

Govt wants to bring bill aimed at winning 2029 polls, Oppn must reject 'political move': Sibal

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Mrunal Thakur Calls Struggles And Rejections 'Worth It', Says 'I Want To Give Credit...'

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No trace of 'suspects'

Even as searches today continued in Rajbagh & Ramkote villages of Kathua district, security forces were yet to find any trace of the two suspected terrorists who were sighted yesterday in the area.

The suspicious movement of two-armed men, carrying heavy backpacks, was reported from Soffain village yesterday morning. The suspects were said to have moved towards Ambanall woods of Rajbagh.

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Couple killed in road accident

A motorcycle collided with a truck here today, resulting in the death of a couple and injuries to their 12-year-old son.

Bal Krishan (45) and his wife Anita (40), natives of Madhya Pradesh's Chhatrapur, along with their son were travelling on a motorcycle when they were hit by a truck at Gangyal bypass, officials said.

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3 IAS officers posted in J&K

The Ministry of Home Affairs has ordered the transfers and postings of several IAS officers of the AGMUT cadre with immediate effect.

In the reshuffle, three IAS officers were posted in Jammu & Kashmir.

As per the official order, the three IAS officers posted in J&K included Vivek Agarwal, Asha Choudhary Malhotra and Vikas Ahlawat.

They were transferred to Jammu & Kashmir from Delhi.

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Man booked for fake WhatsApp account in SSP's name

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, APR 14

Police today registered an FIR against an individual for allegedly operating a fake WhatsApp account in the name of SSP, Budgam.

According to officials, Budgam police station received a reliable information that one Sameer Ali Bhat of Pallar, Budgam, was sharing screenshots of chats with a fake WhatsApp account operating in the name of SSP, Budgam, among

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Jitendra for strong clinical foundation in medical education



NEW DELHI, APR 14: Union Minister Jitendra Singh today called for a strong clinical foundation in medical education, notwithstanding Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing role, while releasing the second edition of the Postgraduate Textbook of "Pediatric Gas

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Modi lauds Art 370 abrogation, pays tributes to Ambedkar

DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND), APR 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today hailed the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu & Kashmir and the Uniform Civil Code in Uttarakhand while paying tributes to Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar on his 135th birth anniversary.

"After the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution, the Constitution of India is now fully applicable across the entire nation. Even Maoist-affected districts are now working constitutionally. Our Constitution expects us to implement the Uniform Civil Code. Uttarakhand has taken this forward and shown a way to the nation," he said after inaugurating the six-lane Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor in Dehradun.

Article 370 was abrogated on August 5, 2019, withdrawing the special status of Jammu and Kashmir with a constitutional



amendment. While Uttarakhand became the first state to implement the Uniform Civil Code, fulfilling the BJP's long-standing promise.

On the occasion, the prime minister also apologised to the gathering for being late to the occasion.

"Today is also the birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. I pay my heartfelt tributes to Babasaheb. The policies and decisions

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Trump dials Modi

NEW DELHI, APR 14: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral cooperation in their first phone call since Washington and Tehran struck a ceasefire deal.

During the call, that lasted about 40 minutes, the two leaders also stressed the need to keep the Strait of Hormuz open and secure.

"India and the US are committed to strengthening their strategic partnership in all areas," Modi said in an online post after the phone call.

"Received a call from my friend President Donald Trump. We reviewed the substantial progress achieved in our bilateral cooperation in various sectors. We are commit

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EAM speaks to Israeli counterpart, discusses West Asia crisis

NEW DELHI, APR 15: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Tuesday spoke to his Israeli counterpart Gideon Sa'ar and discussed various aspects of the West Asia crisis amid a US naval blockade of Iran's ports.

The external affairs minister also held a phone conversation with Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong and exchanged views on the situation arising out of the war between Iran and the US-Israeli combine.

After his call with Jaishankar, Sa'ar said Iran's



action harming freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz requires "action".

"Had a telecon this afternoon with Israel FM @gidsaarsar. Our discussion covered different aspects of the West Asia situation," Jaishankar said on social media.

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The phone conversation between the two foreign ministers came amid reports of efforts by the US and Iran to hold a fresh round of negotiations after the collapse of the initial dialogue in Islamabad.

