

National News

ED arrests Congress leader Shivakumar in Money Laundering Case

Agency New Delhi Sept. 4.

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested senior Congress leader from Karnataka DK Shivakumar in connection with a money laundering case. The former minister and sitting MLA appeared before the ED for questioning for the fourth time yesterday at its headquarters in New Delhi. Shivakumar was placed under arrest as per provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) last night. Officials said, the probe agency wants the Congress leader to be put through custodial interrogation and



hence he was arrested. Shivakumar will be produced before a court in New Delhi today by the ED for seeking his custody. The central agency had in

September last year registered the money laundering case against Shivakumar, Anjaneya Hanumanthiah, an employee at Karnataka Bhavan in New Delhi, and others. Shivakumar

had to appear before the agency after the Karnataka High Court last week dismissed his petition challenging the summons issued to him by the ED. The ED had filed a PMLA case against him and others based on a charge sheet filed by the Income Tax Department against them last year before a special court in Bengaluru on charges of alleged tax evasion and hawala transactions worth crores. The IT department has accused Shivakumar and his associate SK Sharma of transporting huge amount of unaccounted cash on a regular basis through 'hawala' channels with the help of three other accused.

Schools shut as rain inundates Mumbai; traffic crawls, trains delayed

Agency New Delhi Sept. 4.

Schools were shut in Mumbai on Wednesday as heavy rains continued to lash the city for the second day causing water-logging, traffic jams and slowing down trains during the morning peak hour commute. The Met office has warned of heavy rain in the city today and tomorrow. "In wake of IMD's warning of heavy rainfall for rest of the day, schools shall remain closed today. Principals of schools where students are already in, are requested to take precautions and ensure that they are sent back home carefully and safely," Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation PRO said, according to news agency ANI. The city and suburbs witnessed incessant rainfall from Monday night through to Wednesday morning. The intensity of rain reduced marginally during the day on Tuesday but resumed towards the evening. The weather bureau has predicted heavy rain with intermittent spells of very heavy rain in isolated areas for the next four days.

South Mumbai recorded more rain than the suburbs over the last 24 hours. Colaba weather observatory recorded 122mm while Santacruz recorded 118.3mm during this time. Thane recorded 173mm, Palghar 192mm, Dahanu 100.1mm, Hamai 115.3mm, Alibaug 93mm, and most areas within the Mumbai Metropolitan Region recorded rainfall above 100mm over the last 24 hours. From 8.30am Monday to 8.30am Tuesday, Mumbai suburbs had recorded 130.4mm rain while south Mumbai recorded 80mm. The weather bureau categorises rainfall above 64.4mm in a 24-hour period as 'heavy', and between 115.6mm to 204.4mm as 'very heavy'. According to traffic police on the Western Express Highway traffic jam was reported from Carnival Cinema at Borivali east to JVL junction in the morning which is difficult for officer goes to reach on time as the estimated travel time was more than 2 hours. The movement of local trains slowed down due to water logging in the tracks at various locations, besides technical problems. According to commuters, water logging was

seen on tracks at Thane, Kanjur Marg, Sion, Chunabhatti, Nalasopara and other locations. Railway administration said the water was at a safe level. "Water level is below rail level," said Shivaji Sutar, chief spokesperson of CR. He added that the trains are running 10-12 minutes delay due to heavy rain and poor visibility. Central Railway's (CR) main line and Harbour line services are running 20-30 minutes late. Even Western Railway services between Vasai-Virar is running 15-20 minutes late. "There are currently four weather factors leading to intense widespread rainfall over Mumbai, Thane, Raigad and Panvel," said KS Hosalkar, deputy director general western region, IMD. "A low pressure area over the Odisha coast which has intensified monsoon conditions along the west coast combined with two cyclonic circulations - one over northeast Arabian Sea and one over central India. Lastly, an easy west wind shear is further enhancing westerly winds leading to heavy rain." For the past three months, heavy to very heavy rain spells have been witnessed during the first

