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India's rejection of PCA order prompts Pakistan's treaty appeal

stitutes a grave violation of the Indus Waters Treaty". Pakistan had sought arbitration over disagreements concerning the design of India's Kishenganga and Ratle hydro-electric projects on the western rivers of the Indus system. India has objected to the arbitration process from the start.

New Delhi argues that disputes of this nature are technical and should be examined by a Neutral Expert, as provided for under the treaty. Allowing a Court of Arbitration to simultaneously examine the same issues, India says, goes against the dispute-resolution mechanism laid down in the agreement.

India maintained that it has never appeared before this body and "has refused to take any cognisance of its earlier pronouncements".

"This so-called Court of Arbitration has no jurisdiction whatsoever to pronounce on India's sovereign decisions. Its pronouncements, now or in the future, will have no effect on India's actions in connection with the projects being undertaken by India," it said, asserting "India's decision to hold the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance remains in force".

After Moscow talks, Jaishankar all set to visit Ukraine

harder to ignore, with Indian nationals killed in connection with the war and New Delhi raising concerns over risks to Indian seafarers and maritime trade.

Just two days before Jaishankar's trip, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Russian President Vladimir Putin in Bishkek on Monday. The two sides discussed the impact of the Black Sea conflict on maritime trade and the safety and security of Indian seafarers, while Modi reiterated India's emphasis on dialogue and diplomacy.

Jaishankar's visit, therefore, comes at a point when the Ukraine war is becoming more directly relevant to Indian interests, even as New Delhi's strategic relationship with Moscow remains intact.

The human cost of the war for India has become harder to separate from the larger geopolitical picture.

Mishra appointed first CEO of Ram Temple Trust

temple, trust officials said. His name was selected from a shortlist of three candidates picked from 5,585 applications.

The appointment of the 62-year-old comes in the wake of the controversy over the alleged embezzlement of temple donations that led to the arrest of eight people and the resignation of Champat Rai as general secretary.

The search committee was headed by retired Justice Pramod Kohli and comprised retired Lt Gen Vishnukant Chaturvedi and former scientist Suresh Haware. It submitted its final report to trust treasurer Govind Dev Giri on Tuesday.

Committee secretary Sameer Panda said the panel had recommended "three highly qualified professionals" after assessing their leadership, management expertise, integrity and vision.

This was the third meeting of the trust since the alleged donation theft came to light.

The CEO selection process involved AI-assisted screening as well as manual assessment, trust officials said. Of the 5,585 applications received, 3,577 candidates submitted details for evaluation under a 600-mark framework. The process subsequently narrowed to 108 candidates who scored 470 marks or more for virtual interactions, followed by 16 candidates being interviewed in person in Ayodhya on August 11 and 12.

Mishra, who belongs to Deoria district in Uttar Pradesh, was awarded the Sarvottam Yudh Seva Medal for his role in Operation Sindoor. He was also awarded the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal and Vishisht Seva Medal during his long military career, according to a statement.

A fighter pilot commissioned into the Indian Air Force on December 6, 1986, Mishra served for more than 39 years before retiring on April 30, 2026.History

As head of the Western Air Command (WAC), he was responsible for one of the IAF's key operational commands during Operation Sindoor, adding an operational dimension to his long record of command, flying, testing and strategic assignments, the statement said.

Delhi-based WAC had played a key role during Operation Sindoor in May 2025.

Mishra is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Pune, the Air Force Test Pilots School, Bengaluru, the Air Command and Staff College in the US and the Royal College of Defence Studies in the UK.

During his career, which included more than 3,000 hours of flying, he commanded a fighter squadron and two frontline air bases. He also served as commandant of the Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE).

The IAF veteran also held several senior appointments at the Air Headquarters, including director of the Operational Planning and Assessment Group. Before taking charge of the Western Air Command on January 1, 2025, he served as deputy chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Operations).

During his service career, the air officer had tenanted important command and staff appointments.

