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Pak ISI-BKI spy camera terror plot foiled, 11 arrested

defence establishments, monitoring troop movements, and relaying critical information across the border," said the Additional CP Kushwah.

He said the installation of solar-powered CCTV cameras near such sensitive zones indicates a well-planned and sustained surveillance attempt aimed at tracking movement patterns of security forces.

The first operation, led by teams of the Northern Range of the Special Cell, resulted in the arrest of six accused from Punjab and Delhi. Based on technical surveillance and human intelligence, the police recovered nine CCTV cameras, four pistols, including three foreign-made weapons and 24 live cartridges.

"The second operation, conducted by the Southwestern Range on inputs from Military Intelligence, led to the arrest of five more accused from Punjab who were actively involved in reconnaissance missions and sharing sensitive visuals of Army and BSF installations," he added.

During interrogation, the accused disclosed that they were lured into the network through monetary incentives generated from cross-border smuggling of arms and narcotics. They were also involved in arranging logistics such as SIM cards, transportation and installation of surveillance equipment at identified locations.

"One of the key accused, identified as Manpreet Singh from Tarn Taran in Punjab, was in direct contact with Pakistan-based handlers and played a central role in coordinating arms deliveries and facilitating communication channels. He had received consignments of foreign-made weapons and distributed them among operatives as per instructions," the officer said.

Another accused, Anmol, along with his associate Sahil, was responsible for physically installing the CCTV cameras at multiple sites. Investigators found that these installations were deliberately positioned to capture movement near Army cantonments, border roads and other high-security zones.

Police further said that the module had also been tasked with recruiting local youths and expanding its network to sustain long-term espionage operations. Some of the accused were involved in conducting reconnaissance of Army cantonments and sharing photographs and videos with handlers across the border.

"The use of solar-powered devices ensured uninterrupted surveillance even in remote areas without direct power supply, making detection difficult." Additional CP Kushwah said, adding that the technological aspect of the operation points to external guidance and support.

Apart from espionage, the probe also uncovered an arms trafficking network wherein Pakistan-based handlers directed Indian operatives to receive and distribute illegal weapons. Funds generated from these activities were being routed through digital payment platforms and used to finance further operations.

The arrests have also averted a potential terror strike, with inputs suggesting that the module was planning attacks on security establishments using grenades and other means. The crackdown has led to the unearthing of multiple interconnected networks involving espionage, arms smuggling and terror planning.

"Security agencies are now analysing digital evidence, including mobile phones and data retrieved from the CCTV systems, to identify additional links and possible sleeper cells. Further investigation is underway," he said.

Mass movement needed against drug menace: LG

take a pledge against drug abuse and also undertake a padayatra. This march will continue across the entire Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Calling for public participation, the Lieutenant Governor said the campaign is not limited to any individual but concerns the future of the youth. "This campaign does not belong to any one individual-it concerns the future of the youth of Jammu and Kashmir. Painful incidents are being reported almost every day, which are truly heartbreaking," he said.

Urging people to actively join the initiative, Sinha added, "This is not merely a march, but a journey with a purpose-to make Jammu and Kashmir drug-free and to ensure effective action against drug traffickers." He said the administration has prepared a comprehensive strategy involving all departments, along with the police and security forces, to carry forward the campaign.

"I will also make efforts to reach every district of Jammu and Kashmir, to energise this campaign through padayatras and to appeal to people directly," he added.

Prez nominates Harivansh to Rajya Sabha

Upper House ended on April 9. He has been nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha after the vacancy was created following the retirement of former chief justice of India Ranjan Gogoi.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-clause (a) of clause (1) of article 80 of the Constitution of India, read with clause (3) of that article, the President is pleased to nominate Shri Harivansh to the Council of States to fill the vacancy caused due to retirement of one of the nominated members," an official notification of the government said.

Harivansh, 69, has completed his two terms as a member of the Rajya Sabha representing Bihar. He has also served as deputy chairman of the Upper House.

Hope war ends, peace prevails: Farooq on Iran crisis

world. "Thank God, the war has stopped. I hope it remains stopped in the future as well, peace prevails in the world and we all benefit from it," he said while talking to reporters here.

