

## Evening News Script

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### ::THE HEADLINES::

1. Prime Minister Narendra Modi to arrive in Jeddah on Tuesday, marking first visit by an Indian leader to Saudi Arabia in over four decades.
2. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh urges IAS Trainees to uphold integrity; hails record women representation.
3. Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal calls on students to harness new Ideas and innovative thinking.
4. BJP launches nationwide campaign- 'Waqf Sudhar Janjagaran Abhyan' to spread awareness on benefits of Waqf (Amendment) Act.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to arrive in Jeddah on a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, marking the first visit by an Indian leader to Saudi Arabia's commercial hub in over four decades. The high-profile visit underscores the remarkable transformation of India-Saudi relations from modest beginnings to a comprehensive strategic partnership spanning economic, defense, and cultural dimensions. The visit comes amid intensified diplomatic engagement between the two nations, with 11 ministerial-level visits from India to Saudi Arabia during last year. Speaking about the significance of the upcoming visit, Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Suhel Ajaz Khan said, talks are expected to cover various areas including defense partnership, energy cooperation, and many other issues related to regional and global political scenarios.



Union Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh, today urged young civil servants to uphold the highest standards of integrity, accountability, and service. Interacting with the 2023 batch of IAS Officer Trainees, Dr. Singh highlighted India's administrative transformation and the Vision for Viksit Bharat@2047. He hailed the largest-ever representation of women in the history of the Indian Administrative Service, with 74 women officers comprising 41 percent of the current batch of 180 officers. Dr. Singh said that this record representation is a testament to Prime Minister's unwavering support for inclusive and progressive governance. The interaction was part of the ongoing Assistant Secretary Programme, under which the IAS Officer Trainees are attached to 46 Central Ministries for a period of eight weeks. Dr. Singh remarked that this batch of IAS officers is not only the youngest and most diverse, but also the most representative of New India's aspirations.



Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal has called on students to harness new Ideas and innovative thinking. He emphasized that Yuva Shakti with the Power of Knowledge are key to realizing the vision of Viksit Bharat. Mr. Sonowal was addressing and interacting with students of Sreeram Academy Pathsala today on the occasion of its 20th Foundation Day celebration. He said, students must not confine themselves to textbooks alone, and underscored the significance of value-based education. The Union Minister highlighted the transformative initiatives of the Central Government stating that programmes like Digital India, Make in India, and Skill India have been launched to empower the new generation, equipping them with the tools to lead and innovate.



The Bharatiya Janata Party today launched a nationwide campaign- 'Waqf Sudhar Janjagan Abhyan' to spread awareness about the benefits of the Waqf (Amendment) Act. The campaign will continue till the 5th of next month. Under the campaign, BJP leaders and workers will visit Muslim communities and make them aware about the amended act.



US Vice President J.D. Vance will arrive in New Delhi tomorrow morning on a four day official visit to India. He will be accompanied by Second Lady of the US, Usha Vance, their children and senior members of the U.S. Administration. This will be Vice President Vance's first visit to India. He will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi tomorrow evening. The Vice President and his delegation will have other engagements in Delhi and are also scheduled to visit Jaipur and Agra before departing for Washington D.C.



King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck today visited Assam to view the facilities at the Inland Waterways Terminal (IWT) and the Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) in Jogighopa. Ministry of External Affairs said the IWT and the MMLP are two major connectivity projects focused on boosting trade and enhancing regional development. According to the Ministry, as part of its 'Neighbourhood First' policy, the Centre has been pursuing several connectivity initiatives for boosting people-to-people ties and facilitating trade and economic cooperation with Bhutan. It said, the IWT at Jogighopa, which was inaugurated in February this year, is an important infrastructure project for economic development and enhancing connectivity in the region.



RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra has stated that India's forex markets have doubled in last four years from 32 billion to 60 billion dollars. Addressing the annual conference of Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association of India at Bali in Indonesia today, he said India's financial markets have developed into a dynamic and resilient force to fuel economic growth with an almost doubling of the foreign exchange market from 32 billion dollars in 2020 to 60 billion dollars in 2024. The Governor further stated that the levels of transparency in Indian markets are at par with the best in the world.



Russia's Defence Ministry today accused Ukraine of breaking the 30-hour Easter ceasefire declared by Russian President Vladimir Putin. On the other hand,

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Russia has continued attacking Ukraine despite announcing a unilateral Easter truce. Zelenskyy reiterated his proposal to extend the ceasefire for 30 days to give peace a chance. Despite the clashes, Easter Sunday saw a rare exchange of prisoners of war. As per media reports, 246 soldiers were swapped on each side in a UAE-mediated deal, bringing the total number of returned Ukrainian to 4,552. It was the largest prisoner exchange since beginning of Russia-Ukraine conflict in February 2022.



In response to the interest from the media community, the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) 2025 is reopening Media Delegate Registration for three final days, from 21st to 23rd April. This is the last window for media professionals, photographers and digital content creators to apply and be a part of the most awaited Media & Entertainment event, taking place from May 1–4, in Mumbai. Media Delegate registration from the Link: [app.wavesindia.org/register/media](http://app.wavesindia.org/register/media). Ministry of Information & Broadcasting stated that by participating in the mega event, media persons can secure access to exclusive sessions, networking opportunities, and one-on-one sessions with industry professionals shaping the future of entertainment.

