

4 students went to ACB on bribe demand

2 Rizvi College Officials Trapped For Seeking ₹50K

Mateen Hafeez & Hemali Chhappia | TNN

Mumbai: Two officials from the unaided section of Rizvi College in Bandra were trapped accepting Rs 50,000 to help a student get admission in the Bachelor in Management Studies course. The college has 120 seats in the BMS course.

Vishwas Nangre Patil, additional commissioner of police, ACB, told TOI at least four students had approached the ACB through a journalist three days ago complaining about the demand for bribe. "The four belong to Bandra (East) and all of them wanted admission to the course. However, we made only one of them the complainant and his verification was done at our office," Patil said.

The student told police that he had applied online but could not get a seat in Rizvi. Later, he went to the college and met Qamar Hyder, deputy office su-

“The two persons accused of wrongdoing are just clerks and not professors as alleged, and were only scrutinizing forms before admission as per the university's norms”
M Z Farooqui |
RIZVI COLLEGE HEAD

perintendent. "Hyder asked him to pay Rs 50,000 for the admission and said he would be allotted a seat. We recorded the student's statement and sent him to the college for admission. We have all recorded conversations of the accused and the student talking about admission and payment of Rs 50,000. The money has been seized," Patil said. Later on Saturday, the ACB recovered another Rs 50,000 from Hyder's office during the panchama. ACB sources said they had contacted the income-tax department and the charity commissioner's office to seek information on any deposits.

Sources in the ACB said the complainant was sent to pay the fee armed with gadgets provided by the agency to record his conversation. The student was told to go to an office with the coupon where his admission would be cleared. "During the conversation between the complainant and the accused, we found the accused clearly said no receipt would be given for the payment of Rs 50,000," said an ACB officer.

THE RIZVI COLLEGE INCIDENT

THE SUSPECTS

Qamar Hyder, deputy office superintendent of Rizvi College, and office superintendent Tusi Rizvi, both attached to the unaided section, allegedly demanded a bribe of ₹50,000 from a student to give him admission in BMS

THE COLLEGE

The Rizvi Education Society was established by Akhtar Hasan Rizvi in 1982. The Rizvi College of Arts, Science & Commerce was started in 1985-86 and now has close to 2,000 students

Besides the three streams, it also runs unaided courses like BSc (computer science), BSc (information technology), Bachelor of Management Studies, Bachelor of Mass Media, BCom (accounting and finance) and BCom (banking and insurance)

The college has produced more than 100 first-class cricketers for Mumbai, many of whom have represented the country, like Ajinkya Rahane, Wasim Jaffer and Rohit Sharma

Mantralaya peon held for demanding ₹30K bribe from ration shop owner

Pradeep Gupta

The Thane Anti-Corruption Bureau has arrested three people, including a peon posted at Mantralaya, for accepting a bribe of Rs 30,000 from a ration shop owner. Thane ACB officials said someone recently filed a written complaint at Mantralaya, about the complainant's ration shop. The accused Kishor Shinde (42) then called up the complainant demanding a

This admission season has been rocky—Khalasa College principal Ajit Singh and his assistant Nikita Vaid were caught demanding a bribe from a student seeking admission to Class XII. The outcome of the Rizvi case remains to be seen as sources in academic circles say Singh is still managing 'affairs' at Khalasa "from behind the curtain".

Meanwhile, Rizvi College has denied any wrongdoing. In a response sent out to the

THE ACB TRAP

A student told police he applied online and later visited the college when he didn't get through. There he met Hyder who asked him to pay ₹50,000 for a seat. The ACB sent the student to pay the money and got him to record a conversation with the suspect where the latter is heard saying there will be no receipt for the ₹50,000 paid



THE KHALSA CASE

Ajit Singh, principal of Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Matunga and his assistant were arrested in May while accepting a bribe of ₹25,000 to admit a student to the science stream in Class 12 under the management quota. Besides the ₹25,000 paid during the trap set by the ACB, unaccounted cash worth ₹4 lakh was found in varying bundles and five blank signed admission forms were found from Singh's personal assistant Nikita Vaid's purse

ACB Helpline (022) 24921212 / 24922618

School rejigs Mon routine for late-night football final

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Mumbai: A school in Mazgaon has decided to change its timetable on Monday so that students can enjoy the World Cup final that will go on till the early hours.

