

REGIONAL NEWS UNIT, ITANAGAR

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External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar on Thursday ruled out any third party mediation between India and Pakistan, reiterating that dealings with Islamabad will be strictly bilateral. Talking to media on the sidelines of an event in New Delhi, Dr Jaishankar said, India has made it clear that the only thing which remains to be discussed with Pakistan is the vacating of illegally occupied Indian territory in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The External Affairs Minister stressed that this is a national consensus for years, and there is absolutely no change in India's position. He added that Pakistan has a list of terrorists that needs to be handed over, and they have to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Thursday said that Operation Sindoor is India's impregnable and strong response to terror being exported from Pakistan and Pakistan Occupied Jammu & Kashmir, for the last several decades now.

Addressing troops at Army's 15 Corps Badami Bagh Cantonment, he commended Indian armed forces for their valour, bravery and meticulous work while executing Operation Sindoor. He said the country is proud of the armed forces for their courage, commitment and determination in safeguarding the motherland. The Defence Minister said Pakistan's nuclear weapons should be taken under the supervision of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The Tiranga Yatra was organized on Thursday in support of the Indian Armed Forces and Operation Sindoor at Likabali in Lower Siang district. The rally commenced from near SBI, Likabali, and proceeded up to the Forest Check Gate, despite intermittent rainfall. Deputy Speaker of Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (APALA) Kardo Nyigyor and Nari-Koyu MLA Tojir Kadu also attended the yatra. Participants carried the Indian National Flag and banners expressing solidarity with the nation's armed forces under Operation Sindoor. Similarly, the Tiranga Yatra was also held in Tezu in Lohit district. Dr. Mohesh Chai expressed unwavering support for Operation Sindoor.

Home Minister Amit Shah visited the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi on Thursday to check on the health of the security personnel injured during the 21-day-long anti-Naxal operation carried out in Karegutta Hills in Chhattisgarh and Telangana border.

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade-DPIIT has approved 187 startups for income tax exemption under the revamped Section 80-IAC of the Income Tax Act. In a statement, Ministry of Commerce and Industry said that Startups incorporated before 1st April 2020 are now eligible to apply, giving more time and opportunity to new ventures to benefit from this financial relief.

The Meteorological Centre Itanagar (MCI) forecast that Papum Pare, West Siang and Siang districts will be in orange alert zone on Friday. These districts will receive thunderstorm with lightning and very heavy rainfall very likely at isolated places. While, except for Upper Subansiri, Kamle, Namsai and Changlang districts, rest of the districts are in yellow alert zone and will receive thunderstorm with lightning and heavy rain very likely at isolated places.

Retired Indian Administrative Service officer and former Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar on Thursday took Oath as the new Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) Chairman. The Oath was administered by Lt.Gen Raj Shukla (Retd.), the senior-most Member of the Commission.

A coordination meeting to review and discuss for ongoing preparation was held on Thursday at DC's conference hall regarding the conduct of 8th Edition State Level Hangan Dada Memorial Trophy on football and volleyball for both under 16 boys and girls at Pasighat in East Siang district. The tournament will start from 23rd of this month to 02nd June. Local MLA Tapi Darang assured all possible help for smooth conduct of the tournament. Deputy Commissioner East Siang Tayi Taggu directed all the nodal officers to oversee the preparation and complete the assigned task for the tournament.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India, has invited entries for its 11th annual competition for short films on human rights. The last date to receive the entries is 31st August this year. The winning entries will be awarded.

The 8th edition of the Hangpan Dada Memorial District-Level Tournament for under-16 boys and girls in football and volleyball was officially inaugurated on Thursday at the Gyalwa Tsangyang Gyatso High Altitude Stadium in Tawang district. In his inaugural address, MLA Namgey Tsering urged the youth to draw inspiration from the life and sacrifice of Hangpan Dada and commit themselves to the nation's progress and unity. About six boys' and two girls' football teams and two boys' and girls' volleyball teams each are participating in this year.