

**PRESS CLIPPING REGARDING STATUTE OF UNITY**

NEWSPAPER : THE TIMES OF INDIA  
DATE : 25-10-2018  
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PLACE : AHMEDABAD

**NEWS SHOTS**

**Vaghela wants PM Modi to mention royals at Statue of Unity**

**Gandhinagar:** Shankersinh Vaghela, the former Gujarat chief minister and former leader of opposition, wrote an open letter to



Prime Minister Narendra Modi demanding that the 562 princely states that were amalgamated to with British India be mentioned at the Statue of Unity (SoU). These royals had

agreed to merge their states with the Indian Union on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's call. Vaghela demanded a mention of all the princely states of India at the Statue of Unity museum and that due recognition be given to the royal families for their sacrifices for the nation.

**Petrol pump owners exempted:** The Gujarat government on Wednesday announced that it was exempting petrol and diesel dealers from seeking the permission for starting new petrol pumps and procurement, storage and distribution facilities. Dealers need not seek permission from the Gujarat government's food, civil supplies and consumer affairs department under the Essential Commodities Procurement Storage and Distribution Order 1981.

**Panel to ensure quality work:** The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation has decided to create a panel of consultants for evaluating the pavement condition and inspecting the quality of road construction. The panel will ensure that contractor use material as per specification mentioned in the tender. The proposal for setting up the panel has been forwarded by the administrative wing and will be discussed in the standing committee meeting on Thursday. AMC has also asked the contractors to submit the original bills of oil companies from where they are purchasing the bitumen used for construction.

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# Sardar's grandson, family to skip statue unveiling

## Desperate Attempts Being Made To Bring Them

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Vadodara: Amid all the excitement surrounding the unveiling of world's tallest statue – the Statue of Unity – is being unveiled, the real bloodline of India's Iron Man is still in oblivion.

For the last fortnight, desperate attempts are being made by chief minister's office (CMO) and kin of Sardar Patel to see that his only living grandson Gautam Patel becomes part of the inauguration ceremony at Kevadiya colony on October 31.

But, with just a week left to the ceremony, Gautam Patel and his wife Nandini who spend their time between Vadodara and United States, have preferred to stay away from the spotlight. Sardar's family consisted of wife Zaverba, son Dahyabhai and daughter Maniben. While Maniben remained unmarried till her death in 1993, Dahyabhai had two sons – elder Bipin and Gautam.



Sardar Patel's only living grandson Gautam Patel and his wife Nandini Patel had paid a visit to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Veer Vithalbhai Patel Memorial at Karamsad. This photograph of their visit to the memorial on March 13, 2016 is exclusively with TOI

Bipin, who had no children, died in January 2004, and the only one to carry forward Sardar's bloodline is 78-year-old Gautam, whose son Kedar is settled in the US.

In the run-up to the inauguration ceremony, CMO has taken keen interest in ensuring that Sardar's family members remain present as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurates the statue.

"We too were trying to get in touch with Gautam after receiving calls from CMO but we have failed to establish any contact with him and he is unlikely to attend the programme. He had left for the United States less

than a month ago," said Bhupendra Patel, son of Sardar's nephew Manubhai Patel, who lives in Vallabh Vidyanagar.

Patel, whose nearly 30 family members will be attending the event, said otherwise too Gautam and his family stay away from public events.

In fact, all the members of Sardar Patel's family have been extended invitations with gold passes which will give them access close to the VVIPs including the PM.

Gautam and his wife Nandini remained present only in one event - when the then President R Venkataraman conferred Bharat Ratna to Sardar Patel, posthumously at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Ju-

ly 12, 1991.

"Our entire family had received invitation from Rashtrapati Bhavan and Bipin had received the Bharat Ratna on behalf of the family," recollected Vadodara-based Dhirubhai Patel, 90, son of Sardar's another nephew Purshottambhai Patel and eldest in Gautam's generation.

When former PM A B Vajpayee had inaugurated the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Veer Vithalbhai Patel Memorial at Karamsad in 2000, Gautam's family wasn't inadvertently extended an invitation.

