

Minor boxer from Hisar accuses woman coach of sexual misconduct, assault during training tour, FIR filed

GURUGRAM: A 17-year-old boxer from Hisar, who has won two gold medals at the national level, has accused a woman coach from the Sports Authority of India's (SAI) National Boxing Academy in Rohtak of physical assault and sexual misconduct during a training tour in Ireland. The allegations—detailed in an FIR registered on a complaint by the minor's mother at the Urban Estate Police Station in Rohtak—have raised serious questions about athlete safety. The FIR, registered under sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, describes a disturbing series of events. The minor, a member of the Indian boxing team since 2022, was part of a train-



ing tour in Ireland from 24 March to 3 April, 2025. According to her mother's complaint, the coach attempted to touch the boxer's private parts during the tour, an incident the teenager initially struggled to comprehend. When the minor resisted, the coach's behaviour escalated. She was pressured to

record a training video and, upon failing to meet the coach's expectations, faced verbal abuse and accusations about her character in front of teammates. The harassment continued with a humiliating punishment: the coach allegedly forced the boxer to perform 50 front rolls in front of female teammates, and 100

more near the men's changing room, leaving bruises on her back. The next day, despite the minor's apologies and pleas for support, the coach refused to accompany her to a boxing match, leaving her to compete alone without a warm-up or guidance, as she faced heckling from the audience.

The allegations took a darker turn with claims of attempted molestation. The coach reportedly followed the minor to her room, locked the door, and tried to touch her inappropriately while attempting to remove her clothes. When the boxer resisted and raised an alarm, she was allegedly slapped multiple times. The coach then coerced her into writing a letter admitting to owning a second phone and talking to boys, threatening to derail her career with the Indian team if she refused. Back at the Rohtak academy, the minor's ordeal persisted, with her inner garments stolen from the hostel and a needle planted in her bed, incidents her mother believes were intended to mentally destabilise her daughter.

HC refuses to interfere in govt decision to set up Bal Thackeray memorial at Mayor's bungalow

MUMBAI: The Bombay High Court on Tuesday refused to interfere in the Maharashtra government's decision to convert the Mayor's bungalow here into a memorial for late Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray, noting it does not find any valid ground of challenge against the policy decision. A bench of Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Sandeep Marne, while dismissing a bunch of pleas, said it cannot sit as an appellate authority over the decision taken by planning experts except in cases where there is a "gross violation" in the planning norms. "Ultimately, what is done is merely change the label of the structure from 'Mayor's Bungalow' to 'Balasaheb

Thackeray Rashtriya Smarak'," the court said. The bench said the decision to set up the memorial was a policy decision and it would "loathe" interfering in the same. The court noted that the work of setting up the memorial is almost complete now and the grandiose structure of the Mayor's bungalow has not only been kept intact but has been restored and its heritage significance is not disturbed. The bench while dismissing the petitions said it does not find any valid ground of challenge made out to the decision of the state government. Thackeray died in November 2012 after a brief illness. The petitions were filed in

2017 challenging the government's decision to convert the Mayor's bungalow, a sprawling sea-side structure at Shivaji Park in central Mumbai, to a memorial for the late Shiv Sena supremo. The pleas also challenged the inclusion of members of the political party and family members in the Board of Trustees of the government trust, 'Balasaheb Thackeray Rashtriya Smarak Samiti', set up to carry out work for the memorial. The high court said in its order that it does not find any arbitrariness in the government's decision to choose three members of the Shiv Sena party and two members of the family of Thackeray to be part of the Board of Trustees.

Officers' strike averted in Odisha after Bhubaneswar civic body official attacked, BJP corporator held

NEW DELHI: The Odisha government averted a massive state-wide strike by Odisha Administrative Service officers late on Monday after Chief Minister Mohan Charan Manjhi met senior officials to defuse tensions over the assault on Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation Additional Commissioner Ratnakar Sahoo. Sahoo, an officer of the state cadre, was dragged from his office and beaten up by a group that allegedly included a local corporator linked to the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, sparking widespread condemnation and outrage by the opposition Biju Janata Dal (BJD). After issuing a call for mass leave, the Odisha Administrative Services (OAS) Association postponed the plan following the top-level meeting with Chief Minister and senior officers, including DGP Yogesh Bahadur Khurania, Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja and Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Police Commissioner Suresh Dev Datta Singh. The meeting coincided with the arrest of three accused linked to the case by the Bhubaneswar Police. Senior Odisha Police officials said that investigators had arrested three accused so far – Jeevan Rout, Rashmi Mahapatra and Debashis Pradhan. Rout is a BJP corporator from the 29th ward in Bhubaneswar municipality. Earlier in the day, as a video of the assault circulated widely, former Odisha chief minister and leader of the Opposition, Naveen Patnaik, attacked the Manjhi-led Odisha government and called for "exemplary action" against the culprits. "Today, Shri Ratnakar Sahoo, OAS Additional Commissioner, BMC, a senior officer of the rank of Additional Secretary, was dragged from his office and brutally kicked

