



26/11: 5 years on, 43 Mumbai cops await cash awards

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Proposal to pay the probe team the case gathers dust.



Even five years after the [26/11](#) terror attacks, a team of 43 policemen from the [Mumbai](#) Police, who had conducted an impeccable investigation into the case, haven't yet received the cash reward that is due to them.

A proposal sent to the state government to reward the team had received a sanction in March this year but the matter hasn't progressed after that.

According to [police](#) sources, while the city [crime branch](#) mooted the proposal a year

ago, it hasn't done anything further on the issue despite the government sanctioning it. It had asked the state government to give a reward of Rs6 lakh to the team of 43, which consisted of policemen of ranks right from constables to senior inspectors, for its flawless investigation.

The reward money was to be distributed individually and credited into the salary accounts of the policemen. However, the money has still not been disbursed, sources said.

"The reward has been sanctioned by the government, but the policemen still haven't received it. The crime branch should take an initiative and release the funds as soon as

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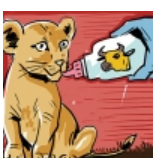
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possible," said a crime branch officer, who was part of the team.

When asked about the issue, additional commissioner of police, crime, Niket Kaushik said, "If the cash reward hasn't been credited into the accounts of the policemen yet, I will see where the process has got stuck and will do the needful to ensure the money is disbursed at the earliest."

Even as the police are yet to get recognition, the city's security still has loopholes.

A year after 26/11, the Mumbai police's bomb disposal squad purchased a mobile vehicle scanner worth Rs7 crore. Not only has the scanner been non-functional for three years, but sources say, the company from which the vehicle was purchased doesn't have any representative in India, due to which the vehicle cannot be repaired.

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Five years after the terror attack at CST, the Railway Protection Force is grappling with acute shortage of manpower in Mumbai. More than 1,300 posts of sub-inspectors and constables are lying vacant in CR as well as WR. On CR, at least 758 posts, which include 664 vacancies for constables, are yet to be filled, while, on WR, 623 posts are vacant, including more than 500 for constables, for the past few years, said a senior RPF officer. He added that the recruitment process is conducted at national level and, hence, it takes long.

The current RPF strength on CR is 1,649 and on WR it's 660.

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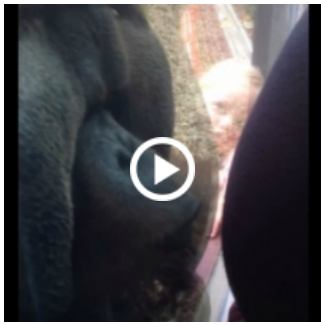
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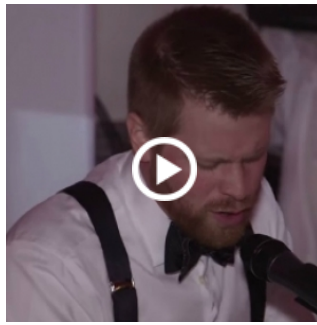
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