

## PM FOR SOCIAL MOVEMENT AGAINST SEXUAL CRIMES



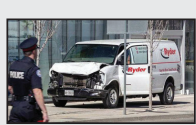
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday in Mandla, MP called for a social movement for protecting girls in the wake of increasing rapes reported from different parts of the country and said families have to teach their sons to become responsible.

## PREZ TRUMP TOUGHENS H1-B VISA PROCEDURE



The Trump administration is working on proposals to streamline the H-1B visa procedure, the most sought after by Indian IT professionals, to focus on attracting the best and the brightest foreign talents, according to a top federal agency official.

## VAN DRIVER MOWS DOWN 10 PERSONS IN TORONTO



A driver deliberately plowed his white Ryder rental van into a lunch-hour crowd in Toronto on Monday, killing 10 people and injuring 15 along a roughly mile-long (1.6-km) stretch of sidewalk thronged with pedestrians, police said in Toronto.



RODRIGUEZ POISED TO SHOW ZIDANE WHAT REAL MADRID ARE MISSING.

NATION 5

BUSINESS 7

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# Mission 2020 of Goa to eliminate Malaria

Once grappling with high malaria cases, concentrated efforts by health authorities over last one decade has ensured that this vector-borne disease has been brought under control in Goa, writes **NIBEDITA SEN.**

While National Vector Borne Diseases Control Programme aims at elimination of Malaria by 2027, but Goa State aims to eliminate Malaria by 2020, Deputy Director, National Vector-borne Disease Control Programme, Dr Anant Palekar told GT.

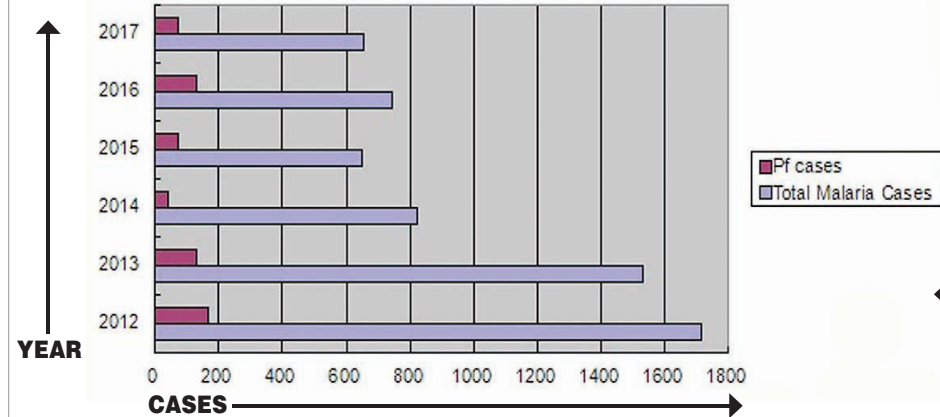
### MALARIA INCIDENCE IN GOA

YEAR	DEATHS
2005	1
2006	7
2007	11
2008	21
2009	10
2010	1
2011	3
2012	NIL
2013	NIL
2014	NIL
2015	1
2016	NIL
2017	1

Dr Palekar also said that Goa is listed among 15 other States under Category I to meet the target of 'zero malaria transmissions and zero malaria deaths' in 2020.

"Of the 32 Primary Health Centers, eight have achieved zero annual parasite incidence (API) level," Palekar said, adding that they are rig-

### MALARIA AND PF CASES IN GOA FROM 2012-2017



The total malaria cases have reduced significantly from 1530 in 2013 to 824 in 2014, while from 2015 to 2017 a stabilising trend has been seen i.e. 651 in 2015, 742 in 2016 and 653 in 2017. Similarly Plasmodium falciparum cases (known to be more severe) reduced from 131 in 2013 to just 42 in 2014 but increased to 75 in 2015, 130 in 2016 and 75 in 2017.

orously working to meet the target. PHCs which have achieved zero API are Valpoi, Canacona, Sankhali and Mayem in North Goa, and Cansaulim, Curcholem, Loutolim and Quepem in South Goa," he said.

A drop in API to zero level in the subject area signifies that malaria cases are not reported in that area. For any subsequent case of malaria reported from that area, a source of infection will be examined to see if it is an imported infection or locally acquired.

"A surveillance will be carried out to check if there were more cases in the area before reaching any conclusion," Palekar said.

He further said that the health de-

partment has been focusing on areas having API close to one or more than one and they are termed as 'high-risk areas' in terms of malaria infection which include Candolim, Siolim, Porvorim, and Margao.

### WORLD MALARIA DAY SPECIAL

These areas have comparatively higher incidences of malaria than other PHCs. "There is a possibility that a person may have picked up the infection elsewhere if no more cases are reported from that area. If a Valpoi resident, who works at a hotel in Candolim on night shifts, suffers from

malaria, it will be treated as a non-indigenous case if no other person is detected suffering from Malaria," said Palekar.

Palekar said that though Goa has witnessed a steady decline in Malaria cases over the years, health officials cannot afford to be complacent about it.

