

## 'HOUSE DOESN'T BELONG TO HIM': SMRITI IRANI ON BUNGALOW EVICTION NOTICE TO RAHUL GANDHI

**GANDHI HAS BEEN ASKED TO VACATE HIS 12 TUGHLAQ LANE BUNGALOW BY APRIL 22, WHICH HE HAS BEEN OCCUPYING SINCE 2005.**



Union minister Smriti Irani hit out at Rahul Gandhi over the official residence eviction notice issued to him after he was disqualified from Lok Sabha. "The house does not belong to him, it belongs to the common people," Irani said at a press conference. Gandhi has been asked to vacate his 12 Tughlaq Lane bungalow by April 22, which he has been occupying since 2005, days after he stood disqualified after being convicted in a defamation case over his 'Modi surname' remark. According to the rule, a disqualified parliamentarian isn't entitled to government accommodation and is given a 30-day period to vacate the official bungalow. Union minister, Smriti Irani. While addressing a press conference, Irani also fired a fresh salvo at the former MP and stated that Gandhi's promise to a magazine editor to rip Modi's image apart is a promise that shall remain unfulfilled because PM Modi's greatest strength is the people of India.

Speaking further, the union minister said, "This is not the first time Gandhi family has tried to insult people from Dalit or backward communities. When a woman from the tribal family became the President, even then Droupadi Murmu was insulted by a Congress member on the instructions of Gandhi family".

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge hit out at the government, saying, "They will make all attempts to weaken him (Rahul Gandhi) but, if he vacates the bungalow, he will go live with his mother or he can come to me... I'll vacate one."

Congress general secretary KC Venugopal said, "Rahul Gandhi is not worried about the house. Whatever the government of India is doing with the country's democracy is a bigger issue, that is what he told. Every Opposition party is together, we had a cordial discussion and we will move forward with the same energy."

## 'AMRITPAL SINGH HIDING IN NEPAL': INDIA URGES PRACHANDA GOVT NOT TO ALLOW HIM TO FLEE



**The Indian Embassy in Kathmandu has asked the government officials to arrest Singh if he tries to exit Nepal, according to a letter addressed to the Directorate of Consular Services on Saturday.**

India has urged that the Nepal authorities not allow fugitive radical preacher Amritpal Singh, who is thought to be hiding in Nepal, to leave to a third country and arrest him if he attempts to depart using an Indian passport or any other fake passport, according to a media report on Monday, news agency PTI reported.

The Indian Embassy in Kathmandu has asked the government officials to arrest Singh if he tries to exit Nepal, according to a letter addressed to the Directorate of Consular Services on Saturday.

"Singh is currently hiding in Nepal," the paper said, citing a copy of the letter obtained by it, PTI reported.

"The esteemed ministry is requested to inform the Department of Immigration not to permit Amritpal Singh to travel through Nepal for any third country and arrest him if he attempts to escape from Nepal using Indian Passport or any other fake passport under intimation to this mission," it was quoted by PTI in its report.

According to several reports, the letter and Singh's personal information have been disseminated to all relevant entities, ranging from hotels to flights.

## 25 YEARS ON, SC SETS DEATH ROW CONVICT FREE AS HE WAS MINOR AT TIME OF CRIME

**A BENCH OF JUSTICES KM JOSEPH, ANIRUDDHA BOSE AND HRSHIKESH ROY RELIED ON THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A GOVERNMENT SCHOOL IN RAJASTHAN, WHERE THE CONVICT STUDIED TILL CLASS 3, TO CONCLUDE THAT HE WAS 12 YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF THE CRIME.**



The Supreme Court on Monday ordered that a man on death row for 25 years be released after an inquiry found that he was a minor in 1994, when he and two others killed seven of a family.

A view of the Supreme Court building, the apex judicial body of India, in New Delhi on Tuesday. (ANI)

The convicts broke into a house in Pune 29 years ago to carry out a robbery and murdered five women and two children, according to the FIR in the case. In September 2000, the top court upheld the capital punishment granted to convict Narayan Chetanram Chaudhary by a district court and the Bombay high court. One of the convicts , Raju, turned approver and was pardoned. The death sentence of the third man, Jeetendra Nainsingh, was commuted in 2016. Chaudhary is currently lodged in the Nagpur central jail.

