



Haji Alim

Son held for killing former BSP MLA

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, MARCH 12

A FORMER Bahujan Samaj Party MLA's son has been arrested for allegedly murdering his father while out on bail in the murder case of his stepmother. Haji Alim's son Anas Alim was arrested by the Crime Branch of the Crime Investigation Department (CB-CID) from Meerut, and produced in Bulandshahr court on Thursday. Haji Alim was found shot dead in his home on October 10, 2018. A forensic report, dated October 22, highlighted the details of his bullet wounds, following which the police said the former legislator had committed suicide. Haji's family, including his son Danish, approached the Allahabad High Court, demanding more detailed investigation into the case. The case was handed over to CB-CID last year. The deceased's driver had been earlier arrested for alleged conspiracy.

"As officials conducted investigation, sufficient evidence was found which alleged that Anas was involved in his father's murder," said Mohini Pathak, the additional superintendent of police of CB-CID Meerut. "The probe was conducted for about a year. The accused was arrested from Kankarkhera in Meerut. Other facts are being ascertained."

Both Anas and Danish were arrested in 2013 in connection with the alleged murder of their stepmother Rehana in 2013 in New Jaffrabad in Delhi. The two were accused of killing Rehana because of a rift in the family following her marriage to Haji. The case was investigated by North East Delhi Police. Danish is still out on bail in the case.

Told of UK ruling, SC sends UP hoardings matter to larger bench

ANANTHAKRISHNAN G
NEW DELHI, MARCH 12

A TWO-JUDGE bench of the Supreme Court on Thursday referred to a larger bench a petition of the UP government which has challenged the Allahabad High Court's order to remove banners and hoardings carrying photographs and details of over 50 people accused of violence during anti-CAA protests in Lucknow.

While it initially observed that there was "no law" to back the action of the UP government, the bench decided to send the matter to a larger bench after it was told about the "persuasive value" of a judgment of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

"Let papers be placed by Registry before the Chief Justice immediately so that a bench of sufficient strength can be constituted by the Chief Justice in coming week to hear controversy involved," the bench of Justices UU Lalit and Aniruddha Bose said after hearing the state's appeal.

The bench initially questioned the state's move and said its action seems to have been without



The Allahabad High Court had ordered the immediate removal of the roadside posters in Lucknow. Express

the force of law. "As of now, there is no law which can back your actions," Justice Lalit told Solicitor General Tushar Mehta.

Mehta contended that the persons whose photographs were on public display were "rioters" and that they had waived their privacy rights after what they had done in public.

He then cited a 2015 judgment of the UK Supreme Court. The appellant in that case, he said, was involved in serious rioting in

Derry in July 2010 when he was only 14 years old. CCTV images taken of him during the course of rioting were later published in two newspapers as part of a police campaign called 'Operation Exposure' designed to identify individuals involved in the riots and also to discourage further sectarian rioting, he said. According to Mehta, the appellant contended that it constituted a violation of his privacy rights under Article 8 of the European Convention on

Human Rights (ECHR) (the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms).

Article 8 of ECHR deals with the right to respect for private and family life. It says in 8.1 that "everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence". It adds in 8.2 that "there shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of other".

The UK court, in its ruling, said the interference was justified, Mehta said.

Taking note, Justice Lalit said "as presently advised, since there is a judgment of the Supreme Court of a country and since it has a persuasive value, we will refer the matter to a bench of three judges to be taken up before a regular bench".

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Sengar in court: Hang me, burn my eyes with acid if I did wrong

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, MARCH 12

EXPELLED BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar, who is currently serving life imprisonment for the rape of a minor from Unnao, told a Delhi court on Thursday that he should be hanged and acid poured into his eyes if he has done anything wrong.

Sengar said this while pleading for a reduced sentence in the case pertaining to the death of the rape victim's father in judicial custody on April 9, 2018. Sengar and six others have been convicted in the case of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and the court is hearing arguments on the quantum of punishment.

Addressing District Judge Dharmesh Sharma, Sengar said, "Please give me justice. Otherwise, hang me, bum my eyes with acid if I did something wrong."

The judge told Sengar, "It is not so simple. There are so many phone calls... After 6 pm the fight had taken place... the father was being beaten... What did you do? Was there no interference on your part?"

The CBI told the court that Sengar and the six others convicted in the case should be



In jail for rape of minor in Unnao

awarded the maximum punishment of life imprisonment. The court will announce the order on the quantum of sentence on Friday. Among those convicted are Sengar, his brother, two policemen and three others.

The CBI prosecutor told the judge that the two convicted policemen deserve a harsh sentence.

While convicting the accused, the court said the sequence of events "establishes clearly, beyond reasonable doubt, that under the patronage of accused Kuldeep Singh Sengar, his foot soldiers — namely Vineet Mishra, Birender Singh and Shashi Pratap Singh (and probably with others who could not be identified) — assaulted the victim with leg and fist blows by intermittently hitting him... with the barrel of the rifle."

The court, however, acquitted the other accused — constable Amir Khan, Shailendra Singh, Ram Sharan Singh and Sharadveer Singh — giving them the benefit of doubt.

