Fire tragedy: Kashi tightens checks at coaching instts

Seven Sealed For Violating Guidelines

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: In the wake of the recent coaching centre fire incident in Lucknow, authorities in Varanasi on Tuesday launched an extensive safety inspection drive across coaching institutes, with several centres found violating safety and building norms.

Seven coaching institutes operating without approved building maps were sealed by the Varanasi Development Authority (VDA), while others were directed to vacate premises and rectify serious safety deficiencies.

Chief fire officer (CFO) Anand Singh Rajput, accompanied by officials from the fire department and the VDA, conducted inspections at coaching institutes in the Durgakund area on Tuesday morning. The teams carried out a detailed examination of fire safety measures, electrical wiring, entry and exit routes, and overall infrastructure.

During the inspections, officials also checked basements being used by coaching institutes. Wooden benches, air-conditioning units and several outdated or non-compliant installations were found in some premises. Institutes where serious shortcomings were detected were directed to vacate the premises and were subsequently sealed.

The VDA sealed coaching centres operating in buildings without approved maps or necessary permissions. Simultaneously, a similar inspection drive was launched in the Pandeypur area to verify compliance with safety regulations. Officials said coaching institutes have been instructed to ensure regular audits of fire safety systems, maintain functional emergency exits, provide adequate parking arrangements and install fire-fighting equipment in accordance with prescribed norms. The drive is expected to continue in other parts of the city in the coming days. At least 15 people, including five women, were killed and nine injured after a devastating fire swept through a commercial building in Lucknow's Aliganj on Monday afternoon, in one of the city's worst fire tragedies in recent years. At least six pets also died in the blaze.

The basement, ground and first floors housed a pet shop and veterinary clinic, while the second floor accommodated Learning Space library and Head Hopper Studio, a gaming and animation firm offering skill-development training to students.

Sanjay Gupta

Officials checking fire safety arrangements at a coaching centre in city, after the Lucknow fire tragedy

Five arrested after video of meat, liquor party on Ganga goes viral

Binay Singh | TNN

Varanasi: Months after 14 Muslim youths were arrested for allegedly organising an iftar gathering on a boat in the Ganga and dumping non-vegetarian food waste into the river, a fresh controversy has erupted after a video purportedly showing a group of men cooking meat and consuming alcohol on a boat in the middle of the Ganga went viral on social media.

Acting swiftly, police arrested five persons and seized the boat involved in the incident.

The viral video, which was widely circulated online, allegedly shows the accused cooking chicken, consuming beer and liquor, and serving non-vegetarian food during a gathering on a boat near Mammandir Ghat under the Dashashwamedh police station area. The message accompanying the video also claimed that the boat was linked to a nominated BJP councillor.

According to police, the arrested individuals have been identified as Deepak Kumar, Ajay Sahni, Arun Kumar Sahni, Anurag Nishad and Rahul Sahni, all residents of Varanasi and neighbouring Ramnagar.

Following the circulation of the video, police registered a case under Sections 196 and 299 of the BNS, relating to promoting enmity and acts allegedly intended to outrage religious sentiments.

Police said further investigation is underway to verify the circumstances surrounding the incident and ascertain the ownership and use of the boat featured in the viral video. In March, 14 Muslim youths had been arrested on a written complaint filed by BJP Yuva Morcha city unit chief Rajat Jaiswal. On April 1, a sessions court in Varanasi had denied bail to the accused, saying they appear to have intended to disturb social harmony. In May, the Allahabad high court granted bail to the youths, but observed that their act hurt the sentiments of the Hindu community.

On May 22, another controversy erupted after a video showing a youth allegedly consuming beer while bathing in the Ganga in Varanasi went viral on social media, triggering widespread outrage.

Acting on the matter, the Dashashwamedh police registered an FIR against an unidentified person and launched an investigation.

Gangster case accused shoots self in Azamgarh

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: A 27-year-old man accused in a gangster case allegedly died by suicide by shooting himself in an orchard in Azamgarh district on Tuesday morning, police said.

The deceased was identified as Nagendra Yadav, a resident of Keshavpur village under Jiyanpur Kotwali police station.

