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India calls Pakistan 'Frankenstein State' at United Nations

detached from present-day realities and untouched by the profound changes of the past six decades".

The Indus Waters Treaty, brokered by the World Bank, has governed the distribution and use of the Indus River and its tributaries between India and Pakistan since 1960.

Singh added: "instead of coveting Indian territories, Pakistan would serve itself and its people far better by putting its own house in order."

As PM disburses incentives, LG thanks him for expanding social security in J&K

benefits under a government scheme but also a celebration of Jammu & Kashmir's transformative journey. It is a celebration of the dreams, aspirations, and opportunities that are giving a new direction to the lives of our youth today," he said.

"Prior to August 2019, workers in Jammu & Kashmir were deprived of the comprehensive social security protections. Following the implementation of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 in the Union Territory in November 2019, lakhs of regional workers were integrated into the national social security fold for the first time," the LG said.

"Under the leadership of PM Modi, the Government of India has made continuous efforts to strengthen job creation and social security and PMVBRY stands as a historic example in this endeavour," he added.

"PMVBRY embodies the resolve to build a Viksit Bharat. It envisions an India where formal employment becomes the norm, social security reaches every citizen, and every young person gets the opportunity to realize their dreams," he said.

The employment linked incentive scheme operates on two key pillars. The first pillar is dedicated to employees; providing direct financial incentives to young individuals entering the formal economy for the first time, encouraging them to remain within the organized sector. The second pillar is aimed at employers and support institutions and industries that expand their workforce and create new jobs.

When industries grow, employment opportunities increase and society prospers. It is estimated that through these two components, more than 3.5 crore employment opportunities across the country will be incentivized over the next two years. This is a sign of the positive transformation occurring in the lives of millions of families across India," he said.

The LG said, "J&K has capitalised on this opportunity exceptionally well. Today, over 3,300 local establishments are registered under the scheme, bringing more than 22,500 youths into the formal employment system for the first time and over 31,000 job openings have qualified for incentives, driving a direct positive transformation in the lives of more than 53,000 citizens," he added.

He commended the Employees Provident Fund Organisation for implementing significant reforms that align with the national visions of 'Ease of Doing Business' and 'Ease of Living'.

He lauded the participating employers for becoming the vital partners in nation-building and also urged the remaining enterprises in the UT to register under the scheme.

PMVBRY is a flagship Employment-Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme of the Government of India aimed at promoting formal employment, supporting first-time entrants into the organised workforce, and incentivising employers to create additional jobs. Under the Scheme, eligible first-time employees receive one month's wage, up to Rs 15,000, while employers are provided with incentives for a period of two years for generating additional employment. The manufacturing sector is eligible for extended support for an additional two years, thereby encouraging sustained job creation in labour-intensive industries.

The main event was broadcasted at different locations in Jammu & Kashmir including Lok Bhavan in Srinagar, Convention Centre in Jammu, NIFT College, SIDCO Industrial Complex, Empora Budgam, and Bari Brahmana Industrial Association, Samba.

At Convention Centre Jammu, the programme was attended by MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, RS MP Sat Sharma and more than 600 participants, including around 400 beneficiaries, more than 200 employers, industry association representatives, public representatives, senior government officials, and EPFO officers and staff.

Twenty employment letters were distributed by employers to newly employed members during the programme at Convention Centre, Jammu and 06 employment letters were distributed by employers to newly employed members at Bari Brahmana Industrial Association, Samba.

The employer representative expressed gratitude for being given the opportunity to represent employers on the occasion of the disbursement of benefits and thanked the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India for providing a platform to speak on behalf of employers receiving Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT) directly into their bank accounts. He highlighted the positive impact of the scheme on industries and businesses and appealed to all eligible establishments to register under the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY) to avail themselves of the benefits.

The employee representative shared his experience regarding the benefits received under the scheme and appreciated the Government's efforts to support workers through direct financial assistance.

Charandeep Singh, Labour Commissioner, J&K; Sumeet Singh, Regional Provident Fund Commissioner-I; beneficiaries, employers, industry association representatives, public representatives, senior officials, EPFO officers and staff also attended the programme at different venues in Jammu & Kashmir.

SPO disengaged from service

the SSP because he was also not performing his duties to the satisfaction of the concerned supervisory officers and had been absent, says the order.

