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15 killed as truck mows down devotees outside temple

next of kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 for each injured. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav announced financial assistance of Rs 4 lakh each to the families of the deceased, Rs 2 lakh for each seriously injured person and Rs 50,000 for other injured persons. The government will also bear the treatment expenses of the seriously injured, he said.

The CM ordered a probe into the incident, along with the removal of the area's City Superintendent of Police and suspension of eight other police personnel for negligence.

He said the incident occurred because the truck entered a prohibited area, and directed the district administration to conduct a fact-based inquiry and submit a report.

The incident occurred outside the 125-year-old Sheetla Mata temple, located about 20 km from Gwalior city, where thousands of devotees had gathered for Navratri prayers and were waiting for darshan.

Vehicles are supposed to be parked about a kilometre from the shrine, raising questions about how the truck entered the restricted area where, according to some people, not even a bicycle could pass.

Acting Inspector General of Police Asit Yadav told PTI that the impact brought down a wall on the temple's left side.

The truck had broken through police barricades while speeding towards the shrine, Collector Ruchika Chouhan told reporters.

Two police personnel were also injured while trying to stop it, she said, adding that the Regional Transport Office (RTO) had been asked to examine the vehicle.

CM Yadav, in a post on X, said he has ordered the removal of the Gwalior City Superintendent of Police and the suspension of three station house officers, a traffic inspector, a head constable and three constables.

A detailed inquiry has been ordered to fix responsibility and ensure strict action against those found guilty, he said.

"The safety of all citizens is paramount. To prevent the recurrence of such incidents, security arrangements will be reviewed and necessary steps taken. No negligence will be tolerated at any level in public safety," Yadav said.

The deceased have been identified as Satendra Singh Gurjar (22), Sarla Tomar (50), Gaurav Parihar (18), Mahesh Sharma (45), Vimlesh Baghel (18), Dvesh Baghel (17), Chhotu Jatav (16), Shaurya Sharma (16), Hemant Rathore (19), Divyansh Kushwah (17), Pawan Rathore (23), Lav Tyagi (15), Aman Tyagi (13), Ashok Tyagi (45) and Nitesh (18).

The injured persons and the bodies were shifted to different hospitals, including Gwalior's trauma centre.

Relatives gathered near the post-mortem facility at the trauma centre questioned how a heavy truck could reach a place where, they claimed, even a bicycle could not pass.

CJI inaugurates Ladakh bench of High Court in Leh

Director General of Police, Law Secretary, Administrative Secretaries and senior officers of the army, civil administration, police and other departments of the Union Territory of Ladakh. Officers of the High Court Registry, headed by Registrar General, Additional Solicitors General of India (ASGIs), Deputy Solicitors General of India (DSGIs) and Presidents of the Bar Associations of Leh and Kargil also attended the ceremony.

Earlier, upon his arrival, the CJI was accorded a ceremonial Guard of Honour, following which he unveiled the inauguration plaque. A group photograph was taken, followed by a guided tour of the court complex.

The formal proceedings commenced with the National Song and National Anthem, followed by a welcome address by Dr Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

He emphasised that access to justice had been the guiding principle behind the establishment of the Ladakh Bench. He observed that, under the visionary leadership of the Chief Justice of India, the establishment of a constitutional Court in one of the highest-altitude regions of the world marked a historic milestone in bringing justice closer to the people, particularly those residing in remote and geographically challenging areas of Ladakh.

The CJI also virtually inaugurated the Green Wall, symbolising the judiciary's commitment to environmental conservation. The initiative was marked by the presentation of planters to the dignitaries and screening of a short video.

Justice M. M. Sundresh, Justice P. S. Narasimha and Justice Arun Palli, Judges of the Supreme Court of India, and R. Venkataramani, Attorney General of India, also addressed the gathering on the occasion.