According to police, he went to an orchard in Jamuan village under the Mubarakpur police station area around 8.30am and allegedly shot himself in the temple with a pistol. He died on the spot.

After receiving information about the incident, police teams from Jiyanpur and Mubarakpur police stations, along with Circle Officer Sagari Anil Kumar Verma, reached the spot. A forensic team examined the scene and collected evidence before the body was sent for post-mortem examination.

According to reports, Nagendra was preparing to contest the upcoming Gram Pradhan elections. Police records show that nine cases, including those under the Gangster Act as well as theft and assault charges, were registered against him at Jiyanpur Kotwali and other police stations.

Jiyanpur Kotwal Vinay Kumar Singh said the matter is under investigation. Police are also probing how the deceased obtained the 9mm pistol used in the incident. Further action will be taken based on the postmortem report and other evidence collected during the investigation.

PNG network reaches 1L homes in Kashi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: In a major milestone for clean and safe energy adoption in Kashi, the city's Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network has expanded to one lakh households. To mark the achievement, GAIL (India) Limited felicitated its 100,000th domestic consumer at a special ceremony held at Shanti Kunj Apartment in Tarna.

Speaking at the event, Mayor Ashok Kumar Tiwari praised GAIL's efforts and urged residents to embrace PNG as a safe, convenient and environmentally friendly alternative to conventional fuels.

He said the modern gas pipeline facility not only ensures greater safety but also simplifies daily life for citizens. Highlighting the various development initiatives underway in Varanasi, the mayor said the government remains committed to public welfare and environmental protection. He added that several upcoming infrastructure projects would further accelerate the modernisation and development of Kashi.

On the occasion, the mayor presented a certificate and a special gift hamper to the 100,000th domestic PNG consumer. He also formally inaugurated gas supply at Shanti Kunj Apartment, a venue expected to further boost the expansion of the PNG network in the area.

The event aimed to encourage more residents to shift from traditional fuels to cleaner and safer energy sources.

GAIL India Varanasi General Manager Sushil Nagar said the company is rapidly expanding its PNG network across the city and remains committed to providing household connections at an accelerated pace.

CITY PAYS TRIBUTE TO LUCKNOW VICTIMS

Sanjay Gupta

A tribute was paid to the students, who lost their lives in the Lucknow fire, during a Ganga aarti organised by Ganga Seva Nidhi at Dashashwamedh Ghat in the city on Tuesday

Spl drive to prevent communicable diseases in Kashi throughout July

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: A special communicable disease control campaign will be conducted across the district from July 1 to 31, while the Dastak campaign will run from July 11 to 31 to strengthen prevention and control of dengue, malaria, filaria and other vector-borne diseases.

A meeting of the District Task Force was held at the Collectorate auditorium on Monday under the chairmanship of district magistrate Satyendra Kumar to review preparations for the campaign. Chief development officer Prakhar Kumar Singh, chief medical officer Dr Mukesh Kumar and other officials attended the meeting.

The DM said the campaign would be implemented through coordinated efforts of the health department and other govt departments. He stressed the need for joint action to prevent dengue and other communicable diseases and directed departments to ensure cleanliness drives, anti-larval spraying, fogging, drain cleaning, pond maintenance, repair of faulty India Mark-2 handpumps and trimming of roadside vegetation.

He also ordered special monitoring of high-risk rural and urban areas to control mosquito breeding and directed officials to focus on the creation of ABHA IDs.

The municipal corporation and health officials were instructed to intensify cleaning operations at mosquito-prone locations, including ponds near the Mental Hospital, Police Line, Sarang Talab, Sona Talab and Kandwa Talab. Continuous sanitation work was also ordered in markets, particularly Pahadiya Mandi and other crowded areas.

The district panchayat raj officer was directed to ensure anti-larval measures and sanitation in disease-sensitive rural areas, while awareness campaigns through public address systems will be carried out in both urban and rural regions.

CMO Dr Mukesh Kumar said the campaign would focus on identifying patients showing symptoms of communicable diseases as well as TB, leprosy, kala azar and filaria. Under the Dastak campaign, ASHA and Anganwadi workers will conduct door-to-door visits to spread awareness about disease prevention and early treatment. The health department will serve as the nodal agency.

