

# Cong holding PM Modi responsible for Nehru's mistakes: Jaishankar on China issue

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
MUMBAI: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday said the Congress holds Prime Minister Narendra Modi accountable for the mistakes made by first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru when making comments on China while believing the party has no culpability for the past acts.



On Chinese belligerence in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, Jaishankar said Indian land was taken by China between 1958 and 1962, and some of it before 1958 as well.

when Chinese and Indian soldiers clashed, resulting in casualties on both sides. Since then India-China relations have been in an "abnormal state", with both sides amassing its troops along the LAC.

Attacking Rahul Gandhi, Jaishankar said it is "very very sad" to "gun down your own forces". "When you keep saying land taken by China, it was lost in 1962. I see efforts made to mislead the country," he said in response to a question at a news conference here.

The External Affairs Minister said people are saying Chinese are building villages on the border, but it is in a place called Longju (along Line of Actual Control in Arunachal Pradesh), which the Chinese attacked and occupied in 1959.

China and India have been witnessing an unease in ties, especially after the Galwan Valley incident of June 2020

"If you look at the Google map, please look at that village and triangulate it with what Nehru said to the Parliament in 1959,"

Jaishankar said. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and his party talk about a bridge being built by China in Pangong Tso in Ladakh but the bridge is being built at a place where the Chinese came in 1958 and then retook in 1962, Jaishankar asserted.

A Congress spokesperson recently said the Chinese have built a road in Shaksam Valley and claimed this has created concerns for Siachen, the EAM said. "Possibly it has concerns for Siachen. Shaksam Valley was allowed by Nehru to be part of POK and the Pakistanis handed it over to China in 1963. The

Congress party is holding Modi responsible for Nehru's actions in 1949 and for (Pakistani premier Zulfikar Ali) Bhutto's actions in 1963 but apparently they (Congress) have no culpability," Jaishankar said.

The EAM admitted there is a challenge from China, which has violated bilateral agreements and sent a large number of troops to the border.

But one should take pride in the fact that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, India counter deployed and sent a record number of troops to the border, he said.

Those troops today are at a great height and in great cold and are defending the country in very tough conditions, Jaishankar pointed out.

"So when I hear Rahul Gandhi (say) our soldiers were beaten in Yangtse in Arunachal Pradesh (in 2022) when (in reality) we pushed back the Chinese. Gunning down your system, your forces is a very very sad thing," he added.

# India-France joint military exercise 'Shakti' commences in Meghalaya

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
NEW DELHI: The seventh edition of the 'Exercise Shakti' between India and France began in Meghalaya on Monday with an aim to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake multi-domain operations in a sub-conventional scenario, the defence ministry said.

Exercise Shakti is a biennial training event conducted alternatively in India and France. The last edition was conducted in France in November 2021. The seventh edition of the exercise commenced on Monday at Umroi, in a fully developed and modern foreign training node in Meghalaya.



The joint military exercise also seeks to enhance the level of defence cooperation between the two friendly nations and boost their bilateral ties.

Exercise Shakti, being held from May 13-26, will enable the two sides to share their best practices in tactics, techniques and procedures of conducting joint operations, the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

Tactical drills to be practiced during the exercise will include response to a terrorist action of capturing a defined territory, setting up of a joint command post, establishment of an intelligence and surveillance cen-

tre, securing a helipad or landing site, small team insertion and extraction, special airborne operations, cordon and search operations besides employment of drones and counter-drone systems among others, it said.

The opening ceremony of the joint exercise was attended by Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India and Major General Prasanna Sudhakar Joshi, General Officer Commanding 51 Sub Area, the ministry said.

"The joint exercise will facilitate developing interoperability, bonhomie and camaraderie between armed forces personnel of the two countries. This will also enhance the level of defence cooperation, further fostering bilateral relations between the two friendly nations," the statement said.

The opening ceremony of the joint exercise was

attended by Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India and Major General Prasanna Sudhakar Joshi, General Officer Commanding 51 Sub Area, the ministry said.

The Indian contingent comprising 90 personnel is being represented primarily by a battalion of the Rajput Regiment, besides personnel from other arms and services. Observers from the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force are also a part of the exercise, the statement said.

"The French contingent comprising 90 personnel will be represented mainly by personnel from the 13th Foreign Legion Half-Brigade (13th DBLE)," it said.

The aim of Exercise Shakti is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake multi-domain operations in a sub-conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the United Nations Mandate, the statement said.

