

Cheque-Bounce Cases

SC Gives Rajpal Yadav Last Chance Of Two Weeks To Deposit Rs 2 Cr

NEW DELHI, SEP 15: The Supreme Court on Tuesday gave the last opportunity of two weeks to actor Rajpal Yadav to come out with a concrete proposal to pay an outstanding amount to a private firm and directed him to deposit Rs 2 crore with the apex court registry.

The complainant alleged that, in 2013, Yadav tendered seven cheques of Rs 1.05 crore each towards settlement of financial assistance of Rs 5 crore to him for a film in 2010. The cheques were dishonoured, the firm further alleged.

According to the complainant, an agreement between the parties in 2012 stated that Yadav, his wife and their company had agreed to repay around Rs 11 crore, including interest.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joy-malya Bagchi and V Mohana extended his exemption from surrendering till October 5.

On July 10, the Delhi High Court upheld the conviction of Yadav in multiple cheque-bounce cases and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment.

"He is perfect at doing drama but this court. Earlier orders of the court have not been complied with," the bench said, adding that Ya-



day's conduct does not inspire confidence but a last opportunity will be granted to him.

Appearing for Yadav, senior advocate P S Patwalia sought two weeks to come up with a concrete proposal to pay the outstanding amount and said he will be depositing Rs 2 crore to prove his bona fide.

Patwalia said he has spent four-and-a-half months in prison and Yadav's friends in the entertainment industry have to bail him out.

Senior advocate Ajit Sinha, appearing for complainant, M/s Murali Projects Pvt Ltd, said they are concerned with the money as Yadav has not honoured his commitments.

The bench posted the matter for further hearing on October 5.

On September 8, the top

court issued notice on Yadav's plea and said that subject to deposit of Rs 5 crore with the registry of this court, there will be exemption from surrendering.

On July 10, the high court refused to condone the "extraordinary" delay of 1,894 days, or more than five years, in filing petitions against the conviction and directed Yadav to pay more than Rs 1 crore to the complainant in each of the seven complaints.

It, however, clarified that around Rs 2 crore already paid by the actor shall be adjusted, and kept the sentence in abeyance for two months to give Yadav time to approach the appellate court against the decision.

In the 108-page verdict, the high court observed that Yadav repeatedly failed to honour his undertakings on

making payment to the complainant, M/s Murali Projects Pvt Ltd, and while the court made "earnest efforts" to facilitate an amicable resolution in the matter, the actor categorically refused to make any further payment.

The court rejected Yadav's plea seeking release on probation and held that there was no infirmity in the lower court's order of sentence.

It said that out of the fine amount, Rs 1.04 crore shall be given to the complainant and Rs 25,000 to the state in each case.

The court also ordered the actor's wife, Radha Rajpal Yadav, to pay around Rs 5.5 lakh as fine to the complainant in each case.

In default of payment of the fine, she shall undergo simple imprisonment for a period of three months, it added.

The high court's verdict came on revision petitions filed by Yadav and his wife challenging the 2019 decision of a sessions court, which upheld their conviction by a magisterial court in the cheque-bounce cases in April 2018.

The magisterial court had sentenced the actor to six months' imprisonment, which was subsequently reduced to three months. (Agencies)

Bihar floods: Rahul urges govt to carry out relief, rescue operations with full promptness

NEW DELHI, SEP 15: In the wake of devastating floods in Bihar, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday urged the government and the administration to carry out relief and rescue operations with full promptness and ensure that essential aid reaches the affected families as soon as possible.

The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha also appealed to Congress workers to step forward and provide all possible assistance to the affected people.

"The loss of lives due to the devastating floods in Bihar is extremely heartbreaking. I express my deepest condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones in this disaster. My sympathies are with all those affected by this tragedy," Gandhi said in a post in Hindi on X.



"I appeal to Congress workers to step forward and provide all possible assistance to the affected people. At the same time, I expect the government and administration to carry out relief and rescue operations with full promptness and ensure that

essential aid reaches the affected families as soon as possible," Gandhi said.

Nearly 50 lakh people in 15 districts of Bihar have been affected by floods as heavy rain over the past few days further swelled rivers already flowing above their danger

marks, officials said on Monday.

The state has recorded 112.7 mm of rain so far in September, around six per cent above normal, the local weather office said.

An official said incessant rain in the catchment areas of rivers flowing from Nepal into Bihar, coupled with heavy rainfall, has caused several rivers and streams to flow above their danger marks.

According to the Disaster Management Department, 49.67 lakh people in 15 districts have been affected by floods.

