Main accused in Banaskantha rape, conversion case held; hunt on for his 3 relatives

Press Trsus of India
Palanpur, August 24

THE MAIN accused in a case related to allegations of repeated rape and forced religious conversion of a 30-year-old pregnant woman in Gujarat's Banaskantha district has been arrested, a police official said on Monday.

Efforts were on to nab three more individuals wanted in the case, all relatives of the main accused, Akhtarshah Fakir, he said. Deputy Superintendent of Police CL Solanki said Akhtarshah Fakir was arrested after a case was registered at the local police station on August 20 against him, his brothers Arif Rajabshah Fakir and Iliyas Rajabshah Fakir, and their uncle Salimshah Fakir.

"The main accused, Akhtarshah Fakir, has been arrested, while efforts were on to nab the other accused (his two brothers and uncle)," Solanki said.

The woman, in her complaint, has alleged the four accused repeatedly raped and physically abused her last month and forced her to convert to their religion.

According to the FIR, the woman, who was five months pregnant then, has alleged that Akhatarshah Fakir, who was known to her estranged husband, developed proximity with her after claiming his grandfather could provide "tantric" remedies for her health problems.

She first filed a case of sexual assault against Akhtarshah Fakir and his relatives at the police station in April. Following the case, Akhatarshah Fakir and two others (both his cousins) were arrested, police had said.

The woman alleged that Arif and Iliyas Fakir, who were absconding in the case filed in April, threatened to kill her and kidnap her daughters, forcing her to file an affidavit before the Gujarat High Court for a compromise.

After the accused (Akhatarshah Fakir and his cousins) were released from jail on June 16, the woman and Akhtarshah Fakir moved to a village in Dhanera taluka, hoping they would live peacefully, according to the FIR.

She alleged that Akhtarshah Fakir continued to sexually assault and beat her up despite pregnancy and pressured her to contact other men over the phone. She further accused the four of forcing her to undergo religious conversion.

2023 ASSAULT CASE OF FOREST OFFICIALS

'Law king of kings': HC refuses relief to jailed AAP MLA

Aditi Raja
Vadodara, August 24



Dediapada MLA Chaitar Vasava

REFUSING RELIEF to AAP legislator Chaitar Vasava, the Gujarat High Court on Monday said an MLA must guide an aggrieved person towards lawful remedies, not stand accused of intimidating government officials into paying compensation to encroachers.

On June 23, an additional sessions court sentenced Vasava and several others in a case of assault, intimidation and extortion of forest department officials after a 2023 anti-encroachment drive in Narmada district. Vasava challenged this ruling and sought suspension of his sentence.

On Monday morning, Justice Vimal K Vyas dismissed the application by Vasava, MLA from Dediapada, and his personal assistant, Jitendra Vasava.

Holding that the conduct attributed to the AAP MLA was "prima facie" not befitting the office he holds, the court invoked a larger principle: "Law is the king of kings; nothing is mightier than law."

The High Court, however, granted relief to 19-year-old Rikesh Vasava, whose role, the prosecution said, was limited to allegedly bringing a firearm at Chaitar Vasava's instructions. The prosecution alleged that the weapon was used to fire in the air to threaten forest officials who were "made to stand in a line, abused and humiliated". Rikesh Vasava's sentence was suspended, and he was granted bail. Other accused, including Chaitar Vasava's wife Shakuntala, have also been granted bail.

The High Court noted that Chaitar Vasava "misused" his bail and "continued to involve himself in further offences for the benefit of his supporters". "An order suspending the sentence and enlarging the accused on bail may create a perception in the society that persons in power are beyond the reach of law and may commit the offences without fear and legal consequences. The court cannot remain oblivious to such a consequence," it said.

"It is well said that law is the king of kings; nothing is mightier than law, by whose aid even the weak may prevail over the strong," the court added.

The case is linked to the October 30, 2023, standoff in Narmada district's Bogaj village after an exercise by forest officials to remove encroachment on forest land. According to the prosecution, five forest officials were summoned to Vasava's home, made to stand in a line, abused and threatened to pay compensation for crops removed during the drive.

