

# 7 people burnt alive in fire at illegal firecracker factory in Rajasthan

## 2 INJURED ADMITTED TO DELHI'S SAFDARJUNG HOSPITAL

PTI

### JAIPUR

Seven people were burnt alive and two were critically injured in an illegal firecracker-manufacturing factory in the Bhiwadi town of Rajasthan's Khairthal-Tijara district on Monday, officials said.

The incident occurred in the Khushkhera-Karoli industrial area in Bhiwadi.

"Seven persons have died in the incident. It was a garment factory but firecrackers were being manufactured inside it illegally," Sumitra Pareek, Additional District Magistrate, said. She said that two people trapped in the factory were rescued. They were admitted to Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital in a critical condition.

Earlier, officials had said that the fire broke out in a chemical factory. "The premises was leased out in the name of a garment factory but



The incident occurred in the Khushkhera-Karoli industrial area in Bhiwadi.

as per the preliminary report, firecrackers were being manufactured illegally," she said.

She said that the police came to know about the incident during a routine patrol, following which a rescue operation was launched immediately. CM Bhajanlal Sharma instructed district administrations to carry out relief and rescue work immediately. He directed Forest Minister Sanjay Sharma to reach Alwar.

Sharma later reached the spot after noon and visited the factory. He directed officials to carry out a detailed investigation and to run a special campaign in Bhiwadi industrial area to conduct checking in all the industrial units.

"All the industrial units will be checked in Bhiwadi industrial area. If any violation of compliances is found, action will be taken," he said.

Earlier, District Collector

Artika Shukla and other senior district administration and police officials rushed to the spot. Shukla ordered an inquiry in the matter.

As per the preliminary report, there were more than 20 people inside the factory. As soon as the fire broke out, many workers managed to come out, while nine were trapped. Seven of them were burnt alive. The fire was brought under control after more than one-and-a-half hour. Some skeletons were also recovered. A CCTV footage also surfaced which shows a loud explosion before the fire. At the factory, gunpowder, firecrackers, and packing boxes were recovered.

The bodies were severely burnt and many were reduced to skeletons. Body parts were found scattered and the rescue team collected the body parts in polythene bags. Some of the deceased workers were from Bihar.

# PM inaugurates AI Impact Expo

## Interacts with participating startups



The prime minister visited various stalls and spoke with the companies participating in the expo.

PTI

### NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday inaugurated the India AI Impact Expo here featuring over 600 high-potential startups and 13 country pavilions showcasing international collaboration in the AI ecosystem.

He also interacted with startups participating in the expo.

The prime minister visited various stalls and spoke with the companies participating in the expo. He was seen asking questions from company representatives to better un-

derstand what they are showcasing.

The prime minister spent several minutes at various stalls while interacting with the representatives.

The Expo brings together global technology firms, startups, academia and research institutions, central and state governments and international partners.

# Rahman to take oath as Bangladesh's new PM today

PTI

### DHAKA

Tarique Rahman will take oath as the new Prime Minister of Bangladesh on Tuesday after leading his party to a forceful victory in the crucial general elections.

Rahman's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has bagged 209 out of 297 seats, while right-wing Jamaat-e-Islami secured 68 seats in the 13th Parliamentary elections. Deposed premier Sheikh Hasina's Awami League was barred from contesting polls.

# JEE-Main results: 12 candidates bag 100 score in first edition of exam

PTI

### NEW DELHI

Twelve candidates have bagged the perfect 100 score in engineering entrance exam JEE-Main 2026, with the maximum number of such candidates hailing from Rajasthan, the National Testing Agency (NTA) announced on Monday.

More than 13.04 lakh candidates had appeared for the first edition of the crucial exam.

According to sources, at least nine questions were dropped from the final answer key after discrepancies were highlighted by students and other stakeholders.

"For the nine questions dropped across multiple

shifts, full marks will be awarded to all candidates who appeared for that particular shift," a source said.

Last year, the number of questions dropped was six.

Among the candidates who have secured an NTA score of 100, three are from Rajasthan, two from Andhra Pradesh and one each is from Delhi, Bihar, Odisha, Haryana, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Telangana.

All the 12 candidates are male and 11 of them are from the general category.

The top scoring candidates are -- Kabeer Chhillar, Chiranjib Kar and Amav Gautam from Rajasthan, Narendrababu Gani Mahith and Pasala Mohith from Andhra Pradesh, Shreyas Mishra (Delhi), Shub-

ham Kumar (Bihar), Bhavesh Patra (Odisha), Anay Jain (Haryana), Madhav Viradiya (Maharashtra), Purohit Nimay (Gujarat) and Vivan Sharad Mahiswari (Telangana).

