

**03** 11 years of Modi Govt redefined contours of governance: Dr Jitendra

**03** Mobilize community to minimize forest fires: CS

**09** DGP reviews arrangements for paramilitary forces to be deployed for Amarnath Yatra

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## London-bound AI plane crashes near Ahmedabad airport; One Survived, Ex-Guj CM Rupani among 265 killed



■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AHMEDABAD: At least 265 people were killed on Thursday when a London-bound Air India plane carrying 242 passengers and crew crashed into a medical college complex here and burst into a ball of fire less than a minute after takeoff, an official said. The dead in the country's worst air disaster in recent times included several people on the ground. While one passenger identified as Vishwash Kumar Ramesh survived the crash near the airport involving the

Boeing 787 Dreamliner(AI 171), BJP leader C R Paatil said former Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was among the dead. "265 bodies have reached the city civil hospital as per the message we received," Deputy Commissioner of Police Kanan Desai told reporters late in the night several hours after the twin-engine wide-body aircraft crashed in the city civil hospital and BJ Medical College outside the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport

- ▶▶ **230 passengers-169-Indians, 53-British, 7-Portuguese, one Canadian: 2-pilots; 10-crew members**
- ▶▶ **Vishwaskumar Ramesh on seat 11-A miraculously walks out after deadly crash**
- ▶▶ **Black box recovered; 265 bodies brought to hospital**
- ▶▶ **Air India plane crashes into Doctors' hostel**

perimeter. Several bodies were reported to be charred beyond recognition. Four MBBS students and a doctor's wife were among those killed, a senior official said. Several students were impacted after parts of the plane smashed into a dining hall at lunch time in the multi-storey hostel building. According to Air India, of the 230 passengers, 169 were Indians, 53 British, seven Portuguese and one Canadian. The other 12 people on board were two pilots and 10 crew members.

Ramesh, who was seated in 11A, largely remained unscathed after the miraculous escape. He was seen in TV footage walking around after the crash. Ramesh was admitted to the trauma ward of the Ahmedabad civil hospital, Dr Shriq M told PTI. The lucky passenger was travelling to London with his brother. Union minister Amit Shah told reporters that the temperature in the ill-fated plane was so high due to burning fuel that there was no chance to save anyone.

At the same time, Shah told reporters, "The good news is that one person survived the crash and I am coming here after meeting him. "There was 1.25 lakh litres of fuel inside the plane and it caught heat so it was impossible to save anyone," Shah said. "The number of those killed will be officially released by the authorities after DNA test and identification of the victims." As rescuers struggled to find survivors in the charred wreckage and pull out the injured, many of them with grievous burns, officials tried to assess the human magnitude of the disaster. The pilot of the plane issued a 'Mayday' distress call, denoting a full emergency, soon after takeoff at 1.39 pm, the Air Traffic Control at Ahmedabad said. The search was also on for the aircraft's black box -- the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder -- for clues to understand what happened in the last

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## Death count can be given only after DNA test: Amit Shah



Home Minister Amit Shah meeting lone survivor Vishwash Kumar Ramesh at hospital.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
AHMEDABAD: Union Home Minister Amit Shah

said on Thursday that the temperature in the Air India plane which crashed in

Ahmedabad was so high due to burning fuel that there was no chance to save anyone. "There was 1.25 lakh litre of fuel inside the plane and it caught heat so it was impossible to save anyone," Shah told reporters. The entire nation is in deep shock following the tragedy, he said. Shah also expressed condolences to relatives of those killed in the accident. "The number of those killed will be officially released by the authorities after DNA test and identification of

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**Delhi HC denies bail to Shabir Shah**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Thursday refused to grant bail to Kashmiri separatist leader Shabir Ahmad Shah in a terror funding case, observing the possibility of him carrying out similar unlawful activities and influencing witnesses couldn't be ruled out. A bench of Justices Navin Chawla and Shalinder Kaur said the Constitution of India provides for a right to freedom of speech and expression, but it also places reasonable restrictions such as public order, decency, morality or incitement to an offence. "This right cannot be misused under the garb of carrying out rallies wherein, a person uses inflammatory speeches or instigates the public to commit unlawful activities, detrimental to the interest and integrity

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**WEATHER**

**Temperature (Jammu)**  
Max: 43.6°C Min: 29.5°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 52 Min: 19

**Temperature (Srinagar)**  
Max: 34.2°C Min: 18.4°C

**Humidity**  
Max: 56 Min: 27

Sunset : 19:38 Hours  
Sunrise : 05:21 Hours

## CB arrests 3 main accused in multi-crore embezzlement case

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Crime Branch (CB) on Thursday arrested three main accused for multi-crore embezzlement and criminal breach of trust in a business establishment. According to a CB official, the arrested accused have been identified as Dikshant Anand, son of Harvinder Anand, resident of Rehambal Udhampur; Narinder Chopra, son of Satish Kumar Chopra, resident of Lakhdatta Bazar Jammu and Amit Sharma, son of Bahadur Chand Sharma, resident of Preet Nagar Jammu, all employees of M/S Jammu Flour Mills.