A bench of justices KM Joseph, Aniruddha Bose and Hrshikesh Roy relied on the birth certificate issued by a government school in Rajasthan, where the convict studied till Class 3, to conclude that he was 12 years of age at the time of the crime.

"Going by the certificate (of birth), his age at the time of the commission of offence was 12 years and 6 months. Thus, he was a child/juvenile on the date of commission of offence (August 26, 1994) for which he has been convicted in terms of the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015," the bench said.

The court added that since the maximum punishment for a delinquent juvenile under the 2015 act is three years, the convict should be released.

"He shall be set free forthwith from the correctional home in which he remains imprisoned as he has suffered imprisonment for more than 28 years," said justice Bose, authoring the 68-page judgment for the bench.

## INSPECTOR DAYA NAYAK, 7 OTHERS TRANSFERRED TO MUMBAI POLICE FROM MAHARASHTRA ATS

**IN ADDITION TO NAYAK, INSPECTORS DNYANESHWAR WAGH AND DAULAT SALVE WERE ALSO TRANSFERRED FROM THE ATS TO THE MUMBAI POLICE.**

Mumbai: Inspector Daya Nayak, famous as an "encounter specialist", has been transferred from the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) to the Mumbai Police. The order to transfer Nayak and seven other inspectors was issued by the Additional Director General (Establishment) of the Maharashtra Police, news agency Press Trust of India reported Monday, quoting an official.

In addition to Nayak, Inspectors Dnyaneshwar Wagh and Daulat Salve were also transferred from the ATS to the Mumbai Police, according to the official, the PTI report said.

Nayak was involved in the investigation into Thane businessman Mansukh Hiran's murder in 2021 during his time at the ATS. Hiran's killing was linked to the recovery of an explosives-laden car near industrialist Mukesh Ambani's Mumbai house Antilia.

Although the inquiry into the Antilia bomb scare and Hiran murder episode was later transferred to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), the ATS had collected evidence against policemen who had been named as accused in the high-profile case.

A 1995-batch police inspector, Nayak gained notoriety as an "encounter specialist" in the 1990s during the peak of underworld activities in Mumbai. He is claimed to have gunned down more than 80 gangsters during his career.

Meanwhile, the NIA is reported to have refused to support the plea of dismissed police inspector Sunil Mane who had sought to become an approver in the Antilia and Mansukh Hiran cases, according to a report in Hindustan Times.

## A SCENE FROM MANNAT: SHAH RUKH KHAN IN HIS SWANKY NEW ROLLS-ROYCE

**THE CAR IS SAID TO BE WORTH ₹ 10 CRORE**

**NEW DELHI:** LEAVE IT TO SHAH RUKH KHAN TO MAKE A STYLISH APPEARANCE WHEREVER HE GOES. THE SUPERSTAR RECENTLY ADDED A SWANKY NEW ROLLS-ROYCE CULLINAN BLACK BADGE, WHICH IS REPORTEDLY WORTH ₹ 10 CRORE, TO HIS EXISTING COLLECTION OF AUTOMOBILES. A FAN CLUB DEDICATED TO THE SUPERSTAR SHARED A VIDEO OF SHAH RUKH KHAN ENTERING HIS RESIDENCE MANNAT IN HIS BRAND NEW CAR. EARLIER THIS YEAR, SHAH RUKH KHAN WAS RANKED FOURTH IN A LIST OF 8 RICHEST ACTORS IN THE WORLD, RELEASED BY WORLD OF STATISTICS. HE WAS LISTED ABOVE THE LIKES OF TOM CRUISE, JACKIE CHAN, GEORGE CLOONEY.

ON THE PROFESSIONAL FRONT, **SHAH RUKH KHAN** KICKSTARTED THE YEAR WITH A BANG. HIS FILM **PATHAAN** WAS A SMASH HIT. THE ACTOR WILL NEXT BE SEEN IN ATLEE'S **JAWAN** WITH **NAYANTHARA** AND **VIJAY SETHUPATHI**. **SHAH RUKH KHAN** WILL ALSO STAR IN **RAJKUMAR HIRANI'S** **DUNGI**, CO-STARRING **TAAPSEE PANNU**, WHICH IS ALSO SLATED TO RELEASE THIS YEAR.

**SRK'S** LAST RELEASE, **PATHAAN**, DIRECTED BY **SIDDHARTH ANAND** AND PRODUCED BY **YASH RAJ FILMS**, FEATURED THE ACTOR ALONGSIDE **DEEPIKA PADUKONE** AND **JOHN ABRAHAM**.