A major highlight of the ceremony was the launch of four significant initiatives by the CJI, comprising the Green Wall and digital initiatives, namely, the e-Filing Portal and Document Management System (DMS) for the Ladakh Bench and the Online Recruitment Portal of the High Court. The e-Filing Portal will enable advocates and litigants, particularly those from remote areas, to file cases electronically without travelling to the Court, while the DMS will facilitate digital management of judicial records. The Online Recruitment Portal will streamline recruitment in the High Court and District Judiciary, promoting transparency, accessibility and efficiency.

Significantly, the Ladakh Bench shall function as a fully IT-enabled, paperless Court, equipped with modern digital infrastructure. The Court Complex also houses a dedicated Digitisation Centre, Filing Counter, Bar Room, Litigants' Sitting Area, Conference Room and Video

Conferencing (VC) Room, ensuring efficient and technology-driven judicial functioning.

The Chief Justice of India also initiated work for the installation of solar power systems at 11 locations, reinforcing the judiciary's commitment to renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure.

The CJI emphasised the role of technology and legal aid in ensuring access to justice in Ladakh and appreciated the e-Initiatives launched to overcome geographical barriers.

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Ashish Kumar Kundra, Chief Secretary, Union Territory of Ladakh, followed by the National Song and National Anthem.

Hearing of cases at the Ladakh bench will commence from October 21.

A division bench of Chief Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati and Justice Sanjay Parihar is expected to take up five cases on Wednesday.

Justice Parihar will also preside over a single bench and hear cases on Thursday and Friday as well.

The High Court has identified a total of 75 cases for listing before the bench situated in Leh.

The Union government had approved the establishment of the Ladakh bench for the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh in August this year. Following the decision, the High Court on October 5 selected Leh as the place for holding sittings of the High Court in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Before the establishment of the Ladakh bench, the High Court had two benches in Jammu and Srinagar.

Ladakh bench will be part of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, as it currently serves both Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Ladakh was carved out as a separate Union Territory in 2019 following the reorganisation of the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir.

The decision to establish a bench in Ladakh is aimed at bringing High Court services closer to litigants in Ladakh, where geographical distances can make access to judicial institutions more difficult.

Omar seeks action over attack on J&K bus

with the law, according to officials. "This unfortunate incident should never have taken place. I hope the Haryana government led by Nayab Singh Saini and Haryana police catch the culprits & take action to ensure these things don't happen again," the CM said in a post on X.

The bus, travelling from Delhi to Srinagar with around 40 passengers on board, was reportedly attacked by unidentified persons near Kurukshetra in Haryana, who allegedly pelted it with stones and bricks.

Two men were said to have been rounded up throwing stones at the bus following a dispute in Haryana's Karnal district, leaving a passenger and a 'dhaba' employee injured.

Centre abolishes 2 PCCF posts in J&K

issued on August 7, 2025. The two posts were initially created for two years from August 1, 2022, and their tenure was subsequently extended twice, with the latest extension ending on July 31, 2026.

2 feared drowned in Chenab

launched to trace her, officials said. In another incident, a youth, identified as Mohammad Imran, was said to have jumped into Chenab near his residence in Rajgarh area of Ramban district.

His body was also yet to be traced by the rescuers, officials said.

A purported suicide message, allegedly forwarded by Imran to his family from his mobile phone, claimed that he was taking the extreme step due to alleged harassment by some individuals over a financial dispute involving Rs 9 lakh, the officials added.

Cases in this connection were registered at the concerned police stations.

Pak extends airspace ban on Indian aircraft

covers military flights.

The latest extension will remain in effect until 4:59 am (local time) on November 24, 2026, according to the authority.

A PAA spokesperson said a fresh Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) had been issued to extend the ban.

Pakistan's airspace is divided into two flight information regions (FIRs) -- Karachi and Lahore, according to a Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) document from 2022. The latest NOTAM applies to both the Karachi and Lahore FIRs.

India and Pakistan imposed reciprocal airspace restrictions on each other's aircraft following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

India accused Pakistan of involvement in the attack, an allegation Islamabad denied. The incident was followed by a sharp escalation in diplomatic and military tensions between the two countries.