"An FIR was lodged on the written complaint of Arun Mahajan, Managing Partner, M/S Jammu Flour Mills, Gangyal, Jammu wherein he alleged that three employees of Jammu Flour Mills who had been functioning as Area Salesman, Billing clerk and Accountant committed criminal breach of trust & embezzlement of Rs. 2 Crores to Rs. 2.50 Crores by resorting to a well-planned criminal conspiracy," the official said. The official added, "The complainant got conducted a comprehensive audit of the accounts of the Flour Mills by the Chartered

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## Chronology of air crashes in India

**Air India Express Flight 1344 (2020):** During the COVID-19 pandemic, Air India Express Flight 1344, operating as part of the Vande Bharat repatriation mission, skidded off the runway while landing at the Kozhikode (Calicut) International Airport on August 7, 2020. Amid heavy rain-fall, the aircraft overshot the wet tabletop runway, plunged into a valley and split into two. Of the 190 people on board, 21, including two pilots, lost their lives.

**Air India Express Flight 812 (2010):** Air India Express Flight 812 overshot the runway while landing at the Mangaluru International Airport in Karnataka on May 22, 2010. The Boeing 737-800, coming from Dubai, plunged into a gorge beyond the tabletop runway and burst into flames, killing 158 people. The tragic incident brought increased scrutiny to India's tabletop airports and landing protocols during adverse conditions.

**Alliance Air Flight 7412 (2000):** Alliance Air Flight 7412 crashed into a densely populated residential area in Bihar's Patna while attempting to land on July 17, 2000. The Boeing 737-200 experienced a stall at low altitude due to the reported improper handling during the final approach. Sixty people were killed, including five on the ground. The accident prompted upgrades to approach

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**GoC reviews security situation in Rajouri, Doda**

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: General Officer Commanding White knight Corps Lieutenant General PK Mishra on Thursday visited forward posts and hinterland bases in Rajouri and Doda districts to assess the security situation in the region. He commended the troops for their professionalism and high standards in handling challenging conditions.

"GOC, Whiteknight along with GOC Cif(Delta) and GOC Ace of Spades Division, conducted a comprehensive review of operational preparedness during visits to forward posts in

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## Govt to revive Tulbul project in J&K: Khattar



Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar briefing media.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said the government will revive the Tulbul project on the Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir as it no longer needs Pakistan's consent after the Centre put the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) in abeyance. The Union Minister also said India will "definitely" work on new hydro-electric projects in the wake of

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## India foiled 2 lakh cyberattacks during Op Sindoor: Khattar

SRINAGAR: India foiled around two lakh cyberattacks targeting its power infrastructure in over the week during the Operation Sindoor, Union Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar said here on Thursday. "Since the advancement in technology, new dangers have emerged -- cyberattacks or cybercrimes. There has been an increase in these, but the government has worked on it, and our cybersecurity has almost stopped all such dangers," Khattar told reporters here.

He was addressing a press conference on the completion of 11 years of the BJP-led Central government. "There have been many cyberattacks on the country. As far as the Power department is concerned, around two lakh cyberattacks were attempted, but our cyber department foiled each one of them, and there were no losses," the minister said. Khattar said these attempts were made in "eight to ten days" around the time Operation Sindoor went underway. Asked whether the attacks were made from within the country or outside it, the minister

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## Reviews works plan of Estates, Revenue, Tourism, Culture departments CM stresses on timely approval of plans, execution of projects



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah chairing a meeting at Srinagar.

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Thursday chaired a series of departmental review meetings to take stock of the Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) plans for the year 2025-26 of

the Estates, Revenue, Tourism and Culture departments. The high-level discussions were attended by Advisor to the Chief Minister Nasir Aslam Wani, Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief

Secretary Estates Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister Dheeraj Gupta, Principal Secretary Finance Santosh D Vaidya, Principal Secretary Culture Brij Mohan Sharma, Commissioner Secretary Tourism Yasha Mudgal, Secretary Revenue Kumar Rajiv Ranjan and other senior officials and heads of concerned departments. During the review, the Chief Minister emphasized the importance of ensuring immediate approval of plans, authorization of funds and execution of development projects thereby strengthening the institutional capacity, and creating impactful outcomes.

He underscored the need for close monitoring, effective coordination, and optimum use

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## CAT grants relief to PO Rajesh Bakshi in seniority dispute; orders restoration of merit-based position

■ **STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a landmark ruling that reinforces the importance of merit and fairness in public service recruitment, the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jammu Bench, has quashed the seniority list of Prosecuting Officers dated December 6, 2003, and directed that Rajesh Bakshi, Prosecuting Officer in the Jammu & Kashmir Police, be accorded seniority based on his performance in the selection examination for the 1998 batch. The Tribunal, comprising Rajinder Singh Dogra

(Judicial Member) and Ram Mohan Johri (Administrative Member), delivered the judgment in a case originally filed in the Jammu & Kashmir High Court and later transferred following the reorganization of the erstwhile state into a Union Territory. The origins of this case go back to 1997, when Rajesh Bakshi applied for the post of Prosecuting Officer in the Jammu & Kashmir Police, in response to Advertisement Notice dated 1st December 1997. However, during the written examination conducted on 18th September

1998, a clerical error resulted in his name being mistakenly recorded as "Rajan Bakshi." This error caused considerable confusion, resulting in a delay in his entry into the examination hall and adversely affecting his performance. Consequently, he failed to qualify. Determined to seek justice, Bakshi filed SWP No. 522/1999 in the J&K High Court, seeking a direction to the authorities to allow him to retake the exam. Acknowledging the administrative error, the court

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