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World has not forgotten 9/11, 26/11, Pahalgam attacks, says India

tion Sindoor, "surely the Pakistani state knows his whereabouts".

In May last year, India had launched Operation Sindoor targeting terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in retaliation for the dastardly April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir perpetrated by The Resistance Front, a proxy of Pakistan-based terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba, in which 26 civilians, mostly tourists were killed.

Earlier this month, India had dismissed as "gimmicks" Pakistan's fresh announcement of a bounty of seven million rupees on Azhar, demanding that Islamabad take "concrete action" to combat terrorism.

India has for years accused Pakistan of sheltering Azhar, while Pakistan has maintained that he fled to Afghanistan - a claim rejected by Afghanistan's Taliban government.

For the last few years, Islamabad has claimed that the JeM founder has been operating from Afghanistan.

However, the Taliban regime dismissed Pakistan's repeated claims, with a senior Afghan Foreign Ministry official saying he is not in the country.

Islamabad's fresh announcement on the reward for information on Azhar came as it faces pressure from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) to crack down on terror groups and their leadership.

The Paris-based global watchdog is set to review Pakistan's anti-terrorism efforts at its upcoming plenary.

Pakistan was placed under the FATF grey list between 2018 and 2022 for its systemic deficiencies in anti-money laundering and its failure to counter-terror financing.

Puri also recalled a recent statement by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, daughter of former Pakistan prime minister Nawaz Sharif, who had said, "The unfortunate thing is that the threat [Punjab] faces comeless from my neighbouring countries and more from my neighbouring provinces."

Exposing this "dark secret", Puri said, "You cannot run with the hares and hunt with the hounds. Reality never works like that."

"When terrorist groups are allowed to operate under state political power, international commitments become meaningless and when perpetrators are provided safe havens, the victims of terrorism are denied justice," he said.

"The world has not forgotten 9/11 and where its perpetrators, including Osama bin Laden, were caught. The world has not forgotten 26/11. The world has not forgotten Pahalgam," Puri said, adding that the list, "unfortunately", is painfully long.

"The victims in Pahalgam were not asked about their political orientation, they were asked about their religion. It is therefore deeply ironic that Pakistan speaks of combating religious hatred while allowing the conditions that enable it to persist and thrive, especially by fomenting cross-border terrorism," he said.

"Pakistan continues with its narrative building, misinformation, and disinformation. If bombed-out airfields and cratered runways look like victory to Pakistan, they are of course welcome to enjoy it," Puri said.

"Any regime against terrorism to be effective must do two things: assign responsibility and ensure accountability. India will defend its people, and continued terrorism against India will have consequences," he added.

In another Right of Reply, Puri said India rejected Pakistan's "circular economy" of words and narratives.

"If this much effort had actually been made in countering terrorism rather than narrative building, misinformation, and disinformation, the world would have been a better place. But nothing more can be expected from a Form 47 government," he said, referring to a term used to describe allegations of rigging and manipulation in Pakistan's 2024 general elections.

Tax officers' arrest powers scrapped, prosecution threshold raised

ing refund claims from 15 days to 10 days. Claims will be deemed acknowledged if no acknowledgement or deficiency memo is issued within that period.

Under the new system, 90 pc of eligible refund claims will be sanctioned automatically following risk assessment, with orders issued within three working days instead of seven.

Refunds of excess balances in electronic cash ledgers will also become fully automatic.

The Council approved in principle an optional annual return scheme for businesses with turnover of up to Rs 5 cr that supply exclusively to consumers. Eligible taxpayers will file returns annually while paying GST quarterly.

It also approved a Rs 10,000 minimum threshold for issuing show-cause notices.

Small sellers operating through e-commerce platforms will be allowed to use a platform operator's warehouse as their principal place of business in another state, subject to conditions, eliminating the need to establish separate physical premises.

GST registration and amendments will also be simplified through automated approvals and technology-led processes.

The Council approved input tax credit on health and life insurance purchased by businesses for employees, along with telecommunications towers, certain pipelines, free samples and specified expired stock.

It also extended refunds under the inverted duty structure to input services and removed the exclusion of plant and machinery from refunds for exporters and eligible businesses.