He was directed to deposit all his uniform articles and arms/ammunition issued to him at DPL store/Kot forthwith.

HC orders staff to participate in Yoga Day event

The order stated that participation in the International Yoga Day programme was mandatory for employees of the Srinagar wing of the high court.

Over 70 lakh employed under PMVBRY so far: Modi

bit of social security. He noted that close to 20 lakh young people have completed six months in their first jobs, while around 10 lakh beneficiaries have already received incentives under the scheme upon completing this milestone.

According to Modi, the support is more than financial assistance; it reflects the nation's recognition of the hard work of its youth and its confidence in their future.

"Employment generation gains momentum when the government, industry, and youth work together. The initiative is a reflection of a new India where young people receive opportunities, industries receive encouragement, and employment generation becomes a national mission," he said.

"Prime Minister Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana is much more than an employment scheme. It is an initiative designed to strengthen the aspirations of young people entering their first jobs while creating a robust bridge between industry and the workforce", Modi remarked.

He said that while many schemes were typically focused either on employees or employers, this programme simultaneously supports both.

The government stands with young people beginning their professional journeys and encourages institutions that create new employment opportunities, he added.

Modi emphasised that over the past twelve years, the government has worked to strengthen every pathway to employment.

"Significant efforts have been made across sectors ranging from infrastructure and innovation to manufacturing, the digital economy, space technology, and startups. Initiatives such as 'Make in India', 'Vocal for Local', efforts to take local products to global markets, and 'Mission Manufacturing' have expanded avenues for both employment and self-employment," Modi said.

The government is focused on linking employment with security, dignity, and social protection, the prime minister said, adding that the technology is being leveraged to modernise the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), simplify pension systems, and expand access to health insurance and affordable healthcare for millions of workers. "The same philosophy guides labour reforms undertaken by the government." The prime minister also highlighted the growing contribution of women to India's economic and social development.

"Reforms relating to night-shift employment, the promotion of work-from-home opportunities, and the strengthening of workplace safety mechanisms are intended to enhance women's participation in the workforce further," Modi underscored.

He also emphasised the importance of skilled talent, innovation, and quality in determining economic success in the twenty-first century.

According to him, countries possessing these strengths will attract the greatest opportunities, and India has unprecedented potential in all three areas.

In the 21st century, opportunities will belong to nations that nurture skilled talent, foster innovation and uphold the highest standards of quality, he said, adding that India has unprecedented capability in these three areas.

On this occasion, Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Mansukh Mandaviya, highlighted that nearly 17 crore jobs were generated between 2014 and 2024, as against 2.9 crore jobs created during the preceding ten years until 2014.

Mandaviya stated that between 2017 and 2023, India's employment elasticity stood at 1.11, indicating that every 1 per cent increase in Gross Value Added was accompanied by a 1.11 per cent increase in employment, compared to the employment elasticity of 0.008 recorded under earlier governments.

He also drew attention to the decline in India's unemployment rate, which now stands at around 3.1 per cent, and is below the global average of 4.8 per cent.

PM-VBRY came into effect on August 1, 2025, and is designed to promote formal employment and incentivise job creation.

Under Part A of the scheme, first-time employees registered with EPFO and earning wages up to Rs 1 lakh per month are eligible for an incentive equivalent to one month's wage, up to Rs 15,000, in two installments.

Under Part B of the scheme, employers generating additional employment are eligible for incentives of up to Rs 3,000 per month per additional employee for a period of two years.

Employers in the manufacturing sector are eligible to receive incentives for an additional two years.

With a total outlay of Rs 99,446 crore, PM-VBRY aims to facilitate the creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs over a two-year period.

Of these, around 1.92 crore beneficiaries are expected to be first-time entrants into the workforce.

Since August 2025, more than 70 lakh first-time employees have been brought into the formal workforce under PM-VBRY, with women accounting for nearly 30 per cent of the beneficiaries.

Employees who remain in continuous employment for more than six months become eligible to receive benefits under the scheme.

4 fire services officials suspended

mulla, against a Fire & Emergency Services official accused of demanding and accepting a bribe for facilitating the issuance of a Fire Safety 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC).

Committee constituted to review recruitment rules

eral (Codes), Finance Department, and will include the Director Finance and Special Secretary of the concerned department, Joint Director (Codes), Additional Secretary (Law) and Accounts Officer (Codes) as members.

