

## UP: Gambling racket run by women busted, six arrested

PTI, BAREILLY: Six women were arrested for allegedly running an illegal gambling operation in a residential area in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly, police said on Monday. Based on a tip-off, a police patrol team raided the location in Sanjay Nagar in Baradari area and caught the accused while gambling with playing cards, they said. A total of Rs 2,780 in cash

and a deck of 52 cards were recovered from the scene, they added. Baradari police station in-charge Dhananjay Pandey said it was unusual as the gambling den was being operated exclusively by women. "As soon as our team arrived, we found six women playing cards and exchanging money. They were startled by the police but were caught red-handed," Pandey added.

# Suicide in educational institutions: SC forms task force to address student mental

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday took note of the recurring cases of student suicides in higher educational institutions and formed a National Task Force (NTF) to address the mental health concerns of students and prevent such incidents.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan directed Delhi Police to register an FIR on the complaints of the family members of two students who died by suicide while studying at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, in 2023.

Noting a "disturbing pattern" of student suicides were being reported from various educational institutes, the apex court said these tragedies underscored the urgent need for a more robust, comprehensive and responsive mechanism to address various factors which compel students to resort to taking their own lives.

"The recurring instances of student suicides in higher educational institutions, including private educational institutions, serve as a grim reminder of the inadequacy and ineffectiveness of the existing legal and institutional framework in addressing mental health concerns of students on campuses and to prevent the students from taking the extreme step of committing suicides," the order said.

While the order said former apex court judge Justice S Ravindra Bhat would be the chairperson of the NTF, secretaries of a state's higher education departments, social justice and empowerment and legal affairs aside

## RAGGING DEATH TOLL HITS 51 DURING 2022-24

Near Equal to Kota Suicides: Alarming Report

**51 DEATHS DUE TO RAGGING FROM 2020 TO 2024**

A disturbing 51 deaths have been reported across Indian universities and colleges due to ragging over the past four years (2020-2024). The 'State of Ragging in India 2022-24' report, published by the Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE), sheds light on the escalating crisis.



### SHOCKING STATISTICS

- **3,156** complaints registered with the National Anti-Ragging Helpline
- Complaints came from **1,946** colleges
- The data does not include complaints directly filed with colleges or police
- **Unreported Incidents:** Many cases of ragging go unreported, making the true toll likely higher
- **Medical Colleges: A Major Concern** Medical colleges stand out as the epicentre of ragging-related issues: **38.6%** of all complaints **35.4%** of serious complaints **45.1%** of ragging-related deaths (Despite only representing 1.1% of total student population)

### RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMBAT RAGGING

- **Anti-Ragging Squads:** Establishment of squads with dedicated security personnel in every college
- **CCTV Surveillance:** Hostels should have 24/7 CCTV monitoring by anti-ragging committees, security staff, and parents
- **Separate Freshers' Hostels:** Freshers should be accommodated in separate hostels to minimise exposure to ragging
- **Swift Police Action:** Serious ragging offences should trigger police complaints within 24 hours
- **Anonymous Complaints:** National Anti-Ragging Helpline must accept anonymous complaints to protect victims' identities

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**CELESTE PEREIRA (MARCELINO)**  
 (2nd Arvalle, CORTALIM)  
 Born: 03.06.1949 - Died: 24.03.2025  
 Beloved son of Late Camilo Pereira & Late Catarina Sousa. Brother/brother-in-law of Fatima, Bartolomeu/Maria Tereza, Vicente/Christalina. Uncle of Chenssa Savina, Cheryl, Caren Santana, Kriyella and Kathleen.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence **TODAY, Tuesday 25th March 2025 at 2:45 pm** for Eucharistic Celebration at **Sts. Philip & James Church, Cortalim at 03:00 pm** followed by Burial.  
*Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.*

**RETURNED TO THE LORD**  
**PHILOMENA CUCKOO GOMES**  
 (Arossim, Cansaulim)  
 Born: 27th August 1952 - Died: 23rd Mar 2025  
 Beloved wife of **Andrew Philip**.  
 Mother / Mother-in-law of **Lawrence / Sarita, Mickey, Velancia / Sam**.  
 Doting grandmother of Keziah & Kenrick  
 Funeral cortege will leave her residence on **26th March 2025, TOMORROW** at 3.15 p.m. to **St. Thomas Church, Cansaulim** for Eucharistic celebration followed by Burial.  
*Relatives, Neighbours & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.*

**DEATH**  
**LOURENCO SANTANA PEREIRA (LAWRIE)**  
 (Canaguinim-Fatorda)  
 BORN: 07/04/1948 DIED: 22/3/2025  
 Beloved husband of Rene Pereira (Rena). Son of Late Antonio Caridade Pereira / Late Clementina Fernandes.  
 Brother / Brother-in-law of Epifanio / Piedade, Branca / Late Bernard, Eliza / Late Camilo, Late Christalina / Vicente.  
 Father / Father-in-law of Clint / Prudencia (Siyá), Clifford / Joshuka, Conchita / Jason.  
 Grandfather of Samairah, Caylan, Jonathan.  
 Funeral cortege will leave his residence at **3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 25th March 2025 to Our Lady of Rosary Church, Fatorda** for Eucharistic celebration followed by burial.  
*Relatives & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.*