Soon, city to get a modern sports centre near Nadesar pond

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Varanasi: To give a major boost to sports, the Uttar Pradesh govt has planned to develop Purvanchal's first 'Sports City Centre,' near Nadesar Pond in Varanasi.

This modern Sports Centre would allow people to pre-book their slot online for playing their favourite sport. The initiative will provide the region a confluence of fitness and entertainment for sports activities along with a space to enjoy nature. Municipal commissioner Himanshu Nagpal said the proposed multi-sports activity zone will offer facilities for various sports activities including - pickleball, lawn tennis, box cricket, and skating. Besides, a a special spiritual space will also be designated for yoga and meditation practice. The entire complex will be made differently-abled friendly.

Smart city chief general manager Amarendra Tiwari said that citizens will be able to do online pre-booking of slots for their favourite sport according to their convenience which will save time and reduce long waiting queues.

Besides, it would also be a special place for nature lovers with facilities of boating in Nadesar Pond, attractive fountains, and lush green fields. The establishment will also be equipped with facilities including- food trucks, food courts, and healthy cuisine cafés.

Fest to take Kabir's message of harmony & equality to next-gen

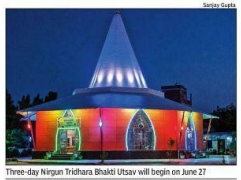
Binay Singh | TNN

Varanasi: To commemorate Kabir Jayanti and promote the rich legacy of Saint Kabir's verses, Nirgun Bhakti tradition and Indian folk culture, the Sant Kabir Academy, Magahar, will organise a three-day 'Nirgun Tridhara Bhakti Utsav' from June 27 to 29.

The festival will be held across Magahar, Ghazipur and Varanasi, bringing together renowned saints, scholars, litterateurs, historians, researchers and folk artists from across the country. The event aims to introduce the younger generation to Kabir's philosophy, literature and message of social harmony through devotional music, cultural performances and academic discussions.

The festival will commence on June 27 with a grand procession at the Sant Kabir Academy in Magahar. Renowned artists, including Padma Shri Kaluram Bamaniya, Baby Sisodia Banjaran Sisters, Devendra Das Tanabana Group, Om Prakash Patel, Dinesh Kumar Jangde and Preeti Bamaniya, will present performances based on Nirgun Bhakti and Kabir's verses. The opening day will celebrate Kabir's folk tradition, saintly heritage and the Nirgun Bhakti stream.

Sanjay Gupta



Three-day Nirgun Tridhara Bhakti Utsav will begin on June 27

On the second day the Nirgun Tridhara Bhakti Utsav will be organised at Kabir Math Beladi in Ghazipur, where artists from different states, including Padma Shri Bhernsingh Chauhan, will present cultural performances inspired by Kabir's teachings and Nirgun Bhakti. Meanwhile, a national seminar on the theme 'Kabir's Legacy: From Kashi to Magahar' will be organised at Lahartara, the traditional birthplace of Saint Kabir in Varanasi, on June 28 and 29. Eminent educationists, litterateurs, historians and researchers from across the country will share their views on Kabir's philosophy, literary contributions and social relevance.

The special programme scheduled for June 29 at Lahartara will be the highlight of the festival. The event will be attended by prominent religious leaders and scholars from the saint tradition. During the Nirgun Cultural Evening, Padma Shri Prahlad Singh Tipanya will deliver a special performance, while artists including Jai Pandey, Devendra Das, Baby Sisodia Banjaran Sisters, Preeti Bamaniya and Dinesh Kumar Jangde will present Kabir's verses through music. The programme promises to offer audiences a unique spiritual and cultural experience.

According to Tourism and Culture Minister Jayveer Singh, Saint Kabir's teachings continue to spread the message of equality, humanity, love and social harmony. He said that events such as the Nirgun Tridhara Bhakti Utsav serve as an effective platform for connecting the younger generation with Kabir's philosophy and the Nirgun Bhakti tradition.

The state government, he added, is committed to preserving and promoting cultural heritage, saint traditions and folk arts. Such events not only provide a common platform to artists and scholars but also help strengthen India's cultural identity, d the saint community, but also strengthen the spirit of cultural consciousness, spiritual awareness and brotherhood in society.