NTA issues safety advisory

allegations of a paper leak. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is currently investigating this issue.

"NTA is sending reminder SMS and emails to candidates to download their admit cards for the re-examination on Sunday, 21 June 2026," the agency said in a public advisory on X.

The agency informed that legitimate SMS messages would be sent from the official server ID "NICPEP," and emails would originate from "no-reply.neet.nta@nic.in."

It also reiterated that only the official website for this process is http://neet.nta.nic.in; candidates are encouraged to enter this URL directly into their browsers.

"NTA will NEVER ask for any payment, send exam papers, answer keys, or 'leaked' material, or share your admit card via a link," the advisory said, adding, "If you receive any such message, do not click. Report it."

Additionally, the NTA mentioned that it would now send exam updates and centre information to candidates directly via WhatsApp for the re-examination.

Candidates should ensure that they see the blue verified tick and the name 'National Testing Agency' next to the sender; any message from an account without the blue tick is NOT from the NTA, even if it appears to use their name, the advisory said.

The NTA clarified that the WhatsApp service is a "broadcast-only channel" and that it "will not ask you to reply, share OTPs/personal details, or pay".

Any message claiming to be from the NTA that requests such information is fraudulent.

Candidates who have already downloaded their admit cards for the June 21 re-examination do not need to download them again. "The SMS/Email/WhatsApp messages are primarily for those students who are yet to download their new Admit Cards," it said.

Furthermore, the NTA noted that the admit cards issued for the May 3 exam are no longer valid, as many students have been assigned new test centres in their preferred cities.

"Downloading and printing the 21st June Admit Card, once is enough," the NTA added.

The agency advised candidates to download admit cards

only from the official website and report suspicious messages through the designated reporting platform or cybercrime helplines.

The clarification came after several users took to social media to express concern over "urgent" messages sent by the NTA asking students to download fresh admit cards for the June 21 re-examination.

3 held with grenades, HM posters

dences since May 31, according to officials. Police laid hands on them late Thursday night and recovered from their possession two grenades, 2.5 kilograms of PEK (plastic explosive kirkee), four mobile phones, and posters of HM outfit, officials said.

They were taken into custody at Pudsoo. Their sustained questioning was in progress.

Conventional warfare as relevant today as it was in 1947: Rajnath

defence exports have now risen to Rs 40,000 crore from Rs 1,000 crore in 2014, he said.

Mumbai: Even as militaries across the world increasingly embrace drones, artificial intelligence and network-centric warfare, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday asserted that conventional warfare and a strong military-industrial base will continue to remain critical to national security for decades to come.

"While the nature of warfare is evolving and enemies are harder to detect, conventional warfare and its associated means remain just as relevant as they were in 1947, and will retain much of the same relevance in 2047 as well," Singh said while performing the bhoomi puja for a state-of-the-art 10,000-tonne Aluminium Extrusion Press at Ordnance Factory Ambajhari in Nagpur, a unit of Yantra India Limited (YIL).

Describing the project as a strategic step towards self-reliance, Singh said the new facility symbolises India's shift from dependence on imports to domestic production of critical defence and industrial materials.

"A nation capable of meeting its own requirements moves forward with the greatest confidence towards safeguarding its interests," he said, stressing that control over security-related necessities is essential in the current geopolitical environment.

Forest dept employee among 2 OGWs held

involved in providing support to local terrorists in Dachan area. They were arrested in connection with a case registered against them at Kishtwar police station under relevant sections of BNS, UAPA and the Arms Act, officials said.

They were under police scanner since the time intelligence inputs had suggested their suspicious activities in the area, officials said.

Officials said they were facilitating terrorists for the past sometime. Their sustained questioning is in progress, and the possibility of more arrests was not ruled out. Police were hopeful of getting vital information about terrorists active in the area during their interrogation.

"The investigation is ongoing to dismantle the entire network and all those involved will be brought to justice through due legal process," the officials added.

"Police have reiterated their zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and their support network," officials said and added, "Police reaffirm their commitment to maintain peace, public order, and security in the region."

Earlier, Muneer Ahmed and Mashkoor Ahmed, both residents of Chatroo, were also arrested for similar offences, officials said.

In the recent past, security forces had carried out extensive searches in the area to hunt down terrorists, if any.