According to officials, the NTA score is not the same as the percentage of marks obtained but normalised scores.

"NTA scores are normalised scores across multi-shift papers and are based on the relative performance of all those who appeared for the examination in one shift. The marks obtained are transformed into a scale ranging from 100 to 0 for each shift of examinees. The NTA score is not the same as the percentage of marks obtained," a senior official explained.

## FROM PAGE 1 >>

# Quitool set to fly; aero sports, aviation hub gets approval

approval and consent to establish / consent to operate respectively. Any change or addition in utilization of the said land shall require fresh approval from Goa-IPB. Goa-IPB's in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from date of plot allotment by GIDC.

## Proclamation after mandatory process

Confirming the decision taken by the Board to grant in-principle approval to M/s. Skydiving Adventures Pvt Ltd, the Chief Executive Officer, Goa Investment Promotion and Facilitation Board, Asvin Chandru, IAS told The Goan that the Board would issue the proclamation inviting public objections after completing the process.

The Board has so far taken an in-principle decision for the project proposed by Ms Skydiving Adventures Pvt Ltd. "The decision will now go to the government. The Board will then issue the proclamation inviting public objections to the project", Chandru added.

## Employment generation

The Goa Investment Promotion and Facilitation Board has directed M/s Skydiving Adventures Pvt Ltd to achieve the committed employment number of 303 (185 -- 61 per cent Goans and 118 Non-Goans) employees as submitted in the application within 5 years of commencing operations.

## Revocation

The Board has made it clear that if M/s Skydiving Adventures Pvt Ltd fails to comply with any of the above conditions, it shall lead to withdrawal of the in-principle approval with directions to GIDC and other departments to withdraw all approvals given on the basis of in-principle approval granted by Goa-IPB.

## Cops keep case under wraps for fortnight

former minister in the matter and that he has appeared before the investigating officers on four occasions for questioning.

Confirming the registration of the offence, Mapusa Police Inspector Navin Desai said, "We have registered a case against the former minister."

When asked whether Palienkar would be arrested, the PI said, "The investigation is on," indicating that no decision has yet been taken on further action.

Police have booked the former MLA under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and the probe is currently underway.

## Birch fire fallout: HC turns the heat on coastal p'yats

Pangam explained that the structure had come up illegally, adding that applicants had sought a trade licence for a specific activity without mentioning a house number.

"While the matter was pending before the panchayat, a different house number was inserted in the office records. The house number was not shown by the owner or operator; it happened in the office of the panchayat," he said, raising apprehensions that various other establishments might have got licences in this way.

The Court was also informed about the alleged illegality committed by dismissed Secretary Raghuvir Bagkar and the former Sarpanch of Arpora-Nagoa Roshan Redkar, both of whom have been booked in the criminal case.

Accepting AG's submission that a wider audit was necessary, the Bench directed that affidavits be filed by the respective coastal panchayat secretaries disclosing the number of trade licences, construction permissions and occupancy certificates granted to commercial units.

The court also suggested whether the district administration could divide Goa into four zones, conduct inspections and undertake corrective steps in this regard. It questioned why the State could not carry out such an exercise on its own instead of leaving it to judicial intervention.

Amicus Curiae Rohit Bras De Sa, meanwhile, argued that the situation had arisen because the then Sarpanch had granted multiple permissions and trade licences to illegal structures. He further submitted that on the night of the fire, the personnel were unable to carry out the rescue and firefighting operations due to inaccessibility to the venue.

"Had building regulations relating to access been followed, a tragedy of this magnitude would not have happened," he contended, seeking scrutiny of lapses by TCP.

Responding, the AG maintained that

primary responsibility lay with the Village Panchayat rather than the TCP Department, while acknowledging that the nightclub had only one entry and exit on the first floor. The PIL has been posted for further hearing on February 24.

## State bets big on startups, to legalise co-working spaces

The DTE&C said that the registry will serve as a ready reference for startups and technology enterprises looking for professionally managed, ready-to-use workspaces. All registered properties will be listed on the official Startup Goa portal ensuring greater visibility and accessibility. The initiative seeks to improve the availability of workspaces, enable faster operationalisation of startups, create a structured interface between property owners and the startup ecosystem, and promote balanced regional development across Goa.