The joint exercise will focus on operations in the semi-urban and mountainous terrain. The objectives to be achieved from the joint training are "high degree" of physical fitness, rehearsing and refining drills for operations at tactical level and sharing of best practices, it added.

# Courts/ Tribunal cannot prescribe qualification for particular post, is a matter of policy and is to be decided by the State : CAT

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal Srinagar comprising DS Mahra (J) Member and Parshant Kumar (A) Member held that to prescribe a qualification for a particular post is a matter of policy and is to be decided by the State.

The respondents as an employer are entitled to prescribe a qualification as a condition for eligibility. It is not for the Court or the Tribunals to enlarge the scope of the prescribed qualification under the pretext of judicial review. Moreover, a particular qualification is equivalent or higher is not a matter which is to be considered and determined in exercise of the powers under judicial review. Whether a particular degree/qualification should be an essential qualification for a particular post or not is to be decided and determined by the recruiting agency.

This significant order has been passed by Central Administrative Tribunal in a petition filed by Mustaq Ahmed Nazar and others in which petitioner submitted that Respondent no.3, J&K Service Selection Board, Jammu/Srinagar, vide advertisement no. 4 of 2020, dated December 16, 2020 advertised the post of Junior Librarian in the Department of Culture, Union Territory of J&K in item no. 48 and 49 respectively. The prescribed qualification for the said posts is as follows as per Recruitment Rules

"BA/B.Sc./B.Com with Certificate Course in Library Science." Applicants in the present OA are qualified as having Bachelors Degree in Library or Bachelors Degree in Library & Information Science. The posts in item no.48 are for Kashmir Division and the posts advertised under item no. 49 are for Jammu Division. The respondents conducted a Computer Based Written Test (CBT) after receiving application from the eligible aspirants. CBT was held between October 27 to November 2, 2021.

The result of the written test was notified vide notification dated December 20, 2021. The qualified candidates were called for document verification from January 15, 2022 onwards. After the document verification was completed the respondents were expected to issue a final selection list because as per the advertisement issued no interview is to be conducted and the final selection list is to be issued on the basis of the marks obtained by the candidate in the written test alone. Since no final selection list was issued by the respondents after the document verification, the applicants have filed the present OA with the prayer to direct their B.Lib/B.Lis Degree certificate equivalent to that of the Certificate Course in Library Science and for a direction to issue the final selection list.

Counsel appearing for the applicants submitted that though the only and essential qualification for the post of Junior Librarian is BA/BSc/BCom with Certificate Course in Library Science, the applicants are better qualified and are in possession of BA/BSc/BCom with Bachelors Degree in Library Science which is superior degree than Certificate Course in Library Science. Therefore, the applicants are to be considered against the post of Junior Librarian. The learned counsel for the applicants further submit that initially the applicants were called for CBT and subsequently, also for document verification. He further submits that after the selection process is over the respondents are not issuing the final selection list under the pretext that the B.Lib/B.Lis is not equivalent to the Certificate Course in Library Science.

CAT after hearing both the sides observed that as per the Recruitment Rules the essential prescribed qualification for the post of Junior Librarian is BA/BSc/BCom with Certificate Course in Library Science and for the post of Librarian the essential qualification is BA/BSc/BCom with Bachelors Degree in Library Science. Therefore, the higher post is the Librarian and the lower post is the Junior Librarian. Accordingly, for the post of Librarian the

essential prescribed qualification is higher i.e. Bachelors Degree in Library Science and for Junior Librarian, which is a lower post, the essential prescribed qualification as per the Recruitment Rules is Certificate Course in Library Science. It is essential for the candidate applying for the post of any kind to possess the statutorily required prescribed qualification for appointment to the said post.

CAT further observed that it is clear from the Recruitment Rules for the post of Junior Librarian that B.Lib/B.Lis Degree is not a prescribed qualification. Meaning thereby, the applicants were clearly not eligible to compete and should not have been allowed to take part in the selection process. The applicants are seeking appointments contrary to the terms of the advertisement. It is a settled position that recruitment to the public services should be made strictly in accordance with the terms of the advertisement and Recruitment Rules governing the field. It is for the recruiting agency or State authorities to frame the policy of recruitment and to decide the source from which the recruitment is to be made, CAT observed.

CAT further said that if the applicants are allowed to participate in the process of selection and finally are selected for the post of Junior Librarian that will be amounting to clear violation of the Recruitment

Rules for the post of Junior Librarian and re-writing the essential qualification prescribed under the Recruitment Rules pertaining to Junior Librarian.

