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India warns against inaccurate depiction of J&K, Ladakh

Secretary at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN, Raghuo Puri, said India "welcomes" the intention behind the resolution to promote more accurate and representative cartographic practices.

"We believe that maps play an important role in how societies understand geography and the relative scale of the world around us," he said.

However, India clarified its understanding of the scope of this resolution, saying, "We believe that the resolution should be understood as supporting the broader use and consideration of Equal Area map projections, and not as endorsing the Equal Earth projection or any other specific map projection." Equal Area projections are particularly relevant because they preserve the relative sizes or areas of continental and territorial landmasses, Puri had said.

"This can help address distortions in perceived landmass size that arise from projections designed primarily to preserve other geographic characteristics such as shape, direction, or distance. At the same time, different projections serve different cartographic purposes. No single projection is necessarily appropriate for every application. Therefore, we believe it is important for this resolution to remain technological and methodological-neutral. Our delegation supports the language that encourages accurate cartographic representation while allowing countries, institutions and cartographers to determine which projection is most appropriate for their specific needs," Puri said.

Pakistan also voted in favour of the resolution, saying it supports the basic premise of the initiative for an accurate description of the continental landmasses only and not countries' political maps and boundaries.

"This resolution is, therefore, for educational purposes only, (it) does not alter the legal status of the disputed territories recognised as such by the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and other international boundaries," Pakistan said.

4-day prestigious Int'l Film Festival of J&K kicks off

edition of the festival.

An acclaimed Indian cinematographer, filmmaker, producer and actor, Santosh Sivan is a founding member of the Indian Society of Cinematographers (ISC). An FTII alumnus and among the most awarded Directors of Photography in India, he became the first cinematographer from the Asia-Pacific region to join the American Society of Cinematographers (ASC).

His celebrated body of work includes The Terrorist, for which he received international recognition, and his contribution to world cinema was further acknowledged with the Pierre Ang nieux Tribute at the Cannes Film Festival in 2024.

Sivan has also served in several prestigious international jury capacities, including as Chairperson of the Best Debut Director of Indian Panorama Jury at IFFI 2024, besides serving on the International Jury of the Chennai Film Festival and the New Currents Jury at the Busan International Film Festival.

Adding a strong international and cross-cultural dimension to the jury is Dorothee Wenner, a German filmmaker, curator, writer and journalist renowned for her contribution to international cinema and cultural exchange.

Associated with the Berlin International Film Festival since 1990, Wenner has served as a programmer and delegate for India and Sub-Saharan Africa. She was also associated with the Berlinale Talent Campus, serving as its Director for the 2006 and 2008 editions.

A founding jury member of the Africa Movie Academy Awards and an experienced international film curator, Wenner has worked extensively with feature films and filmmakers from India, Africa and Germany. Her filmmaking and curatorial work include Peace Mission, Drama Consult and Kinshasa Collection. She is widely recognised for building cross-cultural collaborations and championing emerging voices in world cinema.

Keiko Bang, a Japanese media entrepreneur, documentary filmmaker, producer and international curator, brings more than three decades of experience in the global media industry to IFFJK.

As founder and CEO of Bang Singapore Pte. Ltd., she has produced more than 50 award-winning documentaries, including Zheng He: Emperor of the Seas, Guge: The Lost Kingdom of Tibet and Secrets of the Samurai.

A leading advocate of international co-productions across Asia, Bang has worked with governments, broadcasters and media organisations in more than 25 countries. Her extensive experience in documentary production, international programming and film curation has seen her serve on juries and selection committees of major international film festivals.

She served as a Jury Member at MIFF 2024 and was appointed to the Institutional National Selection Committee at MIFF 2026. She has also served as a primary coordinator and selection leader for the premier factual programming forum of Asian Side of Doc.

Sriram Raghavan is an acclaimed Indian filmmaker and screenwriter known for his distinctive neo-noir style and gripping action thrillers. Born on 22 June 1963, he has directed critically acclaimed films including Ek Hasina Thi, Johnny Gaddaar, Agent Vinod, Badlapur and Andhadhun. Renowned for his sharp storytelling, atmospheric visuals and complex characters, Raghavan is regarded as one of the leading auteurs of contemporary Hindi cinema.