Reacting to discussions around Pakistan's mediation and calls for a Nobel Prize, Farooq said, "It is unfortunate that someone is demanding a Nobel Peace Prize for brokering peace between the US and Iran." "The cause of humanity is much bigger," he added.

He was asked about the calls within Pakistan for the Nobel Peace Prize for Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Gen Asif Munir, and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar.

Farooq said humanity suffers due to wars, "and it is humanity that must be saved". He expressed hope for the war ending and the peace prevailing in the region.

Jitendra congratulates ISRO on IADT-02 test success

the crew module -- the capsule in which astronauts sit during a human flight -- during re-entry and landing.

"Congratulations ISRO for the successful accomplishment of Second Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-02) for Gaganyaan, India's first Human Space flight scheduled next year. The second Integrated Air Drop Test (IADT-02)

was successfully conducted at Satish Dhawan Space Station Sriharikota," Singh said in a post on X.

The IADT-02 follows the successful completion of the first IADT, which took place on August 24, 2025 at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

Air drop tests recreate the last leg of a spacecraft's return to the Earth. An aircraft or helicopter drops the spacecraft from a height to test various systems under different scenarios.

These are the deployment of the parachute system in case the mission is aborted mid-flight, system performance when one parachute fails to open, and the spacecraft's orientation and safety during splashdown, etc.

In the first IADT, a 4.8-tonne dummy crew module was dropped from a height of three km by a Chinook helicopter.

After the module's release, a parachute system, comprising 10 parachutes, was deployed, helping the capsule decelerate to a safe splashdown speed.

VP releases latest edition of Constitution in Sindhi

Sindhi-speaking community on the occasion of Sindhi Bhasha Diwas.

The vice-president described Sindhi as one of the oldest and most melodious languages, noting that its literary tradition reflects a unique confluence of Vedantic philosophy and Sufi thought, promoting universal values of oneness, love, and brotherhood.

Highlighting the significance of the occasion, he said that the release of the Constitution in Sindhi, particularly in the Devanagari script for the first time since Independence, marks an important milestone in promoting linguistic inclusivity.

He emphasised that the Constitution is not merely a legal document but the living spirit of the nation, embodying its aspirations, safeguarding rights, and guiding democratic governance.

He observed that India stands unique in making its Constitution available in a wide range of languages and recalled similar initiatives undertaken in recent years, including translations in Bodo, Dogri, Santhali, Tamil, Gujarati, and Nepali. These efforts, he said, celebrate India's linguistic diversity and reinforce democratic values.

Justice Varma resigns amid impeachment proceedings

hereby tender my resignation from the office of Judge of the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, with immediate effect. It has been an honour to serve in this office," the resignation letter sent to the President on April 9 said.

Justice Varma was repatriated from the Delhi High Court to the Allahabad High Court after burnt wads of currency notes were found at his official residence in New Delhi on March 14 last year.

Shah sharpens poll pitch with UCC, 'son of soil' CM, 'Ram Rajya'

ism. "The Constitution is based on the principle that every citizen, regardless of religion, should be treated equally. Is having the same law for every citizen appeasement? Or is it appeasement when one citizen is allowed four marriages and another only one? The UCC ends appeasement," he said.

Shah also addressed a question that has long dogged the BJP in Bengal - who would be its chief ministerial face.

"We are not a dynastic party where, after Didi, her nephew automatically becomes the leader," he said, in an oblique reference to Abhishek Banerjee. "Any Bengali can become the chief minister. The BJP's chief minister in Bengal will be someone who belongs to Bengal. He will be capable, qualified and able to establish good governance." Shah sought to undercut the TMC's repeated charge that the BJP was trying to run Bengal from Delhi.

"That will not happen. Bengal needs good governance. Bengal's chief minister will be someone born in Bengal, who speaks Bengali and is capable. If the state is run from Delhi, that is still better than being run from Bangladesh," he said.

The reference to Bangladesh dovetailed with the BJP's campaign around infiltration.

