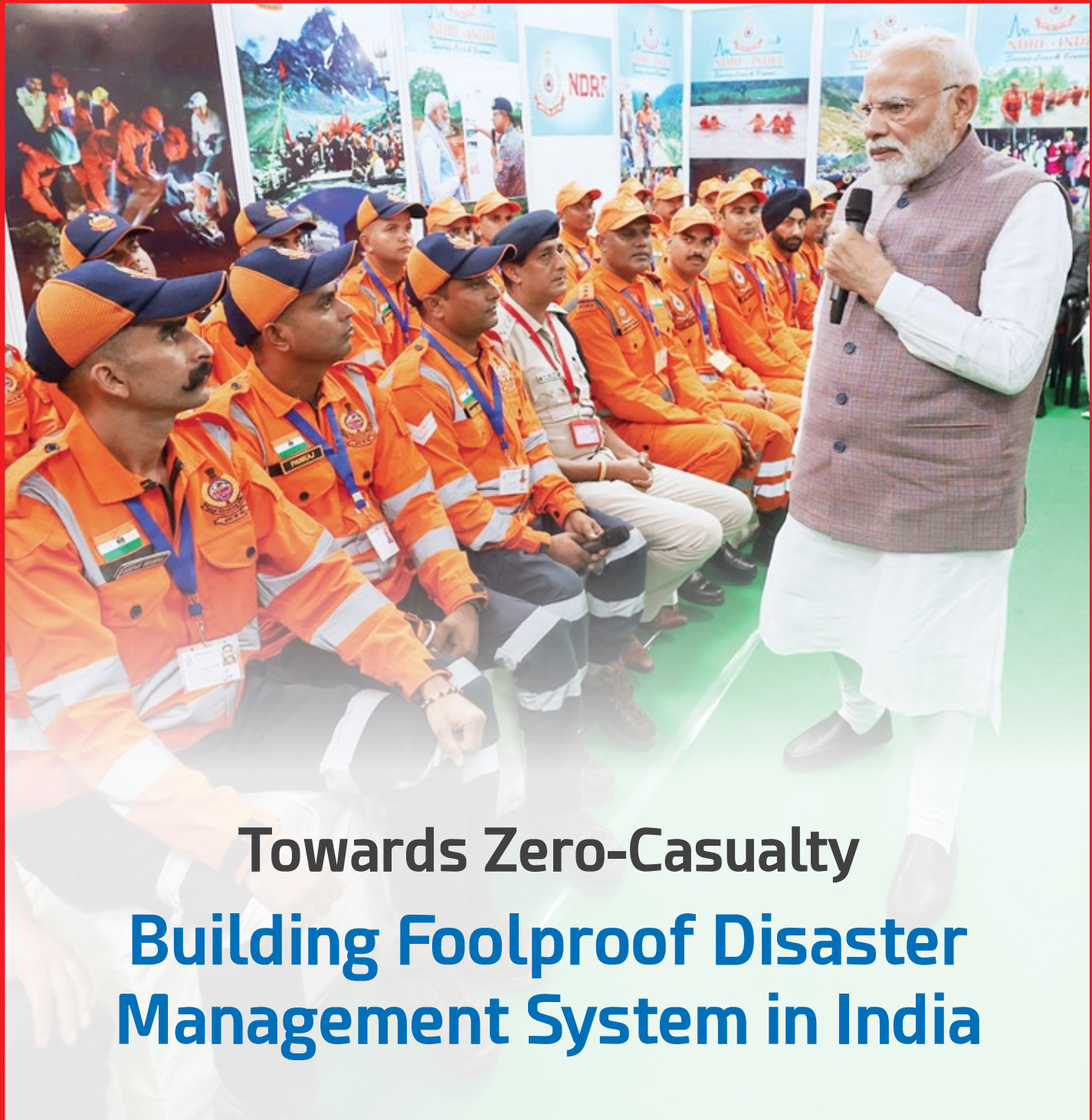


Vigilant India



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Towards Zero-Casualty Building Foolproof Disaster Management System in India

Somnath: A Sacred
Symbol of Bharat's
Eternal Soul

Tributes to Army Valour
on 1st Anniversary of
'Operation Sindoor'

Ladakh: A Living
Laboratory of Buddhist
Culture and Compassion



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I have always believed that any Government can succeed only when society itself actively participates in nation-building. Numerous programmes like the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan are major examples of this.



Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



Emerging as a symbol of trust for relief and rescue during times of disasters across the world, the NDRF has exemplified its motto "Aapda Seva Sadaiv Sarvatra" over the past two decades. At the Ghaziabad-based 8th Battalion premises of NDRF, the President's Colour Award was conferred upon the valiant soldiers of NDRF, who are symbols of indomitable courage, dedication and selfless service.



Shri Amit Shah

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation



Operation Sindoor is a powerful example of the zero-tolerance policy against terrorism of the new India. New India, under the leadership of Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, will no longer remain silent, it will enter the enemy's home and deliver a crushing response.



Shri Nityanand Rai

Minister of State for Home Affairs



Held a productive meeting with the Vietnamese delegation led by Hon'ble Minister of Public Security of Vietnam, General Luong Tam Quang in New Delhi.



Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar

Minister of State for Home Affairs



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah conducted a comprehensive review of preparations to deal with potential floods and heatwaves in the country during an important high-level meeting in New Delhi.



Ministry of Home Affairs

Government of India



Alok Mittal

Director General, BPR&D

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah has affirmed that India has moved well beyond Disaster Risk Reduction—the country is now firmly on course towards the goal of zero-casualties.

This ambition extends to every hazard, including heatwaves.

From the Editor...

Disasters occur without warning and disregard human convenience. For a country as geographically vast and climatically diverse as India, the question has never been whether they will strike, but how prepared the nation will be when they do.

The Union Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has made its consequential mark on this very aspect. India's disaster management architecture has been systematically strengthened—in its institutions, its technology, its reach and its ambition. The vision is simple: if a disaster can be forecast, its casualties can also be prevented. This thinking is visible in the extension of IMD flood and heat forecasts from three days to seven, in the pre-positioning of NDRF teams before cyclones make landfall and in the activation of heat action plans in India's blistering summer.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah has affirmed that India has moved well beyond Disaster Risk Reduction—the country is now firmly on course towards the goal of zero-casualties. This ambition extends to every hazard, including heatwaves, where the Centre is working with equal resolve to bring the death toll to zero.

Shri Shah's conferment of

the President's Colour on the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on May 14 is recognition of two decades of exceptional service—1.5 lakh lives saved, over 9 lakh people evacuated, operations carried out across floods, earthquakes, cyclones and international emergencies. But it equally honours the larger ecosystem that has grown around the NDRF: trained community volunteers, civil defence workers, panchayat-level disaster plans and a nationally coordinated early warning network.

The target is now explicit. Zero-casualties—not as a distant aspiration, but as an operational objective. The commitment to eliminating heatwave deaths, pursued with the same institutional rigour that has already reduced cyclone fatalities significantly, reflects a conviction that with the right systems and sustained will, preventable deaths can and must be prevented.

This issue explores India's transformed disaster management landscape under this Union Government—from strengthened institutions and early warning systems to a resolve that no life be lost to a foreseeable disaster. We hope our readers will find this issue insightful. Readers can reach us at sajag-bharat@bprd.nic.in

Jai Hind!



Towards Zero-Casualty Building Foolproof Disaster Management System in India

- The Union Government is transforming India's disaster management approach from 'minimum casualties' to 'zero-casualty', setting an ambitious new benchmark for protecting human lives during natural calamities.
- The Centre is working towards reducing heatwave-related deaths to zero, with enhanced forecasting, preparedness measures and proactive interventions.

