

3 THE CITY

BSNL, CONTRACTORS SAY THEY NEVER TOLD THEM TO CONDUCT REPAIR WORK

Three labourers die after inhaling ‘poisonous fumes’ from optical fibre chamber in Nigdi

MANOJ MORE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

Three labourers died after inhaling “poisonous fumes” from a roadside optical fibre chamber in the Nigdi area of Pimpri-Chinchwad around 3 pm on Independence Day. However, BSNL and contractors who employed them said they had not asked the labourers to repair any fault in the optical fibre chamber.

The chamber was filled with sewage when the labourers entered it around 3 pm. After one of them entered the chamber, he felt dizzy. Two others immediately jumped in. However, they too felt uneasy and collapsed, PCMC fire officials said.

“There was no fault in the optical fibre chamber in Nigdi. And



The chamber the three workers had climbed into.

therefore we had not asked the contractors to get any fault repaired in that particular chamber,” BSNL Assistant General Manager Bharat Sonawane told The Indian Express.

After the incident, BSNL officials said that they had immediately got in touch with the contractors of Nigdi. “The contractors told us that they had

not asked any labourers to go to the spot and carry out any repair work,” Sonawane said.

To complicate matters further, BSNL officials said that all the three labourers belonged to three different contractors. “When we award a contract of any particular, it is given to one particular contractor. In this case, the three labourers belonged to three different contractors which took us by surprise. We are also trying to find out how this happened. As of now, we too have no clue,” Sonawane said.

Sonawane said from 2009 to 2021, this particular chamber had not reported any fault and therefore it was never opened. “From 2021 to 2015, whether it was opened or not, I have no idea as I was posted elsewhere. In any case, after the chamber is

opened, the labourers do not enter it immediately. They sit out for half an hour before entering it. All the labourers are given proper training on how to handle the chambers,” he said.

Ramesh Patil, one of the BSNL contractors, said, “Of the three labourers, one of them worked with me. Yesterday was Independence Day and therefore had given holiday to all labourers. I too don’t know how the labourer who worked for me reached there. The fourth labourer who did not enter the chamber said they were called to the spot by one of the labourers who died. If BSNL has any work, they always put information on the official group. In this case, no such thing happened. Yet the labourers went to the spot. We have no idea about this.”

Maresh Bansode, senior po-

lice inspector, said, “In all, there were four labourers who went to the spot. Three died. We inquired with the fourth who told us that they went as one of them had asked them to come to the spot...”

BSNL officials said they would be sending a report to their headquarters. Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Commissioner Shekhar Singh, said, “One of the workers first entered the optical fibre chamber to carry out some work. He felt uneasy and sought help. After that the other two workers also entered the chamber. They felt uneasy and collapsed.”

The PCMC commissioner said the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) had no connection with the incident as the optical fibre work

was related to the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. “Some misinformation is being spread that the labourers were employed with PCMC for clearing sewage chambers. That’s not true. The labourers did not work for PCMC. Similarly, PCMC does all sewage and drainage chambers clearance through automatic machinery.”

Anil Dimble, an PCMC fire official, said, “As soon as we got the information, we rushed to the site. We pulled out all the three workers from the chamber. While two of them seemed to have died after inhaling the poisonous fumes in the chamber, the third one looked unconscious. We gave CPR to all three. They were then taken to Lokmanya Hospital, where they were declared dead.”



DIVINE ASCENT

Govinda squads form a human pyramid during Dahi Handi celebrations at Suvarnayug Tarun Mandal, Shivaji road, on Saturday. Pavan Khengre

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**Omikara Assets Reconstruction Private Limited**
Corporate Office: Kohinoor Square, 47th Floor, N.C. Kelkar Marg, R. G. Gadkari Chowk, Dadar West, Mumbai – 400028. Contact No-9773406175.

