

!! Continuations from Page 1 !! 88 countries, organisations...

Tanzania, the UAE, Ukraine, the EU, and IFAD are also on the list. In all, about 118 countries participated in the India AI Impact Summit, which was held in New Delhi.

Among key outcomes is the Charter for the Democratic Diffusion of AI, a voluntary framework aimed at expanding affordable access to foundational AI resources and strengthening local innovation ecosystems.

The Global AI Impact Commons is positioned as a platform to scale and replicate successful AI use cases across countries.

To advance trust and safety, the declaration highlights Trusted AI Commons -- a collaborative repository of technical tools, benchmarks and best practices -- as well as development of secure and trustworthy AI systems.

An International Network of AI for Science Institutions will connect scientific communities globally to bolster AI-driven research capabilities, while 'AI for Social Empowerment platform' aims to widen equitable access to knowledge and services.

Other deliverables are AI workforce development playbook and reskilling principles (supports AI skilling, reskilling, and literacy, and prepares nations for an AI-driven economy); and guiding principles on resilient and efficient AI (with focus on energy-efficient AI systems, and supported by a playbook on AI infrastructure resilience).

The Declaration also emphasises on energy-efficient AI systems and resilient infrastructure, recognising rising demands of AI places on power and natural resources.

Voluntary Guiding Principles on Resilient, Innovative and Efficient AI, alongside a Playbook on AI Infrastructure Resilience, were acknowledged as reference frameworks. As per the official release, participants reaffirmed their commitment to advancing shared global priorities in AI governance; promoting voluntary, non-binding frameworks; and translating vision into action through continued collaboration.

The broad-based endorsement -- cutting across advanced economies, developing nations and multilateral bodies -- signals growing convergence around responsible and inclusive AI governance, with the summit positioning India as a key convenor in shaping the global AI agenda.

While earlier global gatherings, including the UK's AI Safety Summit at Bletchley Park (2023), the Seoul Summit (2024), and the Paris meet (2025) placed significant emphasis on frontier risks, safety guardrails and voluntary commitments, India widened the lens to foreground AI's developmental impact and real-world applications that can drive economic growth, social inclusion and sustainability. In essence, People, Planet and Progress.

At the AI Action Summit in Paris in February 2025, 61 nations, including India, China, France, Germany, and the African Union, were signatories to the declaration prioritising safe, ethical, open, and inclusive AI development.

The India AI Summit featured a blockbuster lineup of CEOs headlined by Google's Sundar Pichai, OpenAI's Sam Altman, Microsoft's Brad Smith and Anthropic's Dario Amodei, as discussions spanned most intensely-debated global topics in tech universe, from AI's opportunities and risks, all the way to AGI, governance and the future of jobs.

The collective presence of these influential tech voices under one roof, elevated the Summit proceedings to a centre of gravity for global tech deliberations throughout the week. The first global AI summit to be hosted in the Global South, the event saw India -- which has consistently championed the voice of developing economies in digital policy forums -- push for equitable access to AI resources and fair rule-making.

The AI Impact Summit secured investment commitments of over USD 250 billion in infrastructure with Vaishnav on Friday terming it a "grand success".

Vaishnav had said participation at the summit crossed five lakh visitors, reflecting strong domestic and global engagement with India's AI push. The India AI Impact Summit brought together global policymakers, industry leaders and technology experts, with India positioning itself as a key player in international discussions on AI governance and infrastructure development.

Be it the ministerial dialogue, the leaders' plenary, the main inauguration function, or the Summit overall, the quality of participation and dialog was phenomenal, Vaishnav had said. The investment pledges crossed USD 250 billion for infra-related capital and about USD 20 billion on the VC/deep tech investments.

Vaishnav had said the Summit reflected the world's confidence in India's role in the new AI age.

Protest at AI...

by deploying its youth wing workers to hold a protest at the summit venue, Rijiju told a press conference at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) headquarters here.

"The Congress using youngsters to defame the country -- there could be nothing more shameful than this," he said, adding, "This is not a mistake. The Congress party has committed a big crime against the country. No amount of condemnation is enough for such an act."

Rijiju said while the entire country is condemning what the Congress did at the summit venue, the leaders of the opposition party remain unapologetic.

Instead, they are justifying the "shameful" protest, calling it an expression of youth anger, he said.

"When India progresses, Rahul Gandhi and the Congress become sad. Congress leaders and workers keep hatching conspiracies round the clock to defame India," Rijiju alleged.