"Goa saw an explosion of malaria cases in construction sites. Various measures introduced over the years, including compulsory checking of laborers engaged on construction sites, fishing jetties, shacks, and issuance of health cards helped reduce malaria infections," he said.

# Goa fit to eliminate malaria, says Dr Ashwani Kumar

Panaji: Goa has one of the best health infrastructures in the country and is fit for malaria elimination, said Dr Ashwani Kumar, Director of ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR) Field Unit at Goa.

While planning for malaria elimination strategies and to measure the impact of control methods used both local residents and migrants should be targeted, Dr Ashwani Kumar said.

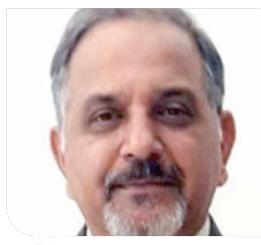
"Each and every episode of malaria occurring anywhere in Goa is a potential source for further transmission. Therefore every malaria case must not only be counted in the total tally of cases but also for all purposes namely tracking, testing and treating as well as transmission control planning and interventions so that further cases from any such case is prevented," the NIMR Goa head said.

It is therefore incorrect to exclude cases among migrants from statistics and planning by labeling them as imported. Such an approach will be counterproductive in the long run.

"During elimination phase, micro-planning of all the malaria control activities and actions is absolutely essential. Surveillance is the key to control and elimination of malaria. There has to be first-grade vector surveillance, parasite surveillance and prompt treatment and

most importantly follow up of each and every case," he said.

According to the malaria expert, elimination programme is a time-bound and as the clock is ticking and the target year 2020 is fast approaching, every minute and day therefore, is very important and counts. "There are many challenges in



Each and every episode of malaria occurring anywhere in Goa is a potential source for further transmission." - DR ASHWANI KUMAR, Director, ICMR-NIMR Field Unit, Goa

malaria elimination, but first-grade surveillance, management of all interventions efficiently, reporting of every case and its follow up, supply chain management, involving and coordinating with all concerned sectors and communities at risk are the foremost to name a few," Dr Kumar said. Then recent discovery made by NIMR Field Unit of a new and more dominant mosquito - Anopheles subpictus as a malaria vector in the coastal cities of Goa has thrown yet another challenge.

"The breeding habits and habitats of this mosquito are completely different from that of Anopheles stephensi which was until recently considered the only urban vector in Goa. Anopheles subpictus needs different control strategy which should be primarily based on anti-adult methods rather than only anti-larval approach," he said.

Long Lasting Insecticide Treated Bed-Nets (LLINs) can provide effective control for both these vectors provided they are used strategically and in sufficient quantity in malaria high risk pockets, Dr Kumar added.

### IN BRIEF

**CBSE CLASS XII ECONOMICS PAPER RE-TEST TODAY:** The Central Board of Secondary Education will conduct a re-test of Class XII economics paper on Wednesday, April 25, nearly a month after it was leaked triggering widespread outrage and confusion among students across India.

**ASARAM RAPE CASE VERDICT TODAY:** Security was stepped up on Tuesday in Jodhpur where prohibitory orders have already been clamped ahead of Wednesday's (April 25) trial court verdict in the alleged rape of a teenager by self-styled godman Asaram who faces a minimum term of 10 years if convicted.

**CHINA FAILS TO GET INDIAN SUPPORT FOR OBOR:** China failed to get India's support for its ambitious Belt and Road infrastructure project at the end of a foreign ministers' meeting of a major security bloc on Tuesday, ahead of an ice-breaking trip to China this week by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

**MOB ATTACKS DIPHU POLICE STATION, 11 INJURED:** Police lathi charged, burst tear gas shells and fired rubber bullets on Tuesday to control a mob that attacked the Diphu police station in Assam demanding that a person arrested for alleged rape and abatement of suicide of a girl be handed over to it.

**SRB MEET TO DECIDE MANU SHARMA'S RELEASE POSTPONED:** A meeting of the Sentence Review Board (SRB) of the Tihar Central Jail in New Delhi was postponed on Tuesday in the absence of permission from Delhi Home Minister Satyendar Jain, who was to chair it to decide on a proposal to release Jassica Lall murder convict Manu Sharma. "The SRB meeting scheduled for Tuesday was postponed. The date for the next SRB meeting will be decided by the Home Department in consultation with Minister Satyendar Jain."

# PSI transferred as video showing him kicking a man goes viral

BY A STAFF REPORTER  
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Panaji: Goa Police on Tuesday ordered an inquiry against police sub-inspector (PSI) Sudin Redkar, attached to Sanguem police station after a video, in which he was allegedly seen kicking and abusing the friend of a drowning victim, went viral on social media.

PSI Redkar was also immediately transferred and posted at Goa Reserve Police (GRP), Altinho.

Director General of Police (DGP) Muktesh Chander has asked Superintendent of Police (South) Arvind Gawas to conduct the inquiry and to submit the report as early as possible.

In the video clip which went viral, PSI Redkar, who is in uniform, was seen

using abusive language and kicking a man, who was a friend of a person who had died of drowning.

