historic palace with a five-century history that witnessed the reigns of many rulers is now in a state of neglect, according to reports.

The structure, once a symbol of architectural grandeur, now shows signs of decay and lack of maintenance.

Heritage experts have warned that without prompt action, the palace could lose its structural integrity and cultural value.

Local authorities have been urged to initiate conservation measures and secure funds for restoration.

The incident has sparked a debate on the priorities of heritage preservation in the country.

FC Goa Draws with Sporting Club Delhi in Stoppage Time



FC Goa drew with Sporting Club Delhi in a thrilling stoppage-time finish.

Both teams created several opportunities during the match, but the score was decided only in the final moments.

In the last minute, an FC Goa player scored an equalizer, allowing both teams to share the points.

The result earned FC Goa a crucial point to advance in the league standings.

Sporting Club Delhi will look to improve in their next match.

TRAVEL

Goa's Mandrem and Galgibaga Beaches Awarded Blue Flag, Joining 22 Indian Coasts



The Ministry announced that Mandrem and Galgibaga beaches, located on Goa's northern coast, have been awarded the Blue Flag certification. This international environmental label is given to beaches that meet strict standards for water quality, safety, environmental management, and education.

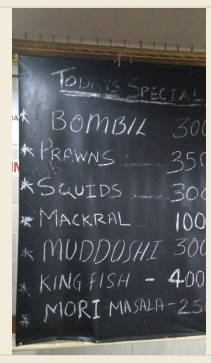
marks the first Blue Flag installation in Goa, adding to the total of 24 certified beaches in India, which include several sites in Kerala, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu. The certification is expected to boost sustainable tourism in the state, as tourists are increasingly drawn to clean and responsible beaches.

Authorities stated that the beaches underwent rigorous testing for microbial pollution, waste management, and facilities such as lifeguard services and information boards. Local officials hope this recognition will inspire other Goan beaches to improve their infrastructure and environmental practices.

Tourism organizations welcomed the news, stating that the Blue Flag label guarantees quality for both domestic and international travelers. The government plans to highlight these certified beaches through promotional campaigns targeting eco-conscious travelers.

With the addition of Mandrem and Galgibaga, the number of Blue Flag beaches in India has reached 24, reflecting a growing commitment to sustainable coastal tourism across the country.

Goa Restaurant Wins Gold at Australia's National Awards



A Goa-based restaurant has achieved a remarkable feat by winning gold at Australia's National Restaurant and Catering Awards. This prestigious award recognizes excellence in the culinary industry, and the Goa restaurant's win is a testament to the quality of its food and service. The specific name of the restaurant and the category in which it won gold have not yet been released.

SPORTS

Nemir's Goal Sees FC Goa Beat Northeast United 1-0 in ISL 2026-27



In the Indian Super League match between FC Goa and Northeast United, the Goa team recorded a 1-0 victory. Nemir scored the decisive goal with a precise shot, sealing the result of the game.

opportunities throughout the match, but their finishing was weak, causing them to miss scoring chances. Their attack remained ineffective, while FC Goa maintained a tight defensive hold.

This victory places FC Goa in a better position in the standings for the 2026-27 season, while Northeast United will need to address their weaknesses in preparation for their next match.

EDUCATION

Theatre Participation Recognized in National Education Policy



The Ministry of Education has confirmed that participation in Tiatr, a popular musical theatre form in Goa, will now be recognized as a co-curricular activity under the National Education Policy (NEP). This move aligns with the NEP's objective of integrating cultural arts into formal school curricula.

Tiatr, which combines drama, music, and social commentary, has been an integral part of Goa's cultural life. By officially including it in schools, the policy aims to preserve this art form and provide students with opportunities to develop creative and communication skills.

include Tiatr participation in their NEP activity reporting, which may encourage more institutions to organize performances and workshops. Education officials stated that this inclusion is an effort to broaden the definition of co-curricular activities to reflect India's diverse cultural heritage.

Stakeholders hope that this recognition will increase student engagement in regional arts, promote cultural exchange at the state level, and contribute to achieving the holistic education goal envisioned by the NEP.

LOCAL

Beach Shack Owners Accuse Tourism Department of Neglecting Safety



Beach shack owners in Goa have expressed concern over the lack of safety measures implemented by the Tourism Department on popular beaches. They accuse the department of failing to address issues such as lifeguard presence, proper signage, and emergency response systems. The shack owners fear that this negligence could lead to accidents and injuries, endangering both tourists and locals. They have called on the department to prioritize beach safety and take immediate action to address these concerns.