For the function on October 31, 2003 when the Sardar Patel Trust, which manages the memorial at Karamsad, received the Bharat Ratna from Bipin Patel, in presence of former deputy Prime Minister L K Advani and Modi, who was then chief minister, the trust had extended an invitation to Gautam's family.

"But, like now, he was in the US and did not take part in that function," said a source close to the developments.

Away from all the limelight, Gautam and Nandini have paid silent visits to the memorial and even gifted some books that they were in possession with the last one being on March 13, 2016, whose exclusively photograph is with TOI.

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# Honour 562 princely states at Statue of Unity: Vaghela to PM

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
 AHMEDABAD, OCTOBER 24

FORMER CHIEF minister Shankersinh Vaghela has suggested to set up "shila-lekh (inscription)" near the Statue of Unity with the names of all the 562 princely states that merged into the Union of India with the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbai Patel.

In a letter sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, Vaghela suggested to mention the names of all the princely states in a chronological order as per the dates of their accession and merger with in the Indian Union.

Vaghela said that the idea came to his mind during a visit



**'Sacrifices were made by princely states to unite the country'**

to the Neelam Baug Palace of the erstwhile princely state of Bhavnagar, a few days ago. According to Vaghela, Maharaja Krishnakumarsinhji of Bhavnagar was the first one to hand over his Bhavnagar state for merger into Indian Union on January 15, 1948 in Delhi.

Vaghela said that it would have been highly appreciated had the descendants of the erstwhile princely states been invited to the unveiling of the 182-metre-tall statue of Sardar Patel near

Narmada dam on October 31 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Since there is no adequate time left to invite them, he suggested to set up an inscription with the names of all the 562 princely states near the statue and felicitate the descendants of the erstwhile princely states at a function in New Delhi in near future.

He also suggested to set up a museum of all the princely states in New Delhi "to remind the nation about sacrifices of the former rulers of these states in building the Indian Union".

He said that while states of Junagadh and Hyderabad were forced to merge with the Indian Union, Sikkim that remained an independent nation also finally merged into Indian Union in 1975.

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# 'Royals gave up kingdoms for unity, honour them too'

**DNA Correspondent**

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Ahead of the inauguration of the Statue of Unity, former chief minister Shankersinh Vaghela has demanded that erstwhile royals, who had sacrificed their princely states for the country's unity, should also be honoured.

In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vaghela said that the statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a symbol of unity of the country, but the next generation should also be made aware of sacrifice of 562+ princely states, who merged their kingdoms with the union of India.

Incidentally, over 222 of these princely states were in Gujarat alone.

"On the occasion of unveiling the Statue of Unity, I insist that representatives of the princely states also be honoured by inviting them to participate in the occasion so that they also feel proud of their forefathers' decision to give up their states for the unity of this country," Vaghela wrote.

The former CM, who is in political wilderness after quitting Congress last year, suggested that since it was



The Statue of Vallabhbhai Patel, symbolising unity in the country

## THE WORLD'S TALLEST STATUE

- The Statue of Unity has been built as a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- **It is slated to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 31, the 143rd anniversary of Sardar Patel.**
- **The 182-metre statue is the world's tallest, nearly twice as high as the Statue of Liberty**
- It has been built at a cost of Rs 2,989 crore, which includes operation and maintenance cost of Rs 657 crore for 15 years.

too late to invite the erstwhile royals to the statue inauguration, they should be invited to Delhi and publicly honoured.

"They should be asked to share relevant historical details of their forefathers and make suggestions for 'Museum of Historical Sacrifices',"

he proposed.

Vaghela also suggested that names of the rulers of all princely states, along with their states' emblems, and the date on which they joined the Indian union may be displayed on a shilalekh close to Statue of Unity.