"We discussed Iran, the Strait of Hormuz, and Lebanon. I said that the firm American stance in the negotiations on conditions that would prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons is critical for the entire international community," the Israeli foreign minister said.

Rise above caste: Prez to people



Ahmedabad, Apr 14 President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday appealed to people to move beyond caste divisions and work towards an inclusive society, saying the country must now focus on bridging the gap between "the haves and the have-nots".

Addressing the 'Samajik

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Tawi Mahotsav

LG dedicates Tawi Riverfront Project to people on Baisakhi

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, APR 14

On the auspicious occasion of Baisakhi, LG Manoj Sinha today dedicated phase-I of Tawi Riverfront Project, developed at a cost of Rs 156 cr, to people.

In phase-I, Jammu Smart City Limited has developed promenades on the left bank, right bank, and the central island, creating four continuous stretches for walking, jogging, and cycling.

A dedicated ghat area has also been developed for the sacred Tawi aarti.

"Our vision is to create inclusive, accessible, and enriching spaces for every citizen. The Tawi Riverfront embodies this ethos with a seamless blend of tradition and modernity, where development harmonises with nature," the LG said in his address after attending the 3-day Tawi Mahotsav, organised by Jammu Smart City Limited.

On the occasion, he



joined the citizens for the Tawi aarti, and launched a series of transformative urban initiatives aimed at elevating the overall environment of the Tawi riverfront and the surrounding area.

Sinha also laid the foundation stone for 4-lane connecting road to the right bank with a bridge to decongest a critical stretch of city and directly connect Bhagwati Nagar rotary with Jewel chowk.

The development of green spaces along the top promenade of the left bank was also launched by the LG. The 1 km stretch will transform Tawi Riverfront

into an ideal urban space and a vibrant hotspot for residents and tourists.

Sinha said under the Urban Challenge Fund, two major initiatives were being taken up: real estate monetisation of phase-I and the extension of the riverfront from Bikram Chowk Bridge to Har Ki Paudi.

He emphasised that these initiatives would play a pivotal role in transforming the Tawi riverfront into a vibrant tourist destination, a premier recreational hub, and a dynamic economic centre.

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Nation's willpower as important as military strength: NSA

GANDHINAGAR, APR 14: National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval on Tuesday described national security as a complex and multifaceted phenomenon, and stressed that the biggest mistake in assessing a nation's strength is ignoring the willpower of its people.

While factors such as military strength are critical, inherent strength of people often proves decisive in security matters, he insisted.

Addressing students at the fifth convocation ceremony of the Rashtriya Rak-



sha University (RRU) in Gandhinagar in the presence of President Droupadi Murmu, Doval emphasised that national security is a collective responsibility shared by the entire nation.

"National security is a vast, complex, and multifaceted phenomenon. It comprises numerous com-

ponents: a nation's military might, technological prowess, natural resources, diplomatic strength, and human capital," he said in his address to students passing-out of the government-run university, which has been designated as an institution of national importance.

However, what often happens and where errors most frequently occur when assessing this comprehensive national power is in the evaluation of the nation's willpower and the inherent strength of its

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No change in policy to improve relations with India: China

NEW DELHI, APR 14: Days after India slammed China's attempts to assign "fictitious names" to places in Arunachal Pradesh, Beijing on Tuesday defended its actions while also stressing that there is no change in its policy to improve relations with New Delhi.

India on Sunday categorically rejected China's efforts to assign "fictitious names" to Indian territory, asserting that such attempts to create "baseless narratives" cannot alter "undeniable reality" and could derail efforts to normalise bilateral ties.

New Delhi's sharp reaction came against the backdrop of Beijing establishing a third new administrative county in Aksai Chin, a region India maintains as its sovereign territory.

"India categorically rejects any mischievous attempts by the Chinese side to assign fictitious names to places which form part of the territory of India," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Reacting to Jaiswal's remarks, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media brief-

ing here that Zangnan is China's territory, and China has never recognised the "so-called Arunachal Pradesh."

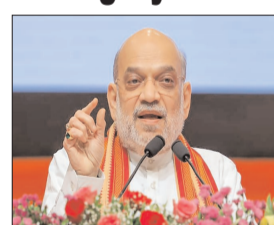
Zangnan is the Chinese name for Arunachal Pradesh. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of southern Tibet.

