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### Sinha greets people on eve of Holi

LG Manoj Sinha today extended his heartfelt greetings to the people on the eve of festival of Holi.

"On the festive occasion of Holi, I convey my warm greetings to people. I hope that the festival of colours, which is celebrated with traditional fervour, heralds happiness and success for all," he said in his message.

"May this festival of colours bring joy and prosperity in the society and foster the spirit of harmony amongst our citizens," the LG added.

### CRPF cop suffers gunshot injury

A CRPF cop was hospitalised after he sustained a gunshot injury under suspicious circumstances at a camp in Jammu's Rajouri district today.

The incident was said to have occurred at a CRPF camp in Tandwal area of the district, according to officials.

After the cop sustained the gunshot injury, he was moved to the GMCH, Rajouri, where he was cur

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### Aeroplane-shaped Pak balloon found

An aeroplane-shaped Pak balloon marked 'PIA' was today recovered from a border village in Rajouri district of Jammu.

A red and white aeroplane-shaped balloon bearing the text 'PIA' with Urdu was found in Sarhoti village in Rajouri's Dharamsal area, officials said.

Locals alerted authorities after spotting the object.

Cops from Teryath police post reached the site and seized the balloon, the officials added.

Earlier, on February 23, two balloons with a Pakistani Rs 5,000 currency note and a US dollar attached were recovered from Gunara village in Akhnoor sub-sector of Jammu.

### Schools, colleges to remain closed in Kashmir till Mar 7

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 03

The government today said that all schools and colleges across Kashmir division would remain closed till March 7.

"All schools and colleges of Kashmir division to remain closed till March 7, 2026," education minister Sakina Itoo said in a post on X.

The decision comes amid the prevailing situation, with authorities taking precautionary measures to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff.

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### 'Too late for talks'

## US will press on with Iran military campaign, says Trump

DUBAI, MAR 03: As the war in the Middle East intensifies further, US President Donald Trump today declared that the window for negotiations with Iran had effectively closed, asserting that although Iranian officials had indicated a willingness to engage in talks, the United States would continue its military campaign.

"The US has the capability to go far longer than its projected four-to-five-week time frame for its military operations against Iran," he said.

"Iran's air defence systems, air force, navy and senior leadership has been dismantled," Trump said in a post on Truth Social, arguing that any attempt by Tehran to revive diplomatic engagement now was too late.

Reacting to an opinion piece published in a US newspaper and shared by



another user on the platform, he wrote that Iran's military capabilities had been neutralised and dismissed overtures for renewed dialogue.

"Their air defence, Air Force, Navy and leadership are gone. They want to talk. I said too late!" Trump stated, framing the ongoing campaign as decisive and irreversible.

The remarks signal a sharp hardening of Washington's posture at a time when the conflict between

the United States and Iran has entered a dangerous and unpredictable phase.

Trump's comments suggest that the administration believes it has achieved substantial tactical gains and sees little incentive to pause operations for renewed diplomacy. By publicly declaring that Iran's defensive and command structures have been crippled, the President appeared intent on projecting strength and finality.

However, the claim that

Iran's military leadership and capabilities have been effectively dismantled is likely to be scrutinised closely by analysts. Military campaigns of this scale often involve complex, layered damage assessments, and while precision strikes may degrade infrastructure and command networks, the long-term strategic picture tends to be more nuanced. Iran retains asymmetric capabilities, including missile forces and regional proxies, which could continue to shape the trajectory of the conflict.

Trump's statement also underscores the narrowing space for diplomatic engagement. Historically, back-channel negotiations and third-party mediation have played a role in de-escalating crises involving Tehran and Washington.

By characterising Iranian outreach as belated and insufficient, the President has effectively signalled that the

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### BJP names 9 candidates for RS polls

NEW DELHI, MAR 03: BJP today named nine candidates for the upcoming Rajya Sabha polls, fielding its national president Nitin Nabin as a nominee from Bihar.

Its list of candidates for the Rajya Sabha elections scheduled for March 16 includes leaders from Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal among others.

Apart from Nabin, BJP has also named Shivesh Kumar, a former member of the Bihar Legislative Council from Agiaon constituency, as a candidate for the Upper House of Parliament. Kumar is the son of former Union minister Munni Lal.

From West Bengal, the

Cont. on P9 >

### Indian students moved out of Tehran

NEW DELHI, MAR 03: The Indian Embassy in Tehran has relocated most Indian students out of the Iranian capital following heightened risk perception amid the ongoing US-Iran hostilities.

In a statement, the Embassy of India in Iran said it had moved the majority of Indian students who were in Tehran to safer locations outside the city. Arrangements were made by the mission for their transportation, food and accommodation.