Completing the distinguished panel is Himansu Sekhar Khatua, a National Film Award-winning filmmaker, director, educator and journalist with a strong record of contribution to Indian cinema and film education.

An alumnus of FTII, Pune, Khatua has directed acclaimed films including Shunya Swaropa and Ishanu, besides several award-winning regional productions. He has also served as faculty member and mentor, influencing successive generations of filmmakers through teaching and practical engagement.

Khatua has served as Director of Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI) and has previously been associated with prestigious film juries, including the Indian Panorama Feature Films Jury at IFFI 2024 and the Kautik International Film Festival 2021, where he served on the Features Award Jury.

The eminent Jury of acclaimed filmmakers and cinema professionals reflects the global spirit of 1st IFFJK. The diversity and stature of the proposed jury underline the vision behind the first International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir, which seeks to create a meaningful platform for cinematic excellence, cultural dialogue and international exchange.

With expertise ranging from cinematography and sound design to documentary filmmaking, film curation, production, direction and education, the jury represents multiple dimensions of contemporary cinema. Their collective experience across prestigious film festivals and international institutions is expected to bring nuanced, independent and globally informed perspectives to the evaluation of films at IFFJK.

The presence of such distinguished cinematic personalities is also expected to strengthen Jammu and Kashmir's emergence as a vibrant destination for filmmakers, artists, storytellers and cinephiles from across India and the world.

The 1st International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK), being organised by the Department of Information and Public Relations, Jammu and Kashmir, is envisioned as a landmark cultural initiative that celebrates the universal language of cinema while providing a platform for established as well as emerging filmmakers to connect, collaborate and share their stories with a wider audience.

With an accomplished jury, a diverse cinematic programme and participation from the wider film community, IFFJK 2026 is poised to mark a significant new chapter in Jammu and Kashmir's cinematic journey.

Heavy rains lash Jammu

with light rain in the morning and another spell from afternoon to evening. Moderate rain is likely at isolated places.

The IMD has not issued any colour-coded warning for the national capital. However, Gurugram, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Noida are under a rainfall alert. The forecast comes after heavy rain over the past two days caused waterlogging in several parts of Delhi-NCR.

According to the IMD, rain and thunderstorms are expected to continue across parts of northwest India, with Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh among the areas likely to receive heavy rainfall.

Search intensified for 2 missing in Chenab

captured by a passerby who tried to discourage her, shows Payal saying "bye-bye" before jumping into the river. The video has since gone viral on social media.

Officials, quoting her family members, said she was suffering from anxiety and depression.

Officials said the circumstances that led her to take the extreme step could not be immediately ascertained.

A search was on to trace her body but that had not been recovered so far.

Meanwhile, a multi-agency search-and-rescue operation was also going on to trace the body of Ravi Kumar, who slipped into Chenab at Maitra in Ramban town on September 1.

Kumar's body was also yet to be found out, officials said.

J&K on path of progress after decline of terrorism: Shah

cotics that was attended by Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant as well as MHA and state government officials.

"Before 2014, the fight against narcotics was largely conducted in small units and isolation. Agencies were often satisfied catching small time accused. Our government is making the fight national security priority," he said.

In 2019, a four-tier National Coordination Committee for Countering Drug Trafficking (NCD) mechanism was created at the executive, state and district levels to ensure co-ordinated action against the drug menace.

"Dedicated Anti-Narcotics Task Forces (ANTFs) have been constituted in all states and Union Territories and local police have been linked with the national strategy," Shah said.

He said a Joint Coordination Committee was also formed in 2019 to enable central agencies and State Governments to take joint decisions against major drug networks, their international connections and operational gaps.

The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has been strengthened by reorganising its cadre and enhancing its manpower, zonal presence and operational capabilities, Shah said while emphasising that the fight against drugs was not just limited to enforcement.

"The government has linked awareness, treatment, counselling, rehabilitation and livelihood opportunities with the anti-narcotics campaign," he pointed out, adding that the 1933 MANAS helpline has been introduced to support persons with drug addiction.

"The government is committed to achieving the goal of 'Drug-Free India 2029' through political will, coordinated enforcement and measures aimed at preventing addiction and rehabilitating victims," he said.

"The Modi government's three-year roadmap to a drug-free India is based on a four-pillared approach to destroy narcotic networks," Shah said.

"These pillars include intelligence and operation-based enforcement, control on synthetic drugs, demand and harm reduction and creation of capacity and coordination," he explained.

