

## Cont. From Page 1

## India slams Pak for 'unwarranted' remarks on J&amp;K at UN

ferent" and offers a wide-ranging set of options to deal with situations whose continuance is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security.

The proposed tools that could be considered include negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, and arbitration after taking into account any procedures that may have already been adopted bilaterally by the parties concerned.

"These interventions are drawn up in order to address the prevailing realities and do not have perpetual validity. They warrant a review in accordance with changing circumstances and contexts," Harish said.

"Multi-decadal issues on the UNSC agenda offer valuable lessons in this regard. A case in point is the Palestine issue, wherein a defining feature is the constant churn of mediation frameworks in tune with the changing circumstances of the conflict.

"There exists an undeniable case for reviewing outdated mediation frameworks. Any assumption of the perpetual applicability of a Chapter VI mediation intervention is erroneous to say the least," he said.

India also underlined that, as member states undertake reviews of UN General Assembly mandates under the UN80 initiative to improve efficiency, there is no reason why Security Council mandates should remain outside the scope of such reviews.

India has long been pressing for permanent membership in a reformed and expanded Security Council, contending that the current structure of the 15-member body is outdated and does not adequately reflect contemporary global realities.

New Delhi's candidature has received backing from a growing number of countries, including several European nations, as well as the other members of the G4 grouping - Brazil, Germany and Japan.

UNSC comprises five permanent members -- China, France, Russia, the UK and the US -- and 10 non-permanent members, including India, elected for two-year terms.

## LG notifies VB-G RAM G scheme, replacing MGNREGA

labour availability for farming activities. At the same time, it prioritises the creation of durable community assets and sustainable livelihood infrastructure.

VB-G RAM-G focuses on four priority sectors including Water Security, Core Rural Infrastructure, Livelihood Enhancement and Climate & Disaster Resilience.

Planning will be undertaken through Viksit Gram Panchayat Plans (VGPPs) using GIS-based tools and PM Gati Shakti layers, ensuring convergence, saturation-based development and avoidance of duplication.

The scheme provides special support for the vulnerable groups, including single women, persons with disabilities, senior citizens, members of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), released bonded labourers and transgender persons through dedicated Gramin Rozgar Guarantee Cards.

At least one-third of beneficiaries under the programme shall be women.

A key feature of the scheme is its robust digital governance architecture, incorporating biometric and face-authenticated attendance, geofencing, GPS-enabled project monitoring, AI-driven analytics, real-time dashboards, bilingual electronic muster rolls and mandatory public disclosures at worksites.

The contractors and labour-displacing machinery are prohibited to preserve the employment-generation objective of the programme.

The implementation framework provides for strengthened institutional oversight at the UT, district, block and Gram Panchayat levels. The Gram Panchayats will continue to serve as the frontline implementing agencies responsible for registration of households, receiving work applications, issuance of guarantee cards and execution of approved works.

The scheme will operate as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a 90:10 cost-sharing pattern between the Government of India and the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. Administrative expenditure has been enhanced to strengthen staffing, monitoring, grievance redressal and accountability systems, with substantial resources earmarked for Gram Panchayat-level functionaries.

A time-bound grievance redress mechanism, mandatory social audits, independent evaluations and multi-tier monitoring arrangements have been built into the framework to ensure transparency, efficiency, and citizen accountability.

With its enhanced employment guarantee, agriculture-sensitive design, technology-enabled governance and focus on resilient rural infrastructure, VB-G RAM-G is expected to usher in a new era of inclusive, sustainable and future-ready rural development in Jammu & Kashmir.

## Sindhu Kumbh living symbol of Bharat's cultural unity: Kavinder

prayers for the peace, prosperity and well-being of the nation and its people. The sacred ceremony, conducted amid Vedic chanting, lent the gathering a deeply spiritual and devotional atmosphere.

Addressing the gathering, he expressed joy at the enthusiastic presence of devotees and yatrias who had travelled from various states of India to be part of the occasion.

He described the grand event as a living symbol of India's cultural unity, spiritual consciousness and national integrity, embodying the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.

Gupta said the holy Sindhu River has been a witness to India's ancient civilisation, glorious heritage and unbroken cultural continuity.