CAT held that to prescribe a qualification for a particular post is a matter of policy and is to be decided by the State. The respondents as an employer are entitled to prescribe a qualification as a condition for eligibility. It is not for the Court or the Tribunals to enlarge the scope of the prescribed qualification under the pretext of judicial review. Moreover, a particular qualification is equivalent or higher is not a matter which is to be considered and determined in exercise of the powers under judicial review. Whether a particular degree/qualification should be an essential qualification for a particular post or not is to be decided and determined by the recruiting agency.

CAT observed that in view of above, since the applicants are not in possession of the essential qualification as prescribed under the Recruitment Rules for the post of Junior Librarian, they are not entitled for the said post though they are in possession of higher qualification and holding Bachelors Degree in Library Science. The essential qualification for the post of Junior Librarian is Certificate Course in Library Science. As such, the applicants are not entitled for any relief.

# Second CGHS Wellness Centre opens at Trikuta Nagar



**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: The second CGHS Wellness Centre opened at Trikuta Nagar, Jammu on Monday. A brief function was held to mark its opening which was attended by the members of the Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu (CGPWA) who have been struggling for it for four five years. It is housed in a private building in Sector 4 of Trikuta Nagar. Dr Shivali Sharma has been posted there as Incharge Wellness Centre.

This CGHS Wellness Centre has been established in lieu of the Postal Department Dispensary which along with 32 other Postal Dispensaries elsewhere in the country were merged with CGHS in 2013.

The Director General CGHS on 21st December, 2018 had ordered taking over these Dispensaries and making these functional by first April 2019. But Jammu Postal Dispensary, though merged with CGHS, was not made functional as CGHS Wellness Centre resulting in immense inconvenience to the central Govt Pensioners who had to wait for a long time at the only CGHS Wellness Centre at Exhibition Ground with increasing number of beneficiaries.

The CGPWA, Jammu had to struggle hard, first to foil the attempt to shift it to Punjab, and then to restore it at Jammu by raising the issue at different levels all these years including using the good offices of the Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions Dr Jitender Singh.

Speaking on the occasion, the President of the CGPWA, Kuldeep Khoda expressed his happiness over the opening of the much delayed second Wellness Centre in Jammu to meet the requirement of the increasing number of Central Pensioners and serving employees of the Central Govt Department, and congratulated Dr Shivali Sharma & her staff for making it functional at a short notice of just three days. He thanked Dr Jitender Singh, Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pension and CGHS for his support in opening Trikuta Nagar Wellness centre.

He expressed satisfaction over the environment of Trikuta Nagar Centre and hoped that it would be properly maintained. The General Secretary CGPWA, K. B. Jandial gave the genesis of the demand of a

second Wellness Centre in Jammu beginning from the decision to merge the Postal Department Dispensaries with the CGHS and the efforts made in the past five years including raising its demand at different levels including with Union Minister Dr. Jitender Singh & at SCOVA to restore Postal Dispensary as CGHS Wellness Centre as ordered in 2018.

He conveyed the gratitude of members of the CGPWA, Jammu and his personal, to Dr. Jitender Singh Union Minister of State, Secretary Pension, V Srinivas, Director Pension, Dr Pramodh Kumar, and officers of the Additional Director CGHS Chandigarh, especially Dr Ashwani Kumar for their support in establishing this Centre.

Patron of CGPWA, S. S. Wazir, former General Secretary CGPWA J. K. Vaid, Upender Pachanda and Dr Kuljeet Kaur also spoke on the occasion. Earlier, Dr. Shivali Sharma welcomed the pensioners and thanked them for their support in establishing the Centre. Members of the Advisory Committee to Wellness Centre Jammu and other senior pensioners were also present.

## CRIME REPORT

### Drug peddler arrested; contraband substance recovered

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
KULGAM: Police arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.



A police party of Police Station Kulgam during patrolling intercepted a suspicious person carrying a nylon bag near ARTO office Kulgam. He has been identified as Aaqib Hussain Bhat son of Abdul Rashid Bhat resident of Laisoo, Guddar. During search, 3.2 Kgs of Poppy Straw has been recovered from his possession. He has been arrested and shifted to police station where he remains in custody.

Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 61/2024 under section 8/15 NDPS act has been registered in Police Station Kulgam and investigation has been initiated.

