### **quotemartial**

Consumers, especially in old city area, have been using several methods to tamper the electricity meters.

SANJAY NEELANI, Addl general manager vigilance

## '85% girls in city sexually harassed'

SHAMEFUL 7% claim to have braved raped attempts; time, place no bar for harassment: Reveals a report by an NGO

HT Correspondent

**BHOPAL:** Sexual harassment is rampant in Bhopal with 85% girls saying they have been the victims of harassment at one or the other time while 7% claiming there have been attempts to rape them, says a study that was study released on Wednesday.

The study report is based on interviews with 500 girls of Bhopal by a city-based NGO Sangini Gender Resource Centre. The study report was released during a workshop on the theme of 'sexual harass-ment of girls in Bhopal' on Wednesday.
The study was conducted by

a team headed by Aparna Dixit, research officer at Sangini, between November 25, 2012 and March 25, 2013.

According to the study most of the girls in the city have been victims of sexual harassment like stalking (23%), obscene comments (11%), obscene talk on cellphone (14%), attempt to rape (7%), forced touching (6%). cheating after luring (3%) and obscene gestures (1%).

The study also pointed out that girls felt insecure almost throughout the day: at morning (1%), afternoon (9%), evening (12%), night (56%) and more than one time (21%).

Also, nearly one-third of the perpetrators of the sexual harassment were known to the victims. The perpetrators include family members (1%), neighbours (4%), relatives (4%), acquaintances (18%), friends (3%), besides strangers (52%) and more than one person

The study has also identified places where girls are frequently harassed like public places (30%), buses (15%), on road (22%), 11 Quarter (2%), workplace (5%), MP Nagar (5%), New Market (2%), Char Imli turn (1%), 12 Number Market (1%), 10 Number Market (1%)

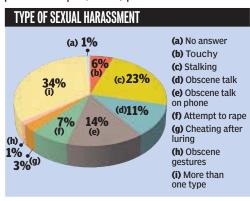


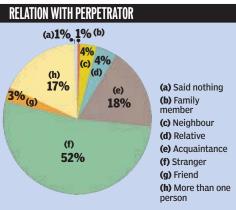
- Organising workshops on gender issues with the
- girls more seriously
- Training boys and girls in schools and colleges on gender issues.
- Deploying more police at sensitive places in the city
- Ensuring that mobile operators cancel the connections of those found guilty of harassing girls on phone.
- Training adults in private and government offices on gender issues.

and hostels (1%),

Earlier, Asha Shukla, head of the women studies at Barkatullah University emphasised the need to have the study scrutinised through a panel of experts so that these important findings could be researched further. The suggestion was seconded by Archana Sahay, director of the Childline.

Director Sangini Prarthna Mishra told HT that their NGO works towards bringing women from different sections of the society, especially from the dalit and the tribal community, as partners in contributing to the creation of a gender-just







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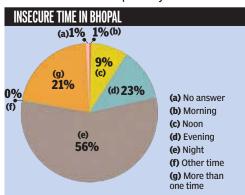
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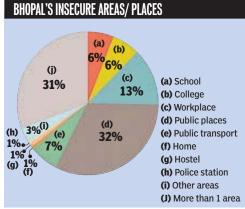
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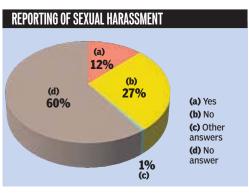
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### Father, sons dive in sewer to save boy

**MISHAP** One critical, three out of danger

HT Correspondent

BHOPAL: Four persons including a teenaged sanitation worker fel unconscious when they stepped into the closed sewer line at Sharda Nagar near Nariyalkheda on Wednesday morning.

The sanitation worker Deenak Rawat alias Ajay (16), a resident of Sanjay Nagar, had got inside the sewer to clean it through the duct, and it was to rescue him that the three persons later stepped in but they also got unconscious.

Local residents said when Rawat was caught amid fumes and felt that he was losing consciousness, he yelled out for help. Hearing him shout, a local resident, Naushad (21), jumped inside to rescue him, but he also didn't Subsequently, Naushad's

father Syed Ali (45) went into the chamber. However, when he too could not come out, Ali's second son Minshad (19) followed them. He was the fourth person to go down. By then local residents informed civic authorities and police.

All the four persons were later brought out. They were unconscious. The victims were admitted to the hospital. The condition IDEALLY, THE SANITATION WORKERS WHO GET INTO SEWAGE SYSTEMS SHOULD BE EOUIPPED WITH AN OXYGEN CYLINDER.

the remaining three gained con-

Rawat was on ventilator till the filing of this report. Police said Rawat had gone inside without

wearing any protective gear.