He prayed that this divine congregation would further strengthen the sense of harmony, patriotism and cultural pride within society, and inspire the younger generation to remain connected to the nation's roots.

Recalling his earlier tenure as LG of Ladakh, he spoke warmly of his association with the region, its people and its profound spiritual landscape. He noted that events such as the Sindhu Kumbh play a vital role in connecting citizens from every corner of the country with the cultural and civilisational ethos of Ladakh, reinforcing the bonds of national unity.

He lauded the role of Sindhu Darshan Yatra Samiti members for the successful conduct of the inaugural Sindhu Kumbh, and expressed confidence that the event would emerge as a significant platform for celebrating India's shared heritage in the years to come.

The programme witnessed cultural presentations, prayers and the participation of saints, dignitaries and citizens from diverse backgrounds.

Among those present on the occasion included Rajasthan assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani, Sindhu Darshan Yatra Samiti's chief patron Indresh Kumar, Tripura legislative assembly's deputy Speaker Ram Prasad Paul, Swami Yatin-dranand Giri, Jammu MLA Vikram Randhawa, and members of Sindhu Darshan Yatra Samiti.

## Sinha chairs SKUAST-K council meeting

tion System into the Directorate of Information Technology, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell into the Directorate of Quality Assurance, and the establishment of an International Students Cell to strengthen global outreach and student support.

As part of SKUAST-Kashmir's future roadmap, three futuristic and self-sustainable flagship initiatives were proposed during the meeting: the establishment of a Centre for Agri Innovation, Analytics and Certification as a National Reference Laboratory; creation of an Agri-Startup Park to nurture and host over 50 SKUAST startup enterprises; and establishment of a Global Veterinary School as an internationally benchmarked centre for veterinary education, research and advanced clinical services.

The LG commended the university's incredible journey from local roots to global aspirations, praising its sustained growth in academics, research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and international partnerships.

He noted that the SKUAST-Kashmir's transformative initiatives have the potential to position it as a leading, innovation-driven, and globally engaged agricultural university.

He also directed the vice-chancellor of SKUAST-Kashmir to ensure that meetings of the university council were convened regularly, at least twice a year, for timely review of academic and administrative matters.

Presenting the University Report, vice-chancellor (Prof) Nazir Ahmad Ganai highlighted SKUAST-Kashmir's remarkable transformation from a regionally focused institution into a nationally recognised university with a clear vision of emerging as a globally competitive institution in agricultural and allied sciences.

He also shared the university's vision of excellence in education, research, innovation and societal impact.

He informed the meeting that the university had made significant gains in national rankings, developed the largest startup ecosystem among higher educational institutions in Jammu & Kashmir, and recorded 123 Intellectual Property Rights including patents, trademarks and designs, reflecting a strong culture of innovation and translational research. Nearly 30 percent of the University's students now come from outside Jammu & Kashmir, demonstrating its growing national outreach and academic reputation.

Among others, the meeting was attended by chief minister Omar Abdullah; minister for agriculture production, rural development, panchayati raj & cooperatives, Javid Ahmad Dar, chief secretary Atal Dulloo, additional chief secretary, agriculture production department, Ashish Chandra Verma, additional chief secretary, finance department, Shailendra Kumar, chairman of committee on reimagining agriculture, NITI Aayog, Ashok Dalwai, ICAR DDG Yashpal Malik, LG's principal secretary Manddeep K Bhandari, SKUAST-Jammu VC B N Tripathi, secretary, planning development & monitoring department, R Alice Vaz, and SKUAST-K registrar Azmat Alam Khan.

## 2 killed in Doda road accident

lege & Hospital, Doda. Police had taken cognizance of the incident.

Meanwhile, one person was rescued while three others remained missing after a car plunged into Drass River near Marpochoo in Drass sector of Kargil district.

Officials said a total of four persons were inside the Fronx car (LA01/4920) when it fell into the river.

While one person was saved by rescuers, the other three remained missing. The rescued occupant was identified as Agha Syed Baqir, son of Syed Muslim of Lankerchay. He was admitted to hospital.