Property owners participating in the initiative stand to gain direct visibility among verified startups and technology enterprises, opportunities for stable and long-term leasing arrangements, and inclusion in the government-backed startup ecosystem.

Applicants must be independent property owners or recognised legal entities such as proprietorships, partnerships, LLPs, companies, or registered societies and trusts. They must possess clear legal title or valid lease rights and ensure compliance with local building, safety, and regulatory norms.

The move is expected to unlock new revenue avenues for property owners across the State. Currently, State has several co-working spaces operating; however, they are not officially registered.

## The Portuguese connection counts big in Goa

around 30,000 people in Goa have surrendered their Indian passports since 2014 after acquiring Portuguese nationality. These cases are now being scrutinised as part of the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, a process that has lent fresh urgency to the debate over dual nationality and voting rights.

Yet the pace of passport surrenders has slowed markedly. In 2022, 1,265 people gave up their Indian passports, compared with 2,835 in 2021 and between 3,500 and 4,100 annually from 2015 to 2019. Officials at the Regional Passport Office have said that applications continue, but without the earlier rush, averaging 10 to 12 a day.

## CHANGE IN NAME

I, Mr. Zameer Ahmed Khazi, r/o. H.No.46/2, Indona, Davorlim, Navelim, Salcete, South Goa, Goa 403707, have changed my name from ZAMEER AHMED NAZIR AHMED KAZI to ZAMEER AHMED KHAZI. Hereafter, in all my dealings and documents I will be known by the name ZAMEER AHMED KHAZI. Sd/- Zameer Ahmed Khazi

## IN THE COURT OF THE MAMLATDAR SALCETE

Case No: MAM/INT/DC/CL/15/2025  
1. Belarmina Antonieta Rodrigues R/O H. No. 6/B Figueira Bhat Ulorda, South Goa, Salcete. 2. Perpetua Socorro J Rodrigues Pacheco R/O H. No. 287/A, Godinho Vado, Majorda, South Goa. V/s ... Applicants

1. Antonio Gregorio Rodrigues R/O H. No. 287/A, Godinho Vado, Majorda, South Goa. 2. Administrator of Comunidade Offica Margao Goa. 3. Comunidade de Ulorda Through its Attorney, Pin Code- 403713. ... Respondents

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above named applicant has filed an application dated 16/05/2025 in this Court for Tenancy Declaration under Section 7 of the Goa, Daman and Diu Agricultural Tenancy Act 1964.

And whereas, the Applicant has made an application stating that the notice which was sent to Respondents by registered A/D, returned with postal remark "Insufficient address" and return to senders and applicant states that they are also not aware about any other address of the respondent.

And whereas, the Applicant vide application dated 09/02/2026 has prayed that a public notice be issued for publication to serve the above respondents as their whereabouts is not known; And whereas, this Court is satisfied that this is a fit case for allowing such a service.

Therefore, notice is hereby given to the Respondents to appear before this Court in person or by duly authorized agent on 12/03/2026 at 10.30am to give your say in the matter.

Take notice that in default of your appearance the application will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this 9th February, 2026.

Sd/- (Gaurav S. Gaoukar) Mamlatdar of Salcete Taluka, Margao - Goa.

Government of Goa  
OFFICE OF THE CIVIL REGISTRAR-CUM SUB-REGISTRAR, SALCETE  
Salcete No. 209, 2nd floor, Mathary Saldhana Administrative Complex, Margao - Goa  
Office Tel. No. 9405864458 / Office Email: crsr@salcete-rd.goa.nic.in  
No. CR/SR/SAL/428/2026  
Date: 10/02/2026  
NOTICE  
Office of the Civil Registrar-cum-Sub Registrar and Special Notary, Salcete.  
Shri. Pramod Madhu Velip, Jr. Civil Registrar-cum-Sub Registrar I & II and Special Notary in the said Judicial Division of Salcete, Margao. In accordance with Section 346(11) of the Goa Succession Special Notaries and Inventory Proceedings Act 2012 it is hereby made public that by Deed of Declaration of Heirship dated 09/02/2026 duly recorded under Book No. 1736 at page 83 to 840v of the office, the following is recorded:  
That Late Naville Fernandes died on the Thirty First day of the month of July in the year Two Thousand and Seventeen i.e 31/07/2017 at ICU Ship Medical Facility, Mexico and was buried at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, Goa on 15/08/2017; He was a permanent resident of H. No. 579, Housing Board, Rumdamol-Davorlim, Goa. the deceased died intestate without executing any Will, gift or any testamentary disposition of his last wish, but leaving behind his widow Mrs. Sapna Malvika Fernandes, as a moiety sharer and a son namely Mr. Nash Dominic Fernandes, s/o of late Naville Fernandes, ages 18 yrs, as his "sole and universal heir", and besides them, there being no one else or no other person or heir who in terms of Law of Succession in force in this State of Goa may prefer the estate left by the deceased person.  
Any person having objection to this deed may file their objection in this office within one month from the date of its publication.  
Sd/- (Shri. Pramod Madhu Velip) Special Notary and Jr. Civil Registrar-cum-Sub Registrar - I & II, Salcete Margao Goa

