

HIGH-LEVEL COMMITTEE TO FIND 'ROOT CAUSE' OF AI PLANE CRASH

To assess any contributing factors including mechanical failure, human error & regulatory compliances; death toll rises to 270



NDRF and security personnel at the site of the Air India plane crash, in Ahmedabad, Saturday

PTI, NEW DELHI/AHMEDABAD: The Centre on Saturday set up a high-level multi-disciplinary panel to ascertain the "root cause" of the crash of the London-bound Air India plane in Ahmedabad and assess any contributing factors including mechanical failure, human error and regulatory compliances even as the death toll in the disaster rose to 270.

As the panel headed by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan was mandated to give its report in three months, Civil Aviation Minister K Ram Mohan Naidu said aviation regulator DGCA has ordered "extended surveillance"

for the Tata-owned airline's Boeing 787 Dreamliner series planes. The Civil Aviation ministry said the committee will not be a substitute to other probes being conducted by relevant organisations.

In a post on X, Air India said it has done one-time safety checks on nine of its Boeing 787 Dreamliners and is on track to complete the checks on the remaining 24 such planes as directed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The carrier now has 26 Boeing 787-8s and seven Boeing 787-9s in its fleet.

All but one of the 242 passengers and crew on board

the Boeing 787-8 (AI171) and another 29 persons including five MBBS students on the ground were

killed when the aircraft came down on Thursday moments after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Air-

port before falling inside the nearby campus of the State-run BJ Medical Col-

lege in Meghaninagar area and going up in flames.

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Silent online gambling fever sweeps over Goa

Ponda teen's suicide exposes gaps in enforcement despite govt crackdown

Verna Police Arrest Three in Online Roulette Gambling Bust at Nagao

Goa Police Arrest 45 in Crackdown on Illegal Online Betting During IPL Season

19-Year-Old Ponda Youth Dies by Suicide After Online Gambling Losses

KARSTEN MIRANDA

MARGAO: The death by suicide of a 19-year-old Ponda youth following online gambling losses has reignited concerns about digital addiction among Goa's young population, highlighting persistent challenges facing authorities despite intensified enforcement efforts.

Earlier this year, the cybercrime cell of Goa Police announced it had blocked 61 gambling websites as part of their ongoing crackdown on illegal online gambling activities. Since November 2024, authorities have blocked numerous websites and accounts, representing a significant escalation from two years ago when concerns were primarily raised in legislative forums through Assembly debates highlighting multiple suicide cases.

Cybercrime SP Rahul Gupta emphasised the urgency of these measures, stating that online gambling has long been a serious concern due to numerous instances of fraud and financial exploitation. The blocking, carried out under provisions of Section 168 of the BNS, Section 79 (3)(b) of the IT Act, and Rule 3(1)(d) of the IT Rules, aims to

“Online gambling has long been a serious concern due to numerous instances of fraud and financial exploitation. The blocking, carried out under provisions of Section 168 of the BNS, Section 79 (3)(b) of the IT Act, and Rule 3(1)(d) of the IT Rules, aims to protect vulnerable individuals from fraudulent activities. I appeal to the public to report illegal online gambling activities for prompt action

– Rahul Gupta, Cybercrime SP



protect vulnerable individuals from fraudulent activities. Gupta has appealed to the public to report illegal online gambling activities for prompt action.

Peter F Borges, former Chairperson of the Goa State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (GSCPCR), who has been actively calling for stringent action over recent years, advocates for a regulatory rather than prohibitive approach. He emphasised the critical importance of age-gating mechanisms to verify users' ages before permitting access to online services, stressing that solutions require coordinated efforts from government, society, and families.

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Iran launches missile, drone strikes on Israel, 3 killed

AP, DUBAI: Iran launched retaliatory missile and drone strikes on Israel into Saturday morning, killing at least three people and wounding dozens, after a series of blistering Israeli attacks on the heart of Iran's nuclear programme and its armed forces.

Israel's assault used war-

planes — as well as drones smuggled into the country in advance, according to officials — to assault key facilities and kill top generals and scientists.

Iran's UN ambassador said 78 people were killed and more than 320 wounded in the attacks.