The clip also shows the drowning victim's body lying on the ground, close to where the PSI was standing.

PSI Redkar first asked those standing nearby whether they knew the victim's name and went to his friend told him the name and asked him about his address. To this the friend said that he was not aware about his address. This annoyed PSI Redkar, who first kicked him in the buttocks and then used abusive language. There are also reports that another inquiry was on against PSI Redkar for assaulting a youth from Ne-travali-Sanguem in police custody last month, informed police sources.



A video screenshot showing PSI Sudin Redkar kicking a friend of drowning victim.

### MAN AT WORK



A labourer makes a chopper at Honda on Tuesday.

## HSSC examination results on April 28

BY A REPORTER  
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Panaji: The results of March 2018 HSSC examination conducted by the Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (GBSHSE) will be declared on Saturday, April 28 at 10 am.

The distribution of passing certificates-cum-statement of grades/marks of HSSC examination will be done on April 30 from 9.30 am to 1 pm.

It has been informed that higher secondary schools from Bardez, Tiswadi, Pernem, Bicholim, Sattari, Ponda and Dharbandora can collect their results from the office of Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Porvorim and for higher secondary schools from Canacona, Quepem.

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## AAI to invest Rs 400 cr for expansion of Goa's airports

New Delhi (UN): Enhancing the tourism and economic potential of the region, airport infrastructure in Goa is gearing up to receive a major expansion and face lift with two world class airports; one existing at Dabolim and the second being developed in Mopa.

According to an Airport Authority of India's (AAI) press release, it has already taken up action to invest around Rs 400 crore to improve the passenger facilities and carry out various expansion works at its existing Dabolim international airport which includes extension of the terminal building and creation of parking bays.

AAI said that in view of flourishing tourism and growing passenger traffic,

both the airports in Goa have the potential to grow as they are at two different locations, one in the north and another in the southern side of the State.

The Government of India had approved the proposal of the Goa government for continuation of civilian operations at Dabolim civil aviation enclave, even after the commissioning of new international airport at Mopa.

In order to ease traffic and handle more movements, AAI is developing a parallel taxiway at Dabolim international airport. The airport will get in-line X-ray baggage system apart from a host of self-service kiosk and additional Common User Terminal Equipment

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### FLIP SIDE

ALOK



Send him only a photo copy of the project document ... So even if he tears it up and throws it away, will be okay!

# NAGARGAO CHILDREN DEMAND PLAYGROUND AT FIRST BAL GRAM SABHA

BY AVANI KUDALKAR  
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Nagargao: The children of Nagargao on Tuesday pitched for a full-fledged playground in the village during the first bal gram sabha held in the panchayat, on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj day.

The first bal gram sabha provided a platform to the children to raise their concerns to their village representatives.

Most of the children complained about the non-availability of a proper playground in the village.

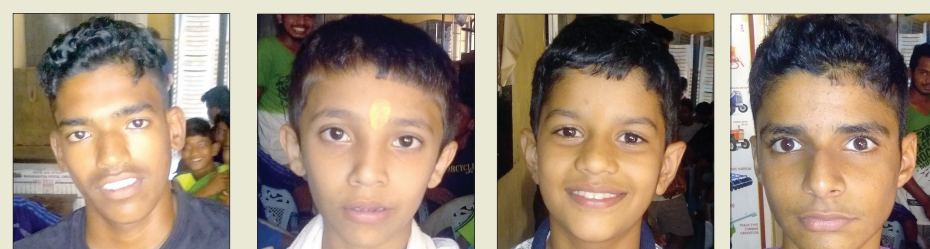
Aryan Barve, a student who attended the bal gram sabha said, "Whenever we are playing cricket, the ball ends up going into somebody's com-

pound and we do not get it back." Another boy Pradyumna Barve complained about the non-punctuality of the buses in the village. "The buses never ply on time and we end up getting late for school."

### PANCHAYATI RAJ DAY

Yash Marathe raised the issue of lack of health facilities in the village. He said, "if any one of us falls sick, the nearest hospital is in Valpoi which is 10-kilometres away. It becomes really difficult at times."

For the first time, the Goa government had asked all the village panchayats to conduct special gram



Chetan Sawardekar Aryan Barve Yash Marathe Pradyumna Barve

sabhas and bal gram sabhas on the National Panchayati Raj day.

Nagargao panchayat held their first ever bal gram sabha, providing a platform for children below 18 years, who do not have voting rights, to express their opinions, grievances and suggestions. The children were

allowed to ask any sort of questions about the need for a gram sabha, functioning of the gram sabhas and functions of the sarpanch or express their concerns about shortcomings of the administration.

The bal gram sabhas acted as a medium to enhance participation

of children in developmental projects and use their talents. It also helped them to expose their talent and skills.

Sarpanch Parag Khadlikar has now promised to make sure the grievances of children are resolved at the earliest. "At present the children play at the po-

lice camp in Nagargao which is occasionally used by the Police Training School, Valpoi. If they agree, the panchayat is ready to maintain and take care of the ground. PTS can use it whenever they need it," Khadlikar said.