The prosecution alleged that the confrontation escalated when a firearm was brought and a shot was fired in the air. The state also alleged that government officials were coerced into paying Rs 60,000 as compensation to people who allegedly encroached upon forest land and planted crops.

Referring specifically to Chaitar's position as an MLA, the High Court said, "The applicant-accused number five, being a member of the Legislative Assembly, ought to have guided the aggrieved person to seek lawful remedies. Instead, as the materials on record prima facie reflect, he resorted to intimidation and coerced government employees into arranging and paying compensation to the individuals who had encroached upon the forest lands and undertaken unauthorized cultivation." The court added that such conduct "raises questions as to propriety in the context of the public office he holds".

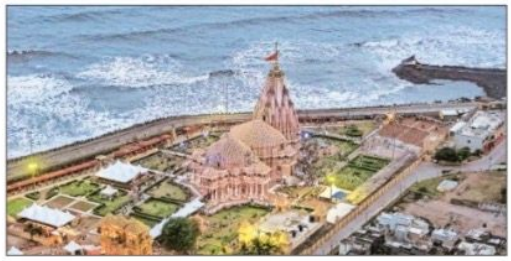
It said it did not find "any manifest illegality or palpable error" in the trial court's judgment, at least at the stage of considering the applications for suspension of sentence. The applications of Jitendra Vasava and Chaitar Vasava were then dismissed as "devoid of merit".

Kejriwal's show of support

The court's ruling comes days after AAP's national leadership made a show of support for Chaitar Vasava. On August 18, ahead of the High Court hearing, AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal and Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann visited the jailed MLA.

The meeting triggered political speculation over AAP's strategy ahead of the 2027 Gujarat election and the importance of Chaitar to the party's plans in the state's tribal belt. One reading was that Kejriwal had sought to discuss the party's future strategy with Chaitar. Another was that the jailed MLA might be considering leaving the party, prompting the AAP leadership to intervene.

Senior AAP leaders in Gujarat, however, have rejected the suggestion that Chaitar would abandon the party. Sources within the party said Kejriwal wanted to meet Chaitar to boost his morale, inquire about his treatment in jail and reassure his family.



Standing Tall

The Somnath Temple on the last Monday of the holy month of Shravan, in Gir Somnath on Monday. PTI

Haryana murder accused held in Gujarat

Hisar: The prime accused in the murder of a dairy operator here was arrested from Junagarh in Gujarat, police said on Monday. Ramesh Sharma, who was carrying a reward of Rs 50,000, was nabbed along with his two associates, police said.

Jeevan Kundu was killed on August 4 when some people allegedly attacked him in Surya Nagar in Hisar district. Kundu was on his way to dispose of dung when a group of about 10-12 youths from the neighbourhood surrounded him. They beat him up with sticks and clubs. PTI

Shot dead in US, NRI with Mehsana roots had taken over shop only a week ago

Express News Service
Ahmedabad, August 24

SURESH PATEL, the 56-year-old man from Gujarat who was allegedly shot dead by an unidentified person on the night of August 20 inside his store in Jackson, Tennessee, United States, was a native of Akhaj village of Mehsana district and had taken over the liquor store only a week ago, said a local leader from his home village on Sunday. Patel's 19-year-old daughter was present at the store when the alleged incident took place, the leader added.

A resident of Akhaj village in Mehsana taluka, Dinesh Suthar said, "Suresh Patel had migrated to the United States years ago. He was the youngest of the six brothers. His parents are no more and all other family members are settled in the US."

Suthar, a sitting member of Mehsana Taluka Panchayat from Akhaj village, added, "Suresh was running a store in Chicago and he had started a new liquor store in Jackson city just seven days back.

The incident took place at the time of closing the store. Since his entire family is in the US, the funeral rites will be carried out there."

According to WBBJ7, a West Tennessee news channel, Patel had taken over 'Ridgecrest Cellars Wine & Spirits' as its new owner last Monday. The shooting is still under investigation, the channel said on Sunday.