India closed its airspace to Pakistani airlines on April 30, 2025, in response to Pakistan's move.

Pakistan has imposed airspace restrictions on Indian

aircraft during previous periods of heightened tensions, including the 1999 Kargil conflict and the 2019 Pulwama crisis, according to Geo News.

The continuing airspace restrictions have affected airline operations between the two countries, forcing carriers to take longer routes on some international flights.

Many don't know about my decision: Trump on Russia sanctions waiver

named after her late brother Lindsey.

"Personally, I would choose to put the pressure on Russia to end the war and get gas prices down, because I don't trust Putin, and I don't trust Russia," said Graham, who was endorsed by Trump to fill in the Senate seat that fell vacant due to the death of her brother.

"Beyond irresponsible," said Senator Thom Tillis, a Republican from North Carolina, on social media.

"What part of enforcing a law passed 86-11 by the Senate does the President and his advisors not understand," Tillis said.

"It's unconscionable that this administration is capitulating to a Russian dictator who illegally invaded Ukraine," he said.

Tillis said that if Trump wants to actually bring down energy prices, he should resolve the Iran war, which is largely blamed for the spike at the pump, and not do a solid for Vladimir Putin.

Republican Senator John Cornyn of Texas said, "Lindsey would be appalled, referring to the late Senator Lindsey Graham, who worked endlessly on the bill before he died this summer.

Senator Elizabeth Warren, Democrat from Massachusetts, said Trump is thumbing his nose at Congress and enabling Vladimir Putin to continue his war of aggression. She urged her colleagues to take action to reverse course.

Amit Shah to visit Punjab on Oct 20

leader Ravneet Singh Bittu said on X.

Sources said Shah would visit Mansa to meet the family of anti-drug activist Parvinder Singh Jhota, who was shot dead on October 13.

He would then travel to Gurdaspur to meet the family of anti-drug activist Bikramjit Singh and might also visit Sangrur to meet the family of daily-wager Gulzar Singh.

Ministry of Home Affairs had on Friday written three letters to the Punjab chief secretary, seeking detailed reports on the recent alleged drug-related deaths and killings of Jhota, Bikramjit Singh and Gulzar Singh.

It will be Shah's second visit to Punjab within a month. He had visited Jalandhar on September 30 and addressed a rally marking the culmination of the BJP's 'Nasha Mukht Punjab Yatra', which began on September 18.

Govts change by power of ballot not threat of bullets: Naqvi

spiracy to defame, disturb, denigrate and destabilise the power of people's mandate through mischief at Jantar Mantar" will be defeated.

His remarks came after last week Union Minister Rajnath Singh lashed out at the Congress and its allies over protests in the national capital, accusing them of seeking a regime change along the lines of Bangladesh and using the energy of youth to spread "anarchy".

Addressing a press conference in Lucknow, Singh had asserted that democracy does not give anyone the licence to create disorder or undermine the credibility of constitutional institutions.

The Congress had hit back at the BJP over its "regime change" charge, saying the ruling party needs to be reminded of former president Pranab Mukherjee's statement that the job of the opposition in a democracy is to oppose, expose and depose.

The opposition party had said it categorically rejects any unconstitutional seizure of power as it believes in peaceful democratic mobilisation, constitutional institutions, free and fair elections and the sovereign will of the Indian people.

Iran def minister threatens 'enormous damage' if US attacks

vote. "Under such circumstances, defending the country requires an accurate understanding of the environment, an understanding of the logic behind developments, the identification of influential trends, and preparedness to face different possible futures," he added.

Although he does not hold a military rank, Akhlaghi has worked in the defence ministry for 42 years and has headed the Iranian Defence Industries Organisation, the state's weapons manufacturer, since 2013.

The United Nations sanctioned Akhlaghi in 2007 over his alleged involvement in nuclear or ballistic missile activities.