Refund eligibility for input services will apply to credit availed on or after November 1, 2026, while plant and machinery refunds will apply to credit availed on or after April 1, 2027.

On protecting genuine buyers from ITC reversals caused by supplier defaults, the Council decided to constitute a committee of officers. The committee will submit its findings within three months for consideration at the next meeting.

The Council approved clarifications allowing services provided through overseas branches and work undertaken in India on goods belonging to foreign clients to qualify for export benefits.

It also restricted physical checks of goods in transit to cases involving specific intelligence and prior authorisation from an officer not below the rank of Joint Commissioner. Only the originating and destination states will be permitted to inspect goods in transit, reducing repeated checks along transport routes.

The Council made no changes to GST rates, with the Finance Ministry stating that the existing rate structure was settled.

According to the ministry, taxable supplies have risen 25.8 pc, from Rs 40.19 lakh crore to Rs 50.58 lakh crore a month, following the introduction of the two-rate structure.

The effective tax rate on domestic supplies declined from 14.55 pc to 13.13 pc, while GST revenue grew 11 pc in

FY2026-27 compared with the previous year.

"The CBIC is working to implement a centralised assessment system for about 2 lakh taxpayers registered under central GST jurisdiction but having businesses in multiple states by April 1," Sitharaman told a press conference after the 57th GST Council meeting.

Currently, there are about 69.5 lakh taxpayers exclusively in CGST jurisdiction. Amongst those, about 2 lakh are under multiple CGST jurisdictions either within one state or across different states.

"Going forward, we intend to bring a centralised tax administration for these multiple CGST jurisdiction taxpayers with a unified window for all their CGST-related functions," she said.

The minister said it approved a concept note on the proposal of a single window for scrutiny of returns, audit, adjudications, appeals, taxpayer services and grievance redressal for CGST taxpayers.

She said the framework for faceless assessment for CGST taxpayers will be put up for consultation and will be implemented from the next fiscal year, 2027-28.

Under the proposed framework, tax notices, hearings and orders would be dealt with on a national platform rather than individual formations.

It would be similar to the faceless assessment system.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) Chairman Vivek Chaturvedi said the faceless assessment framework will be put up for public consultation by the end of this year.

Under the Goods and Services Tax (GST), taxpayers have been divided between CGST and SGST officers based on a formula decided by the GST Council to ensure a single interface.

All administrative control over 90 per cent of taxpayers having turnover below Rs 1.5 crore vests with state tax administration. The remaining 10 per cent is with central tax administration.

Taxpayers with turnover above Rs 1.5 crore are divided equally between Central and state tax administration.

As part of the plan, the CBIC is working towards a centralised system for taxpayers in its jurisdiction, under which notices, hearings and orders would be handled on one national platform rather than through individual formations.

A taxpayer registered under CGST operating in several states would then deal with one system instead of several offices, a source said, adding that "the work is at the design stage, and it is the direction in which central administration of this tax is moving".

LG, CM grieved over Ramban road accident

Meanwhile, expressing his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families, the chief minister conveyed his solidarity with them in this hour of grief.

He directed the administration and medical authorities to ensure the best possible medical treatment and all necessary assistance to the injured, and to closely monitor their condition.

HC announces changes in working days, holidays

the high court calendar, is declared as a working day, and in lieu of that November 24 is declared as holiday on account of Guru Nanak Dev's birthday for the high court of J&K and Ladakh," says the notification.

Additionally, November 5, 2026 (Thursday) has been declared a working day, and in exchange, November 24, 2026 (Tuesday) will be observed as a holiday on account of Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Birthday.

HC announces changes in working days, holidays

legedly emerged as an associate of Vikas Slathia alias Vicky Khauf & Rohit Kumar alias Makhan, both linked to an alleged illegal weapons supply network and criminal activities in the Jammu region.

The investigation pointed to Vansh's links with Punjab-based gangsters who were reportedly planning to procure illegal weapons and carry out a targeted attack in Punjab, officials alleged.

A case against the accused was registered at the concerned police station.

IAF alert, ready to meet any challenges: Air Chief Marshal

The three service chiefs and other senior military officials were present at the event. Several former IAF chiefs were also in attendance.

