



actor Aamir Ashitosh Gowariker, Jhammu Sugand at Khar early this morning. "The sharpest gang had hatched gun down Aamir

financier Jhamu Sugand and a prominent land developer in South Mumbai," Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Chhagan Bhujbal told mediapersons here today.

A special squad under Senior Inspector Dilip Patil laid a trap for the hitmen near Patwardhan Park. The suspects arrived on two motorcycles, believed to be stolen, around 2am. The hitmen are Tanvir Sheikh, Sanjay Kumar, Abdul Javed and Imran Khan.

An unidentified real estate developer was the hitmen's fourth target, sources said. The police have recovered two pistols and two revolvers from the slain gangsters.

Earlier this year, Abu Salem's men gunned down Ajit Deewani, secretary to filmstars Manisha Koirala and Aftab Shivdasani, in his office at Andheri.

Aamir Khan's security has been stepped up.

Around August 2001, I issued a challenge to Rafi fans to find "missing" Rafi songs. The original post is here

http://groups.google.com/group/rec.music.indian.misc/browse_thread/thread/4b7b42924b8ba60/4b5be029533f9682?hl=en&q=surjit+singh+foot+mouth#4b5be029533f9682

Indian Express and a few others picked up the story. These are some clippings that my friends sent to me from India.

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) today raided the residences of more than 58 senior Mangar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) officials, including seven deputy general managers, in connection with the more than Rs 60 crore 'reinstatement' (RI) racket relating to 'ghost trenches' that came to light in 1998.

The raids that began at around 6 pm in the morning, continued till 11 pm in the evening and officials re-

covered cash and investment valued around Rs 1 crore. The raids were effected after a chargesheet was filed in a special court on Friday. More than 20 divisional engineers, 38 sub-divisional engineers and nine contractors have been named as accused in the First Information Report.

Some of the contractors have been identified as Singal and Brothers, Sundeeep Constructions, Ram Builders, Dolchand Kallaji Engineers and Contractors, Phone Time System Communication Ltd, Tele Services, HM Enterprises and Abhinav Constructions.

A MTNL vigilance team under General Manager Sanjay Kumar and Deputy S R Singh began investigating into the RI scam after a newspaper report in *The Indian Express* in 1998. In fact, the contractors even offered Singh Rs 50 lakh and a flat to mislead investigations.

to dovetail the skybus project with the existing transport system

The meeting began with a presentation by B Rajaram of the Konkan Railway Corporation Limited. It was followed by a panel of speakers from Bombay Electricity Supply and Transport (BEST) and the Railways.

Chief traffic planning manager for Central Railway Prakash Rao began with a disclaimer: "Suburban transport was never our core activity. We have always been with long-distance freight and passenger trains. So we will always look forward to having the skybus and BEST as partners."

and there should be a cross-checking of whoever gets the tender."

Assistant General Manager, BEST, N J Gehani was candid about how the skybus would hit the role of his organisation, "After the skybus begins operating, it will be useless for us to compete with it. Then we can re-orient ourselves and work as a feeder, as is with the train service."

While Rao and Gehani conceded that the coordination between their respective services leaves a lot to be desired, Rajaram said that the lack of intermodal transfers would not be felt if the Rs 5,300-crore SBM project of networking the city is done. He added that the commuters would not have to wait a lot or walk great distances; it would be all at their convenience.

Talking about the Andheri-Ghatkopar 8.3-km link that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Website offers money to those who prove he sang above 4,965 songs

Chance for Rafi fans to make money

ARUNA CHAKRAVORTY
OCTOBER 13



THIS one is for KBC enthusiasts. How many songs did the evergreen Mohamad Rafi sing? 5,000? 10,000 or more?

If you go by the numerous websites on the golden-voiced singer, you would put your finger on the more than 10,000 bracket. Documented material, however, indicates a scaled-down yet impressive total of roughly 4,965 songs against his name.

If you think you could bring to light any song by Rafi which was hitherto unknown, here is your chance to earn a bit of money.

A group of music enthusiasts who have set up an unmoderated music forum —

rec.music.indian.misc (RMIM) — devoted to Hindi film music, have thrown open a challenge to anyone who claims that Rafi has sung 10,000 songs. For bringing to light any new undocumented song by him, along with proof that he had lent his voice to it, collect US\$1 for every 10 new songs. The money grows exponentially for every song thereafter.

The forum has about 50 to 100 regular members, RMIMers as they call themselves, who are from all parts of the world. Most of them are from the US, as well as few from India, Pakistan as well as UK, Caribbean and Germany.