Bureau

India has emerged as a global leader in disaster preparedness by transforming its approach from being primarily reactive to one that is proactive, technology-driven and community-centric. India is steadily progressing towards the goal of achieving zero-casualties during natural disasters. Marking the significant milestones in this transformative journey,

the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) was honoured with the President's Colours award at a ceremonial event held in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, on May 14.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, who was the Chief Guest at the event, conferred the prestigious award in recognition of excellence in service. The event not only celebrated the outstanding contributions of the



Always at the forefront when a calamity strikes, NDRF personnel work tirelessly to protect lives, provide relief and restore hope under the most challenging circumstances. Their skills and sense of duty exemplify the highest standards of service. Over the years, the NDRF has emerged as a benchmark in disaster preparedness and response, earning much respect internationally.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



NDRF but also underscored the remarkable progress India has made in disaster management, evolving from minimising casualties to pursuing the higher target of zero-casualty through a comprehensive 360-degree approach encompassing early warning systems, capacity building, risk reduction and global cooperation.

Setting Target: From Minimum to Zero-Casualty

Under Prime Minister Shri Modi's leadership, India has moved decisively from disaster risk reduction to the higher goal of zero-casualties. Shri Amit Shah emphasised that wherever forecasting

and prior information are available through the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and other agencies, the focus is on complete protection of lives and property.

The Ministry of Home Affairs is fully prepared to tackle challenges such as heatwaves, with the Union Government working towards reducing heatwave-related deaths to zero. This proactive stance was evident in a high-level review meeting chaired by Shri Amit Shah in New Delhi on May 10, where preparedness for floods and heatwaves was assessed comprehensively. Key improvements include extending rainfall and flood forecasts from



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacts with personnel of the NDRF, SDRF, Aapda Mitras, and other rescue teams.

Prime Minister Commends Efforts of NDRF, SDRF and 'Aapda Mitra' Volunteers

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Himachal Pradesh last year (September 9, 2025), to review the flood situation and the damage caused by cloudbursts, rainfall and landslides in the affected areas. He also called for a multi-dimensional approach to restore normalcy to the region and the lives of the people. In his address, the Prime Minister commended the efforts of personnel from the NDRF, SDRF, Army, State administration and other service-oriented organisations involved in immediate relief and rescue operations.



three to seven days and enhancing heatwave forecasting standards.

Recognising Excellence

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation highlighted that the President's Colour Award honours not only the NDRF, but the entire disaster management machinery, including State Disaster Response Forces (SDRFs), volunteers, National Cadet Corps (NCC), National Service Scheme (NSS) and local bodies from Panchayats upwards. "The NDRF personnel go anywhere in the country with the motto 'Aapda Seva Sadaiv Sarvatra' (To serve during disasters, always and everywhere)," he said, noting the force's ability to inspire confidence among citizens whenever disaster strikes or is anticipated.

Over the last two decades ever since it was founded, the NDRF has saved more than 1.5 lakh lives and evacuated over nine lakh people during floods, earthquakes, cyclones and other calamities. Its personnel have earned trust both within India and abroad through professional and compassionate operations, including the rescue of animals. The conferment of the President's Colour symbolises the courage and dedication of the force, which comprises 16 battalions and has become a cornerstone of India's disaster response. On the occasion, projects worth over ₹116 crore were inaugurated and foundation stones laid to further augment NDRF's capabilities.

Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building

The Ministry of Home Affairs, as the nodal ministry for natural disasters (excluding drought, cold waves, hailstorms and pest attacks), has enhanced coordination between Central and State agencies. The Disaster Management Act, 2005, laid the foundation by mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into development planning. Under the present dispensation, this framework has been strengthened through massive capacity building.

The NDRF has trained over 8,500 personnel, more than 10,000 civil defence workers and over 2.20



“ Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, since 2014 India has not only worked towards Disaster Risk Reduction, but has now reached a stage where the country can move towards the goal of zero-casualty. Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

NDRF's Landmark Rescue Operations



- ♦ The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) has earned nationwide as well as global trust through its professional and compassionate response in numerous disasters.

- ♦ The NDRF successfully tackled major challenges such as the devastating Jammu and Kashmir floods (2014), Cyclone Hudhud (2014) and the Nepal Earthquake (2015), saving thousands of lives under extremely difficult conditions.
- ♦ It has also demonstrated specialised expertise in handling Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies, notably during the retrieval of Cobalt-60 radiological material in Mayapuri, Delhi (2010).
- ♦ During the Turkey-Syria Earthquake (February 2023), the NDRF deployed three teams that rescued two survivors and provided medical aid.
- ♦ During the Silkyara tunnel collapse in Uttarakhand (November 2023), it had deployed two teams and successfully rescued all the 41 trapped workers in collaboration with multiple agencies.

lakh volunteers. In the last two years alone, over 10,500 boatmen have been trained, while disaster management volunteers are proving invaluable in community-based responses. Shri Shah noted that such empowerment at the grassroots level strengthens the nation's ability to tackle emergencies effectively. A dedicated instant messaging platform created by the Union Home Ministry connects officers from Central Ministries, States, Union Territories (UTs), early warning agencies and response forces, enabling timely alerts and coordinated rescue and relief operations.

NDMF: Empowering Communities

In 2021, the Union Government launched the National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF) to build societal resilience. This has now been extended to the

Panchayat level, covering 81 disaster-prone districts across 20 States and developing 20 Gram Panchayats as replicable models for local Disaster Risk Reduction. This 'bottom-up' approach integrates risk reduction into governance structures and complements efforts by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, empowering States and UTs to face calamities with greater confidence.

India's Global Leadership in Disaster Resilience

India has emerged as an undisputed global leader and first responder in disaster management, effectively translating the ancient Indian ethos of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' ('The World is One Family') into practical action. A shining example of this leadership is the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), a landmark global initiative inspired and launched by Prime Minister Shri Modi



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah graces the President's Colour Award Ceremony as the Chief Guest in Ghaziabad.



“ Wherever NDRF personnel have gone, in India or abroad, they have earned love and trust. Whenever a disaster strikes or is anticipated anywhere in the country, people feel reassured when NDRF personnel arrive, believing that now rescue operations will succeed.

Shri Amit Shah
 Union Home Minister and
 Minister of Cooperation

”

on September 23, 2019, during the United Nations (UN) Climate Action Summit in New York. Today, the coalition has grown to include 48 member countries, along with UN agencies, multilateral development banks, the private sector and academic institutions.

The CDRI focuses on promoting the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby supporting sustainable development

worldwide. It stands as a testament to India's commitment to sharing its expertise and fostering international collaboration in building a more disaster-resilient future.

Boosting Disaster Preparedness Framework

From the Odisha Super Cyclone in 1999 and Gujarat earthquake (2001) to the Indian Ocean tsunami (2004), past disasters highlighted the need for a robust framework. India has built a resilient ecosystem that seamlessly integrates policy, technology, community participation and institutional capacity, transforming the way the nation prepares for and responds to disasters.

As Union Home Minister Shri Shah affirmed, the mere sight of NDRF personnel arriving at a disaster site instils a profound sense of security and trust among 140 crore citizens. Through proactive deployment, pre-positioning strategies and continuous support to SDRFs, the NDRF has significantly minimised damage in numerous operations—from the major test of the 2008 Kosi floods in Bihar to subsequent challenges such as flash floods in Uttarakhand's Dharali, cloudbursts in Jammu and Kashmir's Chashoti, floods in Jammu, Punjab and Delhi, as well as Cyclones Montha and Ditwah that took place last year.

The NDRF has also worked seamlessly with society during major pilgrimages, including the Amarnath Yatra, Mahakumbh, Char Dham Yatra, Mani Mahesh Yatra, Sabarimala pilgrimage and Jagannath Rath Yatra in Puri, Odisha.

With its sustained focus on zero casualties, community empowerment and global cooperation, the Union Government is not only protecting lives but also establishing a global model for proactive and effective disaster management framework. This comprehensive strengthening of India's disaster management landscape ensures that the nation stands prepared to face any disaster with confidence and resilience. ■

Artificial Intelligence in Disaster Management

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has integrated Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) models into weather forecasting systems, enabling accurate seven-day advance predictions. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has developed a web-based Dynamic Composite Risk Atlas and Decision Support System (WebDCRA and DSS) for cyclone risk mitigation and response planning. The tool was effectively used during Cyclones Biparjoy and Michaung in 2023. The Central Water Commission (CWC) launched a pilot project in 2025 for AI/ML-based short-range flood forecasting models, aimed at replacing conventional techniques across river basins. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is actively using AI/ML techniques for avalanche forecasting, monitoring and detection through remote sensing data. It is also developing an AI-based Autonomous Avalanche Forecasting System under a pilot project for the Indian Himalayan region.



