

MAHARASHTRA: PROSTITUTION RACKET BUSTED IN THANE, 2 ARRESTED

FOLLOWING INPUTS ABOUT A PROSTITUTION RACKET, THE POLICE SENT A DECOY CUSTOMER TO THE MESSAGE AND SPA CENTRE AT NAYA NAGAR AREA OF MIRA ROAD, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF MUMBAI, ON WEDNESDAY, SAID AN OFFICIAL

Police have arrested two persons for allegedly running the flesh trade from a massage parlour in Maharashtra's Thane district and rescued a woman and a minor girl from there, an official said on Friday.

Following inputs about a prostitution racket, the police sent a decoy customer to the massage and spa centre at Naya Nagar area of Mira Road, on the outskirts of Mumbai, on Wednesday, said the official.

After being alerted by the decoy, a police team raided the premises and rescued a woman and a minor girl, said Sameer Ahirrao of Mira-Bhayandar, Vasai-Virar police in Maharashtra. The cops also arrested the parlour manager Tousif Khan and a worker named Gopalkumar Mali who had struck a deal with the decoy, he said.

The woman and the girl have been sent to a rescue home, he said, adding that they are on the lookout for the massage parlour owner whose name was given as Heena Qureshi.

Meanwhile, in another case, the Mumbai Crime Branch on Thursday rescued a minor girl and two women from flesh trade. According to the police, the officials of the city crime branch had received a tip-off regarding an alleged prostitution racket being run in Vikhroli area. After receiving the information, a special team was formed that raided a place under the jurisdiction of Parksite Police in Vikhroli.

The police said that the raid was conducted on February 21 and a 45-year-old woman was initially detained in the matter. The woman was suspected to be running the alleged racket and using minors for the illegal business for her monetary gains.



MUMBAI: POLICE BOOKED THREE FOR ASSAULTING FOUR STUDENTS WITH PAPER CUTTER

ACCORDING TO POLICE SOURCES, FOUR STUDENTS HAVE BEEN INJURED IN THE ATTACK, TWO OF THEM WHO SUSTAINED GRIEVOUS INJURIES HAD MORE THAN 35 STITCHES ON THEIR BODIES AND THAT THEY ARE ADMITTED TO A HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT

The victim – a 20-year-old student – had a heated argument with the accused in the classroom as the accused allegedly put his feet on the bench while sitting several days back, sources told Mid-day.

The Samta Nagar police have booked three people including a 20-year-old SYBcom college student for allegedly attacking and injuring four college students with a paper cutter Friday afternoon in Kandivali East area.

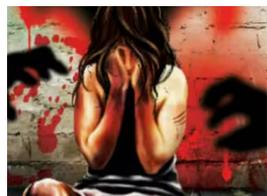
According to police sources, four students have been injured in the attack, two of them who sustained grievous injuries had more than 35 stitches on their bodies and that they are admitted to a hospital for treatment.

The altercation between the students erupted due to a minor dispute initially in the classroom and later outside the college at a "Pan Tapri" shop near the North region police office, said police sources.

The victim – a 20-year-old student – had a heated argument with the accused in the classroom as the accused allegedly put his feet on the bench while sitting several days back, sources told Mid-day. "The class teacher interfered in the fight and the duo apologized to each other in front of him."

According to police, the victim students were standing near "Pappu Pan Tapri" Shop situated several meters ahead of the north region police office where the accused, his brother and friends attacked four.

"We have registered the case and booked the accused under sections 324, 323, 506(2), and 34 of IPC," said police. Police also detained one accused.



AFTER HIS COMMENT ON RSS LITERACY: ORGANISERS CANCEL KUMAR VISHWAS EVENT IN VADODARA

In a statement on Friday, MSU Syndicate member Jigar Inamdar, convener of Samanvay Pratishthan said that he was calling off the event – a two-day discourse on the life of Lord Krishna titled 'Apne Apne Shyam – to "protect the dignity" of his "mother-institution", RSS.

Two days after comments by poet and former Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Kumar Vishwas on the literacy of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)



WOMAN IN LIVE-IN-RELATIONSHIP DIES BY SUICIDE IN UP, BROTHER ALLEGES SHE WAS PRESSURED TO CHANGE RELIGION

The police identified the deceased as Anuradha Kumari, a Dalit, who had been in a live-in relationship for two years with Anwar Khan, 44, who already had two wives.

A 28-year-old woman in Uttar Pradesh's Moradabad died allegedly by suicide Wednesday (February 15) after her live-in partner refused to marry her, said the police.



VENKATESH PRASAD VS AAKASH CHOPRA'S SOCIAL-MEDIA BATTLE AND WHAT IT SAYS ABOUT CRICKET ECOSYSTEM

When does criticism turn personal? When does defence feel cheer-leader-ish? Welcome to the cricketing world of social media where hipsters, contrarians, bigot, meme-star inhabit

In the last 20 days, former India pacer Venkatesh Prasad has put out 18 tweets to express his displeasure and argue about KL Rahul's inclusion in the Test team. This includes a long thread of seven posts to throw a lasso around former Test cricketer and YouTuber Aakash Chopra.

