

Financial Assistance given to Cacra Village

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SHUJRA BUSINESS SETUP IN AED

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GU faculty gives flood relief funds under GoI scheme

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Panaji:

Goa University (GU) faculty members contributed funds to provide relief to the affected villagers of North Goa in the cyclonic storm they experienced on July 2019. Altogether, 20 households received relief from GU faculty members.

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Under the central government's Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) programme, the university has adopted five villages, two of which were affected in the recent natural disaster. The UBA team of GU visited the households and carried out a loss assessment survey, as per which a total loss of over Rs 22 lakh was estimated. On appeal, the university faculty members raised a contribution of Rs 1.40 lakh to support the affected families.


These contributions were then distributed by UBA among the 20 households, where 10 families were handed Rs 8000, five families were provided Rs 7,000 and five families were given Rs 5,000 each, at a gathering organised jointly with Goa University Teachers Association (GUTA).

R.N. Mishra, a senior professor, handed over the support amount. The UBA programme of the union human resource development ministry is aimed at connecting higher education institutions, both technical and nontechnical, with local communities. The institutes are to help their adopted villages address the development challenges through appropriate technologies.

Goa University has adopted the villages of Nauoi-Pirabhal, Cacra, Sircdao-Palem, Marcaim and Gudli-Paroda. The villages are a mix of those located in the campus neighbourhood, and in other parts of Goa.

Under UBA, GU's faculty members carry out a study and then solutions to issues related to health, waste management, plantation, women and child development, worked out by through technological interventions.

Garoo Milk



MAKING A CHANGE

More from Times City

- REPORT CARD**
Driving schools must upgrade or lose licences
Panaji: Driving schools in the state stand to lose their licence to operate if they fail to upgrade as per the state transport department directives, said transport director
- MISSING MEDIANS**

- Ponda municipality to sack driver for hacking colleague**
Ponda: The Ponda Municipal Council (PMC) is set to terminate the services of Santan Paulo Pinto, 46, a tempo driver working with it, for attempting to murder
- Local pitch in, clean up mess by picnickers at Chorla Ghat**
Keri Kumbhar Samaj Yuva Manch, Goa, in association with Keri range forest office, Vivekanand Environment Awareness Brigade and other like minded youth carried
- Saplings planted at fuel pump to absorb harmful fumes**
Panaji: Bamboo palm saplings which absorb benzene and other formaldehydes emitted from petroleum vapour have been planted at an Indian Oil petroleum
- METROLOGY DEPT KEEPS A CHECK**
Text: Murali Shetye, design: Rakesh Mundaye
The department of legal metrology organized a week-long drive and seized goods worth **Rs 10 lakh** in five towns — Bicholim, Vasco, Mapusa, Panaji and
- 2 BJP-backed candidates vie for PMC chairman post**
Ponda: Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Ponda block has shortlisted two names for the post of chairperson of the Ponda Municipal Council (PMC). The election for the post has been scheduled to hold on August 29. The seat fell vacant after the ouster of the Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP)
- 'In 8 days, book perpetrators of Atal Setu scam'**

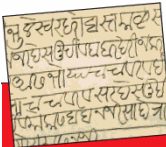
GOA UNIVERSITY TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION
(REG. NO. :- 7/GOA/91)
Relief to adopted Villages of University
Navshi - Pirabhat and Cacra
31st July 2019
in Association with
UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAAN (UBA)





TENDER FLOATED FOR TRANSLITERATION OF 4K DOCUMENTS IN MODI SCRIPT BY ARCHIVES DEPT | 3

GABION WALL OF MUD ERECTED WITHOUT PILES ON THE MASHEM RIVER DANGEROUS, SAY EXPERTS | 4



Boy was kidnapped from the side of rly tracks

► From P 1

Referring to the Supreme Court's observation that crime is a pathological aberration and that state has to rehabilitate rather than avenger and that infliction of harsh and savage punishment is a relic of past and regressive times, the high court held that it was not a case of murder of the minor victim boy and that the aspect of life-long imprisonment might turn the men into hardened criminals.

