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India's youth have talent to solve emerging global challenges: Modi
determination and a strong spirit of service.
Earlier, he inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for various development projects worth over Rs 13,000 cr across Tamil Nadu.

The initiatives included those in the road and rail transport and petroleum sectors.

The PM, along with Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay, inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for the developments projects at an event held at the IIT, Madras.

The projects include those in National Highways worth around Rs 3,700 cr, initiatives in the Chennai Port, Kamarajar Port and V O Chidambaranar Port and Amrit railway stations. He also dedicated to the nation, the Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre (SGBC) at IIT Madras.

SGBC is a pioneering global scientific mission to map more than 100 human brains into three-dimensional atlases at cellular resolution, across the human lifespan - from the foetal stage to old age.

The PM also released C-STROKE, a one-of-a-kind human ischaemic stroke atlas. Featuring over 1,000 annotated microscopic sections from a stroke-affected brain, the atlas will help researchers worldwide identify novel therapeutic targets.

Earlier, PM Modi inaugurated the Poonamallee-Vadapalani stretch of Phase II of the Chennai Metro Rail Project, built at a cost of around Rs 4,900 cr.

The new services are covered under Corridor four of Phase two of the Metro Rail project.

In the newly inaugurated stretch, there are a total of 11 elevated Metro Stations covering approximately 15 km.

Centre may decide on J&K statehood in coming days: Athawale

when there is peace, Pakistan tries to shoot someone," the union Minister said, while referring to the last year's Pahal-gam terror attack that left 25 Hindi holidayers and a local dead. The massacre was carried out by Pakistani terrorists.

The union minister maintained that India did not want a conflict with Pakistan but asked Islamabad to stop terrorist activities and pursue peaceful relations with India.

Athawale also referred to the Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK), asserting that people living there were unhappy with Pakistan's administration.

In the recent months, the PoJK people held massive protests against Pakistan over a variety of issues, including misgovernance and discrimination.

The union minister said Pakistan should focus on economic development and the welfare of its people rather than promoting hostility towards India.

Pilgrims throng holy Vaishno Devi shrine

in large numbers to seek the blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi, creating an atmosphere of deep devotion and spiritual fervour, officials said.

However, owing to adverse weather conditions, helicopter services remained suspended for the day, the officials added.

Despite the disruption, devotees continued their pilgrimage, while Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board put special arrangements in place for the safety and the smooth movement of pilgrims, officials said.

Pilgrims have started arriving in the holy Katra town from different parts of the country for their onward pilgrimage to the holy cave shrine," officials said.

Officials said elaborate security arrangements have been put in place for the safety of the visiting pilgrims.

The Navratra festival began at 7.30 pm at Yog Ashram Ground, Katra - the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the cave shrine - and would culminate on October 19.

Cultural programmes with a multimedia exhibition would begin at 8:30 pm daily at the government higher secondary school, Katra, which will also host one-day Hasya Vyang and Kavi Sammelan events.

From the second Navratra, a Shobha Yatra with 15 illuminated jhankies would be leaving from Asia Chowk daily at 5.30 pm.

A wrestling competition is slated for October 18 at the Sports Stadium, Katra, and a 'Mata Ka Jagran' (all-night devotional ceremony) would be held at Raghunath Mandir Chowk, Jammu, officials said.

2 killed, 4 injured in road accident

Kupwara.
The injured were shifted to GMCH, Handwara, for treatment.

Police had taken cognizance of the incident and registered a case in this connection.

J&K Bank inaugurates fresh currency facility at Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan

institution that facilitates their journey. This facility is another step towards addressing their everyday banking needs and enhancing convenience at the holy shrine."

Highlighting the bank's presence along the pilgrimage route, he added, "Through our branches, ATMs and Cash Recycler Machines from Katra to Bhawan, we continue to provide convenient access to banking services for devotees and Shrine Board employees. Our dedicated team also assists the Board in managing cash received as offerings at the shrine."

SMVDSB CEO Sachin Kumar Vaishya said the Board remained committed to improving the pilgrimage experience through better amenities and institutional partnerships.

He acknowledged the bank's initiative and appreciated its continued support in providing banking services to the Shrine Board, its employees and visiting devotees.

Following prayers, the programme concluded with a vote of thanks by DGM Arjun Singh Rathore, who expressed gratitude to the Shrine Board and the dignitaries for their support and presence.

