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Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister



‘Wars Target Economies’; PM calls for Shielding Banks from Cyber Terrorists

Give prominence to local products: Modi ahead of Diwali

BHUBANESWAR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said wars were no longer being fought only through conventional means but also by targeting economies, and underscored the need to protect India's banking system from "cyber terrorists".

Addressing a gathering after inaugurating the Reserve Bank of India's Rs 169-crore data centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute here, he said the facilities would greatly benefit the people of Odisha and the country.

"We all know that nowadays wars are not fought only with weapons. If a country is to be weakened, it can be done by attacking its

economy. As India is becoming economically stronger, it is equally imperative that we protect our banking system from cyber robbers and cyber terrorists," the prime minister said.

The nature of cyber threats is also changing, and the nation cannot face such new challenges with old systems, training systems and tools, he said.

To face the new challenge, the country needs modern infrastructure and skilled human resources,

he said, adding that here comes the role of institutions like RBI's data centre and Cybersecurity Training Institute.

Noting that these new facilities reflect a new priority of India, Modi said eastern India is emerging as a powerful growth engine of 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India).

Modi also launched a scathing attack on the opposition Congress, alleging that the masses were denied banking services during its rule.

He said banks were nationalised in the 1960s and 1970s in the name of the poor, but in 2014, it was found that more than half of the country's population was outside the banking ecosystem.

He said bank loans were a dream even for the middle-class, while the poor, small farmers, and women could not even think about it.

"However, loans of thousands of crores of rupees were available for the rich and well-connected people over phone calls

Military remains Pak's real rulers: India tells at UN

UNITED NATIONS: India strongly hit back at Pakistan's attempts at the UN to paint a "propagandist" picture of New Delhi, saying Islamabad's "Form 47 government" can "dare not" override instructions from the country's real rulers, the Pakistani military.

Form 47 is an official election document in Pakistan that records the provisional, consolidated results of voting in a constituency.

The February 2024 general elections were marred by allegations of rigging and irregularities, with critics using the term "Form 47" to question the official results.

During an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues at the UN General Assembly's Third Committee on Saturday, First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN Raghoo Puri accused Pakistan of attempting to

LG addresses award ceremony of Kashmir Marathon Future is in our hands, youth can outline tomorrow with determined effort: Sinha

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha addressed the award ceremony of the Kashmir Marathon and congratulated all the winners for their outstanding achievements. Total 68 medals were awarded, comprising 34 medals each in the Full Marathon and Half Marathon categories. The Lieutenant Governor noted that every medal represented dedication, perseverance, and the pursuit of a dream.

In his address, the Lieutenant Governor emphasized that the true spirit of a marathon lies not only in its winners but also in every participant who completes the race. He stated that those who finish after hours of sustained effort often overcome equally challenging battles and deserve equal recognition for

their determination and courage.

The Lieutenant Governor applauded the inclusion of a separate category for residents of Jammu Kashmir in the Marathon. He said that talent exists across every corner of the country, but opportunities are not always equally available. He observed that the Kashmir Marathon has provided a valuable platform for young people from the far-flung areas of the

LG to swear in new ministers on October 27

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha will administer the oath of office and secrecy to newly inducted ministers in the Omar Abdullah-led Jammu and Kashmir Council of Ministers on Tuesday, October 27, at Lok Bhavan in Srinagar.

According to the official invitation issued for the ceremony, the oath-taking is scheduled for 10:30 am at the Lok Bhavan Auditorium, P11

India will hammer drug cartels: Shah

NEW DELHI: Simultaneous raids across Assam, Mizoram and Manipur led to the arrest of 18 people and the freezing of 1,424 bank accounts, exposing Rs 100 crore of hawala transactions, breaking the financial and operational backbone of a cartel led by a Myanmar-based drug lord arrested earlier this year, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Sunday.

In a post on X, Shah said 'Operation Trident' was conducted on October 23 to dismantle an international narcotics cartel operating across India, Myanmar and Bangladesh.

The operation uncovered hawala transactions worth Rs 100 crore, led to the attachment of properties worth Rs 17.82 crore and resulted in the seizure of 500 detonators and Rs 12 lakh in cash, he said. Shah said the network trafficked narcotics across the borders of India, Myanmar and Bangladesh through the "Death Triangle Corridor".

Congratulating the anti-narcotics team comprising central agencies and police forces of the three states, P11

Kashmir Marathon boosting J-K's global sports tourism profile: CM

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Sunday flagged off the third edition of the Kashmir Marathon from Polo Ground, Srinagar.

Over 2,000 runners from Jammu and Kashmir, other parts of the country and abroad came together for a celebration of endurance, sporting spirit and Kashmir's unparalleled natural beauty.

Amid the October chill of a crisp autumn morning, the Chief Minister flagged off the Full Marathon (42.195 km) at 6:30 am, followed by the Half Marathon (21 km) at 7:45 am. The marathon run takes participants through some of Srinagar's most iconic landmarks, including Lal Chowk, Polo View, Zero

Bridge, Gupkar, Road, Boulevard, the Jhelum riverfront, Dal Lake, SKICC, Foreshore Road, Kashmir University and the Mughal Gardens.

The Chief Minister emphasized that the Kashmir Marathon is emerging as a flagship sporting event, strengthening Jammu & Kashmir's position as a global sports tourism destination, boosting tourism and inspiring a culture of fitness and healthy living across the region.

With runners traversing the city's historic streets, picturesque waterfronts and celebrated gardens, the marathon offers a unique blend of competitive sport, cultural vibrancy and the Valley's breathtaking landscape, further P11

VHP questions Abdullahs over stuck pilgrims in Saudi Arabia

NEW DELHI: The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) on Sunday questioned National Conference president Farooq Abdullah and J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah over their response to Kashmiri pilgrims stranded in Saudi Arabia and asked what steps they have taken to ensure their safe return to India.

The remarks came amid escalating regional tensions following drone and missile attacks targeting civilian infrastructure by Yemen's Houthis.

In a post on X, VHP national spokesperson Vinod Bansal raised the issue while sharing a news clip about the 34 stranded pilgrims, who had travelled to P11

Op Sindoor proved no target beyond IAF's reach: Air Chief

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force's calibrated strikes across the Western front during Operation Sindoor -- spanning 1,200 km in breadth and 200 km in depth-- demonstrated that no target is beyond its reach, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh said on Sunday, in an apparent warning to Pakistan.

In an interview, the Air Chief described the operation as a validation of the IAF's capability-centric approach, emphasising that it reaffirmed air power's decisive role as both the nation's primary responder and its strategic deterrent. At the same time, the IAF Chief cautioned that validation of the IAF's approach must not be a reason to "stand still" as the way forward is to deepen and widen this capability across the force.

"Operationally, one lesson stands out: we must always retain multiple options and the ability to adapt rapidly as the adversary changes tactics," the Chief of Air Staff who oversaw the four-day

operation said.

"A capability-centric force is inherently better at this, because it can draw on many tools rather than depend on one. That same flexibility allowed us to calibrate our response and keep control of escalation," he said.

Launched in response to the Pahalgam terror attack, Operation Sindoor saw India carry out precision strikes against terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied territories in May last year-- marking the most daring cross-border P11

EAM: Use of Terrorism as statecraft is unacceptable

NEW DELHI: The use of terrorism as an "instrument of statecraft" is simply unacceptable, and it can never be justified or rationalised, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Sunday and flagged that it continues because "not all states really display zero tolerance" for the menace. Despite history holding so many lessons on it, "some still allow political calculations to take precedence", he said in his address at an event here without naming any country.

At an event held here to mark the 75th anniversary of Chinmaya Mission, the minister underlined the importance of peace, especially amid the ongoing conflicts in the world, and cautioned that "war anywhere threatens peace P11

Bunkers, better road connectivity boost border residents' confidence: Dr Jitendra

MoS inaugurates J-K Bank's easy banking unit at Chakra

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: Union minister Jitendra Singh on Sunday said the construction of underground bunkers in forward villages has boosted confidence among border residents and helped address the challenges that previously compelled families to migrate from these areas during cross-border shelling in Jammu and Kashmir.

The minister of state in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) visited Chakra village in the Hiranagar sector near the International Border in Kathua district, part of his Udhampur Lok Sabha constituency, where he inaugurated a J&K Bank Easy Business Unit and held a public darbar.

He talked about the construction of bunkers in border areas in accordance with prescribed security standards to

protect residents during cross-border firing.

"Improved infrastructure and security arrangements have contributed to greater confidence among border residents and helped address the circumstances that earlier compelled families to migrate," he said, describing the development of border areas as an important example of efforts to improve living conditions and strengthen public confidence in governance.

He said the border areas of Jammu and Kashmir have come a long way on the path

of development since 2014, when Narendra Modi took over as the Prime Minister of the country.

Recalling the challenges faced by border residents earlier, he said several areas suffered from inadequate road connectivity, lack of mobile communication infrastructure and limited access to basic amenities.

"The development approach under Modi has sought to ensure that people receive the benefits of development irrespective of their geographical P11

Sinha interacts with participants of Yuva Sangam Lt Guv: J&K moves beyond shutdowns, stone-pelting; startups make headlines

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Sunday interacted with participants of Yuva Sangam from various educational institutions of Maharashtra, led by IIT Mumbai at Lok Bhavan. The Lieutenant Governor underlined the importance of collaboration, mentorship and national integration in shaping India's future.

Addressing the students, the Lieutenant Governor emphasised that transformative ideas are rarely the result of individual effort alone. He highlighted how meaningful innovation emerges when talented individuals, mentors and institutions come together in a shared ecosystem of trust, support and cooperation.

The Lieutenant Governor observed that the true spirit of Yuva Sangam lies in fostering connections among young people from diverse regions and backgrounds. He noted that individual talent achieves its greatest potential when it interacts with other talents, exchanges ideas

and works collectively to solve real-world challenges. Stressing the importance of mentorship, he encouraged students to transform innovative ideas into practical solutions that benefit society.

The Lieutenant Governor said that the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" initiative has strengthened cultural, educational and social bonds among states and Union Territories by promoting mutual understanding and people-to-people en-

gagement. He said Yuva Sangam as a significant platform for carrying forward this spirit among the youth through its focus on tourism, tradition, development, technology and people-to-people connect.

The Lieutenant Governor also highlighted the rich civilisational heritage of both Maharashtra and Jammu Kashmir and said that interactions between students of the two institutions contribute to a deeper appreciation of India's P11