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAJBALI BASANTLAL SAROJ, R/o. H. No. 141/51, Ground Floor, Belabai, Vasco. Street No. Mestawada, Opp. Chari Garage, Vasco-Da-Gama, South Goa 403802, hereby change my name from RAJBALI SAROJ to RAJBALI BASANTLAL SAROJ. Hereafter in all my dealings & documents, I will be known by the name RAJBALI BASANTLAL SAROJ. Sd/- Rajbali Basantlal Saroj

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, MAHMMAD ALI JAILOR, R/o. H. No. 2/270, Near Holy Cross Chaple, New Vaddem, Vasco-Da-Gama, South Goa 403802, hereby change my name from MAHMMAD ALI MAKTUM SAB JAILOR to MAHMMAD ALI JAILOR. Hereafter in all my dealings & documents, I will be known by the name MAHMMAD ALI JAILOR. Sd/- MAHMMAD ALI JAILOR.

## CHANGE IN NAME

I MILTUN FERNADES Indian National, R/O H.No. 480, Devossa, Deao, Quepem, South Goa, 403705 would like to change my name on Passport bearing Passport No. C0040185 from MILTUN MAURICIO FERNADES to MILTUN FERNADES as per my Birth, Aadhaar Card and other documents. Hereafter all future dealing and documents I shall be known as MILTUN FERNADES. Sd/- MILTUN FERNADES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that Smt. Shakuntala D. Goltekar, R/o Maina, Sodim, Sliem, Bardez, Goa has not executed any Power of Attorney or any Affidavit cum Declaration cum no objection for water connection and electricity connection with respect to the above mentioned property and despite of this notice if any one deals with any person as my Power of Attorney holder or any Affidavit cum declaration cum no objection for water connection and electricity connection, will do at his/her own risk, cost and consequences and whatever acts committed shall be considered as invalid and not binding on me. Sodim, Sliem, Dated: 16.02.2026 Sd/- Shakuntala D. Goltekar

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, ROSALIND MARY DIAS, H. No 576/10 A, Near Karai Church, Shiroda Ponda Goa, do hereby change my name from MARY FERNADES to ROSALIND MARY DIAS. Hereafter in all my dealings and documents I will be known as ROSALIND MARY DIAS. Sd/- ROSALIND MARY DIAS

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## SHIVALIK SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD.

Registered Office : 501, Salcon Arium, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi - 110025  
CIN - U65900DL2020PLC366027

## AUCTION NOTICE

The following borrowers of Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd. are hereby informed that Gold Loans availed by them from the Bank have not been adjusted by them despite various demands and notices including individual notices issued by the Bank. All borrowers are hereby informed that it has been decided to auction the Gold ornaments kept as security with the Bank and accordingly has been fixed at 11:00 am in the branch premises from where the loan was availed. All, including the borrowers, account holders and public at large can participate in this auction as per the terms and conditions of auction.

Auction date is 25.02.2026 @ 11:00 am.

S. NO	Branch	Account No.	Acct Holder name
1	PUNE TILAK ROAD	10424251769	PARMEET S KHURANA

The Bank reserves the right to delete any account from the auction or cancel the auction without any prior notice. Authorised Officer, Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd.

## STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH, MADURAI  
No. 8, Dr. Ambedkar Road, Vinayaga Nagar Branch  
First Floor, Madurai - 625 020  
Land Line No: (Office) 0452 - 0452 - 2531047

Authorised Officer's Details: Name: Shri. Abhinav Bothra  
Mobile No: 9310850535 | E-mail ID: sbi.13165@soi.co.in

## NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to S Muthuraman, the borrower, Address: R/o at S-1, Phase - 2, Green House Apartments, Mac Donalds Road, Chandanment, Trichy - 620 001. also at: i) S-3, Phase-