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah reviews preparedness to deal with potential floods and heatwaves during a meeting in New Delhi.

Prioritising Zero-Casualty Disaster Management

Bureau

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, reviewed the preparedness measures to tackle potential floods and severe heat waves in the country. He issued several important directives to further strengthen the disaster management system. Addressing a high-level meeting in New Delhi on May 10, he stated that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the country must work towards achieving the goal of 'zero-casualty' disaster management.

During the meeting, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation clearly stated that the objective of disaster management should not merely be to minimise losses, but to reduce loss of human life to zero. To realise this, strong coordination between the Centre and States, the use of modern technology and strengthening early warning systems are extremely essential. Shri Shah directed that flood crisis management teams should be constituted and made operational in each and every State across the country. He further added that an integrated system for flood forecasting should be developed at both the Central and State levels so that effective measures can be taken in a timely manner.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation instructed the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to expand the scope of the plan for developing early warning systems for high-risk lakes in Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, covering at least 60 lakes. He stated that due to climate

change, the threats posed by glacial lakes are increasing and a robust monitoring mechanism is necessary.

Shri Shah said that the Union Government's objective should be to ensure that extreme heat has the least possible impact on the agricultural sector. It is essential to ensure timely dissemination of weather forecasts to farmers and to formulate effective strategies at the local level. He stated that the time has now come for weather-related plans to reach the grassroots level. He also said that compliance with the guidelines issued by the NDMA for dealing with disasters such as floods, forest fires and severe heat waves should be reviewed at the State, district and municipal levels. He emphasised the expansion of water conservation measures through rainwater harvesting and check dam projects. He added that greater possibilities should be explored for constructing check dams on rivers to improve groundwater levels and safeguard the agricultural sector.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation stated that the funds of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (Campa) should be utilised in a multi-dimensional manner to maintain ecological balance.

He directed officials that instead of creating new apps and portals, existing platforms should be improved and made more effective. He also instructed officials to further improve studies relating to monsoon forecasts, potential loss of life and agricultural damage. He said that in recent years, extending the flood forecasting period from three days to seven days by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Central Water Commission has been a significant achievement. ■

The primary objective of disaster management till date has been post-disaster relief and rehabilitation. However, the zero-casualty approach represents a vision that extends far beyond this. It signifies reducing loss of life to zero through scientific forecasting, timely warnings, robust local mechanisms and public participation.



Union Minister of Communications Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia launches the 'Cell Broadcast System' (CBS). The system has been indigenously developed under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah.

Indigenous 'Cell Broadcast System' Launched: Now, Disaster Alerts to Reach Mobile Phones in Seconds

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The indigenous 'Cell Broadcast System' (CBS) is a major step towards further strengthening India's emergency communications system. Developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Ministry of Home Affairs, under the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, it will boost the early warning system and disaster alerts.

The Union Minister of Communications, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, launched the CBS at an event held in New Delhi on May 2, where Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Telecom Secretary Shri Amit Agrawal, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Director General Shri Piyush Anand, NDMA Secretary Shri Manish Bhardwaj, along with several departmental officials were present.

Union Minister Shri Scindia said that the CBS is a historic step towards transforming India's disaster management framework. He stated that this technology would shift the country from a 'post-disaster response' approach to a 'pre-disaster preparedness' model. He said, "This indigenous technology is capable of delivering nearly real-time and geo-targeted alerts directly to citizens.

It will ensure that timely warnings reach even the last person during the time of crisis."

The CBS is a telecom-based public warning system that can simultaneously send emergency alerts to all mobile phones present within a specific geographical area. This system is far faster and more effective than the traditional SMS-based mechanism. It is integrated with the 'Sachet' platform and can broadcast alerts within seconds without facing network congestion issues. One of its key features is that it works across all networks from 2G to 5G and can also deliver messages to users who are on roaming mode.

Along with the launch, the system was successfully tested across the country. During the test, emergency messages accompanied by a special warning tone were sent to mobile phones. This has been regarded as a major achievement in ensuring rapid dissemination of information during disasters and emergency situations. The system is capable of sending alerts in various Indian languages, enabling clear and timely communication even in remote areas.

Highlighting the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered in the field of disaster management in India, Shri Scindia also honoured individuals and organisations with the 'Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar'. During the event, guidelines and a handbook related to disaster management were also released. ■

The Cell Broadcast System technology has been successfully demonstrated not only in India but also in countries such as Mauritius, Cambodia, El Salvador and Sri Lanka. This initiative aligns with the United Nations' 'Early Warning for All' campaign.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi greets people during the Somnath Amrut Mahotsav at the Somnath Temple, Gujarat.

Somnath: A Sacred Symbol of Bharat's Eternal Soul

Bureau

In a powerful affirmation of India's civilisational resilience, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took part in the Somnath Amrut Mahotsav on May 11. The grand event commemorated 75 years of the historic 'Pran Pratishtha' of the restored Somnath Temple in Gujarat.

The Prime Minister performed 'Mahapuja' and 'Kumbhabhishek' at the sacred Jyotirlinga, where the roar of the Arabian Sea merged with Vedic chants, creating an atmosphere charged with devotion and national pride. For countless Indians, Somnath stands as far more than a temple—it is a beacon of unwavering faith, divinity and a sacred symbol of India's eternal soul. Rising resilient after centuries of invasions and destruction, it embodies the indestructible spirit of a civilisation that refuses to be erased.

“ Somnath reminds us that a nation remains strong for a long time only when it stays connected to its roots—when it passes its heritage to future generations with the same faith and devotion. ”

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Speaking as a lifelong devotee of Dada Somnath, Shri Modi reflected on his personal journey. “I have bowed before Him countless times, but today when I was coming here, this journey through time was giving me a very delightful experience,” the Prime Minister remarked.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participates in the Somnath Amrut Mahotsav at Somnath Temple in Gujarat.

Prime Minister Shri Modi drew a profound connection between Somnath's revival and India's Independence. Just four years after 1947, the 1951 consecration under the vision of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel proclaimed not only political freedom, but the awakening of India's independent consciousness. When the nation freed itself from foreign shackles, Somnath's restoration declared to the world that India was reclaiming its ancient glory, the Prime Minister observed. He saw in the temple's story the victory of truth over falsehood and the resolve of creation even amid destruction.

Looking ahead, the Prime Minister emphasised that Somnath Amrut Mahotsav is not merely about celebrating the past, but about drawing inspiration for the next thousand years. He extended heartfelt congratulations to crores of devotees on this sacred occasion.

Prime Minister Shri Modi also highlighted the coincidence of the date with another defining moment in India's history—May 11, the anniversary of the 1998 Pokhran nuclear tests (Operation Shakti). He praised the courage shown under former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's leadership amid global pressure, noting how the name 'Shakti' itself reflects

India's deep cultural ethos of worshipping Shiva and Shakti together. Linking ancient philosophy with modern achievements, he delighted in the fact that Somnath, named after the moon (Soma), connects seamlessly with India's Chandrayaan mission.

Beyond spirituality, Somnath has emerged as a powerful engine of economic and social transformation. The temple draws pilgrims from across the world, generating prosperity for local communities and livelihoods for thousands. The Prime Minister pointed to similar efforts across the country—the reconstruction of Kedarnath, the Vishwanath Dham in Kashi, Mahakal Mahalok in Ujjain, the Char Dham projects and other pilgrimage corridors—as examples of how cultural heritage and development walk hand in hand in New India.

Cultural sites are not obstacles to progress; they are centres of India's spiritual-social system and gateways to genuine development, the Prime Minister emphasised. When new generations reconnect with their roots, faith and values, the nation's inner strength multiplies, giving India the self-confidence with which it strides into the future.

As the sun set over the ancient shores of Somnath, the message was clear: this is not just the story of

a temple's revival. It is the living narrative of a civilisation that has endured, rebuilt and risen—rooted in tradition, yet reaching for greater heights. Under the guidance of leaders who honour both heritage and progress, India continues its immortal journey, with Somnath as its shining and eternal symbol.

