

'Called out of factory, shot 7 times' — Police opened fire in Dimo's Diroi,

Hindu leader gunned down in Bangladesh; had paid 3L taka 'protection tax'

Nagpur, Agency: Thirty-seven-year-old Rana Pratap Bairagi, who took seven bullets from radical Islamists before he lay sprawled in blood near his ice factory in Bangladesh's Jessore district, would regularly cough up protection money. "Rana paid 3 lakh taka as protection money in the last few months, but still he's dead. We are sitting ducks in Bangladesh, don't know if we will live to see tomorrow," a relative told TOI on phone. Bairagi was a leader of minorities and would actively take up their issues, said another close relative.

Among the two persons killed in Bangladesh on Monday, Bairagi ran an ice making factory, doubled up as a journalist, but what perhaps led to his death was his affiliation to the exiled PM Sheikh Hasina's Awami League in Jessore. He leaves behind wife, eight-year-



old son, and parents who worked as govt schoolteachers. Hours after Bairagi's murder, another Hindu man, Mani Chakraborty was lynched.

Politically active, Bairagi was the go-to man for minorities in Arua village in Keshabpur upazila

of Jessore district, which has over 100 Hindu homes.

Things dramatically changed after then PM Sheikh Hasina's ouster in August last year. Like Rana Pratap, several villagers regularly paid money for safety.

"He was called near his factory, where assailants fired seven rounds at him, killing him on the spot. They may accuse him of writing controversial articles in the paper, but they wanted to eliminate a Hindu leader. If someone like Bairagi is killed no other from the community would dare to raise their head," said the relative.

Gangs of fundamentalists, purportedly affiliated with Jamaat-e-Islami, have been visiting Hindu homes, demanding money for protection or threatening them with death, said villagers of Arua. "They are outsiders, but turn up every month to extort. None dares to come out openly," said the kin. Media spoke to several villagers on phone. And they all admitted to paying 'protection tax' but were unsure whether the extortionists belonged to any political party.

Police opened fire in Dimo's Diroi, killing the attacker

Sivasagar ,Agency: An attacker was killed in police firing on Tuesday night in the Diroi area of ??Dimo ??in the district. The deceased has been identified as Ranjit Pandav, who was allegedly attacking neighbors with a sharp-edged weapon (dao) while drunk.

According to police sources, Ranjit Pandav created havoc in the area, in which a husband and wife were seriously injured. Upon receiving information about the incident, the police reached the spot and tried to control and disarm the accused.

When the situation went out of control, the police opened fire in self-defense, killing the attacker on the spot. The injured couple was immediately admitted to the Assam Medical College and Hospital (AMCH) in Dibrugarh, where their condition is reported to be critical. Police have launched an investigation into the incident and are ascertaining further details related to the case.

Balrampur: Accused arrested for tying minor children with ropes and brutally beating them for plucking peas from a field

Balrampur, Agency: A serious incident that shook humanity has come to light from Rajpur police station area of ??Balrampur district. On a trivial matter like plucking and eating peas from the field, a person behaved inhumanely with minor children, tied them with ropes and beat them mercilessly. On receiving information about the case, Rajpur police took immediate action and arrested the accused and sent him to judicial custody.

According to information received from the police, the applicant of the case, Krishna Nath Toppo (40 years), resident of village Ladua, police station Rajpur, submitted a written application to police station Rajpur on 06 January and lodged a report. The application stated that on January 4th, at around 12 noon, their neighbor and relative, Kapil Oraon (26), assaulted their minor son, Sanskar Toppo (7), after he became angry over the child picking and eating peas from his field.

According to the report, the



accused forcibly took the child to his house, tied his hands and feet with a rope, held him captive, and physically tortured him.

The investigation, it was also revealed that the accused had also abused another minor boy at the time of the incident, abusing and punching both children.

Given the seriousness of the matter, a case was registered against the accused under Sections 137(2), 296, 351(2), 115(2), 127(2), and 140(3) of

the Indian Penal Code (IPC) at Rajpur Police Station under Crime No. 03/2026.

After confessing to the crime during the investigation, the accused was duly arrested on Wednesday and presented in the court, from where he was sent on judicial remand. Rajpur police has clarified that violence against minor children is considered a serious crime and in such cases, no negligence will be tolerated at any level.

