



on Sunday



Ramlila Madaan decked up for Kejriwal swearing-in ceremony
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Nadda summons Giriraj Singh over controversial remarks on Deoband
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Sri Lanka objects to U.S. blacklisting Army chief Shavendra Silva
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Indian speedsters Mohd. Shami and Jasprit Bumrah rattle New Zealand XI
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NEARBY



Four children killed as school van catches fire

CHANDIGARH
Four children died while eight were rescued from a mini-van of a private school which caught fire at Longowal in Punjab's Sangrur on Saturday.

NORTH PAGE 5

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Masood Azhar & family missing, Pak. tells financial watchdog FATF

JeM chief was listed as a designated terrorist by UNSC1267 Committee

VIJAYA SINGH
NEW DELHI
Pakistan has informed the global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that Masood Azhar, founder of terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), and his family are "missing".

Azhar was listed as a designated terrorist by the United Nations Security Council 1267 Committee on May 1, 2019.

Pakistan has claimed that there were only 16 UN designated terrorists in Pakistan, of whom "seven are dead".

Of the nine who are alive, seven had applied to the UN for exemption from financial and travel restrictions. They are Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) chief Hafiz Saeed, LeT financiers and members Haji Muhammad Ashraf, Zafar Iqbal, Hafiz Abdul Salam Bhuttavi, Yahya Mohammad Mujahid and Arif Qasmani, and al-Qaeda financier Abdul Rehman. The restrictions involve freezing of bank accounts.

Pakistan has said 5,500 bank accounts of individuals and members of groups listed by the UN committees

were frozen but added that "these individuals were allowed to work for wages," unless arrested in criminal cases. Pakistan has claimed that it had achieved 222 convictions of terrorist financiers but most were imprisoned for only a few days, a source said.

Under review

The FATF is now reviewing Pakistan's case to see if it fulfils the global standards criteria to combat terror-financing. The FATF is chaired by China.

When Pakistan's response to action initiated against UN designated terrorists was sought at a meeting last October, it "continued to state

that Masood Azhar and his family were missing", the source said.

Further, Islamabad could not explain why terror-financing investigations were not launched against Azhar, 26/11 Mumbai attack mastermind Zaki-ur-Rehman Lakhvi or the Haqqani leadership, the source added.

The JeM had claimed responsibility for the Pulwama terror attack on February 14 last year when 40 CRPF personnel were killed in a car bombing. Following this, a training camp run by the outfit at Balakot in Pakistan was hit by the Indian Air Force on February 26.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

Bloody campaign

Pakistan has said JeM chief Masood Azhar and his family are missing. A look at his reign of terror:

1979-1989: Azhar was chosen as the head of Harkat ul-Ansar's department of motivation

Early 1990s: Azhar became the general secretary of Harkat ul-Ansar and visited many international locations to raise funds

Was part of Harkat ul-Mujahideen or Harkat ul-Ansar, when arrested in India in 1994

In 1994, Omar Shaikh kidnaped four Europeans from Delhi



to release Azhar. He was arrested

In July 1995, HuM aka HuA kidnaped 5 Europeans in Kashmir and killed them by Dec. 1995 to seek the release Azhar and Shaikh

JeM was formed in 1999 after the release of Azhar on Dec. 31, 1999, after IC-814 was hijacked on Dec. 24, 1999

Jan. 1, 2016: Orchestrated the Pathankot attack

August 17, 2016: Militants killed two soldiers and a policeman in Baramulla

On September 18, 2016: 18 soldiers were killed in Uri

On Feb. 14, 2019: JeM carried out a suicide attack in Pulwama and killed 40 CRPF personnel

May 1, 2019: Designated as a global terrorist by a UN committee

Inferno in market



Reduced to cinders: A blaze broke out at a firecracker shop in the busy Indira Market in Jaipur on Saturday and spread to seven other shops, destroying goods worth lakhs of rupees, an official said. The fire was put out after four hours. PTI

India ticks off Turkish President for his remarks on Kashmir

New Delhi urged Recep Tayyip Erdogan not to interfere in internal affairs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

India on Saturday urged Turkey to not interfere in its internal affairs and reminded Ankara of the threat of terrorism emanating from Pakistan.

"India rejects all references to Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral and inalienable part of India," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said.

Proper understanding

"We call upon the Turkish leadership to not interfere in India's internal affairs and develop a proper understanding of the facts, including the grave threat posed by terrorism emanating from

Our Kashmiri brothers and sisters have suffered from inconveniences for decades and these sufferings have become graver due to unilateral steps taken in recent times



RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN, TURKEY'S PRESIDENT IN PAKISTAN'S PARLIAMENT ON FRIDAY

Pakistan to India and the region," he said.

The official's remarks came a day after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan compared the Kashmir

We call upon the Turkish leadership to not interfere in India's internal affairs and develop a proper understanding of the facts, including the grave threat posed by terrorism emanating from Pakistan...



RAVEESH KUMAR, SPOKESPERSON, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, ON SATURDAY

situation with the Gallipoli campaign of Second World War and extended support to Pakistan. He termed India's recent actions in Kashmir "unilateral".

Addressing a joint session of Pakistan's Parliament, "Today, the issue of Kashmir is as close to us as it is to you [Pakistanis]... Such a solution (on the basis of justice and fairness) will serve the interests of all parties concerned. Turkey will continue to stand by justice, peace and dialogue in the resolution of the Kashmir issue.

Apart from Pakistan, Turkey and Malaysia have been vocal critics of India's decision to end the special status of Kashmir last year. Last September, Mr. Erdogan raised the Kashmir issue during his address to the UNGA. (With inputs from PTI)

ABROAD, GOOGLE MAPS SHOWS J&K AS DISPUTED PAGE 10

Vodafone says it will pay AGR dues, but its survival is at stake

Cash-strapped telco hopes for reprieve from the top court

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Beleaguered telecom firm Vodafone Idea on Saturday said it proposed to clear its Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) dues in the next few days. But it warned that its ability to continue as a going concern would depend on a favourable outcome of its modification plea in the Supreme Court.