Air Chief Marshal Singh arrived at the parade venue in a 1960s-era vintage car, with three helicopters in 'Dhwaj' formation flying past him.

The IAF has put on static display on the tarmac fighter jets such as Rafale, Su-30 MKI, Jaguar; helicopters such as LCH Prachand and ALH Dhruv; and critical weapon and air defence systems.

Prez's visit has strengthened her

cherished bond with HP people: Kavinder

cherished bond between the highest constitutional office of the country and the people of Himachal Pradesh.

The governor expressed her gratitude for the valuable time spent in the state and conveyed his best wishes for a safe, pleasant and blessed journey ahead.

16 Indian seafarers killed in West Asia conflicts

Ayatollah Syed Ali Khamenei and several top commanders.

The Strait of Hormuz, a narrow choke point in West Asia, is a crucial shipping route that connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.

Modi calls for global framework on cyberfraud, deepfakes

financial institutions - all will need to connect with this framework. I urge the GSMA and telecom operators across the world: come, let us create a global mechanism that can stop such fraud before it reaches the people," Modi said.

Industry body GSMA represents mobile network operators and companies across the global ecosystem.

Modi said strengthening the security framework around telecom and digital technologies was equally crucial for their rapid expansion, with phone and network security becoming priorities.

He said India has learnt a lot from its experiences in this direction, and is always ready to share its experiences with the world.

For an ordinary citizen, he said, trust means knowing who is calling, whether a message is genuine or fake, whether a payment is safe and whether personal data is secure. Mobile phones had evolved beyond being a means of communication and had become an important tool for governance and delivery of public services, the PM noted, and emphasised the need to strengthen safeguards against cyber threats in a growing digital ecosystem.

Modi also highlighted India's experience with digital gov-

ernance and said Direct Benefit Transfer had enabled nearly Rs 50 lakh crore to be sent directly to beneficiaries' mobile-linked bank accounts. He said nearly Rs 5 lakh crore had been saved from going into the "wrong hands".

Modi asserted that he was determined to stop "wrong practices".

"Now tell me, those whose ill-gotten income has stopped, will they love Modi? Did I do the right thing or not? Should it be done or not? Should all these wrong practices be stopped or not? No matter how much they shout or scream, I am determined to get it done," he vowed.

He observed that had the old system prevailed, Rs 5 lakh crore of the government would have gone into leakages, filling the pockets of such people.

"Modi has stopped this," he said adding that the money is now reaching rightful beneficiaries and being used for the right causes.

The prime Minister also said that India had moved from being a consumer to a creator in the telecom sector and was advancing towards designing products and owning technology and intellectual property in the country.

He said the India Mobile Congress had an important role to play in shaping the roadmap for the next decade of the mobile market, not just in India but globally.

Modi was speaking at the inaugural session of 10th edition of the India Mobile Congress (IMC) being held in New Delhi during October 7-10.

Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, Bharti group Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal, Reliance Jio Info-comm Chairman Akash Ambani and Aditya Birla Group Chairman Kumar Mangalam Birla were among those present at the inaugural session.

Organised jointly by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI), IMC 2026 centres on the theme 'Scale Without Boundaries', highlighting India's growing mettle in digital innovation, next-generation connectivity and technology-led growth.

The event focuses on next-generation digital infrastructure, technology-led economic growth, inclusive digital access and secure ecosystems. It brings together global technology leaders, policymakers, industry experts, startups, investors and innovators to discuss emerging opportunities across the digital ecosystem.

The 2026 edition will cover nine anchor sectors, including 5G and 6G, next-generation AI networks, semiconductors, non-terrestrial networks, cybersecurity, quantum communication, enterprise transformation, circular economy and ESG, and electronics manufacturing.

It will also deliberate on four new areas -- smart mobility, stadium experiences, industrial robotics and transport technology. The event is expected to draw over 1.5 lakh attendees from more than 100 countries, with participation from 500-plus partners and exhibitors, over 600 startups and 900 thought leaders. It features more than 2,000 technology use cases and over 120 sessions.

Veteran actor Nana Patekar passes away

according to sources.