"The Modi Government has taken various steps to improve and strengthen internal security. Those who dreamt of a 'red' (Maoist) corridor from Tirupati to Pashupati have laid down arms and joined the mainstream," he said.

Referring to the Northeast, Shah said 14 major peace agreements had been signed since 2019 and around 11,000 armed youths had laid down their weapons and joined the mainstream.

He said India ended the nearly six-decade-old challenge of Left-Wing Extremism on March 31, 2026, through a co-ordinated strategy combining security, development and trust.

"We have eradicated Naxalism and will deal with menace of narcotics in the same manner," the Union minister asserted.

Shah said the Centre has a target to demolish 100 national and international networks by March 2029 and bring back 100 fugitives to the country.

By March 2027, there will be clear end-to-end visibility of the supply chain while at least 75 secret labs would be destroyed in 2026, he said.

He said the government had also adopted a mission-mode approach to bring back fugitives hiding abroad.

Between July 2019 and July 2026, as many as 274 wanted or absconding criminals were brought back to India from 36 countries, he said.

Over the past three years, 401 Red Corner Notices have been issued, including 182 up to July 2026, Shah said.

He said more than 1,400 Central and state agencies were connected through Interpol, facilitating faster information sharing.

Between 2019 and 2026, assets worth Rs 17,874 crore belonging to fugitives were attached, while Rs 18,762 crwas recovered or restored, Shah informed.

Shah also highlighted the government's efforts against cybercrime, saying the cyber system had helped save more than Rs 11,158 crore across 32.8 lakh complaints as of June 30, 2026. Amarnath Yatra Info

He said strengthening border and coastal security, implementation of three new criminal laws and the Vibrant Villages Programme were among the measures taken to strengthen internal security.

The Union minister said the government has adopted a "zero tolerance" policy towards terrorism and a first-responder approach to disaster management.

He also praised the Goa police for effective implementation of the three new criminal laws saying the conviction rate has increased from 22 percent to 53.2 percent.

Jitendra calls for restoring Bengal's heritage

up and Entrepreneurship) Conclave 2026' here, he said India's journey towards becoming a global technology and startup powerhouse must also involve reclaiming the legacy of its historic centres of excellence.

"Kolkata has always been a trend setter," the minister said, underlining the city's deep-rooted intellectual and scientific legacy.

Dr Singh said Kolkata's contribution extended across academia, medicine, science, literature, arts and technology.

He said Bengal's scientific and intellectual heritage placed a responsibility on the present generation to restore the state's "historic position".

He also said that India has emerged as the world's third-largest startup ecosystem, with nearly 2,40,000 startups.

The conclave was jointly organised by four CSIR institutions - CSIR-CGCRI, CSIR-IICB, CSIR-CMERI and CSIR-IMMT.

SC to hear plea seeking guidelines on airfare fluctuations

ernising India's aviation sector, and the same would be finalised within three weeks.

The government had placed the draft rules before the bench in a sealed cover and said some final discussions were going on.

The apex court had noted that Additional Solicitor General Anil Kaushik, appearing for the Centre, sought three-week time to get the draft rules finalised and place it before the court.

The top court is hearing a plea filed by social activist S Laxminarayanan, who has sought a robust and independent regulator that ensures transparency and passenger protection across the civil aviation sector and regulatory guidelines to control the "unpredictable fluctuations" in airfare and ancillary charges imposed by private airlines in India.

Senior advocate Ravindra Srivastava, appearing for the petitioner, had argued before the bench that till the time the new rules come into force, the old rules are operating.

Questioning the "lack of willingness" on the part of authorities and the effectiveness of the existing mechanism, he had argued that airlines were charging exorbitant fares.

On July 13, the top court had asked the Centre to place the rules framed under the Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024, before it.

It had said the rules be placed before it in a sealed cover, irrespective of whether those have been placed before Parliament.

While hearing the plea on May 15, the apex court said there should be some rationalisation of airfares and asked the Centre to provide relief to flyers.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who was then appearing in the matter for the Centre, had told the bench that the new enactment of 2024 had come into effect in January 2025 and the corresponding rules were in the process of being prepared.

On November 17 last year, the top court sought responses from the Centre and others on Laxminarayanan's plea.