**DEATH**  
**JOSE MARIA AGNELO LOBO**  
 (Panjim/Ribandar/Carambolim)  
 Born: 31-05-1954 - Died: 21-03-2025  
 Son of late Daniel Lobo & late Joaquina Fernandes  
 Husband of late **JOAQUINA FERNANDES**  
 Father of **AGNELO LOBO** (Tiatrist) / **JESSICA RODRIGUES**  
 Grandfather of **BRITNEY LOBO**, Brother of **ANTHONY/ROSY** (Mollem), late **SIMON/PASCUEL** (Ponda), late **MINGUEL/ROMALDINA** (Sao Pedro), late **CAITANO/late MARCELINEA** (Carambolim), late **PAULO/ROSY** (Carambolim) & late **HENRIQUETA** (Chimbel).  
 The funeral cortege will leave his Residence on **26 March 2025 at St. John de Baptist Church, Carambolim at 3:30pm** for Mass followed by Burial.  
*Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.*

*For the Lord has chosen Zion: my Lord desired it for His Dwelling: "This is my Resting Place forever, here I will Dwell, for that is My Lord's desire for me" Psalms 132:13-14*  
**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**  
**Clara Monica D'mello**  
 GURIM  
 Date of Death: 24th March 2025  
 Loving wife of Late Dominic D'mello.  
 Beloved Mother/ Mother-in-law of Lavina/John Andrade, Edna D'mello, Sesa/Janet D'mello, Sabina/Sham Salgaokar, Pearl/Nicholas Fernandes & Susan/Franz Lobo.  
 Doting Grandmother of Naomi, Damian, Agnelia, Larissa, Gayatri, Trupti & Anjan.  
 Caring Sister/Sister-in-law of Agnelo/ Wirony, Late Monica/ Tony & Joyce/ late Ignatius, Franklin/ Martha, Luiz/ late Salvador, Late Rosy/ Luis Paul, Late Eutropia/ Aniceto, late Alex.  
 Funeral Cortege will leave her residence on **25th March 2025 at 3.45pm** to **St. Diogo's Church Gurim** for the Eucharistic Celebration followed by the burial.  
 Please accept this as the only intimation.  
 Conny's Advt. Chinchin, Navlim, 9850473904

## Carbine magazines, grenades seized as security forces intensify anti-terror operation in Kathua

PTI, JAMMU: A cache of incriminating material, including several loaded magazines of M4 carbine assault rifles and a couple of grenades, were seized as security forces intensified their search to neutralise a group of infiltrating terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Monday, officials said.

The operation, personally led by Director General of Police Nalin Prabhat, was launched on Sunday evening in the Hiranagar sector. It was intensified with additional deployment of commandos, drones and sniffer dogs on Monday morning, they said.

An army helicopter was also seen hovering over the area later in the day.

The operation was launched by police with a Special Operations Group after they got intelligence about the presence of terrorists inside a 'dhok' -- a local term for an enclosure -- in a nursery of Sanyal village, approximately five



Army soldiers during a search operation in the Hiranagar sector area following suspicious movement of persons, in Kathua district, Jammu and Kashmir

kilometres from the Pakistan border, the officials said.

The terrorists launched a barrage of fire at the police party, leading to an intense gunfight that lasted more than half an hour, they said. A seven-year-old girl suffered minor injuries when a stray bullet passed close to her arm. She was admitted to a local hospital.

Reinforcements were swiftly dispatched and a

manhunt was launched to apprehend the terrorists, believed to have infiltrated on Saturday either via the ravine route or through a new tunnel.

There was no report of casualties in the initial firing and the area was kept under a tight security cordon throughout the night before the forces moved in at the crack of dawn, the officials said.

Though there has been surprise inspections of any higher educational institution.

While the NTF would furnish an interim report within four months, a final report would preferably be filed within eight months, it said.

## Ruckus in Assam Assembly as BJP alleges Dy Speaker attacked by Cong MLA

PTI, GUWAHATI: The Assam Assembly on Monday witnessed uproarious scenes with the ruling BJP alleging that Deputy Speaker Numal Momin was attacked by Congress MLA Nurul Huda just outside the House, leading to adjournment.

Huda, however, claimed he did not assault Momin but blocked the way to the House during a protest.

The Congress legislators attended the assembly wearing black clothes to protest against BJP MLA Rupjyoti Kurmi, who verbally abused opposition MLAs and tried to physically assault them inside the House last week.

Before the session start-

ed, the Congress legislators held a sit-in in the corridor leading to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker's chambers in the assembly building demanding action against Kurmi.

"I received a WhatsApp message from Momin in which he said he was attacked by Nurul Huda and he is now hospitalised. I request the Speaker to register a police complaint as it happened outside the House and let the police investigate the matter," Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said during the Question Hour.