"Mamata Banerjee has a different definition of infiltrators. By infiltrators, I mean those who are not citizens of India. We will expel all such infiltrators and give citizenship to refugees. Infiltrators and refugees are two different things," Shah said.

Asked if the BJP would publish a white paper on infiltration, he said, "That will come once we form government (in West Bengal). We will tell you exactly how many infiltrators there are and how the current government created fake entries." Shah also seized on TMC leader Akhil Giri's remark that Bengal did not need "Ram Rajya". "Ram Rajya is a concept of good governance, one that Mahatma Gandhi himself spoke about during the freedom struggle," he said. "If Mamata Didi does not want even that, she need not worry - she has very little time left. From May 5, the BJP would be in power. We will establish Ram Rajya here, which means good governance." Asked whether a BJP government would ban fish and eggs, Shah shot back: "Why do you ask such a question?" Terming it a rumour spread by the TMC, he said, "Didi keeps making such claims. Now she is saying that all her welfare schemes will be stopped.

Wherever the BJP has come to power, we have not stopped a single pro-poor scheme of the previous government. What will stop, however, is the cut money that goes into implementing these schemes." Asked whether the BJP was now embracing the same "freebies culture" it once criticised, Shah argued that Bengal had been pushed into distress by the Left and the TMC.

"When someone is sick, you give them medicine and strength. That is not called a freebie. These measures are meant to support Bengal's women, youth and men, and also fishermen," he said.

Projecting confidence despite the BJP's failure to dislodge the TMC in 2021, Shah said the party would cross the line this time.

"We are certain that this time the BJP will form a government with a full majority. I want to appeal to the people of Bengal not to be afraid of anyone. Fear will end only when there is change. Vote fearlessly in this election and initiate that change." Referring to the violence in Malda and allegations that judicial officers had been confined or threatened, Shah said, "The Supreme Court has taken note of it, so has the EC. They have ensured that elections this time will be free of fear." The Union home minister also dismissed a TMC video purportedly showing suspended leader Humayun Kabir claiming proximity to BJP leaders.

"You do not know Mamata Banerjee's capabilities. She can make 2,000 such videos. Humayun Kabir and the BJP are at opposite poles. We would rather sit in the opposition for 20 years than sit with those who talk about

building a Babri Masjid in Bengal," he said.

Shah distanced himself from the Special Intensive Revision of the electoral rolls. "This is a matter for the Election Commission and the Supreme Court. We are not carrying out the SIR. The Election Commission is doing it," he said. Shah made one final promise pitched at two important communities in north and western Bengal.

"We will make efforts to include the Kurmali and Rajbanshi languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, and the Bengal government will work with the Centre for this," he said.

Box fitted with 2 grenades recovered

later called in to destroy the explosive devices, officials said.

Had the grenades remained undetected and exploded, these could have caused extensive damage to life & property of people, the officials added.

Security forces also conducted searches in the area but there was no report of any suspect having taken into custody by them.

EAM calls on Mauritius Prez, holds key bilateral meetings

India-Mauritius partnership," the EAM said in a post on X.

"Conveyed warm greetings of President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Our conversation reflected the warmth of our friendship and the steadfast commitment to further advancing partnership," he added.

The EAM's visit to the island nation, scheduled for April 9-10, is the first leg of a four-day diplomatic tour that includes the UAE.

In Mauritius, Jaishankar was set to participate in the 9th Indian Ocean Conference, themed 'Collective Stewardship for Indian Ocean Governance'.

This flagship event, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the India Foundation, serves as a platform for regional leaders to deliberate on maritime security and economic sustainability.

Jaishankar also held multiple high-level engagements with leaders from neighbouring and Indian Ocean region countries following his meeting with President Gokhool.

Sharing updates in a series of posts on X, the EAM stated that he met the newly appointed Foreign Minister of Nepal, Shishir Khanal and congratulated him on his appointment.

"Glad to meet FM Shishir Khanal of Nepal this afternoon. Congratulated him on his appointment. Discussed realising the full potential of the India-Nepal partnership by deeper collaboration in different sectors," the post read.

