

# **The Times of India**

## **Next reshuffle soon to fill up police vacancies**

AHMEDABAD: As the hooch death toll continues to rise, it has not only shaken up police ranks but also triggered state-wide raids on illegal liquor joints.

The transfer of five senior police officials, including four IPS officers, ahead of a bigger reshuffle, indicates the the transfers were related to the hooch deaths. Earlier, a similar reshuffle had taken place after the Ahmedabad hooch tragedy in 2009, sources said.

A larger reshuffle might take place soon after the festive season to fill up vacancies, to prepare the police force for next year's assembly elections, the sources said.

Following a notification issued by the state home department on Tuesday, Surat (rural) SP Mayur Chavda and Surat Range IG Narsimha Komar have been shunted. Chavda has been transferred to the state IB at Gandhinagar while Komar has been appointed commander of the state police's Marine Task Force at Jamnagar.

Ahmedabad (rural) SP Nirlipt Rai and additional director, Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Shamsheer Singh, will replace Chavda and Komar, respectively, the notification states. Sources said the transfers are to be implemented with immediate effect.

The fifth appointment is of Keshav Kumar who has been made special director of the ACB in the rank of Additional Director General of Police (ADGP). After completing his stint with the CBI and returning to the state cadre, Kumar had been waiting for posting.