IDBI BANK
CIN-L65190MH2004GOI148838
Regd. Office : IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade Mumbai - 400005
Branch:- IDBI Bank Ltd., Hazratganj, Lucknow-226001
SALE NOTICE for Sale of Immovable Properties

[Appendix IV-A]
[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISION TO RULE 8(6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of IDBI Bank Limited, on **19.06.2026** Secured Creditor. The mortgage property will be sold on **29.07.2026** "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of **Rs. 96,21,859.78** (Rupees Ninety Six Lakh Twenty One Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Nine and Seventy Nine Pasia Only) outstanding as on **21.06.2026**, together with unapplied interest and further interest and applicable expenses thereon with effect from **22.06.2026** till realization plus applicable expenses, due to the **IDBI Bank Limited Secured Creditor** from **Kum. Rashika Srivastava (Borrower and Mortgagor)** and **Smt. Ravinder Kaur Srivastava (Co-Borrower).** The reserve price will be **Rs. 1,08,22,210.00** (Rupees One Crore Eight Lakh Twenty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Ten Only) and the earnest money deposit will be **Rs. 10,82,221.00** (Rupees Ten Lakh Eighty-Two Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-One Only).
The details of the Borrower(s), Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor(s) amount due, reserve price and earnest money deposit and brief description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any is as mentioned in the table below :-

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/Mortgagor	Description of the Immovable Secured Assets	Outstanding Amount mentioned as per Demand Notice	Date and Time of e-auction. Creditor	Reserve Price	EMD	Bid/Tender Increase	Date & Time of Inspection	Name of Contact Person of Authorised Officer/ Nodal Officers
1.	1. **Kum. Rashika Srivastava Address-** Flat No. 205, Coronation Bijwa Estate Apartment, 28 Park Road, Hazaratganj, Lucknow- 226001 Also at Flat No. 405, 4th Floor, Block -B, Shrishti Imperial Height, Civil Station, Allahabad 2. **Smt. Ravinder Kaur Srivatava, Address-** Flat No. 205, Coronation Bijwa Estate Apartment, 28 Park Road, Hazaratganj, Lucknow - 226001 Also at- Flat No. 405, 4th Floor, Block B, Shrishti Imperial Height, Civil Station, Allahabad	**Owner- Rashika Srivastava (Borower & Mortgagor)** Residential property Flat No. 405, **Admeasuring Area 102.76 Sq. Mtr.,** situated at 4th Floor, Block-B, Shrishti Imperial Height, Civil Station, Allahabad. **Boundaries- East-** Common Corridor and Stairs, **West-** Open to Sky, **North-** Flat No. 406, **South-** Open to Sky	**Rs. 69,81,658.00** (Rupees Sixty Nine Lakh Eighty One Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Eight Only) outstanding as on **10.06.2022,** together with further interest thereon with effect from dated 10.06.2022 till realization plus applicable expenses	**29.07.2026** From 11:00 A.M. to 04:00 P.M.	**Rs. 1,08,22,210.00** (Rupees One Crore Eight Lakh Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred Ten Only)	**Rs. 10,82,221.00** (Rupees Ten Lakh Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred Twenty One Only)	**Rs 50,000.00**	**24.07.2026** 11:00 A.M. to 05:00 P.M.	**Shri Rakesh Kumar Singh DGM - Retail Recovery Mobile No. 9918101788 Shri Gaurav Garg AGM - RR Mobile No. 9839099012**

Encumbrances known to the Secured Creditor- NIL, Last date of deposit of EMD- 29.07.2026 by 11:00 a.m., Incremental Bidding- Rs. 50,000.00
Details of account in which EMD is to be deposited through RTGS/NEFT & IFSC Code- 0153491501002 6 (RR Receipt Pending for Appropriation account), IFSC- IBKL0000015.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in IDBI Bank's website i.e. www.idbibank.com. Auction/bidding shall only be through "online auction mode" through the website of e-service provider i.e. PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. (BAANKNET Platform), website- https://baanknet.com. Help line desk contact no- Ms. Swani/Dharmesh Asher/Mr.Uday Jadhav, No. 9990605075/ 9892219848/ 9820878255/ 8291220220

