

Raju Irani produced in court, sent to judicial custody

Police fail to extract key information during remand



Bhopal: Raju Irani, a notorious criminal who had been absconding since 2017, was sent to 14-day judicial custody on Saturday following the conclusion of his police remand. Despite having six days for interrogation, police were unable to extract significant information from the suspect, who utilized various tactics to avoid questioning.

According to police sources, Irani repeatedly cited illness during his time in custody to stall the interrogation process. When he did speak, he remained evasive, portraying himself as a legitimate property dealer and plywood businessman. Despite his lack of cooperation, the police have managed to compile a comprehensive dossier detailing his associates, relatives, and criminal network.

Irani was brought to Bhopal from Surat on Jan 11

Irani was brought to Bhopal from Surat on January 11 by the Nishatpura police on a production warrant related to four pending criminal cases. Throughout his court appearances, he displayed an unusual level of confidence, frequently smiling and claiming he would be released soon. He maintained that his criminal reputation was merely the result of "the wrongdoing of others" damaging his public image.

The suspect showed no signs of remorse or concern during the proceedings. In a bold display of defiance, Irani was even heard advising and warning journalists to "be careful" with their reporting while in the presence of police personnel. With the remand over, the focus now shifts to the judicial process as the police continue to piece together his activities over the last seven years.

Assets linked to former RTO Constable Saurabh Sharma seized

I-T Department probes trust funding



Bhopal: The Income Tax Department has intensified its crackdown on Saurabh Sharma, a former RTO constable infamous for his alleged involvement in a high-profile case involving Rs 12 crore in cash and 10 kg of gold. In a major move, authorities have provisionally attached a massive school building under construction

in the Shahpura area. The property, valued at approximately Rs 7.5 crore, is officially registered under the Rajmata Shiksha and Samaj Kalyan Trust.

Investigations revealed that while Saurabh's mother, Uma Sharma, along with associates Chetan Gaur and Sharad Jaiswal, are listed as trustees, the trust was merely a "benamidar" front. The I-T department maintains that Saurabh Sharma is the actual beneficial owner of the asset. The property has been attached under the Prohibition of Unnamed Property Transactions Act, and "show-cause" notices have been served to the trustees. The department is now scrutinizing the funding sources for the construction and the trust's other financial dealings, specifically focusing on a franchise agreement made with a major school chain. Officials have hinted that more assets linked to the former constable are likely to be targeted in the coming days as the probe expands.

Youth ends life amidst claims of harassment by live-in partner

Bhopal: A 35-year-old laborer, Rahul Jatav, tragically ended his life in the Chhola Mandir area by consuming toilet-cleaning acid. The incident occurred at his residence in Chandbari Garib Nagar on January 15. Despite his family's immediate efforts to save him by rushing him to a nearby hospital, Rahul succumbed to the internal injuries on Saturday morning.

The deceased's brother, Deepesh Jatav, has leveled serious allegations against a woman Rahul had been dating for approximately 18 months. According to Deepesh, the relationship had soured recently, leading to a period of silence between the two. During this time, the woman allegedly began a campaign of harassment, sending threatening messages and making calls. Deepesh claims she pressured Rahul to live with her and threatened to file false rape charges if he did not comply.

The family maintains that this intense psychological stress drove Rahul to the extreme step. Deepesh has formally demanded a thorough investigation and strict action against the woman. The local police have registered a case and are currently examining mobile records and statements to determine the facts behind the tragedy.

Security alert: Rail parcel services to Delhi suspended for Republic Day

Bhopal: In light of the high-security arrangements for the upcoming Republic Day celebrations, Indian Railways has announced a temporary four-day ban on all parcel bookings destined for the Delhi region. The restriction, which applies to the Bhopal Division and all other railway zones nationwide, will remain in effect from January 23 to January 26.

According to official directives, the suspension covers major hubs including New Delhi, Delhi Junction, Hazrat Nizamuddin, Anand Vihar Terminal, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, and Adarsh Nagar Delhi. During this period, all parcel warehouse operations and packaging activities will be halted. The ban extends to leased SLR, AGC, and VPS units, effectively stopping both inward and outward parcel traffic. Passengers traveling to the capital will be permitted to carry only personal luggage in coach compartments. However, a small exception has been made for registered newspapers and magazines, which may be booked following strict commercial and security clearances. Railway authorities have urged traders and the general public to plan their shipments accordingly to avoid disruptions during this mandatory security lockdown.