In this context, on May 11, 2026, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi shared an article by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal, in which the reconstruction of the Somnath Temple was described as one of the earliest and most powerful expressions of national self-confidence in newly independent India. The Prime Minister stated that the article, published on the occasion of the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav, highlights an important chapter in India's cultural history. He noted that despite political opposition at the time, the reconstructed Somnath Temple was inaugurated, laying a strong foundation for India's cultural renaissance and national pride. In his message on the social media platform 'X', Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi wrote that as the nation celebrates the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav, Shri Piyush Goyal's article rightly describes the



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Somnath Temple during the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav in Gujarat.

reconstruction of the Somnath Temple as one of the earliest manifestations of national self-confidence in independent India. The Prime Minister further observed that despite resistance from sections of the political establishment of that era, the reconstructed temple was inaugurated. He emphasised that the event was not merely the restoration of a religious shrine, but a historic moment that gave new direction to India's cultural resurgence, civilisational consciousness and national self-respect.■



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi witnesses thrilling aerial display by the Surya Kiran Aerobatic Team at Somnath Temple complex in Gujarat.

Somnath Temple: An Enduring Strength of Sanatan Culture

Bureau

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, extended his heartfelt greetings to the people of the country on the occasion of the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the reconstruction of Somnath Temple. Shri Shah said that the Somnath Temple stands as a timeless symbol of the enduring strength, unbroken tradition and immortality of Indian Sanatan culture.

In a message posted on social media platform X, Shri Amit Shah said that despite countless invasions and repeated attempts to destroy it, the Somnath Temple has risen every time in an even grander form. He said this stands as proof that every attempt to erase Sanatan Sanskriti has only made it emerge with greater brilliance and pride. Shri Shah added that the saffron flag fluttering atop the sacred spire of the Somnath Temple is a powerful symbol of India's cultural continuity, faith and timeless civilisation. He said the temple continues to serve as a source of inspiration for the nation's spiritual consciousness and rich cultural heritage.

Offering prayers to Bhagwan Shri Somnath Mahadev, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, prayed for



the removal of all obstacles from the lives of the people and sought the deity's blessings for the nation's continued progress, happiness, prosperity and well-being. He concluded his message with the chant, "Har Har Mahadev", and extended his best wishes for the successful celebration of the Somnath Amrit Mahotsav.

Earlier, on April 28, 2026, during the flag-hoisting ceremony at the Somnath Temple in Gujarat, Shri Amit Shah had described the temple as a timeless symbol of India's Sanatan tradition. In a message on the social media platform X, Shri Amit Shah said, "Performed the flag-hoisting ceremony at the Shri Somnath Temple. Even after countless attacks, this flag, flying proudly atop the Shri Somnath Mahadev Temple, conveys a message to the entire world about the continuity and immortality of Sanatan culture." ■

Tributes

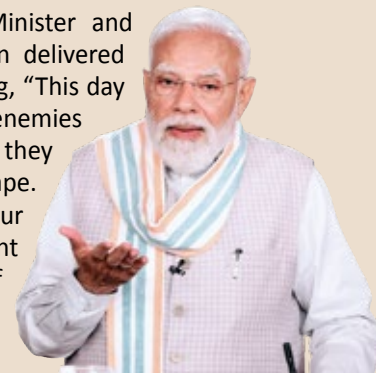
Tributes to Army Valour on 1st Anniversary of 'Operation Sindoor'

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, paid tributes to the unparalleled courage and valour of the Indian Armed Forces on the first anniversary of 'Operation Sindoor'. In his social media post on May 7, he stated that 'Operation Sindoor' is a remarkable example of the strong determination of India's security apparatus, intelligence agencies and political leadership. He described it as a mission that sent a clear message that India is capable of going to any extent to safeguard its security and protect its citizens.

Shri Shah said, "Operation Sindoor is a historic mission of India. History will remember it as the day when the precise striking capability of our Armed Forces, the sharp intelligence inputs of our agencies and resolute political will stood together and destroyed

terrorist hideouts located across the border." He stated that the operation was a decisive response against those terrorist forces that had dared to target Indian citizens in Pahalgam.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation delivered a strong message, saying, "This day will forever remind our enemies that no matter where they hide, they cannot escape. They remain under our watch every moment and within the reach of the fierce wrath of our striking capability." ■



“ **Precise striking power of our armed forces, meticulous intelligence of our agencies and resolute political will rising together as one to destroy each and every address of terror across the border.**

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation

“ **A year ago, our Armed Forces displayed unparalleled courage, precision and resolve during Operation Sindoor. They gave a fitting response to those who dared to attack innocent Indians at Pahalgam. The entire nation salutes our forces for their valour.**

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Ladakh: A Living Laboratory of Buddhist Culture and Compassion



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah inaugurates an exhibition of the holy relics of Bhagwan Buddha in Leh.

Bureau

Nestled in the serene surroundings of the Himalayas, Leh became a witness to a historic moment on the sacred occasion of Buddha Purnima, infusing new energy into India's cultural consciousness. The inauguration of the exhibition of the sacred relics of Bhagwan Buddha by the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, on May 1, was not only a religious-cultural event, but also an occasion for the rediscovery of India's ancient spiritual heritage and a renewed cultural dialogue.

The arrival of the sacred relics of Bhagwan Buddha in Ladakh after nearly 75 years holds special significance for the region. This is not only a matter of reverence for the Buddhist community, but also a moment of inspiration for all Indians who believe in India's pluralistic and coexistence-based civilisation. Buddha Purnima itself is an extraordinary occasion. The fact that Bhagwan Buddha's birth, enlightenment and Mahaparinirvana occurred on the same day is a remarkable event in human history. This is why the day is not confined only to religious rituals, but also carries a global message of introspection, compassion and peace.

In his address, Shri Shah described Ladakh as the "living land of Dhamma." He stated that this Buddha Purnima is a golden and auspicious opportunity for the people of Ladakh. The arrival of the sacred relics of Bhagwan Buddha here after 75 years on the holy occasion of Buddha Purnima would inspire not only followers of Buddhism, but also adherents of other

Ladakh was an ancient centre of Kashmir's Buddhist studies, Mahayana philosophy and Buddhist art and from there Ladakh first received contact, association and spiritual engagement with Buddhism. The envoys of Emperor Ashoka laid the foundation of Buddhist influence in Ladakh.

Shri Amit Shah

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

faiths, he added.

Shri Shah stated that Ladakh's spiritual identity has been shaped by four major Buddhist traditions—Nyingma, Kagyu, Sakya and Gelug—whose teachings continue to serve as a source of inspiration for humanity across the world. These traditions convey to the world the message of balance between self-reflection, discipline, knowledge and spiritual practice.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that the teachings of these four traditions provide the right direction towards life. The first teaching is to accept reality exactly as it is. The second considers the blessings of the Guru and continuous self-reflection as the gateway to

Boosting Spiritual and Cultural Tourism in Ladakh

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed happiness over the inauguration of the 'Sacred Exposition of the Holy Relics of the Tathagata' in Leh. He stated that it offers a valuable opportunity for the people of Ladakh to pay tributes to Bhagwan Buddha. He added that this would also boost spiritual and cultural tourism in the region.

In a social media post on May 2, Shri Modi noted that these sacred relics, associated with the Piprahwa Stupa in Kapilavastu, embody the eternal teachings of Bhagwan Buddha. They were discovered during the end of the 19th Century. He mentioned that the exhibition would also travel to Zaskar in the coming days.

The Prime Minister said, "It is a matter of immense delight that yesterday, on the occasion of Buddha Purnima, the 'Sacred Exposition of the Holy Relics of the Tathagata' was inaugurated in Leh. These revered relics are linked to the Piprahwa Stupa in Kapilavastu and were excavated during the closing years of the 19th century. They embody the enduring teachings of Bhagwan Buddha."



liberation. The third tradition teaches that knowledge is incomplete without spiritual practice and spiritual practice without knowledge is blind. Therefore, the balance between the two is the correct path. The fourth teaching emphasises moral discipline, because without it, a wise and enlightened life is not at all possible.