Officials said police had established a vast network of contacts in the district which was likely to help them to receive quick & reliable information about terrorists and their sympathisers, including OGWs.

"People have been asked to remain vigilant and pass on information about suspects in their vicinity as part of police efforts to put last nail in the coffin of terrorism," the officials added.

VP reaches Leh; to join Yoga Day celebrations

welcome on his arrival at Kushok Bakula Rinpoche Airport.

He was received by Ladakh LG Vinai Kumar Saxena, Chief Executive Councillor of LAHDC, Kargil, Mohammad Jaffer Akhoun, Lok Sabha MP Mohamad Haneefa, and other senior officials and dignitaries.

Welcoming the vice-president on his first official visit to Ladakh, the LG said it was an honour and pleasure to host him in the Union Territory ahead of the Yoga Day celebrations.

"The vice-president's presence ahead of the International Day of Yoga 2026 is truly inspiring. As we gear up to celebrate the timeless wisdom of yoga, his guidance, vision and leadership will motivate us to embrace a healthier, more balanced and harmonious way of life," Saxena said in a post on X.

Officials said the vice-president would remain in Ladakh till June 21 and participate in a series of programmes during his visit.

On Saturday, Radhakrishnan will travel to Lukung village, where he will interact with local Self-Help Groups and review developmental initiatives being implemented in the border region under the Vibrant Villages Programme. He will also pay tributes at the War Memorial.

On June 21, he would participate in the Yoga Day celebrations in Leh. The event is expected to witness the participation of youth, armed forces personnel and members of various organisations.

This marks Radhakrishnan's first official visit to Ladakh since assuming office as Vice-President.

5 booked at Baramulla; CB conducts house search at Budgam

cautious while dealing with property transactions and other financial matters. People have been urged to immediately report incidents of economic fraud and cheating to the Senior Superintendent of Police, EOW Kashmir, Crime Branch, J&K.

"Victims of economic offences can also submit their complaints through the official email of the Economic Offences Wing for necessary action," officials said.

Further investigation into the case was underway. Shah calls for active use of technology across chain of investigation

the police station was considered a tool to maintain law and order. If there was a dispute anywhere, the station house officer would resolve the matter; otherwise, it would go to court, and cases would remain pending for years on end," he said.

"The time has come to make the criminal justice system a suitable means for every citizen of the country to obtain the rights given by the Constitution," he said.

Shah stressed the need for imparting training for using the tools under the new criminal laws to produce only necessary evidence in the charge sheet which confirms the role of a criminal.

"Fingerprint match confirmed, telephone records match confirmed, face match confirmed, eye and DNA match confirmed, and then you go before the court with 250

pieces of evidence. So, what's the use of technology then?" he said.

Experienced prosecutors will have to be prepared by providing practical training, he added.

"We need to work very well for the active use of technology across the entire chain of investigation, prosecution and conviction," the minister said.

Preservation of traditional arts vital to protect cultural heritage: Kavinder

Shimla.

The governor said that cultural heritage was not merely a reflection of the past but a guiding force for the future, and emphasised the need to conserve traditional art forms for coming generations.

Appreciating the efforts of Indian Institute of Advanced Study in promoting indigenous knowledge and artistic traditions, he said that initiatives such as art camps, exhibitions and galleries provide a valuable platform for artists, scholars and the public to engage with India's rich cultural legacy.

Referring to Rabindranath Tagore, he said culture represents the expansiveness of the human spirit, while art is its most sensitive expression. India's artistic traditions, he added, have evolved continuously over centuries while retaining their unique identity and relevance.

"Indian art draws inspiration from nature, folklore, spirituality and everyday life, connecting generations through shared cultural values. Traditional artists are not merely practitioners of artistic techniques but custodians of collective memory and cultural wisdom," he said.

Highlighting the significance of Kangra miniature painting, he described it as one of India's finest artistic traditions, renowned for its delicate craftsmanship, vibrant colours and profound depiction of human emotions. He said the exhibition beautifully portrays the richness of folk and rural life, which forms the foundation of India's cultural identity.

Emphasising the need to revitalise traditional art forms, the Governor called for collective efforts by institutions, governments, scholars and local communities to support artists and preserve the nation's cultural heritage for future generations.

Welcoming the gathering, Prof. Himanshu Kumar Chaturvedi, Director, IAS, described the Art Camp as an innovative initiative aimed at fostering dialogue between academic scholarship and living artistic traditions.