Show cause
The statement comes a day after the court asked the managing directors of telecom



Vodafone is looking for a favourable outcome to its plea in the Supreme Court.

firms, including Vodafone Idea and Bharti Airtel, to show cause why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them for failing to pay even a "single

penny" to the government despite an October 2019 judgment.

Following the court order, after U.P. (West) and Rajasthan, the Department of Telecommunication's (DoT) field offices in Gujarat, U.P. (East), West Bengal and other zones have directed telcos to pay outstanding dues "immediately", failing which action would be initiated based on the licence agreement.

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Shah Faesal booked under Public Safety Act

J&K People's Movement chief was detained last year after he criticised the Centre

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

J&K People's Movement chief Shah Faesal was booked under the Public Safety Act (PSA) on Saturday, becoming the eighth prominent mainstream politician to face the stringent law.

Mr. Faesal, who had quit the IAS to join politics, was detained at the Delhi airport in the second week of last August following his interviews to several media channels, expressing strong views against the Centre's move to revoke J&K's special status.

Last tweet

"Kashmir will need a long, sustained, non-violent politi-



Shah Faesal

cal mass movement for restoration of the political rights. Abolition of Article 370 has finished the mainstream. Constitutionalists are gone. So you can either be a stooge or a separatist now. No

shades of grey," was his last tweet before he was detained.

Mr. Faesal was shifted to a detention centre in Srinagar on August 14.

Since then, he has been in preventive custody under Section 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

At present, he is detained inside the MLA hostel in Srinagar.

Sources said Mr. Faesal's wife withdrew a habeas corpus petition before the Supreme Court to avoid the administration's step to book him under the PSA, which can detain a person without trial for up to three months. The detention can be extend-

ed up to two years.

Mr. Faesal's family was assured that he would not face the stringent law if he withdrew his petition, a close friend said.

Mr. Faesal came first in the IAS examination in 2009 and emerged as a poster boy for Kashmir students to prepare for such competitive examinations.

He launched his party last year after quitting the government job.

Other mainstream leaders booked under the PSA are Farooq Abdullah, Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti, Ali Mohammad Sagar, Sartaj Madani, Hilal Lone and Naeem Akhtar.

Karnataka kambala jockey's searing bolt with buffaloes

Sports buffs compare Srinivas Gowda's feat to Usain Bolt's record

ANIL KUMAR SASTRY
MANGALURU
A feverish sprint with a pair of buffaloes in tow has catapulted Srinivas Gowda from tiny Ashwathpura in coastal Karnataka to national fame.

On February 1, Mr. Gowda, competing in a kambala event - a traditional race in which the jockey runs along with the buffaloes he is shepherding - covered 142.5 m in 13.62 seconds at the Aikala-Bava kambala near Moodbidri. Converting

this into 100m sprint, sports buffs said the kambala runner had clocked 9.55 seconds, just a wee bit ahead of Jamaican Usain Bolt's world record of 9.58 seconds!

Viral on Twitter

The news spread as fast as Mr. Gowda's pulse-pounding run, and it soon went viral on Twitter.

Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra suggested that Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Kiren



Buffalo soldier: Srinivas Gowda taking part in the Aikala-Bava kambala near Moodbidri in coastal Karnataka.

Rijiju could provide training facilities for the runner.

Responding to Mr. Mahindra and the Sports Minister's congratulatory tweets, the Sports

Authority of India (SAI) said a suitable course would be devised for Mr. Gowda.

A native of Ashwathpura near Moodbidri, the 28-year-old

has been a kambala jockey for more than a decade and trained at the Kambala Academy in Moodbidri in 2011. Founder and convener of the Academy K. Gunapala Kadamba told The Hindu that though his run was electrifying, Mr. Gowda's feat cannot be compared to an Olympic record as these are diverse events held in varied conditions. While Olympic sprints are judged over seconds, kambala is yet to evolve such a practice.

Mr. Gowda is the jockey for three pairs of buffaloes that run in different categories. Creating the 'record' is a significant achievement as he would

have run at least 22 times with three pairs of buffaloes through the course of the entire event, exhibiting sustained endurance.

A construction worker off season, Mr. Gowda he starts training the buffaloes four weeks before the kambala season. Sources said jockeys like Mr. Gowda are paid ₹1 lakh-₹2 lakh by owners for a season to train the buffaloes, besides sharing cash prizes they win in kambalas.

For now, before SAI steps in with its offer of formal training, Mr. Gowda's name is up there in the bright lights with the iconic Bolt, at least in the online space.

AI aircraft damaged as pilot forces early takeoff

Jeep, man enter Pune airport runway

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The fuselage of an Air India aircraft was damaged on Saturday when its pilot lifted the plane to avoid hitting a person and a jeep that had suddenly come on the Pune airport runway during take-off, an official said. However, the A321 aircraft landed at the Delhi airport safely.

"During takeoff roll, while at 120 knots speed, the crew saw a jeep and a person on the runway and to avoid conflict, they did early rotation..." an official of Directorate-General of Civil Aviation

said. Another DGCA official said, "The aircraft has been withdrawn from service for investigation. Air India has been advised to coordinate with the Pune Air Traffic Control to find out any marking on the runway."

An Air India spokesperson said, "The A321 aircraft that was scheduled to operate AI 825 to Srinagar was observed to have certain marks towards the tail area. The cockpit voice recorder and solid state flight data recorder readouts would be carried out and the findings shared appropriately."