Those missing included Sajad Hussain, son of Haji Abbas of Lankerchay, Hasina Banoo, daughter of Mehmood Hussain of Gato Lankerchay, and Sogra Banoo, daughter of Mohammad Ali of Gato Lankerchay.

Officials said efforts were continuing in their search despite challenging conditions. Further details were awaited.

## Lt Gen Mishra reviews anti-terror ops

the past month.

"GOC White Knight Corps visited Headquarters Counter-Insurgency Force (Romeo) to review the prevailing security environment and assess operational preparedness," the White Knight Corps said in a post on X.

He commended all ranks for their unwavering professionalism, dedication and relentless commitment in the conduct of counter-terrorism operations, while appreciating their high morale, vigilance and steadfast efforts towards maintaining peace, stability and security in the region.

## CRPF DIG placed under suspension

the force's Tripura Sector headquarters in Agartala.

The 1994-batch CRPF cadre officer returned to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in April after completing a deputation posting with the federal counter-terrorist commando force NSG.

Officials said Patra was suspended a few days ago under Sub-Rule (1) of Rule 10 of the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 pending a preliminary enquiry.

They said the charges involve sharing audio-visual and pictorial content on social media platforms that allegedly called for "changing" the country's lawfully elected government during the passage of the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Bill 2026.

The bill is now an Act after it received presidential assent in April.

CRPF Director General (DG) G P Singh confirmed the development to PTI.

"All serving and uniformed officers of the CRPF are bound by the rules and statutes and the oath taken.

"Any word(s)- written or spoken or action contravening the same would be dealt appropriately in consonance with the law of the land," the DG said.

Patra could not be contacted for comment.

However, officers privy to the case said the action against the DIG was "mala fide" and "unjustified".

They said the officer (Patra) is being targeted because he was the lead petitioner among the CAPF cadre officers who fought cases related to their promotions and service parity with the IPS up to the Supreme Court.

"The DIG is being unfairly treated and punished by the CRPF headquarters because he led the legal battle for the rightful claims of the cadre officers on par with the Indian Police Service (IPS) officers who join the CAPFs on deputation," a senior officer said on the condition of anonymity.

He claimed that about two dozen other officers of the force who prominently fought court cases were recently issued "hasty" posting orders.

An association of ex-CAPF officers has also called a press conference on July 2 against the "hasty and illegal" suspension of the DIG, in addition to targeting CAPF personnel whose families protested the CAPF Bill at the Rajghat in the national capital in April.

"DIG Patra is an outstanding officer who has been commended with multiple awards," said Ranbir Singh, general secretary of the Alliance of All Ex-Paramilitary Forces Welfare Association (AAPWA) said.

In their representations sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), serving cadre officers stated that the Bill's provisions were "oppressive" and "discriminatory" and that they would continue to stagnate in their current ranks if IPS deputations were not curtailed as directed by the Supreme Court in an order issued last year.

The Centre filed an appeal against this order which the apex court rejected.

The government said the bill seeks to create a unified legal framework governing the service conditions of personnel across the CAPFs, replacing the current patchwork of separate service rule regimes for cadre officers and those coming on deputation from the Indian Police Service (IPS).

MHA officers have said that the deputation of IPS officers in CAPFs was a "valid requirement" as they are an all-India service and play supervisory role in the state police organisations too.

## Air India flight enters Pak airspace

departed from Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport at 9:18 pm on Monday. Shortly into its journey toward Amritsar, the aircraft encountered a technical malfunction that disrupted its onboard navigation tools, causing the flight path to drift westward across the International Border into Pakistani territory.

"The deviation was promptly flagged by the Pakistani air traffic authorities, who coordinated with the flight crew to alert them of the airspace breach. The pilots immediately corrected their course and guided the aircraft back into Indian territory," a senior airport official stated on the condition of anonymity.

However, the operational challenges did not end there. By the time the aircraft approached Amritsar's Sri Guru Ram Dass Jee International Airport around 10:30 pm, the local airspace was experiencing high traffic congestion. Due to the lack of an immediate landing slot and operational constraints, air traffic controllers instructed the flight to return to Delhi.