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'TEHRAN WILL BURN' IF IRAN CONTINUES FIRING MISSILES: ISRAEL

PTI, JERUSALEM: Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz has warned Iran that "Tehran will burn" if it continues firing missiles at Israel as tensions escalated between the two nations.

His comments came after Iran launched retaliatory strikes on Israel following Israel's attack on Iran's nuclear, missile and military complex.

"The Iranian dictator is turning the citizens of Iran into hostages," Katz said.

MISSING DEADLINES: Smart City works still on during monsoon

Contractor engaged in removing footpath pavers to install cables; special purpose vehicle had assured HC that all works will be ready by May 31

Team Herald

PANJIM: Though the Imagine Panaji Smart City Development Limited (IPSCDL), the special purpose vehicle, had assured the High Court of Bombay at Goa that all works will be completed by May 31 this year, the work of digging is still going on as late as June 14.

At Tonca, on the perimeters of Panjim, the Smart City contractor's labourers were seen removing the pavers of the footpath and installing cables. The question remains is once the pavers are laid and the footpath is done up, who will pay for removing the pavers, digging and laying cables afresh?

The digging works are going on despite the Public Works Department (PWD) had banned digging during the monsoon.



Pavers of the footpath at Tonca have been removed to install cables

However, this is being ignored by the Smart City contractor even after the IPSCDL had stated that it had completed all road works by May 31.

Bagkiya Construction Pvt Ltd engineer Rahul on Saturday told O Herald that some work was

going on in front of the Caculo Mall at Tonca.

He informed that the company had been carrying out Smart City work in the capital city for the last two years.

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“Some work is going on in front of the Caculo Mall at Tonca. The company has been carrying out Smart City work in the capital city for the last two years. We were not undertaking any excavation work. We are doing some work to connect the cables to the main section. The work would be completed within next two days and by Monday it would be all over

– Rahul, Bagkiya Construction Pvt Ltd engineer

Ex-Minnesota House speaker, hubby killed in shooting: Guv

AP, BLAINE: Minnesota Governor Tim Walz says former state House Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband were shot and killed in a politically motivated assassination, and a second lawmaker and his wife were shot and wounded. Authorities were actively searching for a suspect hours after the targeted killings.

"We must all, in Minnesota and across the country, stand against all forms of political violence," Walz said at a press conference Saturday. "Those responsible for this will be held accountable."

The wounded lawmaker was identified as state Sen. John Hoffman, a Democrat first elected in 2012. He previously served as vice chair of the Anoka Hennepin School Board, which manages the largest school district in Minnesota. Hoffman is married and has one daughter and represents a district north of Minneapolis.

Hortman was the top House Democratic leader in the State Legislature and a former House speaker. She was first elected in 2004. She and her husband had two children.

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Rains, gusty winds disrupt power supply across Goa

Trees, branches crash on electricity wires and poles; orange alert on June 15 & 16

Team Herald

PANJIM: Normal life in the State was thrown out of gear on Saturday as heavy rains accompanied by gusty winds disrupted power supply at several places across the State due to uprooting of trees and branches on overhead electricity wires and poles.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Saturday had issued a red alert for South Goa district, warning of extremely heavy rainfall at isolated places.

North Goa also received very heavy rainfall at isolated places and heavy rainfall at a few locations during the day.

The intense spell of rain is expected to persist, with the IMD issuing an orange alert as the State is expected to receive heavy to very heavy showers at isolated places on June 15 and 16, followed by a yellow alert (heavy rainfall at isolated places) for next four days from June 17 to 20.

Late evening, the IMD issued a weather warning mentioning light to moder-

ate rain with strong surface winds of speed 40-50 kmph is very likely to continue at most places over North Goa and South Goa in the next three to four hours.

The IMD has further cautioned about the possibility of thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and strong surface winds blowing at 50-60 kmph, gusting up to 70 kmph, across isolated areas in the State.

Earlier, the IMD in its daily weather forecast bulletin stated that the Southwest monsoon remains active over the State. Residents and visitors are advised to brace for very heavy rainfall, thunderstorms, and strong winds in the coming days. Pernem recorded 145.8 mm of very heavy rainfall, Mapusa 89.2 mm and Panjim 67.8 mm, both categorised as heavy rainfall.

The fire department personnel were kept on their toes as they had to attend several calls, mostly uprooting trees.

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