Glad to meet FM Shishir Khanal of Nepal this afternoon. Congratulated him on his appointment.

He also held talks with his counterpart of Bhutan, D N Dhungyel, describing the India-Bhutan relationship as "unique and time-tested" and noting its continued progress and prosperity.

"A warm conversation today with Foreign Minister of Bhutan D.N. Dhungyel in Port Louis. Our unique and time-tested partnership continues to progress and prosper," the EAM stated in a separate post.

On the sidelines of the Indian Ocean Conference, Jaishankar also met the Foreign Minister of Seychelles, Barry Faure and reiterated India's commitment to supporting Seychelles in addressing its current economic challenges. He also welcomed steps taken towards implementing a Special Economic Package.

"Great meeting FM Barry Faure of Seychelles on the sidelines of 9th Indian Ocean Conference. India is committed to supporting Seychelles in meeting current economic challenges. Welcomed the steps in implementing the Special Economic Package," the EAM stated in his post.

Additionally, the External Affairs Minister met former Mauritius Prime Minister and leader of the MSM Party, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, appreciating his continued commitment to strengthening India-Mauritius ties.

Following his engagements in Mauritius, the minister will travel to the United Arab Emirates on April 11 to review the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with the UAE leadership.

Need for AFs to evolve into integrated warfighting instrument: CDS

tions examined critical issues, including force design, organisational structures and the adequacy of existing hierarchies in a battlespace that no longer respects domain boundaries.

According to him, discussions also focused on intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR), where "the bottleneck is not information, but the speed and quality of its interpretation." Highlighting the growing role of emerging technologies, General Chauhan said artificial intelligence and data analytics are poised to transform decision-making cycles and operational superiority.

Referring to the classical OODA loop conceptualised by John Boyd, he said, "Whoever completes this particular cycle faster than the adversary will win a combat." However, he pointed to a paradigm shift driven by predictive technologies.

"Today, because of the predictive nature of AI, you should be able to orient yourself first before you can even observe," he said.

On the evolving nature of warfare, the CDS emphasised that conflict is no longer confined to the physical domain. "All warfare till now has been in the physical domain. Then for us to imagine that warfare will move into a new kind of reality, synthetic in nature and cognitive in nature, is actually difficult to understand," he said.

He argued that warfare must also be viewed at the political level, where outcomes are shaped beyond battlefield victories.

"If you can achieve your political objectives without actually firing, then of course, it's a different kind of reality," he said, noting the increasing role of information manipulation and influence operations.

General Chauhan introduced the concept of multi-dimensional warfare, expanding beyond traditional domains.

He said that in addition to land, sea and air, new dimensions such as time, cyber, electromagnetic spectrum and cognition are shaping modern conflict. "We are maybe moving into an era of not only multi-domain, but multidimensional warfare," he observed. He also highlighted the convergence of kinetic and non-kinetic means, manned and unmanned systems, and traditional and emerging domains.

"It's not destruction, it's actually a paralysis of the adversary," he said, explaining that the cumulative effect of such convergence could disrupt and incapacitate adversaries at multiple levels.

The CDS stressed the importance of institutional architecture, including networks, standard operating procedures and shared understanding, in enabling effective

multi-domain operations.

He said the seminar had provided valuable insights into the level of jointness among the three services, as well as gaps that need to be addressed. Referring to the broader implications, he said the security challenges do not respect borders, underlining the importance of collaboration and dialogue among like-minded nations.

Announcing the next edition, General Chauhan said the 2027 'Ran Samvad' will be hosted by the Indian Navy, focusing on "high-intensity operations in a transparent and expanded battle space," with greater participation expected from younger and mid-level officers.

SC rejects plea to stop caste census

likhte ho petition me (From where you write such language in your petition)," the CJJ, who was heading the bench which also comprised Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi, told the petitioner.

The bench dismissed the plea, which also sought a direction to the Centre to formulate policies to provide economic incentives to families with a single child.

On February 2, the top court had refused to entertain a separate PIL questioning the procedure to be adopted to record, classify and verify the caste data of citizens in the 2027 general Census.