"I want to ask the Congress, when will you stop indulging in anti-national acts," he added.

A group of India Youth Congress (IYC) workers staged a brief protest on Friday at an exhibition hall of Bharat Mandapam, the venue of the AI summit, raising slogans against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, before being whisked away by security personnel.

Rijiju said the entire world is appreciating India for organising the summit with a proper planning and vision under Modi's leadership.

"With the AI summit, India has emerged as a global leader. It is being appreciated by everyone across the world, including in India, except the Congress and its ecosystem," the Union minister said.

"Some anti-India forces, the Congress and its ecosystem are extremely sad because India is progressing at a fast pace," he added.

Rijiju alleged that Gandhi "incites" people in coordination with anti-India forces whenever he visits abroad and "invites" them to intervene in India's internal matters.

"Rahul Gandhi calls them to attack our sovereignty," he said.

The BJP leader accused the Congress of opposing the country out of frustration as it is not able to gain people's trust and win elections.

"You can criticise the government and its policies but you cannot oppose the country. We never did so when we were in the opposition," he said.

The minister claimed that he has asked several senior Congress leaders "privately" to make Gandhi understand this but "none of them is ready to do so".

"Raising the anti-India voice every day... Taking a cue from Rahul Gandhi, the Youth Congress has come out on the streets to defame India," he added.

Made in India...

of the digital screens that you see will now be made in Jewar," Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said. UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said Jewar is emerging as a jewel not only for UP but also for the country. The development of UP will depend on the Prime Minister's vision for chips, he said.

"Today we are ground breaking for India chip. We want to establish reliable semiconductor assembly and testing facility in India. We look forward to growing together and contributing to India's growth in global technology landscape," Bob Chen, President, Semiconductor Business Group, Foxconn, said.

HCL Group Chairperson Roshini Nadar said the joint venture facility will cater to the requirement of both domestic and international markets.

Six lakh lavender...

Touqeer Bagban, a progressive farmer and young entrepreneur who has successfully motivated and engaged 2,500 farmers to switch from traditional maize cultivation to grow aromatic lavender, said the move to distribute seedlings is a major boost for lavender farmers.

"The CSIR-IIIM not only purchased six lakh seedlings from the nursery owners, but also distributed free seedlings among the new farmers who want to switch from traditional crop to exotic lavender cultivation," Bagban, who is known as 'Lavender Man of India', said.

He credited the success to the personal efforts of the Union Minister Jatinder Singh.

"The shift to lavender has led to a substantial increase in income for farmers, with earnings rising from roughly Rs 40,000 - Rs 60,000 per hectare to over Rs 3,50,000 - Rs 6,00,000 per hectare," he added.

Charak said lavender is a low-maintenance, drought-resistant, and animal-resistant crop, making it suitable for hilly regions. It provides returns for about 15 years after the first two years of plantation.

The programme has expanded significantly, with over 30 lakh free plants given to farmers, and it has now extended beyond J&K to other parts of India, including Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and north-eastern states, he said.

Shantmanu takes oath...

Referring to the pending panchayat and urban local body elections, he said, "These elections are vital pillars of our democratic framework, particularly in strengthening

decentralised governance and grassroots development. Since they have not been held for some time now, it becomes all the more important."

"I am happy to formally begin my responsibilities. I will work with full commitment to ensure effective discharge of my duties," he said.

While the tenure of municipal councils ended in October-November 2023, the panchayats and block development councils completed their five-year term on January 9, 2024. With the tenures of district development councils ending on February 24, there will be essentially no elected local bodies functioning in Jammu and Kashmir:

Officials said local body elections could not be conducted on time due to multiple factors, including the delimitation exercise and the reservation of wards for Other Backward Classes.

Recently, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah had said that his government was making necessary arrangements to hold these elections at the earliest, but the vacancy of the State Election Commissioner was a major hurdle.

Under the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act and relevant Municipal Acts, the State Election Commission holds the authority to prepare electoral rolls and conduct local elections.

On February 17, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor appointed Shantmanu as the new State Election Commissioner for a period of five years or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Shantmanu, a 1991-batch officer of the AGMUT cadre who recently retired as additional chief secretary and financial commissioner in Jammu and Kashmir, replaced B R Sharma who completed his tenure in April 2024.

Distt Admin Jammu...

Department): Similarly, in partial modification of Order No. DDCJ/CP0/2025-26/14898-900 dated 09-02-2026, the DDOs are authorized to accept an undertaking/self-declaration from employees who do not have a water connection registered in their own name within district Jammu.