IN AJNALA, A REMINDER OF DARK DAYS, THE RISE OF ANOTHER IDEOLOGUE, AND A WARNING

“SGPC (Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee) and Akal Takht should have condemned the use of Guru Granth Sahib in the protest, but we are yet to hear anything.”

For those who have lived through the years of militancy in Punjab, the Ajnala incident raked up memories best forgotten. There was déjà vu as sword-wielding youngsters ran amok and their leader, Amritpal Singh, a self-styled preacher who seemed like another polarising ideologue from the distant past, justified the action. Though militancy was officially declared over in Punjab in 1995, its scars remain. Saying that no two situations are the same, Kanwar Sandhu, former AAP MLA and an editor who had reported on those tumultuous years in Punjab, couldn't but notice the “unfortunate similarities”. “The runup to Operation Bluestar in 1984 was marked by the same kind of dithering by the administration, where people were picked up and then released after pressure.”

A figure who loomed large over the initial years of turmoil was that of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, head of the Sikh seminary Damdami Taksal. Amritpal Singh, who heads Waris Punjab De, an outfit whose followers stormed the police station, has been fashioning himself after the late ideologue, dressing up and talking like him. “He even wears a pistol around his waist just like Bhindranwale,” says Kanwar Sandhu. But unlike Amritpal, Bhindranwale did not emerge overnight. Nor did he clash with the state in his initial years. Jagroop Singh Sekhon, a political scientist and co-author of a book on militancy – “Terrorism in Punjab: Understanding the grassroots reality” – recounts how Bhindranwale first clashed with Nirankaris, followers of a religious sect, in 1978. “The confrontation with the state came much later. Amritpal has taken on the state, for the police station implements the will of the state. How did he dare to do it? How did he become larger than life in such a short span?” These are the very questions that were faced by Bhindranwale too. In the initial years, there was speculation about his political masters. It's the same with Amritpal. Who is behind his meteoric rise is a question that begs an answer.



REPUBLIC WORLD | TWITTER: BHAGWANT MANN

MEGHALAYA CM INTERVIEW: 'IF BJP WAS OUTSIDER FOR WEST BENGAL, TMC AN OUTSIDER FOR MEGHALAYA ... NOTHING RACIAL ABOUT IT'

“If you compare it to the Congress in 2018, the TMC is much weaker now. The Congress was a strong, united opposition, and now because of the political circumstances, they (the Opposition) are divided,” says Conrad Sangma



After a particularly challenging five years, it is an important election for Meghalaya Chief Minister and National People's Party (NPP) supremo Conrad K Sangma as the state heads to polls on February 27. At his residence in Tura in the state's Garo Hills, Sangma talks to The Indian Express about his party's performance in the last five years, the challenge the Trinamool Congress (TMC) poses, and the frosty relationship with the BJP, which was part of the NPP-led alliance but is contesting the polls on its own.

In a democracy, everybody has their voice. But it is the voice of the majority that counts. Critics have the right to say what they are saying. But they are not the voice of the majority. We don't claim to have resolved everything but there is a sense of satisfaction in our minds and even the public's minds. Meghalaya was one of the worst performing states in the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana when we took over. Today, in a matter of five years,

RANBIR KAPOOR CLARIFIES STATEMENT ABOUT WANTING TO WORK IN PAKISTANI FILMS: 'ART IS NOT BIGGER THAN YOUR COUNTRY'



Ranbir Kapoor drew a lot of flak on social media for his statement about wanting work in Pakistani films. Some social media users called him "unpatriotic". Last year, Ranbir Kapoor had said he has no qualms about working with a Pakistani filmmaker. He had said this at the Red Sea International Film Festival in Saudi Arabia. Soon after, he drew a lot of flak on social media for his statement, and some social media users called him “unpatriotic”. But Kapoor feels his statement was “misconstrued” and he does not think that it was controversial in the first place. At the Red Sea International Film Festival, when a Pakistani filmmaker asked him if he would work with a Pakistani team, the actor replied, “Of course, sir. I think there are no boundaries for artistes, especially for arts.”

NEET PG 2023: 'IT IS A MENTAL TORTURE FOR ASPIRANTS,' SAYS SC; MATTER ON POSTPONEMENT ADJOURNED TILL MONDAY

“If you compare it to the Congress in 2018, the TMC is much weaker now. The Congress was a strong, united opposition, and now because of the political circumstances, they (the Opposition) are divided,” says Conrad Sangma

The National Board of Examinations (NBE) on Friday told the Supreme Court that around 2.09 lakh candidates have registered for the NEET-PG exam 2023 and no alternative date for conducting the exam may be available in the near future if it is postponed. The NEET PG will be held on March 5.

The submissions were made before a bench of justices S R Bhat and Dipankar Datta, which was hearing two petitions seeking postponement of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET)-PG exam.

After a particularly challenging five years, it is an important election for Meghalaya Chief Minister and National People's Party (NPP) supremo Conrad K Sangma as the state heads to polls on February 27. At his residence in Tura in the state's Garo Hills, Sangma talks to The Indian Express about his party's performance in the last five years, the challenge the Trinamool Congress (TMC) poses, and the frosty relationship with the BJP, which was part of the NPP-led alliance but is contesting the polls on its own. The apex court, which made clear that it was not passing any order either way, asked Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the NBE, to come out with a solution of the issue raised by the petitioners.