Shri Shah said that the message emerging from the sacred land of Ladakh today is inspiring the entire world towards balance, peace and progress in life. He stated that the presence of the sacred relics of Bhagwan Buddha in Ladakh reminds people of India's ancient civilisation, which has, for thousands of years, spread the message of peace, compassion and coexistence. He further said that in regions such as Ladakh and Kargil, which are rich in diversity, this message becomes even more relevant.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation said that India's spiritual heritage continues to teach the world that during times of conflict and unrest, the path of peace, compassion and tolerance alone can provide a lasting solution. His statement was not merely a formal expression of praise, but a declaration of historical truth. For centuries, Ladakh has remained an important centre of Buddhist thought, Mahayana philosophy and spiritual practice. Whenever Buddhist traditions across the world faced challenges, this Himalayan region played a vital role in preserving and nurturing that wisdom. The Dalai Lama once remarked that this land is far more than a geographical region, it is a vibrant centre of Buddhist culture and compassion.

This heritage of Ladakh, infused with the memory of the past, serves as a guiding light for the present and the future. Today, when the world is passing through an era of violence, intolerance and conflict, Bhagwan Buddha's 'Middle Path' appears more relevant than ever before. Between the 7th and 10th Centuries, the Mahayana and Vajrayana traditions reached Ladakh from Tibet, enriching the message of the 'Tathagata' in the region. Thereafter, a decisive contribution came during the 10th and 11th Centuries, when Sanskrit scriptures were translated into the Tibetan language. As many as 108 monasteries were established, including the founding of the Alchi Monastery in Leh, giving Buddhism an institutional and enduring form.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation urged the Ladakh administration to make complete arrangements for followers of all faiths, especially Buddhism, to visit and pay their respects here. He said that when Bhagwan Buddha attained enlightenment and spread his teachings through monks, his wisdom was highly relevant at that time, and today, even after 2,500 years, the teachings of Bhagwan Buddha have become even more relevant for the world.

The event also highlighted India's cultural strength, which presents a remarkable example of unity in diversity. The exhibition of the sacred relics of Bhagwan Buddha in multicultural regions such as Ladakh and Kargil conveys the message that the soul of India resides in dialogue, coexistence and inclusiveness. ■

Govt Committed to Build a **Cybersecure India**

Bureau

The Union Government is continuously taking concrete measures to protect the country from cybercrimes. In this direction, an important Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) on May 12, to effectively curb cyber-enabled financial frauds. The objective of this agreement is to identify and prevent the growing number of mule accounts in the banking and digital payments ecosystem, thereby ensuring a safer environment for citizens during digital transactions.

The agreement is specifically focused on sharing fraud-risk intelligence, providing analytical support and strengthening operational coordination. Through this collaboration, capabilities will be developed to detect and prevent cyber fraud at an early stage itself. The initiative is being considered a major step towards making India's digital banking framework more secure, robust and trustworthy.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah described the initiative as a major achievement in the fight against cybercrime through a post on the social media platform X. He stated that the Union Government is continuously working towards building a cybersecure India and is utilising new technologies and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this direction. He further emphasised that mule accounts are a major enabler of cybercrimes. He said that using the power of AI in the fight against cyber fraud, the I4C has signed an MoU with the RBIH. This initiative will integrate data from I4C's suspect registry into an AI-powered fraud detection system, enabling the rapid identification and elimination of hidden mule accounts and will provide citizens with



Let us always be vigilant against digital frauds and digital arrests! Let us support the efforts of the RBI in this direction.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

a next-generation security shield against cybercrime.

The statement of the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation clearly indicates that the Centre is adopting a zero-tolerance policy towards cybercrime while developing technology-driven solutions. The MoU was signed by IG (Administration) of the I4C, Smt Roopa M and Chief Executive Officer of the RBIH, Shri Sahil Kinny. Several senior officials were present on the occasion. The ceremony was attended by Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Shri Rohit Jain, Special Secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs Shri Anand Swaroop, Joint Secretary (CIS) Shri Rakesh Rathi, CEO of the I4C Shri Rajesh Kumar, along with several senior officials from the Reserve Bank of India, RBIH and I4C. ■

Agreement



The Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre and the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub signed a Memorandum of Understanding to effectively tackle cyber-enabled financial fraud.

Union Govt's Total Commitment to Obliterate Drug Cartels

Bureau

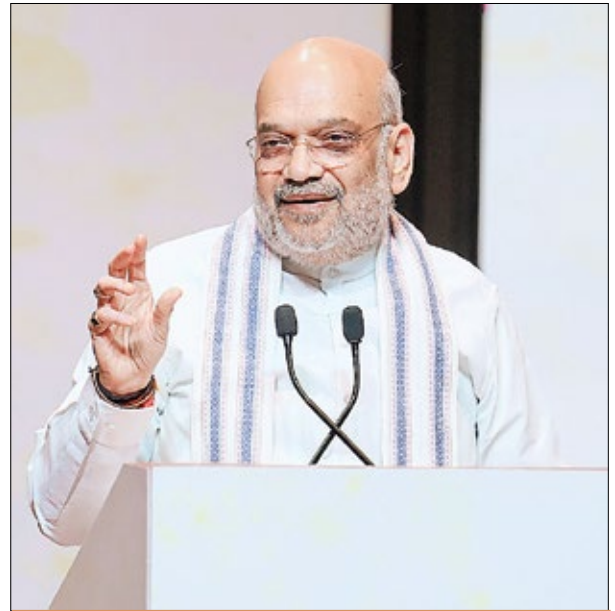
Drug trafficking in the country is no longer a law-and-order challenge, it has become a serious threat linked to national security, the future of the youth and social stability. At such a critical juncture, the seizure of 349 kilograms of high-quality cocaine by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) under 'Operation White Strike' in Mumbai and nearby logistics corridors clearly indicates that the Union Government is now moving ahead with a decisive and aggressive strategy against drug cartels. The operation was the result of more than six months of continuous intelligence gathering and surveillance by the NCB.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, shared information about this operation on social media on May 1. The recovery of cocaine worth nearly ₹1,745 crore by the NCB is a major enforcement action and a significant blow to the organised international network that was attempting to use India as a drug transit and consumption market. The most important aspect of this operation is that it was not the result of any accidental tip-off, rather, it was the outcome of over six months of continuous intelligence surveillance, information analysis and precise strategic coordination.

This clearly demonstrates that investigative agencies are no longer confined to seizing small consignments but are now working toward reaching the entire supply chain, financial networks and international connections. This is precisely why Shri Shah described it as an excellent example of the "bottom-to-top approach."

Over the past few years, the Union Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has not limited its 'zero-tolerance' policy against narcotic substances to mere slogans, but has made efforts to transform it into concrete ground-level action. Enhanced border surveillance, cooperation with international agencies, striking financial networks and technology-based modern investigative methods have given a new edge to this campaign.

The use of logistics hubs such as Kalamboli and Bhiwandi in Mumbai indicates that drug traffickers are now employing highly organised and technologically



We are resolved to ruthlessly crush the narcotics cartel. The NCB has cracked down on a major international narcotics ring seizing 349 kilograms of high-grade cocaine worth ₹1,745 crore in Mumbai. This is a trailblazing example of bottom to top approach.

Shri Amit Shah

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

advanced methods. Concealing cocaine inside cricket pads and gloves, as well as transporting it within hollow spaces inside machines, proves that smuggling techniques are becoming increasingly sophisticated. In such a situation, it is extremely important for agencies to strengthen their vigilance and technological capabilities. It is also noteworthy that, on an average, 200 to 300 kilograms of cocaine are seized annually in India, whereas 349 kilograms of the contraband was recovered in this single operation alone. This clearly shows that the network was large and well-organised. ■

A Journey Towards **Viksit Bharat**



Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai welcomes the President of Vietnam, Mr To Lam in New Delhi.

Bureau

The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai, welcomed the President of Vietnam, Mr To Lam, on his arrival in New Delhi on May 5. In a social media post, Shri Rai said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' would give new momentum to the strong, deep-rooted and multidimensional relations between India and Vietnam through this important and historic visit of Mr To Lam.