NEWSPAPER : RAJASTHAN PATRIKA  
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## शंकर सिंह वाघेला का पीएम को पत्र स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी में हो एकता में जुड़ने वाले सभी 562 रजवाड़ों के शिलालेख

लोकार्पण समारोह  
 में रजवाड़ों के  
 सदस्यों को भी  
 बुलाया जाए



भावनगर  
 नीलमबाग पैलेस  
 जाने पर आया  
 विचार

अहमदाबाद. विश्व में सबसे ऊंची 182 मीटर की सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल की प्रतिमा 'स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी' का प्रधानमंत्री 31 अक्टूबर को केवडिया कोलोनी में लोकार्पण करने जा रहे हैं। इससे चंद दिन पहले शरदपूर्णिमा पर राज्य के पूर्व मुख्यमंत्री शंकर सिंह वाघेला ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी को पत्र लिखा है। पत्र में सुझाव दिया है कि एकता के प्रतीक की इस आदमकद प्रतिमा के लोकार्पण समारोह और इसके उद्देश्य को सच्चे अर्थ में लोगों तक पहुंचाने के लिए स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी की प्रतिमा के पास स्वतंत्रता से पूर्व देश के सभी 562 रजवाड़ी राज्यों के 'लोगो' व उनके शासकों के नाम के शिलालेख लगवाए जाएं। संभव हो तो स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी के लोकार्पण समारोह में भारत में विलीन हुए 562 रजवाड़ों के प्रतिनिधियों-सदस्यों को भी उपस्थित रखा जाए, ताकि वे अपने पूर्वजों के निर्णय पर गौरवान्वित हो सकें। ऐसा होने में देरी हो गई हो तो बाद में उन्हें नई दिल्ली में एक समारोह आयोजित करके सम्मानित किया जाए।

562 रजवाड़ी राज्यों में सौराष्ट्र-

गुजरात के ही 222 रजवाड़े-राज्य शामिल थे, जो अखंड भारत में विलीन हुए। इससे महात्मा गांधी और सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल के अखंड भारत के प्रयास व रजवाड़ों के बलिदान और त्याग के गौरव को भावी पीढ़ी के समक्ष रखा जा सके।

अंग्रेजी भाषा में लिखे गए तीन पृष्ठ के पत्र में शंकर सिंह वाघेला ने कहा कि यह विचार उन्हें भावनगर में आयोजित एक समारोह में जब वे भावनगर के नीलमबाग पैलेस में गए तब वहां उन्होंने भावनगर रजवाड़ा-राज्य के महाराज कृष्णकुमार सिंह की प्रतिमा देखकर यह विचार आया।

पत्र में वाघेला ने लिखा है कि स्टेच्यू ऑफ यूनिटी में अखंड भारत जिन सभी 562 राज्यों के विलीनीकरण से बना है उन सभी राज्यों के इतिहास और बलिदान को दर्शाने वाला संग्रहालय (म्यूजियम) भी बनाया जाए, ताकि यहां आने वाले लोगों को भारत की एकता के गौरवान्वित इतिहास का पता चल सके। वाघेला ने लिखा कि अखंड भारत के लिए देश में सबसे पहले भावनगर के तत्कालीन राजा कृष्णकुमार सिंह ने सबसे पहले 17 दिसंबर 1947 को नई दिल्ली में महात्मा गांधी से मिलकर भावनगर राज्य को अखंड भारत में विलीन करने की पेशकश की थी और 15 जनवरी 1948 को भावनगर में इसके विलीनीकरण दस्तावेज करके को सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल को सौंपा। वाघेला ने इस पत्र को सोशल मीडिया पर अपने ट्विटर एकाउंट के जरिए ट्विट भी किया।

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શંકરસિંહ ને પ્રધાનમંત્રી મોદી કો પત્ર લિખા