"Due to the heightened risk perception in Tehran city, the Embassy of India has relocated most In

Cont. on P9 >

### Pahalgam massacre

## NIA seeks China's help to trace GoPro camera used in terror attack

NEW DELHI, MAR 03: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has sought China's judicial assistance to trace a GoPro Hero 12 Black camera linked to the April 22, 2025, Pahalgam terror attack that had claimed the lives of 25 Hindu tourists and a local.

The camera is considered crucial in establishing pre-attack reconnaissance, movement patterns and operational preparations of the terror module in the terror attack as it was supplied to China-based AE Group International Limited more than a year before the deadly terror at-

tack. The camera was activated on January 30, 2024 at Dongguan—an industrial metropolis in China, and is among various material objects and electronic devices found and examined by the investigators connected with conspiracy and execution of terrorist attack which had taken place in Pahalgam's Baisaran meadow.

To trace the purchaser, end-user and associated technical records of the GoPro Hero 12 black camera, bearing serial No C35013254717066, NIA would soon issue a Letter Rogatory or LR to the com-

petent judicial authority of the People's Republic of China. LR is a formal and diplomatic request from a court in one country to the judiciary of another country.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has given the concurrence for issuance of LR to China for seeking legal assistance in the investigation of the case (RC-02/2025/NIA/JMU).

A special court in Jammu on March 2 allowed the NIA to seek judicial assistance from China to trace the purchaser and end-user of the GoPro camera linked to the conspiracy based on

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### US-Iran war

## Any major disruption in Gulf has serious consequences on economy: India

NEW DELHI, MAR 03: Amid the Middle East unrest sparked by US-Israel strikes on Iran and intensified by latter's retaliation, India on Tuesday said any major disruption in the Gulf, from which its trade and energy supply chains traverse, has serious consequences for the Indian economy.

"India had expressed deep concern at the commencement of the conflict in Iran and the Gulf region on February 28, when the strikes were first reported," the ministry of external affairs said in a statement

over the ongoing conflict in the West Asia region.

"Even at that time, India had urged all sides to exercise restraint, avoid escalation and prioritize the safety of civilians. Unfortunately, in the holy month of Ramadan, the situation in the region has deteriorated significantly and continuously," it stated.

"There are almost one crore Indian citizens who live and work in the Gulf region. Their safety and well-being are of utmost priority. We cannot be impervious to any development that negatively affects

them. Our trade and energy supply chains also traverse this geography. Any major disruption has serious consequences for the Indian economy. As a country whose nationals are prominent in the global workforce, India is also firmly opposed to attacks on merchant shipping. Already, some Indian nationals have lost their lives or are missing as a result of such attacks in the last few days," India said in a statement.

The Gulf region and wider West Asian region -

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The Himalayan Mail wishes all its readers a Happy Holi. In view of a holiday on March 4, there will be no issue of your newspaper on March 5. Editor-in-Chief

## LG asks officers to remain on high alert to ensure public peace

### Chairs high-level meeting

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 03

LG Manoj Sinha, who today chaired a high-level meeting of senior police and civil officers of the administration in Srinagar, emphasised the need for remaining on heightened alert to ensure public peace.

In the meeting, he reviewed the overall law & order situation across the Union Territory.

The LG directed the officers to remain on heightened alert and take all necessary measures to ensure public peace and tranquillity.

He also appealed to the citizens and community leaders to uphold harmony and contribute to an at-



mosphere of calm and goodwill in society.

"Preserving peace and sustaining the progress of society is a shared responsibility that rests equally upon each one of us," he said.

"Chaired a meeting of senior police & civil administration officials at the police control room, Kashmir, to review the law & order situation. Directed the officers to remain on heightened alert and take all nec-

essary measures to ensure public peace and tranquillity," he said in a post on X.

"I also appeal to the citizens and community leaders to uphold harmony and contribute to an atmosphere of calm and goodwill in society. Preserving peace and sustaining the progress of society is a shared responsibility that rests equally upon each one of us," Sinha added.

The meeting, among oth

Cont. on P9 >

## Kavinder reaffirms UT admin's commitment to cultural preservation

Himalayan Mail News LEH, MAR 03

Urging youth to uphold Ladakh's cultural legacy while embracing modernity, Ladakh LG Kavinder Gupta today reaffirmed the UT administration's commitment to cultural preservation.

The LG, who attended the historic Matho Nagrang festival at Matho Monastery, Leh, was accorded a warm welcome by former MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal along with venerable monks of Matho Monastery. In his message, Gupta described Matho



Nagrang festival as one of the Ladakh's most significant cultural and spiritual events.

He noted that this 500-year-old tradition, rooted in the Sakya tradition of Tibetan Buddhism, continues

to serve as a powerful symbol of Ladakh's rich civilizational heritage.

"The festival attracts not only local communities but also researchers, scholars and tourists from across

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