The facility was jointly inaugurated by SMVDSB CEO Sachin Kumar Vaishya and J&K Bank's MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee in the presence of Vice Chancellor Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University Prof Pragti Kumar, Bank's DGM Arjun Singh Rathore and Bhawan SDM Anshumali Sharma. Tehsilidar Bhawan Mukesh Kumar Thapa, Head Pandit Gopal Sharma and Bank's Branch Head Gourav Modi, besides other officials and devotees, were also present on the occasion.

Pakistan declares emergency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region

tion on Sunday said the emergency was imposed in view of rising terrorist incidents and the grave law and order situation in the province.

"The extraordinary intensity of terrorist incidents poses serious threats to the lives and property of the public," the declaration stated.

It cited an increase in attacks on government installations, infrastructure and law enforcement agencies, accusing the provincial government of failing to demonstrate the resolve and take the measures needed to curb terrorism and lawlessness.

The declaration said a report by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa governor had highlighted a breakdown of constitutional machinery and the provincial government's inability to function in accordance with the Constitution.

Under the proclamation, the federal government may direct the provincial governor to assume all or some functions of the provincial government. The governor may also exercise powers of other provincial institutions and officials, including those of the Provincial Assembly, as directed by the federal government.

The powers of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly will be exercised by Parliament or under its authority, according to the declaration, which took effect immediately.

The federal cabinet endorsed the emergency proposal earlier on Sunday after a special meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to review the worsening security situation.

The cabinet said the provincial government had deliberately disengaged from the fight against terrorism and recommended that the prime minister advise the president to impose an emergency.

"The Cabinet recommended that the Prime Minister advise the President to exercise his constitutional authority and impose an emergency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under Articles 232 and 234 of the Constitution of Pakistan, given the gravity of the situation," an official statement said.

Sources said the cabinet decided to pursue the move after exploring other options, including a last-ditch effort to engage the provincial government through mediation by Maulana Fazlur Rehman, chief of the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazi (JUI-F). The efforts failed to yield a breakthrough, they said.

Houses, bridges, hydel project damaged

District Administration Office, said.

The flood in the Gandaki Province swept away houses in Salleri, Paiyuka and the riverbed at Jagat, as well as a suspension bridge connecting the ward, Ram Kumar Gurung, ward chair of Chumnubri Rural Municipality-3, said.

The flood struck Nepal's Budhi Gandaki River, roughly a month and a half after the devastating Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river floods on August 26, 2026.

Nepal is still recovering from the devastating flood in August along the mountainous Nepal-China border that left more than 1,400 people dead and thousands more missing.

The cause of the sudden surge in the Budhi Gandaki River remained unclear. Residents suspect that the Syar stream, a tributary of the Budhi Gandaki between Lokpa and Chumling in Chumnubri-6, may have been blocked, triggering the flood.

Security agencies, including Nepal Army personnel, have been mobilised to conduct search and rescue works in the flood-affected area of Gorkha district, according to officials.

The Nepal army rescued four dozen (48) people from the flood hit areas. The people stranded by the flood have been airlifted to the safer places. Four helicopters and ground forces have been mobilised for the rescue operation.

According to administrative officer of Gorkha District Administration Office, Chuda Nidhi Tiwari, there was 1 km long landslide in Chumnubri and the landslide swept away five cow sheds in which at least 10 farmers had gone missing.

Floodwaters swept away a construction camp and some equipment at the site of the 341-megawatt Budhi Gandaki hydropower project under construction in Salleri, Chumnubri-3.

The flood has swept away around three dozen houses in Chumnubri Rural Municipality of the district as per the preliminary reports, Sharma said.

Chumnubri Rural Municipality Deputy Chair Laxmi Gurung said the flood that hit the Budhi Gandaki this morning was reminiscent of the Bhotekoshi flood in Rasuwa.

"The Budhigandaki flood is reminiscent of the Bhotekoshi flood," she said. "It has washed away dozens of houses. It is not possible to say the exact extent of the damage right now."

The flood struck around 4 am, prompting locals to flee to safer places. Laxmi informed that significant damage was caused to the market in Chumanubri Rural Municipality-3 due to the floodwaters.

The Manaslu Conservation Area Project (MCAP) has said that the tourists were stranded at their accommodation on Saturday night after floods washed away the footpath and bridge.

The tourists are safely at their accommodation on Saturday, said Bhuwan Ojha, information officer of MCAP.

12 killed, 300 hurt in 'Houthi' attack on Riyadh airport

make a decision. We move very quickly."

