

Two held for multiple mobile phone thefts at construction sites in Kandivali

The Kandivali Police in Mumbai nabbed two suspects for their alleged involvement in stealing mobile phones from construction sites. Their arrests come after a recent surge in mobile theft incidents in the Kandivali area, an official said. The duo were identified as Vikram Bhosle and Bunty Surendra Bhosle. Following their arrests, the police recovered several stolen mobile phones. According to the police, during a routine patrolling, a team led by Senior Inspector Dnyaneshwar Ganore, including Deputy Inspector Deepak Patil, Narayan Khade, Jaibhaye, Jugalpure, Navlu, Vairal, Gawli, Mhatre, and Rane, noticed Vikram and Bunty acting suspiciously in Mahaveer Nagar of the area. "Upon detaining them and inspecting a bag they were carrying, the police found as many as 30 stolen mobile phones," an official said. Mumbai housing dilemma: To buy or rent? Expert advice inside Vikram, originally from Amravati, and Bunty, a resident of Wardha, migrated to Mumbai between March and June in search of employment opportunities. During the day, they engage in drain cleaning or other cleaning jobs, while at night, they targeted construction sites in the suburbs, the official said. It is suspected that they used to steal the mobile phones from sleeping workers and security guards.

Modi 3.0 mega plan for Railways, plans investment of Rs 10-12 lakh crore

Indian Railways is ready with a 100-day plan post-elections 2024. It includes a focus on various passenger-friendly measures, like a 24-hour ticket refund scheme, a comprehensive super App for various railways facilities, three economic corridors and sleeper Vande Bharat trains. The new ticket refund scheme will ensure refunds within 24 hours and will replace the current three days to one-week refund process. Railways will launch a comprehensive 'super App', it will have all railways-related facilities from booking and cancelling tickets to live tracking of trains and for bookings for foods in trains. The 100-day agenda of the new government for Railways also includes, an insurance scheme for all rail passengers called "PM Rail Yatri Bima Yojana". The modernization plan of railways includes an investment of Rs 10 to 12 lakh crore over the next five years for transforming Railways with modern world-class facilities. Vande Bharat trains will be introduced across India in three categories, Vande metro on routes of less than 100 kms, Vande chair car on 100 to 550 kms routes and Vande Sleeper for routes of over 550 kms. Currently, Vande Bharat trains are running on nearly 50 routes across India. The Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train will be operationalized by April 2029 and the feasibility study will be done for three

India making its own bullet trains that will run at speed of 250 km per hour

India will soon see home-built bullet trains chugging on various routes. Interestingly, India-built bullet trains, work on which has already begun, will be faster than any of the trains which are currently being plied by the Indian Railways. A report by Economic Times quoted a top government official saying that India made bullet train will run at the speed of over 250 kilometres per hour (kmph). The speed of home-built bullet trains in India will be similar to high-speed trains in various parts of the globe which ply at over 250 kmph including the French TGV and the Japanese Shinkansen.

Where India-made built trains are being built?

As per the report, the designs are being prepared at the Indian Railways' Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in Chennai. "It is being built on the Vande Bharat platform that can already clock a maximum speed of 220 kmph," the official further said. For the unversed, ICF builds the indigenously developed Vande Bharat trains.



On which routes will India-built bullet trains run?

The made-in-India bullet trains will ply on the north, south, east corridors that were announced on Sunday (April 14) by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while releasing the BJP's manifesto for Lok Sabha polls 2024. PM Modi promised three more bullet train corridors in the country and also said that the work on the first corridor, which will connect Ahmedabad to Mumbai, is almost complete, adding that the survey work for three more corridors will begin soon. "The new corridors will be using more Indian tech and domestic manu-

facturing," the report quoted the government official as saying. At present, the bullet trains being built to ply between Gujarat's Ahmedabad to Maharashtra's Mumbai are relying on Japanese technology. The Shinkansen E5 series bullet trains, which India will deploy on this route, can hit 320 kmph. The official further said the focus till now has been on improving the speed of Indian Railways trains. "The (proposed) variant Vande Bharat trains can now reach from zero to 100 kmph in 52 seconds while the existing bullet trains do this in 54 seconds," he added. Addressing News18 Rising Bharat Summit 2024 in March, Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had said that India's first Bullet Train will be ready in 2026, will run in one section from Surat to Bilimora in Gujarat. The Centre is working on the 508-km-long Mumbai-Ahmedabad HSR (highspeed rail) project that will initially cover Surat-Bilimora in Gujarat, and the full stretch is expected to be completed in 2028, he further said.

