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Early, exact, easy detection key to cancer prevention, cure: Dr Jitendra

Need is for reviewing status of existing District Administrative Units & only then take to Reorganisation of Divisions in UT of J&K

Website: www.statetimes.in, Email: statetimes1@gmail.com

India's soft power will increase with growth of sports culture in country: PM Modi

My responsibility to give befitting reply to those who cast evil eye on India: Rajnath

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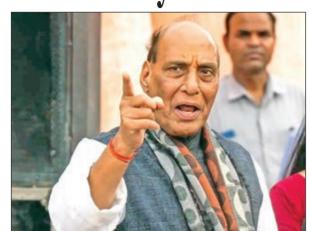
STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said it is his responsibility to work with the armed forces and give a "befitting reply" to those who cast an evil eye on India, his remarks coming in the backdrop of the recent Pahalgam terror attack.

Addressing an event here, Singh said people know Prime Minister Narendra Modi very well and are quite familiar with his working style, his determination and the way he has learned to "take risks" in his life. "I want to assure you that

under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, what you desire will certainly happen," the senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader said, without elaborating.

His assertion, however, came as India is mulling retaliatory measures against Pakistan in view of the crossborder linkages to the April



22 Pahalgam terror attack that has killed 26 people, mostly tourists.

"As the defence minister, it is my responsibility to work with my soldiers and ensure the protection of the country's borders. And it is my responsibility to give a befitting reply, by working with the armed forces, to those who cast an evil eye on our country," Singh said.

present for the ceremony.

Flowers were showered on

the devotees from a helicop-

Sounds of drumbeats,

tunes of Army bands and

thousands of devotees chant-

ing 'Jai Badri Vishal' rang

Women from Mana and

A special prayer was first

performed in the temple by

throughout.

'bhajans'

Dham.

Dharmadhikari

ter for around 10 minutes.

Tensions between India and Pakistan are on the rise following the Pahalgam attack.

Addressing an event here on April 23, a day after the terror strike, Singh had said, "The government will take every step that is necessary and appropriate."

"We will not only trace those who perpetrated this incident, we will also reach out to those who, sitting

spired to carry out the nefarious act on Indian soil," he had said.

Those involved in the in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam will get a strong response in the "near future" and India cannot be "intimidated" by such terrorist activities, the defence minister had assert-

The terror strike has drawn condemnation from several countries and world leaders. Citing the "cross-border linkages" to the horrific attack, India has promised severe punishment to those involved in it.

New Delhi has already asserted that the "perpetrators, backers and planners" of the Pahalgam attack must be brought to justice.

At a high-level meeting with the top defence brass on Tuesday, the prime minister said the armed forces

LG flags off J&K's 1st batch of Haj pilgrims from Srinagar Int'l Airport Extends greetings, best wishes for safe pilgrimage and truly fulfilling spiritual experience

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday flagged off the first batch of Haj pilgrims of the Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir from Srinagar International Airport.

The Lieutenant Governor interacted with the pilgrims and extended his greetings and best wishes for a safe pilgrimage and a truly fulfilling spiritual experience. He prayed for peace and prosperity of J&K UT and well-being of one and all.

"I extend my heartiest greetings and felicitations to pilgrims undertaking the sacred Haj journey. The divine pilgrimage is a call from almighty and a cherished and life-long dream. The central government is committed to ensure best possible arrangements for the well-being of pilgrims and their sacred pilgrimage,' the Lieutenant Governor said.

This year, around 3622 pilgrims from Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir will perform Haj pilgrimage. Srinagar International Airport is scheduled to operate 11 flights between 4th to 15th May 2025, facilitating approximately 3132 Haj pilgrims from J&K, and 242from UT of Ladakh. The Haj pilgrims



LG Manoj Sinha flagging off first batch of Haj pilgrims of Union Territory of Jammu Kashmir from Srinagar International Airport on Sunday

CM bids farewell to Haj pilgrims

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah this morning accorded a warm sendoff to the first batch of Hajj pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir, extending his best rishes for their safe journey and smooth performance of Manasik-e-Hajj.

The Chief Minister arrived at Sheikh-ul-Alam International Airport Srinagar arly this morning, where he interacted with the pilgrims before their departure. A total of 178 pilgrims boarded a direct flight to Saudi Arabia.