Surjit Singh, a former TIFR physicist who is currently employed with HNC Software at San Diego, and a self-professed Hindi music fan (atic), is one of the main persons behind the effort. "We got three responses so far," says Singh, "a guy from Mumbai claimed to have

12,000 songs by Rafi. When we told him about all the books on the singer, he withdrew his claim. Someone else sent me seven songs, but they were listed in the two books on the singer. Another guy from India has staked his claim, but he is in the process of cataloguing", talking to this newspaper through an e-mail interview.

"Intellectuals in India tend to be snobbish and dismiss Hindi movies as low art," says the former professor. "They are wrong. I was brought up in a small village in India and know how important Hindi movies are in Indian culture". For the 54-year-old physicist who calls himself a "a diehard movie fan (atic)", digging up hitherto unknown songs is "important as it adds to the raw data for the history of Hindi cinema".

There is another reason. As fellow music lover and RMIMer, Dhananjay Naniwadekar,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

station, the oil tank of the electric transformer located in Sahakar Nagar at Shivnagri exploded at 7.30 am. Seven persons standing in a queue outside a nearby public toilet received burn injuries when hot oil from the tank spilled on them. The seven have sustained injuries on their face, hand and back. The transformer was installed at this place only eight days ago. The injured are Ashok Tanksale (43), Shyam Kasar (30), Kushal Shah (40), Ramesh Khade (27), Ramu Bansode (27) and Vishwanath Jagtap (55).

Samajwadi Party leader sacked

■ THE Samajwadi Party has sacked its state vice-president Asif Patel in a move to cleanse the party of people with criminal backgrounds. Party General Secretary CR Yadav said Patel was removed for anti-party activities and for being named in a number of criminal cases. Most of the cases against Patel are lodged at the Kashmirira police station.

Pensioners' alert

THE State Government has sanctioned a 3.5 per cent increase in DA to its employees with effect from October 1. This decision is also applicable to pensioners. Concerned people can contact the Brihan Mumbai Pensioners' Association at C-10/13, Doodhasagr CHS Ciba Road, Aarey Naka Goregaon (East), Bombay-400 065. Tel: 8402520.

intercepted by a special police squad at Khar— Newsline photo by

from the front page

Chance for Rafi fans to make money

also based in the US puts it, "For years now people have been claiming that singers like Lata Mangeshkar, Mohammad Rafi have sung more than 20,000 songs. Well, now is the time for them to them to prove their claim and earn money or they should stop spreading this misinformation".

Documenting songs of Hindi films, has been a fairly recent exercise. Har Mandir Singh alias Hamraaz, did a yeoman service to film music fans by collecting data on songs and publishing four volumes of *Geet Kosh* (1931-1970) by 1988. The book, which is a sort of bible for music enthusiasts like Singh and Naniwadekar, contains indices of all films during the era, followed by the songs credited to their singers, actors, producers, directors, music directors and lyricists.

This, aided by two books specifically on Rafi — one by Ajit Pradhan and Preetam Meghani and the other by Iqbal Ganam and Asif Bakshi — puts the Hindi film songs sung by one of the lead singers of Hindi filmdom, at 4,525. Add to this some 440 documented non-film, non-Hindi songs and the grand total comes to 4,965.

And if one were to enter the numbers game, here's the score: Vishwas Nerurkar's definitive

books on Hindi film songs have serialised and listed songs sung by Lata Mangeshkar at 5,080. Add to this her non-film and non-Hindi songs and the total could come to around 6,000 to 6,500, say experts. Only in Asha Bhonsle's case, it is estimated that the singer has sung 8,000 Hindi film songs. She breasts the 10,000 mark since her other songs are expected to be in the range of 2,000 to 2,200.

Says Naniwadekar, "Hamraz's Geet Kosh has uncovered all the songs from old films. It is extremely unlikely that he has missed even a single song. But, it is possible that some of those songs may have been sung by Rafi, but are untraceable. The number of such songs is likely to be between five and 50 and would be from the 1940s." In fact, Naniwadekar was told that seven songs from the films, *Arab Ka Sitara*, *Banoo* and *Hawai Khatola* had not been attributed to Rafi by Hamraaz's Geet Kosh: "However, all these songs have been listed by the compilations on Rafi," he adds.