This provision is also applicable only for the months of February and March, 2026.

In both cases, the undertaking/self-declaration must clearly state that the employee does not possess any electricity or water connection, as applicable, registered in his/her name within District Jammu. The district administration has directed all concerned officers, including Treasury Officers and departmental authorities to ensure strict compliance with the modified orders. Besides, the payment receipt of the latest bill, proof of water and electricity connection in the employee's own name shall also be accepted by the Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) for the purpose of drawal of salary. These measures have been taken to facilitate smooth drawal of salaries while maintaining accountability and regulatory compliance.

NMC approves 24...

healthcare facilities. "This development marks another milestone in the Government's ongoing healthcare reforms and reinforces our commitment to transforming Jammu and Kashmir into a centre of excellence in medical education and specialised healthcare", Minister Sakeena said.

Pertinently, the NMC has approved four seats in DM Cardiology and four seats in MCh Urology for GMC, Jammu, two seats each in DM Pulmonary Medicine, DM Cardiology, DM Medical Gastroenterology, M.Ch Urology and M.Ch Paediatric Surgery for GMC Srinagar; besides two seats each in DM Neuro-Anaesthesia, DM Paediatric and Neonatal Anaesthesia and DM Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology for Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS) Srinagar.

Crime Branch files...

of Police, SCW Jammu, Sanjay Parihar, while addressing the media, cautioned the public against falling prey to such fraudulent transactions.

"People must exercise due diligence before entering into property deals. Hard-earned money should never be paid in advance without proper verification of land title, revenue records, and the credibility of the seller. A simple verification process can prevent significant financial loss," he said.

He further appealed to citizens to consult revenue authorities and legal experts before finalizing property transactions to safeguard themselves from fraud.

Visa Fraud Case: Special...

The search team was led by Inspector Kali Charan, Investigating Officer, SCW Jammu, under the overall supervision of Sanjay Parihar, SSP, Special Crime Wing, Crime Branch Jammu.

Naxalism to end...

he said. In the second event of the day, Shah asserted that if India can be free of Naxals, it can also be free of infiltrators.

"Illegal immigrants would be removed not only from the electoral rolls but also from the country in the next five years", Shah said.

He was addressing a gathering after laying the foundation stone for a new campus of the Assam Police 10th Battalion, which he said would be constructed on 347 acres of land freed from encroachments by infiltrators in the state's tribal belt.

Attacking Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Shah said that the Congress leader had once said that infiltrators would be removed, but the grand old party cannot do it as "illegal immigrants are its votebank".

"It is not enough to just evict infiltrators from encroached lands; they must also be sent out of India," the BJP leader said.

He said the EC is conducting the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in several states, and it is obvious that the infiltrators will be identified, but "Rahul Gandhi is protesting the exercise, and hurling one bomb after another; but those do not make sounds of even firecrackers".

Shah said the new campus of the battalion will be developed on land freed from encroachments by infiltrators.

"It is, however, not enough to evict the infiltrators from encroached land as they will go and settle somewhere else... They must be removed from the country," he said.

The home minister also alleged that the Congress' policy of protecting infiltrators has threatened Assam's 'jati' (people), 'mati' (land) and 'bhethi' (foundation).

"If the Congress is committed to getting rid of infiltrators, I challenge Rahul Gandhi to mention it in its manifesto," he said.

The elections to the 126-member assembly of the state are likely to be held in March-April.

He accused the Congress of encouraging infiltration, bringing the "state's demography to a crisis point".

"I want to ask: Who is responsible for Dhubri, Barpeta, Darrang, Morigaon, Bongaigaon, Nagaon and Goalpara becoming Muslim-dominated districts? It is the Congress. The BJP will make Assam free from the sin committed by the Congress of encouraging infiltration," he said.

The Himanta Biswa Sarma government has freed over 1 lakh bighas of land from encroachment by infiltrators, Shah said, adding that the CM has said that another 5 lakh bighas will be cleared over the next five years, if the BJP is voted to power. "I know him (Sarma) well... He keeps his promises," he said.

The eviction drive was carried out in two phases in September 2024 and April 2025, with the first phase turning violent and resulting in the death of two persons and injuries to 40 others.

Noting that infiltrators pose a threat to national security, Shah said, "I am happy that the threat has been neutralised and a campus for those who will protect the country will come up in an area where the Congress had encouraged illegal immigrants to settle."