[Appendix - IV-A]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable / Movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) read with 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
1. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower M/s. B. R. Udhog through its Proprietor Mr. Anilkumar Babul Runthala, Mr. Omprakash Babul Runthala & Mrs. Harsha Anilkumar Runthala that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged along with movables which is hypothecated to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken dated 02.07.2021 and 30.08.2024 by the Authorized Officer of Omikara Assets Reconstruction Private Limited Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and without recourse basis on 04.09.2025 at 11.00 am (last date and time for submission of bids is 03.09.2025 by 6.00 PM), for recovery of **Rs.13,28,55,759.97/- (Rupees Thirteen Crores Twenty Eight Lacs Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Nine and Paise Ninety Seven Only)** as on 31.05.2019 plus Interest and Other Expenses.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY		
Shop No. 1 Ground Floor, Shree Apartment "A", T.P. Scheme No. 1, New Pachha Peth, Solapur. Built up area 22.57 Sq. Mtrs.	Rs.	Rs.
	30,60,000/-	3,60,000/-
Shop No. 2 Ground Floor, Shree Apartment "A", T.P. Scheme No. 1, New Pachha Peth Solapur. Built up area 21.08 Sq. mtrs.	Rs.	Rs.
	28,80,000/-	2,88,000/-
Garage No. 1 Ground Floor, Shree Security ID Apartment "A", T.P. Scheme No. 1, New Pachha Peth Solapur. Built up area 21.42 Sq. Mtrs	Rs.	Rs.
	18,90,000/-	1,89,000/-
Garage No. 2 Ground Floor, Shree Security ID Apartment "A", Scheme No. 1, New Pachha Peth, Solapur. Built up area 21.23 Sq. Mtrs.	Rs.	Rs.
	18,00,000/-	1,80,000/-
Open Industrial Plot Bearing Gat No. 563/1/9/A/2/2 At Village - Kumbhari, Tal- South Solapur. 20000 Sq. Mtrs.	Rs.	Rs.
	4,86,00,000/-	48,60,000/-
Open Na Potential Land Bearing Gat No. 385/1/A/B/2/C/2/2 At Village - Kumbhari, Tal- South Solapur. 2000 sq. Mtrs.	Rs.	Rs.
	44,10,000/-	4,41,000/-

Date of E-Auction	04.09.2025 at 11.00 A.M to 1.00 P.M
Minimum Bid Increment Amount	Shop No.1. for 30,000/- Shop No.2. for 25,000/- Garage No. 1 for 10,000/- Garage No. 2 for 10,000/- Open Land 563 for 2,00,000/- Open land 385 for 10,000/-
Last date and time for submission of bid letter of participation/KYC Document/Proof of EMD :	03.09.2025 by 6:00 pm
Date of Inspection	29.08.2025 between 01.00 pm to 04.00 pm
Known Liabilities:	Not Known

This Publication is also a Fifteen Days' notice to the borrowers/co-borrower under Rule 8(6) read with 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer to the link provided in secured creditor website i.e., <http://omkaraarc.com/auction.php>, and the contact details of authorised officer Pratishtha Patel (Contact No. 9773406175 Email- pratiksha.patel@omkaraarc.com Bidder may also visit the website <http://www.bankauction.com> or contact service provider M/s. C1 India Pvt. Ltd", Tel. Helpline: +91-7291981124/25/26, Helpline E-mail ID: support@bankauctions.com, Mr. Bhavik Pandya, Mobile :88666 82937 E mail -Maharashtra@c1india.com. Intending bidders shall comply and give declaration under section 29A of insolvency and bankruptcy code 2016.

Date: 17.08.2025 Place: Solapur	Sd/- Authorized Officer Omikara Assets Reconstruction Pvt Ltd. (Acting in its capacity as a Trustee of Omikara PS 17/2020-21 Trust)
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Pune police use drones to conduct ‘mass raid’ on illicit liquor dens

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

PUNE CITY police identified illicit liquor dens or “hathbhatti” units at river beds of the Bhima river, and carried out “mass raids” on them in the early hours of Saturday.