- ♦ On May 12, Shri Rai conveyed his heartfelt wishes on the social media platform X to Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma upon taking oath as the Chief Minister of Assam, along with all the leaders sworn in as ministers. He expressed confidence that under the visionary guidance and dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, Assam would witness rapid progress in development, good governance, cultural heritage and public welfare.
- ♦ On May 14, Shri Rai participated in meetings organised in the Ujiarpur South, Sarairanjan North, Tajpur North and Tajpur South mandals of the Ujiarpur Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar and interacted with party workers. He also urged the workers, in line with the appeal made by Prime Minister Shri Modi, to conserve fuel in view of the current global situation and the rising challenges related to diesel and petrol.
- ♦ The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, in a social media post on May 7, stated that he held a meeting in New Delhi with a delegation led by Vietnam's Minister of Public Security General Luong Tam Quang. During the meeting, discussions focused on enhancing



Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar meets a delegation led by Vietnam's Minister of Public Security, General Luong Tam Quang, in New Delhi.

cooperation in areas such as the prevention of trans-border crime, cybersecurity, counter-terrorism, UN Peacekeeping Operations and training and capacity building. He noted that the meeting reaffirmed the strong and growing partnership between India and Vietnam and an agreement was reached to further deepen bilateral security cooperation. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, India is continuously strengthening strategic and security partnerships with friendly nations.

- ♦ On May 10, Shri Kumar stated that Telangana alone has received a railway budget allocation of nearly ₹5,500 crore. Writing on the social media platform X, he added that railway projects worth around ₹50,000 crore are currently underway across the State. He described this as a reflection of the scale of infrastructure expansion under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi.
- ♦ On May 12, Shri Kumar congratulated Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma on taking oath once again as the Chief Minister of Assam. He stated that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, Assam has made massive progress in the areas of good governance, development and public welfare.
- ♦ On May 13, Shri Kumar stated on the social media platform X that the Union Cabinet had approved several major projects worth more than ₹3.18 lakh crore, reflecting India's progress in the fields of agriculture, infrastructure, energy and connectivity. He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, new momentum is being given to the welfare of farmers, modern infrastructure and India's journey of development.■

A New India Empowered by Security, Sensitivity and Coordination

India's internal security framework is progressing today with a level of strength and a comprehensive approach that is no longer confined only to border surveillance and defence. The scope of security has now expanded to include stringent action against terrorism and insurgency, the protection of modern transportation systems, rapid relief and rescue operations during disasters, as well as building trust and engagement with individuals in society. Recent developments from different parts of the country present a clear picture of this evolving and strengthened security framework.

Bureau

Assam Rifles Achieves Major Success in Manipur, Large Cache of Arms and Ammunition Recovered



Acting on specific intelligence inputs, the Assam Rifles recovered a large cache of arms and ammunition during a special operation conducted on May 7 in the Maranmei Hill Range area of Senapati district in Manipur. The operation was carried out by 16 Assam Rifles based on intelligence received from Assam Rifles Field Intelligence Unit (ARFIU) and 3 Counter Insurgency Battalion (3 CIB), along with inputs from its own sources. This operation is being considered a major success in efforts to curb insurgent activities and strengthen the security environment in the region.

The recovered weapons included one AK-47 rifle (with magazine), one MP-5 rifle (with magazine), one .303 rifle (with magazine), two .22 rifles (with magazines), four locally manufactured bolt-action rifles, three .32 pistols (with magazines), two .22 pistols (with magazines) and one locally manufactured shotgun. Additionally, four rounds of 5.56mm, 15 rounds of 9mm, 20 rounds of .303, 20 rounds of .32, four rounds of 62x54mm sniper ammunition and 16 rounds of 12-bore ammunition were recovered, along with empty cartridges and spare rounds. Assam Rifles stated that the recovery of such a large quantity of

weapons is a significant step towards disrupting the illegal arms supply chain. The operation reflects the force's commitment to maintaining peace and security in the Northeast.

CISF Takes Over Security Responsibility of 'Namo Bharat' Corridor



In a significant milestone for urban transport security in the National Capital Region (NCR), the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) officially assumed responsibility for the security of the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) 'Namo Bharat' corridor during a formal ceremony held at New Ashok Nagar in Delhi on April 7.

During the ceremony, Shri Shalabh Goel, Managing Director of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), symbolically handed over the insignia key to Shri Praveer Ranjan, Director General of the CISF, formally transferring the security responsibilities. This step is being regarded as an important initiative towards further strengthening the security framework of 'Namo Bharat', India's first high-speed Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS). The move is expected to enhance passenger safety, surveillance capabilities and emergency response mechanisms, making them more effective and robust.

It is noteworthy that the 'Namo Bharat' Corridor is one of the country's modern transportation

Disaster Relief Mock Drill Successfully Conducted

Emphasising that rapid response, effective coordination and strong preparedness during disasters are the keys to saving lives, the 38th Battalion of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) at Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh successfully conducted a 'Disaster Rescue and Relief Exercise Programme' at Bomdila Nala on May 12. The joint mock drill saw active participation from personnel and officials of the Army's 190 Brigade, NDRF, SDRF, Fire Brigade, ITBP, SSB (RRT), Arunachal Pradesh Police, Civil Police, District Disaster Management Office (DDMO) and NCC. During the exercise, the participating agencies effectively demonstrated safe rescue operations, first aid procedures and rapid evacuation processes. The primary objective of the exercise was to make disaster relief and rescue operations faster, more coordinated and more effective in the event of an emergency. With the participation of 179 personnel, the exercise emerged as a strong example of excellent inter-agency coordination, operational readiness and disaster management capability among various security and disaster response agencies. Such joint exercises strengthen the preparedness of the forces to deal with any future natural or man-made disaster and play a vital role in ensuring the safety and security of the general public.



projects, developed with the objective of ensuring fast, safe, and seamless mobility across the National Capital Region. With the CISF taking over the security responsibility, the security arrangements of this high-speed transit system have now been further reinforced and strengthened.

Chhattisgarh Police Connects Rural Communities Through 'Manwa Police-Manwa Nate' Campaign



The Chhattisgarh Police is running the 'Manwa Police-Manwa Nate' campaign with the objective of connecting villagers residing in remote and inaccessible areas to the mainstream and strengthening the foundation of development. Under this initiative, police personnel are reaching out to villagers, listening to their concerns and helping them access various Government welfare schemes.

As part of this campaign on May 12, a Civic Action Programme and a Mobile Police Station (Chalit Thana) were organised in village Marrameta, under the jurisdiction of Bhairamgarh Police Station. A large number of villagers participated in the programme and interacted directly with police officers. During the event, the grievances and concerns of the villagers were heard and they were provided information

about various Government welfare schemes. Discussions were also held on issues related to education, healthcare, security and development.

According to the Chhattisgarh Police, the objective of this initiative is to create an atmosphere of trust in remote areas, connect rural communities to the mainstream and accelerate the development process. Continuous efforts are being made to strengthen communication and cooperation between the police and local residents through this campaign, thereby providing renewed momentum to peace, security and development in the region.

NIA Arrests Key Hizbul Mujahideen Operative

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested narco-terrorist Iqbal Singh alias Shera after successfully securing his extradition from Portugal through sustained diplomatic and legal efforts. Shera, a key accused in the Hizbul Mujahideen narco-terror module case, was brought to India on May 13 and taken into custody by an NIA team at the Delhi airport upon arrival.

According to the NIA, Shera absconded to Portugal in 2020 and was wanted in connection with the Narco-Terror Module case. A non-bailable warrant was issued against him in October 2020, while an Interpol notice was active since June 2021.

Investigators identified Shera as a major conspirator involved in smuggling heroin from a neighbouring country into Punjab and financing terror activities through hawala channels linked to Pakistan and Jammu and Kashmir-based Hizbul Mujahideen operatives. ■



Nyaya Sanhita Ensures Time-bound Justice for Crimes Against Women and Children

Courts are delivering uncompromising sentences in cases involving crimes against women and children, cyber fraud and murder under the Nyaya Sanhita. The swift delivery of justice is being powered by scientific investigation techniques, meticulous preservation of digital evidence through e-Sakshya, advanced forensic analysis and rigorous time-bound procedures—together strengthening prosecution and ensuring conviction.