The affected districts are Patna, Bhojpur, Saran, Vaishali, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Buxar, Samastipur, Munger, Katihar, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Purnea, Madhepura and Araria. (PTI)

80 per cent drugs in Punjab now coming from BJP-ruled states: Kejriwal

NEW DELHI, SEP 15: AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday slammed the BJP, claiming that while the Punjab government has curbed 80 per cent of the drugs coming into the state from Pakistan, the bulk of the supply is now coming from BJP-ruled states.

The Aam Aadmi Party government in Punjab has faced criticism from the BJP over drug abuse in the state, with several videos on the issue going viral on social media in recent days.

"Today, only 20 per cent of the drugs come from Pak-



istan. Today, 80 per cent of the drugs are coming from BJP-ruled states -- Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, UP and Delhi. Has the BJP failed to stop the drug trade in its own states, or does it not want to

stop it? Their government has been in power in Gujarat for 30 years, and the highest drug trade is there," Kejriwal said in a post on X in Hindi.

Kejriwal said that when the AAP government was

formed in Punjab in 2022, 80 per cent of the drugs entering the state were coming from Pakistan.

"The AAP government installed an anti-drone system to control the movement of drugs from Pakistan," he said.

The former Delhi chief minister also claimed that drugs enter India through Mundra Port in Gujarat and said stopping such trafficking was the responsibility of the BJP-led central government. He urged the BJP to "learn" from Punjab and eliminate drugs in its other states as well. (Agencies)

India assures 'full support and assistance' to its nationals injured in recent incidents in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH, SEP 14 : The Consulate General of India in Jeddah on Monday assured its "full support and assistance" to Indian nationals undergoing treatment at a hospital in the coastal city after suffering injuries in the recent incidents in Jazan. In a post on X, the Consulate said it "re-

mains in close touch with the hospital authorities and the affected nationals & their family members."

Consul General Fahad Suri visited Indian nationals undergoing treatment at Dr Soliman Fakeeh Hospital in Jeddah, who were injured in the recent incidents in Jazan, the mission said.

"The Consul General enquired about their health and well-being, interacted with the patients, and assured them of the Consulate's full support and assistance," it said, without disclosing how many Indian nationals were among the injured.

According to Arab News,

two people were injured when a projectile launched by Yemen's Houthis struck Al-Tuwal governorate in Jazan on Saturday. However, the Indian Consulate did not confirm whether the Indian nationals being treated at the Jeddah hospital were injured in the same incident.

100 Per Cent Case Of Dismissal: SC On Suspended Punjab Police DIG's Bail Plea

NEW DELHI, SEP 15: "It's 100 per cent case of dismissal," the Supreme Court said on Tuesday while hearing the second bail plea of suspended Punjab Police DIG Harcharan Singh Bhullar who was arrested by the CBI in October last year in connection with a corruption case.

A bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joy-malya Bagchi and V Mohana posted the matter for hearing after four weeks, and also indicated that it would examine the bail plea after certain material witnesses had been examined.

"It's 100 per cent case of dismissal! You want dismissal now or later?" the CJI asked. Bhullar's counsel submitted that the complainant



and some material witnesses had not yet been examined, while statements of some were recorded.

Bhullar has challenged the dismissal of his bail plea by

the Punjab and Haryana High Court on August 10.

On April 10, the top court refused to entertain his bail plea in the case. It granted Bhullar the liberty to ap-

proach the high court for bail if the trial in the case did not begin within two months.

The complaint was filed in October last year. It alleged that Bhullar, who was posted as DIG of Ropar range, demanded illegal gratification through a private intermediary to secure favourable treatment in an FIR registered at Sirhind police station.

An FIR was registered and a trap was laid on October 16 last year in Chandigarh where a co-accused was apprehended while allegedly accepting Rs 5 lakh as part of the demanded bribe.

Bhullar was arrested in the case. Later in January, a special CBI court in Chandigarh dismissed his plea seeking bail. (Agencies)

First-ever Ganga Aarti held on River Thames in UK

LONDON, SEP 14 : Thousands gathered on the banks of the River Thames on Sunday for the first-ever Ganga Aarti, a ceremony of light and thanksgiving, in London.

'Ganga Aarti on the Thames: A Ceremony of Light' was organised by Chinmaya Mission UK in collaboration with the annual 'Totally Thames' festival, as part of the global celebrations marking 75 years of the charity. Recreating ethos of the world-famous aarti by the River Ganges in India, the event in London was conceived as a symbol of the life-giving flow of nature, knowledge and consciousness.

"For generations, communities have gathered on the banks of Ganga to offer light in gratitude for the river, for nature and for all that sustains life," said Brahmacharini Shripriya Chaitanya, Resident Teacher of Chinmaya Mission UK.

