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RANJI SEMIS: UMESH TAKES 7/48 AS VIDARBHA BOWL OUT KERALA FOR 106 25

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Gomti project:

ED raids 9 spots

inforcement Directorate

officials searched nine lo-

cations in four states in con-

nection with the money la-

undering probe into the Rs

1,500-crore Gomti riverfront

development project. Seven

places in UP were searched,

including five in Lucknow.

Cash and documents were

9 deliveries in

candlelight

Tine deliveries were con-

Vducted under candle-

light and torches in Govern-

ment Doon Medical College

Hospital after the power

went out for several hours

on Tuesday night. The ho-

spital has a generator but it

wouldn't start and the lone

electrician was on leave. P11

Slingshots for

jawans at Taj

ISF personnel at Taj Ma-

hal will now be armed

with gulels (slingshots) to

protect tourists from monke-

ys. A dozen jawans have been

deployed with catapults at

the east and west gates of the

monument. There have been

several monkey attacks at

the monument. P11

seized, officials said.

Kochhar, husband booked for taking 'chanda' from Dhoot

Got ₹64cr Bribe In Exchange For ₹1,875cr Loans, Alleges FIR

Neeraj.Chauhan @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The CBI has filed a case against once celebrated banker, former ICICI Bank MD & CEO Chanda Kochhar, her husband Deepak Kochhar and Videocon group managing director Venugopal N Dhoot for alleged irregularities in six high-value loans worth Rs 1,875 crore. The loans to Dhoot's companies were sanctioned between June 2009 and October 2011.

The CBI booked Kochhar, her husband and Dhoot for criminal conspiracy (to cause loss to ICICI Bank), cheating and corruption, charges serious enough for a jail term of seven years if convicted. The allegations had led to Kochhar's exit from India's second-largest private sector bank last year.

The agency said loans were illegally given by Kochhar to the Videocon group in lieu of financial favours and in violation of the Banking Regulation Act, RBI guidelines

FULL COVERAGE: P12 & 23

and the bank's credit policy. The Kochharsreceived illegal payments, including a Rs 64 crore transfer from Dhoot, for the favour, the CBI claimed.

The FIR and impending prosecution marks a dramatic fall for Kochhar, once the toast of elite circles, where she was seen as a success story and a social 'A lister' who commanded the attention of policy makers in Delhi.

The CBI FIR could have serious ramifications for several

CBI MAY SEEK TO PROBE TOP BANKERS, INCLUDING K V KAMATH & NEW ICICI CEO

Chanda Kochhar, Deepak Kochhar, Venugopal Dhoot and four companies named as accused in FIR. Charged with criminal conspiracy, cheating and corruption

held by Dhoot and Deepak

Supreme Energy

loan of ₹300cr given to

Kochhar transferred to

Aug 26, 2009 | First

Deepak Kochhar company

Dec 24, 2008 Deepak Kochhar, V N Dhoot and Saurabh Dhoot appointed directors of NuPower Renewables (NRL)

Jan 15, 2009 Dhoots resign, allot nearly 20 lakh securities to Deepak Kochhar May 1, 2009

V N Dhoot Chanda Kochhar takes over as ICICI Bank MD and CEO

June 5, 2009 | NRL shares

Videocon International Electronics Ltd (VIEL) in contravention of bank's rules and policy Sept 7 | Loan disbursed

> into Videocon account Sept 8 | ₹64cr transferred by Dhoot into Deepak Kochhar's

June 2009-0ct 2011 5 other loans amounting to

company, NRL

FIR says other top bankers, including current ICICI Bank CEO Sandeep Bakshi, K V Kamath, K Ramkumar, Sonjoy Chatterjee, N S Kannan, Zarin Daruwala, Rajiv Sabharwal and Homi Khusrokhan, may also be probed as they were on loan sanctioning committees for Videocon

top bankers and financial experts, as it says their roles may have to be probed. Big names include Sandeep Bakshi, current CEO-MD of ICICI Bank, K V Kamath, chairman of New Development Bank of BRICS countries; Sonjoy Chatterjee, chairman of Goldman Sachs India; K Ramkumar, ex-executivedirector of ICICIBank; NS Kannan, MD & CEO of ICICI Prudential Life; Zarin Daruwala, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank India; Rajiv Sab-

harwal, MD-CEO of Tata Capital, and Homi Khusrokhan, exboard member of ICICI Bank. These officials were on va-

rious sanctioning committees of ICICI Bank when loans were granted to the Videocon group in violation of rules, leading to losses for the bank.

