

Terror suspects were to flee City's first cycling track at BKC

PLAN FOILED Arrested duo wanted to fly to Pakistan; Internet chats with handler tipped off cops

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MUMBAI: Riyaz Ali (23) and Abdul Latif (29), the two terror suspects arrested by the Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS) on Sunday for allegedly planning an terror attack in the city, had plans to flee to Pakistan on Sunday, March 21.

A senior ATS officer, who is a part of the team that is investigating the terror plot, told *Hindustan Times* on Tuesday that the duo would have flown to Pakistan through a third country, preferably Dubai in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This was as per the instruction of their Pakistani handler, also called as 'uncle'.

The officer, on condition of anonymity, said that the duo had applied for passports through a broker who had sought the

help of a couple of agents for expediting the process. The trio was paid over Rs 1.5 lakh to obtain the passports at a short notice.

The suspects were told that they would get their passports on Friday (March 19), the day they planned to strike at the targets — Vasundhara building at Bandra (ONGC), Mangaldas Market in South Mumbai and Thakkar Mall in Borivli (West).

"The broker and agents have been identified and we will soon arrest them," the officer said.

The officer said that the duo received Rs 10 lakh from the Pak handler through Dawood's *hawala* channels in the city. While Rs 1.5 lakh was spent for procuring the passports, some part of the amount was kept for their planned air travel and stay



■ Anti-Terrorism Squad arrested terror suspects Riyaz Ali and Abdul Latif on Sunday. HT PHOTO

in the third country, if required. The duo had already spent some money on themselves and household items.

According to the officer, the duo's Pak-links were revealed

through Central agencies, which had kept "chacha's" e-mail under surveillance.

"Abdul and Riyaz were net-chatting with the Pak-handler since the past three and half

EXCERPTS FROM THE CHAT

"Aap logon ke upar bahut ummeed hai. Hum ne aapka recommendation kiya hai. Agar aane se pehle kuch kar ke aayenge toh hum ko bhi achha lagega aur aapka bhi bhala hoga." (We have high hopes in both of you. I have made your recommendations...I will feel good if you do something before coming here. It will benefit you too).

PAK HANDLER to the arrested terror suspects

Behrampada in Bandra (E) and another one near Thakkar Mall. The two cyber café's have been identified.

While announcing the arrest, ATS chief K P Raghuvanshi had stated that although both the suspects were barely educated (both class 10 dropouts), their knowledge about computers was impeccable. Riyaz also had a good command on English.

In fact, it was the last couple of Internet chats between the two and their handler (which took place on last Wednesday and Thursday) that tipped off the security agencies, leading to their immediate arrest.

The officer also added that the duo's motivating factor for the sabotage plans was not religion but only money as both came from a lower-middle class background.

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MUMBAI: The city's is set to get its first cycle track.

Weeks after Mumbai hosted a cyclothon at Bandra, cycles as a mode of transport got a boost.

The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) will set up Mumbai's first dedicated bicycle lane at the suburban business hub of Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC) allowing people to ride their environment friendly two wheelers. "We are planning a dedicated bicycle track on the internal roads of BKC. The dedicated bicycle lane will initially be 0-12 km," Joint Metropolitan Commissioner SVR Srinivas said.

These tracks are part of an overall plan of developing BKC into an integrated business hub. The MMRDA has also earmarked Rs 150 crore of its annual budget for the development of infrastructure in BKC. Laying of the bicycle track will be part of the BKC infrastructure project improvement, said officials.

"The cycle tracks will be on the side of the roads adjacent to the footpath," said an

PEDALLING FOR A CAUSE

In January, a group of youngsters initiated 'cycle chalo' in northern suburb of Mulund. This project kicked off on pilot basis from Mulund station to Kelkar College, especially for students. There is a demand to set up similar projects inside Mumbai University, Kalina.

MMRDA official.

The bicycle tracks will be similar in size and width to the footpaths and will be only meant for cycle riders.

