



Rahul Gandhi alleges US pressure on PM over trade deal, says Indian farmers being "sacrificed"

Rashmika Mandanna Kisses 'Husband' Vijay Deverakonda, Tears Up During Varmala

India thrash Zimbabwe by 72 runs



NEW DELHI, FEB 26: Abhishek Sharma and Hardik Pandya struck blazing half-centuries as India thrashed Zimbabwe by 72 runs in their must-win Super Eight match to keep their semifinal hopes alive in the T20 World Cup.

Order on BOSE/SSSA as TET nodal agency put on hold

The government today kept in abeyance its earlier order regarding the designation of the Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE)/State School Standards Authority (SSSA) as nodal agency for conducting the Teachers Eligibility Test (TET).

Rlys to run 1,244 Holi special trains

The Union Ministry of Railways has announced that 1,244 Holi Special train trips will be operated between February 25 and March 18 to manage the festive rush.

DGCA revises air ticket refund norms

NEW DELHI, FEB 26: Passengers can now cancel or change air tickets without paying additional charge within 48 hours of making the bookings subject to certain conditions, with aviation watchdog DGCA revising the ticket refund norms for airlines.

Birla reconstitutes panel to probe Justice Varma's removal

NEW DELHI, FEB 26: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has reconstituted the three-member inquiry committee tasked with examining the grounds for the removal of Justice Yashwant Varma.

Zero tolerance on terrorism: EAM's strong message at UNHRC

Calls for global action

GENEVA, FEB 26: Delivering a powerful message at the UNHRC, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar today reaffirmed India's zero tolerance towards terrorism. In a self-shot video, he called upon the council to focus on key development issues while calling for global action against terror.



"India remains firm and uncompromising in its opposition to terrorism in all its forms," he said, asserting there can be no justification, especially when innocent lives are targeted. "Confronting terrorism requires collective resolve," Jaishankar said and urged the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) to "advocate zero-tolerance for terrorist acts."

that India seeks to find and expand common ground in a world marred by conflict, polarisation and uncertainty. "We have consistently underlined dialogue over confrontation, consensus over division, and human-centric development over narrow interests," he said. "We remain firm and uncompromising Mr President in our opposition to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as well. Terrorism is among the most egregious violations of human rights and there can be no justification, especially when innocent lives are targeted. "Confronting terrorism requires collective resolve, and we look at this Council and to the United Nations at large to advocate zero-tolerance for terrorist acts," Jaishankar said. Asserting that India's vision is rooted in the understanding that the insecurity of any region, or the marginalisation of any group, eventually undermines the rights and well-being of all, the minister said, "India approaches this Council with the conviction that human rights

are best advanced through dialogue, capacity-building and genuine partnerships, and not by politicisation, selectivity or double standards."

Jaishankar said India's humanitarian outreach has been guided by empathy rather than just geography. Whether through disaster relief, medical supplies, vaccines, food grains or development partnerships, India has been a dependable partner of first resort for many, he added.

At the outset, Jaishankar drew attention to how India began the current High-Level Segment as an elected member of the Human Rights Council, and said, New Delhi's mandate reflects the trust and expectations of the international community, especially of partners in the Global South.

"For us, human rights are not abstract ideals, but an integral part of our civilisational ethos of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam that

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India must shed colonial mindset to become global leader: VP

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 26

Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan today said "the nation needs to let go of its colonial mindset to emerge as a global leader in innovations".

"As a graduating student, I urge you all to focus on Swadeshi innovation and solutions that are rooted in Indian knowledge, resources, and needs. We need not be worried; we need not be inferior. We are to throw out our colonial mindset first," he said while addressing 21st convocation of the University of Kashmir in Srinagar.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the country more vibrant and more supportive than ever before," the vice-president said.

"My best wishes to you to share the next big innovation, the next way of sustainable development, the next chapter in India's prize as a global leader," he added.

Referring to the COVID-19 pandemic, he said the prime minister gave a call for all the scientists of the country to develop a vaccine for the epidemic.

"How many of us believed in it? But we found the best vaccination, and it has worked very well for the entire humanity," he added.

The vice-president further said that the same vaccination has been researched and developed by the most well-developed Western economies, but all of them were



running behind on how to patent it so that they can sell it for a very high price.

"Yes, a unit of vaccination can be sold for USD 7,500, but how can a poor man afford that?" he added.

He said Indian innovations are widely accepted by the Western world as well. "So the whole world is open for you now, it is your initiative, it is your interest. It is your enthusiasm, and your hard work is going to put you at the top of the world," he added.

Radhakrishnan said recently the central government has approved the development and expansion of the Srinagar International Airport, at an estimated cost of over Rs 1600 crores.

It was mentioned by our chief minister, Omar Abdullah, that tourism is to be expanded, but it has to be expanded without

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India, Israel elevate ties to special strategic partnership

Vow to soon conclude free trade deal

JERUSALEM, FEB 26: India and Israel on Thursday elevated their "time-tested" relationship to a special strategic partnership and agreed to soon firm up a "mutually beneficial" free trade deal even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi strongly backed the Gaza peace initiative, asserting that humanity must never become a victim of conflict.

ments to expand cooperation in areas of trade, agriculture, energy, cyberspace and digital payment.

India and Israel also vowed to expand their already close defence partnership by working towards joint development and joint production of military hardware under the framework of the transfer of technologies.

In his media statement, Modi said India's security interest is linked to peace and stability in the Middle East, adding that New Delhi fully supports the

Gaza Peace Initiative. "India's stance is clear: humanity must never become a victim of conflict. A path to peace has been created through the Gaza Peace Plan. India has fully supported these efforts," he said.

"In the future as well, we will continue dialogue and cooperation with all countries," he said.