Moments before that, Momin was seen sitting inside the House and attending the session. He left the

House after some time. Speaker Biswajit Daimary said he has asked the officials to check the matter.

Reacting to the CM's allegations, Leader of the Opposition Debabrata Saikia demanded that instead of the police, a House Committee be formed to investigate the matter as the incident was reported to have taken place inside the assembly building.

Opposition MLAs of the Congress, AIUDF and CPI(M) trooped into the Well of the House, showing placards and protesting against Kurmi and the ruling party's statement regarding the alleged attack on Momin.

## 800 farmers released from detention, 450 more to be freed: Punjab Police

PTI, CHANDIGARH: Days after the crackdown on protesting farmers, Punjab Police on Monday said it has released nearly 800 farmers from detention and is going to free 450 more on the direction of the state government.

Since March 19, hundreds of farmers had been taken into custody after the AAP government decided to clear the protest sites, claiming that the stir had impacted businesses, industries and the general public.

In a statement here, Inspector General of Police (Headquarters) Sukhchain Singh Gill said, "Punjab Government has already released approximately 800 farmers from the police custody".

He said that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has directed "the immediate release of farmers including women, differently-abled individuals, farmers with medical conditions, and those above the age of 60".

"In line with the directives of the Punjab Government, we are prioritising

the release of such farmers and about 450 farmers are being released today," he said.

The protesting farmers had lashed out at the AAP government for detaining their leaders and removing protesters from the Shambhu and Khanauri border points, where they had been camping since February 13 last year after their march to Delhi was thwarted by security personnel.

On grievances of the farmers related to their belongings during the eviction from protest sites, the IGP said that the Punjab Government has issued strict directions in this regard and nobody will be permitted to misappropriate the belongings of farmers.

"To address the concern about the belongings of farmers, the Patiala district police has also appointed SP-rank officer Jasbir Singh as the Nodal Officer, and farmers facing issues related to their possessions can directly contact SP Jasbir Singh at the mobile number 90713-00002 for immediate assistance," Gill said.

## UP: CA duped of Rs 1.5 crore, one held, four at large

PTI, BHADOHI (UP): A man has been arrested for allegedly duping a chartered accountant of Rs 1.5 crore, police said on Monday as efforts are on to nab the remaining four accused.

Superintendent of Police Abhimanyu Manglik said Pankaj, Ashish, Manish and Sachin had met chartered accountant Anand Dubey through Manoj Dubey, the victim's relative.

These five, including Manoj Dubey, got Rs 1.5 crore deposited in their ac-

count from Anand Dubey to run a crusher machine and toll booth in Bhadohi, saying that the money will be returned soon.

The money was transferred from September 17, 2023 to November 25, 2023, police said.

When Anand Dubey asked them to give his money back, they refused and threatened him after which the CA lodged a police complaint against the five men at Gyanpur police station on July 9, 2024, they said.

**MONTH'S MIND**  
 In loving memory of  
**FRANCISCO XAVIER O. FERNANDES**  
 ADIBAND - MURIDA  
 There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved Francisco on 26.03.2025 (tomorrow), at 7:30 am at Infant Jesus Chapel, Murida Cunclim, followed by prayers at the grave at Our Lady of Health Church, Cemetery Cunclim.  
 Offered by her sorrowful wife Viona Vas.  
 Children Swize/Vassalo & Sneider, grandchildren Kade, Kian & family.  
 Relatives, friends & neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation.  
 Conny's Advt. Chinchin, Navlim, 9850473904

**MONTH'S MIND**  
 In loving memory of  
**LIBORIO GODINHO**  
 09.03.1954 - 24.02.2025  
 There will be a Eucharistic celebration for the soul of our beloved Liborio at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, 26th March 2025 at Holy Trinity Church, Benaullim, followed by prayers and blessing at the grave, offered by his wife: Conceicao; daughter: Plency and Licia.  
 Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.  
 Conny's Advt. & Funeral Service, Margao 982302194

**MONTH'S MIND**  
 In loving memory of  
**ANA MARIA SILVEIRA MARTINS**  
 (Ubo Vaddo, Salvador do Mundo)  
 There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of Ana Maria Silveira Martins on Thursday, 27th March 2025 at the Saviour of the World Church, Salvador do Mundo, at 7.00 a.m. followed by prayers and blessings at the grave offered by her sorrowful husband and family.  
 Relatives, Neighbours & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

**THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY**  
 In Loving Memory of  
**XAVIER ROSARIO MAURICIO DE ALMEIDA**  
 Ex-Staff of Al-Madina/Bank of Oman (Muscat)  
 (Tonca, Caranzalem - Panjim)  
 There will be an Eucharistic celebration for the soul of Xavier on **Wednesday, 26th March, 2025 (tomorrow)** at 7.45 a.m. at **St. Agnes Church, St. Inez, Panjim**, followed by prayers at the grave, offered by his sorrowful wife Priya, children Rochelle, Sachiel, Vanya and family.  
 Relatives & friends, kindly accept this as the only intimation.  
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