

IN BRIEF



**HC stays proceedings against Sambit Patra**

**JABALPUR**  
The Madhya Pradesh High Court on Wednesday stayed the proceedings in a criminal case pending before a magistrate's court in Bhopal against BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra. The case pertains to alleged violation of the model code of conduct by Mr. Patra during the 2018 State Assembly elections. PTI

**Six killed in vehicle pile-up in Ramgarh**

**RAMGARH (JHARKHAND)**  
At least six persons were killed and 12 injured in an accident involving five vehicles in Ramgarh district of Jharkhand on Wednesday, the police said here. Two trailer-trucks, a truck, a mini-truck and an off-road vehicle carrying passengers were involved in the pile-up at Chutupalu Ghati, under the Ramgarh police station limits. PTI

**Three held with 6 kg of opium in Assam**

**GUWAHATI**  
Around 6 kg of opium was seized from three persons from a Kolkata-bound train at the Guwahati railway station, the GRP said on Wednesday. On Tuesday, the GRP team arrested the three persons from the Indrani Express and recovered the suspected opium at the Guwahati railway station, they said. PTI

**Man dies as car overturns after hitting bull**

**JAIPUR**  
A 25-year-old man died and three persons were injured when their car overturned after hitting a stray bull in Rajasthan's Nagaur district on Wednesday, the police said. The accident occurred in Jayal area in the morning when the vehicle was going to Chirawa in Jhunjhunu district, the police said. PTI

*Fishermen's day out*



Fishermen busy catching fish in the Mahanadi river in Odisha. • BISWARANJAN ROUT

# I-T dept. attaches assets worth ₹225 crore of retired IAS officer

20 immovable assets attached and three luxury cars impounded

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI**  
The Income Tax Department has attached assets worth ₹225 crore of retired Uttar Pradesh IAS officer Net Ram and his associates as part of an alleged tax evasion probe against them, officials said on Wednesday. They said a provisional order under Section 132(9B) (power to attach) of the I-T Act has been issued and 20 immovable assets in Delhi, Mumbai, Noida and Kolkata have been attached and three luxury cars -- a Mercedes and two Toyota For-

tuners -- found at the residence of the officer in Lucknow, have been impounded. I-T officials had swooped down on about a dozen premises in Delhi, Lucknow, Kolkata and Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh, linked to the 1979-batch IAS officer and his firms, on March 12, acting on "credible inputs" that the former top bureaucrat and his associates have made "accommodation or bogus entries of ₹98.82 crore from Kolkata-based shell firms" in the past. The department had

seized ₹2.03 crore in cash and jewellery valued at ₹17.79 lakh after the raids even as it recovered Montblanc pens valued at ₹50 lakh and documents indicating 'benami' assets from the premises linked to the retired IAS officer, who served in top positions during BSP supremo Mayawati's chief ministership. **17 bank lockers sealed** The department has also sealed 17 bank lockers which will be searched soon. While the retired bureau-

crat could not be contacted, the department claimed that the case was an instance of "sophisticated money laundering". The department alleged that it has "seized a diary in the handwriting of the officer which contained details of about 20 immovable properties like farm houses, bungalows, flats and other commercial properties". Mr. Net Ram was secretary to Mayawati when she was the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister during 2002-03, her third stint in power in the State.

## Man gets death sentence for killing five

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
BHIND**

A man was awarded the death sentence by a court here for killing five persons, including four children, in May 2016, after one of the victims saw him in an objectionable position with a woman. Second Additional Sessions Judge M. L. Rathore, Bhind, on Tuesday pronounced the punishment to Nitesh Dixit (29), terming the incident as "rarest of the rare".

According to the prosecution, the convict and the woman, who was married and had children, were allegedly having an affair.

On the basis of scientific evidence, the police proved that Dixit killed all the five people mercilessly, the prosecution told the court.