Rajnath to represent India at SCO meet in Tajikistan

strengthening multilateral cooperation among the member states of SCO, particularly in the areas of trade, economy, investment, connectivity, innovation and cultural-humanitarian exchanges, the defence ministry said.

India remains actively engaged in various SCO mechanisms and continues to contribute to regional cooperation through initiatives in areas such as startups and innovation, digital public infrastructure, and people-to-people exchanges, it said in a statement.

"Singh will visit Dushanbe to represent India at the 25th meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, scheduled to be held on October 19-20," the ministry said.

The forum is also expected to review the progress of the ongoing cooperation initiatives and consider decisions relating to the Organisation's financial and institutional functioning.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for India to exchange views with the other SCO member states on advancing practical and mutually beneficial cooperation within the Organisation, the ministry said.

The previous CHG meeting was held in Moscow on November 18 last year, where External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had represented India.

The SCO is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest transregional international organisations.

It was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017. Its other members include Iran and Belarus.

In April, Singh attended the SCO defence ministers' meeting at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Cong gears up for Uttarakhand polls; assigns tasks to office-bearers

tion. They will also apprise the state leadership of the concerns and suggestions raised by party workers.

He added that the Congress is consistently fighting on behalf of the public against the anti-people policies of the state's BJP government, addressing issues such as rising inflation, unemployment, corruption, deteriorating law and order, the increase in crimes against women, and the challenges faced by the youth and farmers.

"People of the state are distressed by the policies and governance style of the BJP administration and are yearning for change," he said, adding that the Congress will build a strong organisational structure and enter the upcoming assembly elections with complete unity and strength.

State Congress President Ganesh Godiyal said that those state-level officials who have not yet been assigned specific duties will be given responsibilities in the near future.

Additionally, tasks will soon be allocated to other senior party leaders, beyond those serving on the State Congress Executive Committee.

Collective participation essential to realising Viksit Bharat vision: Kavinder

humanity, service and collective welfare at the centre of its spiritual traditions. Our culture and civilisation are not merely a legacy of the past; they are a living responsibility that we must preserve, strengthen and pass on to the coming generations," Gupta said.

"India is progressing rapidly under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, with a clear national resolve to build a developed, self-reliant and strong India by 2047. The vision of Viksit Bharat can be realised only through the collective participation and contribution of every citizen," he added.

"Development must go hand in hand with the preservation of India's cultural identity, traditions, values and civilisational ethos. While embracing modernity and pursuing progress, the nation must remain firmly rooted in its cultural heritage and spiritual traditions," he said.

He stressed the need to preserve and pass on India's rich cultural legacy, moral values, traditional wisdom and civilisational ethos to future generations, ensuring that the country's progress remains firmly anchored in its timeless values.

The governor also expressed concern over attempts by certain elements to create divisions in society and weaken the age-old bonds of communal harmony and brotherhood.

He urged people to remain vigilant against forces that seek to create mistrust and discord among communities.

"India has been strengthened by its spirit of unity in diversity. We must not allow anyone to create a wedge between communities or disturb the social harmony that has been nurtured over centuries," he said, calling upon citizens to reject hatred, misinformation and divisive tendencies.

He said the teachings of India's saints and spiritual leaders have consistently emphasised love, compassion, service and universal brotherhood, and these values remain equally relevant in the present era.

On the occasion, Jagadguru Mahabrahmarshi Kumar Swami honoured Gupta with the 'Desh Ratna' Award.

Expressing his gratitude, the governor said the honour was a matter of pride as well as a renewed reminder of his responsibility towards society and the nation.

He said he accepted the honour with humility and would continue to work with greater dedication towards public service, social harmony and the larger national interest.

The governor also expressed his appreciation for the spiritual and social initiatives being undertaken by Jagadguru Mahabrahmarshi Kumar Swami and said such efforts contribute to strengthening moral and spiritual values in society.