While interacting with the pilgrims, the Chief Minister expressed his hope for their ell-being and a spiritually fulfilling Haj-e-Baitullah. He urged them to pray for lasting peace, prosperity and progress in Jammu and Kashmir, and for protection of its people from suffering and adversity. The Chief Minister was accompanied by his Advisor Nasir Aslam Wani, Additional Chief Secretary to CM Dheeraj Gupta Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri

Portals of Badrinath open, temple adorned with 15 tons of flowers

STATE TIMES NEWS

BADRINATH: The portals of the Badrinath temple in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district were opened for devotees on Sunday after a sixmonth closure

Amid Vedic chants, the doors of the temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu were opened at 6 am. Fifteen tons of flowers of various varieties adorned the temple and an Indian Army played devotional music on the occasion.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state unit president Mahendra Bhatt and Tehri MLA Kishore Upadhyay were

'defending Pakistan' after J&K terror attack STATE TIMES NEWS

GUWAHATI: Two more persons have been apprehended in Assam for "defending Pakistan on Indian soil", taking the total number of arrested people to 39 since the Pahalgam terror attack last month, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

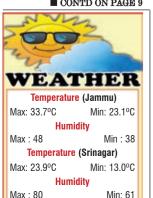
Sarma also said the two were arrested from Hojai South Salmara-Mankachar districts. "#Update on Crackdown

against traitors for defending Pakistan on Indian soil... A total of 39 Anti Nationals put behind bars till now," the chief minister said on X on Saturday night. Earlier, opposition AIUDF

MLA Aminul Islam was arrested on sedition charges allegedly defending Pakistan and its complicity in the Pahalgam terror attack.

On Friday, Sarma threatened to break the legs of those who raised the 'Pakistan zindabad' slogan in the aftermath of the Jammu and Kashmir terror

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Sunset: 19:14 Hours

Sunrise: 05:41 Hours

Air Chief Marshal A P Singh meets PM Modi

STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh on Sunday met Prime Minister Narendra Modi and is understood to have discussed the security situation arising out of the rising tensions between India and Pakistan over the deadly Pahalgam terror attack.

The meeting came less than Bemni villages performed the Jhumailo dance in the 24 hours after Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi temple premises and devoapprised the prime minister tees from other states sang on the overall situation in the critical sea lanes in the Arabian Sea.

JCO among three soldiers martyred

metre deep gorge in Jammu

and Kashmir's Ramban dis-

trict on Sunday, officials

The Army truck was part

of a convoy moving from

the chief priest of Badrinath The Air chief held a meeting with PM Modi, sources said without giving further details. There is no official Army vehicle plunges into gorge in Ramban,



word on the Modi-Singh meeting yet.

Citing "cross-border linkages" to the April 22 Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians, India has promised severe punishment to those involved in the strike. In a high-level meeting with

Deeply pained,

says Sinha

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj

Sinha has condoled the loss

of lives of army personnel

due to a tragic road accident

in Ramban. In a condolence

message, the Lieutenant

Governor has said: "Deeply

pained by the loss of lives of

our brave army personnel

due to a tragic road accident

in Ramban. My sincere con-

dolences to the bereaved

families in this hour of grief".

national highway-44.

SRINAGAR:

the top defence brass, Prime Minister Modi on last Tuesday gave the armed forces "complete operational freedom" to decide on the mode, targets and timing of the response to the Pahalgam terror attack.

Modi also emphasised the

22 injured in wall collapse during marriage function

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: At least 22 persons, including 12 women and eight children, were injured when the wall of a house collapsed during a ${\bf marriage\ function\ in\ Rajouri}$ district on Sunday, officials

The incident took place at Dhani Dhar village soon after the bride reached the house in the evening, they said

The officials said a marriage function was going on at the house of Mohammad Idrees when one of the walls of the house collapsed suddenly, causing injuries to 22

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national resolve to deal a "crushing blow to terrorism". A day after the attack,

India announced a raft of punitive measures against Pakistan, including suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, shutting down of the land border crossing at Attari and downgrading of diplomatic ties.

In response, Pakistan shut its airspace to Indian airliners and suspended all trade with India, including through third countries.

In fresh punitive measures, India imposed a complete ban on imports of all goods from Pakistan with immedi-

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challenging Waqf (Amendment) Act STATE TIMES NEWS Mehta, appearing for Centre, DELHI:

SC to hear today batch of pleas

Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Monday a batch of pleas challenging the Waqf (Amendment) Act's constitutional validity, weeks after the government paused two central aspects of the contentious law in the face of probing questions by the top

The Centre assured the apex court on April 17 that it would neither denotify waqf properties, including "waqf by user", nor make any appointments to the Central Waqf Council and boards till

Solicitor General Tushar

made the assurance while informing a bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K V Viswanathan that the law, passed by Parliament with "due deliberations", should not be stayed without hearing the government.