Commissioning of Samudra Pratap strengthens self-reliance: PM Modi

New Delhi, Agency: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said the commissioning of home-built pollution control ship Samudra Pratap has strengthened the vision of self-reliance and reflected the commitment to sustainability.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh commissioned the Indian Coast Guard Ship Samudra Pratap on Monday, India's first indigenously built pollution control vessel and the largest ship in the Coast Guard's fleet so far.

"The commissioning of Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Samudra Pratap is noteworthy for numerous reasons, including the fact that it adds strength to our vision of self-reliance, boosts our security apparatus and reflects a commitment to sustainability, among others," the prime minister said in a post on X. The vessel will serve as a critical platform for enforcing marine pollution con-



trol regulations, maritime law enforcement, search and rescue operations, and safeguarding India's Exclusive Economic Zone. The vessel's primary role is pollution response at sea, supported by state-of-the-art systems including side-sweeping arms, floating booms, high-capacity skimmers, portable barges, and a pollution control laboratory. The ship is also fitted with an external fire-fighting system and integrates advanced systems such as dynamic positioning, integrated bridge system, integrated platform management system, and automated power management system to enhance automation and mission efficiency.

Youth arrested with heroin in Guwahati



Guwahati, Agency: Acting on information received from reliable sources, a team of Panbazar police conducted a raid in the 2nd Railway Gate area early Wednesday morning and arrested the youth.

The accused has been identified as Ainul Haque (25).

According to police, during a search, six plastic vials containing suspected heroin weighing 11.7

grams were recovered from the accused.

The accused is currently a resident of the 2nd Railway Gate area in Laktokia, while his permanent address is listed as Kolapitha village under the Fakirganj police station in Dhubri district.

Panbazar police have initiated necessary legal action in the case and further interrogation of the accused is underway.

BJP, Cong form Ambernath Vikas Agadi, keep Sena out

Thane, Agency: The acrimonious battle between Mahayuti partners BJP and Shiv Sena for control of Ambernath municipal council took a new turn Tuesday as rivals BJP and Congress, in a rare move, joined hands to keep out Shiv Sena in its traditional stronghold falling within MP Shrikant Shinde's constituency. The Eknath Shinde-led party won the highest number of seats—27, just four shy of majority in the 60-member House—in the Dec 20 polls.

The third party in the BJP-Congress front, named Ambernath Vikas Aghadi, is Ajit Pawar's NCP. BJP won 14 seats, while Congress won 12. Ajit Pawar-led NCP managed to win four seats, and two independent candidates were also elected. Sena suffered a setback in



municipal president poll, where its candidate Manisha Walekar lost to BJP's Tejashree Karanjule Patil.

As the alliance between rivals took party cadres by surprise ahead of elections in bigger cities like Mumbai & Thane, BJP sources said these are local polls where local leaders have been authorised to take decisions. A state Congress spokesperson said "no decision has been taken so far".

BJP corporator Abhijit Karanjule Patil has been appointed group leader of Ambernath Vikas Aghadi, comprising BJP and councillors from Congress and Ajit Pawar-led Nationalist Congress Party (NCP). Speaking to TOI, Patil said BJP had contested the elections against corruption and a culture of intimidation under the Shiv Sena's long rule in the civic body. "Our objective was to free the administration from

fear and corruption and to ensure development in Ambernath. Keeping that in mind, we formed this alliance," he said.

BJP had captured the president's position, but lacked the numerical strength among councillors to run the civic body independently.

A municipal council functions in a manner largely similar to a municipal corporation, with the powers of the president comparable to those of a mayor. The president has the authority to decide which issues are taken up for discussion in General Body meetings. However, when it comes to passing a proposal or resolution by consensus, the matter must be approved by a majority vote in the General Body meeting.

Education is the foundation of social justice and democratic consciousness: Katju

New Delhi, Agency: Former Supreme Court judge Justice Markandey Katju has said that education is not just a means of empowerment, but also the foundation of social justice and democratic consciousness. The thoughts of Savitribai Phule and Fatima Sheikh are still relevant for social change.

He made these remarks at a seminar organized in the capital on Tuesday evening in memory of the great social reformers and pioneers of women's edu-

cation, Savitribai Phule and Fatima Sheikh. Tej Singh Varun, founding president of the seminar organizer Creative Foundation (Delhi) and senior advocate, said in his address that women's empowerment will be meaningful only when they acquire legal awareness along with education.

