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LAC must be stable for normalisation of ties with China: EAM
pletely tilted (towards China)," he said.
"The tilt is extremely one-sided, and in many sectors where we have done well with the rest of the world, we have not had market access; we have not had a successful business operation for that sector in China," he said.

"We do believe today that we're not getting a level playing field in China in the manner in which we have given a level playing field to them," he noted.

Jaishankar also referred to the Galwan valley clashes of 2020 and explained how it brought the ties under severe strain.

"From 1975 till 2020, a good 45 years, no blood was shed on that border. The last time there were fatalities was in 1975. In this period, India-China relations did grow," he said.

"Then in 2020, when we were in the midst of the Covid lockdown, we had a series of border issues, and it culminated in a clash in which a number of soldiers were killed on either side," he said.

"For us, what it represented was a very profound departure from the situation that was prevailing since 1975. If the peace and tranquility in the border areas are disturbed, then the relationship will have consequences," he said.

Jaishankar said those consequences were very visible in the next few years until peace and tranquility was restored.

LG calls for protecting Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable mountain development

said.
"We must establish an extremely important balance between development and the conservation of natural resources, because I firmly believe that development achieved at the cost of nature's stability is not truly development. Our dream of a developed India will be meaningful only when the Himalayas remain safe, strong, and vibrant," he added.

Sinha outlined four key pillars for future action. The first pillar focuses on determining science-based carrying capacity and zoning to ensure holistic planning and sustainable development. The second pillar emphasises climate-resilient infrastructure and enhanced disaster preparedness through environmentally sensitive construction and strengthened community-based early warning systems integrating modern technology with traditional local knowledge.

The third pillar calls for promoting regenerative and inclusive livelihoods, including high-value horticulture, organic farming, modern sericulture, eco-tourism and other components of the green economy.

He stressed the need to empower youth and women as entrepreneurs and job creators. The fourth pillar advocates a zero-waste and circular mountain economy through improved solid waste management, wastewater treatment and recycling systems across urban, rural and tourist destinations.

He commended the summit for preparing a draft policy addressing ecological security, responsible tourism, disaster management and sustainable livelihoods. He expressed the hope that the document would evolve into a robust policy and implementation framework through extensive consultations and serve as the basis for a new social contract between society and nature.

Emphasising India's civilisational ethos of environmental stewardship, the LG called for harmonising tradition with technology, local wisdom with modern science, and economic development with ecological sustainability.

"Today, as we build a developed India, we must strike a balance between tradition and technology, local knowledge and modern science, and economic and ecological development. I am fully confident that the right policies and the right decisions on the ground can carry all of these forward together," he said.

Govt adopts Class-IV service rules

accorded to the adoption of Jammu Municipal Corporation Class-IV Services (Special Provision) Regulations, 2014/Srinagar Municipal Corporation Class-IV Services (Special Provision) Regulations, 2014, mutatis mutandis, as the basis for formulating a similar regularisation mechanism for eligible casual labours, contingent paid workers, consolidated workers and other similarly placed workers engaged in Urban Local Bodies, Jammu/Kashmir."

CB files chargesheet against 3 officials

Abdul Rashid Gojri, Helper in Beerwah Sub-Divisional Agriculture Office; Manzoor Ahmad Wani, Section Officer in the office of Budgam Chief Agriculture Officer; and Peer Abdul Rashid, retired Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer (SDAO).

Officials said the case originated from a communication dated February 15, 2022 received from the Deputy Director Agriculture, Central Kashmir, regarding alleged manipulation of service records by certain officials to obtain undue benefits.

During verification, it surfaced that Gojri had allegedly submitted a forged date-of-birth certificate showing his birth date as February 27, 1973 instead of his actual year of birth as 1975.

Accordingly, a case was registered at Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir, now Police Station SCW Kashmir.

The investigation revealed that the accused was 17 years and 2 months old at the time of his initial engagement as a daily wageer in the Agriculture Department, the officials said.

The two other accused allegedly facilitated the incorporation of the incorrect date of birth into his service records by disregarding directions for document verification, thereby facilitating the regularisation of his services, they said.

During the investigation, offences as per the FIR were established against all three accused. After obtaining the requisite approval and sanction in respect of the two serving government employees, the chargesheet has been presented before the Special Judge, Anti-Corruption Court, Srinagar, they added.