### Crackdown on illegal mining, 4 vehicles seized

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: In a drive against illegal mining and to tighten noose against the violators, Jammu Police has initiated strict

action against the criminals involved in illegal mining & minting money out of the public resources. In a surprise operation which was carried out at different locations in Rural zone of District Jammu. PP Sidhra detained one small Tipper bearing registration no. JK02AS-4231 loaded with Bajri without Form A. PS Nagrota detained one tractor trolley loaded with sand without Form A. PP Jourian detained 02 Dumper bearing Regn No JK02AX-6296 ii) JK02CU-9496 Loaded with Sand without Form A. After detaining of these vehicles District Mining Officer was informed for necessary legal actions. While giving the details SP RuralJammu, conveyed that Jammu Police is committed for protecting the public property and to eradicate the menace illegal mining in the area.

### Jammu's Cyber Cell solves online fraud amounting to Rs 2,05,000

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Cyber Cell of DPO Jammu of Jammu & Kashmir Police solved online cyber crime complaint. A complaint was received regarding financial fraud of Rs 2,05,000. The complainant Joined on WhatsApp group for trading and invested money and lost an amount of RS 2,05,000. During the investigation, the Cyber Cell DPO Jammu, acted swiftly and exhibited hectic efforts which ultimately led to put on hold an amount of Rs 1,86,164 out of 2,05,000 in online cyber crime complaint. Further investigation is underway.

### Land dispute: Tehsildar Marh invokes CrPC Sections to preserve public peace, tranquility

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A land dispute between two parties has prompted the intervention of the Tehsildar Marh at village Shahzadpur

Maratha. The dispute relates to a contentious disagreement over land ownership between Daya Ram, son of Behlu Ram, resident of Shahzadpur Maratha and Puran Chand, son of Jassa Ram, resident of Parvah, Marh.

The disputed property, located at the village of Shahzadpur near the revered Bawa Shanichar Nath Ji Kutiya, totalling an area of 6 kanals and 13 marlas. Concerns have been raised about the potential to disrupt public peace and tranquility, leading to fears of a law and order crisis.

In light of these developments, proceedings under Section 145 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) have been initiated to prevent any disturbance of peace.

Given the urgency and sensitivity of the matter, the Tehsildar has exercised powers under Section 145 of the CrPC, directing both parties to appear before the court of Tehsildar Marh on May 15, 2024 at 11:30 am. with all relevant documents pertaining to the determination of possession.

Additionally, strict action under Section 107 of the CrPC will be taken against any individuals causing a breach of peace. SHO Police Station Domana has been instructed to deploy adequate police forces to maintain order and facilitate the daily rituals associated with Bawa Shri Shanichar Nath Ji Kutiya. Until the competent court determines the title and possession, both parties are prohibited from engaging in any activities on the vacant land adjacent to the Kutiya site.

### Narco smuggler nabbed with heroin

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: Police under Operation "Sanjeevani" apprehended drug peddler namely Joginder Paul, son of Bawa Ditta, resident of Bahadrpur tehsil Arnia. The arrest took place in the Kotla Morh area of Arnia, where the accused was found in possession of approximately 3 grams of heroin (Chitta) like substance. The relentless pursuit of the police team, led by the Station House Officer of Police Station Arnia and supervised by SDPO RSPura resulted in the successful apprehension of the accused.

FIR No. 22/2024 U/S 8/21/22 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Arnia, marking a step towards curbing the drug trade in the region.

### Poonch's Cyber Cell recovers & refunded defrauded money amounting to rs 18,000

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
POONCH: Cyber Cell of District Police Poonch has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to combat cybercrime and recovered funds that were unlawfully obtained through fraudulent means to the tune of Rs. 18,000.

During the investigation, The Cyber Cell Poonch exhibited diligent efforts which ultimately led to the successful recovery Rs.18,000/.

SSP Poonch Yougal Manhas reiterated in his appeal to the general public to remain extra vigilant and report promptly to the National Helpline number 1930. SSP Poonch also appeals to common public to register cyber complaints online at www.cybercrime.gov.in and www.ceir.gov.in for lost/ Stolen Mobiles or contact District Cyber Cell Poonch official Helpline Number- 7051584103.

### Missing person traced, reunited with family

**■ STATE TIMES NEWS**  
JAMMU: A missing person was traced and reunited with family by Police Station Arnia, Jammu.

On May 7, 2024, Police Station Arnia received a missing report for Satinder Deep, son of Kamlesh Kumar, resident of Trewa, Arnia, Jammu (vide DDR No. 10 Dated 07/05/2024).

With dedicated efforts and a combination of technical assistance and human intervention, the Police team of PS Arnia diligently worked to trace missing person. After 8 days of relentless pursuit, he was successfully traced out.

Following all legal formalities the said missing person was reunited with his family, bringing relief and joy to his loved ones. The missing person report has been officially closed.