As per a release on the Facebook page of City of Jackson Police Department on Saturday, the incident happened on August 20. "At approximately 9:00 p.m., officers responded to a call regarding a robbery and shooting in the business. According to witnesses, an unidentified suspect entered the establishment, brandished a weapon, and demanded cash from the employees. After taking the money from the employee, the suspect fired multiple shots, striking one of the store employees. The victim was found deceased and identified as Suresh Patel, a 56-year-old man," it stated.

"The suspect was described as a black male wearing a gray hoodie, jeans, and black work-style boots. His face was covered with a paintball-style mask, and he was seen fleeing the business in a white sedan."

CM invites Canada-based Gujarati entrepreneurs to invest in state

Ahmedabad: Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has invited Gujarati entrepreneurs from Canada to invest in their home state and participate in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2027, saying Gujaratis can create an atmosphere of Gujarat wherever they live.

Patel, who is on a visit to the US and Canada to invite global industrialists, investors and technology leaders for the summit, arrived in Toronto on Sunday after completing the US leg of his tour, according to an official release on Monday.

Addressing a reception organised by Friends of Gujarat-Canada, Patel said Gujarat had emerged as the growth engine of India after two decades of uninterrupted development under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "When Gujarat was carved out as a separate state from Maharashtra in 1960, even basic facilities such as roads, electricity and water were inadequate. Gujarat has come a long way from that situation." PTI

2 drown in bid to save friends in Bhavnagar check dam

Bhavnagar: Two teenagers drowned in a check dam in Gujarat's Bhavnagar district while trying to save their friends on Sunday, police said.

An official said a group of four friends was picnicking at the check dam in the Mathavada village of Talaja taluka.

"At 10.30 am, two members of the group started drowning. Their friends Tushar Shiyal (17) and Milan Shiyal (19) tried to rescue them. While the two others were saved, Tushar and Milan drowned," said an official at Alang Marine police station. PTI

COEP Technological University Pune
(Formerly College of Engineering Pune)
Shivajinagar, Pune-411005.
Ph. (020) 25507000/9, FAX: (020) 25507299 Web: www.coeptech.ac.in

Admission Notification for COEP Technological University level ACAP (SPOT) Round

It is notified to all aspiring candidates that COEP Technological University level ACAP (SPOT) Round for **Admission to First Year B.Tech. Programmes, Direct Second Year B.Tech., Direct Second Year B.Tech. Programmes for Working Professionals, First Year of B. Planning, First Year of M.B.A Programmes** will be conducted for seat(s) remaining vacant after the last date of reporting of last CAP round and till the cut-off date as notified by the State CET-CELL Mumbai for the current Academic Year 2026-27.

Applications are invited for ACAP (SPOT) Round at COEP Technological University, Pune, for AY 2026-27. Detailed notification and link for application form is available on COEP Tech. website : **https://www.coeptech.ac.in/admissions/**

Date: 25/08/2026 sd/- Registrar

AMOL MINECHEM LIMITED
(Formerly known as AMOL DICALITE LIMITED)
CIN : U14100GJ1979PLC003439
Registered Office / Corporate Office: 401, 'Akshay', 53, Shrimali Society, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380 009 (India)
Phone : +91–79–40246246, 26560458 • Fax : +91-79-26569103,
E-mail: info@amolminechem.com • Website: www.amolminechem.com

NOTICE

Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to Investor Education & Protection Fund (IEPF) Authority

Members as hereby informed that in accordance with the provisions of Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("the Rules"), Equity Shares of the Company, in respect of which dividend has not been paid or claimed by the shareholders for 7 (Seven) consecutive years or more are required to be transferred by the Company to IEPF Suspense Account of the Government of India.

As per the records of the company, unclaimed/unpaid dividend for the financial year 2018-19 shall be transferred to IEPF as required under Section 124(5) of the Companies Act, 2013. Adhering to the various requirements set out in the Rules, the Company has communicated individually to the concerned shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Suspense Account under the said rules for taking appropriate actions. The company has also uploaded the details of such shareholders on its website. Shareholders are requested to check the details on www.amolminechem.com

Shareholders are requested to claim the unclaimed / unpaid dividend amount(s) on or before September 15, 2026 failing which shares will be transferred to IEPF authority at appropriate date.

