

INDORE TEMPLE STEPWELL COLLAPSE: DEATH TOLL RISES TO 35, RESCUE OPERATION UNDERWAY

"SO FAR 35 BODIES HAVE BEEN RECOVERED FROM THE STEPWELL," DISTRICT COLLECTOR DR ILAYARAJA T TOLD REPORTERS.

The death toll in the Indore temple stepwell roof collapse rose to 35 on Friday, an official told news agency PTI. A search operation is underway to rescue one missing person.

More than a 100 devotees were offering prayers at the Beleshwar Mahadev Jhulelal temple in Indore's Patel Nagar locality to mark Ram Navami when the floor capping the decades-old well, said to be 50 feet deep, caved in.

"So far 35 bodies have been recovered from the stepwell," District Collector Dr Ilayaraja T told reporters.

The bodies of all persons, except one, whose names were mentioned in the list of missing persons, have been recovered so far, PTI reported.

"An FIR has been registered and a magisterial inquiry ordered into the incident. Action will be taken against those found responsible. The current priority is the rescue operation. The injured will be treated free of cost. PM has also announced ex-gratia amount to the victims. We have ordered an inspection of such step-wells and borewells across the state," Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan told news agency ANI.

The Madhya Pradesh CM on Friday morning met the injured victims at a hospital in Indore.

The Beleshwar Mahadev Jhulelal temple in Patel Nagar where the tragedy took place had been constructed after covering the well about four decades ago.

The chief minister on Friday ordered an inquiry and also relief Rs 5 lakh as relief for the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured.



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Stepwell collapse at a temple in Indore: Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan met the injured victims at a hospital in Indore. The death toll in the incident stands at 35.



Narendra Modi @Modinarendra1 Follow India government official

Extremely pained by the mishap in Indore. Spoke to CM @ChouhanShivraj Ji and took an update on the situation. The State Government is spearheading rescue and relief work at a quick pace. My prayers with all those affected and their families.

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"Due to the heavy load on the stepwell, it sank. I have given instructions to investigate the incident. In this unfortunate incident, the government stands with all those families with full sensitivity, whom we could not save," he said.

GOA RESORT HORROR: DUTCH TOURIST STABBED, MOLESTED BY STAFF, SAY POLICE

The accused has been identified as Abhishek Verma and the injured person as Eurico.

Panaji: A staff member at a resort in North Goa's Pernem has been arrested for stabbing and molesting a Dutch tourist and also stabbing another person who went to help the tourist, informed police officials on Friday.

The accused has been identified as Abhishek Verma and the injured person as Eurico. According to the Superintendent of Police (SP), Nidhin Valsan, "A resort staffer trespassed into the rented tent of the complainant, when she started to scream for help, one local person came to rescue her from the accused and seeing his presence, the accused ran away. After that the accused returned with a knife, assaulted the local person, further assaulted the complainant, and fled away from the spot."

The SP further said that the complainant and the local person were shifted to the hospital for treatment.

"The knife used for the commission of the crime has been recovered. FIR has been registered under section 452,354,307,506(II) of IPC," said Nidhin Valsan.

Further probe is underway, details are awaited.



PREM CHOPRA SAYS A MAN WAS BEATEN AND ABUSED BY THE PRODUCER EVERY TIME RAJESH KHANNA CAME LATE TO THE SETS OF HAATHI MERE SAATHI

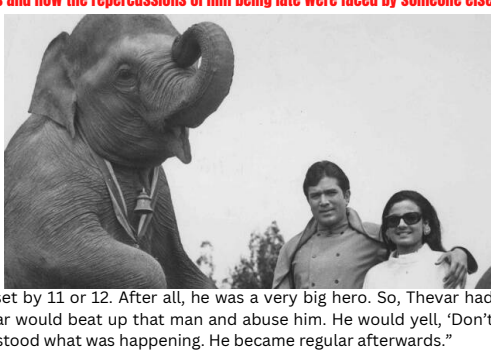
Prem Chopra opened up about how Rajesh Khanna was always late to the sets and how the repercussions of him being late were faced by someone else.

Actor Prem Chopra has carved a niche for himself in the industry with his memorable villainous roles. The 87-year-old actor recently took a trip down memory lane and recalled working with his peers Amitabh Bachchan, Rajesh Khanna, Jeetendra and Rakesh Roshan.