The high court, while deciding the appeal, directed the state government to award compensation to the survivor boy within three months.

The boy was forcibly taken to a construction site of a building next to the railway footbridge on the Cancolida side, where he was confined to a room and brutally physically and sexually assaulted.

The minor boy was due to take a train to his home from the station when he was kidnapped from the side of the tracks at around 8pm by the three men and an accomplice.

He was forcibly taken to a construction site of a building next to the railway footbridge on the Cancolida side, where he was confined to a room and brutally physically and sexually assaulted.

Police constables, who were patrolling the area at that time, observed a light in the under construction building during the boy around 2:30am tied up without his clothes and unattended.

The accused were identified as Pritish Sarkar from West Bengal, Laxmikant Gahir from Orissa and Yashwant Sahu from Chhattisgarh. They were convicted for sodomy and kidnapping a minor boy near Margao railway station in January 2013.

PIL before HC seeks to scrap tender for digital taxi meters

Petitioner Raises Issue of Public Safety

Lisa Monteiro @timesgroup.com

Panaji: A public interest litigation (PIL) has been filed against the state government seeking the cancellation of the request for proposal (RFP) for automated tracking device (ATD) with an integrated emergency system and fare meters in passenger taxis on the grounds of safety.

During the hearing of the case, the counsel for the petitioner argued that meters do not meet safety standards as set by the law and added that more people could have participated in the tender.

The petitioner said that a fresh RFP should be issued by incorporating the applicable BIS standards of December 2018. The RFP was issued in September 2018. When the petition came up for hearing, Justice Mahesh Sonak remarked that it was not necessary to challenge the tender and stated that even if someone is awarded the tender, non-compliance of a particular rule is another matter altogether.



The petitioner, Sanjeev Raturcar from Margao, is seeking an order restraining government authorities from proceeding any further with the allotment and grant of the tender for supply, installation and maintenance of ATD with an integrated emergency system and fare meters in passenger taxis, as well as issuance of work order to the contractor.

The government had told the court that it would begin implementation of the meters on pilot basis from July 16, followed by a state-wide rollout on August 1.

Two out of three bidders qualified for the tender. Bids by the Goa Electronics Limited on behalf of the transport department last year for supply, installation and maintenance of digital meters. A letter of intent was issued and an agreement signed with the lowest bidder, Rosnera Autotech Pvt Ltd.

The high court has been monitoring the pending issue since 2016 when the Travel and Tourism Association of Goa petitioned the high court along with the Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry stating delays in the taximeter installation.

Court extends deadline to complete Western Bypass

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Panaji: The high court of Bombay at Goa has extended the deadline for the completion of a 8.3km stretch of the Western Bypass to Margao to December 31.

The court, in its suo motu public interest litigation, stated that this was on the understanding that "no further extension will be applied for and that all efforts will be taken to complete this stretch, at least, by the stated deadline". The double bench comprised Justices Mahesh Sonak and Nutan Sardessai.

Advocate general Devdas Patil assured the court that at least a portion of the project will stand completed with the 8.3km stretch. This stretch can then be connected to the existing network and there will be some relief for traffic, the court observed. It had earlier directed that the work be completed by May 31.

The court directed the public works department (PWD) chief engineer to sort out the issue of a house on the 1.3km stretch from Verna junction to the Tiran junction. The engineer said this would be demolished within one month so that there is no obstruction to work on the stretch, the court observed. It



that besides the house, there were other local issues at the site, the advocate general assured the court that these would be dealt with in accordance with the law and that there would be no occasion for further delay in the matter. "Accordingly to us even the contractor is expected to work diligently and ensure that the work on this stretch is completed," said the double bench.