Vaishnaw warns of heightened global turbulence in coming years

global uncertainty could intensify in the coming years, driven by rapid technological change and financial risks, including high debt levels in developed economies. He said the eventual unwinding of these debt levels could add to economic disruption.

"In my understanding of the way the world is moving today, the turbulence is going to be much more than what it was in the past decades, and the turbulence will come both from technology as well as from the way the financial world is moving, the whole debt levels in the rich countries that is going to unfold today or tomorrow, maybe in 3-5 years," Vaishnaw said.

When that unravels, it is going to bring in much bigger turbulence, the Minister said, and added "by that time, AI would have brought in many other disruptions in the employment sector, in the way people, especially the services industries, work, and the debt levels getting unravelled".

He warned that the combination of these factors could make the coming years extremely challenging.

"The biggest issue that we all have to be prepared for is

the turbulence, which is coming in the next few years," the minister said.

Vaishnaw said trust was becoming as important as cost in technology supply chains, particularly as cybersecurity risks increased and concentration in some semiconductor segments grew.

Cisco Chairman and CEO Chuck Robbins backed India's approach, saying the country had the scale, engineering capabilities and technological expertise to develop critical capabilities while partnering with trusted companies for other requirements.

"India has been an incredible trusted partner for lots of American companies, in particular, and global companies...it really does create an environment where we are comfortable investing, and I think that is super important....," Robbins said.

Woman among 2 sentenced to death in murder case

be in a state of shock; they were stunned. One can imagine the mental state of someone facing the death penalty. The defense had presented arguments-such as the fact that no one actually witnessed the murder and that both accused have daughters-but these were all set aside because the evidence presented by the prosecution was so strong, significant, and precise that it conclusively proved their guilt," he said.

Elaborating further, Dubey said the primary basis was the nature of the murder itself.

"She killed her husband-whom she had married out of love-and then dismembered his body into three parts for disposal, hiding the remains in a blue drum. It was a meticulously planned conspiracy and strategy. She executed the murder with a calm and composed mind. Consequently, the death penalty was the appropriate punishment for such a premeditated killing," he said.

The advocate called it a significant verdict among the country's court rulings.

"A woman being sentenced to death is, in itself, a precedent-setting event. Regarding her daughter, she can stay with her mother for six years," he said.

The court had earlier heard the case in which Muskan, along with Sahil, was accused of conspiring to murder her husband Saurabh Rajput and hiding his body in a blue drum. During the trial, 22 witnesses were presented before the court.

The Meerut blue drum murder case pertains to the killing of 29-year-old former Merchant Navy officer Saurabh Rajput, in which his wife Muskan Rastogi and her schoolmate-turned-partner Sahil Shukla are accused.

BJP gaining ideological ground in Kashmir: Punia

Jammu and Kashmir with full strength.

BJP national general secretary Satish Punia, who is here to chair a meeting of the party leadership in Jammu after being named in-charge of Jammu and Kashmir, said the party was committed to strengthening its organisational base across the Union Territory.

"Today, Kashmir is the same place where the Tricolour is hoisted with great dignity and respect by lakhs of people. The people of Kashmir have ideologically adopted BJP," he told reporters.

Commenting on the political situation in Jammu and Kashmir, he said the functioning of the Omar Abdullah-led government was before the people.

"As far as the Omar Abdullah government is concerned, the way it is functioning is before the people of Jammu & Kashmir. I am fully confident that in the coming period, the BJP will contest elections here with full strength, and the people will fully support the party," he said.

Punia highlighted the development initiatives, including infrastructure projects and welfare schemes in Jammu and Kashmir, and said the BJP was committed to strengthening its organisational base across Jammu and Kashmir.

"Today, bridges, including the Chenab bridge, are being built in J&K. The people are receiving various facilities, from Ayushman Bharat and housing to Ujjwala and many other schemes. This is the same Kashmir where the tricolour is now hoisted at Lal Chowk with dignity and respect," he said.

Punia also criticised the Congress and other opposition parties, alleging that their negative statements reflect their frustration over the work undertaken by the Modi government during the past 12 years.

"The way PM Modi has worked to bring about social and behavioural change during the past 12 years, his vision is not merely a slogan. 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' has made a major contribution to the country's progress, development and self-respect," the Rajya Sabha member said.