In an interview with Lehren, Prem opened up about how Rajesh was always late to the sets and how the repercussions of him being late were faced by someone else. The actor said, "Rajesh Khanna was a misunderstood man by some people but he was very genuine where the work was concerned. The only problem with him was that if there was a 9 o'clock shift, he would come at 12. So, I had some incidents. I was doing a film in Madras called Haathi Mere Saathi. The film's producer, Chinnappa Thevar, was a very strict man. So, he would send a man to pick up Rajesh Khanna at 6 o'clock."

Prem continued, "But even then, Rajesh Khanna would arrive on set by 11 or 12. After all, he was a very big hero. So, Thevar had appointed a man. The moment Rajesh Khanna would arrive, Thevar would beat up that man and abuse him. He would yell, 'Don't we give you money? Why do you come late?' Rajesh Khanna understood what was happening. He became regular afterwards."

Rajesh Khanna and Prem Chopra have worked together in films



GT VS CSK IPL 2023 WEATHER REPORT UPDATE: STORM, HEAVY RAIN LASH AHMEDABAD ON MATCH EVE; BLOCKBUSTER OPENER IN DOUBT?

AS EVERYONE WAS EXCITED FOR THE OPENING MATCH OF THE IPL 2023 BETWEEN GUJARAT TITANS AND CHENNAI SUPER KINGS, THE WEATHER IN AHMEDABAD CHANGED FOR THE WORSE.

Just as everyone was excited for the opening match of the IPL 2023 between defending champions Gujarat Titans and four-time winners Chennai Super Kings on Friday, the weather in Ahmedabad changed for the worse. On the eve of the match, the skies opened up lash the city with some heavy rainfall, accompanied by a storm. Angry, dark rain clouds gathered over the city and what started off as a drizzle enough to call off the practice sessions of both teams, it soon turned into a heavy rainfall. (IPL 2023 Opening Ceremony Live updates)

Ahmedabad witnessed heavy rainfall on Thursday evening. (Twitter)

Although rain played a role in bringing the temperature down by six degrees not only in Ahmedabad but in several other parts of the state, it did cast a doubt over whether the IPL 2023 opener between CSK and GT go as per plan. Thankfully, the forecast for Friday evening is nothing like Thursday, so far with AccuWeather showing 0 percent chances of precipitation.

Having said that, the nature of unexpected rains across the northern and western parts of the country, it cannot be counted out, but as of now things look just fine. On Friday, Ahmedabad will witness a maximum temperature of 33 degree during the day, which will dip to 23 between evening and night. Besides, unlike Thursday, the chances of thunderstorms too have crawled back to 0 per cent.

PHONEPE-ZESTMONEY DEAL PEGGED AT \$200MN-\$300MN CALLED OFF DUE TO DILIGENCE CONCERNS

PHONEPE, ONE OF INDIA'S LARGEST FINTECH PLATFORMS, HAS PUT ON HOLD ITS PLANS TO ACQUIRE BENGALURU-BASED BNPL (BUY NOW PAY LATER) PLATFORM ZESTMONEY. THE DEAL AMOUNT WAS PEGGED AT \$200 MILLION-\$300 MILLION.

THE DIGITAL PAYMENTS PLATFORM HAS CALLED OFF THE DEAL WITH ZESTMONEY OVER DUE DILIGENCE CONCERNS, FOLLOWING MONTHS OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE BNPL STARTUP, ACCORDING TO A REPORT BY THE ECONOMIC TIMES.

FURTHER, THE REPORT SAID THAT THE DEAL IS OFF, AND THAT THE COMPANY'S BOARD AND INVESTORS WERE MADE PRIVY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS. THE BUYOUT WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE WALMART-OWNED COMPANY ACCESS TO AN NBFC (NON-BANKING FINANCE COMPANY) LICENCE, WHICH IT HAS BEEN LOOKING TO OWN SINCE LONG.

THE MOVE CAME AS A BLOW TO ZESTMONEY, AS IT BATTLES A FUNDING CRUNCH IN AN ECOSYSTEM WHERE VENTURE CAPITALISTS AND INVESTORS HAVE BECOME EXTRA CAUTIOUS WHILE SIGNING BIG CHECKS. ZESTMONEY RAISED ITS LAST FUNDING ROUND AT \$450 MILLION VALUATION.

