



BJP chief claims 'over 50 lakh infiltrators' removed from Bengal electoral rolls

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Esha Gupta Assures Fans She's Safe In Abu Dhabi Amid Escalating Tensions In Middle East: 'Times Are Scary'

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Army fires at Pak drone near LoC

Army troops opened fire to bring down a Pakistani drone after it entered the Indian territory from across the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu early today.

Officials said troops manning a forward post noticed the enemy drone at around 6.10 am and fired over a dozen rounds to bring it down.

The bullets, however, did not hit the quadcopter and it flew back to PoJK

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Universities, colleges, schools closed for 2 days in valley

The government today announced a two-day closure of all schools, colleges and universities across the valley as a precautionary measure.

Education Minister Sakina Itoo said the decision was taken to ensure student safety amid protests in parts of the valley

"We have decided to close all educational institutions, including univer

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Good Governance Conference in Jammu

The Centre's Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir government, will organise a day-long national governance conference on March 3 in Jammu.

"The event aims to showcase and disseminate innovative governance practices adopted by districts across the country that have improved service delivery, citizen welfare and local development," an official statement said.

Union Minister Jiten

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T20 WC India beat West Indies, qualify for semis



NEW DELHI, MAR 01: Sanju Samson scored an unbeaten 97 off just 50 balls to drag India to the semi-finals of the T20 World Cup 2026 with a five-wicket victory over West Indies at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata on Sunday.

The opener scored his half century in just 26 balls, and

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Maj Gen Ajai Dabas takes over as Delta Force GOC



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 01

Maj Gen Ajai Singh Dabas has assumed command of Counter Insurgency Force (Delta) in Jammu and Kashmir, replacing Maj Gen A P S Bal, Army said on Sunday.

Delta Force was raised on September 5, 1994 and

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Iran's supreme leader Khamenei killed in US-Israeli strikes

Chief of army staff, def min also killed

Iran declares 40-day mourning

TEHRAN, MAR 01: Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in a major attack by Israel and the United States early today, throwing the future of the Islamic Republic into doubt and raising the risk of regional instability. Iran's chief of army staff and defence minister were also killed in an airstrike, targeting a meeting of the country's defence council.

State media reported that 86-year-old Khamenei was killed in an airstrike targeting his compound in downtown Tehran. Satellite photos from Airbus showed that the site was heavily bombed.

Gen Abdul Rahim Mousavi and Defence Minister Gen Aziz Nasirzadeh were killed at the meeting alongside the head of Iran's paramilitary Revolu-



tionary Guard and security adviser Ali Shamkhani, whose deaths Iran previously announced Sunday morning.

Khamenei's death at his office "showed that he consistently stood among the people and at the forefront of his responsibilities, confronting what officials call global arrogance," state TV said.

"Khamenei, one of the most-evil people in History, is dead," Trump wrote in a social media post. He warned of "heavy and pinpoint bombing"

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Iran-US talks likely to resume

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: Oman's foreign minister, who had been mediating US-Iran talks, on Sunday urged a ceasefire during a call with his Iranian counterpart and said that Tehran had indicated a willingness to de-escalate.

Badr Albusaidi "affirmed the Sultanate of Oman's continued call for a ceasefire and a return to dialogue... in a manner that achieves the legitimate demands of all parties," Oman's foreign ministry said in a readout of a call with Iran's foreign minister Abbas Araghchi.

According to the Oman foreign ministry statement, Araghchi said Iran was "calling for peace," and voiced "the openness of the Iranian side to any serious efforts that contribute to stopping the escalation and returning to stability".

On Sunday in Oman,

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Sinha holds meeting on security situation in J&K

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 01

LG Manoj Sinha held a review meeting here today on the security situation across the UT.

Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo, DGP Nalin Prabhat other senior officials, and all DCs & SSPs attended the meeting.

"Peace is our collective responsibility," the LG said and appealed to all communities to uphold it. He also commended the unwavering, coordinated resolve of police, security forces and

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Modi chairs key CCS meet as chaos unfolds in Middle East

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: In the wake of prevailing global situation following the attack on Iran by the United States and Israel and the killing of Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Prime Minister Narendra Modi late tonight chaired a high-level meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).

In the meeting, he reviewed the rapidly evolving global situation arising from the escalating Iran-Israel-US conflict and assessed its potential impact on India.

