

**'Galgotian blunder': Sibal slams Govt on robodog row, accuses it of negligence**

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**Priyanka Chopra Says 'People Need To Relax On The PR': 'If You're Bluffing...'**

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### IED detected, defused

Averting a possible tragedy, security forces today destroyed an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) in Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

Officials said the IED was kept inside a bag and placed on the roadside in Gulab Sheikh Mohalla near Kohestan Colony in the district's Safapora area.

Soon after the IED was detected, security forces cordoned off the area and traffic was halted.

A bomb disposal squad

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### Youth held for assaulting police SI

A youth was arrested for allegedly assaulting a police officer who was on duty in Trikuta Nagar area here.

The action follows a viral video of the incident and a written complaint, prompting immediate legal proceedings and investigation, officials said.

On February 20, a written complaint was lodged by Sub-Inspector Rajesh Kumar, posted in DPL, Jammu, stating therein that while on official duty

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### CB files chargesheet in land fraud case

The crime branch of police today filed a chargesheet against a fraudster who was alleged to have duped a person on the pretext of selling land here.

The chargesheet was filed against Rajinder Singh Manhas, a resident of Purkhoo-Domana, in a case registered against him in 2024, officials said.

Officials said the case originated from a complaint, alleging that the accused had executed an agreement to sell on April 1, 2022 for five marlas of

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### Terrorist hideout busted in Poonch woods

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 21

Security forces today busted a terrorist hideout in Hari Budha Bowl woods of Poonch district of Jammu and recovered from there a pistol and some other items.

Acting on a tip-off, troops of White Knight Corps launched an operation in Hari Budha Bowl woods, and came across a natural cave which was being used by terrorists as a hideout, officials said.

The search of the hideout led forces to the recovery of

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### BJP MLA caught by Lokayukta while accepting bribe

KARNATAKA, FEB 21: Lokayukta police on Saturday said they had apprehended BJP MLA Chandru Lamani while allegedly accepting a Rs 5 lakh bribe.

The trap was laid by Gadag Lokayukta police based on a complaint filed by a contractor, officials said.

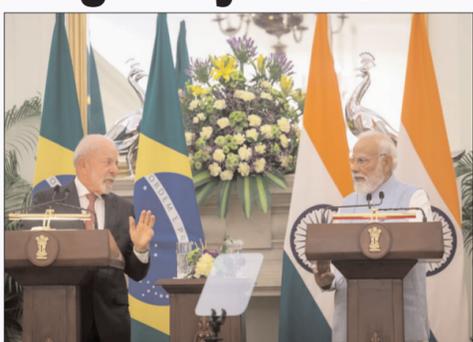
"Today, a successful trap was laid by Gadag Lokayukta police station. The accused public servant was caught while accepting Rs 5 lakh," officials said, adding that a case had been registered

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### Win-win partnership

## Modi says India-Brazil bilateral trade to go beyond \$20 billion

NEW DELHI, FEB 21: Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva here today, aiming to strengthen multifaceted cooperation between the two key nations of Global South. He described the relationship as a "win-win" partnership and said India was looking to expand bilateral trade beyond USD 20 billion over the next five years.



collaboration across sectors with shared goals and aspirations, adding that cooperation in technology and innovation would have significance not only for India and Brazil but also for the wider Global South.

Modi & Lula held wide-ranging talks, focusing on areas including critical minerals and security.

Modi said relations between India and Brazil had long benefitted from President Lula's visionary outlook and inspiring leadership. He asserted that when India and Brazil

work together, the voice of the Global South becomes stronger.

"India and Brazil's partnership on the global stage has been strong and influential. As democratic nations, we will continue to advance the priorities and aspirations of the Global South. When India and Brazil work together, the voice of the Global South becomes stronger and more confident," Modi said in his media statement after the talks.

He also noted that Brazil is India's largest trade

partner in Latin America. "We are committed to taking the India-Brazil trade beyond USD 20 billion in the next five years," the prime minister said.

Modi also said both countries agree that terrorism and its supporters are enemies of all humanity.

"We believe that all problems must be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy. India and Brazil are unanimous that terrorism and its supporters are enemies of all humanity. We also agree that reform of global institutions is essential to address the challenges of our time. We will continue to work together in this direction," he said.

