

IN SHORT

Quit India movement remain an inspiration: PM Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday remembered those who participated in the historic Quit India Movement, and said their courage will always remain an inspiration for every Indian.

The Quit India Movement was launched under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi on August 9, 1942 and gave a decisive impetus to India's quest for independence.

“Remembering all those who participated in the historic **► P11**

Op Sindoor showed India's resolve to ensure citizens' safety: Rajnath

‘Those who dared to cast ‘evil eye’ faced dire consequences’

NEW DELHI: The Operation Sindoor demonstrated the unmatched valour of the country's armed forces, who sent a global message that India will go to any extent to ensure the safety of its citizens, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Sunday.

He was addressing an event held at the Base Hospital, Delhi Cantonment.

Singh commended the defence forces for eliminating terrorists and their handlers based in Pakistan and ensuring that those who dared to cast an evil eye on India faced dire consequences.

Indian armed forces conducted Operation Sindoor in May 2025 in response to the deadly Pahalgam terror attack.



“Operation Sindoor demonstrated the unmatched valour of our defence forces who sent a global message that India will go to any extent to ensure the safety of its citizens while protecting the sindoor worn by our women,” Singh said at the blood donation camp, titled ‘Sindoor Maharaktadan Yatra’, at the Base Hospital here.

Drawing a parallel with the mega blood donation camp, Singh asserted that it represents compassion while Operation Sindoor showcased courage.

Approximately 1,000 wrestlers and athletes from Maharashtra were among

the donors who participated in the camp, demonstrating the spirit of selfless service and solidarity with the armed forces, the defence ministry said in a statement.

Expressing gratitude to the donors, the Union minister expressed confidence that the blood donated today would serve as a credible reserve for needy soldiers and their families in the future.

He described blood donation as ‘jivandan’ and ‘mahadan’, stressing that despite remarkable advances in science and medicine, no artificial substitute for human blood has yet been developed.

Since (human) blood can only be produced by the human body **► P11**

HM Shah confers President's Colour to Puducherry Police

PUDUCHERRY: Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the President's Colour to Puducherry Police on Sunday and praised the force for its commitment and dedication in ensuring the country's internal security.

Referring to the government doing away with British-era criminal laws, including the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Shah said its replacement, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was enacted with the intention of ensuring justice to citizens.

In his address after presenting the President's Colour to the Union Territory's police force, he said the new criminal laws are based on the “three pillars of technology, timeline and trust.”

The President's Colour is the highest honour given to a military unit or police



force of a state or union territory. Past recipients of the honour include the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and various state police departments.

President Droupadi Murmu had announced on May 8 the conferment of the honour on Puducherry police in recognition of its “exceptional service, discipline and distinguished achievements”.

Underlining the Centre's commitment to the UT's growth, Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision over the last 12 years has been to strengthen it.

To make Puducherry strong, several development initiatives, **► P11**

Special funds for winter gear, equipment of CRPF troops posted at high-altitude J-K posts

NEW DELHI: A special winter clothing and equipment fund has been sanctioned by the Union home ministry for CRPF troops operating from the Temporary Operating Bases (TOBs) created for fighting terrorists in the higher reaches of Jammu and Kashmir post the 2025 Pahalgam attack.

Official sources said that an allocation of more than Rs 4.54 crore has been granted to the paramilitary few weeks ago to procure gaiters, sleeping bags, snow boots and goggles, extreme cold weather clothing developed by the DRDO (Himsuraksha brand), insulating mats, rucksacks, gloves, tents, thermal insoles, blankets and rescue bags for about 600 troops.

While most of these items were already provided to the TOB troops since the last year, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in July granted “complete authorisation” to a CRPF proposal for procuring these items so that the troops can be better equipped for long duration reconnaissance patrols, survival and combat against terrorists in the higher reaches, they said.

The life expectancy of these items is about two years and the funds can be revised upwards for fresh procurement, the sources added.

The TOBs, established above the height of 6,000 feet, house Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) commandos for launch-

ing search and assault operations where terrorists are holed up in ‘dhoks’ (mud and stone huts).

It has been found that terrorists used the snow-bound and arduous hilly terrains of Jammu and Kashmir to hide before or after perpetrating violence in the plains and, hence, the CRPF and Army troops are now stationed here.

The first such rocks and mortar base was created by the CRPF in July 2025 and, as per latest data, the force has erected 55 TOBs in both Jammu and Kashmir regions of the Union Territory. The TOBs hold a team of about 15-25 armed troops with basic facilities of rest and recuperation. One such **► P11**

Police search 26 locations allied to banned JeI group



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SRINAGAR: Police on Sunday carried out searches at 26 locations allegedly linked to the banned Ja-

maat-e-Islami (JeI) group across Sopore police district in Jammu and Kashmir as part of an investigation into a case registered against it under the **► P11**

PML(N) on back foot over PoJK protests, calls activists ‘patriots’

ISLAMABAD: Set to take charge of the so-called government in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, the PML(N), headed by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his brother Nawaz, seems to be on the back foot in dealing with protesters in the region, following months of violence.

Prime Minister's adviser Rana Sanaullah on Saturday said 99 per cent of the protesters in Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) are “patriotic” people.

He further said the political party's representatives would soon meet

members of the banned Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) - a collective of activists that have been spearheading protests in the region.