The meeting assumed



significance amid concerns for the safety of nearly 9.7 million Indians living across the Middle East. The government has been closely monitoring developments and initiated con-

tingency planning, including possible evacuation operations if the situation worsens.

The meeting was held at the official residence of the

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Bar, Bench can't be separated in justice delivery system: CJI

TIRUPATI, MAR 01: Bar is an integral part of the justice delivery system and cannot be separated, though people think that it is the sole responsibility of the court to deliver justice, which may be a myth, Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said on Sunday.

After laying the foundation stone for the District Courts Complex here, CJI Kant said the bar and the bench are not adversaries, but two hands of the same institution. A strong bar produces strong advocacy, and when there is strong advocacy, that challenges



the judges to think harder, reason more carefully, and write more clearly.

"My dear members of the bar, you are an integral part of the judicial and the justice delivery system. You cannot be separated, as sometimes people think that the delivery of justice is the sole responsibility of

the bench only. That may be a myth, that may not be a true fact," Justice Kant said.

He further said that the quality of assistance which the bar provides is reflected in the overall work of the judge. The better the bar argues, the better the quality of the judgment and when there is a better reasoned judgment, public confidence is built in the rule of law.

Justice Kant said he strongly advocates that the court complexes need to behave and act like hospi

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Afghanistan fires at Pak jets as conflict intensifies

KABUL, MAR 01: Afghanistan today said it fired at Pakistani jets in Kabul after blasts and gunfire rocked the capital on Sunday, compounding instability in a region rattled by US-Israeli strikes on Iran and retaliatory attacks on US targets in Gulf states.

The Taliban-ruled state has suffered Pakistani strikes against government installations over the past week following accusations, which it denies, that it harbours militants.

The heaviest fighting in

years between the neighbours has raised fears of a protracted conflict along their 2,600-km (1,615-mile) border, with several countries including Qatar and Saudi Arabia calling for restraint and offering to help mediate a ceasefire.

Explosions echoed across parts of Kabul before sunrise, followed by bursts of gunfire. It was not clear what had been targeted or whether there were casualties.

Taliban administration spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said the sounds

were the result of Afghan forces targeting Pakistani aircraft over the capital.

"Air defence attacks were carried out in Kabul against Pakistani aircraft. Kabul residents should not be concerned," Mujahid said.

Pakistan's prime minister's office, information ministry and military did not respond to requests for comment.

The violence follows air strikes inside Afghanistan this week that Pakistan said targeted militant in

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India assures visa relief to stranded foreign travellers

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: In view of flight cancellations following the escalating security situation in the Middle East, India on Sunday asked foreign nationals in the country to approach relevant authorities for visa extensions.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued an advisory for foreign nationals impacted by the travel disruptions.

The MEA urged foreign nationals to contact their nearest Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) if they require assistance with visa extensions or need to regularise

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17 killed in blast at gunpowder factory

NAGPUR, MAR 01: At least 17 persons were killed and 18 others injured in a blast at an explosives manufacturing factory in Maharashtra's Nagpur district on Sunday morning, police said.

The blast took place at the SBL Energy Limited factory, a mining and industrial explosives manufacturer, at Raulgaon in Katol tehsil, a senior police official said.

At least 17 persons were killed and 18 others suffered injuries, the police said.

A team of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) reached the site to carry out the rescue opera

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J&K has emerged as top performer in national integration progs: LG

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 01

Stating that 'Atma-Nirbhar Bharat' initiative is a national awakening and India actually began scripting a new chapter in 2014, forging a new path to self-reliance, LG Manoj Sinha today said that J&K had emerged as a top performer in national integration programmes.

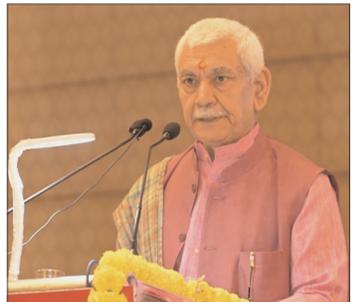
"Today, J&K has emerged as a top performer in national integration programmes like Vande Mataram. Those dreaming of disrupting this progress must wake up to the new reality," he said.

The LG offered three principles to strengthen the Made in India & Atma-Nirbhar Bharat initiative - Quality, Innovation, and Reliability. He stressed that these three mantras must become the new identity of domestic manufacturing sector.