The aircraft flew back to Delhi, where it landed safely for a technical inspection. After receiving the necessary operational clearances, the flight took off once again for its destination and finally touched down safely in Amritsar at approximately 2:20 am on Tuesday, nearly four hours behind its scheduled arrival time.

Air India or the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has yet to release an official statement regarding the specific nature of the navigation failure. Meanwhile, aviation authorities have initiated a routine investigation into the incident to assess the exact circumstances behind the route deviation.

This incident follows a similar incident last month in which a Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) flight briefly entered Indian airspace due to bad weather, but was later safely redirected back to the correct path by Indian ATC.

## Jaishankar, South Korean FM discuss deepening strategic partnership

rary partnership. "The potential of our relationship remains to be realised, and from our side, there is a full commitment that we would strive to do that," Jaishankar said, acknowledging Cho's personal commitment to strengthening ties.

After the meeting, he posted on X: "We reviewed our cooperation across political, shipbuilding, trade, investments, defence, technology, clean energy, culture and people-to-people domains."

Jaishankar also said the two of them discussed opportunities in areas like startups, fintech and multilateral forums, and exchanged views on developments in their respective regions and around the world.

The discussions, held in Seoul, continued through lunch and went on for around three hours.

Cho said President Lee's visit to India in April marked a turning point for elevating Korea-India relations to a new dimension.

"We welcome swift follow-up progress in areas such as trade, investment and finance and discussed how to build on these achievements," he said in a post on X after the meeting.

Cho highlighted India's hosting of "Korea Week" this week, and how it fulfilled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to directly address challenges faced by Korean businesses in India.

"I am grateful for India's strong support, and Korea will soon host a similar dialogue for Indian companies in Korea," he said.

The two foreign ministers also had an in-depth discussion on the rapidly changing global landscape and agreed to maintain close communication in responding to economic implications stemming from developments in West Asia, said Cho.

Jaishankar and Cho are scheduled to meet again on Thursday at the Jeju Forum for Peace and Prosperity, where the former will deliver the keynote speech.

## Shah to inaugurate NCB office in Jammu

zonal offices in Jammu & Guwahati on Friday when he will chair the 10th apex-level meeting of the Narco-Coordination Centre, with a focus on tackling the challenges posed by synthetic drugs, darknet-enabled trafficking and expanding the reach of rehabilitation centres for drug users over the next three years.

The meeting will bring together key stakeholders from 44 central ministries and departments, along with 108 representatives from state governments and drug law enforcement agencies in hybrid mode, where further strengthening the government's efforts to achieve a drug-free India will be discussed.

Shah will also release the NCB annual report- 2025 and inaugurate the newly built NCB zonal offices in Jammu and Guwahati.

He will also release a vision document on narcotics control (2026-2029) prepared through wide-ranging consultations with central government departments, drug law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders.

The document will provide a shared roadmap for addressing the "demand-reduction, supply-reduction and harm-reduction" aspects of the drug menace.

The roadmap envisages a network-centric enforcement approach, clearly defines responsibilities, timelines, and measurable targets for all stakeholders, and integrates enforcement, demand reduction, rehabilitation, public aware-

ness, capacity building, and inter-agency coordination.

"This vision document will serve as a guiding framework for policy formulation, implementation and institutional strengthening across the country to curb the menace of drugs," a government statement said.

"This meeting is expected to reinforce the government's 'Zero Tolerance Policy' against drug trafficking in the country as emphasised by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," the statement said.

It said under the Drug Disposal Fortnight Campaign, approximately 2.09,500 kg of drugs worth Rs 6,000 crore are expected to be destroyed across India by various central and state law-enforcement agencies.

The meeting will provide a platform for a comprehensive review and assessment of the collective efforts undertaken by all stakeholders in combating the drug menace in the country, the statement said.

"While underscoring the need for a whole-of-government approach to effectively combating the drug menace in the country, the high-level meeting will deliberate on key issues relating to effectively combating drug trafficking and drug abuse across the country over the next three years," it said.