Historic assembly on Jan 18: Joint Front calls for social justice

To demand constitutional rights and representation

Bhopal: At the call of the OBC-SC-ST Joint Front, a historic and massive public assembly will be held in Bhopal on January 18 to safeguard constitutionally guaranteed rights, equality, and social justice. The Front has alleged that the rights of OBC, SC, and ST communities in the state are being consistently weakened, while constitutional values and respect for national icons are being ignored.

Key Demands

The Front's major demands include 52% reservation for OBCs in proportion to their population, immediate filling of all SC-ST-OBC backlog vacancies, and the release of 13% OBC posts currently kept on hold. It also demanded withdrawal of actions against tribal officer Santosh Verma, IAS, restoration to his post, and removal of the stay on his promotion.

Other demands include reservation for SC-ST-OBC communities in the private sector and outsourced jobs, proportional reservation in promotions for OBCs, completion of backlog recruitment before declaring posts as drawing cadre, and implementation of the Old Pension Scheme. The Joint Front clarified that the

भोपाल चलो 18 जनवरी 2026
ओबीसी-एसटी-एसटी संयुक्त मोर्चा

आमसभा की प्रमुख मांगें

- ओबीसी को जनसंख्या अनुपात में 52% आरक्षण दिया जाए।
- ओबीसी की संतुलित वर्गीय, आर्थिक, अनासक्त आरक्षण के सिद्धि की तुरंत अनिवार्य कार्यादेशों को रजिस्ट्रार किया जाए, विभाग में वास्तविक पदों का एवं सीपी उनके प्रतीक के साथ दर्ज कराया जाए।
- एसटी-एसटी-ओबीसी के संयुक्त मोर्चा के अंदर सीपी युक्ति की जाए, जो यह सुनिश्चित करेगी कि एसटी-ओबीसी के संयुक्त मोर्चा के अंदर सीपी युक्ति का प्रयोग किया जाए।
- ओबीसी के 13% पदों को तुरंत अनिवार्य किया जाए।
- सिनेट और अन्य अन्य आयोगों में ओबीसी-एसटी-ओबीसी के जनसंख्या के अनुपात में आरक्षण दिया जाए।
- एसटी-एसटी-ओबीसी को भी जनसंख्या अनुपात में आरक्षण दिया जाए।
- (ओबीसी, एसटी, एसटी संयुक्त मोर्चा)

assembly is not against any class or community, but in support of those whose votes formed the government. A spokesperson said the gathering would remind the government that social justice is a constitutional right, not charity. The Front has appealed to citizens, youth, social organizations, and intellectuals across the state to participate with their families and make the assembly a strong democratic voice for equality and constitutional values.

AIIMS Bhopal study uncovers alarming link

Between sleep deprivation and cancer

Bhopal: AIIMS Bhopal has made a significant contribution to medical research by revealing a deep and often overlooked connection between sleep deprivation and cancer. A study led by Dr. Ashok Kumar, Professor in the Department of Biochemistry at AIIMS Bhopal, highlights how disrupted sleep patterns can increase the risk of cancer. The research was conducted in collaboration with Dr. Ashutosh Shrivastava of KGMU Lucknow, along with Manendra Singh Tomar and Mohit, and has been published in the international journal Sleep Medicine Reviews. Dr. Kumar was also honoured with the Best Paper Award in the Faculty category during the Fourth Research Day at AIIMS Bhopal.

Human body functions according to a biological clock: The study explains that the human body functions according to a biological clock, known as the circadian rhythm, which regulates sleep, hormones, metabolism, and immune response. When this rhythm is disturbed due to late nights, night shifts, or irregular routines, the immune system weakens, allowing cancer cells to grow and spread. Researchers also noted that cancer cells can manipulate the body's energy systems to evade immune defence.

Tension erupts after cattle remains found in Nariyal Kheda

Hindu outfits stage protest, demand swift action



Bhopal: Tension gripped the Nariyal Kheda area on Saturday after the remains of a cow were found, triggering strong reactions from local residents and Hindu organizations. The incident led to protests and a heavy police presence to prevent any escalation of the situation.

According to reports, residents of the Golghar ground in Nariyal Kheda, which falls under Ward 12, discovered the severed head and other remains of a cow on Saturday afternoon. As news spread, members of various Hindu organizations gathered at the spot and began raising slogans, demanding the immediate identification and arrest of those responsible.