He said that over the past five days, eminent artists had creatively interpreted folk and rural life, agrarian culture, local festivals, traditional beliefs, and the cultural heritage of Himachal Pradesh through Kangra miniature painting and Chamba Rupal art.

He expressed confidence that the newly established Art Gallery would emerge as an important centre of attraction for scholars, researchers, students, and visitors in the years to come.

During the programme, the governor was felicitated by the Institute with a traditional Himachali shawl, a cap, and mementoes.

Earlier, the senior artist Shri Dhani Ram presented the special Kangra-style painting inspired by Jayadeva's Gita Govinda to the governor.

On the occasion, Gupta felicitated all artists who participated in the Art Camp with the certificates. Following the inauguration, he toured the Art Gallery, interacted with the artists, and appreciated their creations.

It may be noted that the Art Camp, organised by the Indian Institute of Advanced Study from 15 to 19 June 2026, brought together six eminent Kangra miniature painters and two senior Chamba Rupal artists. The artworks produced during the camp will become part of the Institute's permanent collection and will be displayed in the newly established Art Gallery, offering scholars, researchers, and visitors from India and abroad an opportunity to engage with this important dimension of Himalayan artistic traditions.

Among those present on the occasion were Capt Rameshwar Thakur, Chairman, Himachal Pradesh Public Service Commission, National Fellows, Fellows, Associate Fellows of the Institute, artists, and several distinguished personalities associated with the fields of art and culture.

The programme was moderated by Dr Akhilesh Pathak, Public Relations Officer, IAS, while the vote of thanks was proposed by Dr Rajeev Kumar Mishra, Librarian and Academic Resource Officer.

Saxena orders ban on single-use plastics

This comes as a firm, decisive step towards strengthening environmental protection and preserving Ladakh's fragile Himalayan ecosystem that is facing challenges due to the rampant disposal of hazardous single-use plastic and littering in the open, particularly around popular tourist spots.

The approved framework strictly prohibits the use, sale, storage, stocking, distribution, transportation and supply of all identified single-use plastic items, including plastic cutlery, cups, plates, straws, trays, wrapping films, thermo-col decorations, plastic flags, plastic stirrers and plastic banners below the prescribed thickness.

Recognising the need for a robust and effective enforcement mechanism, the LG, for the first time, has also authorised a wide range of district and field-level functionaries to inspect, detect violations, issue challans, and recover penalties for such littering and plastic-related violations.

The new enforcement framework also permits inspections, surprise checks, videography, photography, CCTV footage and other legally admissible electronic evidence for initiating proceedings against violators.

The officers authorised to prosecute the violators for littering and plastic-relation violations, include: Sub Divisional Magistrates, Tehsildars, Executive Magistrates, District Officers of the Ladakh Pollution Control Committee, Assistant Directors of the Tourism Department, District Panchayat Officers (DPOs), Block Development Officers (BDOs), Executive Officers Municipal Committees, Range Officers, Foresters and Guards of the Forest Department and the Environment Protection Force comprising of ex-servicemen and wildlife stewards.

Saxena said that the ban on Single-Use Plastics and littering is aimed at promoting responsible tourism in Ladakh and ensuring that Ladakh's breathtaking landscapes remain clean, unspoiled and ecologically resilient, despite increasing tourist footfall.

He urged locals as well as tourists to refrain from littering and spoiling the serene landscapes of Ladakh.

"Ladakh's pristine environment and natural beauty are our greatest treasures, and it is our collective responsibility to preserve them for the tourists visiting Ladakh. As we strive to develop Ladakh into a world-class tourist destination, we must ensure that development goes hand in hand with environmental responsibility. The strict enforcement against Single-Use Plastics and littering is not merely a regulatory measure, but a commitment to safeguarding Ladakh's ecological heritage and promoting a culture of environmental responsibility and sustainability," he said.

Ladakh, known globally for its pristine landscapes, high-altitude wetlands, glaciers and unique biodiversity, remains particularly vulnerable to plastic pollution due to its fragile ecosystem.

Being non-biodegradable, Single-Use Plastics persist in the environment for decades, contaminating soil, air and water resources and causing long-term ecological damage. Improper disposal and burning of plastic waste also release hazardous chemicals and toxic substances, posing serious risks to human health, livestock and wildlife.