week of every month, which helped the city surpass its seasonal and annual average rainfall. Apart from rain over past 48 hours, three spells of extremely heavy rain days this month included - July 1 and 2 when 375.2mm was recorded in 24 hours, 219.2mm from July 26 to July 27, and 204mm between August 3 and 4 - all identified as 'extreme rainfall' events. Mumbai has so far recorded 2,865.3mm rain since the beginning of the season and the weather bureau expects the city will surpass the 3,000mm mark by the end of the week as more rain has been predicted. Independent meteorologists said rain intensity was likely to reduce from Friday onwards. "There is a low-pressure system over the northern part of the Bay of Bengal and a weaker low-pressure over the northern part of the Arabian Sea. In addition, the off-shore trough is active leading to rainfall enhancement in MMR since early Tuesday. Intermittent showers will continue in this week with isolated spells of heavy showers," said Akshay Deoras, meteorologist and PhD researcher, University of Reading, UK.

North east News

Minor girl raped by three brothers in UP school

Agency Bagnapat Sep 4.

A class 3 student was allegedly raped by three brothers, all minors, at a primary school in a village here, police said on Wednesday. The girl was raped by a 13-year-old student and his two brothers aged 10 and 11 respectively in the bathroom of the government primary school on August 16. All the three are students of the same school and study in class 5, 7 and 8 respectively. Police have detained the three, who will be produced in a juvenile court, here on

Wednesday, police said. The matter came to light on Monday when the victim's family met Superintendent of Police, Pratap Gopendra Yadav,

alleging the police was not registering the case and forcing for a compromise with the opposite party. Taking note of the matter, the S.P removed SHO,

Ramala, Naresh Singh, and sent him to police lines and a probe against him has also been ordered for allegedly trying to hush up the case.

Crime against women has drastically reduced in Tripura: CM

Agency Agartala Sep 4.

Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb has claimed that crime against women has 'drastically reduced' in the state since the BJP-IPFT government

came to power. The BJP-Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura government was sworn in on March 9 last year after ending the 25-years rule of the Left Front government. "Crime against women has drastically reduced in

#Tripura since we took over the Gov't. I sincerely thank Tripura Police, state administration and people of Tripura for their commendable work & support on restricting crime against women." Deb said in a Facebook post on Monday night.

News from the world of Medicine

Optic nerve stimulation to aid the blind

Source : Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

Scientists from EPFL in Switzerland and Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Italy are developing technology for the blind that bypasses the eyeball entirely and sends messages to the brain. They do this by stimulating the optic nerve with a new type of intraneural electrode called OpticSELINE. Successfully tested in rabbits, they report their results in *Nature Biomedical Engineering*. "We believe that intraneural stimulation can be a valuable solution for several neuroprosthetic devices for sensory and motor function restoration. The translational potentials of this approach are indeed extremely promising," explains Silvestro Micera, EPFL's Bertarelli Foundation Chair in Translational Neuroengineering, and Professor of Bioelectronics at Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, who continues to innovate in hand prosthetics for amputees using intraneural electrodes. Blindness affects an estimated 39 million people in the world. Many factors can induce blindness, like genetics, retinal detachment, trauma, stroke in the visual cortex, glaucoma, cataract, inflammation or infection. Some blindness is temporary and can be treated medically. How do you help someone who is permanently blind? The idea is to produce phosphenes, the sensation of seeing light in the form of

white patterns, without seeing light directly. Retinal implants, a prosthetic device for helping the blind, suffer from exclusion criteria. For example, 1/2 million people worldwide are blind due to Retinitis pigmentosa, a genetic disorder, but only a few hundred patients qualify for retinal implants for clinical reasons. A brain implant that stimulates the visual cortex directly is another strategy called OpticSELINE. Successfully tested in rabbits, they report their results in *Nature Biomedical Engineering*. "We believe that intraneural stimulation can be a valuable solution for several neuroprosthetic devices for sensory and motor function restoration. The translational potentials of this approach are indeed extremely promising," explains Silvestro Micera, EPFL's Bertarelli Foundation Chair in Translational Neuroengineering, and Professor of Bioelectronics at Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, who continues to innovate in hand prosthetics for amputees using intraneural electrodes. Blindness affects an estimated 39 million people in the world. Many factors can induce blindness, like genetics, retinal detachment, trauma, stroke in the visual cortex, glaucoma, cataract, inflammation or infection. Some blindness is temporary and can be treated medically. How do you help someone who is permanently blind? The idea is to produce phosphenes, the sensation of seeing light in the form of