Shareholders may note that both the unclaimed / unpaid dividend and the shares transferred to IEPF Authority / Suspense Account including all benefits accruing in such shares, if any, can be claimed back by them from IEPF Authority after following the procedure prescribed by the Rules.

The concerned shareholders, holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Suspense Account, may note that the Company would be issuing duplicate share certificates in lieu of the original share certificates held by them for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF Suspense Account as per Rules and upon such issue, the original certificates which stand registered in their name will stand automatically cancelled and be deemed non – negotiable. The shareholders may further note that the details uploaded by the Company on its website should be regarded and shall be deemed to be adequate notice in respect of issue of the duplicate share certificate by the company for the purpose of transfer of shares to IEPF Suspense Account pursuant to the Rules.

In case the shareholders have any queries on the subject matter and the Rules, they may contact the company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent at Link Intime India Private Limited 5° Floor, 506 to 508, Amarnath Business Centre-1 (ABC-1), Besides Gala Business Centre, Off. C.G. Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009, Tel: 079-26465179, E-mail: iepf.shares@linkintime.co.in

For, Amol Minechem Limited
(Formerly Amol Dicalite Limited)
Sd/-
Shreyas C. Sheth
Chairman & Managing Director
DIN: 00009350

Date : 24-08-2026
Place : Ahmedabad.

Bandhan Bank
Regional Office: Netaji Marg, Nr. Mithakhali Six Roads, Ellisbridge, Ahmedabad-6. Phone: +91-79-26421671-75

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorized Officer issued demand notice to the borrower(s) on the date mentioned against the account stated hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notice. The borrower(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular the borrower(s) that the undersigned has taken the symbolic possession of the property described herein below under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned against the account. The borrower(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank for the amounts, interest, costs and charges thereon. The borrowers'/mortgagors' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of borrower(s), Guarantor & Loan Account No.	Description of the property mortgaged (Secured Asset)	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Symbolic Possession Notice	O/s Amount as on date of Demand Notice
Mulji Arjan Chudasama Smt. Manishaben Muljibhai Chudasama Mr. Ramesh Chunilal Gohil(Guarantor) 20002120002169	All That Piece Or Parcel Of Plot No. 6, Admeasuring About Area 96.00 Sq. Mtr., Revenue Survey No. 961 Paiki, 962 Paiki, City Survey No. 509 Paiki, Vagheshwari Puram Society, Una Highway Raod, City: Kodinar, Taluka: Kodinar, District: Junagadh, Gujarat.,372720. And Same Bounded As Under: North: Plot No.5, East: 7.50 Meter Road, West: Adjoinning Survey No. 962 Paiki Land, South: Plot No.7	April 30, 2026	August 19, 2026	Rs.8,10,388.27 (As on April 08, 2026)

Place: Junagadh
Date: August 25, 2026
Authorised Officer
Bandhan Bank Limited

CSB Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE ON AUCTION OF PLEDGED GOLD ORNAMENTS

The borrower/s in specific and interested bidders in general, are hereby informed that on account of non-repayment of the Banks due by the borrowers as under despite the payment notice and recallisation notice issued by the Bank, the gold ornaments pledged with the bank security by the respective borrowers for the loan availed by them will be sold in public auction on "as is where is" and "non-recourse" at branch premises on **01st October 2026 @ 10.30 AM.** The auction may be adjourned to any other later date at the discretion of the bank upon publication of the same in the Bank's notice board. The borrowers are hereby further inform that the gold ornaments will be disposed of by public auction/e-auction, if the auction is not successful, and if there is a further balance to be recovered thereafter, legal action will be initiated against the borrower/s for recovery of the balance amounts due to the bank. "In case of deceased borrower, all conditions will be applicable to legal heirs."