"It is imperative to add bicycle tracks when we are building infrastructure for BKC. A similar initiative a decade down the line will increase the cost by 10 times," Srinivas added.

Bicycle enthusiasts have been demanding separate lanes for bicycles — 7 per cent of people ride bicycles in Mumbai while 8 to 9 per cent drive private four-wheelers.

Recently Mumbai Regional Congress Committee chief Kripashankar Singh met MMRDA officials and demanded the setting up of bicycle tracks in Mumbai.



■ More than 300 cyclists took part in a rally at Mulund in January. HT PHOTO

BMC OFFICER FORGED COURT SUMMONS, SAYS SHOP OWNER

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MUMBAI: A grocer from south Mumbai, who was booked by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation for carrying out business without a licence, on Monday alleged that a BMC officer had served him 'forged' court summons.

Javed Farooqi (52), who owns a shop in Colaba, was booked under provisions of the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act in June 2009 for not having a proper licence. The BMC had filed a complaint before a Dadar court.

When the complaint came up for hearing on Monday, Farooqi's lawyer, Dinesh Mota, told the court that the BMC officer had served the summons to his client in February stating that the case hearing was on February 22.

On the appointed day, Mota and Farooqi went to the court. They waited for several hours but their case was not called for hearing. "On inquiry, we found that the case was not listed for hearing," Mota said.

The two went to the court's clerk who told them that the case was first listed for hearing on December 21 and was adjourned till March 15.

Mota added that the clerk, after checking a copy of the summons served to Farooqi, said the summons was neither issued by the magistrate nor by the judicial clerk who is authorised to sign certain court documents. "I told the court that there is a possibility that the BMC officer forged the summons," Mota said. "We do not know who is the BMC officer," he added.

The court will decide the matter on March 22.

Get free treatment for TB at your chemist

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MUMBAI: Tuberculosis patients in northeast Mumbai, Kalyan and Navi Mumbai will soon be able to go to their neighbourhood chemist for free treatment and counselling instead of travelling to a public hospital thrice a week.

About 150 retail chemists in the region will start providing Direct Observation Treatment (DOTS) for tuberculosis (TB) from March 24, which is marked as the World Tuberculosis Day.

This division is part of a two-year project to make the government's DOTS programme more patient-friendly and accessible.

The project is the result of a public-private collaboration between the government, municipal corporations, chemists and pharmaceutical associations.

The government had first roped in pharmacies in 2006. However, only about 40 pharmacies used to provide DOTS till now. After northeast Mumbai, Kalyan and Navi

IN NUMBERS

- There are approximately two million new TB cases every year in India with over 1.1 lakh cases of drug resistance, according to the World Health Organisation.
- TB kills two people every three minutes, about 1,000 every day, according to Union health ministry estimates.

Mumbai, pharmacists in other areas will also be approached.

"We decided to start with these areas because the TB

burden is high there," said Manjiri Gharat, who heads the Indian Pharmaceutical Association's DOTS project.

Dr Arun Bamane, who heads the city's TB Control Programme, said the increase in access to treatment would make life simpler for patients and also reduce the incidence of multi-drug resistant TB cases.

"There is a lot of stigma associated with visiting TB clinics, so some patients avoid it," he said.

According to estimates, about

60 per cent of patients go to private doctors and then purchase medicines from chemists. But under the DOTS programme, they will get medicines for free from chemists.

Apart from providing treatment, pharmacists will also be trained to identify symptoms of TB and refer suspected cases to diagnostic clinics.

American pharmaceutical company, Eli Lilly, which works to reduce the TB burden as part of its corporate social responsibility, will provide financial support to the project.

Three men open fire at builder's New Panvel office

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NAVI MUMBAI: Three men barged into the office of a builder in New Panvel on Tuesday, beat up the office boy and fired a shot. They demanded that the builder call an international number and talk to "bhai".

The police suspect it to be a case of mistaken identity and said the Ravi Pujari gang might be involved.