The actor was brought to a private hospital after he was found unconscious at his apartment in Dona Paula, near Panaji, Dr Shekhar Salkar, a senior doctor at the medical facility said.

Despite being administered CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) for 45 minutes, Patekar could not be revived and was declared dead at 5.10 am, he said.

A medico-legal case had been registered in this connection, and a postmortem would be conducted, he added.

As per information provided by a friend of Patekar to the hospital doctors, the actor had messaged him around 3.30 am that he was not feeling well.

"The friend saw the message around 4 am and rushed to the apartment of Patekar, who was living with a caretaker," Salkar said.

The caretaker rushed to the private hospital, from where an ambulance was sent to his house. "The treatment started in the ambulance itself," Salkar said.

Patekar's residence is about 5 minutes away from the hospital.

The doctors tried to revive him after being brought to the hospital, but he was declared dead at 5.10 am.

The body had been sent to Goa Medical College and Hospital, Bambolim, where the postmortem would be conducted to ascertain the exact cause of death, Salkar said.

The actor's sudden death shocked his fans and industry colleagues as he seemed to be in good health as he attended an event here.

Condoling Patekar's death, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the actor leaves a deep void.

"Few actors possessed the intensity, individuality and unmistakable presence that Shri Nana Patekar Ji had. He brought remarkable versatility and creativity to every role and gave us characters that will be remembered for generations. He was also admired for his frank and forthright views, never hesitating to express what he believed in," the PM said in a post on X.

"Nana Patekar's contribution to Hindi and Marathi cinema was immense. His passing leaves a deep void. My condolences to his family, friends and countless admirers. Om Shanti," he added.

Actor Akshay Kumar, who worked with Patekar on blockbuster comedy "Welcome", said he had so many memories from their time together on the set that he will hold dear.

"Really saddened by the news of Nana's passing. He was one of those rare actors who never needed to do too much to make you sit up and watch. That voice, that intensity, that honesty in every performance... he was completely his own," Akshay wrote in a post on X.

"Nana was truly one of a kind. It's hard to believe you're gone. Thank you for all the memories. You will be missed more than words can say," said the actor, who last collaborated with Patekar for 2025's "Housefull 5".

Actor R Madhavan said he was deeply moved and inspired by his performance in the 1991 critically-acclaimed movie film "Pahaar: The Final Attack". Patekar trained with the Army for two years for his directorial debut.

"A legend moves on. Thank you for the unforgettable moments in the Theatres, and the invaluable lessons to actors. I still remember exactly how moved and inspired I felt after watching 'Pahaar'. There will be none other like you, sir. RIP."

Kangana Ranaut said the news was particularly shocking because Patekar appeared to be in good health.

"Such a terrible and tragic news especially because Nana looked so fit and healthy. OM Shanti," she wrote.

Known for his intensity and distinct style of dialogue delivery, Patekar graduated from small roles to become one of the most versatile leading men of his era.

He was born as Vishwanath Patekar into a Marathi family in Murud-Janjira in Raigad district. The actor often credited his father for encouraging his talent as a performer.

Patekar was known for his roles in several Hindi and

Marathi films.

His notable Hindi movies include "Parinda", "Pahaar: The Final Act", "Tirangaa", "Krantiveer" and "Khamoshi: The Musical".

Patekar was a recipient of three National Film Awards, several Filmfare Awards, the Maharashtra State Film Award and Filmfare Awards Marathi.

He had also received Padma Shri, the country's fourth-highest civilian honour.

In 2018, Patekar was accused of sexual harassment by actor Tanushree Dutta on a movie set and the allegation led to the start of India's MeToo movement. An FIR was registered against the actor, who consistently denied the allegations. The case was later closed due to insufficient evidence.

Patekar is survived by his wife and son Malhar.

GST Council decisions will strengthen

J&K's fiscal position: Omar

was on faster decisions and lower compliance costs.

"I welcome the new round of GST reforms approved by the GST Council. The Council's recommendations on removal of arrest provisions, greater decriminalisation and simpler procedures will have a very positive impact," he said and added, "The focus is clear."