He added that the prime minister's vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' had strengthened the idea of national unity by bringing people together across regions.

He alleged that the Opposition, particularly the Congress, has been rejected by the people because of its policies and conduct.

Speaking about his responsibilities in Jammu and Kashmir, Punia said he would work in coordination with the local leadership to strengthen the party organisation and address public concerns.

"It is my good fortune that, ideologically and politically, I belong to the party, and for this reason, the party has assigned me responsibility for Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. I will try to work as a good colleague here and help strengthen the party organisation in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

He said the party would raise public issues both inside the Assembly and on the streets while implementing campaigns assigned by the national leadership.

"Today is my first day. I will get acquainted with everyone, seek their views and opinions, and work according to the directions of the local unit," Punia said.

NIA court declares Pak-based terrorist proclaimed offender

be operating from Pakistan and PoJK.

Special Judge, NIA Court, Prem Sagar, declared Mir a proclaimed offender while disposing of an application filed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under Section 84 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS).

The court noted that non-bailable warrants had previously been issued against him, but he had neither been arrested nor appeared before it despite proclamation proceedings and publication of notices in newspapers.

The NIA case concerns allegations that funds were raised and channelled through AHET for Jamaat-e-Islami even after the latter was declared an unlawful association in February 2019.

In August 2025, a special NIA court framed charges against three accused, including Mir and AHET, in connection with alleged fundraising and the utilisation of funds for the activities of the banned organisation.

Observing that there was no immediate prospect of Mir's arrest despite efforts by the prosecution, the court allowed the NIA application and declared the accused a proclaimed offender.

India-US ties 'very strong': Piyush Goyal

quite excellent. I do not observe any issues as we converse as well. In my view, the relationship between India and the

US is significant and has major implications for the world, given that both are large democracies," Goyal said at the Bloomberg New Economy event in New Delhi.

"It is important to remember that our relationship involves more than just trade; they are, undoubtedly, our primary trading partner and I believe this will remain the case in the future. And generally, I don't see any issues with any agreements with the United States," he said.

India's cultural heritage receiving growing recognition internationally: Modi

countries to deliberate on India's historical and contemporary cultural connections with the wider world.

It also marks the centenary of the Greater India Society, also known as the Brihattar Bharat Parishad, established in then-Calcutta on October 14, 1926, by a generation of Indian scholars, with Rabindranath Tagore as its spiritual guide, the IGNCA said.

Sheikh Hasina slams B'desh PM for skipping BRICS Summit

Cooperation).

However, Rahman opted out of the summit, which took place in New Delhi on September 12 and 13.

"It was deeply unfortunate that Bangladesh chose not to participate. In my view, it was an immature decision and one that did not serve Bangladesh's national interest," Hasina said.

"BRICS is not simply a diplomatic gathering. It brings together major emerging economies and creates opportunities for cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure, technology and development. By participating, Bangladesh could have gained valuable experience and opened new opportunities for its own economic and social development. That opportunity was lost," she said.

The former prime minister said foreign policy cannot be conducted through personal reaction or short-term political calculation.

"India is our closest neighbour and an important historic partner, but BRICS engagement is also about Bangladesh's own place in the international community," she noted.

The 78-year-old Hasina, living in Delhi since she left Bangladesh following the collapse of her government in August, 2024 in the face of a massive anti-government agitation, also recalled, how then prime minister Ziaur Rahman visited New Delhi in 1979 even when she was staying in India.

"After the assassination of the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, along with members of my family on August 15, 1975, and the killing of the four national leaders inside Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, Ziaur Rahman came to power through an unconstitutional process," Hasina said in response to written questions.

"Yet when he visited Delhi in 1979, I was living in Delhi. When he travelled to London in 1980, I was also in London. My presence in either city did not prevent him from travelling there," she said.

"So why should my presence in Delhi prevent Ziaur Rahman's son, Tarique Rahman, from coming to India today? What is the real reason behind such a decision," she asked.

"The judiciary has been used for political revenge. Media freedom has been restricted. Law and order have weakened. Minorities feel unsafe. Extremist forces have regained space. The economy has suffered," she said.

"This is no longer only an Awami League issue. It is a national crisis. One of the country's largest political forces has been banned. Its leaders are in jail or forced into hiding," she said.