"Ganga Aarti on the Thames carries that same spirit, bringing people together in a shared moment of



gratitude, hope and unity," she said.

Chaitanya explained that for the Chinmaya Mission, the River Ganges also symbolises the flow of knowledge.

"Our founder, Swami Chinmayananda, dedicated his life to bringing the timeless wisdom of Vedanta -- one of the great philosophical traditions of Hinduism -- from the Himalayas into people's everyday lives. As we mark 75 years of Chinmaya Mission, this event is

also a celebration of that legacy: of knowledge, service and gratitude flowing beyond boundaries," she said.

The aarti, a traditional Hindu ceremony of gratitude involving large multi-tiered oil lamps, prayer, music and chanting, is an expression of reverence for the river and wider gratitude for Mother Nature.

"Reverence for nature is not simply an additional theme of Ganga Aarti. The ceremony itself is an expression of gratitude towards

Mother Ganga, honoured in Hindu tradition as sacred, life-giving and sustaining," said a Chinmaya Mission spokesperson.

The aarti by the Thames took place entirely on land, with nothing from the ceremony placed, poured or released into the Thames.

"The ceremonial lamps will remain on the riverbank rather than being floated on the water, allowing us to honour the spirit of the tradition while ensuring the Thames remains undisturbed.

Gurugram hit-and-run case: Sia releases another video; police add attempt to murder charge

GURUGRAM, SEP 15: The woman sports bike rider hit by a car in Gurugram has released a new video on social media, levelling serious allegations against accused Kalyan Bainsla, against whom attempt to murder charge has now been added, after he claimed it was merely an accident.

In the video, Shivani Chauhan, who identifies herself as Sia (insta handle rebelwheels_sia_), questioned why Bainsla did not stop at the scene after his car hit her motorcycle if he was truly distressed by the accident.

Gurugram police has now added the charge of attempt to murder (Section 109 of the BNS) in the case, which carries a provision for imprisonment up to 10 years.

Taking suo motu cognisance of the matter, Gurugram police had earlier registered a case at the Sector-56 police station. According to ACP (Headquarters) Abhilaksh Joshi, the FIR had

been registered against the accused driver under Section 281 (rash driving) and Section 125 (causing hurt) of the BNS.

Sia also alleged that she was targeted because she is a woman biker and there was a deliberate attempt to stop her. She claimed that her life could have been lost and the accused did not even attempt to check if she was safe following the accident.

Sia said that Bainsla did not stop for even a second after hitting her with his car. "I feel ashamed of such people. Women feel unsafe on the roads of Delhi and Gurugram," she added.

She said the two videos that have surfaced regarding the hit-and-run case constitute sufficient evidence. The accident was fully captured on camera, clearly showing the car hitting her bike and the driver fleeing the scene. People like him need to be "taught" how to drive, she added.



Additionally, a video captured by the camera of another rider following behind is also going viral.

The video captured by Instagram user 'youknowabhishek_' shows the car driver first signalling Sia to stop.

When she did not stop, the accused steered the car toward her sports bike and hit her from the side. The Instagram user said that he no longer feels that Gurugram is safe for women.

Sia, a resident of Delhi, has com-

pleted a course in fashion designing and also contested the 2022 municipal elections from Kalkaji. Her father Roshan Chauhan is a member of the Aam Aadmi Party.

"We have identified the accused, and three special teams have been formed to nab him," Joshi added.

Earlier, Sia had said she was riding her Aprilia RS 457 sports bike with a group of bikers on Golf Course Road on Sunday when the incident took place. She also alleged that the occupants of the car approached her and started misbehaving.

Siya also claimed that the occupants appeared to be intoxicated.

Bainsla admitted the accident was his fault but denied hitting her deliberately, saying he "lost control near a U-turn".

"About 20 to 22 motorcyclists sped past me. I didn't realise a young woman was riding one of the bikes; I

had simply asked her and the young man accompanying her to slow down. I did not hit them intentionally.

"She was turning without checking her mirrors; just then, near a U-turn, I lost control of the car, and the collision occurred. It was my fault; I admit it," he said.

Bainsla, a gym owner who describes himself as an international kabaddi player, said he fled the spot because he feared that the group of bikers would beat him and his family. He has also deactivated his Instagram account following the controversy.

"I was travelling with my family. I didn't make any gestures at the young woman; I simply asked her to ride her bike slowly. I admit that a collision occurred. Had I stopped right then, those people would have beaten us up," he told the media.

Bainsla said he was travelling with his sister and two cousins. (Agencies)