The Council has also left the choice of punishment to judicial discretion, rather than prescribing a minimum. Together, these steps signal that procedural lapses will be treated as civil matters, not criminal ones. For compliant businesses, especially MSMEs, this should ease much of the anxiety that has surrounded GST enforcement.

The refund reforms will matter most to exporters and to businesses with an inverted duty structure. The acknowledgement timeline drops from 15 days to 10, with deemed acknowledgement if the department does not respond. On a risk basis, 80 pc of a refund claim is to be sanctioned within three working days. Extending inverted duty structure refunds to input services, for ITC availed from November 1, corrects a long-standing anomaly that has blocked significant working capital.

2 killed in Ramban road accident

on the spot. All the eight injured persons were initially treated at PHC, Ukhral, but were later referred to the higher medical facilities for specialised treatment.

The injured included Soni Chand (32), Anand Singh (26), Anil Chand (26), Naresh Singh (24), Jatinder Singh (24), Ravinder Singh (24), Sunil Singh (26) and Ravjit Singh (27), all residents of Chunthnan.

Soni and Sunil were referred to the GMCH, Jammu, while the remaining injured were referred to the GMCH, Anantnag. However, Sunil succumbed to his injuries at the Jammu hospital, taking the death toll to two.

Police had taken cognizance of the incident. CAPF Act that governs officer posts, deputation comes into force

CAPFs-- CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP and SSB. The cadre officers of these forces have petitioned the top court, including by filing a contempt petition, that the Act continues to restrict their career progression in comparison to the Indian Police Service (IPS) officers brought on deputation.

They have also asked the apex court to direct the Union government to implement its May 2025 judgement that said that the deputation of IPS officers up to the rank of inspector general in the CAPFs should be "progressively reduced" over a period of two years in order to give more opportunities to cadre officers whose delayed promotions can "adversely" impact the morale of these forces.

Under the new legislation, 50 per cent of the posts in the rank of inspector general are to be filled through deputation from the IPS, while a minimum of 67 per cent of posts at the additional director general level are to be filled through deputation.

The posts in the ranks of special director general and director general are to be filled through deputation only.

The Act comes against the backdrop of the Supreme Court's May 2025 judgment on the deputation of IPS officers in the CAPFs. In October last year, the apex court dismissed the Centre's plea seeking a review of its 2025 verdict.

The court had said the number of posts earmarked for deputation in CAPF cadres up to the SAG level should be progressively reduced over a period of time, with an outer limit of two years, and had directed a cadre review.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the legislation said the expanding functional and operational requirements of the CAPFs had resulted in a distinct organisational structure for the forces.

"In recent years, due to the absence of an umbrella law, regulatory provisions have evolved in a fragmented manner, resulting in several litigation on service-related matters, leading to some functional and administrative difficulties," it said.

The law replaces the fragmented framework governing service matters with a common legislative framework for Group-A general duty officers and other officers in the five CAPFs.

A group of retired CAPF officers had also approached the Supreme Court with a contempt plea against then Home Secretary Govind Mohan over alleged non-implementation of the apex court's October 2025 order.

The group had said any legislative intervention affecting the command structure, service conditions and leadership opportunities within the CAPFs would have implications for institutional morale and the operational effectiveness of forces responsible for internal security and border security.

INDIA bloc holds protest, vows to continue 'vote chori' agitation

up," he said.

"They (Amit Shah, Narendra Modi, Mohan Bhagwat and Gyanesh Kumar) will be brought to justice. This is our guarantee, and you will see it happen," the Lok Sabha LoP added.

After the lunch, the leaders travelled to Rajghat in three buses accompanied by hundreds of supporters raising slogans and waving flags.

Amid drum beats, the bus procession moved slowly via Minto Road and Asaf Ali Road, crossing Delhi Gate and Delite cinema, with members of the Youth Congress, NSUI and Left organisations raising slogans against Modi, Shah and Kumar.

The workers waved the tricolour, along with flags of their parties and organisations. The nearly five-km journey took about two hours. Upon reaching Rajghat, the leaders went to the memorial and sat in silence while paying floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi.

Kharge said the INDIA bloc MPs had gathered at Rajghat to peacefully protest and pray for "wisdom" to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. He said the Opposition wanted to convey to the country that the BJP government was taking away people's right to vote.