Following the raids, police lodged as many as 16 offences against 16 persons who were found to be operating the “hathbhatti” units, stated a press release issued by deputy commissioner of police (zone 4) Somay Munde.

The press release mentioned that 23 police officers, 68 constabulary and a mobile surveillance van (MSV) integrated with drone was used for carrying out the “mass raids” on illicit liquor dens operating in the hilly region and river beds in the jurisdiction of zone 4 of Pune city police.

About 318 litres of “hathbhatti” estimated at Rs 31,630, along with 6.6 litres of country liquor worth Rs 2690 and chem-



About 318 litres of ‘hathbhatti’ worth Rs 31,630, along with chemicals worth Rs 36,735 were seized during the raids. Express

icals of Rs 36,735 used for making illicit liquor, was seized during the raids, the press release stated.

DCP Munde said “Drones were used extensively to scour the river bed particularly in

Lonikand area for identifying the Hathbhatti spots”.

Pune Police recently received advanced mobile surveillance vans (MSVs) equipped with drone facilities from the state government.

AFTER ALLEGED RAVE PARTY CASE

Eknath Khadse son-in-law booked for voyeurism

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

Pune City Police Friday booked NCP(SP) leader Eknath Khadse's son-in-law Dr Pranjal Khewalkar after an FIR was lodged on a complaint by a woman who alleged that that Khewalkar had taken obscene photographs and recorded videos of her without her consent.

Khewalkar, the husband of Khadse's daughter Rohini Khadse, the NCP (SP) women's wing chief, has been in jail after he was arrested along with four men and two women following a raid on July 27 on a flat in the Kharadi area where the police claimed a “rave party” was underway.

A police press release on Friday said the woman filed a complaint with the cyber police station that between 2022 and

2025, Khewalkar allegedly took her nude photographs and recorded videos of her videos at different locations without her consent and with the purpose of misusing them in the future.

The police lodged a fresh FIR against Khewalkar at the cyber police station under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Section 77 (voyeurism) and provisions of the Information Technology Act.

During the alleged rave party, the police claimed to have recovered 2.7 gms of substance suspected to be cocaine, 70 gms of substance suspected to be marijuana and other items, including ten cell phones, two cars, a hookah pot, liquor and beer bottles, all worth Rs 41,35,400, from the spot.

The FIR in the alleged rave party case was lodged against the accused at Kharadi police station under sections of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS)

Act and the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act (COTPA).

Khewalkar's lawyer later alleged that the police planted the contraband seized in this case for “political” reasons and that drugs were recovered from his possession.

The police said an analysis of Khewalkar's mobile phone and laptop revealed multiple videos of his alleged obscene and objectionable acts with women during and after the parties.

Rupali Chakankar, the chairperson of Maharashtra Women's Commission, wrote a letter to the Pune police police to investigate the matter thoroughly.

Khadse accused the Pune police of defaming his family by leaking private photos through a conspiracy after arresting his son-in-law.

Pune records 83% rain deficit for consecutive week

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

THE SECOND week of August saw Pune record a large rainfall deficit of 83 per cent. The district, which was expected to receive 160 mm of rainfall, has got just 23 mm. Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted the monsoon will pick up this week.

July and the first week of August have been exceptionally dry for Pune and most of Maharashtra. The first week of August saw Pune district report a rain deficit of 88 per cent. So far, the monsoon season had begun with favourable rain, but seemed to dip from July.

Cumulatively, Pune received 648.3 mm since the start of June

1, the normal being 657.5 mm. Most of the rain has been reported in June. The rains have been absent in Maharashtra for a long time with the state receiving just 81.3 mm of rainfall, as against the 150 mm it was expected to receive till August 1. Cumulative rain since the start of June has been 631 mm - the normal being 685 mm. Since the start of the monsoon, India has received 581 mm, which IMD said was almost the normal amount of rainfall the country is expected to receive.