pierce through the nerve. Together, Ghezzi, Micera and their teams engineered the OpticSELINE, an electrode array of 12 electrodes. In order to understand how effective these electrodes are at stimulating the various nerve fibers within the optic nerve, the scientists delivered electric current to the optic nerve via OpticSELINE and measured the brain's activity in the visual cortex. They developed an elaborate algorithm to decode the cortical signals. They showed that each stimulating electrode induces a specific and unique pattern of cortical activation, suggesting that intraneural stimulation of the optic nerve is selective and informative. As a preliminary study, the visual perception behind these cortical patterns remains unknown. Ghezzi continues, "For now, we know that intraneural stimulation has the potential to provide informative visual patterns. It will take feedback from patients in future clinical trials in order to fine-tune those patterns. From a purely technological perspective, we could do clinical trials tomorrow." With current electrode technology, a human OpticSELINE could consist of up to 48-60 electrodes. This limited number of electrodes is not sufficient to restore sight entirely. But these limited visual signals could be engineered to provide a visual aid for daily living.

Sports News

'Most important cricketer for Indian team' - Irfan Pathan identifies star player

Agency New Delhi Sept. 4.

Irfan Pathan believes Jasprit Bumrah is the most important member of the Indian team and his maiden hat-trick against the West Indies won't be his last. Bumrah took 13 wickets in two Test matches including a hat-trick in the first innings of the second rubber to guide India to a comprehensive 2-0 series whitewash in the Caribbean which propelled Virat Kohli and Co. to the top of the World Test Championship table with 120 points. The 25-year old, rated as one

of the best in the world across all three formats, joined Harbhajan Singh and Irfan as only the third Indian to have claimed a hat-trick in Test cricket. "I really believe that he is the most important cricketer in the team," Irfan told IANS. "When Bumrah is not playing for India, it's a bigger loss than anybody else. He is such an important part of the team. Indian cricket is blessed to have a guy like him," the former India all-rounder said. "India needs to look after him. He is kind of bowler who can be successful in all three

formats of the game." The last Indian before Bumrah to claim a Test hat-trick was Irfan when he rocked Pakistan in the first over of the Karachi Test way back in 2006. "I am pretty sure that this won't be his last hat-trick," said Irfan who has 301 wickets across formats. Irfan was also part of India's inaugural T20 World Cup triumph in 2007. "It is out of the world feeling. You know that it doesn't happen regularly," said the 34-year-old when asked how it feels after you have got the three wickets in three consecutive deliveries of an over.

Misbah-ul-Haq named Pakistan head coach and chief selector; Waqar Younis appointed bowling coach

Agency New Delhi Sept. 4.

Former Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq has been appointed head coach of Pakistan cricket team. Also, Misbah will take over as the chief selector of the national side. This was confirmed by the PCB in a press release in which it was mentioned that the former captain was given a three-year contract for the same. The release further mentions that Misbah was a unanimous choice of a five-member panel that comprised Intikhab Alam (former captain and the longest

serving Pakistan team manager and coach), Bazid Khan (former international cricketer and one of the most respected commentators), Asad Ali Khan (member,

Board of Governors), Wasim Khan (Chief Executive, PCB) and Zakir Khan (Director - International Cricket, PCB) following a robust recruitment process.

Name Changed

I the undersigned do hereby declare that I have abandoned relinquished and renounced the use of my old name Rajkumari Ongbi Leitanthem Pishakmacha Devi, as I have assumed my New name as Leitanthem Pishakmacha.

Sd/-
Leitanthem Pishakmacha
Singamei Makha Okram Leikai
P.O & P.S Singamei Imphal West, Pin 795008.

Name Correction

I, the undersigned, do hereby declare that, my original name Rajkumari Leinaotabi Devi has been wrongly written as Rajkumari Leinaotabi in my passport issued by the Regional Passport Office, Guwahati and that my name in the passport should be written as Rajkumari Leinaotabi Devi.

Sd/-
Rajkumari Leinaotabi Devi
Singamei Makha Okram Leikai
P.O & P.S Singamei Imphal West, Pin 795008.

Name Changed

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