BENGALURU HORROR: WOMAN SITTING IN PARK DRAGGED INTO CAR, GANG-RAPED

THE POLICE HAVE ARRESTED A GANG OF FOUR PERSONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE CASE.

A young woman, who was sitting in a park with her male friend, was forcibly dragged into a car and gang-raped, police said on Friday. The case has been reported in the Koramangala police station limits. The police have arrested a gang of four persons in connection with the case. The arrested accused have been identified as Satish, Vijay, Sridhar and Kiran.

According to police, the incident took place late night of March 25. The young woman was sitting with her male friend at the National Games Village Park. The accused persons threatened her male friend and dragged her into the car.

The victim told police that she was gang-raped in the moving car. The police said that the accused drove the car to Domlur, Indiranagar, Anekal and Nice Road and committed the crime throughout the night.

The accused later left her near her residence in the early hours of March 26. After reaching home at 4 a.m., the victim was taken to a hospital, and later lodged a complaint with the police.



THIS BABY IS NOT MY SON'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW ENDED HER LIFE AFTER HEARING MOTHER-IN-LAW'S WORDS; THE IN-LAWS TOOK THE CHILD

Akola News : On March 17, when the sweepers returned to work after their strike, the bathroom of Ward No. 23 was found broken. When the employees looked inside, they found the body of a woman hanged. The matter has now been resolved

Akola: On March 17, a baby girl committed suicide by hanging herself in Ward No. 23 of Akola District Medical (Government) Hospital. Interestingly, this woman's 15-day-old baby was also recruited here. The name of the dead married woman is Godavari Rajesh Khillare. Husband, mother-in-law and Nanande taunted and abused her as she gave birth to a daughter. The mother-in-law along with her husband said,

'If you have a daughter, don't even show your face to us and don't even come into the house.' This was done. Also, there is an allegation of harassing the married woman, saying that this girl is not my son's. It is being claimed that Godavari committed suicide by hanging herself in the hospital due to this reason. City Kotwali police have registered a case against Nanande along with her husband and mother-in-law in this case.

THIS MAN HAS FATHERED MORE THAN 500 KIDS. HE IS BEING SUED NOW



Jonathan Jacob Meijer, a 41-year-old Dutchman, might find himself in a bit of trouble for his apparent "good deed". Meijer, a sperm donor, is believed to have fathered 550 children, but The Times reported that he is being sued for increasing the risk of accidental incest.

Meijer is reportedly from The Hague and now lives in Kenya. He is a musician by profession. The report states that the civil lawsuit has been filed by Donorkind Foundation, which is a Dutch organisation that advocates donor kids.

The purpose of sperm donation is aimed at providing pregnancies for women who don't have a male partner, their male partner is infertile, or some other reason.

The organisation wants the court to take action against Meijer's excessive donation. Apparently, sperm donation of this magnitude breached existing rules in the Netherlands and many other countries.

The organisation has asked the court to identify which clinics he has donated to and destroy his samples stored there. However, it also noted that an exception can be made for those samples which are stored by women who had Meijer's child and might want a genetic sibling in future.

As quoted by Donorkind Foundation, lawyer Mark de Hek feels that the donor is acting unlawfully. He said, "This behavior is dangerous for the mental well-being and health of donor children. By favoring his reproductive drive, the donor is acting unlawfully."

"In addition, he violates the agreements with the clinics and with the prospective parents, because they trusted his promise that he would father a maximum of 25 children," the lawyer added.

As quoted by VICE, Ties van der Meer, who is chair of the Donorkind Foundation, said in a statement that Meijer was believed to have fathered at least 550 children, using at least 13 clinics around the world. Meijer is apparently using donation sites and social media to approach people wishing to conceive.

"We are taking action against this man because the national government is doing nothing. He has a global reach via the internet and he does business with large international sperm banks," van der Meer said.

AFTER CONG LEADER RAHUL GANDHI'S SETBACK, HIS NAMESAKE DISQUALIFIED FOR...



