



# STATE TIMES

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Air surcharge 50 paisa for Leh

03 Sindhu Festival a symbol of India's civilizational roots and national unity, says LG Kavinder

03 Seniors at cardiac risk need focused attention: Dr Sushil

05 Union Power Minister begins two-day tour of J&K, reviews progress of hydroelectric projects

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## India voices deep concern over US military action on Venezuela



monitoring the evolving situation," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

"India reaffirms its support to the well-being and safety of the people of Venezuela," it added.

New Delhi also called upon "all concerned to address

issues peacefully through dialogue, ensuring peace and stability of the region".

The US carried out the military assault on Caracas after consistently accusing Maduro of being involved in drug trafficking.

The Venezuelan leader had

stridently denied the charges.

Most of the Latin American countries as well as several leading powers, including Russia, Brazil and China, criticised the US for the military operation in Caracas.

In its brief statement, the MEA said the Indian embassy in Caracas has been in touch with members of the Indian community and will continue to provide all possible assistance to them.

On Saturday night, India advised its nationals to avoid all non-essential travel to Venezuela and urged all those who are in that country to exercise extreme caution.

"In view of recent developments in Venezuela, Indian

nationals are strongly advised to avoid all non-essential travel to Venezuela," the MEA said.

"All Indians who are in Venezuela for any reason are advised to exercise extreme caution, restrict their movements, and remain in

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## Rajnath to commission ICG ship Samudra Pratap in Goa today

separate oil from contaminated water," the Indian Coast Guard said.

Defence Minister Singh will commission the ship



Samudra Pratap at Goa Shipyard Limited, Vaseo, in South Goa on Monday, it said.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Indian Coast Guard Director General

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## LG flags off group of youth from South Kashmir for exposure tour



LG Manoj Sinha flagging off group of youth for exposure tour

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of 25 youth from various districts of South Kashmir for a 10-day educational, cultural exchange, experiential learning and

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JAMMU: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday asserted that India is preparing with full strength to host the 2036 Olympic Games, and declared his government was committed to providing "more and more players greater opportunities to compete" by hosting mega sporting events in the country.

Addressing the inaugural function of the 72nd Senior National Volleyball Championship, being held here, via video conference, Modi said, the government was making every possible effort to provide exposure to budding athletes to take up Olympic sports, and schemes like Khelo India were proving a game-changer in harnessing talent.

"Through the Khelo India campaign, hundreds of youth have had the chance to

harmony tour.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the youth and extended his best wishes to them.

During the 10-day long tour, the students and emerging youth leaders will visit various regions including Chandigarh, Haryana, and Shimla.

Strengthening the spirit of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat", the tour aims to promote national integration, cultural exchange, experiential learning and

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"Through the Khelo India campaign, hundreds of youth have had the chance to

advance to the national level," added Modi.

Noting that initiatives like the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) were transforming the sports ecosystem in India, with efforts focused on building strong infrastructure, funding mechanisms, and providing young

athletes with global exposure, he said that the country's growing clout in sport could be gauged from the fact that India had hosted 20 top-notch international competitions in the last 10 years.

"India has hosted more than 20 major international events across several cities, including the FIFA Under-17 World Cup, Hockey World Cup, and major chess tournaments."

Recalling the time when the government and society were indifferent towards sports, he said the past decade had brought about a massive change in the mindset of the country.

"The government has significantly increased the sports budget, and today India's sports model has become athlete-centric, with

focus on talent identification, scientific training, nutrition, and transparent selection, ensuring that the interests of players are prioritised at every level," he said.

"Today the nation is riding on the 'reform express', with every sector and every development destination connected to it, and sports being one of them," he said.

"India's progress is not limited to the economic front but is also reflected in the confidence seen on the sports field. India's performance across various sports has consistently improved since 2014," he added.

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