सरदार के स्टेच्यू के पास रजवाडो के शिलालेख रखो

# શંકરસિંહે વડા પ્રધાન મોદીને પત્ર લખ્યો सरदारना स्टेच्यूनी नज्दक रजवाडाना शिलालेख मूको

। अमदावाद ।

૩૧મી ઓક્ટોબરે સરદાર વલ્લભભાઈ પટેલની વિશ્વમાં સૌથી ઊંચી પ્રતિમા 'સ્ટેચ્યુ ઓફ યુનિટી'નું અનાવરણ થવાનું છે ત્યારે રાજ્યના પૂર્વ મુખ્યમંત્રી શંકરસિંહ વાઘેલાએ દેશના વડાપ્રધાન નરેન્દ્ર મોદીને પત્ર પાઠવ્યો છે, જેમાં સ્ટેચ્યુની નજીક પહરથી વધુ રજવાડી રાજ્યોના સંબંધિત શાસકોના નામની ઓળખ માટે તેમના રાજ્યના લોગો અને તારીખ કે જેના પર કાલક્રમિક ક્રમમાં ભારતના સંઘ સાથે જોડાણ કરાયું તે તારીખ સાથે શિલાલેખ પર વિગતો કંડારવાની માગ કરી છે. નવી પેઢી આ એકતા અને અખંડિતતા પ્રત્યે આપેલા બલિદાનના ભૂતકાળના ઈતિહાસને જાણી પરિચિત થશે.

શંકરસિંહે પત્રમાં લખ્યું છે કે, સ્વતંત્રતા સમયના સંબંધિત વિભાજિત પહરથી વધુ રજવાડાઓ અને શાહી પરિવારોએ અખંડિત ભારતની રચના માટે મહાત્મા ગાંધી અને સરદાર પટેલની પ્રેરણાથી બધાએ કેવી રીતે તેમના રજવાડાનું બલિદાન આપ્યું તે પ્રયત્નોને જાણી શકાશે. તેમણે આગ્રહ કર્યો કે, રજવાડા રાજ્યોના બધા જ પ્રવર્તમાન પ્રતિનિધિઓને આ પ્રસંગે આમંત્રણ આપી શકાય, જેથી તેમના પૂર્વજોના ગૌરવને અનુભવી શકે જોકે આમંત્રણ આપવા માટે હવે મોડું થઈ ગયું છે એટલે દિલ્હીમાં જાહેર માન આપવા આમંત્રણ આપવું જોઈએ. આ સાથે જ ઐતિહાસિક બલિદાનના સંગ્રહાલય માટે સૂચનો મેળવવા જોઈએ.

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स्टेच्यू ओફ युनिटी के सामने आदिवासी समाज ने गुजरात बंध का एलान दिया  
गुजरात के 5,500 आदिवासी गांव 31 अक्तुबर को बंध रखेंगे

## स्टेच्यू ओफ़ युनिटी सामे आदिवासी समाज द्वारा गुजरात बंधनुं अेलान गुजरातना ५,५०० आदिवासी गामो ३१ मी ओक्टोबरे बंध पाणशे

आदिवासीओ पोतानी ज जमीनमां बनेलां कारभानाओमां मजूरी करता थशेनो आरोप

। संपादन ।

३१ मी ओक्टोबरे सरदार जयंतिअे विश्वनी सौथी ठिंथी सरदार पटेलनी प्रतिमानुं वडाप्रधानना उस्ते लोकार्पण थवा जई रळुं छे त्यारे तेनी तडामार तैयारीओ अेक तरफ़ थाली रळी छे, त्यारे भीळ तरफ़ केटलांक संगठनो द्वारा तेनो विरोध पण शरु थई गयो छे. ३१ मीअे आदिवासी समाज द्वारा समग्र गुजरात बंधनुं अेलान अपायुं छे. विकासना नामे विनाश थई रह्यो डोवाना मुद्दे स्टेच्यू ओफ़ युनिटी सामे आदिवासी प्रदेशना तमाम जिल्हाओमां बंधनुं अेलान आपवामां आयुं छे.

आ विशे अेकटिविस्ट डो.प्रफ़ूल वसावाअे जणायुं डतुं के, स्टेच्यू ओफ़ युनिटीनी आसपास ७२ जेटलां आदिवासी गामोने भाळी करावीने रस्ते रजणता करी दीधा छे. भोटिंग माटे तणाव बनाववामां आवशे. देश-विदेशना सडेलाणीओ फ़ाईवस्टार डोटलमां रोकशे अने प्रतिमानी आसपास आनंद-प्रमोद करशे. तेओ जे जमीन पर मज्ज माणशे तेनां मूण माळिक आदिवासीओ रस्ते रजणता थई जशे. ३१ मी ओक्टोबरे गुजरातना तमाम आदिवासी ५५०० गामो संपूर्ण बंध पाणशे. पोताना गामनी व्यवस्था सिवायनी अन्य व्यवस्थाओनो