On the first day of his visit, the home minister launched the second phase of the Vibrant Village Programme (VVP) for 17 states in the country from Nathanpur village in Assam's Cachar district.

He had also inspected a stretch of the Indo-Bangladesh border in Nathanpur and addressed a public meeting in the village.

This is Shah's third visit since December 29 to poll-bound Assam, where the ruling BJP is aiming to retain power for the third consecutive term.

Terror threat: Security...

indicated that Pakistan-based terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) has allegedly kept prominent religious places in India on its target list.

Sources said specific inputs suggested that a temple in the Chandni Chowk area could be among the potential targets. While the intelligence inputs are being verified and assessed, security has been stepped up in and around sensitive religious places and crowded public areas, they added. Intelligence agencies indicated that LeT could be attempting to carry out an Improvised Explosive Device (IED)-based attack.

The alleged plan is reportedly linked to attempts by the terror group to avenge the February 6 blast at a mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan, sources said. Central agencies and Delhi Police units are maintaining close coordination, and surveillance has been intensified through CCTV monitoring, vehicle checks and deployment of additional personnel at vulnerable points. Bomb disposal squads, dog squads and quick reaction teams have also been placed on standby at strategic locations, they added.

The alert comes in the backdrop of the deadly car explosion near the historic Red Fort on November 10, 2025, which killed at least 13 people and injured more than 20 others.

AWPoK refugees Chairman urges CM to ensure political representation of Hindu Paharis & PoK Refugees

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former SSP Som Raj Dutta and Chairman of Association for Welfare of PoK (AWPoK) refugees Jammu, has appealed to Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to ensure political representation for the Hindu Pahari and PoK Refugee community of Rajouri-Poonch, alleging decades of neglect and exclusion from the democratic framework of Jammu & Kashmir.



Dutta stated that nearly 31,700 PoK refugee families who migrated to this side of the border during the 1947 Partition and settled in Rajouri, Poonch and parts of Jammu have remained politically unrepresented since 1948. He said that despite successive governments in the erstwhile state and now the Union Territory, no member from the Hindu Pahari-speaking PoK Refugee community has ever been elected or nominated as Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), MLA, MLC, or appointed Chairman for the Welfare of PoK Refugees.

Describing the community's past as "tragic and painful," Dutta said many Hindu Pahari families were forced to abandon their ancestral homes, land and livelihoods during periods of conflict and turmoil. "Despite being sons of the soil, they became refugees in their own homeland," he wrote, adding that the community today stands politically unrepresented, socially marginalized, economically backward and administratively neglected. He argued that democratic systems thrive on inclusive representation and pointed out that the Constitution of India guarantees equality, dignity and participation of all citizens irrespective of religion, region or ethnicity. Dutta maintained that the provision for nominated members in the Legislative Assembly exists precisely to provide voice to communities that are unable to secure representation due to demographic or socio-political constraints. According to him, the Hindu PoK Refugees and Pahari-speaking Hindus of Rajouri-Poonch fall squarely within this category. In his letter, Dutta cited examples of other communities in Jammu and Rajouri that have historically received political representation. However, he asserted that for over 70 years, no such opportunity was extended to Hindu Pahari-speaking refugees from Kotli-Mirpur (PoK) and the Rajouri-Poonch belt. Expressing hope in the leadership of Omar Abdullah, Dutta recalled the inclusive political legacy of his father, Farooq Abdullah, and said that the Chief Minister's return to office has rekindled faith among marginalized sections. He urged the government to nominate a deserving representative from the Hindu Pahari Refugee community as MLA or MLC, appoint a Chairman for the Welfare of PoK Refugees, or designate an Advisor to the Chief Minister to address community-specific concerns. Dutta emphasized that such a decision would correct a long-standing historical injustice, strengthen national integration in sensitive border districts like Rajouri and Poonch, and uphold the constitutional spirit of equality and inclusive governance. He described the moment as a rare opportunity for transformative leadership and sought a personal hearing with the Chief Minister to present detailed facts and press the case for long-awaited representation. Concluding his appeal, Dutta stated that thousands of displaced families who have silently endured hardship for generations now look toward the government for justice, dignity and rightful participation in the democratic process.

7 drug peddlers arrested in Jammu, Udhampur; 2 pistols, heroin seized

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Seven alleged drug peddlers were arrested at different places in Jammu and Udhampur districts, police said on Saturday.