"These include Commanding Officer of a Fighter Squadron, Chief Test Pilot at Aircraft & Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), Air Officer Commanding of two frontline air bases, Director (Operational Planning and Assessment Group), Principal Director (ASR) and Asst Chief of Air Staff (Projects) at Air HQ (VB), Commandant ASTE and Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Doctrine, Organisation and Training)," the statement said.

On Mishra's retirement, the WAC in a post on X on April 30 said, "His visionary leadership significantly bolstered the operational readiness and resolve of @hqwac-af, ensuring effective execution of all assigned mandates. WAC did the entire Nation proud under his leadership during Op Sindoor. Western Air Command will continue to be guided and inspired by his exemplary leadership and strategic vision."

Junior Asstt caught in graft case

complaint, alleging that Ajay had demanded Rs 20,000 as bribe from the complainant for facilitating the issuance of a marriage certificate under the Special Marriage Act, 1954.

Following negotiations, the bribe demand was settled at Rs 15,000. Unwilling to pay the bribe, the complainant approached ACB with the request to take legal action against the accused government employee, officials said.

The ACB subsequently conducted a discreet verification of the complaint. During probe, the allegations were found to be substantiated, establishing a prima facie case against the accused.

Following the verification, an FIR was registered under section 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, as amended in 2018, at Police Station, ACB Central, Jammu.

A trap team was then constituted which caught Ajay red-handed while allegedly demanding and accepting Rs 15,000 from the complainant. The accused was arrested on the spot and the alleged bribe amount was recovered from his possession in the presence of independent witnesses, officials said.

Following the arrest, the ACB also conducted searches at the residential premises of the accused. The searches were carried out in the presence of an executive magistrate and independent witnesses.

Field trials for PPDR to begin in Oct

nalise the model this month and the pilot will start in October," he said while talking about the rollout of the network.

The PPDR network is designed in a manner to ensure con-

tinuity of communication among government agencies and alert the public at the time of a natural disaster.

Prasanna said that the government is in discussion with both ISRO and private players to integrate satellite communication also in the PPDR network.

He said that the PPDR network will be deployed in 10 zones, including some of the border districts, disaster-prone districts, metros, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, etc.

The new PPDR network is proposed to be a broadband base that can support live images, videos and text in addition to voice communication. The advanced PPDR network is already in place in countries like Sweden, the US, England, Finland, France, Hungary, and Romania.

According to data shared by Swedish telecom gear maker Ericsson, the advanced PPDR network is in the consultation stage.

Addressing the event, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Chairman A K Lahoti said that when a natural disaster strikes or a major accident occurs, public order is under threat, then communication becomes an instrument of public safety.

"Mission critical communication systems have to be engineered to ensure high reliability, resilience, availability, real-time responsiveness and interoperability," he said.

Lahoti said from an architectural perspective, such systems are designed with redundant and hardened infrastructure, including failover connectivity, backup power, resilient network elements and geographically distributed core networks to ensure continuity of service even under extreme conditions and infrastructure disruptions.

He said that TRAI had made key recommendations on telecom network failures during emergencies and flash disasters, recommending priority routing of calls of persons engaged in response and recovery way back in November 2013.

Lahoti said that the regulator has given a series of recommendations for leveraging communication resources for public safety, including a single-number 112-based integrated emergency communication and response system and spectrum.

"Trai has issued a consultation paper on the regulatory framework for vehicle to infrastructure communication service. Though vehicle-to-everything is not itself a PPDR network, it can play a complementary role in critical communications and disaster management by enabling rapid, low-latency exchange of safety and emergency information among vehicles, roadside infrastructure and traffic management systems," he said.

BIF President TV Ramachandran said when most networks don't work, PPDR should be working and it is something like a first network.