## Woman, two others get life sentence

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MANDI**

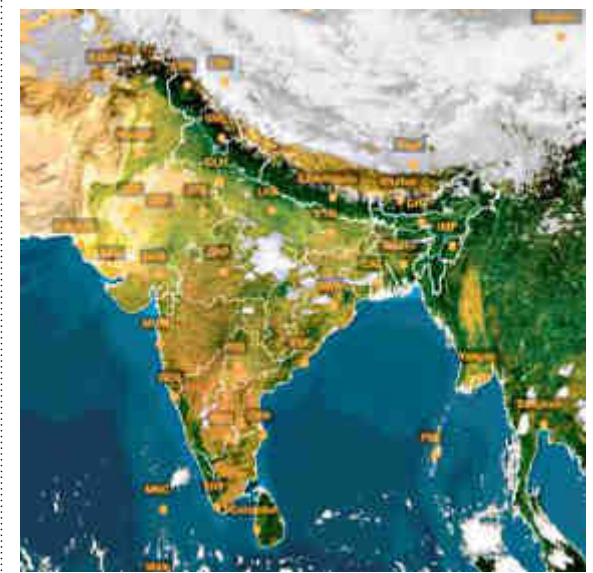
A court here has sentenced a woman, her paramour and their accomplice to life imprisonment for killing her husband and chopping his body into pieces five years ago.

Mandi Additional Sessions Judge Aparna Sharma also imposed a fine of ₹20,000 on Lata Devi, her paramour Amar Chand and contract killer Satish for murdering Manoj Kumar.

The three people were convicted under Sections 302 (punishment for murder) and 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence) of the IPC.

**WEATHER WATCH**

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/MD (TAKEN AT 16:30 HRS)

**Forecast for Thursday:** Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning & gusty winds likely at isolated places over Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, southeast Madhya Pradesh, east Vidarbha, south Chhattisgarh and Odisha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala.....	.....	33.4	20.7	Kozhikode.....	.....	36.0	26.6
Ahmedabad.....	.....	35.1	20.2	Kurnool.....	.....	39.1	26.7
Aizawl.....	.....	29.2	16.2	Lucknow.....	.....	33.8	14.6
Allahabad.....	.....	37.6	14.8	Madurai.....	.....	37.2	25.2
Bengaluru.....	.....	34.3	23.0	Mangaluru.....	.....	34.4	24.6
Bhopal.....	.....	36.6	20.0	Mumbai.....	.....	31.6	19.8
Bhubaneswar.....	.....	36.7	22.8	Mysuru.....	.....	34.9	21.2
Chandigarh.....	.....	28.0	17.9	New Delhi.....	.....	34.1	15.5
Chennai.....	.....	33.7	25.4	Patna.....	.....	34.0	15.6
Coimbatore.....	.....	36.2	24.0	Port Blair.....	.....	32.2	25.1
Dehradun.....	0.4	28.6	13.6	Puducherry.....	.....	32.2	24.4
Gangtok.....	20.4	14.1	8.2	Pune.....	.....	37.7	15.2
Goa.....	.....	31.5	21.0	Raipur.....	0.6	35.0	23.6
Guwahati.....	0.3	30.3	15.3	Ranchi.....	.....	31.2	15.2
Hubballi.....	.....	35.0	21.0	Shillong.....	.....	22.2	9.0
Hyderabad.....	.....	36.6	22.7	Shimla.....	0.5	16.7	7.6
Imphal.....	4.4	27.0	13.5	Srinagar.....	21	5.2	2.4
Jaipur.....	.....	33.8	17.6	Trivandrum.....	.....	35.0	25.7
Kochi.....	.....	32.4	26.4	Tiruchirappalli.....	.....	37.2	25.0
Kohima.....	18.8	21.5	11.6	Vijayawada.....	.....	35.6	24.0
Kolkata.....	.....	32.7	24.1	Visakhapatnam.....	.....	33.0	26.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

CITIES	SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE	Yesterday
Ahmedabad.....	44	63	28	151	.....	.....	
Bengaluru.....	12	78	33	67	88	.....	In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Loni Dehat, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 342 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 50
Chennai.....	5	12	42	40	.....	.....	
Delhi.....	19	74	23	232	267	.....	
Hyderabad.....	2	77	31	81	102	.....	
Kolkata.....	15	92	24	175	132	.....	
Lucknow.....	19	56	63	242	.....	.....	
Mumbai.....	5	14	72	43	87	.....	
Pune.....	29	14	31	80	116	.....	
Visakhapatnam	12	37	30	45	71	.....	

**Air Quality Code:** ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)  
**SO<sub>2</sub>:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.  
**NO<sub>2</sub>:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.  
**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.  
**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease