

JeM commander among 3 terrorists killed under Op Trashi-I; SFs vow terror-free J-K

7 ultras eliminated in Jammu region this year



■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE
KISHTWAR: Three members of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror outfit were killed in an encounter with security forces in Kishtwar district on Sunday, officials said. The bodies of all the slain terrorists were charred beyond recognition as the mud house they were hiding in caught fire during the gunfight, they said, adding that preliminary assessments by security agencies suggest that one of the deceased is Saifullah, a notorious JeM commander. He had reportedly infiltrated into Jammu and Kashmir nearly five years ago and had since

remained active in the region, allegedly masterminding several deadly attacks on security forces, including one in July 2024 that left four soldiers dead. Saifullah had escaped a number of encounters in the past. The officials said the body of the third terrorist, along with a weapon, was retrieved from the gutted hideout of the ultras in the evening. Earlier, Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Pratik Sharma complimented the White Knight Corps troops for their "swift and precise" action to neutralise the terrorists. "The Army Commander ► P11

Army dog leads to terrorists' hideout

JAMMU: A specially trained Army dog named Tyson displayed remarkable bravery during an anti-terror operation in Kishtwar district, leading troops to a Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) hideout and taking the first bullet before security forces eliminated the three terrorists. Tyson, part of the Army's elite 2 Para Special Forces team, ran ahead of the troops during the search operation and successfully pinpointed the terrorists' location in the operation zone. In the process, the canine was hit in the leg but helped confirm the presence of the hiding terrorists.



Cong turned AI Summit into arena for its 'gandi aur nangi' politics: PM

Modi flags off Meerut Metro, Nammo Bharat train

MEERUT (UP): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday came down heavily on the Congress over its "shirtless" protest at the Artificial Intelligence Summit in Delhi, alleging that the party had turned an international event hosted by the country into an arena for its "gandi aur nangi (dirty and shameless)" politics. Addressing a public gathering after inaugurating development projects, including the Nammo Bharat rail and the Meerut Metro Rail extension here, the prime minister said the Congress' conduct showed how "ideologically bankrupt and impoverished" the party had become. He alleged that Congress had crossed all limits and that its conduct had drawn widespread criticism across the country. However, instead of feeling ashamed, Congress leaders were glorifying those who had insulted the country, the prime minister said. At the same time,



Modi thanked several opposition parties for criticising the incident, saying they had stood with truth and national pride. "While citizens are working day and night to make India a developed nation, some political parties cannot digest the country's success," Modi said. He said that representatives from over 80 countries and heads of state from around 20 nations had attended the Summit in Delhi, which had made the country proud. "But what did Congress and its ecosystem do? They turned a global event of India into an arena for their 'gandi aur nangi' (dirty and shameless) politics. Congress leaders arrived at the venue in front of foreign guests after taking off their clothes." "I want to ask ► P11

Salal reservoir capacity shrinks to 96 percent

JAMMU: Decades after key sediment-management facilities were rendered inoperable under the Indus Waters Treaty, the reservoir of the Salal power station has suffered a dramatic loss of storage of up to 96 per cent, prompting NHPC to launch a silt management plan at the facility to ensure sustained operational efficiency. According to official documents, the NHPC-run Salal concrete dam was originally designed with six under-sluices (gates located at the base of a dam) and six ► P11

India's next agri revolution to be AI-driven: Dr Jitendra

NEW DELHI: India's next agricultural revolution will be driven by artificial intelligence, Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Dr. Jitendra Singh said today, positioning AI as the central pillar of farm policy, research and investment architecture at the AI4Agri 2026 Summit in Mumbai. Addressing the inaugural session of the "Global Conference on AI in Agriculture and Investor Summit 2026" here, the Minister said AI offers, for the first time, scalable solutions to structural challenges that have long constrained farm productivity -



erratic weather, information asymmetry and fragmented markets. "What AI offers is not a new diagnosis. It offers, finally, a prescription that can scale," he said, noting that even a 10% productivity gain for the 600 million farmers across the Global South would amount to what he de-

scribed as the single largest poverty-reduction opportunity of the century. Framing agriculture as a strategic sector rather than a legacy one, Dr. Jitendra Singh linked the AI push to the ₹10,372-crore India AI Mission, which is building sovereign compute capacity, datasets and startup infrastructure at scale. He highlighted BharatGen, India's government-owned large language model ecosystem, which has already released "Agri Param", a domain-specific agriculture model operating in 22 Indian languages, enabling farmers to access advisory support in ► P11

8 LeT operatives with Bangladesh links held; pan-India module busted: Police

NEW DELHI: In a major counter-terror operation spanning three states, the Delhi Police has dismantled a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) module comprising eight operatives, including seven Bangladeshi nationals who had illegally entered India and procured forged identity documents, an official said on Sunday. The arrests followed co-ordinated raids in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, after investigators traced the group's involvement in putting up pro-Pakistan and pro-terrorist posters, showcasing terrorist Burhan Wani, at multiple locations in Delhi.