"It has got to be a first responder for any abnormal crisis situation, whether it's a natural disaster, law and order issue, or a disaster of some other kind. We have had so many in India to that, in Gujarat, we had it in the Tsunami. Today we talk of 5G, 6G, anything is possible. Satellite will play a very important role. You cannot imagine coping with a disaster like what's happening in Nepal or Kargil, whatever, without satellite connectivity, good satellite connectivity," he said.

Ramachandran said that the country is well connected with mobile networks to handle normal circumstances but it is not enough.

"We need to have more of all other technologies also coming in. We need to create a network, an all-Indian network, which is always 100 per cent available," he said.

Kargil gets Post Office Passport Seva Kendra

services closer to the people of the district and adjoining areas.

The POPSK, established by the Ministry of External Affairs in association with the Department of Posts at the Sub Post Office, Kargil, is the second Passport Seva Kendra in Ladakh, after the POPSK at Leh, which has been functioning since 2017. It is also the 457th POPSK in the country.

The facility addresses a long-standing demand of the people of Kargil, who earlier had to travel long distances to Leh and Srinagar to access passport-related services. The opening of POPSK Kargil marks another important milestone in strengthening decentralised public service delivery in Ladakh, ensuring that citizens can access essential government services closer to their homes.

The new centre will substantially reduce the time, travel and expenditure involved in obtaining passport services, particularly benefiting residents of Kargil and adjoining areas.

The facility is expected to be particularly useful for people who require passports for Haj and Umrah pilgrimages to Saudi Arabia and other countries, apart from those travelling abroad for education and job purposes.

Speaking on the occasion, the LG said the inauguration of POPSK Kargil is another important step towards ensuring last-mile delivery of citizen-centric services in Ladakh.

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Posts for fulfilling the long-pending aspiration of the people of Kargil.

Saxena said that bringing essential services closer to citizens is central to the government's vision of "Ease of Living", particularly in the remote and geographically challenging regions such as Ladakh.

He expressed confidence that the new facility would provide people with fair, efficient, transparent and hassle-free passport services. He also appreciated MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh for visiting Kargil and for the support extended by the Ministry of External Affairs in establishing the POPSK.

Kirti Vardhan, in his address, said the establishment of POPSK Kargil is part of the Government's continued efforts to expand passport services to remote and underserved areas and make them more accessible, efficient and citizen-friendly.

He said the initiative, being implemented under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, aims to make passport services more accessible, citizen-centric and efficient.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Ladakh MP Mohmad Haneefa, LAHDC Kargil Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor Mohammad Jaffer Akhoo, besides senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Department of Post and the UT administration.

Iran targets US allies in Gulf after overnight attacks

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Iran acted in self-defence in retaliation for U.S. violations of Iran's sovereignty.

A Philippine official said Wednesday that two Filipino crewmembers were killed when a Saudi Arabia-flagged crude oil tanker came under attack and caught fire while about to cross the Strait of Hormuz.

The remains of the two Filipinos and the 14 Filipino crewmembers who survived the attack will soon be flown home, said Hans Cacadac, secretary of migrant workers in the Philippines. About 3,000 Filipino seafarers continue to work aboard ships in the Persian Gulf, he said.

No one claimed responsibility for the attack on the Saudi tanker.

The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned the attack and called on all parties to return to negotiations and peaceful solutions.

The ministry said the oil-rich kingdom stresses the need to halt escalation and respect the security and safety of international navigation and of global energy supplies.

Iran has established a chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil passed in peacetime, after the U.S. and Israel attacked Iran on Feb. 28. Ship traffic through the waterway has slowed to a trickle, roiling the global economy and spiking prices for energy

and other goods across the world.

SP-Cong alliance to contest UP polls

jority," he said.

Yadav said the party had not yet disclosed its election strategy and would reveal it at an appropriate time.

Targeting BJP, he alleged that the ruling party was attempting to weaken the Opposition. Referring to the FIR lodged against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Uttarakhand, he said the BJP wanted to eliminate the Opposition.