Trump later Saturday said he planned to speak to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and said "what happened in Saudi Arabia is not acceptable." Asked if the U.S. might get involved, Trump responded, "We'll find out."

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio acknowledged in a social media post that an American citizen had been killed in the attack, which he condemned.

"These reprehensible attacks demonstrate a blatant disregard for innocent civilian life. They must stop now," he said.

The Saudi-led coalition fighting the Houthis blamed them for the attack, calling it a "fully-fledged war crime" and vowing a firm response. The airport has no military facilities.

There was no immediate statement from the rebels, who earlier Saturday accused Saudi Arabia of striking Sanaa International Airport in the Houthi-held Yemeni capital.

The Houthis claimed attacks earlier in the week on King Khalid International Airport that killed three Saudis, including a pilot. The surge in attacks, including against other Saudi airports, military facilities and oil infrastructure, has come in the week since a Saudi-led coalition launched a major military offensive against the Houthis.

Saudi civil aviation authorities earlier Saturday said airport operations were suspended. The airport had a heavy police presence, with all entrances blocked, and lights around the complex were dimmed. Flights diverted elsewhere, the Flightradar24 tracker said. Countries including the United States, Britain, Germany, Australia and Canada warned citizens to avoid the airport.

Also Saturday, U.S. Central Command said a fighter jet struck and disabled a commercial cargo vessel with a precision munition in the Gulf of Oman, part of U.S. efforts to maintain a naval blockade of Iranian ports. The Panama-flagged M/V Ocean Molica had departed an Iranian port and did not heed repeated warnings. The ship's crew was unharmed, CENTCOM said.

The attacks on Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, have rattled markets and the region. And yet the Saudi energy ministry hours after the latest one was still promoting a major international energy conference set to begin in Riyadh on Sunday.

Until recently, the Houthis had been largely on the sidelines of the Iran war. Now the rebels are a way for Tehran to apply pressure on a key U.S. ally.

Woman held for 'sharing' info with Pak ISI

ceived information on Thursday that the accused were allegedly conspiring to share classified information about military zones and cantonments with Pakistan agencies.

The two Army personnel, who were deployed along the India-China border, allegedly collected sensitive information, while Sidhu facilitated its transmission through mobile phones, tablets and internet, police said in a statement.

A case has been registered against the three accused at the State Special Operation Cell (SSOC) police station in Fazilka under relevant sections of the Official Secrets Act.

Security agencies are also investigating whether sensitive information relating to the Faridkot military cantonment was transmitted to Pakistan.

Further investigation is underway to ascertain the extent of the alleged espionage network and the role of those involved.

EAM discusses ties with Ethiopian IH CEO

vestments Holdings. Discussed deeper investments partnerships between India and Ethiopia," he said in a post on X.

During his visit, Jaishankar also chaired a conference of India's Heads of Mission in Africa, where discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between India and African countries across trade, investment, connectivity, development partnership and capacity building.

Earlier, addressing a gathering at the Adwa Memorial Museum in Addis Ababa on Friday, Jaishankar had emphasised the need for India and Africa to strengthen their historic partnership, advance self-reliance and push for reforms in global institutions.

He said both sides shared developmental aspirations, historical experiences and a commitment to a more equitable global order, adding that their partnership must evolve to address contemporary challenges.

"India and Africa have developed a tradition of working hand in hand in international forums, and that continues to this day... Our relationship must evolve and keep pace with the times," he said.

Highlighting the development goals of both sides, Jaishankar said India was pursuing the vision of 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, while Africa had outlined its aspirations through 'Agenda 2063'.

"Today, India is pursuing the goal of Viksit Bharat, or developed India, by 2047. We seek to transform ourselves by the centenary of our independence. Africa, likewise, has articulated its own vision through Agenda 2063, which outlines the Africa we want," he said.

The minister said India was Africa's fourth-largest trading partner, with bilateral trade turnover nearing USD 100 billion. Indian investments across the continent span manufacturing, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, energy, mining, agriculture, infrastructure, financial services and information technology.

"We strongly encourage our businesses to view Africa as an investment destination of choice. Indian businesses, as a rule, have created local employment, encouraged value addition and strengthened African national economies," he said.

Jaishankar also called for fair representation of India and Africa in global decision-making, arguing that the existing international order did not adequately reflect their interests.

"India and Africa cannot remain unrepresented or underrepresented in global decision-making," he said.

He reiterated India's support for reforms to the United Nations Security Council, saying the current Council neither delivered effectively nor represented countries fairly.