Date: 24.06.2026 **Place- Lucknow** **Authorized Officer, IDBI Bank Ltd.**

Out on walk, man mowed down by pickup in Sonbhadra

A 47-year-old man was killed after being hit by a speeding pickup in Babhani police station area of Sonbhadra early on Tuesday. The deceased was identified as businessman Girwar Prasad, a resident of Babhani. He was out on a morning walk around 5 am on Tuesday. On Babhani-Ambikapur road, a speeding pickup van heading towards Renukoot hit him, leaving him seriously injured. Soon after, locals took him to CHC, Babhani, where doctors declared him dead. Meanwhile, police sent body for postmortem and launched a manhunt to trace the vehicle. TNN

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD
Zonal Office, Gorakhpur, 1st Floor Prashant Tower, Transport Nagar, Gorakhpur-273016
Phone: 0551-2220564, 2201724

Sale Notice
Branch : Nautanwa, District : Mahrajganj

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6)/ 9(1)] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, **Nautanwa branch,** Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **26.07.2026** for recovery of **Rs. 3272295/-** (as on **29.09.2025**) + Applicable interest and other charges due to the Indian Bank, **Nautanwa** branch, Secured Creditor, from Mr./Ms/Ms **1- Mr. Kutubuddin** S/o- Shri Salim **(Borrower & Mortgagor), 2- Mrs. Rumi Khatoon** W/o- Mr. Kutubuddin **(Co-Borrower), Address Same :** Singhpur Kala, Bannasiya khurd, Nautanwa Dist-Maharajganj, Pin-273164.
(Name and address of the borrower/ guarantor).The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below :

Detailed description of the Property	All that part and parcel of the property in the name of Shri Kutubuddin S/o- Salim consisting on Plot No. 231, area-523.13 sq. mtr. Situated at Vill-Pipraha, Tappa- Lahda, Pargana- Vinayakpur, Tehsil-Nautanwa, Dist- Maharajganj registered at Sub-registrar Nautanwa, Dist- Maharajganj vide Sale Deed No. 924 dated Nov. 1, 2ld No. 1865 Page No. 271 to 288 dated 20.03.2013. **Boundaries: North-** House of Somai, **South-** Plot of Jukti, **East-** Plot of Sukhraj, **West-** Pitch Road.

Encumbrances on property, if any	Reserve Price	EMD Amount	Bid incremental amount	Date and time of e-auction	Property ID No.
Nil, as known to bank	Rs. 4764000.00	Rs. 476400.00	Rs. 10000.00	Date: 27.07.2026 Time: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.	IDIBGKP4590879

Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://baanknet.com) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance, please call 8291220220.
For Registration status and EMD status, please email to support.baanknet@psballiance.com. For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions, please visit: https://baanknet.com and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd, Contact No. 8291220220.
Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://baanknet.com.

Date : 24.06.2026 **Place : Nautanwa** **Authorised Officer, Indian Bank**

ICAR signs licensing pacts with seed firms

Varanasi: The Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR) on Tuesday signed licensing agreements with several private seed companies to ensure the availability of high-quality seeds for farmers.

An agreement was signed with Fateh Seeds, Ballia, for the improved okra variety, Kashi Utkarsh. The variety offers high productivity due to its plant height of around 110-115 cm and short internodes of 2-3 cm.

Flowering begins early at the fifth to sixth node, and the crop provides an extended harvesting period from 48 to 120 days, allowing 35-37 picking. The fruits are dark green, uniform, measuring about 14-15 cm in length and 1.45-1.50 cm in diameter. The variety has a yield potential of approximately 165-170 quintals per hectare and is resistant to major diseases such as Yellow Vein Mosaic Virus (YVMV) and Okra Enation Leaf Curl Virus (OELCV).

Another licensing agreement was signed with Ananya Seeds Private Limited, New Delhi, for the leafy vegetable variety Kashi Manu (Karamua saag).

This fast-growing variety can produce high biomass within a short period. The first harvest can be taken within 20-25 days after sowing, providing farmers with early economic returns. TNN