# BUSTED SEX-DETERMINATION CAMP IN MP BLOWS LID OFF LARGER SOCIAL CRIME

**INDIA HAS STRUGGLED WITH FEMALE FOETICIDE FOR DECADES, INTERTWINED WITH ISSUES SUCH AS MEN BEING SEEN AS PRODUCTIVE MEMBERS OF A HOUSEHOLD AND A CULTURE OF WEDDING DOWRY, WHICH WAS MADE ILLEGAL IN 1961**



**Bhopal/Morena:** Four-hundred metres off the Agra-Mumbai national highway (NH3), and 800 metres away from the Banmore police station, is an unpaved road leading to a three-room house that has a large desert cooler jutting out from one of its windows. The locality in Jaitpur Road in Madhya Pradesh's Morena district is nondescript — single-floor houses located on sparse plots, with cows ambling on dusty streets. Right in the middle is the home with the cooler, owned by 35-year-old taxi driver Lakhani Singh Gurjar. In one corner is a 10x10 square foot room. Its rickety wooden beds have no mattress. There are two entrances, the first through a worn-out wooden door, the other covered only by a torn curtain. There is little reason for the rent for this house to be ₹15,000 — 10 times the market rate. Except that a joint investigation by Haryana and Madhya Pradesh — in which a pregnant woman

acted as a police mole — revealed that this location was the venue of a clandestine sex determination camp where agents brought women secretly from multiple states. On March 3, the Madhya Pradesh police arrested two agents, 32-year-old Narendra Singh and 24-year-old Sachin Kumar, while two others are on the run. "Four people have been booked in the case. The two arrested men worked as agents and drivers. The kingpin is 32-year-old Dheeraj Shrivastava, who was found involved in a sex determination case in 2020, and has been absconding since then. We have invoked the stringent National Security Act against him. The other man on the run is Lakhani Singh Gurjar, who owned the house," said Morena's superintendent of police Ashutosh Bagri. India has struggled with female foeticide for decades, intertwined with issues such as men being seen as productive members of a household and a culture of wedding dowry, which was made illegal in 1961. These fault lines were exacerbated in the mid-1970s, when techniques such as sonography arrived in India. "In 1961, the Census pegged the sex ratio at 976 females per 1,000 males.

## IPL 2023 - WATCH: ENTIRE CHEPAUK ROARS AS MS DHONI COMES OUT TO BAT AHEAD OF CSK'S IPL 2023 OPENER

**Thousands of fans were in attendance at Chepauk as MS Dhoni came out to bat ahead of CSK's IPL 2023 opener against Gujarat Titans.**



**MS DHONI** is a brand in Indian cricket that not many come close too. Though it's been years since the wicket-keeper batter called time on his international career, fans still queue up in numbers to get a glimpse of the iconic cricketer. Ahead of Chennai Super Kings' IPL 2023 opener against defending champions Gujarat Titans, Dhoni came out for a practice session at Chepauk, with thousands of fans in attendance. As soon as Dhoni walked onto the pitch, the entire stadium roared, cheering for Chennai's favourite son. Dhoni is the only full-time captain the Super Kings have had in their stint, barring Ravindra Jadeja who held the position for a brief period last season. Having joined the franchise in IPL 2008, Dhoni has continued going strong wearing the yellow jersey. However, many believe that the IPL 2023 season could be his last as a player. Here's how the crowd welcomed MS Dhoni during a practice session: The 41-year-old Dhoni, with his bulging biceps and never diminishing flash reflexes, remains a top draw even though his batting prowess hasn't got requisite return. Yet, having led the team to four titles and nine finals, his mere presence makes the opposition try to think out of the box. No one knows what to do with the tangles as much as the man from Ranchi does and in what could be his last season as a professional cricketer, he might still have some aces up his sleeves. With IPL returning to its familiar home and away format, CSK will get to play seven games at "Fortress Chepauk" this season. After failing to qualify for the play-offs last season, Dhoni, who took back the captaincy from an angry Ravindra Jadeja, would certainly like to go out on a high. If he plans to quit also, one can never be sure about 'Captain Marvel'.