Protest march organized: Following the discovery, Hindu organizations carried the cattle remains in a procession from Golghar, Nariyal Kheda, to the Gautam Nagar police station in Old Bhopal. The protest continued for nearly two hours, during which demonstrators reiterated their demand for strict action against the culprits.

On receiving information about the incident, TI Mahendra Singh Thakur reached the spot along with his team. Senior police officers and additional police forces were also deployed to maintain law and order. A large contingent of police remained stationed outside the police station as a precautionary measure. Police officials stated that the situation is under control and assured that a thorough investigation is underway to identify those involved in the incident.

Interstate ATM heist gang busted

Kohefiza Police arrest five with gas cutters



Bhopal: In a major breakthrough, the Koh-e-Fiza police have dismantled a sophisticated interstate gang specializing in ATM robberies. Acting on a tip-off, a special team led by DCP Abhinav Choukhe intercepted five suspects hiding under the Green Acres Bridge on Airport Road. The group, hailing from the Mewat and Nuh regions of Haryana and Rajasthan, was caught plotting a heist in the Laighati area.

The suspects—identified as Shahabuddin, Shokul, Wakil, Mausam, and Naseem—confessed to using black spray paint to blind CCTV cameras before cutting open ATM chests. Investigations revealed the gang's involvement in previous robberies across Neemuch (MP) and Bengaluru.

They reportedly used untraceable SIM cards and frequently switched routes to mislead law enforcement. All five have been booked under relevant sections of the BNS and are currently in police remand as authorities probe their wider network.

Railway police recover stolen property

By Special Correspondent

Bhopal: The Madhya Pradesh Government Railway Police (GRP) have achieved a significant breakthrough in ensuring the safety of rail passengers and protecting railway property, arresting accused persons in two major theft cases and recovering stolen assets worth more than Rs 24 lakh. The success is attributed to sustained vigilance, effective teamwork and the use of technical inputs.



In the first case, handled by GRP Itarsi, a woman passenger reported the theft of her purse containing cash, a mobile phone and gold jewellery, collectively valued at Rs 8.22 lakh, while travelling by train. On receiving information, senior officers

ordered immediate action. A special team was constituted, which maintained close surveillance at the railway station and acted on intelligence inputs. Through analysis of

the crime scene, suspect behaviour and technical information, the accused were identified and detained. A search led to the recovery of stolen gold jewellery, cash and a mobile

phone worth Rs 5.46 lakh. In another major operation, GRP Gwalior (NG) exposed a railway property theft racket following sustained investigation, informers' inputs and intensive checking. The police seized cash, two drums of transformer power supply oil, 11 sacks of stripped aluminium wire and an iron scraping tool, collectively valued at Rs 19.13 lakh. Through these two operations, the GRP recovered property worth Rs 24.59 lakh in total. The actions reflect the strategic alertness of the police and their firm commitment to ensuring crime-free and secure rail travel, reinforcing public confidence in the Madhya Pradesh Police.

पंजाब नैशनल बैंक Punjab National Bank Circle Office, Arera Hills, Bhopal Ph. No : 0755-2550020

NOTICE (U/S 13(2) OF SARFESI ACT 2002)

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower: Shri Prafful Deshmukh has defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unopened and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name of the Borrower	Details of Properties/Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	Date of Notice	Date of NPA	Amount outstanding (As on 28.12.2025)
SHRI PRAFFUL DESHMUKH Add : 1) Flat no 300, 3rd Floor, Astha Apartment, Kaveri Grah Nirman Sahkari Maryadit, Gram- Banjari, Teh- Huzur, Distt Bhopal-462042 2) LIG-58, Jawahar Chowk, Saraswati Nagar Huzur, T.T. Nagar, Bhopal, M.P.-462003	All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Residential Flat No. T-300, Third Floor, "Astha Apartment", Constructed on plot No. 143-A, PHN. 39, Kaveri Grah Nirman Sahkari Sanstha Maryadit, Gram- Banjari, Tahsil- Huzur, Distt- Bhopal, Boundaries: East- House no 144-A, West - House No 142-A, North- Colony Road, South- House No 154-A	09-01-2026	29-12-2025	Rs. 993282.43 + further interest & other charges etc

The above Borrower(s) and their Guarantor(s) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Date: 17.01.2026, Place: Bhopal Authorised Officer, Punjab National Bank