The incident took place around 11 am at Prajapati Cascade building in Sector One of New Panvel, where the builder, Manoj Prajapati, has his office.

"Three men came on a motorcycle and barged into the office. They beat up the office boy, Satish Patil, and asked him to tell Prajapati to call an international number," said Hemant Patil, a friend of the builder. They fired a round on the ground before fleeing.

Prajapati has recently started



■ Three armed men barged into Manoj Prajapati's New Panvel office on Tuesday and beat up the office boy. SUDIPTA BANERJEE

work on a 15-storey building at Vachumbhe village in Panvel.

"He did have some supply problems with the locals, but that is unlikely the reason for the firing. This seems to be a case of mistaken identity with the culprits believing that Manoj (Prajapati) was related to the more famous Prajapati group," Patil added.

Suresh Bhosle, senior police inspector of Panvel police station said: "He is a small builder and we believe this is a case of mistaken identity." "There had been information of threats to some builders by the Ravi Pujari gang and we are working on it."

No one was injured in the incident and no arrests have been made.

BARC STAFFER DIES TRYING TO SAVE BIRD

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MUMBAI: A Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) staffer on Tuesday died after falling from the third storey of a building while trying to save a pigeon.

The Trombay police said the employee was trying to save the bird whose legs had got entangled in hair.

The deceased, Sadanand Shelar (35), worked as a tradesman with the CDMA-D wing of BARC and used to stay at Netravati building in the BARC colony. The incident took place when Shelar went to the terrace for a walk. Eyewitnesses rushed Shelar to the BARC hospital where he was declared dead before admission. The police said Shelar had suffered severe head injuries and multiple fractures.

"We have registered a case of accidental death," said S.B. Jagtap, senior police inspector of Trombay police station.

Suspended university registrar moves court

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MUMBAI: The suspended registrar of University of Mumbai, K. Venkatramani, has moved the Bombay High Court challenging the Governor's order, issued last week, which holds him responsible for irregularities in the senate elections.

Following the order, the acting vice-chancellor of the university, Chandra Krishnamurthy, suspended Venkatramani last week. Governor K. Sankaranarayanan is the chancellor of the university.

The order came because of the nomination of Subhash

Athavale, a librarian at CHM College, to the senate — a governing body of the university.

The University Act says only teachers with five years' teaching experience can be nominated to the senate.

University sources said Venkatramani in his petition has stated that the decision to consider a librarian equivalent to a teacher was taken by the then acting vice-chancellor, A.D. Sawant.

While the Bombay University and College Teacher's Union (BUCTU) had raised objections to his nomination, Sawant, according to the petition, asked the registrar to consider a

librarian on par with a teacher.

The petition also states that in the 2000-2005 senate elections, BUCTU had nominated a Khalsa College librarian, M.O. John, who won the election and joined the senate.

Venkatramani has also challenged the manner in which he was asked to leave. According to sources, he was neither served a show-cause notice nor was an inquiry committee set up as prescribed by the Act. "He was only served with a suspension order and a charge sheet," said a university official.

Krishnamurthy, when contacted, said she had "followed the chancellor's orders."



■ A shopkeepers' association has moved the high court saying the BMC should remove hawkers from Bandra. HT PHOTO

HC notice to BMC on Bandra hawkers

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MUMBAI: Taking a serious note of illegal encroachment of hawkers on Hill Road in suburban Bandra, the Bombay High Court has issued a notice to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

A division bench of Justice J.N. Patel and Justice C.L. Pangarkar has directed the BMC to file its reply by April 21 on a petition filed by an association of shop owners from Hill Road.

Ramdas Naik Marg Vyapari Mandal had approached the HC last week seeking that the corporation should remove illegal encroachments from streets and footpaths of Bandra.

The petition says the corporation should implement the order of the Supreme Court where it laid down the guidelines on hawking. In 2003, the SC had laid down detailed guidelines on hawking and non-hawking zones and also on where hawkers can be allowed.