On BJP's alleged use of AI-generated videos targeting SP leaders, Yadav said the BJP had started the practice and the SP had merely "reacted to the action".

He also attacked the BJP over alleged corruption, saying the condition of roads and potholes on expressways had exposed its claims of development.

Yadav also hit out at Om Prakash Rajbhar over his recent remarks, saying his statements against the BJP while he was aligned with the SP were "all on record".

He was in Etah to meet former SP MLA Rameshwar Singh Yadav, who is recovering after a lung transplant, and to offer condolences to the family of SP leader Sharafat Hus-sain alias Kale on the death of his father Haji Abdul Aziz.

Rijiju slams Congress for questioning GDP numbers

GDP but not the economy itself.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh, shared a video clip of Garg in which he said that by revising last year's GDP by as much as Rs 6 trillion, the current year's GDP in the first quarter has gone up by around 10.3 per cent.

"Had you not revised last year's GDP, the growth in current prices would have been 2.6 per cent," Garg said.

In his post in Hindi on X, Ramesh said that no matter how much the Modi government "beats the drum of its fabricated GDP growth, conjured up through statistical jugglery by its team and media, its true reality will be exposed because what they are claiming is the complete opposite of ground realities".

The Congress has alleged that the 7.8 per cent GDP growth is "not an economic spring" and claimed it presents a "Greatly Distorted Picture" of the state of India's economy as it doesn't convey the "depressed" investment sentiment.

Ex-servicemen deserve highest respect: Kavinder

raised by the ex-servicemen and assured them that their genuine issues would be taken up with the state government for appropriate action.

He also assured that the meeting of the Rajya Sainik Board would be convened at the earliest.

Recognising the contribution of the armed forces and the supreme sacrifices made by the martyrs in the service of the nation, he announced a contribution of Rs 5 lakh towards the construction of Shaheedi Smarak.

The governor emphasised that a memorial dedicated to the martyrs was not merely a structure but a symbol of the nation's gratitude towards those who made the supreme sacrifice for the unity, integrity and security of the country.

He said the Shaheedi Smarak would serve as a source of inspiration for future generations, instilling in them the values of courage, patriotism, sacrifice and service to the nation.

He also appealed to the state MPs and legislators to come forward and contribute towards the construction of Shaheedi Smarak, so that the long-pending project could be completed at the earliest.

He said that collective efforts would help give the memorial the dignity and stature befitting the valour and sacrifice of the martyrs.

He reiterated his commitment to ensuring that the welfare and genuine concerns of ex-servicemen, war widows and their families receive due attention. He stressed that those who have dedicated their lives to the service of the nation deserve the highest respect, dignity and continued support from society and the government.

3 DSPs, 11 Inspectors promoted to next ranks

cadre), with immediate effect."

The promotees are: Sheikh Azad, Imtiyaz Ahmad, Bashir Ahmad, Mohammad Amin, Mohammad Alyas Malik, Sanjeev Kumar, Mohammad Farooq, Bahar Ahmad, Mushtaq Ahmad, Mir Riyaz Ahmad and Farooq Ahmad.

The promotions shall be subject to the outcome of any writ petition(s), if any, pending before any competent court of law, says the order.

SC orders BCI to consult AG, SG on policy decisions

The court directed newly constituted State Bar Councils to complete the election of their office-bearers, including their representatives to the BCI, within two weeks of notification

of their composition.

The councils have also been directed to file compliance reports before the Supreme Court. The question of the BCI's reconstitution will be taken up after these reports are received.

The petitions have challenged an April 2025 gazette notification under which Mishra's tenure as BCI chairman was extended by five years, until 2030. During the hearing, Justice Bagchi questioned the statutory basis of the notification.

Senior advocate Madhavi Divan, appearing for a petitioner, submitted that BCI Rule 12(2) prescribes a two-year term for the chairman and vice-chairman and contended that a notification could not override the rule.