Kochhar, a Padma Bhushan awardee, was on the sanctioning committees that approved a loan of Rs 300 crore to Videocon International Electronics Ltd and Rs 750 crore to

and group companies declared

₹1,575 crore granted,

including ₹750 crore to

of ₹1,730 crore

Videocon Industries Ltd (VIL)

consolidated into a single loan

April 26, 2012 | 6 loans



Kochhar herself was on one of the committees which sanctioned ₹300cr loan to VIEL and ₹750 cr to VIL

Videocon Industries Ltd, given on August 26, 2009 and October 31, 2011, respectively. These two companies have been named in the FIR along with Deepak Kochhar's firms.

The CBI on Thursday raided Videocon offices at Nariman Point, Mumbai, and Aurangabad, apart from Deepak Kochhar's companies NuPower Renewables Ltd and Supreme Energy Pvt Ltd.

▶Related report, P 12

NBCC to start work on stalled Amrapali flats on February 8

Commits To Deliver 2,643 Units In A Year

AmitAnand.Choudhary @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The almost decade-long wait for thousands of homebuyers to get possession of flats in stalled Amrapali housing projects seems to be nearing an end with government-owned National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC) committing to start work from February 8 and deliver 2,643 flats in a year.

The light at the end of a long tunnel came after NBCC officials, acting on the court's direction, held a meeting with M L Lahoty, the lawyer representing homebuyers, and finalised a blueprint to start construction on varioushousingprojectswhere more than 46,000 buyers are

'₹8.5K CR NEEDED'

➤ 2,643 flats to be built within a year at Sapphire I, II (Noida) and Castle (Greater Noida) projects

> ₹77.54Cr needed to finish these 3 projects

➤ 46.000 homebuyers awaiting their flats

> ₹8,500Cr needed to complete all the projects, according to NBCC estimates

awaiting promised flats.

As per the proposal, NBCC will in the first phase take up three housing projects - Sapphire I and Sapphire II in Noida and Castle in Greater Noida. The corporation agreed to start construction with the total cost involved adding up to Rs 77.54 crore. It said 2,643 flats would be built and handed over.

▶ Continued on P 10

SC refuses to stay amendments to SC/ST Act

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Thursday refused to stay amendments to the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act brought by Parliament to overturn the court's verdict by which automatic arrest of an accused was barred without holding a preliminary inquiry and the provision of anticipatory bail was introduced.

A bench of Justices A K Sikri, S Abdul Nazeer and M R Shah said the Centre's review petition against the apex court verdict was still pending and it should be heard along with other petitions challenging the constitutional validity of the amendments. The petitioners urged the bench to stay operation of the amendments to protect innocent people being harassed under the Act but the court turned down their plea.

▶ Continued on P 19

After 43 days, 1st body finally pulled out of Meghalaya mine

Manosh Das TNN

Shillong: A joint team of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Navy, engaged in rescuing 15 miners trapped inside a flooded illegal coal mine in Meghalaya's East Jaintia Hills district sinceDecember 13, made the first breakthrough on Thursday when it retrieved the body of one miner from the main shaft of the mine at 3 pm. "The team retrieved one

body from the main shaft, from about 210 feet in the horizontal passage (rat-hole) at about a depth of 355 feet, where the water level was about 170 feet. The decomposed body was carefully pulled out and handed over to the OC of Saipung police station in the presence of East Jaintia Hills civil administration offici-

als," an NDRF spokesman said. Two NDRF rescuers, three Navy personnel and civil hospital staff went deep down into the main shaft to recover the body which has been dispatched to the civil hospital at Khliehriat for a post-mortem, he added. The rescue operation is still in progress at Ksan.

▶ Continued on P 19