'India will be completely Naxal-free': Amit Shah after 29 Naxals killed in Chhattisgarh

Union home minister Amit Shah on Tuesday congratulated the security forces after 29 Naxals were gunned down in Chhattisgarh's Kanker. "Today, a large number of Naxalites have been killed in the operation of security forces in Chhattisgarh. I congratulate all the security personnel who made this operation successful with their bravery and wish for the speedy recovery of the brave policemen who have been injured," the minister wrote on 'X' in Hindi. Shah said that Naxalism has been confined to a small area due to the offensive policy of the government and the efforts of security forces. He said that soon Chhattisgarh and entire India will be completely Naxal-free. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji, we are determined to free the country from the scourge of Naxalism," Shah said. The gunbattle between the Naxals and security forces took place in a forest near Binagunda village under Chhotabethiya police station area of Kanker. A joint team of the Border Security Force (BSF) and the District Reserve Guard (DRG) was out on an anti-Naxal operation. "While the operation was still under progress, the



BSF team came under fire from CPI Maoist cadres, and BSF troops effectively retaliated against them. During the encounter, one BSF personnel sustained bullet injury on his leg and is out of danger after being evacuated," the BSF said in a statement after the encounter. Till now, 68 Naxals have been killed since December 2023 in separate encounters with security forces in Bastar region, comprising seven districts including Kanker. Voting in the Naxalite-hit Bastar Lok Sabha seat will take place on April 19 in the first phase, while the Kanker constituency, part of the Bastar region, will vote in the second round of general elections on April 26. The counting of votes will take place on June 4.

"Will Finish Lawrence Bishnoi": Eknath Shinde After Meeting Salman Khan



Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde met actor Salman Khan this afternoon days after shots were fired outside the actor's home in Mumbai's Bandra. Security around the actor's home was tightened as the Chief Minister arrived. Mr Khan stepped out to greet the Chief Minister and escorted him into his home, where Mr Shinde met and shook hands with the actor's father, noted screenplay writer Salim Khan, politician Baba Siddiqui and his son Zeeshan. "The government is with you, I have told Salman Khan. Both the accused have been arrested. They will

be interrogated. We will get to the root of the case. Nobody will be spared. Nobody should be targeted this way," Eknath Shinde told reporters outside the actor's home. "No gang or gang war will be allowed. We won't allow this to happen. We will finish (Lawrence) Bishnoi," he added. On Sunday at around 5 am, two men came on a bike and fired four rounds outside Bandra's Galaxy Apartments, where the actor lives with his family. The men, who were arrested today, had come with backpacks and wore caps, CCTV cameras installed in the area showed. They were seen firing toward the actor's home. One of the suspects donned a white t-shirt paired with a black jacket and denim pants, while the other was attired in a red t-shirt with denim pants. The two, police sources said, are

members of a gang led by notorious gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, who is currently in Tihar Jail for in cases of several high-profile murders, including that of singer-politician Sidhu Moose Wala and Rajput leader and Karni Sena chief Sukhdev Singh Gogamedi. Earlier, the Chief Minister had spoken to the actor over the phone on the day of the incident. He had also spoken with the Mumbai Police Commissioner and suggested increasing the actor's security. Since November 2022, Salman Khan's security has been elevated to Y-Plus over threats from gangsters Lawrence Bishnoi and Goldy Brar. The actor is also authorised to carry a personal firearm and has an armoured vehicle for added protection.