'Last month, ore prices were high'

► From P 1

If the e-auction was held last month, more ore would have been sold," sources said. "Last month, the price of iron ore was very high."

The poor result to the e-auction resulted in the generation of just Rs 100 crore, 60% of which will go to the state revenue. The remainder will be paid to mining companies towards extraction costs.

The e-auction was aimed at clearing stocks of iron ore lying at jetties and plots. The state government priced ore above 60% grade at Rs 500 per tonne, ore above 50% grade at Rs 400 per tonne, and ore below 50% grade at Rs 300 per tonne.

The 13 bidders that participated in the e-auction included Sesa Sterlite Ltd, Bagadiya Brothers Pvt Ltd, V M Salgaocar and Bro Pvt Ltd, Agrawal Minerals (Goa) Pvt Ltd, JSW Steel Ltd, Kalinga Allied Industries, Blueglobe Exports Pvt Ltd, Faldessal Mines and Minerals International Pvt Ltd, Timbo Enterprises, A S Export and Imports, Dinar Tarcar Resources (India) Pvt Ltd and Seabird Marine Services.

In 2012, a Supreme Court judgment had declared mining illegal. Ore lying at jetties and plots was subsequently declared as state property. The government then identified 15 million tonnes of ore lying at jetties and plots, of which 10 million tonnes have been e-auctioned.

New committee for report on pvt forests constituted

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Panaji: The state government appointed a three-member committee to finalise and submit the report on private forest areas before November 2019.

The state government has constituted the committee, chaired by the joint secretary, revenue. Members include the director of settlements and land records and the deputy conservator of forests, sub division.

The committee has been created to finalise the report on private forests which was submitted by the review committee. The review committee had been constituted on April 23, 2019, after consideration of the objections of



UNDER THE CLOCK

affected parties whose properties are to be identified as private forest lands.

Shaila Bhosle, under secretary forest, said that the committee should consider criticisms of the affected groups and submit its report before the time limit prescribed by the National Green

Lab assistants to have 6.5-hr days, plan practicals

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Panaji: The directorate of education (DoE) has issued a circular outlining the role of laboratory assistants working in high schools and higher secondary schools. The lab assistants have been told to work at least six-and-a-half hours a day and to carry out weekly planning and execution of class-wise practicals and activities in consultation with the school science teachers.

The assistants have been asked to maintain an attendance register of the students attending the practical work. "Provide exposure to students of Class V, VI and VII. Assist science teachers in conducting activities and demonstration for those who are working in the high school section," states the circular issued by director of education Nagraj Honnakeri.



The lab assistants have been told to attend the monthly staff meetings of their schools and help in the procurement of lab equipment in consultation with the school science teacher and the head of the institution.

"They have to maintain all of the laboratory equipments, carry out labelling and arrangement of class-wise practicals and activities in consultation with the school science teachers.



NIRANKAL-DABHAL BRIDGE: Enveloped with a thick cover of coconut palms is the 1972 bridge built over the Unnas. It connects the village at Taribhat to Dabhal in Dharbandora taluka.

Keeping traditions alive with sustainable growth

Nirankal is one of the few villages in Goa to have moved with the times but kept its natural assets intact

Isidore Domnick Mendis

Unlike numerous other villages and towns of Goa that are the new homes of an increasing migrant population, Nirankal in Ponda taluka is known to have only two Goemkars (Indigenous Goan population). The dense lush green village which lies 13km from Ponda city and 40.6km from the state capital is an abode to various religious sites and many water bodies.

"Nirankal is an integral part of the village. The origin of the name Nirankal is debatable. D B Naik, a researcher on Goa, said, "The name Nirankal is derived either from the combination of the words nira (water) and kala (time) meaning a place where abundant water is available any time. There is another possibility that Nirankal might be corrupted from 'Nirankar' (formless deity) which simply means temple of formless deity."