बडिफ़ार करीशुं. आदिवासीओना ज़वनना मूणभूत अधिकारो छीनवीने, तेमने रस्ते रजणता करीने आपण्णे सरदार साडेबने केवी श्रद्धांजलि आपवा मागीअे छीअे? सरदार साडेब आवा आदशो आपण्णे वारसामां नथी आपी गया. डळ समय छे के आदिवासीओने विस्थापित करवानुं सरकार बंध करे. सरदार साडेबना अमूल्य योगदानथी निर्माण्ण पामेला अण्ड भारतमां तमामने ज़वन ज़ववानो अधिकार मणे तेवी व्यवस्थाओ प्रस्थापित थाय तेवी सरदार साडेबने प्रार्थना सड स्मरण्णजळी अर्पण्ण करीशुं.

## PRESS CLIPPING REGARDING STATUTE OF UNITY

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PLACE : AHMEDABAD

## स्टेच्यू के लोकार्पण समय आकाश में सूर्यकिरण, जगुआर हवाई जहाजो का करतब प्रधानमंत्री मोदी 31 अक्तुबर तीन घंटे गुजरात में रुकेंगे

# स्टेच्यूना लोकार्पण वખते आकाशमां सूर्यकिरण, जगुआर विमानोना करतब वडा प्रधान मोदी 31 भी ओक्टोबरे त्रणोक कलाकनुं गुजरातमां रोकाण करशे

विविध राजयोना कलावृंदोना नृत्योनी रमजट अने लश्करी दणोना बेन्ड्सनी सुरावलीओ छेडाशे

। गांधीनगर । (प्रतिनिधि द्वारा)

स्टेच्यू ओंफ युनिटी ईर्क सरदार वल्लभाभाई पटेलनी प्रतिमाना लोकार्पण वખते अंरफोर्सना सूर्यकिरण विमानो, जगुआर लडाकुविमानो तथा हेलिकोप्टरनो उपयोग वशे. 31 भी ओक्टोबरे सरदार जयंतीअे वडा प्रधान नरेन्द्र मोदी सरदार पटेलना यरणस्पर्श करी वंदना करशे त्यारे हेलिकोप्टर द्वारा प्रतिमा उपर गुलाबनी पांढडीओनी वर्षा वशे, भादमां त्रण सूर्यकिरण विमानो द्वारा आकाशमां राष्ट्रध्वज रवाशे अने अे पछी धरेराटी करतां जगुआर विमानोमां करतब आकाशमां प्रदर्शित वशे.

बुधवारे मंत्रीमंडलनी बैठकनी समांतर योजायेली सचिवोनी बैठकमां नर्मदा

विभागना अग सचिव अमरेन्द्रकुमार राकेशे आवता बुधवारे योजनारा युनिटी स्टेच्यूना लोकार्पण समारोह विशे तथा वडा प्रधान मोदीना अडी-त्रण कलाक गुजरातमां बनारा रोकाण विशे विस्तृत प्रेजन्टेशन कर्युं छंतुं. सूत्रोना जण्णाव्या प्रमाणे 31 भीअे नवी दिल्लीधी वडा प्रधान मोदी अंरफोर्सना भास विमान मारकते सुरत के वडोहरा आवी त्यांथी हेलिकोप्टर द्वारा सवारे ८ वागे केवडियामां नवा बनावायेला हेलिकोप्टर उपर उतरशे. त्यांथी टोडके डिबोमीटर दूर आवेली सरदार साहेबनी प्रतिमा नीचे म्युजियम गेलेरीमां १५ मिनिट चक्कर लगावी मोदी प्रतिमाना यरण पासे पहोंथी यरण वंदना कर्यां भाद तेओ प्रतिमानां लिफ्ट द्वारा १३५

मीटरनी उंचाईअे प्रतिमाना छातीना भागे व्यूअर्स गेलेरी जई नजरो निछाणशे. भादमां तेओ नवा हेलिकोप्टर सामे आवेला जूना हेलिकोप्टर आउन्ड फाते १ लाभ थोरसकूटमां उीभा करनारा डोममां पहोंथी लगभग अेकाह कलाक मेदनी समल भाषण करशे तयारभाद तेओ जेवी रीते आव्या छता तेवी ज रीते अपोरे अेकाह वागे नवी दिल्ली परत जवा रवाना वशे.

