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‘Pakistan's terror use sustained’

Peace along border ‘prerequisite’ for good ties with China: EAM Jaishankar



NEW DELHI: For any relationship to work, it has to meet the test of "mutual interest", External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday in the context of the current state of ties between India and Bangladesh.

The external affairs minister also described Pakistan as a "unique" country in the world as there is no other na-

spond to a question on Dhaka's demand to India to extradite former prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Jaishankar's remarks came amid continuing uncertainty over Bangladesh Prime Minister Tarique Rahman's much-anticipated visit to India. It is learnt that both sides are continuing to hold back-channel talks to explore the possibility of the trip in the next couple of weeks.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced earlier this month that India has invited Rahman for a bilateral visit as well as to attend the outreach session of the upcoming BRICS summit in New Delhi.

Rahman's expected visit to New Delhi is considered pivotal to rebuilding the bilateral relations that witnessed severe downturn after the collapse of the Hasina government two years back.

"I am not expecting neighbours to only ►P11



LG Manoj Sinha meets PM Modi

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, on Saturday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi and briefed him on the overall situation in the Union Territory.

The Prime Minister's Office wrote on X; "Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri @manojsinha_, met Prime Minister @narendramodi. The meeting fo-

Amit Shah reviews 'Chicken's Neck' security, pushes for Triangular Grid

SILIGURI (WB): Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday held a meeting with senior officials of West Bengal and central forces to review security along the nation's eastern borders, focusing primarily on strengthening arrangements at the Siliguri Corridor, also called the 'Chicken's Neck', officials said.

The key focus of the meeting was to enhance border surveillance, improve coordination between the central security forces, intelligence agencies and the state police and administration, and draw up a framework for establishing a 'Triangular Security Grid', they said.

Senior officials of the Border Security Force (BSF)



state. The meeting's significance lay in Siliguri's proximity to the international borders with Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh, and the importance of the narrow corridor that serves as the principal land link between the Northeast and the rest of the country.

"The Siliguri Corridor is one of the most sensitive areas that connect eight states and is crucial to national security. We have prepared a triangular grid comprising three new military garrisons at Dhubri in Assam, Kishanganj in Bihar and Chopra in West Bengal," Shah had said at an event of the SSB in Siliguri on Friday, elucidating the Centre's plans to set up the grid around the Chicken's Neck land patch.

Court discards bail plea in Pulwama attack case

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: A special NIA court here has rejected the bail plea of Insha Jan alias Insha Tariq, an accused in the 2019 Pulwama suicide attack that killed 40 CRPF personnel, observing that sufficient material existed on record to presume that the accusations against her were prima facie true.

In his 15-page order delivered on August 20, Special Judge Prem Sagar held that the statutory bar under Section 43-D(5) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) also operated against the accused and prevented her release on bail at this stage.

Jan, a resident of Harkipora village in south Kashmir's Pulwama district, was arrested along with her fa-

14th BRICS Science Ministerial Meet

BRICS Nations Adopt Chennai Declaration: Dr Jitendra Singh

NEW DELHI: In the closing session of the 14th BRICS Science Ministerial Meet chaired by India, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh announced the unanimous adoption of 'Chennai Declaration', reaffirming BRICS commitment to build effective, resilient and future-ready framework in science, technology and innovation.

The Chennai Consensus, adopted under India's BRICS Chairship, places a people-centred and humanity-first approach at the heart of STI cooperation, with emphasis on sustainable development,



for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh, said the deliberations had reaffirmed the central role of Science, Technology and Innovation in building a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable future. He said the breadth of discussions, from Artificial Intelligence and High-Performance Computing to quantum technologies, advanced materials, biotechnology, health, climate and sustainability, reflects the shared opportunities and challenges that BRICS countries can address through collective action.

The Chennai Consensus records the growing ►P11



Chhari Mubarak departs for Pahalgam, main ritual begin

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Chhari Mubarak, the saffron-robed holy mace of Lord Shiva, left for Pahalgam on Saturday, marking the start of the main religious rituals of the annual Shri Amarnathji pilgrimage.

The holy mace was taken to Pahalgam from its abode at the Dashnami Akhara building here for various rituals linked to the annual pilgrimage.

Amid chants of Vedic hymns, Mahant Deependra Giri, custodian of the Chhari Mubarak, led a group of sadhus in performing puja early on Saturday before embarking on the journey towards the Holy Cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

The Shri Amarnathji yatra was suspended for the year on August 9 due to damage to the track and adverse weather conditions. The rituals associated with the pilgrimage, however, continue.

The holy mace is being taken to the cave shrine for 'Pujan' and 'Darshan' on the auspicious occasion of 'Shravan Purnima' on August 28, Giri said. ►P11

BJP's new team meets Nitin Nabin

NEW DELHI: BJP national president Nitin Nabin on Saturday held the first meeting with the party's newly appointed national office-bearers to discuss poll strategy and grassroots outreach, party sources said.

The meeting focused on preparations for upcoming state assembly elections, grassroots mobilisation and communicating government initiatives to the public, the sources said.

More meetings are scheduled later in the day, with state presidents, state in-charges and chief ministers of BJP-ruled states expected to attend, they ►P11

HC pulls up Family Court for insensitivity in custody case

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has flagged "legal shortcoming" and "insensitivity" on the part of a family court here for deploying police and issuing a search warrant to recover a five-year-old girl from her father.

Hearing a petition filed under Article 227 of the Constitution by Shadab Hussain Mir, a single bench of Justice Rahul Bharti observed that a father's custody of his child "by no stretch of imagination could be illegal per se".

The petitioner and respondent had dissolved their marriage through a settlement agreement that granted custody of their minor daughter to the mother, subject to the condition that custody would revert to the father if she remarried.

After the mother remarried, the father took the child into his care. The mother then approached the 4th Additional District Judge (Family Court), Srinagar.

On June 29, 2026, the Family Court ordered the SHO of Chanapora police station to execute a search warrant, recover the child and return her to the mother. ►P11

LG attends 10 years' celebration of IIM Jammu

IIM Jammu will earn Global Recognition by 2026: Sinha

■ EARTH NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU: The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha joined the Board of Governors, faculty, students, alumni and dignitaries today to celebrate 10 years of IIM Jammu. Reflecting on IIM Jammu's remarkable journey, the Lieutenant Governor said that from a modest beginning to its current standing as one of India's fastest-emerging business schools, the Institute has scripted a new history while setting out an ambitious roadmap for the decade ahead.

Recalling that IIM Jammu started a decade ago with just 56 students on a temporary campus on Canal Road, the Lieutenant Governor noted that the institute has since grown into a nationally recognised and internationally engaged centre for management education. He observed that IIM Jammu is now the fifth IIM in the country to hold both AMBA and EFMD accreditation, and it has built academic partnerships with institutions across France, Morocco, South Korea, Greece, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Poland, Sweden, Taiwan and,



NIA raids 10 sites in 5 districts across J-K

SRINAGAR: The NIA on Saturday conducted searches at 10 locations in Jammu and Kashmir in connection with a cross-border terror conspiracy case involving Pakistan-based handlers and a network of local Over Ground Workers (OGWs) allegedly providing logistical and other support to infiltrated terrorists.

The searches, conducted across Srinagar, Kupwara, Anantnag, Pulwama and Budgam, were aimed at securing further documentary, digital ►P11