S. No.	Auction Center CSB Branch	Account Name	Client ID	No.of Acc.	Bal. Outstanding as on 20.08.2026	Weight (grams)
1	Bhavnagar	Jeni Kiranbhai Rathod	04797651	001	45,139.58	10.40
2	Rajkot	Tank Harshal Vinodbhai	10110014	004	10,88,222.62	118.10
3	Botad	Mithapara Vijaybhai Nabubhai	10228321	002	3,58,178.10	37.07
4	Surat - Ring Road	Kosambiya Vinay Natvarbhai	10125320	002	4,68,959.03	47.70
5	Mehsana	Patel Nikir Rameshbhai	04801845	002	11,08,633.15	102.53

For more details/account wise information borrowers/interested bidders may contact respective branches and for participating in the auction
Gujarat | 24.08.2026
Sd/- Authorized Officer, CSB Bank

SAVITRIBAI PHULE PUNE UNIVERSITY
(Formerly University of Pune)

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT LAW OFFICER POST

Savitribai Phule Pune University is inviting online applications from eligible candidates to fill the post of Assistant Law Officer (Group B) in the Legal Cell from the university fund for a fixed period on contract basis. All details regarding qualifications and other related information is available on the University website.
http://admin.unipune.ac.in/recruitment.
Applications are open from 27/08/2026 to 16/09/2026.
Advt. No.: 18 **[Prof.(Dr.) Prafulla Pawar]**
Date: 25/08/2026. **Offg. Registrar**

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.
CIN : L65910KL1992PLC006623
Registered Office: W - 4/ 638A, Manappuram House, P.O. Valapad, Thrissur - 680 567, Kerala, India

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledgees,in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/09/2026 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any)will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

BHARUCH, ANKLESWAR BHARUCH, 0114640700035529, 5367, 5454, 5466, AIE MATA ROAD, 0117150710042286, MAHIDHARPURA, 0117100710035628,

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders)by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 7903654576.

Authorised Officer
For Manappuram Finance Ltd

EXPRESS
Careers

भारतीय कंटेनर निगम लिमिटेड
CONTAINER CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD.
भारत सरकार का उद्यम उपक्रम : A Navratna Undertaking of Govt. of India
C-3, Mathura Road, Opp. Apollo Hospital, New Delhi-110076

INDICATIVE RECRUITMENT NOTICE
(Employment Notification No. 05/2026)

Container Corporation of India Limited (CONCOR), a "Navratna" CPSE under the administrative control of Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India, invites applications through ONLINE Mode for recruitment to the following posts in Executive and Supervisory cadre, as per details given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Post / Pay-scale	Category						Age Limit
		SC	ST	OBC-NCL	EWS	UR	Total	
1.	Management Trainee (C&O) / ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	04	03	04	02	12	25	18-28 years
2.	Management Trainee (Accounts)/ ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	01	01**	03	-	04	09*	18-28 years
3.	Management Trainee (Accounts)/Compliance / ₹50,000-3%- 1,60,000	*Includes one post for Management Trainee (Accounts)/Compliance						18-28 years
4.	Management Trainee (Technical)/ ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	01	-	01	-	02	04	18-28 years
5.	Management Trainee (MIS)/ ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	01	-	01**	-	01	03	18-28 years
6.	Management Trainee (Civil)/ ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	-	-	01	-	01	02	18-28 years
7.	Management Trainee (P&A)/ ₹ 50,000-3%- 1,60,000	-	-	-	-	02	02	18-28 years
8.	Assistant Officer (C&O)/ ₹ 40,000-3%- 1,36,000	03	02	05	01	09	20	18-32 years
9.	Assistant Officer (Accounts) / ₹ 40,000-3%- 1,36,000	-	-	01	-	01	02	18-32 years
10.	Assistant Officer (Technical) / ₹ 40,000-3%- 1,36,000	01	-	01	-	02	04	18-32 years
11.	Assistant Officer (MIS) / ₹ 40,000-3%- 1,36,000	-	-	01	-	01	02	18-32 years
12.	Assistant Officer (Civil) / ₹ 40,000-3%- 1,36,000	01	-	01	-	02	04	18-32 years
**Backlog Vacancies						Total	77	

ONLINE Registration/submission of application will be from **31.08.2026, 10:00 AM** and closing (last) date will be **30.09.2026 upto 11:55 PM.** Interested candidates may visit CONCOR's website **https://www.concorindia.co.in→ HR & Career Section →Recruitment** and Result, for further details viz. qualification, experience, age relaxation, pay-scale, general instructions, etc. Further, corrigendum, if any, or any other notice shall be published on CONCOR website only.