Till a few days ago, the political party maintained that members of the banned terrorist group Tehrik-e Taliban were present among the protesters, to justify the government's crackdown on them.

Addressing a rally on Saturday, ahead of the third phase of “elections” in PoJK, Sanaullah said: “Ninety-nine per cent of those associated **► P11**

Holy Charri Mubarak procession to Shri Amarnath Ji to start on Aug 13

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SRINAGAR: The focus of the annual Shri Amarnath Yatra has now shifted to the ritualistic journey of Charri Mubarak, the holy mace of Lord Shiva, to the cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas beginning Thursday, officials said here.

The Chhari-Mubarak will be taken to the historic Shankracharya Temple here on August 12 and the Sharika Bhawani Temple on August 13 before rituals are performed for Chhari-Sthapana at the Shri Amreshwar Temple Dashnami Akhara Srinagar on August 15.

“Traditional Chhari-Pujan shall be performed at Dashnami Akhara Srinagar on 17th of August on the auspicious occasion of ‘Nag-Pan-

chami’. Embarking on the main course of pilgrimage on 22nd of August, the holy mace will be taken to the shrine of Swami Amarnath Ji to perform puja and have ‘Darshan’ on auspicious occasion of ‘Shravan-Purnima’ on the 28th of August,” Mahant Deependri Giri said.

There will be night halts at Pahalgam on August 22 and 23, Chandanwari on 24th, Sheshnag on 25th and at Panchtarani on 26th and 27th of August, respectively.

He said a letter has been sent to the Union Territory government for making all the necessary arrangements to preserve the age-old traditions and ensure the movement of Chhari-Mubarak as per the schedule and take all the preventive measures for **► P11**

India transforms as Global Leader in emerging technologies: Dr Jitendra

NEW DELHI: India will be an essential player in the next industrial revolution which will be biotechnology and AI driven, unlike the last industrial revolution which was IT driven and India was late in becoming a part of that, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh, on Sunday.

Speaking at a media conclave, he said India is now among the first few countries in the world



to have a dedicated Biotechnology policy, that is BioE3. We also have a National Quantum Mission, India AI Mission and have made rapid advances in Space and other frontier areas. He said India's space economy, which was earlier almost negligible,

has grown to around USD 9 billion and is projected to reach USD 40-45 billion within the next eight to nine years.

Dr. Jitendra Singh participated in an interaction with the media at the conclave, attended by technology developers, industry leaders and other stakeholders. The discussion focused on India's emergence as a global manufacturing and technology hub, the rapid pace of technological change, innovation, private-sector participation and the opportunities emerging in frontier sectors. The **► P11**

Vehicle in Dy CM's cavalcade hits man

JAMMU: A man was killed after being hit by a vehicle reportedly part of the cavalcade of Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary while the vehicles were returning after dropping the leader at his residence here on Saturday, officials said.

The deceased was identified as Bharat, a resident of Bihar, who was crossing the road when he was struck by the vehicle at Gangyal on the outskirts of the city, the officials said.

They said the victim sustained **► P11**

Social media has become medium for conspiracies against India: Adityanath

LUCKNOW: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday said social media has become a “medium” for conspiracies against the country, alleging that anti-India forces are using the platform to spread rumours and mislead society.

Addressing the inaugural programme of the ‘Kakori Train Action Centenary Celebrations’ at Kakori, **► P11**



Kashmiri Pandits' political orphan-hood: Decades of neglect; unfulfilled promises

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JAGTI: Describing themselves as “political orphans” and the “new untouchables”, hundreds of displaced Kashmiri Pandits residing in Jagti township and surrounding camps have accused political parties of exploiting their plight solely for election manifestos and demanded steps for a dignified life as enshrined in the Constitution.

“Used by everyone, represented by none, this is the real tragedy,” advocate Vishva Ranjan Pandita, a resident of the Jagti camp, said, adding, “the hardest exile is the one imposed by our own country”.

He said almost all political parties, including the National Conference (NC), Congress, PDP and BJP, have repeatedly promised



the safe, secure and dignified return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits to the Valley in their election manifestos. However, he

alleged that these commitments largely disappear once elections are over and said the community wants a clear roadmap and political

accountability.

Trapped between virtually non-functional civic representation and deteriorating infrastructure, residents across camps for the displaced community that left Kashmir in the 1990s after the outbreak of militancy stated that being pushed to the margins of political discourse has led to their complete neglect, with many even threatening to take “drastic measures” to end their miseries.

Tito Ganju, the chairman of Panun Kashmir, an organisation which has been highlighting the problems faced by migrants in the camps, emphasised the core grievance of the displaced community -- they are remembered by political parties only during election cycles.

“Kashmiri **► P11**

Police, BSF conduct joint CASO near IB

JAMMU: Amid heightened security measures and area domination efforts ahead of Independence Day, Jammu and Kashmir Police conducted a cordon-and-search operation along with troops of the Border Security Force (BSF) near the International Border here on Sunday, police said.

The operation was carried out in Aik Nallah, Kool Kalan and adjoining areas under Arnia police station limits, a spokesman said.

He said the joint operation commenced around 6 pm and continued for two hours.

During the operation, around 15 houses and ‘kullas’ (shacks) were thoroughly searched by the teams, the spokesman said.

The operation **► P11**

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