and assaulted in front of a BJP Corporator, allegedly linked to a defeated BJP MLA Candidate," Patnaik wrote on his X timeline. "What is more appalling is that this happened in broad daylight, in the heart of the capital city- Bhubaneswar to a senior officer while he was in his office, hearing grievances of people," he added. "I ask @MohanMODisha Ji to take immediate and exemplary action against not only those who perpetrated but more importantly, the political leaders who orchestrated and conspired in this shameful attack. The people named by the officer in his FIR have behaved like criminals. If a senior officer is not safe in his own office, then what law and order will ordinary citizens expect from the Government," Patnaik said. In his police complaint, Sahoo said he was assaulted at around 11.30 am on Monday while he was in a public grievance redressal meeting. According to the complaint, six to seven unknown individuals entered the premises without authorisation and aggressively asked him about a phone call with BJP leader Jagannath Pradhan, who unsuccessfully contested the Bhubaneswar Central assembly constituency in last year's election. Sahoo alleged that after he confirmed that he had spoken to Pradhan, the men started assaulting him without provocation. Jeevan Rout, corporator from ward number 29, was also present there, Saho alleged in the complaint. "While I was trying to shield myself and plead for mercy, they threatened me and attempted to forcibly drag me into a vehicle, saying that I must come to Sri Jagannath Pradhan and apologise," Sahoo alleged.

In firefighting mode, Surjewala draws party line—no discussion on change of guard in Karnataka

BENGALURU: The Congress Tuesday asserted it was not discussing any possible leadership changes in Karnataka, and warned legislators against making statements on the issue in the media. But even as the party projected a united face, a video surfaced online in which an MLA is heard saying Siddaramaiah hit the "lucky lottery" and became the chief minister while others who joined the Congress with him got nothing. Speaking to the media here amid the feud between Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar, All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary (In charge, Karnataka) Randeep Singh Surjewala said his exercise of meeting party MLAs over the next three days is focussed not on seeking the opinions of MLAs for a possible change in guard in the state, but on addressing their grievances and various organisational issues. The press conference was attended by Shivakumar also but not Siddaramaiah. "Don't try and settle your scores. Raise (any issues) with the head of the family. The party's head of the family is PCC (Pradesh Congress



Committee) president (Shivakumar). The government's head of the family is the chief minister, Mr Siddaramaiah," Surjewala said, attempting to placate the two warring factions. His statements come at a time when Congress legislators have continued to publicly air concerns over the lack of funds for development, inability to access ministers, alleged arrogance of officials and other issues that have left the party red faced. The MLAs have also been weighing in on a possible leadership change,

even demanding that the incumbent chief minister Siddaramaiah be replaced with his deputy Shivakumar. Shivakumar mirrored Surjewala's statements that no discussions were being held on leadership change and that it was important for all his party members to maintain discipline. "No one is in a hurry (for a change) and 2028 (assembly elections) are important for us," he told reporters Tuesday. The DyCM added that he will issue a notice to Ramanagaram MLA

Iqbal Hussain for his statements that Shivakumar should be made the chief minister for the remainder of the term. "No one needs to tell me that I will become CM," Shivakumar said, adding that Congress leaders should not appear before the media to air grievances or express their opinions. The discussion around the topic has fuelled speculation if the Congress high command was actually considering implementing its informal assurance that Shivakumar would replace Siddaramaiah in the second half of the ongoing term. On Monday, AICC president Mallikarjuna Kharge said the party high command will take a decision on the leadership change and it was not possible to speculate what was going on in the mind of the top brass. Even as Shivakumar and Surjewala were trying to contain the challenge, party leaders were making statements that only fuelled the problem. B.R.Patil, a close aide of Siddaramaiah and the first one to raise the problem of corruption in the government this time around, was heard airing his grievances on the phone to an unidentified person. It appears that someone in the