According to police, the module was being handled from Bangladesh by Shabir Ahmad Lone alias Raja alias Kashmiri, a trained LeT terrorist from Jammu and Kashmir who was previously arrested by the Delhi Police's Special Cell in 2007 in a case involving the recovery of

arms and ammunition, including an AK-47 rifle and grenades, Additional Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) Pramod Singh Kushwah said. He said Lone, who hails from Kangan in Srinagar, had fled to Bangladesh after his release from Tihar Jail in 2018 and was working to revive the LeT's terror network in India by activating sleeper cells of Bangladeshi operatives residing illegally in the country. "The investigation began on February 8, after a Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) shift in-charge submitted a written ► P11

JU to host grand finale of 17th PRAKRITI: Int'l Documentary Film Fest on Feb 23-24

Festival aligns with national vision of Viksit Bharat: Prof Manhas

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: The Grand Finale of the 17th Prakriti International Documentary Film Festival of Consortium for Educational Communication to be held at University of Jammu on 23-24 February 2026. The festival is being organised by the Consortium for Educational Communication (CEC), New Delhi. CEC is an Inter-University Centre of the UGC on Electronic Media, mandated to address the country's higher education needs by



developing and disseminating quality educational media content via ICT platforms. With a vision to enhance accessibility and democratize higher education, CEC continues to leverage digital technologies for inclusive knowledge dissemination. Prof. (Dr.) Parikshat Singh Manhas, Director, CEC, stated that the festival aligns with the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047,

which aspires to build a developed, inclusive and self-reliant India by the century of independence. He emphasised that meaningful education, social awareness, environmental responsibility and civic engagement are essential pillars in achieving this vision. Through initiatives like Prakriti, CEC seeks to nurture socially conscious youth who contribute thoughtfully to nation-building. Prof. Parikshat Singh Manhas expressed gratitude to the ► P11

Last rites held for student died in Russia-Ukraine war

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE
JAMMU: Manjinder Singh, 24, travelled to Russia on a student visa with hopes of higher education and supporting his family. He returned to his family, however, months later in a coffin, with his family alleging he was lured into joining the Russian Army under false promises. Singh had travelled to Russia in December 2024 to build a better life but his death in the Russia-Ukraine conflict has plunged his loved ones in a forward hamlet in the RS Pura sector in Jammu into grief. They said if there were better opportunities in the country young people could be prevented from such overseas

recruitment and urged the government to bring back Indian nationals who have fallen prey to such schemes. According to his family, he spent seven to eight months studying and working part-time, trying to support himself and reduce the financial burden on his parents. "He was a good student. He went there to build a future," Ravinder Singh, his elder cousin brother, said. The family alleges that during his stay, he came into contact with agents who lured him and other Indian youths with promises of high salaries — reportedly up to Rs 1 crore for a one-year contract — and assurances that the work would be non-combat in na-

ture. "They told the boys they would only be moving materials or working behind the lines. They even deposited some money into a Russian account to gain trust," Ravinder said. In early August, without informing his family, Manjinder joined the Russian Army and underwent around 15 days of training at a facility reportedly located several hundred kilometres from Moscow. His family only learned of the development nearly two weeks later. "I asked him to come back immediately but he said it was not possible," Ravinder said. He said the last conversation between ► P11

PM Modi shares tips on combating digital fraud

NEW DELHI: "Do not share your OTP, Aadhaar number, or bank account details with anyone. Most importantly, change your passwords regularly, just as you adapt your food and clothing with each season." This was the message delivered by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his monthly radio address, 'Mann Ki Baat', on Sunday, aimed at combating digital fraud. Modi explained that he had previously spoken at length about digital arrest, which has raised awareness about digital fraud and online scams. However, such incidents continue to occur. He said that many people are being targeted through digital arrest and financial fraud, and quite often, senior citizens have been swindled of their lifelong earnings. To protect themselves, the prime minister urged everyone to remain vigilant and advised that KYC (Know Your Customer) or re-KYC procedures should only be carried out through bank branches, official apps, or authorised platforms. "Do not share OTP, Aadhaar number, or bank account information with anyone. And most importantly, keep changing your password from time to ► P11

Build careers based on collaboration, professional integrity: CJJ to students

RAIPUR: Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant on Sunday urged law students to build careers based on collaboration, patience and professional integrity, noting that classmates would become future colleagues, adversaries in court, and potentially members of the judiciary. Speaking at the ninth convocation ceremony of Hidayatullah National Law University here, he said graduating students were transitioning into a professional journey marked by uncertainty and responsibility, with a meaningful career depending on the ability to work collaboratively and the willingness to embrace the long-term nature of professional growth. Addressing the gathering of graduates, faculty mem-



bers, and families, the CJI, highlighting the importance of professional relationships, said, "While legal ► P11

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