Classes at St Mary's school (ICSE) in Mazgaon usually begin at 9am. "We will start two hours late so that students don't play truant or feel deprived of sleep after watching the final match," said a teacher. An email sent to parents states, "Since the World Cup

STUDENTS GET 'EXTRA TIME'

football final will be played in the early hours of Monday, it has been decided that school will function from 11.15am to 3.35pm for classes I to X."

Parents and students have appreciated the move. "Schoolchildren are extremely happy that the management is being considerate. If the school had not decided to start late, the children would have skipped classes. Now, they will definitely go to school and not miss out on their lessons," said Manasi Mehta, whose two children study in the Mazgaon school. "I am sure students will be more enthusiastic when they come to school on Monday," said school principal Fr Kenneth Misquitta.

Kamothe toll plaza panel will give report in 1 month, says CM

Concessions, If Any, May Have To Be Extended To Other Booths

Vijay Singh, Chittaranjan Tembhekar & George Mendonca | TNN

Mumbai: Chief secretary J S Saharia, who heads a three-member committee on the Kamothe toll plaza, set up by chief minister Prithviraj Chavan on Saturday, said it will suggest measures to avoid inconvenience to motorists. But if the committee proposes a discount to those living in a 5km periphery of the toll plaza, the same benefit will have to be extended to residents living at a similar distance from all toll posts in the state including six in the city — Mulund, Vashi, Bhandup, Airoli, Dahisar and Bandra-Worli Sea Link.

According to the new policy, people living within a 5km periphery can be given up to a 50% discount if they provide proof of residence. Also, the distance between two toll posts should be a minimum of 45km. Besides being close to the Vashi toll plaza, the Kamothe post is within 35km of the Airoli and Khalapur toll posts.

The toll at Kamothe is proposed to be Rs 90 for one-way and will be collected for more than 17 years to recover an investment of Rs 1,250 crore by the road developer. The earlier

TOLL POLICY IN CONFLICT WITH GROUND REALITY

> The new policy states distance between two toll posts on a single road should be 45km, and not less than 20km on adjoining roads

> It also says vehicles of people living within a five-km periphery should pay discounted rates

> Distance between Mulund/Airoli/Vashi toll posts and the upcoming Kamothe toll post is only 15-20 km

> The five toll nakas — Vashi, Airoli, Mulund, Bhandup and Dahisar — and one on Mumbai-Pune expressway do not have facilities like parking, etc recommended in the new policy. They also do not offer any discount to people living in a 5km periphery

> Contracts with toll collecting agencies at the five posts, the proposed Kamothe naka and the one on the expressway, were signed long before the new policy



> The committee set up by the chief minister on Saturday will study whether the Kamothe toll post can be scrapped or if residents living within a 5km periphery of the toll booth can be given a discount in toll payment according to the government's new toll policy announced four days ago

six-lane asphalt road has been widened and concretized to an eight-lane one.

On Friday Congress and NCP workers protested on the Sion-Panvel road to demand scrapping of the upcoming toll plaza. The road was blocked for over 90 minutes till the CM intervened and assured agitators that he will take a decision on the toll issue. In a meeting on Saturday, Chavan also informed Thakur that the earlier toll proposal on this road by

MSRDC in 2006 was rejected by the state government. However, in 2009, the PWD proposed setting up of a toll plaza on the 23km road. Thakur later told TOI: "I am happy with the outcome of my meeting with the chief minister, who has assured us that he too is against the setting up of a new toll plaza within 15km from the existing toll plaza at Vashi." Thakur said he was confident the committee will dismiss the proposed toll plaza altogether.