While hearing the matter in January, the top court said it would interfere with the "unpredictable fluctuations" in airfares and flagged the exorbitant rise during festivals.

It had termed the exorbitant rise in airfares by the airlines "exploitation" and asked the Centre and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation to file their replies on the plea.

The plea claims that all private airlines have, without any credible justification, reduced the free check-in baggage allowance for economy-class passengers from 25 kg to 15 kg, "thereby converting what was earlier part of the ticketed service into a new revenue stream".

It says the "new policy of permitting only a single piece for check-in and the absence of any rebate, compensation or benefit to passengers who do not avail themselves of check-in baggage demonstrates the arbitrary and discriminatory nature of the measure".

The plea claims that currently, no authority has the power to review or cap airfares or ancillary fees, allowing airlines to exploit consumers through hidden charges and unpredictable pricing.

1 killed, 8 injured in road mishaps

of Mandi, Poonch.

The injured were admitted to the sub-district hospital, Mandi, for treatment.

Cases in this connection were registered at the concerned police stations.

Justice Pushpendra appointed CJ of J&K, Ladakh High Court

been appointed Chief Justice of the court.

Justice Krushna Ram Mohapatra of the Orissa High Court has been appointed Chief Justice of the Chhattisgarh High Court. Justice Alpesh Yeshwant Kogje of the Gujarat High Court will head the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

Rs 1-cr gold bracelet, marijuana seized at Delhi airport

monds, the statement said.

According to the statement, the bracelet, made of 750-purity gold, weighed 87.5 grams and contained approximately 10 grams of diamonds, equivalent to around 50 carats. The provisional value of the bracelet was assessed at Rs 1.08 crore, the statement said.

The bracelet was seized under Section 110 of the Customs Act and both passengers were arrested under Section 104 of the Act. In a separate case, customs officers, acting on profiling, intercepted a Malaysian passenger arriving from Kuala Lumpur at Terminal 3, another statement said.

The passenger was diverted at the Green Channel for an examination of her trolley bag, which led to the seizure of 30 polythene pouches containing suspected marijuana, the statement said.

The substance weighed 15,015.5 grams (net weight) and was valued at approximately Rs 5.25 crore, it added.

The passenger was arrested under Section 43(B) of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, and the suspected contraband seized under Section 43(A) of the Act.

Iran warns US of 'more painful' response after Gulf tanker strikes

struck three Iranian oil tankers following missile attacks by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps "toward two US Navy warships patrolling regional waters." The US CENTCOM said the targeted Navy warships had "successfully evaded" the multiple Iranian attacks, calling the strikes "unprovoked". It said that no American personnel were harmed in the attack.

Following the strikes, the US CENTCOM had also warned the IRGC of a "higher economic cost." "We will not hesitate to defend American forces, and if necessary, destroy Iran's limited and exposed oil fleet," US Admiral and CENTCOM Commander Brad Cooper said.

The war had begun with the US-Israel attacks on Iran on February 28. A ceasefire arrangement was signed by Washington and Tehran, but unravelled quickly over sticking points, including the Strait of Hormuz. On-and-off exchanges of fire from both sides, primarily over shipping in the waterway, have continued, with the US also launching Operation Economic Outcast. Under the operation, the Trump administration is looking to sever "critical financial lifelines" of the Iranian economy.

US envoys arrive in Kyiv after talks with Putin

Ukraine.

"Economic issues and potentially large, mutually beneficial joint projects for Russia and America were discussed in considerable detail," he said.

The air war between Russia and Ukraine has intensified as troops have struggled to make progress along the 1,250-km (775-mile) front line. Russia has recently been using fast-flying, jet-powered drones, and the recurring wail of air-raid sirens has become part of daily life in Kyiv.

Putin and Zelenskyy had agreed to pause strikes on each other's capitals while the talks take place. Still, the two traded fire overnight into Sunday, officials said.

Russian attacks across multiple Ukrainian regions killed one person and injured at least 10 others overnight into Sunday, Ukraine's State Emergency Service said.

In Zaporizhzhia, drone strikes killed a 74-year-old man and wounded three people, while a drone damaged an apartment building, injuring seven people, in the Khmelnytskyi region.

Ukraine's air force said Sunday that it intercepted 82 drones out of the 108 launched by Russia overnight, along with six missiles.