At the event, women talents who have made outstanding contributions in various fields were honored. Retired District Judge TR Naval, DIG



Narendra Singh, IPS Advocate Pooja Kumari (Retired) OP Sagar, also shared their views on women's empowerment.

pnB Housing Finance Limited		APPENDIX -IV-A E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY (IES)									
E-Auction-Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets Under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002											
Registered Office: - 9th Floor, Antriksh Bhawan, 22 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi-110001, Phones:-011-23357171, 23357172, 23705414, Web: - www.pnbhousing.com											
Bikaner Branch: - PNB Housing Finance Ltd. B-46-B, 2nd floor, sadul ganj, Bikaner-334002											
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower(s) and guarantor(s) indicated in Column no-A that the below described immovable property (ies) described in Column no-D mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/Physical Possession of which has been taken (as described in Column no-C) by the authorized Officer of M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/Secured Creditor, will be sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" as per the details mentioned below. Notice is hereby given to borrower(s)/mortgagor(s)/Legal Heirs, Legal Representative, (whether Known or Unknown), executor(s), administrator(s), successor(s), assignee(s) of the respective borrowers/ mortgagor(s) (since deceased) as the case may be indicated in Column no-A under Rule-8(6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 amended as on date.											
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited/secured creditor's website i.e. www.pnbhousing.com.											
Loan No. Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor(s)/Legal heirs (A)	Demand Amount & Date (B)	Nature of Possession (C)	Description of the Properties Mortgaged (D)	Reserve Price (RP) (E)	EMD (10% of RP) (F)	Last Date of Submission of Bid (G)	Bid Increment Rate (H)	Inspection Date & Time (I)	Date of Auction & Time (J)	Known Encumbrances/Court Cases if any (K)	
276660000803, 276700001234, B.O.: Bikaner, Sushil Kumar Mali / Kamla Devi Mali, Muni Lal Nai, Arjun Singh And Sharwan Kumar Mali,	Rs.1279939.75 as on 21-12-2018	Physical Possession	Ward No. 19, Mohanpura, Kachhi Basti, Near Water Tank, Nokha, Dist- Bikaner, Rajasthan. Pin Code:-33480	Rs. 1018000	Rs. 101800	27.01.2026	Rs. 10000	15.01.2026 28.01.2026 10.00 AM - 02.00 PM 5.30 PM - 03.00PM	Not Known		
*Together with the further interest @18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. incurred up to the date of payment and/or realization thereof. ** To the best knowledge and information of the authorized Officer of PNB Housing Finance Limited, there are no other encumbrances/ claims in respect of above mentioned immovable/secured assets except what is disclosed in the column no-K. Further such encumbrances to be catered/paid by the successful purchaser/bidder at his/her end. The prospective purchaser(s)/bidders are requested to independently ascertain the veracity of the mentioned encumbrances. 1. As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction PNBHFL the authorized Officer of PNBHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets. 2. The prospective purchaser/bidder and interested parties may independently take the inspection of the pledging in the proceedings/orders passed etc. if any, stated in column no-K including but not limited to the title of the documents of the title pertaining thereto available with the PNBHFL and satisfy themselves in all respects prior to submitting tender/bid application form or making Offer(s). The bidder(s) has to sign the terms and conditions of this auction along with the Bid Form. 3. Please note that in terms of Rule 9(3) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the bidder(s) the purchaser is legally bound to deposit 25% of the amount of sale price, (inclusive of earnest money, if any, deposited) on the same day or not later than next working day. The sale may be confirmed in favour of (bidder/s) only after receipt of 25% of the sale price by the secured creditor in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The remaining 75% of the sale consideration amount has to be deposited by the purchaser within 15 days from the date of acknowledgement of sale confirmation letter and in default of such deposit, the property/secured asset shall be resold. 4. C1 INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED would be assisting the Authorized Officer in conducting sale through an e-Auction having its corporate office at Plot No.68, 3rd Floor, Sector 44, Gurgaon, Haryana 122003 Website- www.bankauctions.com. For any assistance related to inspection of the property or obtaining the Bid Documents and for any other query or for registration, you have to co-ordinate with Shyam Sundar *Contact Number 1800 120 8800, is authorised person of PNBHFL or refer to www.pnbhousing.com											
Place : Bikaner, Dated: 08.01.2026											
Authorized Officer, M/s PNB Housing Finance Limited											