Not in blood to become CM: Rajinikanth

ARUN JANARDHANAN
CHENNAI, MARCH 12

ACTOR-TURNED-POLITICIAN Rajinikanth on Thursday announced that he will never contest elections to become a Chief Minister. His statement came in the wake of reports that he would be launching his party ahead of the Tamil Nadu Assembly polls, scheduled for May 2021.

Addressing the media in Chennai, Rajinikanth said that it was not in his blood to become the CM, adding that there will be separate leadership for the party and the government in his new outfit. He said his party, with a group of "talented and selfless youngsters", will form a party council under his leadership with a young Chief Minister.

"Let all youngsters who couldn't get deserving posts in other parties join us. The remaining strength in the leadership will be filled by retired judges and IAS officers. I will go and knock on their doors to invite them," he said, adding that he will play the role of a "bridge" to facilitate this process.

He said his own office-bearers opposed him. But, he added, a leader is not someone who would listen to cadres but one who makes his cadres listen. "If I didn't have the thirst for power at the age of 45 (in 1996, when he first announced a possible foray into politics), I should be a lunatic to have the same at this age. What I want is a political change, like what Anna (DMK founder CN Annadurai) brought to Tamil Nadu (in the 1960s). He captured power, gave opportunity to so many talented youngsters to emerge as leaders," Rajinikanth said.

Reiterating his 2017 statement, when he said that the "system is not correct", Rajinikanth said the process for change has to "begin from the people".

Rajinikanth said that a party launched by him would be fighting "two legends" — a reference to DMK and AIADMK, who "enjoy money and muscle power".

HC lifts suspension of TikTok accounts of 3 booked last year

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
MUMBAI, MARCH 12

THE BOMBAY High Court has lifted the suspension of the TikTok accounts of three men who were booked for an "objectionable" video on the mobile app following a lynching incident in Jharkhand in June last year.

The Cyber Cell of the Mumbai Police in July last year had blocked the TikTok accounts of Hasnain Khan (21), Mudassar Shaikh (23) and Shadan Farooqui (23). The High Court had granted them pre-arrest bail in August the same year, saying that their custodial interrogation was "unwarranted".

The police had alleged that the video uploaded by them could harm peace and harmony in society.

The ban was lifted last week by the division bench of acting Chief Justice B P Dharmadhikari and Justice NR Borkar passed an order on March 5. "Despite granting of the bail, their accounts continued to remain suspended, causing dent to their ability to earn a livelihood," claimed advocates Ranbir Singh and Priyanka Khimani, appearing for petitioners.

The court noted that the procedure under Section 69 (A) of the Information Technology Act and relevant provisions under criminal law, was not followed.

Gaganyaan: Four IAF pilots complete winter survival training at Russia centre

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
BENGALURU, MARCH 12

FOUR INDIAN trainee astronauts preparing for Gaganyaan — India's first manned space mission — have completed their winter survival training programme as part of a year-long astronaut training course conducted by the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Russia.

The training included survival techniques required in the event of the crew landing in a cold zone and was "successfully overcome by representatives of the Indian

Space Research Organisation," the training centre has reported. The winter survival course was conducted from February 12 to March 6 for trainee and experienced astronauts training for future missions.

The programme involved "theoretical and practical exercises on tactics of behaviour and actions after landing a descent vehicle in extreme conditions using equipment on board a spaceship as well as improvised material," according to the training centre.

The trainees were also put through a two-day practical survival test by a team comprising in-

structors, doctors, psychologists and other specialists. The centre has reported that specialists who conducted the tests found a "high level of motivation and skill among the Indian candidates".

"They did not get the most favourable weather conditions. On their training days, it was raining, there was wet snow, an ice crust that formed was melting underfoot," the centre noted. Despite the difficult situation, they completed all the tasks under the guidance of specialists, it observed.

The training programme involves looking for a safe place to organise a camp, building two

types of shelters, conducting radio exchanges as per regulations, sending out fire signals, tending to injured persons and getting rescued by a helicopter.

The four Indian Air Force test pilots began their basic training for space missions at the centre on February 10.

The four pilots will return to India for mission-specific training after a year at the Gagarin Centre. "Generic astronaut training is happening in Russia. Russian systems are different from that of the Gaganyaan. Mission-specific training will happen in India," officials have said.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

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Do's

- Practise frequent hand washing. Wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol based hand rub. Wash hands even if they are visibly clean
- Cover your nose and mouth with handkerchief / tissue while sneezing and coughing
- See a doctor if you feel unwell (fever, difficult breathing and cough). While visiting doctor wear a mask/cloth to cover your mouth and nose
- If you have these signs/symptoms, please call State helpline number or Ministry of Health & Family Welfare's 24X7 helpline number 011-23978046

Don'ts

- Have a close contact with anyone, if you're experiencing cough and fever
- Touch your eyes, nose and mouth
- Spit in public
- Throw used tissues into closed bins immediately after use
- Avoid participating in large gatherings

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Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India's 24X7 control room number +91-11-23978046 or email at ncov2019@gmail.com