same room made a video of Patil speaking on the phone. During the call, Patil is heard stating that Siddaramaiah hit the "lucky lottery" as he became CM but the others who joined the Congress with him got nothing. "I only got him to meet Sonia Gandhi first. His fate was good, he became CM," Patil says. Later on, Patil acknowledged that he spoke about Siddaramaiah. "I was one of the eight MLAs who left the JD(S) and we joined the Congress under Siddaramaiah's leadership," Patil said. Speaking to reporters, Siddaramaiah said he was not aware of Patil's statements but said he was fortunate to become CM. Siddaramaiah added he will speak to Patil on the issue. But Patil's statements were not the only one that was adding to the troubles of the Congress. Iqbal Hussain also demanded Shivakumar be made the chief minister. "MLAs will support this and the high command will take a decision. Many people want a change, want to see more development, come to power again," he told reporters Tuesday.

5 Tamil Nadu cops arrested for custodial death of temple guard accused of theft. Brother alleges torture

CHENNAI: Five police officers in Tamil Nadu have been arrested in connection with the alleged custodial death of a 27-year-old temple security guard detained in a case of theft. It is alleged that the victim, B. Ajith Kumar, collapsed and died Saturday after being tortured by cops during an investigation in the Sivaganga district. However, a First Information Report (FIR) filed in the case, seen by ThePrint, said the victim suffered an epileptic fit during an attempt to escape from police. Kannan and Prabhu, head constables, along with constables Raja, Anand and Sankaramanikandan, were arrested late Monday in the case. They were charged under Section 196(2)(a) (magistrate investigation into the death of a person under police custody) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

An official with the Sivaganga Police told ThePrint that the arrest was made based on a preliminary autopsy report. Sources privy to the preliminary autopsy report told ThePrint that he had suffered at least 40 contusions and had bruising on his backside and legs. "There were no fractures, but there were injuries," the source said. The report has not been released yet, and no official cause of death has been made public. The official from Sivaganga Police quoted above also said that, after the final autopsy report, the police may alter the FIR into a case of murder. Separately, in two separate orders Tuesday, Director General of Police (DGP) Shankar Jiwat transferred the case to Crime Branch-Criminal Investigation Department for further investigation and Sivaganga



District Superintendent of Police Ashish Rawat was placed on compulsory wait. According to the FIR, Ajith Kumar, a security guard at the Madapuram Bathrakalliamman Temple in Sivaganga, was taken into police custody at 9:30 pm on 27 June to be interrogated in relation to the theft of some gold and money from a temple devotee. He was rushed to the hospital on the evening of 28 June after he allegedly suffered a fit while escaping from the

police. On 28 June, around 11:30 pm, he was declared dead at Rajaji Hospital in Madurai. The body was handed over to his family after an autopsy. Speaking to ThePrint, his brother, Naveen, alleged Ajith Kumar was tortured by police to make him confess to the theft. "You can see the CCTV footage, where it shows that he walks off inside the police station for inquiry without anybody's help, but was taken out of the station with the help of two policemen. He was bleeding in all the places," Naveen said. ThePrint has not independently verified the CCTV footage. Naveen also claimed that he was also tortured by the police in front of his brother to put pressure on Ajith Kumar to confess. "Only if your brother witnesses your suffering, will he confess to the crime",

one of the policemen told me while beating me with lathis," he further alleged. According to Naveen, he also witnessed his brother being beaten. "After some time, they started to beat my brother black and blue with lathis, and his cries for help were not heard by anybody there. I saw him collapse inside the station." According to the FIR, at 9:30 am on 27 June, a devotee at the Madapuram Bathrakalliamman Temple, identified as Nikitha, asked Ajith Kumar to park her car. She later filed a complaint with the Thirupuvanam Police, alleging that some gold and Rs. 2,500 that were in the car were missing. As part of their inquiry, that night, the police picked up Ajith Kumar. Later, they also took his brother, Naveen, and four of his friends into police custody for interrogation. They were all released the

next day after Ajith Kumar allegedly confessed to the crime. "He confessed to the crime and said that he had kept the stolen jewels in the cow shed at the backyard of the Madapuram temple (where he works). When taken to the spot, we could not find the stolen jewels, and he attempted to escape from the police," the FIR said. He was again caught and taken into custody for further interrogation. "During the course of interrogation, he again escaped from the police and fell, causing severe injuries, and suffered fits." Ajith Kumar was first rushed to a primary hospital in Thirupuvanam and was later shifted to Government Rajaji Hospital, where he was declared dead. Naveen denied the allegations that Ajith Kumar, or anyone else, tried to escape from the police.

Odisha CM asks private banks to expedite loans to poor people

BHUBANESWAR: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Tuesday asked major private banks to extend more credit to poor people of the state under various welfare schemes. Majhi said this while meeting representatives of ICICI, Axis and HDFC Banks and suggested that they should provide more loans to the poor in various welfare schemes, an official statement issued by the CMO said. The chief minister issued such a suggestion after it was noticed that the performance of these banks in various welfare schemes such as agricultural loans, Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Shrushti Yojana, PM Swanidhi Yojana, Stand-up India Yojana, housing loans, education loans and export loans is very low. Given their dismal performances, the state government has removed these banks from its empanelled List on June 21, sources said. The chief minister informed the private banks that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the central gov-

ernment is implementing many poor welfare schemes. The government's goal is to involve people in economic activities through loans and increase their income, he said. The chief minister categorically told the representatives that the performance of these three banks in all these schemes is not at all satisfactory in Odisha. Stating that the banks are a big medium in the government's poor welfare schemes, Majhi suggested that all these banks should provide more loans to people under various schemes that benefit the poor. The representatives of the banks accepted the chief minister's suggestion and said that they are interested in providing loans to people in all these schemes and they assured the CM that this performance will improve soon, the release said. The Principal Secretary of Finance Department, Shashawat Mishra, apprised the chief minister about the performance of these banks.

Delhi HC stays order directing Amazon to pay Rs 340 cr for infringing trademark

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Tuesday stayed an order directing Amazon Technologies Inc to pay around Rs 340 crore as damages and costs for trademark infringement of the luxury lifestyle brand, Beverly Hills Polo Club. The decision of a bench comprising Justice C Hari Shankar and Justice Ajay Digaupal came on the plea against a single judge's order directing Amazon Technologies to pay Lifestyle Equities damages of 39 million dollars after finding that Amazon infringed upon its "Beverly Hills Polo Club" trademark. Amazon's main appeal against the order has been posted on October 9. "The considerations outlined herein above make out, in our con-



sidered opinion, an exceptional case, in which it would be a complete travesty of justice to require the appellant Amazon Tech to deposit, or secure, any part of the amount decreed by the impugned judgment, in order to maintain its appeal," the bench said on Tuesday. The court held there was no specific finding by the single judge and that it was largely generalised in nature, concen-

trating on the phenomenon of e-infringement and reflect a view that, if Amazon Tech desired, it could infringe, rather than that it did infringe. It did not find any prima facie sustainable allegation of involvement by Amazon in any infringement of Lifestyle's registered trademark. "This, therefore, is not merely a case in which damages have been awarded against Amazon Tech without any

finding, by the learned Single Judge, of involvement, in the alleged infringing activities, but is, in fact, a case where no such pleadings exist," the court said. In 2020, Lifestyle Equities filed a trademark infringement suit against Amazon Technologies and others alleging that they infringed upon its registered "BEVERLY HILLS POLO CLUB" logo/device marks by using a deceptively similar mark on apparel and other products sold on their platforms. It was claimed that Amazon was manufacturing and selling products under the brand "Symbol" with the infringing mark, and that Cloutail India, operating on the Amazon.in marketplace, was also involved in the sale of these infringing products.

YOU WILL STAY IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER

10TH DAY UTHALA

◆ Mr. Kuldeep Raj (Anil) ◆

With profound grief and sorrow we regret to inform the sad and ultimately demise of our beloved Mr. Kuldeep Raj (Anil) S/o Late Sh. Ram Lal Rattan, R/O Pacca Talab New Plot Jammu on 23rd June, 2025.

The Tenth Day Kriya Will be held on 02nd of July, 2025 (Wednesday), 11am at Ravi Dass Mandir Pacca Talab.

Grief Stricken

Lt. Sh Ram Lal and Smt Dharmi Devi (Father and Mother)
Sh. Yash Paul and Lt Smt Sushila Devi (Brother and bhabhi)
Lt. Sh. Jagdish Raj and Smt. Veena Devi (Brother and Bhabhi)
Sh. Vijav Kumar and Smt Pinki Devi (Brother and Bhabhi)
Sh Tarsem Lal and Smt. Bahita Devi (Brother and Bhabhi)

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