Balvinder Kumar and Sunny Kumar, both residents of R S Pura, were arrested from the Gandhi Nagar area of Jammu city and one pistol, one magazine and 21 grams of heroin were recovered from them, a police spokesman said.

Mohd Iqbal and Amit Kumar alias Jogi, hailing from Samba, were also arrested from Gandhi Nagar, and one pistol and 146 grams of heroin were seized from them, he said. The official noted that the arrests were made on the disclosure of a drug peddler who was arrested by the Gandhi Nagar police early this month.

A police party intercepted a suspiciously moving person near Canal road in Jammu and subjected him to frisking, leading to the recovery of some quantity of heroin, the spokesman said, adding that the arrested individual was identified as Yawar Fayaz of Anantnag. In Udhampur district, two hardcore drug peddlers - Mohit Sharma and Imran Khan - were arrested at Roun Dornale and Pathyal Morh and recovered 5.45 grams of heroin and 6.20 grams of heroin from their possession, respectively, police said. All the arrested peddlers were booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, the spokesman said.

9 CRPF personnel injured as vehicle falls into river in Srinagar

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Nine CRPF personnel were injured after their vehicle fell into a river here on Saturday, officials said. The accident occurred on the Dagpora-Umerhair Road in the Ahmadnagar locality on Srinagar outskirts. The vehicle fell into the river after the driver lost control of it, officials said. The injured Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel have been shifted to the SKIMS hospital in Soura, where their condition is said to be stable, they added.



Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of the Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) J&K
Phone No: 0191-2586218 (Jammu), 0194-403100 (Srinagar)
(Email id: relief-comm@jk.gov.in)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The publicin general and migrants in particular are informed that all the officers of the Head Office of the Relief Organization along with the concerned dealing assistants are available in the meeting hall of the Relief Organization, J&K on all working daysbetween 12 noon to 1PM to redress the issues of public. Besides, all the Zonal /Camp Offices in Jammu, Udhampur and Srinagar are also available and connected online with the head office during this time slot.

Any person can approach Head Office of Relief Organization at Canal Road Jammu, nearest Relief Office (Zone/Camp) in Jammu Division or the DC Relief Office in Srinagar during the specified time of public grievance redressal for registering grievance/any facilitation regarding any service being provided by the Relief Organization. The applicants can also call on 0191-2586218 (Jammu office) and 0194-403100(Srinagar Office) or call/message on 9484320655 and 9484320657).

(DrArvindKarwani)
Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner(M) J&K
Dated: 21.02.2025

DIP/J-11927/25 Dt. 22-02-26

No: RRCM/Estu/2026/607



**OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
JAMMU & KASHMIR WAQF BOARD, JAMMU**
13TH FLOOR WAQF COMPLEX (BLOCK A), RAIL HEAD COMPLEX, JAMMU
Email: adm_waqfjammu@gmail.com

Auction Notice

It is hereby notified for the information of all the concerned and general public that an open auction of contract for collection of green sheets and oil at Peer Baba Panjpeer Manda(RA) and Peer Baba Fazal Shah Sahib (RA) Mohalla Ustad, Jammu for a period of three years w.e.f. 07-03-2026 to 06-03-2029 is intended to be conducted by this office on 28th day of February, 2026 at 11:00 A.M.(sharp) in the office of the Undersigned.

Terms & Conditions:

- The minimum contract amount bid has been fixed as Rs.8,55,500/- (Rupees Eight Lacs Fifty Five Thousands and Five Hundred Only).
- All the intending participants are requested to register their names for the participation upto 27th day of February, 2026 (upto 4:30 p.m.) against the payment of Rs. 10000/- as auction security in the office of the undersigned which shall be refunded in favour of the unsuccessful bidders immediately after the auction is over.
- Nobody shall be allowed to participate in the auction or offer his bid without depositing the security amount against the proper receipt.
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% amount of offered bid within a period of 07 days from the date of allotment and the balance amount within 03 months from the date of allotment of contract through cash or Demand Draft only payable in favour of Administrator, J&K Waqf Board, Jammu.
- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the amount of offered bid within the stipulated time, the bid shall be awarded to the next successful bidder and so on, with forfeiture of the amount deposited as auction security and deduction of 25% of the amount deposited as any of the instalment as administrative charges.
- No other item other than green sheets and oil shall be allowed to collect or sold at the ziarat shariif.

DIP/J-4036-P/25 Dt.22-02-26 Administrator/Executive Officer
J&K Waqf Board, Jammu
No. JKWB-UJ/02/5692/25-26 Dated: 21-02-2026