Ideally, the sanitation workers who get into sewage systems should be equipped with an oxygen cylinder. The Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) officials said Rawat was not a BMC employee. Sources said Rawat works for

a factory in the area. However, unless his statement is recorded, the exact circumstances surrounding the incident wouldn't be known

It is surmised that he entered the sewerage system without waiting for the gases to be released and hence the incident occurred. "Before cleaning, the system should be kept opened for a while so that the gases escape," said a BMC employee on condi-

### Madhuban marriage garden demolished

illegal constructions in the city. Bhopal Municipal Corporation's anti-encroachment wing demolished illegally built Madhuban marriage garden and a restaurant on the Hoshangabad Road spread over an area of 8,000 square feet. The BMC team also demolished almost 100 feet boundary wall.
It took BMC nearly five

tures. The whole complex was spread over an area of over one and a half acre. Over 100 BMC employees/workers were pressed into service to raze the illegal structures with the help of two JCB machines and 10 dumpers. The owners had been served notices earlier, but they took no action, said BMC

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### SIX KIDS HURT **AS TRUCK HITS SCHOOL BUS**

HT Correspondent

BHOPAL: As many as six schoolchildren were injured when a speeding truck hit a school bus near Lambakheda in Sukhi Sewania on Wednesday. The mishap occurred on the

said the truck was coming from the wrong side when it hit the school bus. "Six children were injured," she said. None of them was seriously injured. All the injured children were admitted to separate hospi-

new bypass. City superintendent of police (CSP) Rashmi Mishra

tals and most of them were later discharged, CSP added. The bus was carrying students of St DC Convent School back to their respective homes when the incident occurred at around

1.30pm, said police sources.

The names of some of the iniured included. Deepu (11). Shakir (12), Pradeep (14) and Naman (8). The police have registered a case against the truck driver. Investigations are on to ascertain the circumstances surrounding the mishap.

## Consumer charged

## ₹1.41 lakh as bill

HT Correspondent

BHOPAL: The vigilance team of Madhya Pradesh Central Region Power Distribution Company, Bhopal took Rs 1,41,000 as electricity bill from a consumer who was using a tampered electricity meter or

Wednesday.
Sanjay Neelani, additional general manager of vigilance, said that the vigilance team had recovered several meters during a surprise inspection Meters were sent to LTMT Lab for the test. It was found that the tampered meters were being used by several consumers. The consumers have been charged according to their electricity consump-

Sanjay said Dilip Nathony, owner of Royal Photocopy shop, had inserted a resistance device inside the meter, which slowed the speed of the meter by 90%. He said the accused consumer has been charged Rs 1,41,000 as per the consumption of power. Mahvir

VIGILANCE TEAM IS

INSPECTION ACROSS

THE CITY AND TAKING

**ACTION AGAINST THOSE** WHO ARE USING

CONDUCTING

TAMPERED METERS Distributors was also using the same method for power pilfering. He was charged Rs 75,233 as electricity bill. Ramkishan Medical Service was charged Rs 23,880 for

using tampered meter.

He further said that the consumers, especially in old city area, have been using several methods to tamper the electricity meters like inserting a resistance device, by tampering the dial counter of the meters, disturbing the PCB plate of meters and others. The vigilance team is conducting inspection across the city and taking action against those who are using tampered

# PRICE FOR TAMPERING METER

INDORE: Days after he sought divine assistance at a temple in Datia, beleaguered actor Sanjay Dutt once again pleaded to the heavens for help, this time at a dargah in Neemuch district. Dutt reached the dargah of Shahabuddin baba, located on the outskirts of Neemuch, on Monday evening and offered a chadar at the shrine. He spent

around 20 minutes at the dargah

where more than 100 people had

gathered to catch a glimpse of their favourite star. According to local residents, Dutt reached Maharana Pratap airport in Udaipur from where he travelled the roughly 120 kilometres to Neemuch by road. The Bollywood star's visit was a hush-hush affair and rumours about Dutt's whereabouts and his companions flew thick and

One story doing the rounds was that Dutt had not come to Neemuch at all but had, in fact, gone to the shrine of Songiri Sarkar located in Mandsaur Another claimed that the star was accompanied by wife Manyata

Dutt and their kids.

### Wildlife tourism in MP triples in 5 years

FOOTFALL Number rises from 5 to 14 lakh

HT Correspondent

BHOPAL: The number of tourists visiting state's national parks and sanctuaries has risen from five lakh to more than 14 lakh over the last five years. These include one lakh foreign tourists. The forest department has earned Rs 20 lakh from tourism, which is being spent on facilities to tourists and ensuring wildlife protection.

Madhya Pradesh is spread over 10,989.25 kilometres, which is larger than forest areas in about a dozen states and Union territories in the country. Forest area in MP is about 94, 689km. There are 10 national parks and 25 wildlife sanctuaries in the state that are full of bio-diversity.

Protected wildlife area in

Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Panna Pench, Satpura and Sanjay Gandhi National Parks have been given the status of tiger reserves. Whereas, wildlife sanctuaries have been established at Karera (Guna) and Ghatigaon (Gwalior) for protecting near-extinct bird Son Chirayya, Sailana (Ratlam) and Sardarpur (Dhar) for another rare bird Kharmore and three sanctuaries Chambal, Ken and Sone have been established to protect ghariyal and other water Bhopal's Van Vihar National

Park is recognised as a modern zoo. There is a National Fossi Park at Ghughwa in Dindori district where fossils of trees dating back to six crore years have been preserved. National Dinosaur Fossil Park was established in Dhar district in 2011.

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