He also highlighted opportunities for cooperation in digital governance, including digital identity, payments, financial inclusion and public service delivery, as well as in space, drone technologies and artificial intelligence.

India and Africa share longstanding historical and cultural ties, shaped by trade across the Indian Ocean, shared experiences of colonialism and cooperation in international forums.

Jaishankar arrived in Ethiopia on Thursday as part of his three-nation African tour, which also included visits to Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

NMC invites applications for new MBBS colleges

bank guarantees and assessment procedures for institutions seeking permission to establish new medical colleges or expand their existing MBBS intake.

Applications will be accepted only through the designated NMC/MARB online portal, in accordance with the National Medical Commission Act, 2019, and the applicable regulations, including the Establishment of Medical Institutions, Assessment and Rating Regulations, 2023, as amended.

The online application window for Part A, covering the primary application, opened on October 8, 2026, at 12 midnight and will close on December 31, 2026, at 11.59 pm.

Part B, which covers compliance with Minimum Standard Requirements (MSR) and assessment requirements, will open on November 1, 2026, at 12 midnight. The deadline for submitting Part B is also December 31, 2026, at 11.59 pm.

The application process requires institutions to complete Part A before proceeding to Part B. Once Part A has been successfully submitted and an application identification number generated, the application will be treated as finally submitted. Applicants will not be permitted to modify, replace or add information or documents to the submitted Part A.

The notice specifies that applications submitted after the prescribed closing date will not be entertained under any circumstances. It also cautions applicants against waiting until the last day to resolve technical, connectivity, payment gateway or other portal-related problems.

For applications successfully submitted by November 30, where the fee has been paid but not credited to the NMC account, the payment-reconciliation deadline is December 4, at 11.59 pm. For applications successfully submitted by December 31, the corresponding deadline is January 5, 2027, at 11.59 pm, subject to the conditions specified in the notice.

The NMC has prescribed comprehensive documentation for establishing new medical colleges, including details of the applicant, category of institution, constitution and registration documents, management structure, hospital arrangements, land, buildings, equipment and financial capability.

Applicants must provide certified copies of the relevant registration documents, trust deeds, memorandum and articles of association or other applicable constitutional documents. Details of the sponsoring entity and its members, including trustees, directors, promoters and other associated persons, must also be disclosed.

Institutions must furnish a valid Consent of Affiliation issued by a recognised university in the prescribed format. The consent must comply with the applicable regulations and be valid on the date of submission. A consent issued without the requisite local inspection by the affiliating university will not be considered valid for the application.

The notice also states that the Consent of Affiliation will be valid for one application, irrespective of whether the application is subsequently approved or rejected. A fresh consent will be required for a subsequent application following rejection.

Applicants must provide documentary proof of ownership or lawful possession of the land proposed for the medical college and its teaching hospital. The application must include details of the land area, college and hospital buildings, compliance with applicable building requirements and the prescribed Minimum Standard Requirements.

Relevant documents include the Building Completion Certificate, Fire Safety Certificate and Occupancy Certificate, as applicable. Applicants must also submit an affidavit confirming that the land is free from disputes, litigation, encumbrances, claims, liens and charges.

Where a hospital is arranged through a lease or another contractual arrangement, the lease or memorandum of understanding must be valid for at least 30 years. The notice further provides that one hospital cannot be attached to more than one medical college.

Institutions proposing to use an existing hospital must submit its registration and statutory clearances, along with details of bed strength, department-wise bed distribution,

bed occupancy, clinical facilities, outpatient infrastructure and patient attendance.

Applicants must also provide architectural plans, equipment details, engineering services, administrative facilities and information about ancillary services and staff strength.

Geo-tagged photographs of the proposed medical college and hospital are mandatory to demonstrate the institution's infrastructure, completion status and readiness.

The notice warns that false, manipulated or fabricated photographs, including images generated or altered through artificial intelligence or other technological means to misrepresent the institution's actual status, may result in rejection of the application and other appropriate action under applicable provisions.

The application must include department-wise details of professors, associate professors, assistant professors and residents available on the date of submission, including their names, designations and AEBAS IDs.

Government institutions must provide the government order sanctioning the required teaching and non-teaching posts, administrative personnel and supporting staff, including resident posts for the proposed annual intake.

Applicants must furnish audited balance sheets for the preceding three financial years, an authorisation letter permitting the NMC to obtain relevant financial information, and a solvency certificate issued by a chartered accountant within 90 days before the application deadline.