In his remarks, Modi noted that cooperation in areas such as climate-resilient agriculture, precision farming and biofertilisers would strengthen food security in both nations.

"The agreement reached on critical minerals and

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## 86 nations sign AI Impact Summit declaration: Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI, FEB 21: As many as 86 countries and two international organisations have signed the AI Impact Summit declaration, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday said, adding that the US, UK, Canada, China, Denmark, and Germany are among the signatories.



The strong global backing for the declaration comes at the conclusion of the India AI Impact Summit in New Delhi.

Vaishnaw told reporters that nations across the world have formalised and upheld principles of 'welfare of all, and happiness of all'.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's human-centric AI vision been accepted by the world. Democratising Artificial Intelligence resources so AI facilities, services and technology can reach everyone in society has been accepted by all," the minister said.

Balancing economic growth with social good has been prioritised, he added.

"Not just economic growth, even social har-

naw on Friday terming it a "grand success".

Vaishnaw had said participation at the summit crossed five lakh visitors, reflecting strong domestic and global engagement with India's AI push.

The India AI Impact Summit brought together global policymakers, industry leaders and technology experts, positioning India as a key player in shaping international AI governance and infrastructure development.

"More than five lakh visitors participated in the exhibition, learnt a lot, and interacted with many experts from around the world. We had practically every major AI player in the world participating in large numbers. We had so many startups getting the opportunity to showcase their work. Overall, the quality of the discussion was phenomenal," he had said.

Be it the ministerial dialogue, the leaders' plenary, the main inauguration function, or the Summit overall, the quality of par-

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## Amit Shah vows to wipe out Naxalism by Mar 31

GUWAHATI, FEB 21: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said Naxalism would be eliminated from the country by the March 31 deadline set by the government.



years.

Addressing the 87th CRPF Day Parade here, the first ever in the northeast, Shah said the force played an important role in Jammu and Kashmir, where the number of stone-pelting incidents has dropped to zero, besides being deployed to handle ethnic violence in Manipur and breaking the back of Maoists in only three

Naxalism had spread across 12 states and countless districts of the country, and when the Centre resolved to uproot the menace, the CRPF and Co-BRA force personnel played the most crucial role in the effort, he said.

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The home minister noted that such a huge, complex and difficult task was completed in just three years.

"Because of the CRPF personnel, we can confidently say that by March 31, 2026, the country will be completely free from Naxalism," he asserted.

Praising the force for Operation Black Forest in the Karreguta Hills on the Chhattisgarh-Telangana border, in which 31 Naxals were killed in April-May 2025, Shah said CRPF personnel carried out the op-

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### Following terror threat, security heightened in Delhi

NEW DELHI, FEB 21: Security was tightened across key religious and heritage sites in Delhi on Saturday, including areas around the Red Fort and parts of Chandni Chowk, following intelligence inputs suggesting a possible terror threat, an official said.

Security agencies issued an alert on a possible explosion threat near Red Fort, a major tourist destination and high-security zone, after Central intelligence agencies indicated that Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) had kept prominent religious

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## Law must shift from 'fortress to forum' for wider access: CJI

JODHPUR, FEB 21: Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Saturday said that "law cannot remain a fortress erected to protect society from arbitrariness", and called on the young lawyers to make it a "forum" where differences are debated, rights articulated and power is reasoned with.



space.

Kant, during his address - "From Fortress to Forum: Law in an Unfinished Republic" - at the 18th Convocation of National Law University here, urged the professionals to see law not as a closed citadel but as a living, evolving public

The CJI invoked the Mehrangarh Fort as a powerful metaphor for the historical journey of law. "A fortress is built to defend, to guard against disorder and uncertainty. In its earliest conception, law resembled such a structure, erected to protect society from arbitrariness and

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chaos," he said.

"But in a constitutional democracy, he said, law cannot remain a fortress alone. It must transform into a forum where differences are debated, rights articulated and power reasoned with," he added.

Kant reiterated that the shift, from fortress to forum, captures not only the evolution of legal systems but also the responsibility awaiting the graduating class.

