



Police search the premises of the Vadodara Municipal Corporation on Wednesday.

4 civic bodies in state, Vadodara school get hoax bomb threat emails

ENS & PTI
Vadodara, June 17

FOUR MUNICIPAL corporations in Gujarat and a school in Vadodara on Wednesday received hoax bomb threat emails on Wednesday, threatening to blow up the premises, prompting the authorities to launch intensive searches, in which nothing suspicious was found, police said.

The Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) headquarters was vacated following a bomb threat received via email, shortly before a similar email landed at Navrachna school in Sama area of the city. After extensive searches by police across both the premises, no suspicious object was found, police said.

According to police, an email sent to the VMC as well as Navrachna school claimed that a bomb would be brought to the civic body premises in a car around 3 pm, prompting authorities to immediately evacuate the buildings and launch a large-scale security operation.

Vadodara City Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 2) Manjira Vanzara said, The Cyber Cell is investigating who behind this act.

Apart from Vadodara, the municipal corporations in Surat, Bhavnagar and Junnagar also received such threat emails in the morning. A search was conducted at the Surat municipal corporation office. The entire premises were vacated and searched for two hours, but nothing suspicious was found.

DGP Zone 2 Raghav Jain said, The emails were purportedly sent by Khalistan National Army, which is a banned organisation.

Superintendent of Police of Bhavnagar, Nitish Pandey, said a search team was rushed to the civic body after the police learnt about an email threatening a bomb blast there. But no suspicious object was found during the operation, he said. Similarly, the email received by Junnagar municipal corporation also turned out to be a hoax, a civic official said.

The emails were purportedly sent by the 'Khalistan National Army', which is a banned organisation. The Punjab government on Wednesday evening and marked to the Director Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, B J Medical College, Ahmedabad, said, 'Based on a report given by the anti-ragging committee in response to the complaint of ragging of the first-year resident students of the Orthopaedic Department of your institution, a proposal has been received by this office to ratify the punishment mentioned against the three second-year residents of the orthopaedic department.'

The punishment imposed on the said three second-year residents by the Anti-Ragging Committee of B J Medical College, Ahmedabad as mentioned above is hereby confirmed, the order says.

Health Minister Pratik Parbhani said, 'The complaint of ragging has been taken seriously. Strict action has been taken against three students involved. The Gujarat government and the Health Department are committed to maintaining a safe, respectful and fair-free educational environment for students.'

On June 9, the medical college authorities received an anonymous complaint against senior resident doctors of the orthopaedic department, alleging that they were behind 'mental and physical harassment' of first-year resident students. The complaint was also sent to the National Medical Commission (NMC)-the statutory body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that regulates medical education, medical professionals, institutes, and research as well as the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Sources in the health department told the newspaper that the 20-member and ragging committee of the medical college looked into the complaint and spoke to all first, second and third-year resident students of the department.

A medical board of all 17 first-year resident students of the orthopaedic department was conducted. The committee found that three were involved in ragging and thus suggested the punishment in the form of suspension ranging between six months and one year. A senior Health Department official said.

In December 2022, after completing junior postgraduate students of the orthopaedic department, the anti-ragging committee ordered suspension of one senior postgraduate student for one year and two for 18 months.

RAGGING ROW AGAIN AT B J MEDICAL COLLEGE

3 medical students suspended over 'ragging juniors'

Ritu Sharma
Ahmedabad, June 17

AFTER AN anonymous complaint about ragging at the orthopaedic department of the B J Medical College in Ahmedabad, the state government on Wednesday suspended three second-year postgraduate (PG) students.

One of the students has been suspended for a year and the other two for six months each, officials said.

An order issued by the state Health Department on Wednesday evening and marked to the Director Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, B J Medical College, Ahmedabad, said, 'Based on a report given by the anti-ragging committee in response to the complaint of ragging of the first-year resident students of the Orthopaedic Department of your institution, a proposal has been received by this office to ratify the punishment mentioned against the three second-year residents of the orthopaedic department.'

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Surat school student stabbed by another; victim stable: Police

Kamal Salyed
Surat, June 17

A 13-YEAR-OLD student of a Surat Municipal Corporation-run Marathi medium school was allegedly stabbed and injured by another teenage student - also a minor - from the Gujarat medium section of the same school on Tuesday after school hours, police said. The victim is undergoing treatment at New Civil hospital and his condition is stable, police said.

After the incident, the injured student's mother registered a complaint against the child in conflict with law at the local police station. The latter is likely to face charges under section 148(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, (voluntarily causing hurt using a dangerous weapon), police sources said.

Police sources said that after school hours on Tuesday afternoon, the boy left for home along with other students. 'On the way, the other student (child in conflict with law) approached and allegedly stabbed him in the left leg and hand,' police said.

In August last year, a Class 10 student died of stab wounds following a similar incident in a school in Ahmedabad.

The inspector at the police station concerned in Surat said on Tuesday that the condition of the victim student is stable. 'We have started a probe. Our teams will speak to him to determine the cause of the incident. Our teams will also take the statement of the accused student.'

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2 IAS officers get new postings

Express News Service
Ahmedabad, June 17

IN A minor reshuffle in the state bureaucracy, IAS officers Roopnarain Singh and Alok Kumar Pandey were on Wednesday appointed as Chief Commissioners of State Tax and Secretary (Tribal Development Department) respectively.

The General Administration Department issued a notification in this regard. Singh is a 2003-batch IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre and Pandey is a 2006-batch IAS officer of the Gujarat cadre.

At present, Singh is Managing Director of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited. He will continue to hold additional charge of this post till further orders.

With latest transfer order of Singh, he will relieve T Nataraj from the additional charge of the post of Chief Commissioner of State Tax. Nataraj is Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department.

Pandey is currently Relief Commissioner in the Revenue Department. With his latest posting as Secretary of Tribal Development department, Husain will relieve Shabnum Husain of the additional charge of the post. Husain is Principal, Security of Naroda, Water Resources, Water Supply & Kalspur Department.

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'India's exports hit \$863 bn amid West Asia crisis'

Yashveer Singh
Ahmedabad, June 17

INDIAN EXPORTS hit \$863 billion in the first five months of 2025-26, amid the West Asia crisis and tariff imposed by the US, the country has "performed wonderfully", the Union Minister said.

The 2025-26 was challenging, as we know there was crisis in West Asia and the US had also imposed tariff, but we have performed wonderfully and this shows the resilience of India," said Pratiwala speaking at the Gujarat SEZs Outreach Programme in Ahmedabad on Wednesday.

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Sculptor Ratilal Kansodaria dies after heart attack

Express News Service
Ahmedabad, June 17

WELL-KNOWN sculptor Ratilal Kansodaria died in Ahmedabad on Tuesday following a heart attack. Kansodaria was 65 and survived by his wife, son and daughter.

A former principal of the CN School of Fine Arts in Ahmedabad, Kansodaria had retired from Prangth in Virpur taluka of Rajkot district. His sculptures include the statues of poets Akha Bhagat and Dalpatram in Ahmedabad's old city area.

A close family member said Kansodaria's last days were performed near his residence in the Chhatrauli area of Ahmedabad on Wednesday.

Kansodaria was 65 and survived by his wife, son and daughter. He was a well-known sculptor in Ahmedabad.

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Advertisement for 'आधुनिक इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर' (Modern Infrastructure) featuring a train and the slogan 'से बदलता भारत' (India Changing with it). It includes contact information for Ahmedabad.