Jamshed Mistry and Dipesh Siroya, advocates for the petitioner association, said that although the guidelines were laid down by the apex court way back in 2003, they were not being implemented by the corporation and the concerned authorities.

"We just want that the BMC should take action against all the illegal encroachments that are blocking streets and footpaths," said Siroya.

The SC has stated that hawking cannot be allowed within a metre of carriageway or road where vehicular or pedestrian traffic would be blocked. Besides, it should not block access to shops or residence, said Siroya.

The Supreme Court has restrained hawkers from putting up stalls or placing tables, stands or erecting any structure that blocks footpath. But the apex court has allowed hawkers to use handcarts, added Siroya. Majority of these guidelines are not being implemented, added Siroya.

TWO BODIES FOUND IN WESTERN SUBURBS

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MUMBAI: The body of an unidentified man was found in the mangroves in Ekta Nagar slum at Kandivli on Tuesday afternoon.

A local resident discovered the body when he went to the area at 3.15 pm to answer nature's call. He called the police.

The police said the man's neck had been slit and few of his fingers had been amputated. The deceased seemed to be between 25 and 30 years old.

"He was wearing a shirt and trousers, but no footwear," said an officer from Kandivli police station requesting anonymity because he is not authorised to speak to the media.

The spot from where the body was recovered is close to Atharva College.

Another murder was discovered in Andheri (East) on Tuesday morning.

The body of 32-year old man, later identified as Sandeep Bhoiward from Chakur taluka in Latur, was found on a footpath near Sahar pipeline road. Pedestrians noticed the body and informed the police.

The police suspect that Bhoiward was killed with a sharp weapon.

A case of murder has been registered against an unidentified person.

The police have sent Bhoiward's body to Cooper hospital in Juhu for a post mortem.

REQUIRED PRINCIPAL FOR ARMY SCHOOLS (CBSE AFFILIATED)

Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) is running a network of 126 Army Schools (English Medium) spread all over the country.

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Qualification & Experience : As per CBSE Bye-laws
Age : Below 50 years (Ex-servicemen below 57 yrs)
Pay & Allowances : Negotiable, alongwith other perks. Special incentives for outstanding merit candidates.
How to apply? On plain paper enclosing Bio Data along with Photograph, copies of experience certificates/testimonials and any other details. Last date of submission of application by 31 Mar 2010.
 Website : www.awes.nic.in (No TA/DA admissible)

PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD AUCTION NOTICE

The auction for the sale of scrap material and electrical T.F. on 'As-is-Where-is' basis will be conducted under:-

Auction No.	Venue, Date & Time of Auction	Material	Place where material is lying	Auction to be conducted by
72014 (23000) PTA	C-Store, Behrampada on dl. 9-4-2010 at 11:20 AM	Damaged T.Fs, HT/LT Wires, Cables, Scrap, C-Store material, TRW material, SST material, motor, electric fans, jerrycans and Machinery/Vehicles etc.	Concerned PSEB Stores	COSBO (North)
47014 (110) PTA	C-Store, Behrampada on dl. 16-4-2010 at 12:00 noon	Damaged T.Fs, HT/LT Wires, Cables, Scrap, C-Store material, TRW material, SST material and Machinery/Vehicles etc.	Concerned PSEB Stores	COSBO (North)
82010 (23000) PTA	C-Store, Patiala on dl. 28-4-10 at 11:30 AM	Used/Lowly T.F. of and Batteries/Is scrap	Concerned PSEB Stores	COSBAN (South)
47014 (110) PTA	Store outlet, Nandgarh on dl. 30-4-10 at 12:00 noon	Damaged T.Fs, HT/LT Wires, Cables, Scrap, C-Store material, TRW material, SST material and Machinery/Vehicles etc.	Concerned PSEB Stores	COSBO (North)

Notes: The application for all the auctions shall reach till 11 am before the date of auction. If auction date happens to be a holiday, the auction shall be held on the next working day at same time and same venue. Please log on to PSEB web site to view the details, govt. for standard terms & conditions and information about the auction process.
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