It is entirely within China's sovereignty to standardise the names of some places in the Zangnan region, Guo said, defending Beijing's move to publish six batches of names for Arunachal Pradesh.

He said at present,

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Ambedkar opposed Art 370 for India's integrity: Shah



NEW DELHI, APR 14: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar staunchly opposed Article 370 of the Constitution for the sake of India's integrity.

In a post on X on Ambedkar's birth anniversary,

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Nitish resigns; Samrat Choudhary to be Bihar's first BJP CM

PATNA, APR 14: While Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today submitted his resignation from the post to Governor Syed Ata Hasnain, deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary was set to be the state's first CM of Bharatiya Janata Party after he was elected the BJP legislature party leader.

Kumar, the longest-serving CM of Bihar, made this announcement on X after he met the governor at Lok Bhawan here.

Accompanied by Samrat Choudhary, JD(U)'s national working president

Sanjay Jha, and state minister Vijay Choudhary, Kumar reached Lok Bhawan and submitted his resignation to the governor.

BJP, the single largest party in the 243-strong assembly with 89 MLAs, elected Samrat Choudhary as its legislature party leader soon after Nitish Kumar, who heads the JD(U) and became a Rajya Sabha MP last week, submitted his resignation to the governor as chief minister.

Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, whom the BJP parliamentary board

named central observer for the legislature party leader's election, told reporters, "Samrat Choudhary was unanimously elected as the BJP's legislature party leader."

Choudhary, BJP MLA from Tarapur, would be the next chief minister of Bihar after his election as the leader of NDA legislature party.

The prominent OBC leader, who earlier served the party as its state unit chief, will take oath tomorrow, ie April 15, at Lok Bhawan as part of the new

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Machail Mata shrine opens; registration mandatory for devotees

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, APR 14

The Machail Mata Yatra commenced with hundreds of devotees paying their obeisance at the 9,705 ft high shrine in the scenic Paddar valley of Jammu's Kishtwar district.

The pilgrimage to the revered shrine began with the reopening of its doors after winter, as authorities tightened regulations and made prior registration mandatory for devotees before darshan.

Last year, a devastating

cloudburst struck Chisoti village - the gateway to the Machail Mata shrine - on August 14, leaving 63 people, mostly devotees, dead, injuring scores of others, and leaving around 30 persons missing.

The floods also washed away a bridge and damaged several other structures, severely disrupting connectivity and leaving the area's infrastructure in shambles.

Jammu Divisional Commissioner (DC) Ramesh Kumar and Jammu IGP Bhim Sen Tuti were among those who joined the large

number of pilgrims for prayers at the shrine, officials said.

Officials said the religious event also marked the shifting of the idol of goddess Machail Mata from the house of a local priest to the main temple.

After paying obeisance, the DC and the IGP took a comprehensive review of the arrangements put in place for the smooth and safe conduct of the Machail Mata Yatra.

The review included an assessment of security protocols, provision of elec

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Omar thanks Modi, Gadkari for approval of tunnels



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, APR 14

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today expressed heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari for their

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Iran war threatens to push 2.5 million in India into poverty: UNDP

UNITED NATIONS, APR 14: The conflict and military escalation in West Asia threatens to push 2.5 million people in India into poverty and the country is projected to experience some loss in its human development progress, according to estimates and projections by the United Nations.

The United Nations Development Programme, in a report titled 'Military Escalation In The Middle East: Human Development Impacts Across Asia And The Pacific' noted that the conflict is "widening

human development pressures across Asia and the Pacific.

Through higher fuel, freight, and input costs, the shock is diminishing household purchasing power, raising food insecurity, straining public budgets, and weakening livelihoods."

The preliminary assessment, issued Tuesday, estimates that globally 8.8 million people are at risk of falling into poverty and the West Asia military escalation could cost Asia-Pacific up to USD 299 billion.

In India, poverty is ex-

pected to rise from around 400,000 to 2.5 million, the report said.

It added that the number of people pushed into poverty in the world as a result of the conflict rises from approximately 1.9 million to nearly 8.8 million across scenarios, with South Asia accounting for the largest share, ranging from about 1.7 million to over 8 million, reflecting both the subregion's population size and its higher exposure to income and price shocks.

China is estimated to ex

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