Bureau

Man Gets Life Imprisonment in Murder Case

Murder is considered one of the most heinous crimes and the Nyaya Sanhita contains stringent provisions for ensuring strict punishment to offenders involved in such grave offences. In one such case, a Court in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, convicted an accused and sentenced him to life imprisonment with a fine of ₹50,000 under Sections 103(1), 238, 315 and 317(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on May 8. The case pertains to the murder of a trader inside his rented house in Jhansi, where the accused, who was working as his servant, murdered him and attempted to destroy evidence by burning the body before fleeing from the scene. An FIR was registered on July 29, 2024 at Kotwali Police Station in Jhansi.

During investigation, Police conducted forensic examination of the crime scene, recorded statements of witnesses, recovered ₹47,000 belonging to the deceased from the accused and also recovered an iron pipe used in the offence. The investigation further involved digital preservation of evidence through the e-Sakshya and Medico-Legal Examination and Post Mortem Reporting System (MEDLEaPR) portal. The chargesheet was filed within the prescribed statutory period on September 29, 2024. The Court, after appreciation of oral, documentary, medical, forensic and electronic evidence, convicted the accused under Sections 103(1), 238, 315 and 317(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. It held that the prosecution had successfully established the chain of circumstances linking the accused with the murder. The case highlights how due to scientific investigation, forensic evidence and digital documentation under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita framework is strengthening the prosecution and ensuring conviction.



Four Given Life Imprisonment in Rape and Murder Case

Courts across the country are increasingly relying upon the provisions of the Nyaya Sanhita to impose harsher punishment in serious offences involving violence against women and children. In one such case, a Court in East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, convicted four accused under Sections 70(1), 103(1) and 238 read with Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on March 16, 2026, sentencing each accused to rigorous imprisonment for life along with additional terms of imprisonment and fines. The Court directed that all sentences shall run concurrently.

The incident occurred on October 15, 2024, in Kadium Police Station area, when the woman, returning from work, was intercepted by the four accused who were in an inebriated state. She was forcibly taken to nearby location, sexually assaulted while she was unconscious and was robbed of her ornaments. The assailants threw her into the Godavari irrigation canal to conceal the crime.

A missing report was lodged on October 16, 2024 and an FIR was registered at Kadium Police Station. The victim's body was recovered on October 17. Police conducted a 100% forensic visit, post-mortem (uploaded to the MedLEaPR portal), DNA profiling, recovery of ornaments and material objects, witness examination, confession-linked evidence and preservation of electronic records on the e-Sakshya. The chargesheet was filed on April 2, 2025 and charges were framed on November 18, 2025.

The Court held that the prosecution successfully established the guilt of all the accused through oral, forensic, medical and electronic evidence. All four were sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for life under Sections 70(1) and 103(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Additional rigorous imprisonment of





Three Convicted in Child Harassment Case

A Court in Cuttack, Odisha, convicted three persons in a child harassment case and sentenced them to rigorous imprisonment along with monetary fines under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. The prime accused was awarded three years of rigorous imprisonment, while the two co-accused were sentenced to one year of rigorous imprisonment each under Sections 76, 296(3)(5), 115(2) and 329(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on November 14, 2025.

The incident occurred in the Madhupatna area of Cuttack on January 1, 2025, when a minor girl studying in Class IX was stalked and repeatedly harassed while going to school. According to the case record, the accused also attempted to force entry into her house, abused the minor's family using filthy language and threatened them.

An FIR was registered on the same day at Madhupatna Police Station under Sections 74, 76, 296, 3(5), 115(2) and 329(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 12 of the POCSO Act. The investigation was carried out promptly, witness statements were recorded before the Magistrate and digital evidence was collected through the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), including e-Sakshya. The chargesheet was filed on January 30, 2025, charges were framed on August 18, 2025.

The case highlights the role of the Nyaya Sanhita in ensuring stringent action and timely justice for offences against women and children. The provisions reinforce accountability and contribute to a more effective legal



response in sensitive cases involving child safety and protection.

Man Gets 20-Year Jail Term for Raping Minor

A Court in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on October 9, 2025, convicted a man accused of raping a minor under Section 64 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, along with Section 6 of the POCSO Act, sentencing him to rigorous imprisonment for 20 years and a fine of ₹50,000.

The offence occurred on August 31, 2025 when the 13-year-old girl attending a local festival at a neighbour's house did not return home. She was later located in a distressed state and disclosed that the accused had forcibly assaulted and raped her and threatened her into silence. The victim's father lodged an FIR at Chandaka Police Station on September 2, 2025. Police promptly registered a case, examined witnesses, prepared the spot map and produced the victim for medical examination in Bhubaneswar. Biological samples were collected and sent to the forensic laboratory.

A chargesheet was filed on September 10, 2025 and charges were framed on the very next day. A fast track trial, victim testimony, conclusive medical and forensic reports secured conviction within 37 days of the FIR registration. The case underscores how Nyaya Sanhita's time bound procedures, together with forensic and digital tools, strengthen swift justice for crimes against women and children.

three years was imposed under Section 238 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and all the sentences were directed to run concurrently.

Man Gets One Year Jail Term for Online Fraud

Considering the increasing seriousness and growing menace of online financial frauds that are rapidly targeting innocent persons through social media platforms and fake digital investment schemes, the judiciary has once again taken a strict stance to protect public trust. A Court in Karnaprayag in Uttarakhand's Chamoli on May 24, 2025, convicted an accused under Sections 318(4) and 61(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita in an online investment fraud case and sentenced him to simple imprisonment of one year along with a fine of ₹10 lakh.

Incidentally, between July 9 and 31, 2024, the



complainant was lured through a social media platform advertisement. Fraudsters posing as officials linked to reputed financial institutions persuaded him to invest through a fake app, promising 200%-600% returns from stock market trading. Initially, small amounts as returns for the investment was credited, but later he was coerced and threatened with penalties, leading to a total loss of about ₹27.23 lakh.

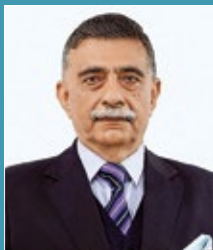
An FIR was registered on July 31, 2024 at Karnaprayag Police Station, under Section 318(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. During investigation, police conducted banking analysis, recorded statements and collected digital evidence. The accused who withdrew about ₹10 lakh cash was arrested. Evidence was preserved through the e-Sakshya and a chargesheet was filed on December 10, 2024 with charges framed on December 21, 2024. After evaluating the evidence on record, the Court convicted the accused under Sections 318(4) and 61(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. ■

India's unique geoclimatic and socio-economic conditions make it one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Of its 36 States and Union Territories, 27 are vulnerable to disasters. Nearly 58.6% of the landmass is prone to earthquakes, 12% to floods and over 5,700 kilometres of its coastline is exposed to cyclones and Tsunamis. Urban flooding threatens 5,161 cities and towns, while climate change, unplanned urbanisation and environmental degradation further intensify these risks. In this context, effective disaster management is not merely a priority, it is essential for protecting lives and ensuring sustainable development.

Over the past decade, under the inspirational leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has undertaken a paradigm shift in its approach to disaster management. What was once largely reactive and focused on minimising casualties has now evolved into a proactive, holistic and ambitious pursuit of zero casualties. This transformation, steered by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) under Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, reflects a comprehensive 360-degree strategy that integrates early warning systems, advanced technology, community participation and institutional strengthening.