The IMD said the monsoon is expected to pick up from Friday. Most parts of the state will likely see heavy to very heavy rainfall in parts of Marathwada, Vidharbha and other parts of the state.

MahaRERA launches a hybrid hearing system for complaints

ARYESH CHAKRABORTY
PUNE, AUGUST 16

THE MAHARASHTRA Real Estate Regulatory Authority (MahaRERA) will implement a hybrid mode of hearing complaints and non-compliance applications from August 18, 2025, in line with directions of the Bombay High Court.

The move follows a judgment delivered on July 24 by a division bench of the High Court, where it directed the authority to adopt hybrid hearings for urgent listings, circulations, production and other such reasons.

Under the new system, parties can choose between physical and virtual hearings for complaints, non-compliance applications, and urgent mentions (praecipes) for listing, circulation, or production. Parties

seeking a physical hearing will have to submit a written request through their login on the MahaRERA portal.

As part of the revised framework, filing complaints, replies, rejoinders, and submissions online will continue as per the existing procedure. The present system of publishing daily online cause lists, assigning fixed dates of hearing, and recording roznama entries will also be maintained.

In addition, mentioning of matters (complaints and non-compliance applications) will now be allowed both physically and virtually at the beginning and end of every session of the bench concerned with MahaRERA.

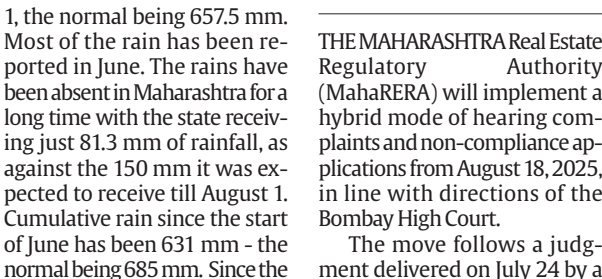
All orders passed by MahaRERA will henceforth carry a date and time stamp and remain accessible on the authority's official website.

Volunteers of Prison Ministry Pune unit to celebrate annual Feast Day on August 17

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PUNE, AUGUST 16

ON AUGUST 17, volunteers of the Prison Ministry in Pune will celebrate their annual Feast Day. Prison Ministry India's Pune Unit over the past 13 years has been working towards the reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners.

Rev Fr Roque Alphonso, Administrator, Diocese of Poona will celebrate the holy mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral. U T Pawar, former Deputy Inspector General of Prisons, Government of Maharashtra will be the chief guest at the Prison Ministry Sunday celebration event to be held at St. Patrick's school.



A PMI-Pune team delivers a TV to Shrunkala Upahar Griha--canteen run by inmates of Yerawada Open Prison. Express

Prison Ministry India is a national voluntary organisation. “The aim is to help prisoners pick up the bits and pieces of their broken life and instill hope in

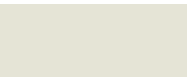
them,” Fr Wilfred Fernandes, Maharashtra State Coordinator of PMI said.

While there are around 8,000 volunteers across the country, the

Pune unit has 75 volunteers hailing from different walks of life.


According to Anthony Jacob in-charge of PMI - Pune, their work includes release of prisoners who have completed their sentence by payment of pending penalties and fines, rehabilitation of released prisoners, sponsoring education of children of prisoners and in-prison welfare.

While the library is being updated, NGOs also respond promptly to requests from jail authorities. PMI -Pune handed over 25 Bibles and according to Amira Dias Peter, Secretary, Maharashtra State unit of PMI, recently a TV unit was sent to the Shrunkhala Upahar Gruha- a canteen run by inmates of Yerawada Central Jail.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
As per prevailing statutory guidelines, Pawana Hospital will be discarding the following medical records:
* Inpatient Records : January 2021 to December 2021
* Medico-Legal Records : January 2014 to December 2014
Patients or their next of kin who wish to obtain copies of the above records are requested to contact the Medical Record Department between 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM on any working day, within one month from the date of this notice.

Medical Administrator
Pawana Hospital


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