She also pointed out that the BCI's March 2025 resolution had extended the tenure of its chairman and vice-chairman despite one of the office-bearers subsequently losing an election.

The Bench said it was examining the statutory framework governing the BCI rather than any individual.

70,584 corruption complaints received against govt deptts

ited (DTL), Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB), Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), and the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

As many as 4,118 complaints received last year were related to employees working in the coal sector, 3,107 in finance, 2,804 against Delhi government and 2,722 related to the petroleum ministry, according to the probity watchdog's report, which was made public recently.

A total of 2,633 complaints were against Delhi Police, 2,139 against road transport and highways, and 2,036 related to the Ministry of Home Affairs, excluding Delhi Police, it said.

There were 2,030 corruption complaints against human resource development, 1,894 against the labour ministry, 1,536 against insurance companies while 1,469 were related to telecommunication, the report said.

A total of 1,410 such complaints were related to the defence ministry, 1,123 against the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, 1,023 related to the steel ministry, and 1,003 against the department of posts, it said.

The report also shared details of complaints received by the CVOs from the CVC for "necessary action" in 2025.

Of the total 18,651 such complaints, a maximum of 4,110 were related to local bodies except the GNCTD, 1,749 against banks, 1,428 related to the Railways, 1,318 against petroleum ministry, 1,307 related to Delhi government and 1,016 against the defence ministry, among others, the report said.

Work on Samba-Battal road to start soon: Jitendra

highways of Jammu and Kashmir.

"In response to a demand from local people, an assurance was given on August 31 that the issues related to repair and restoration of the above road through BRO and sanction of the required amount would be resolved at the earliest. I am glad to share that within 48 hours, BRO has issued orders for the allocation of Rs 38.84 cr for rehabilitation work on Samba-Battal road," he said in a post on X.

The said amount would be released within one week. "The work is being started immediately. This is yet another reiteration of the promptness and sensitivity with which the government headed by PM NarendraModi responds to the genuine grievances of its citizens," he added.

Dozens of NC activists detained outside BJP headquarters

Ajay Sadhotra, officials said.

Earlier, a NC spokesperson said the party would peacefully gherao the BJP headquarters to demand accountability for commitments made by the union government in Parliament and before the Supreme Court.

"Our demands are clear - constitutional guarantees, restoration of statehood, clearance of the reservation file and justice for the people of J&K," he said.

The protesters carried placards carrying messages, including "BJP failed to raise the voice of J&K," "restore statehood," "BJP failed to bring employment package" and "BJP creating hurdles for statehood.

The spokesman said the mandate given by the people of Jammu and Kashmir could not be treated as a blank cheque and called for the commitments made to the people to be honoured.

"The mandate of the people of J&K is not a blank cheque. It must be respected, not taken for granted," he said.

Doda Main Market Choked by Encroachments, Public Seeks Immediate Action



cate the limits of commercial establishments and public spaces. They have called for roads, footpaths, drains and other public property to be kept free from unauthorized occupation.

Residents further sought regular and sustained enforcement drives, pointing out that temporary removal of encroachments often fails to provide a lasting solution as cleared spaces are allegedly reoccupied soon afterwards. They have urged the authorities to take action against habitual and repeat

residents said, can obstruct rainwater flow and contribute to sanitation-related problems.

The residents have therefore appealed to the District Administration and Municipal authorities to establish a long-term mechanism for encroachment control instead of relying solely on occasional drives. They stressed that roads, footpaths and other common spaces must remain accessible to the public.

The residents have therefore appealed to the District Administration and Municipal authorities to establish a long-term mechanism for encroachment control instead of relying solely on occasional drives. They stressed that roads, footpaths and other common spaces must remain accessible to the public.

The people of Doda have called for visible, impartial and continuous enforcement against encroachments, irrespective of the status or location of the establishment, in the larger public interest, and urged the authorities to restore the main market as a safe, accessible and properly regulated commercial area.