In Russia, a man was killed and a woman seriously wounded when a Ukrainian drone struck a vehicle, local authorities in the Belgorod border region said.

The Russian Defense Ministry said Sunday that its air defenses overnight shot down 258 Ukrainian drones over 14 Russian regions, occupied Crimea and the waters of the Black and Azov seas.

Not everyone shared her hope for the talks. Oleksandr Pastukhov, 27, a video editor who joined the commemoration, was skeptical the envoys' visit would change anything.

"We've already seen delegations like this come here before," he said. "We've seen this so-called ceasefire for three days, which ended after just a couple of hours, and now we're supposed to naively think that two people will come and change something."

India emerges as key diesel supplier to Europe

important source of Europe's eastern diesel supply, Vortexa said in a report.

India is the world's fourth-largest refiner, with an installed capacity of 258.1 million tonnes per annum, which exceeds domestic fuel demand by a margin.

In 2025-26 (April 2025 to March 2026 fiscal year), India exported 61.5 million tonnes of petroleum products, making it one of the largest exporters of refined products globally. These fuels are now finding a market in Europe and Russia.

The concern is whether that flow can be maintained. Crude and condensate shipments into India fell for a second consecutive month to about 3.8 million barrels per day in August, compared to 4.8 million barrels per day a year earlier, Vortexa data showed.

Russian diesel exports, once a major source of European supply, have remained largely absent. Russia's seaborne diesel and gasoil exports averaged only about 1,50,000 barrels per day in the first 25 days of August, down about 6,10,000 barrels per day from a year earlier and 81 per cent below the five-year seasonal average, according to Vortexa.

Even a lifting or partial relaxation of Russia's diesel export ban from September 1 may not produce a rapid recovery. Ukrainian drone strikes have continued to disrupt Russian refining and export infrastructure, with 32 attacks on refineries recorded across July and August. An attack on the 2,60,000-barrel-per-day Perm refinery left only about 28 per cent of its crude distillation capacity operational, according to data cited by Vortexa.

The impact extends to export terminals. The Black Sea accounted for about 44 per cent, or 380,000 barrels per day, of Russia's diesel and gasoil exports last year, but port and refinery disruptions have reduced available volumes. No diesel cargoes have been exported from Tuapse since a May strike, according to Vortexa.

That leaves Europe increasingly dependent on Indian refiners to maintain eastern supply routes just as crude availability in India is tightening.

The Strait of Hormuz is offering limited relief to the clean-products market. Only 37 crossings by MR2-sized, or larger tankers carrying clean products, were recorded during the first 27 days of August, down from 55 in July and 69 in June.

Ship-to-ship transfers offshore Oman have continued, but most of the activity involves crude rather than refined products. About 2,30,000 barrels per day of clean products originating west of Hormuz were transferred via ship-to-ship operations offshore Oman in the first three weeks of August, down from about 4,00,000 barrels per day during the same period in June.

The result is an increasingly concentrated European diesel supply chain.

Russian exports remain depressed despite the scheduled end of the current diesel ban, US shipments have started to decline, and the Hormuz route is providing little additional product supply. India is consequently carrying a growing share of the burden, according to Vortexa.

Europe is approaching its peak winter diesel-demand period with inventories already low and refineries on both sides of the Atlantic facing autumn maintenance after running at elevated rates. That leaves limited room for supply disruptions.

India, China hold first Corps Commander talks in Arunachal

held 23 rounds of Corps Commander-level meetings at the Chushul-Moldo border meeting point in eastern Ladakh to resolve issues related to the military standoff along the LAC.

The 23rd round of talks were held in October 2025, a year after both sides formally agreed on patrolling arrangements in the Depsang Plains and Demchok, the two friction points along the LAC.

There are five designated meeting points along the India-China LAC, including two in Arunachal Pradesh. Wacha is one of the two meeting points in the state.

The talks assume significance ahead of the upcoming BRICS Summit in India, where Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to attend. The latest military engagement comes amid efforts by both sides to maintain stability and prevent tensions along the LAC from escalating.

During those discussions, India and China agreed to advance negotiations towards an "early and substantial harvest" of boundary issues and strengthen mechanisms to prevent incidents along the border from escalating.

The discussions are also aimed at focusing on maintaining peace and stability along the LAC and strengthening mechanisms to prevent localised incidents from escalating into larger tensions.