To Singh, though, the offer is a culmination of his life long obsession. He recounts that he could not sleep for three days once he laid his hands on the Geet Kosh Vol III in 1988. "The wealth of authentic information that he had collected left me amazed," he says. It is the same excitement with which he looks forward to uncover more songs of one of his favourite singers; though anyone with a claim would do well to check it out

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जीतिए

नई दिल्ली, 18 जनवरी। सदाबहार गायक मोहम्मद रफी ने कितने गाने गाये थे। 5,000, 10,000, 19,000 या 25,000। यह सवाल इसलिए किया जा रहा है कि अगर आप यह साबित कर सके कि मुहम्मद रफी ने 4,965 से अधिक फिल्मी गीत गाए थे तो बन सकते हैं भारी इनाम के हकदार।

विभिन्न पत्र-पत्रिकाओं में मुहम्मद रफी के बारे में छपे लेखों तथा इंटरनेट साइटों में इस बात का अक्सर जिक्र होता है कि रफी ने 10,000 से अधिक फिल्मी गीत गाए थे। कुछ स्थानों पर यह संख्या 26,000 तक बताई जाती है लेकिन संगीत प्रेमियों के एक गुप ने इस अमर गायक द्वारा गाए हुए गीतों की



संख्या को लेकर चल रहे विवाद को दूर करने के लिए यह खुली चुनौती दी है जो कोई रफी के उन गीतों की जानकारी देगा जो अभी तक उस गुप के पास दर्ज नहीं हैं तो उसे हर दस नए गीतों पर एक अमेरिकी डालर का इनाम दिया जाएगा।

इसके बाद हर नए गीत पर इनाम की राशि बढ़ती जाएगी। टाटा मूलभूत अनुसंधान संस्थान के पूर्व भौतिकविद सुरजीत सिंह का कहना है कि भारत के बुद्धिजीवी दंभी किस्म के हैं और वे हिंदी सिनेमा को निम्न स्तर की कला मानते हैं। इस कारण हिंदी सिनेमा एवं उससे जुड़े विभिन्न पक्षों के बारे में जानकारियां तथा उनके विश्लेषण का काम नहीं के बराबर हुआ है।

एजेसी

गाने बताओ, डॉलर जीतो

नई दिल्ली

सदाबहार गायक मोहम्मद रफी ने कितने गाने गाए थे पांच हजार, दस हजार या पच्चीस हजार। आपसे यह सवाल इसलिए किया जा रहा है कि अगर आप यह साबित कर सकें कि मोहम्मद रफी ने चार हजार 965 से अधिक फिल्मी गीत गाए थे तो आप इनाम के हकदार बन सकते हैं।

विभिन्न पत्र पत्रिकाओं में मोहम्मद रफी के बारे में छपे लेखों एवं रिपोर्टों तथा अनेक इंटरनेट साइटों में इस बात का अक्सर जिक्र होता है कि मोहम्मद रफी ने दस हजार से अधिक फिल्मी गीत गाए थे। कुछ स्थानों पर यह संख्या 26 हजार तक बताई जाती है लेकिन संगीत प्रेमियों के एक ग्रुप ने इस अमर गायक द्वारा गाए हुए गीतों की संख्या को लेकर चल रहे विवाद को दूर करने के लिए यह खुली चुनौती दी है जो कोई रफी के उन गीतों को खोजेगा जो अभी तक उस ग्रुप के पास दर्ज नहीं हैं तो उसे हर दस नए गीतों पर एक डॉलर का इनाम दिया जाएगा। इसके बाद हर नए गीत पर इनाम की राशि बढ़ती जाएगी।

इस इंटरनेट ग्रुप 'रमिम रिकार्ड म्यूजिक इंडियन मिसलेनियस' के प्रमुख टाय मूलभूत अनुसंधान संस्थान के पूर्व भौतिकविद सुरजीत

सिंह का कहना है कि फिल्मी गीतों का संकलन का जिन इक्के दुक्के लोगों ने काम किया है उनमें हरमिंदर सिंह उर्फ हमराज का नाम प्रमुख है। उन्होंने गीत कोष के नाम से हिन्दी फिल्मी गीतों का संकलन पांच खंडों में प्रकाशित किया है। इस गीत कोष



एवं मोहम्मद रफी पर प्रकाशित दो पुस्तकों के आधार पर यह गणना की गई है कि रफी ने चार हजार 525 हिन्दी के फिल्मी गीत गाए। मोहम्मद रफी पर जो दो किताबें उपलब्ध हैं उनमें एक जीत प्रधान और प्रीतम मेघानी की है और दूसरी इकबाल जानम और आसिफ

बक्शी की है। इन पुस्तकों के अनुसार रफी ने हिन्दी फिल्मों के अलावा गैर हिन्दी फिल्मों में भी करीब चार सौ गीत गाए। इन्हें मिलाकर मोहम्मद रफी द्वारा गाए गए कुल गीतों की संख्या चार हजार 965 बैठती है। मोहम्मद रफी ने 1944 में गलबलोच में श्यामसुंदर के संगीत निर्देशन में पार्श्वगायन के क्षेत्र में कदम रखा और 31 जुलाई 1980 में अपनी मौत के समय तक पार्श्वगायन में सक्रिय रहे। [एजेसिया]

राजरथान पत्रिका

19 जनवरी 2004