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- Thousands join Patidar rally in Ahmedabad

of the Day

Thousands join Patidar rally in Ahmedabad

[Paul John](#) | TNN | Aug 25, 2015, 08:21 IST

2 Comments

AHMEDABAD: Ahmedabad wakes up to 'Jai Sardar'- Jai Patidar' on Tuesday morning as thousands of Patidars (Patels) started pouring in from all corners of the state to the GMDC grounds — the venue of the Patidar reservation rally.

Trucks buses, vehicles were carrying Patidar community members who have come to Ahmedabad from all

over Gujarat for the mega show of strength. Human sea of Patels is expected to take the city by storm as the day progresses.

Nearly 25 lakh agitators are expected to converge into the city by 9.30am, claim rally organisers.

Even the GMDC ground was almost 80 per cent full by 7.20am. The ground can accommodate 3.5 lakh people and is spread over 18 lakh square feet area. The city police commissioner Shivanand Jha had only allowed the venue permission late on Monday night. Early morning Chief minister Anandi Patel cancelled all programme for the day. On Sunday she had held close door meetings with senior RSS leaders at Sandkardham in Shilaj and sought the organization's intervention in the issue.

"We want a new class included in the reservation policy of the government. They should be called Economically Backward Class. It will cut across caste, religion and class. Why should anyone be devoid of opportunities in education or jobs in this country," says Santosh Patel one of the agitators from Morbi town.

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A large number of buses and trucks carrying people have started pouring in from Saurashtra to Sarkhej. Normal life was came to a grinding halt. Autorickshaws were charging double fare to even take commuters close to the venue.

Government schools were open, while private schools in Naranpura, Navrangpura, Usmanpura, Vastrapur, Gurukul were advised by the Ahmedabad district collector to remain closed. Even the school van and rickshaw association of Ahmedabad suspended their services on Tuesday morning owing to the rally.

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We support Hardik Patel . Caste based reservations have made other castes to suffer for more than 25 years . How long does this government want reservations . Down with reservationsManojkumar Mishra Bhattacharya

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As the day progresses Patidar leaders have claimed that a memorandum will be submitted to the district collector. Traffic was either stalled or restricted by the city police at various road stretches. This includes Vijay crossroads to Darpan crossroads, Usamnura crossroads to Sabarmati Ashram and Shivaranjani bridge.

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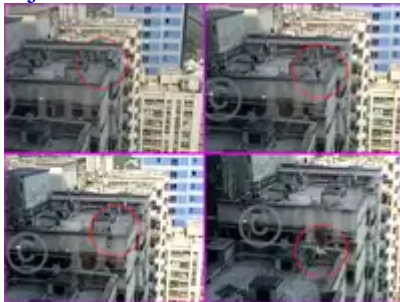
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