The CJI cautioned students against viewing law as a finished product. Unlike the settled principles of

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## Trump announces new global levies India now faces lower tariff rate of 10 pc

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON, FEB 21: India now faces a lower tariff rate of 10 per cent, down from 18 per cent, after US President Donald Trump announced a new global levy on items imported into America in the wake of the Supreme Court verdict against his sweeping tariffs.



150 days, a "temporary import surcharge of 10 per cent ad valorem" on articles imported into the United States, effective February 24.

In a proclamation titled 'Imposing a Temporary Import Surcharge to Address Fundamental International Payments Problems', Trump said he is imposing, for a period of

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around the world, Indian goods being imported into the US would no longer be subject to the 18 per cent tariff rate that had been decided on following the announcement of a framework for an Interim Agreement on trade between India and the US.

In a major setback to Trump's pivotal economic agenda in his second term, the US Supreme Court, in a 6-3 verdict written by Chief Justice John Roberts, ruled that the tariffs imposed by

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### Cong asks PM to pause India-US trade deal

NEW DELHI, FEB 21: The Congress on Saturday called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to put the India-US interim trade agreement on hold and renegotiate its terms following the US Supreme Court's decision striking down former President Donald Trump's global tariffs.

Addressing reporters, Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said the government must "categorically state" that there will be no import liberalisation until "clear-cut clarifications" are received from

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## NMC approves 24 super-specialty PG seats for Jammu, Sgr GMCs, SKIMS

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 21

In a landmark development and significant boost to specialised medical education in Jammu and Kashmir, National Medical Commission has approved 24 new super-specialty postgraduate (PG) seats in the government medical colleges (GMCs) of Jammu and Srinagar, and SKIMS, Soura.

atric Surgery, Neuro-Anaesthesia, Paediatric and Neonatal Anaesthesia and Clinical Immunology & Rheumatology.

NMC has approved four seats in DM Cardiology and four seats in MCh Urology for GMC, Jammu, two seats each in DM Pulmonary Medicine, DM Cardiology, DM Medical Gastroenterology, M Ch Urology and M Ch Paediatric Surgery for GMC Srinagar, besides two seats each in DM Neuro-Anaesthesia, DM Paediatric & Neonatal Anaesthesia and DM Clinical Immunology

The seats have been approved in streams like Cardiology, Urology, Pulmonary Medicine, Medical Gastroenterology, Paedi-

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and Rheumatology for Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Srinagar.

Welcoming the NMC approval, health & medical education minister Sakeena Itoo described the development as a major milestone, adding that this transformational step underscored the government's firm commitment to expanding specialised healthcare infrastructure and medical education opportunities within Jammu and Kashmir.

"This achievement re-

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## Shantmanu takes oath as SEC, hints at holding local body polls

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 21

Former bureaucrat Shantmanu, who was on February 17 appointed as state election commissioner for J&K, today took oath as SEC, underscoring the importance of holding the long-pending panchayat and urban local body elections in the UT.



The oath-taking ceremony was attended by chief minister Omar Abdullah, his cabinet colleagues and Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather.

LG Manoj Sinha administered the oath of office to the retired IAS officer at a ceremony held at Lok Bhavan here.

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After the oath ceremony, Shantmanu said it was a

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### Economic mismanagement pushes poverty to record highs in Pak

ISLAMABAD, FEB 21: Pakistan's poverty rate has soared to 29 pc, the highest in 11 years, while income inequality has climbed to its worst level in nearly three decades, exposing deep cracks in the country's economic management.

According to a government survey, nearly 70 million Pakistanis now live below the monthly poverty threshold of Rs 8,484.

The preliminary findings for fiscal year 2024-25 show poverty has jumped 32 pc compared to 2018-19, when the last survey was conducted.

The poverty ratio stood at 21.9 pc in 2019 but has

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## India's youth will play decisive role in shaping destiny of nation: Kavinder

GURDASPUR, FEB 21: Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta, who was today conferred with Shri Laxmi Chander Vishist Sewa Rattan Award for his 'distinguished public service', today said that India's youth would play a decisive role in shaping the destiny of the nation and in realising the vision of a developed India by 2047.



"With their energy, innovation and commitment, the young generation will not only transform their own futures but also define the direction of the country in the decades to come," he

said while addressing the annual convocation ceremony of government college here.

The LG awarded degrees

to 247 students and honored five meritorious students with Roll of Honour.

Emphasising the impor

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