## ONLY VERIFIED ACCOUNTS CAN VOTE IN TWITTER POLLS FROM APRIL 15: ELON MUSK

**Musk also said only verified accounts will be eligible to be in Twitter's For You recommendations, which displays a stream of tweets from accounts on Twitter.**



New Delhi: Elon Musk said on Monday only verified Twitter accounts would be eligible to vote in polls starting April 15, a move that the social media company's CEO believes to be only 'realistic' way to address the advanced AI bots on the social media platform. He also announced that from April 15 only verified accounts will be eligible to be in 'For You' recommendation. "Starting April 15th, only verified accounts will be eligible to be in For You recommendations. This is the only realistic way to address advanced AI bot swarms taking over. It is otherwise a hopeless losing battle. Voting in polls will require verification for same reason", Musk tweeted. The announcement comes after Musk's revelation last week that all users with "legacy" verification will lose their badges next month. Only those who register for Twitter Blue for \$8 per month will get to retain their blue checks. "On April 1st, we will begin winding down our legacy verified program and removing legacy verified checkmarks. To keep your blue checkmark on Twitter, individuals can sign up for Twitter Blue and Organizations can sign up for Verified Organizations", Twitter had said in a tweet. You'll still be able to view tweets from the accounts you follow in your 'Following' tab, and you'll still be able to see tweets from non-Twitter Blue accounts in other areas, like Explore trends. But it will limit visibility, which could prompt more accounts to pay up, and boost Twitter's revenue intake from subscriptions.

## MAHARASHTRA: WOMAN LOSES RS 8.30 LAKH TO CYBER FRAUDSTERS AFTER ONLINE PURCHASE

The 70-year-old Mira Road resident had purchased six towels online and Rs 19,005 was debited from her account instead of Rs 1,169, after which she called her bank, the official said



A senior citizen in Maharashtra's Thane district lost Rs 8.30 lakh in a case of cyber fraud, a police official said on Monday.

The 70-year-old Mira Road resident had purchased six towels online and Rs 19,005 was debited from her account instead of Rs 1,169, after which she called her bank, the official said.

"Soon, a man called her up claiming to be from the bank and asked her to download an app for the refund. After she downloaded the app, a sum of Rs 1lakh was debited from her account. By the time she reached the police station, she had lost Rs 8.30 lakh in further withdrawals," he said. "The money has gone into the account of an Uttar Pradesh resident. A case has been registered against unidentified persons. Further probe is underway," the MBVV police's cyber cell official added.

## SOON-TO-BE CONVICT ATIQ AHMED? TIS' THE DAY OF 'STATUS CHANGE' POST 4 DECADES OF CRIMINAL CAREER

**ATIQ AHMED-UMESH PAL CASE: THE ACCUSED HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COURT BY 11 AM. SOURCES SAID THE FINAL ORDER IS EXPECTED TO BE PRONOUNCED SHORTLY AFTER THAT**

FORMER MP ATIQ AHMED COULD HAVE HIS STATUS CHANGED FROM AN UNDERTRIAL TO A CONVICT, ON TUESDAY. THIS CHANGE OF STATUS WILL BE THE FIRST FOR THE GANGSTER-TURNED-POLITICIAN IN AROUND FOUR DECADES OF HIS CRIMINAL CAREER. IRONICALLY, THE MATTER PERTAINS TO THE KIDNAPPING OF THE VERY SAME PERSON, UMESH PAL, WHO FELL PREY TO ATIQ'S CONSPIRACY AND WAS MURDERED IN THE BROAD DAY LIGHT ON FEBRUARY 24. ATIQ AHMED WAS BROUGHT TO NAINI JAIL ON MONDAY EVENING AFTER UP POLICE HAD TAKEN HIM IN CUSTODY FROM GUJARAT'S SABARMATI JAIL. ATIQ'S BROTHER AND FORMER MLA ASHRAF HAS ALSO BEEN BROUGHT TO NAINI JAIL FROM BAREILL CENTRAL JAIL. THERE ARE 11 ACCUSED IN THE KIDNAPPING CASE, INCLUDING BOTH ATIQ AND ASHRAF. THE OTHER ACCUSED ARE DINESH PASI, KHAN SAULAT HANIF, JAVED, FARHAN, ISRAR, ABID PRADHAN, ASHIQ ALIAS MALLI AND AIZZ AKHTAR. ONE ACCUSED, ANAAR AHMAD, HAD DIED DURING THE TRIAL.