

# 70 DROWN IN GUJARAT RIVER AS BRIDGE COLLAPSES

Relevant for: Environment | Topic: Disaster and disaster management

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief at the loss of lives.

The Prime Minister announced an ex gratia of Rs. 2 lakh from the PM's National Relief Fund for the next of kin of each of the deceased. The injured will be given Rs. 50,000. The Chief Minister announced an ex gratia of Rs. 4 lakh for the next of kin of each of the deceased and Rs. 50,000 for the injured. The State government has also set up a five-member committee to inquire into the incident. The government has officially not given any casualty figure but the Prime Minister and Chief Minister have announced the ex gratia for the dead and for the injured. The tragedy has occurred ahead of the upcoming Assembly election, causing massive embarrassment to the ruling BJP, which has lined up several big events and public rallies of Mr. Modi for October 31 and November 1. According to sources, the BJP is contemplating cancelling the Prime Minister's roadshow and other political events in the State. Mr. Modi may visit Morbi tomorrow to take stock of the situation.

( With PTI inputs )

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