Concurring with Naik's second version of Nirankal is an eminent dietician Pralaj Sakhardande, associate professor and head of department of history at Dhempe College of Arts and Science, said, "Nirankal has etymological roots in the local Goan folk deity called Nirankar which is a formless deity. 'Akar' means form and Nirankar is without form; an abstract deity."

Nirankal is bordered by Shiroda, Behora and Codar and the Unnas river. The village covers 1,985.3ha and houses a population of 3,176 people.

To retain the continuation of both, its pristine beauty and originality of its old village life, we endeavour to have sustainable development and not imposing and destructive projects in the village. The other top priority is to have a Sanskrit Bhavan (cultural centre) which would promote and harness the talent of the youth

A lot has been done for women empowerment in Nirankal between 2012 and 2017. There are many self-help groups. The disheartening note is that the village has a skeletal bus service run by both Kadamba and private bus operators. To cater to students, more bus services need to be introduced

Absence of industry and mining has ensured that the Nirankal air and water bodies are pure and clean. Unlike other villages where primary schools are shutting down at an alarming pace, residents in Nirankal have endeavoured to retain all four of its government-run Marathi medium primary schools

HERITAGE TRAIL & LOCAL LANDMARKS

<p>BHOOTA TALI</p> <p>Every day residents of Nirankal frequent this holy site on the main road to Gawalwada to seek blessings. On Sundays and Wednesdays devotees offer coconuts and sacrifice poultry.</p>	<p>UNNAS</p> <p>Housed at Shignewal, it is an important water body which provides water to the fields and farms of the village.</p>
<p>SATERI DEVASTHAN</p> <p>Originating at Dushaga waterfalls, the river, known by many other names in the surrounding villages, passes through Taribhat, Shignewal, Kumbharwada before emptying itself at the Opa water treatment plant.</p>	<p>CLAY WORKS OF KUMBHARWADA</p> <p>Though clay vessels are not as popular as they used to be, houses in Kumbharwada have tried to keep the traditional occupation of making pottery and Ganesh idols alive</p>
<p>SHREE GANANATH TEMPLE</p> <p>Another century-old structure, this temple at Mainewada becomes popular with worshippers on Vardhapan Divas (establishment day) in February.</p>	<p>KULAGARS</p> <p>Nearly 50% of the village accounts for numerous farms which thrive with lush green plantations of coconut, areca nut, chili, cardamom, cashew, black pepper, banana and turmeric.</p>
<p>HOLY CROSS CHAPEL</p> <p>Affiliated to Our Lady of Immaculate Conception Church, Dhabal, in Dharbandora, the feast of this revered spot at Taribhat is celebrated on the first Sunday of May.</p>	<p>DR LOHIA MAIDAN</p> <p>This sporting facility was renovated last year. Apart from housing a football ground, it also offers the facility of a gymnasium.</p>
<p>GUNGROAZO</p> <p>The most important temple of the village, housing the gram devta (village deity), lies adjacent to Kumbharwada. Dedicated to Mahadev (Lord Shiva), this shrine's zatra (feast) is held every January.</p>	<p>BHANDARA</p>

SARPANCHI'S TAKE

Tejas Shetkar

RESIDENTS SPEAK

Poonam Samant, SHELDWA
Pandhari Naik, SATERI MOL

POPULAR IN THE VILLAGE

Late Ramchandra alias Babi Prabhu JMLA (Shiroda constituency 1980-1984) of the then Goa, Daman and Diu assembly	Naik Village chroniclers	Shanu Shetkar and Sanjay Shanu Shetkar Idol makers
Late Jairam Dessai Freedom fighter	Prashanti Shirodkar Theatre artiste	Chandrakant Shetkar Deputy collector
Chandrakant Samant, Pandhari	Shrikant Borkar Blind craftsman (makes chairs and looms) and tabla player	Dr Subash Jairam Dessai Medical doctor
	Late Prabharak Kumbhar,	Sanjeev D'Souza, Devanand Shetkar Advocates

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