The Centre had also strongly opposed the apex court's proposal to pass an interim order against the denotification of Waqf properties, including 'waqf by user', aside from staying a provision allowing the inclusion of non-Muslims in the Central Waqf Council

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Pakistani troops violate ceasefire along LoC for 10th day

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Pakistani troops continued unprovoked small arms firing in different sectors along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, prompting effective retaliation by the Indian army, officials said on Sunday.

The ceasefire violation by Pakistan was reported from eight places spread across five districts in the Union Territory during the intervening night of Saturday and Sunday but there was no report of any casualty, the officials said.

This was the 10th consecu-

tive night of unprovoked fir-

ing from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir, amid heightened tensions following the April 22 terror attack in Pahalgam that left 26 people, mostly tourists, dead.

"During the night of May 3 and 4, Pakistan Army posts resorted to unprovoked small arms fire across the LoC in areas opposite Kupwara, Baramulla, Poonch,

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Sanskrit mother of nearly all Indian languages: Amit Shah

STATE TIMES NEWS

STATE TIMES NEWS

RAMBAN/JAMMU: Three

Army personnel, including a

junior commissioned officer,

were martyred when their

vehicle skidded off the road

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said there is no opposition to any language as no one can be distanced from their mother tongue and Sanskrit is the

and stronger, it will, in turn, empower every language and dialect across the country.

"While there is no opposition to any language, no one can be distanced from their mother tongue, and Sanskrit is the mother of nearly all Indian languages," he said.

The home minister said Sanskrit is not only the most scientific language in the world but also possesses an



unparalleled grammatical structure. Lauding the Sanskrit Bharati for its remarkable and courageous initiative in organising 1008 Sanskrit Sambhashan Shivirs, he said the decline of Sanskrit began even before the era of colonial rule, and its revival will require time and sustained effort.

He emphasised that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a favourable atmosphere has emerged across the country for the

Shah said the government, the public and the collective mindset are all firmly dedicated and committed to revival and promotion of

He said since 1981, Sanskrit Bharati has been working to present the vast knowledge available in Sanskrit to the world and to train and enable millions of people to speak and learn Sanskrit.

He highlighted that many renowned global scholars have acknowledged Sanskrit as the most scientific lan-

Emphasising a forward-looking approach, the home minister said rather than dwelling on the history of Sanskrit's decline, efforts should now focus on its resurgence.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the government has launched various initiatives to promote Sanskrit," he said.

He mentioned that around 18 projects have been implemented under the 'Ashtadashi' scheme, and the central government provides financial support for the publication, bulk purchase and reprinting of rare Sanskrit

Moreover, the honorarium for distinguished Sanskrit scholars has been increased, he said.

Shah highlighted that the Modi government's new National Education Policy (NEP) places strong emphasis ■ CONTD ON PAGE 9

Navigation alert issued for certain parts of Arabian Sea

STATE TIMES NEWS NEW DELHI: India's mar-

itime authorities have issued a navigation warning for commercial ships to exercise caution in view of the Indian Navy's ongoing drills in the Arabian Sea, even as Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi is understood to have briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the overall situation in the critical sea lanes, people familiar with the developments said on Saturday.

The NAV (navigation) alert comes amid increasing tensions between India and Pakistan over the Pahalgam terror attack.

It is learnt that the Navy chief met the prime minister on Saturday evening and briefed him about the situation in the maritime domain.

the people cited above said. There is no official word on the meeting yet. The people cited above said

the navigation warning alert has been issued by India's National Hydrographic Office that operates under the Indian Navy. Commercial vessels have

been advised to avoid the area to ensure safety, they said. Pakistan has already put in place its naval warnings as its Navy has ramped up its

manoeuvring in the critical sea lanes The Pakistan Navy has been carrying out intense drills and live firings in the Arabian Sea for the last few

The navies of the two countries are on high alert

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mother of nearly all Indian lan-Addressing the closing ceremony of 1008 Sanskrit Sambhashan Shivirs here, Shah said as the mother of most Indian languages, Sanskrit's promotion is not just about its revival, but also about advancing the nation's overall progress He said as Sanskrit becomes richer