The notice also requires an undertaking confirming that all information and documents submitted are true, correct, complete and authentic. This undertaking must be furnished on Rs500 non-judicial stamp paper.

The NMC has cautioned that incomplete, inaccurate, false, misleading or fabricated information may lead to rejection of the application and other action permissible under the applicable provisions.

The fee schedule attached to the notice differentiates between government and private institutions and varies according to the proposed MBBS intake.

For establishing a new medical college, the prescribed application fees are: Private institutions: Rs7.5 lakh plus 18 pc GST for 50 seats, Rs15 lakh plus GST for 100 seats, and Rs22.5 lakh plus GST for 150 seats. Government institutions: Rs6.25 lakh plus 18 pc GST for 50 seats, Rs12.5 lakh plus GST for 100 seats, and Rs18.75 lakh plus GST for 150 seats.

A separate, non-refundable registration fee of Rs2 lakh is also prescribed. Registration fees are to be paid separately for undergraduate and postgraduate courses, as applicable.

India rejects UN rights body's remarks on Delhi protest crackdown

fairs of India," he said.

Jaiswal also accused the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) of being selective in its public statements, alleging that it had not commented on violent responses to protests in neighbouring countries or law enforcement operations near its own base.

"We also note that the OHCHR has an approach of extreme selectivity when it comes to public positions. Violent responses to protests in our neighbourhood have gone un-commented, as indeed have law enforcement actions in its own vicinity," he said.

"Such double standards only erode the credibility of its standing and contribute to the loss of faith in multilateralism," Jaiswal added.

The MEA's response followed a statement by the UN Human Rights Office expressing concern over reports of mass detentions of demonstrators, protest leaders, civil society members, lawyers and journalists in Delhi before and during the CJP-led protests.

UN Human Rights spokesperson Thameen Al-Kheetan urged Indian authorities to respect the right to peaceful assembly and "immediately and unconditionally" release those allegedly arbitrarily detained.

Police deployed security personnel and conducted intensive vehicle checks at key entry points to prevent demonstrators from reaching the designated location.

Woman washed away as heavy rains disrupt normal life

At some places, the gushing rain waters also entered houses, damaging household articles.

In Bantalab'sLuxmipuram locality, one of the lanes was so heavily flooded that it resembled a rivulet.

Panjtirthi, Nagrota, Roop Nagar, Dogra Chowk, Durga Nagar, Shakti Nagar and Raipur Domanain Bantalab area were among the areas severely affected by the downpour, officials said.

Residents reported damage to cars and two-wheelers due to the heavy rainfall and waterlogging.

Landslides were reported on the Panjirthi-Sidhra and Sidhra-Nagrota road stretches, disrupting vehicular movement and causing traffic congestion, officials said.

Authorities deployed personnel and machinery to clear the debris to restore traffic movement along the affected stretches, officials said.

Commuters were advised to exercise caution while travelling through vulnerable stretches amid concerns over unstable slopes and slippery road conditions, the officials added.

The heavy rainfall once again highlighted the vulnerability of several neighbourhoods to waterlogging. Residents of Durga Nagar, Shakti Nagar and Raipur Doman reported rainwater entering their houses and shops, raising concerns over damage to belongings, disruption to daily activities and the safety of people living in low-lying areas.

Kavinder calls upon youth to embrace Almighty Ram's ideals

erhood, while Bharat embodied sacrifice and commitment to duty. Hanuman, he added, inspired devotion, courage, humility and selfless service.

Calling upon young people to draw inspiration from India's rich cultural heritage, Gupta said that the country needed youth who were confident in Atheir values, committed to national interests and capable of standing firmly against forces working against the nation.

He emphasised that talent, knowledge and strength should be used for the welfare of society and the nation rather than merely for personal gain.

He said Ramayana conveys the importance of collective effort, mutual trust and cooperation, noting that great goals could be achieved when every individuals contributed towards a common purpose.

He urged people to follow the path of truth, compassion, service, brotherhood and duty in their everyday lives.

On the occasion, the governor laid the foundation stones for girls' and boys' hostels to be constructed at an estimated cost of approximately Rs 4 cr. The funds for these hostels were made available by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through the Governor's efforts. The proposed facilities will strengthen the university's student accommodation infrastructure.

Earlier, Vice-Chancellor Harminder Singh Baweja welcomed and honoured the governor.

Later, the Governor also watched the Ramlila presentation, which continued till late at night.

Governor's secretary Sandeep Bhardwaj, officers of the district administration and other prominent people were also present on the occasion.