Several motorists under the banner of Western India Automobile Association, who take the Pune and Goa highways daily, have also demanded removal of the Vashi and Kamothe toll posts. They said vehicles which halted at Vashi wasted almost 10 lakh litres of petrol daily. Residents from other parts of Navi Mumbai, including Vashi, Nerul and Belapur, questioned why they were being left out from a toll exemption, if any.

'Vanishing' stents give patients new lease of life

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Mumbai: When 65-year-old Vinod Kalra, a heart patient from Noida, underwent a special scan of blood vessels a few months ago, there was a moment of disbelief. His son, Amit, said three stents placed in his father's arteries during a previous angioplasty were not too clearly visible.

This is, however, not a case of medical malpractice, but more of medical evolution.

"My father was among India's first patients to have a bio-absorbable stent placed," said Amit. Three years later, the stents have started dissolving.

In the battle between angioplasty and bypass surgery, will these stents provide an advantage to the former? Cardiologist Dr Ashok Seth, who has used over 800 such stents in 18 months, believes so: "If I needed a stent, it would be a bio-absorbable one." But cardiac surgeon Dr Ramakanta Panda disagrees: "Abroad, people are reimbursed for these stents, but not many are going for it." Bio-absorbable stents were launched

BIO-ABSORBABLE STENTS: PROS AND CONS

> Bio-absorbable stents are made of polylactide, a naturally dissolvable material that is commonly used in medical implants such as dissolving sutures

> They dissolve, leaving the artery free of metal
> Patients hence don't need blood thinners all their lives
> A series of metallic stents could affect contraction of vessels, but such questions

don't arise in absorbable stents
> But they are expensive—almost double of the drug-coated stents
> They are available only in limited sizes

in December 2012. About 100 patients like Kalra were part of a pre-launch study done between 2010 and 2012. Delhi-based cardiologist Dr Seth, the study's principal investigator, said all the patients are doing well. "I operated on 23 patients at Fortis Escorts Heart Hospital. We conducted scans in 15 patients and found the stents to be in various stages of absorption," he said.

Senior cardiologist Dr A B Mehta from Jaslok Hospital said the best part of the bio-absorbable stent is that it "leaves the artery looking normal." Since Abbot launched these stents in 2012, over 8,000

have been used across India. Dr Seth said for young patients, these 'vanishing' stents are a better choice. "Not having a metal in the body is always the better option," he said. In patients needing multiple stents, there has always been a worry that the blood vessel wouldn't contract smoothly. "Moreover, unlike patients with other types of stent, these patients don't need blood-thinning medication all their lives," said Dr Mehta.

The first bare metal stents arrived in India in the early 90s, with drug-eluting stents (that contain a drug) making their debut a decade later. The drug-coated

stents are most popular at Rs 75,000 to Rs 90,000 a piece in the private sector, the newest bio-absorbable variant cost double. "Cost is an issue," said a cardiologist. Are these stents the future of heart treatment?

Dr Matthew Samuel Kalarickel said he is happy with results. "All my patients are doing well, but the test would be to maintain these results for a long time," he added. Dr Kalarickel said when drug-eluting stents made their debut in the early 2000s, cardiologists hailed it as the final say in heart treatment. "But a few years down the line, we discovered patients were developing restenosis or narrowing of the blood artery," he said.

Dr Panda doesn't believe bio-absorbable stents offer any significant advantage over bypass surgery. "They are prohibitively expensive and out of reach for 99% of patients because most times you need more than one stent," he said. He also has a medical concern: "These stents take 18-24 months to dissolve. There is always a 20% chance of restenosis which occurs within six months. This is a major difficulty."