Army officer's wife booked

Gandhi Nagar Police Station on Friday under the Official Secrets Act and relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), sources said.

The accused, who hails from Telangana and currently resides in Jammu with her husband, was questioned by a police officer as part of the investigation following the registration of FIR, sources said.

"The accused has not been arrested so far, and the preliminary inquiry has not established that any sensitive information was shared by her," the sources added.

Sources said investigators were also looking into the circumstances that led to the registration of the FIR and the allegations concerning possible links with foreign entities.

Formula 1 has a great fanbase in India, it has to come here, says Finnish great Mika Hakkinen

MUMBAI, OCT 18: Legendary Formula One driver and two-time world champion Mika Hakkinen believes the sport has a huge fan base in India, giving it all the more reason to make a comeback to the country.

Hakkinen said he realised the scale of Formula One's following in India after arriving in the country, with the Indian government setting in motion efforts to bring the sport back.

India hosted F1 races from 2011 to 2013, with all three races won by German driver Sebastian Vettel for Red Bull.

"You had a race in India quite a few years ago and I have understood there is some discussion. What I have recognised, being here in India, is that the fan base is huge," Hakkinen told PTI in an exclusive interview organised by FanCode, F1's official broadcast.

caster.

"Saying that, I think Formula 1 belongs to come to India. It has to come to India. Formula 1 used to have two Indian drivers in history, which activates, of course, even more this kind of reason why there should be a race in India.

"It is a beautiful opportunity for companies to come here in India and make a network and start doing business and vice versa. It is not only the publicity, it is a business overall. And you know what, just do it, guys."

With Kimi Antonelli on the verge of clinching the drivers' championship this season, Hakkinen said the young Italian was in a very good space and was being managed well by Mercedes.

"Kimi is definitely in a fantastic place. He is in a very good team and the team has



already been taking care of him from a very young age," Hakkinen said.

"When he was already driving a little Formula (earlier stages), Mercedes already had started recognising his talent. They put more financing, ef-

fort, helping him to perform and develop and progress. Before he was in Formula 1, he had already had a great experience of driving Formula 1.

"When you have a talent, it is not so difficult; driving Formula 1 is not so difficult. It is

the rest of what Formula 1 is bringing to your life is," he said.

Hakkinen, fondly known as "The Flying Finn", said it was important for a driver to bring the team along and manage the highs and lows well.

"You have to stay cool and calm and collective when you are racing. You need to be able to handle the pressure, and you need to be a great person to communicate with the engineers, so he has done a great job," Hakkinen said.

"Formula 1, most of the time, is (about) losing. You need to have a personality that way you can handle this losing."

"You cannot be calm and cold all the time. You need to show your emotions, but at the right place and at the right time. But yeah, the only thing I want to say is that Kimi is do-

ing absolutely fantastic work considering his experience and his age."

Hakkinen, who won the world championship in 1998 and 1999 during Michael Schumacher's era, believes Max Verstappen and Red Bull have done well to turn their season around.

"I am sure he is happier (now, compared to the start of the season). Definitely, for Max's example, I am really impressed how the team was able to turn it around at such a fast speed in their development. Anyway, Max is a great driver," Hakkinen said.

"But it doesn't matter how good you are. If you don't have the right machine, you cannot succeed. You cannot get the success. Max and the team have done great work together to be able to lift the team where they are today," he

added.

Hakkinen did not read much into all that has been happening in the Ferrari camp, putting his confidence in the skills of Lewis Hamilton and the legacy of the company.

"It's interesting, I think Lewis and (Charles) Leclerc, how they are doing this. There is a lot of talking at the moment. I'm from Finland, so I'd rather talk less and more action. So that this is the area where I'm quite surprised," Hakkinen said.

"It's a way of also putting a bit of pressure on the team. That way you talk and you tell everybody. It's a very fine balance how it works. But from what I can see, the Ferrari has made a beautiful development and they know they are not there yet. I think Lewis has done brilliant work; absolutely fantastic driving."