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's namesake, 'Rahul Gandhi K E S/o Valsamma' figures in an Election Commission list of disqualified persons from contesting polls for failing to lodge an account of election expenses, according to the news agency PTI.

He had contested the 2019 Lok Sabha elections as an Independent candidate and had got 2,196 votes from the Wayanad seat in Kerala from where former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi won with more than seven lakh votes.

It is common for namesake independent candidates to contest against established leaders but all of them need to submit an account of election expenses among other mandatory requirements under EC rules and the Representation of the People Act.

Incidentally, the Congress leader was also disqualified last week, but for another reason - his conviction and sentencing in a criminal defamation case. He was on 23 March sentenced to two years in jail by a Surat court after he was held guilty of defamation over his "Modi surname" remark. The court also suspended the jail sentence for 30 days to allow Rahul Gandhi to appeal in a higher court.

The poll panel on March 29 issued an updated list of persons disqualified under Section 10 A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as per PTI reports.

Rahul Gandhi K E S/o Valsamma stands disqualified from September 13, 2021 till September 13, 2024.

According to Section 10A, if the Election Commission is satisfied that a person has failed to lodge an account of election expenses within the time and in the manner required by law and has no good reason or justification for the failure, the poll panel shall, by order published in the Official Gazette, declare him to be disqualified and any such person shall be disqualified for a period of three years from the date of the order.

TWO GROUPS CLASH DURING RAM NAVAMI PROCESSION IN MUMBAI

Some of the participants alleged stone pelting, which created panic among people, he said.



Two groups clashed during a Ram Navami procession in Mumbai on Thursday night, police said. The incident occurred at Malvani in suburban Malad (West) when the procession was going on and some people objected to high volume DJ and loud music accompanying it, an official said.

Some of the participants alleged stone pelting, which created panic among people, he said. However, police did not confirm the stone pelting incident. Additional police personnel were called to the spot and force was used to disperse the crowd, he said.

The situation in the area was under control, said the official. Senior police officials and local politicians visited the area and appealed for peace. Later, supporters of a right-wing organisation gathered outside the Malvani Police Station and demanded action against those who allegedly pelted stones.

BHOLAA BOX OFFICE COLLECTION DAY 1: AJAY DEVGN'S ACTION FILM CAN'T MATCH DRISHYAM 2'S OPENING, EARNS RS 11.20 CRORE

BHOLAA BOX OFFICE COLLECTION DAY 1: AJAY DEVGN'S BHOLAA, WHICH IS THE REMAKE OF TAMIL FILM KAITHI, HAS HAD THE THIRD-HIGHEST OPENING OF THE YEAR AFTER PATHAAN AND TU JHOOTHI MAIN MAKKAAR.

AJAY DEVGN-STARRER BHOLAA RELEASED IN THEATRES ON THURSDAY, WHICH WAS A HOLIDAY IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. BUT EVEN THOUGH THE FILM HAS MANAGED TO OPEN WITH DOUBLE DIGIT NUMBERS AT THE DOMESTIC BOX OFFICE, IT WASN'T ABLE TO MATCH THE DEBUT OF AJAY'S LAST RELEASE, THE BLOCKBUSTER DRISHYAM 2. BHOLAA, WHICH ALSO STARS TABU, OPENED WITH RS 11.20 CRORE NETT AT THE BOX OFFICE, THE MAKERS SAID. THE FILM HAS RECEIVED MOSTLY POSITIVE REVIEWS, SO THAT MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO HIGHER COLLECTIONS OVER THE EXTENDED FOUR-DAY WEEKEND, ALTHOUGH THE FILM'S EARNINGS MIGHT SUFFER DUE TO IPL 2023, WHICH STARTS ON FRIDAY.

BHOLAA IS THE THIRD-HIGHEST OPENER OF THE YEAR AFTER PATHAAN, WHICH MADE RS 57 CRORE ON ITS FIRST DAY, AND TU JHOOTHI MAIN MAKKAAR, WHICH MINTED RS 15.73 CRORE ON THE FIRST DAY, AS PER BOLLYWOOD HUNGAMA. AS PER THE PUBLICATION, BHOLAA PERFORMED BETTER IN THE SMALLER CENTRES AND STARTED GAINING MOMENTUM IN THE AFTERNOON SHOWS.