Election Commission issues notice to BRS chief KCR for derogatory remarks on Congress



Hyderabad: The Election Commission issued a notice to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) chief and ex-CM K Chandrababu Naidu for his alleged vulgar, derogatory, objectionable allegations against the Congress Party at a press conference in Rajanna Siricilla district on April 5. Acting on the complaint of G Niranjan, Sr Vice-President, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee, the ECI said that his remarks were in violation of Model Code of Conduct

(MCC) and asked KCR to submit his reply by 11 am on April 18. The panel also stated that if there is no reply in the stipulated time, appropriate action will be taken. It also stated that KCR had been given warnings earlier for his inappropriate use of language in 2019, 2023. The notice further stated that unverified allegation and derogatory remarks made by KCR pose a risk of maligning the image of opposition party/leader and disturb the level playing field in the ongoing election process in the state. On Tuesday, the ECI listed actions taken by them since Model Code of Conduct came into effect on March 16, 2024 to maintain a level playing field between candidates. Telangana will go to polls on May 13 and votes will be counted on June 4.

BJP's Amit Malviya draws ire over remarks on assassination of Congress leaders



A BJP functionary courted controversy on Monday by saying that Congress leaders were assassinated "for the political decisions they took", triggering a backlash from the grand old party. During a television debate on the assassination attempt on former US president Donald Trump, Amit Malviya, the IT cell head of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), claimed that the Congress leaders, and particularly Rahul Gandhi, have been encouraging violence against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Malviya drew parallel between the language used by the Democrats in the United States against Donald Trump and by the Congress leaders in India against Prime Minister Modi. "Before the Congress claims that their own leaders got assassinated, I want to remind them that they were assassinated for the political decisions that they took," he added. "What an atrocious, obnoxious and disgraceful statement by this man. If the self-anointed non-biological PM has any shred of decency he should sack this guy right away," Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh, in charge of communications, posted on X. Congress' media and publicity department head Pawan Khera blasted Amit Malviya and asked Prime Minister Modi whether he endorses this view. "According to this BJP motormouth, Mahatma Gandhi, Indira ji, Rajiv ji, Sardar Beant Singh and the entire Congress leadership of Chattisgarh deserved to be assassinated for the political decisions they took," Khera said on X. "The only political decision these martyrs took was to live and die for India. Buffoons of BJP will never understand that sentiment. Do we need more proof of the anti-national mindset of the BJP??" he added. The BJP on Sunday had targeted Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, following the assassination attempt on former US president Donald Trump. Malviya posted some past comments of Rahul Gandhi saying the Congress leader has used similar rhetoric against Modi, such as calling him a "dictator", that Trump's critics like Democrat leader and US President Joe Biden have. "Third Time Fail Rahul Gandhi has often encouraged and justified violence against Prime Minister Modi, who he has lost election to, several times now. How can India ever forget how Punjab Police, then under the Congress, deliberately compromised PM's security, when his convoy was left stranded on a flyover," Malviya had said. Hitting back at the BJP, Pawan Khera said, "Cheap politics should not be played on the issue of security of leaders. The Congress party lost Mahatma ji to Right Wing terrorists. We lost two prime ministers at the hands of terrorists. We lost our entire Chhattisgarh leadership to Left Wing terrorists, under the watch of the BJP government."

Muharram procession in Srinagar becomes a show of solidarity with Palestinians

A thousand-strong Muharram procession in Srinagar's city centre turned into a show of solidarity with Palestinians on Monday, with protesters defying the administration by waving Palestinian flags and chanting anti-Israel slogans. Lieutenant governor Manoj Sinha's administration has strictly barred pro-Palestinian demonstrations in Kashmir since the outbreak of the Gaza war and even shut down Jamia Masjid on several occasions to prevent an outpouring of support for Palestine. The administration on Monday allowed the Shia community to take out a procession to mark the eighth day of mourning of the death of Prophet Mohammed's grandson on the traditional Guru Bazar-Dalgate route in Srinagar. The procession, banned for more than three decades, was allowed for the first time last year in an attempt to forge relations with the Valley's Shia minority. There were no restrictions on the procession this year too, but mourners

were directed to keep it strictly apolitical. The procession started from Guru Bazar and passed through the designated route via Jehangir Chowk and Maulana Azad Road before culminating at Dalgate. The procession was bigger this time and continued for much of the day although the organisers were granted a limited time window to avoid inconveniencing the commuters. Many in the procession waved Palestinian flags and chanted slogans in support of Palestine as they walked slowly through the city centre. Traffic on city roads was diverted and barricades were erected at multiple places to facilitate the procession. Muharram processions were banned after the eruption of militancy in Kashmir as authorities were apprehensive that separatists might misuse the large gathering for ulterior motives. Spearheaded by a separatist Shia group, the procession always used to metamorphose into a pro-Azadi