Art-house films get a home at Deepak Talkies

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Lower Parel's Deepak Talkies might soon be to cinema buffs what Prithvi theatre is to theatre lovers. This Friday, in the presence of filmmaker Vikramaditya Motwane, the recently refurbished single-screen welcomed the Matterden Center for Films and Creation—a first-of-its-kind film centre in the city—to its premises. The 85-year-old Deepak theatre has now permanently offered its evening slot to this centre for the purpose of screening inspiring foreign and art-house movies.

"Mumbai loves cinema, mostly the same kind of cinema which gets a lot of space," says Varun Verma, director of the centre. "But a different, new kind of cinema needs a home," adds Verma, citing the Lincoln Film Center in New York that has contributed in creating thoughtful audiences.

So, to begin with, one film will be released every week at the theatre with a daily evening show. The first collection of films titled 'A Line of Classics for Mumbai' includes Kurosawa's 'Rashomon', considered one of the most important works, De Sica's 'Bicycle Thieves' and Buster Keaton's 'The General'.

At the launch, Motwane shared that he discovered classics either at film festivals or on DVDs. "However, the fun of discovering a film in a theatre with like-minded people is magical," said Motwane. "I love the fact that Matterden

screen is just magical." The idea came up when visitors at the new Deepak Talkies, which was launched in February 2014, saw the British ambience and suggested it would be ideal for hosting art-house cinema and film festivals. A bit of research led the owner of Deepak, Punit Shah to Enlighten Society, an arts media NGO committed to disseminating and preserving all forms of the arts. Overwhelmed by his decision to offer the premises, and wanting to turn their passion into business, the NGO launched Matterden. "As opposed to a regular theatre, which is just for consumption of cinema, this centre would be a place for creation of it," says Shah, adding that the abundance of open space would be conducive to



SHOW TIME: This Lower Parel theatre will release one famous movie every week

CFC is doing this because for a new generation to discover 'Bicycle Thieves' or 'Rashomon' or for that matter any other contemporary film in a darkened theatre on a large

writers, directors, producers and lyricists to discuss movie-making, programming and educate film students.

"People want to meet people, not only look at screens," says Verma, adding that holding workshops and discussions are also part of the centre's agenda.

Various filmmakers, international film studios and friends from the film and tech community have pledged their support for this centre. With their help, the centre will shift gears from September onwards towards advance screenings of Indian independent films, creation of a library of books on cinema and organising workshops by animators and filmmakers to create a culture of modern film viewing.

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40% seats confirmed in FYJC 2nd list admissions

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Mumbai: Out of the 53,602 students allotted seats to first year junior college (FYJC) on the second merit list, only 21,873 have confirmed their seats even as the second round of the admissions closed on Saturday.

The deputy director of education had extended the admission deadline for confirmation to Saturday due to heavy rain on Friday. But most colleges only had a handful of students coming in. "We had to keep the system on for an additional day but only three to four students came to confirm admissions," said a principal. By Saturday evening, 1,04,207 students had been admitted to various junior colleges.

While students have pinned their hopes on the third list to be announced on July 15, toll colleges have very few seats left, which will likely keep cut-offs high. "We have about 50 seats for the third merit list across the three streams. We are expecting cut-offs for the third list to drop only by 1% in the science stream and 0.5% in arts and com-

FACTS & FIGURES

- > 3rd merit list date | 5pm, July 15
- > Fee payment | 10am-3pm, July 16-17
- > Total no. of applicants | 2,03,378
- > Total no. of seats available | 1,76,809
- > 1st list seat allocation | 1,76,876
- > 2nd list seat allocation | 53,602
- > Students admitted so far | 1,04,207
- > Applicants without seats | 7,511

merce," said Jyoti Thakur, vice principal, Jai Hind College. At NM College, too, principal, Sunil Mantri is expecting cut-offs to drop marginally. "We have around 10 seats left, so cut-offs will be lowered by three to four points only," he said. The second merit list cut-off at NM College was 91.09%.

At HR College has only 20 seats left. "We had a few cancellations, possibly because of switches to the science stream. We were not expecting a third list," said principal, Indu Shahani.