"Millions of its supporters have been denied normal political rights. A country cannot return to stability by excluding such a large section of its own people. The suffering is being felt across the country, but Awami League leaders, workers and supporters have faced an unprecedented burden of political persecution," she said.

Hasina, without divulging specific details of her return to Bangladesh, said she is going back to restore democracy.

"Thousands have been jailed, many more have been forced into hiding, and families have lost homes, jobs, businesses and livelihoods simply because of their political identity," she said.

"The greater concern today is not personal safety. It is the destruction of justice in Bangladesh. A death sentence imposed through a politically motivated process, without a genuine opportunity to defend oneself, cannot be called justice," she said.

CBI files supplementary chargesheet

dent of Nanded in Maharashtra who was arrested on September 2, is a close associate of co-accused Shubham Khairnar.

According to the supplementary chargesheet, Suryawanshi, acting in collusion with Khairnar, provided the medical entrance examination paper to various candidates and collected money from their families.

CBI officials said Suryawanshi allegedly asked the candidates to gather at a place in Nanded, where they were provided with the paper. He kept their original documents like educational certificates and identity cards to ensure that they made the payment after the examination.

On August 12, the designated fast-track court dealing with "criminal cases arising from paper leaks as well as the use of other unfair means in public examinations" took cognisance of the CBI's chargesheet against 13 other accused.

According to the earlier chargesheet, the agency began its crackdown on May 13, with the first set of arrests of Mangalji, Dinesh and Vikas Biwal in Rajasthan. Their mobile phones contained leaked PDFs received via Telegram on April 29.

On the same day, the agency arrested Yash Yadav in Gurugram and Shubham Khairnar in Nashik.

Another key arrest made on May 13 was that of Dhananjay Lokhande in Pune. He allegedly attempted to destroy his phone to clear evidence before being apprehended.

Manisha Sanjay Waghmare was arrested in Pune the next day. According to the final report filed earlier, Waghmare was "one of the prime conspirators in the leakage and dissemination of NEET-UG 2026 questions for monetary consideration" and "acted as the link between candidates and the subject experts".

After interrogating them, the agency arrested the alleged mastermind, P V Kulkarni, from Latur on May 15, followed by Manisha Mandhare from Pune on May 16.

Shivraj Motegaonkar, the founder of a coaching centre in Latur, was picked up on May 17.

The last arrests in this case were of Manisha Sanjay Havaladar from Latur on May 22, Tejas Shah from Pune and Dr Manoj Shirure from Latur, both on May 26.

During its two-month-long probe, the agency unearthed the conspiracy from the source of the leak to the beneficiary candidates, leading to the "identification of the chain".

Kavinder calls for preservation of Mother Tongues, revival of ancient Indian scripts

cation, he added, was to develop understanding, sensitivity, discernment and self-awareness. He said that mother tongues preserve collective memories, experiences of community life and cultural consciousness.

The governor said that India's linguistic and cultural diversity was among its greatest strengths. "Indian languages are not merely means of communication but also repositories of literature, philosophy, history, traditional knowledge and human values. Each language carries a distinct worldview and a wealth of experiences," he said.

"The beauty of India's unity lies not in everyone speaking the same language, but in people respecting one another's

languages, cultures, ideas and emotions while remaining united as a nation," he added.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's emphasis on education in the mother tongue, the preservation of Indian languages and the celebration of the country's cultural diversity, he said that the National Education Policy 2020 also recognises the importance of mother tongues, local languages and multilingual education.

He said that the vision of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat encourages people to understand India's languages and cultures as interconnected elements of a shared national heritage. Initiatives such as Kashi Tamil Sangamam further promote cultural dialogue and strengthen understanding among different regions. Learning another Indian language, he added, opens the door to a new cultural world.

Emphasising the importance of local languages and dialects, Gupta said Himachal Pradesh possesses a rich linguistic and cultural heritage. The state's folk dialects, songs, stories and traditions preserve the experiences of mountain communities, their sensitivity towards nature and the knowledge accumulated over generations, he said.

He expressed confidence that the book would encourage meaningful dialogue and provide fresh direction to the study of Indian languages, multilingual education and India's knowledge traditions.