demonstration. The group would routinely defy police to take out the procession in the face of tear gas shells and cane charges. Kashmiri Sunnis, who form around half of Jammu and Kashmir's population, were in the vanguard of the separatist movement and got support from other Muslim communities. Many believe the government has all along tried to woo other Muslim groups - Kashmiri Shias, Gujjars and Paharis - to break the "Muslim unity" but without much success.

Jyotirmath Shankaracharya After Video Of Him Blessing PM During Ambani Wedding Goes Viral



Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwaranand on Monday reacted to an Ambani wedding video showing Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking his blessings by touching his feet. Jyotirmath Head Seer said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is not his enemy and he blesses anyone who comes to him. This comes after a video surfaced on social media in which Prime Minister Modi after

blessing the newlyweds Anant Ambani and Radhika Merchant, could be seen approaching the Shankaracharya. While Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwaranand is known for his criticism of PM Modi, the cordial interaction at the Ambani wedding grabbed attention. As soon as PM Modi bowed down and touched his feet, the seer could be seen blessing him and gifting him a 'Rudraskhs' bead garland. "Yes, he (PM Modi) came to me and did a 'Pranaam'. It is our rule that we will bless whoever comes to us. Narendra Modi ji is not our enemy. We are his well-wishers and always speak for his welfare. If he makes a mistake, then we also point that out to them," the Shankaracharya said while speaking to on Monday. Earlier in January, Shankaracharya Swami Avimukteshwaranand had rejected the invita-

tion to the Ram Mandir Pran Pratishtha ceremony, citing the incompleteness of the temple. "It is not right to instil life (pran-pratishtha) in the body without its head or eyes. This goes against our scriptures. Hence, I will not be going there because if I go there people will say scriptures have been violated in front of me. Hence, we have raised the issue with responsible people, especially with the members of the Ayodhya Trust -- that the celebration should be done once the temple is fully constructed. Discussion has been going on," the Shankaracharya had said. The seer had also criticised PM Modi on the issue: "Modiji will inaugurate the Temple, touch the idol...what will I do"?... clap?my post also has some dignity....why should I go to an event which is not accordance to the religious scriptures?"

Snakes were guarding 'Ratna Bhandar' of Puri's Jagannath temple? HC Judge reveals stunning truth

The Ratna Bhandar, also called the revered treasury, at Lord Jagannath temple in Puri, Odisha, was reopened on Sunday. The state government comprised a team of 11 members to conduct the inventory of valuables in the Bhitari Bhandar (Inner Treasury) and Bahar Treasury (Outer Treasury). The doors of it were opened after 46 years. Odisha High Court judge Biswanath Rath, after visiting the inner chamber treasury, said in an interview that the team could enter the premises after 'cutting the locks in the presence of the magistrate and others.' Judge Rath also commented on the reports regarding the presence of snakes inside the chamber, reported news agency IANS. He refuted the reports and myths around the Ratna Bhandar. "As seven to eight members of temple management are part of the team, they



are busy as the Bahuda Yatra preparations have started, so we couldn't get more time for further checking and shifting of the ornaments. So we decided to fix another date for the shifting of the ornaments and precious stones of the deities,' Judge Rath said. Arabinda Padhee, the chief administrator of Shree

Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA), asserted that the jewellery stored in the outer treasury had been moved to a 'temporary strong room inside the temple premises and was sealed in presence of a magistrate.' He added, "We entered the outer chamber of the Ratna Bhandar after opening the locks with the keys kept with Gajapati Maharaj, the king of Puri, SJTA and the Bhandar Mekap servitor. On this auspicious occasion, the Chief Minister's Office also posted a statement on X (Formerly Twitter). He said, "On the wish of Lord Jagannath, the Odia community, with the identity of 'Odia Asmita', has started making efforts to move forward. On your wish, the four gates of the Jagannath temples were earlier opened. Today, on your wish, the Ratna Bhandar was opened after 46 years for a greater purpose."