## Birla to decide on TMC, Sena defection cases before Monsoon Session

Sabha seats in the 2024 general election. Of these, 20 MPs subsequently joined the Nationalist Citizens Party of India (NCP), a registered but unrecognised party based in Howrah, West Bengal, and sought separate seating in the House. The rebel group has also expressed support for the Narendra Modi-led government and indicated its desire to join the NDA. One TMC seat is currently vacant following the death of an MP.

In Maharashtra, six of the nine MPs elected on Shiv Sena (UBT) tickets have crossed over to the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena.

Both TMC and Shiv Sena (UBT) have urged the Speaker to disqualify the rebel MPs under the anti-defection law, arguing that protection from disqualification applies only when two-thirds of an entire political party merges with another party.

During his meeting with Birla, TMC general secretary and Lok Sabha leader Abhishek Banerjee contended that the rebels' claim of having merged with the NCPI was not legally tenable. He maintained that under the law, two-thirds of the entire party must merge with another party, not merely a group of legislators. Banerjee also submitted 20 separate petitions seeking the disqualification of the rebel MPs.

On Wednesday, Shiv Sena (UBT) leaders Anil Desai and Arvind Sawant met Birla and requested that he share any submissions made by the six rebel MPs who have joined the Shinde faction.

After the meeting, the two leaders told reporters that they had urged the Speaker to "uphold the provisions of the Constitution" and sought copies of any representations made by the rebels.

"We asked him if he had received any appeal from the rebels..." Sawant said, adding that the Speaker informed them that nothing had been received in writing from the rebel MPs.

Desai said the party had emphasised that the Tenth Schedule was unambiguous. "Any group of a legislature party cannot merge into some other party on its own, even if they have a two-thirds majority".

## Students' futures ruined, but Pradhan clinging to chair: Kharage

gotten that Prime Minister Modi himself, in the full Parliament, had insultingly labelled the farmer benefactors 'movement-livers' and 'parasites.' Whoever questions this government is called an anti-national. Chhatron Ki Goonj will echo loudly across the entire country. Modi Minister Pradhan will have to resign," he said.

Kharage asserted that the student movement would continue to gather momentum across the country and reiterated his demand for Pradhan's resignation.

The remarks came after Pradhan, during an interview, described those protesting at Jantar Mantar and demanding his resignation as the "B team of disruptive elements".

Speaking about the protesters, the Union Minister said, "They are the B team of disruptive elements. Those who were rejected in democracy have come in disguise and are now after the system. They raise slogans for those who want to divide the country."

The political exchange comes days after the re-examination for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET-UG) 2026 was conducted on June 21 across the country and at 14 centres abroad. The examination process took place amid continuing controversy surrounding the alleged paper leak.

## Javed Rana reviews developmental works in Dooru constituency

ANANTNAG, JUNE 24: Minister for Jal Shakti, Forest, Ecology & Environment and Tribal Affairs, Javed Ahmed Rana, today chaired a detailed review meeting to assess the status of developmental works and public welfare initiatives being implemented in Dooru constituency.

MLA Dooru, Ghulam Ahmad Mir, MLA Anantnag West, Abdul Majeed Bhat and district officers of Jal Shakti, Forest and Tribal Affairs Departments besides other concerned departments attended the meeting.

The Minister reviewed the progress of various developmental projects being executed in the constituency and directed the officers to expedite the ongoing works while ensuring quality and adherence to timelines.

During the meeting, the Minister announced establishment of an Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) at Ahlan Breng, saying the initiative would significantly enhance the access to quality education for students from tribal and other marginalized communities in the area.

Noting that Anantnag district has a sizeable tribal population, Javed Rana emphasized that it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure better educational facilities for tribal and underprivileged sections of society. He said that education is a key driver for socio-economic transformation and empowerment, and reiterated the Government's commitment to strengthen educational infrastructure in tribal-dominated and remote areas to ensure inclusive and equitable development.

The Minister said that the Government led by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah remains steadfast in its commitment towards the welfare and upliftment of tribal communities. It is taking concerted measures to provide quality education and improved learning opportunities to students belonging to these sections, he added.

Reviewing the functioning of Jal Shakti, Forest and Tribal Affairs Departments, Javed Rana called for enhanced inter-departmental coordination to ensure optimum utilisation of resources and effective implementation of developmental programmes.