A defining moment in this journey was the conferment of the President's Colour Award on the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on May 14 in Ghaziabad. Shri Shah highlighted that the honour recognises not only the NDRF, but the entire disaster management ecosystem—from States and SDRFs to grassroot volunteers. With the motto 'Aapda Seva Sadaiv Sarvatra', the NDRF has earned the trust of 140 crore citizens. Since its inception, it has saved over 1.5 lakh lives and evacuated more than 9 lakh people, demonstrating professionalism and compassion—from the 2008 Kosi floods to the

From Relief to Resilience: A Zero-casualty Strategy in India's Disaster Management



Ranjit Kumar Panchananda
IPS (Retd)
Former DG, NDRF

Under the inspirational leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has undertaken a paradigm shift in its approach to disaster management. What was once largely reactive and focused on minimising casualties has now evolved into a proactive, holistic and ambitious pursuit of zero casualties. This transformation, steered by the MHA under Shri Amit Shah, reflects a comprehensive 360-degree strategy that integrates early warning systems, advanced technology, community participation and institutional strengthening.

minimised effectively. With sustained emphasis on zero casualties, community empowerment and global collaboration, the Union Government is protecting lives and setting a global example. India is evolving not just into a disaster-responsive nation, but a truly disaster-resilient one—where every life counts and every challenge becomes an opportunity for progress. ■

Silkyara tunnel rescue in 2023 and major operations during cyclones, earthquakes and pilgrimages such as the Amarnath Yatra and Mahakumbh.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has played a pivotal role in driving this change. Capacity building has received special attention, with NDRF training thousands of personnel, civil defence workers and over 2.20 lakh volunteers. Equally important is the integration of technology. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) now uses AI and Machine Learning for seven days advance forecasts, while the National Disaster Management Authority's (NDMA) Dynamic Composite Risk Atlas and AI-driven tools are improving cyclone and flood response. These initiatives are helping translate the vision of zero casualties—including zero heatwave-related deaths—into reality.

Prime Minister Shri Modi's 10-point agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction has provided the strategic direction for this transformation. By mainstreaming risk reduction into development planning, leveraging technology, empowering local communities and promoting women's leadership, the agenda has aligned India's efforts with global frameworks while creating an indigenous and robust model. India's global leadership is visible in the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), launched by the Prime Minister in 2019, which today has 48 member countries collaborating on climate-resilient infrastructure.

As Shri Shah noted, the sight of NDRF personnel inspires confidence among citizens. Through proactive deployment, pre-positioning and strong support, damage is being



The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) remains committed to ensuring a safe and smooth pilgrimage for devotees. In this regard, the 8th Battalion of the ITBP organised a special medical camp at Kedarnath Dham. During the camp, pilgrims suffering from health issues caused by high altitude and extreme fatigue were provided with medical check-ups, necessary consultations and free medicines.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is adopting and promoting Yoga as a way of life. Yoga enhances concentration, balance and resilience, making it essential for remaining calm, alert and capable while on duty. As part of the 100-day countdown to the International Day of Yoga-2026 on June 21, the CISF is promoting holistic fitness, where inner strength forms the foundation of operational excellence.



The 143rd Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) was honoured with a 'Unit Citation' on May 6 by the Governor of Manipur, Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla, for its outstanding performance in anti-insurgency operations during the year 2025. The Director General of the CRPF, Shri GP Singh, congratulated the Unit's Commanding Officer and all ranks on this exceptional achievement.

भारत के वीर

Tribute to the bravehearts

<https://bharatkeveer.gov.in>

GUIDELINES

- ⇒ You can donate directly to individual braveheart's account (upto max of ₹15 lakh) or may donate to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
- ⇒ To ensure maximum coverage, a cap of ₹15 lakh is envisaged per braveheart and the donor would be alerted if the amount exceeds ₹15 lakh, so that they can choose to either decrease their contribution or divert part of the contribution to another braveheart's account, or to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
- ⇒ Bharat Ke Veer corpus would be managed by a committee made up of eminent persons and senior government officials, in equal number, who would decide to disburse the fund equitably to the braveheart families on a need basis.

DID YOU KNOW?

Q: How many personnel were serving in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence across India as on January 1, 2024?

India had an actual strength of 39,391 personnel serving in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence as on January 1, 2024.

Q: Which State had the highest actual strength in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence as on January 1, 2024?

Uttar Pradesh, with 4,539 personnel, had the highest actual strength in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence among all States and Union Territories.

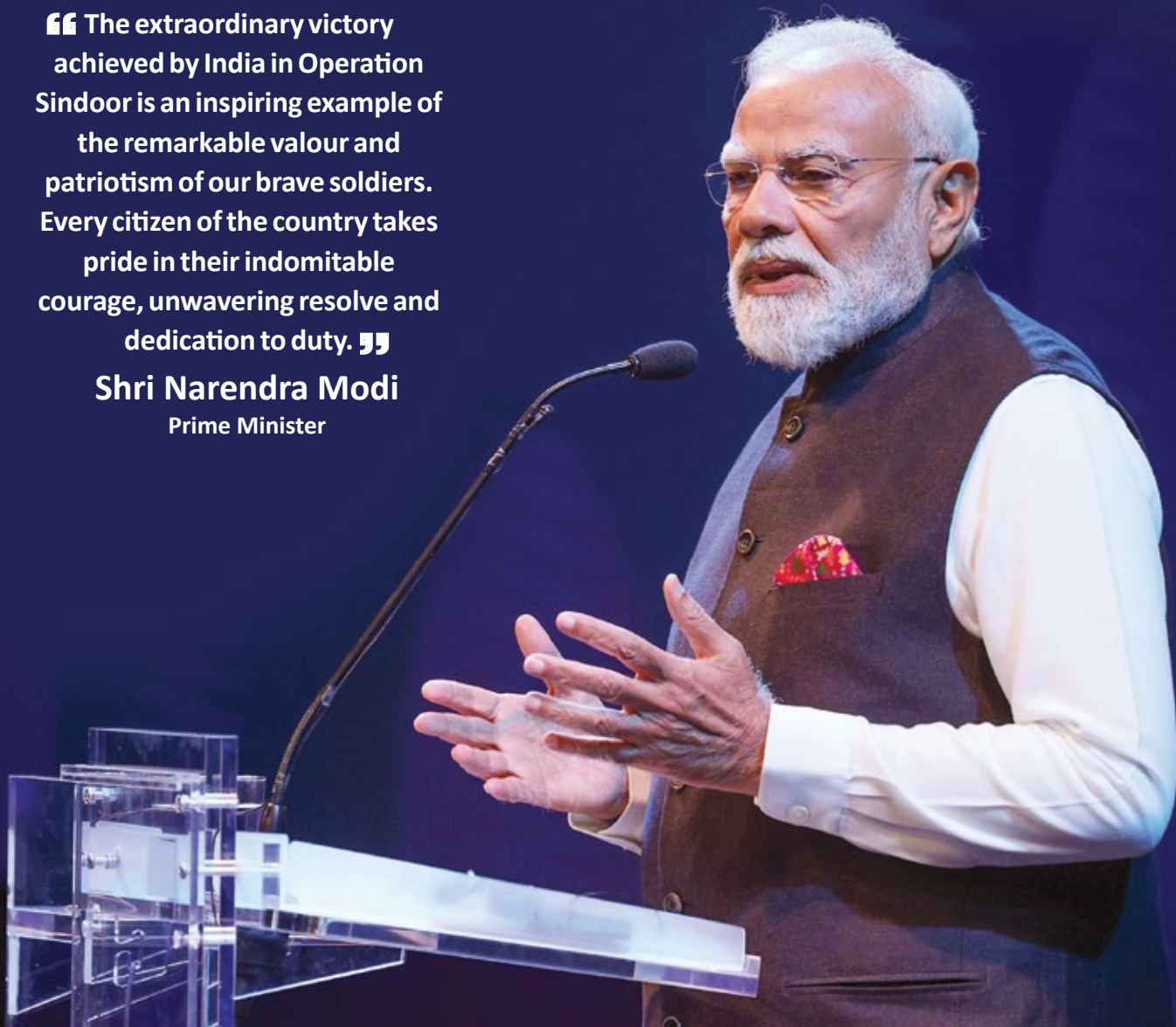
Q: How many women personnel were serving in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence across India as on January 1, 2024?

A total of 4,372 women personnel were serving in the Special Branch dealing with Intelligence across India as on January 1, 2024.

“ The extraordinary victory achieved by India in Operation Sindoor is an inspiring example of the remarkable valour and patriotism of our brave soldiers. Every citizen of the country takes pride in their indomitable courage, unwavering resolve and dedication to duty. ”

Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



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