The 2027 Census, officially the 16th national census, will be the first to include comprehensive caste enumeration since 1931 and the country's first fully digital census.

Qatar vows to remain reliable energy supplier to India

and a declaration of force majeure on gas exports, including to India.

India relies on imports to meet about half of its natural gas demand and roughly two-thirds of its LPG needs, a fuel widely used for household cooking, with the bulk of supplies sourced from West Asia.

The six-week conflict has all but shut down energy exports from the Gulf countries, leaving India to grapple with industrial supply shortages and the knock-on impact of rising prices.

Discussions during Puri's visit are expected to have focused on restoring shipments, reviewing existing agreements, and exploring avenues to strengthen bilateral energy cooperation.

The statement said Puri arrived in Doha on April 9 afternoon and in the evening, he met with the Qatar Minister of State for Energy Affairs, and President and CEO of QatarEnergy, Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi.

Puri conveyed greetings and a message of solidarity and support on behalf of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, as well as the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Qatar, HE Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

"He recalled the two telephone conversations between PM Modi and His Highness The Amir in March 2026, following the start of the conflict, during which both leaders had emphasised the urgent need to restore peace and stability in the region through dialogue and diplomacy. PM Modi had conveyed gratitude to His Highness for the care and support given by Qatar to the Indian community," it said.

Both ministers, the statement said, discussed all aspects of the strategic relations between the two countries, including high-level engagements, trade, investment, energy, culture and people-to-people relations.

"They hoped for early return of peace and stability in the region and further strengthening of the bilateral relationship between India and Qatar," it said.

"Al-Kaabi reaffirmed the State of Qatar's commitment to remain a reliable energy supplier and looked forward to continuing and strengthening energy relations and cooperation with India." Both ministers also welcomed the two-week ceasefire agreed on April 8, and stressed the importance of an early end to disruptions in global energy supplies and restoration of normalcy. In this context, they emphasised the need for unimpeded freedom of navigation and the global flow of commerce to maintain global supply chains.

Puri thanked Qatar's MOS for Energy Affairs, Kaabi, for hosting him. Both ministers agreed to remain in regular touch in the coming weeks.

The minister also posted pictures of his meeting on X. "Very happy to meet Qatar Minister of State for Energy Affairs, and President and CEO of QatarEnergy, H.E. Mr Saad Sherida Al-Kaabi in Doha during my two-day visit to Qatar," he said.

Nitish Kumar takes oath as RS member

Union Minister J P Nadda, who is also leader of the house, and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Minister of State for Law and Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal.

JDU leader and party's working president Sanjay Kumar Jha and Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, besides BJP MP and former union minister Rajiv Pratap Rudy were among those present during the oath-taking.

As Kumar assumes the Rajya Sabha role, it marks the end of his rule in Bihar. The NDA is likely to elect a new chief minister of Bihar on April 14.

Kharage flags 'grave consequences' of delimitation plan

secretaries Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, K C Venugopal, Jairam Ramesh and Sachin Pilot, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, among others.

Meanwhile, the CPI(M) said the Centre should hold wider consultations on the proposed legislation for women's reservation in legislative bodies and the related delimitation exercise, which proposes increasing the number of Lok Sabha seats to 816, with 273 reserved for women.

In a statement, CPI(M) Politburo said it remains committed to mandatory reservation of one-third seats for women in Parliament and state assemblies, but raised concerns over the proposed legislation linking the quota to an increase in the total number of seats.

India, US review trade, defence, Quad ties

the two countries and shared news about the situation in the Persian Gulf and other global and regional priorities," Tommy Pigott, Principal Deputy Spokesman for the Department of State, said in a statement.

Hooker said discussions centred on expanding cooperation in security, defence, and economic domains.

"We are finding practical ways to make both Americans and Indians safer and more prosperous, including through the Quad," she said.

The Indian Embassy in the US said both sides reviewed progress in the bilateral agenda since the Foreign Office Consultations held last December and exchanged views on developments in West Asia and other regional issues of mutual interest.