"I view Swadeshi Apnao (embrace swadeshi) not as a slogan, but a way of life. I urge the people of Jammu & Kashmir and the country to let it shape our daily habits," he said while speaking at an Atma-Nirbhar Bharat event organised by Federation of Trade & Industry of India (FTII).

On the occasion, he also felicitated the recipients of Vyapar Ratan Awards for their significant contribution.

"Atma-Nirbhar Bharat is a national awakening. It is an economic revolution propelled by Industry's might. 'Made in India' now symbolises trust in global trade. We must ensure that when someone, any-



where in the world, sees 'Made in India' on a product, it inspires confidence," Sinha said.

He said that India began scripting a new chapter in 2014, forging a new path to self-reliance under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Under the prime minister's visionary leadership, India did not follow a predetermined path but it built its own, he said.

"India resolved to rise not ordinary, but empowered. Today, it is witnessing a genuine economic renaissance. Our MSMEs are the backbone of our economy. They embody hope for millions of families and businesses," he added.

"Spread across every district and every town of this country, MSMEs innovate even under the constraint of limited resources. And, that is why when we purchase a product from a small enterprise, we are not simply buying a commodity, we

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'Betrayal of India's values' Cong slams govt response over West Asia crisis

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: The Congress on Sunday said the government's response to the war unleashed on Iran has been a betrayal of India's values, principles and interests, as it claimed that the nation is paying a heavy price for both the substance and style of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign policy.

Taking a swipe at Modi, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said India's foreign policy under the "self-styled Vish-

waguru" stands brutally exposed, notwithstanding all the grandstanding on it by the cheerleaders of the PM, led by himself.

"Modi visited Israel on February 25-26, 2026, at a time when the entire world was aware that a US-Israel military attack on Iran for regime change was imminent. The assault began just two days after Modi left Israel where his speech to the Knesset was a display of shameful moral cowardice," Ramesh said on X.

"The Modi government's

response to the war unleashed on Iran that has involved targeted assassinations has been a betrayal of India's values, principles, concerns, and interests," he alleged.

Ramesh's remarks come after Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in a major attack by Israel and the United States. State media reported that the 86-year-old was killed in an air strike targeting his compound in downtown Tehran.

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Iran crisis: No immediate oil disruption for India

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: With crude inventories sufficient to meet at least 10 days of requirements and fuel stocks covering another 5-7 days, India is unlikely to face any near-term disruption in oil supplies from the closure of the key supply route of the Strait of Hormuz, officials said.

Even as rapidly unfolding developments, following US and Israeli military strikes on Iran, including the reported killing of the Islamic Republic's Supreme Leader, suggest

the conflict may not last very long, New Delhi has contingency plans in place should tensions escalate, top officials and analysts said.

Iran's state media said on February 28 that the Islamic Republic has shut the Strait of Hormuz - one of the world's most critical energy chokepoints through which about a fifth of global oil and gas supplies transit - in response to the US and Israeli missile strikes.

The closure for a short duration will not have

much impact on India as it already has supplies to meet fuel requirements, they said, adding that in the event of a prolonged disruption or closure of the narrow Strait of Hormuz, the country can recalibrate imports, tapping into its diversified supply sources, including increasing purchases of Russian oil.

The immediate fallout is expected to be reflected in oil prices. Brent crude closed the week near seven-month highs at around USD 73 per barrel,

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Admin committed to addressing genuine concerns of people: Kavinder

NEW DELHI, MAR 01: Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta today said that his administration was committed to addressing the genuine concerns of people in accordance with the existing rules and regulations.

"The administration remains committed to addressing genuine concerns in accordance with existing rules and regulations, safeguarding the interests of the local populace while ensuring sustainable development," he told former Chief Executive Councillor (CEC), LAHDC Leh, Tashi Gyalson, who called him here.

During the meeting, Gyalson apprised the LG of concerns and suggestions regarding land management and procedural clarity to ensure equitable and transparent resolution of cases, particularly those involving Nautor land.

He also lauded the LG for his recent visit to



CSIR-Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh, and Indian Institute of Technology, Jammu, undertaken with the objective of further strengthening skill-development opportunities for the youth of Ladakh.

Gupta reiterated the administration's focus on empowering Ladakhi youth through strategic collaborations with premier institu

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