The governor released the book "Akshar Se Atmabodh Tak: Tribhasha Sutra", authored by ProfSat Prakash Bansal, Inder Singh Thakur, ProfSuman Sharma and DrAshok Sharma.

Earlier, Vice-Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh Central University and co-author of the book, ProfBansal expressed his gratitude to the governor, and said the book conveyed the message that students should remain connected with the country in a manner that reflects its society and culture. Emphasising the close relationship between language and culture, he said that the book explored how individuals could remain connected with society and the nation and contribute collectively.

Vice-Chancellor of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, ProfPreeti Saxena, governor's secretary Sandeep Bhardwaj, Director of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study, ProfHimanshu Chaturvedi, and other prominent people were also present on the occasion.

HC calls for jail report on non-appearance of Yasin Malik

ter for further hearing on December 9 and directed that on that day, Malik be made to join the proceedings virtually.

The court was hearing a plea by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) seeking death penalty for Malik in the terror funding case.

Malik had earlier said he wishes to argue in-person against the NIA's plea seeking enhancement of his punishment from life term to death penalty.

On May 29, 2023, the high court issued notice to Malik on the NIA's plea and sought his presence before it on the next date.

Subsequently, jail authorities filed an application seeking permission for his virtual appearance on grounds that he was a "very high-risk prisoner" and it was imperative to not physically produce him in court to maintain public order and safety.

The request was allowed by the high court.

In the present matter, on May 24, 2022, a trial court here sentenced Malik to life imprisonment after holding him guilty for offences under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and the Indian Penal Code.

Malik had pleaded guilty to the charges, including those under the UAPA, and was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The NIA, in its rejoinder to Malik's reply to its plea, had said that taking the names of senior politicians and bureaucrats does not absolve the convict or negate his links with militants like Hafiz Saeed.

It had asserted that Malik was "well connected with multiple terrorist organisations and with supporters of the terrorist organisationLeT" and that he dropped names of senior politicians, media personnel, foreign delegates and bureaucrats to gain popularity and draw public sympathy.

The trial court, which had rejected the NIA's plea for death penalty, had said the crimes committed by Malik struck at the "heart of the idea of India" and were intended to forcefully secede Jammu and Kashmir from the Union of India.

It had, however, noted that the case was not the "rarest of rare", warranting death penalty.

India seeks Indo-Pacific where all nations make own choices: Def Min

New Delhi's Act East policy is a long-term commitment to working with the region as an equal partner.

"India's approach and ASEAN's outlook on the Indo-Pacific can complement each other. We should strengthen cooperation, not create competition between regional forums," he said.

The defence minister stated that keeping the Indian Ocean and the waters of Southeast Asia safe is a shared responsibility as they are part of one connected maritime space, crucial for trade, energy, people and essential goods.

Strengthening maritime domain awareness, interoperability, and collaboration in underwater awareness will be key to ensuring a stable, rule-based maritime order, he said.

Singh noted that 2026 has been designated as ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation, adding it is an opportunity to turn shared interest into practical action.

He underscored the need to respond to the challenges with "practical, affordable and adaptable solutions.

"India believes that innovation should not remain limited to a few large organisations. Start-ups, universities, research institutions and smaller companies can all contribute," he noted.

"India's initiatives like Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and Technology Development Fund (TDF) have created a way to collaborate with innovators for our defence needs," he said.

Singh also called for exploring ways for innovators to work together on clearly defined problems, such as counter-drone systems, cyber defence, maritime surveillance and disaster response.

Cabinet clears Rs 53,428 cr for NSAC, revises disability pension norms

National Widow Pension Scheme will be called the 'Pradhan Mantri Vidhawa Pension Yojana'.

The Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme will be renamed the 'Pradhan Mantri Divyangjan Pension Yojana', and the National Family Benefit Scheme will become the 'Pradhan Mantri Parivar Labh Yojana'.

Launched on August 15, 1995, the NSAP provides assistance to poor households as part of the Centre's responsibility under Article 41 of the Directive Principles of State Policy in the Constitution.

The Centre provides 100 per cent central assistance under the programme to ensure uniform availability of support to beneficiaries across the country.

The revised eligibility criteria for disability pension beneficiaries are in line with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, which recognises a benchmark disability of 40 per cent and provides for disability-related assistance to be at least 25 per cent higher than that under comparable schemes for other categories.