जूना हेलिकोप्टर आउन्डथी प्रतिमा वखेना उीभा रस्ते भंने तरक 3१ जेटला स्टेज बनावाई रह्या छे, स्टेज पर कलावृंदो भातीगण परिवेशमां सतत नृत्यो रजू करशे. दरमियान आर्मी बेन्ड, अंरफोर्स बेन्ड, नेवी बेन्ड, पोलीस बेन्ड पण सतत संगीतनी सुरावलीओ छेडतां रडेशे.



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केवडिया में स्टेच्यु के लोकार्पण कार्यक्रम के बेनर फाड दीये गये

कार्यक्रम से पहले ही अनजान व्यक्तिओने तोडफोड की

## केवडियाમાં स्टेચ્યુના લોકાર્પણ કાર્યક્રમના બેનરો ફાડી નાખ્યાં

» કાર્યક્રમ પૂર્વે જ અજાણ્યા  
શખ્સોએ તોડફોડ કરી

નવગુજરાત સમય > વડોદરા

■ નર્મદા જિલ્લામાં કેવડિયાના સાધુબેટ ખાતે નિર્માણાધિન સરદાર પટેલની વિશ્વની વિરાટતમ પ્રતિમા “સ્ટેચ્યુ ઓફ યુનિટી”નું આગામી તા. ૩૧મી ઓક્ટોબરના રોજ સરદાર વલ્લભ પટેલની જન્મજયંતીના દિવસે લોકાર્પણ થવા જઈ રહ્યું છે. જ્યારે દેશના વડાપ્રધાન નરેન્દ્ર મોદી લોકાર્પણ કરવા આવવાના હોય તો તેમને આવકારતા બેનરો રોડ રસ્તાઓ ઉપર લગાવવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ બેનરોને અમુક ભાંગફોડિયા તત્વો દ્વારા ફાડીને તોડી નાંખવામાં આવ્યાં હતા.

આ બાબતે નર્મદા જિલ્લાની પ્રજાને સાંસદ મનસુખ વસાવા દ્વારા સોશિયલ

મિડીયાના માધ્યમથી લોકોને જણાવાયું છે કે “સ્ટેચ્યુ ઓફ યુનિટી”ના આ લોકાર્પણ બાદ નર્મદા જિલ્લો આર્થિક રીતે વિકસિત થવાનો હોય તો તેમાં આપ સૌ લોકો સહયોગ આપો અને આવા ભાંગફોડિયા તત્વોથી દૂર રહવા અપીલ કરી છે.

**કેવડિયામાં નવુ પોલીસ સ્ટેશન  
ઊભુ થશે: સરકારની લીલીઝંડી**

વિશ્વની સૌથી ઊંચી સરદાર વલ્લભભાઈ પટેલની ભવ્ય પ્રતિમા ‘સ્ટેચ્યુ ઓફ યુનિટી’ના લોકાર્પણ બાદ સંભવિત પ્રવાસીઓના કેવડિયા ખાતે ધસારાને ધ્યાનમાં લઈને ખાસ પોલીસ સ્ટેશન ઊભુ કરવાનો નિર્ણય લેવામાં આવ્યો છે. ટ્રાફિક નિયમનને ખાસ લક્ષ્યમાં લઈને ઊભા થઈ રહેલા નવા ટ્રાફિક પોલીસ સ્ટેશનને સરકારે લીલીઝંડી આપીને તેના માટે ખાસ ૮૫ પોલીસ કર્મચારીઓનું મહેકમ મંજૂર કરી દેવામાં આવ્યું છે.