PM Modi landed in Israel on Wednesday on a two-day visit. It is his second visit to Israel in nine years.

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'No deadlines' to end Ukraine war: Russia

MOSCOW, FEB 26:

Moscow was in no hurry to reach a deal to end the war in Ukraine, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov suggested in comments to state media on Thursday.

Negotiators from both countries were in Geneva on Thursday for separate talks with US officials, part of a fraught negotiation process being pushed by President Donald Trump in a bid to end the fighting.

Several rounds of discussions have failed to clinch a deal, with Moscow insisting on hardline territorial and political demands that Kyiv

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Industry, intellect should grow together: LG Sinha

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, FEB 26

Stating that industry and intellect should grow together, LG Manoj Sinha today the classroom ideas must impact the world.

"My mantra is that industry & intellect should grow together. Our universities should collaborate with industry, innovators, research and development organisations to build Viksit Bharat and to ensure that the higher education campuses and companies co-create the future," he said while addressing the 21st convocation of University of Kashmir in Srinagar.

Vice-President C P Radhakrishnan also attended the ceremony.

The LG extended his best wishes to all the graduating students for a prosperous



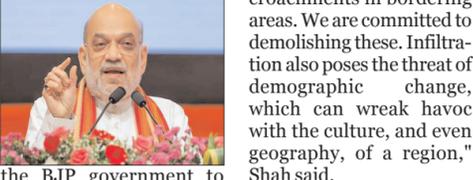
future. He exhorted them to set a clear path for their future - 'One purpose, one priority - country first'.

"Always remember when you build the country, the country builds you back. Na

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Every single infiltrator will be driven out of West Bengal: Amit Shah

ARARIA, FEB 26: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday exuded confidence that the BJP will win the upcoming assembly polls in West Bengal, and "drive out every single infiltrator" from the state, which was among the ones "worst affected by demographic change".



Shah made the remark in Araria district of Bihar, where he launched projects worth Rs 175 crore of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and dedicated to the nation a couple of new border outposts. "Infiltration on a large scale also results in en-

croachments in bordering areas. We are committed to demolishing these. Infiltration also poses the threat of demographic change, which can wreak havoc with the culture, and even geography, of a region," Shah said.

The Narendra Modi government at the Centre has decided to set up a high-powered committee to study and "undo demographic change", by identifying the most vulnerable areas, the home minister said.

"Bihar, Jharkhand and

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SC orders ban, seizure of NCERT book

NEW DELHI, FEB 26:

The Supreme Court on Thursday imposed a blanket ban on class 8 NCERT book carrying a chapter on corruption in the judiciary, and ordered a seizure of all physical copies, along with takedown of its digital forms.

The apex court ordered that the Centre and state authorities comply with its directions immediately, and warned of "serious action" if directions are defied in any form.

The top court issued show cause notices to NCERT director, school education secretary to explain

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'Pakistan living in la la land' J&K budget more than double bailout package Pak sought from IMF: India

UNITED NATIONS, FEB 26: Slamming Pakistan at the UN, India has said the country lives in "la-la land" and finds it unbelievable that Jammu and Kashmir's developmental budget is more than double the recent bailout package Islamabad sought from the IMF.

and Kashmir at the high-level segment of the 61st Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council.

Anupama Singh, First Secretary in the Permanent Mission of India to the UN in Geneva, exercised India's Right of Reply on Wednesday after Pakistan raised the issue of Jammu

ments rarely complete their terms. "They ring hollow. The record voter turnout in general elections and Assembly elections in Jammu & Kashmir, is a testimony to the fact that people of Jammu & Kashmir have rejected the ideology of terrorism and violence propagated by Pakistan and are surging ahead on the path of development and democracy," she said.

In a strong retort, Singh said, "If the Chenab Rail

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SERU initiative strengthens spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat': Kavinder

Himalayan Mail News LEH, FEB 26

Reaffirming the commitment to strengthening spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat', Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta today flagged off a batch of 30 students from Lok Niwas here for Rashtriya Ekatmata Yatra - Student Experience in Regional Understanding (SERU) tour.



The group comprises 11 girls and 19 boys from Eliezer Joldan Memorial College, University of

Ladakh, and the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Choglamsar. During the 13-day tour, students will visit Gurugram, Chandigarh, Manali, and

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Digital platforms responsible for online content: Vaishnav

NEW DELHI, FEB 26:

Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav on Thursday asserted that digital platforms must take responsibility for the content they host and ensure fair revenue sharing with content creators and news organisations, cautioning that innovation will suffer if creators are denied due compensation.

Addressing the Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) Conclave here, Vaishnav also underlined the need to regulate the use of AI-generated content, saying such material should not be generated without the consent of the person whose face, voice or

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Steady decline in terrorism, situation normal in J&K: Lt Gen Katiyar

PATHANKOT, FEB 26: Western Army Commander Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Katiyar on Thursday said he had noted a sustained decline in terror indicators in Jammu and Kashmir, and the situation had become very normal.



Maintaining that the Army was keeping a close watch on the terror infrastructure, he said plans were being formulated to deal with it accordingly.

"As you have seen, all terror parameters in Jammu and Kashmir have consistently declined. The situation in Jammu and Kashmir has become very normal. However, as I said before, this is a well-planned conspiracy by Pakistan to send a few terrorists to disturb the atmosphere. Our Army and all departments of the civil administration are fully prepared (to deal with it)," Lt Gen Katiyar told reporters here.

Responding to a question on terror encounters in the Kathua-Kishtwar belt, the Army commander said, "Wherever we receive information, we take immediate and prompt action. As you have seen this year, in several successful operations, we neutralised terrorists who had come to create disturbances in our country."

Responding to another question about the

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