

Mobike expedition to celebrate silver jubilee of Kargil victory

JORHAT (Assam), June 13 (ANI)

COMMEMORATING the 'Rajat Jayanti' (Silver Jubilee) of the Kargil victory and in tribute to the valour and sacrifices of the soldiers, the Indian Army and the Regiment of Artillery are conducting a pan India motorcycle expedition.

The expedition christened as 'Delta 5 Motorcycle Expedition' was flagged off simultaneously from three locations--Dinjan military station (east), Dhanuskodi (south) and Dwarka (west) and will converge in Delhi before culminating in Drass in Kargil.

On the eastern route, Delta 5 Expedition will traverse 4,000 km to Drass, passing through eight states and union territories. The expedition reached Jorhat Military Station on June 12 where Major General Deepak Sharma, VSM General Officer Commanding, 41 Sub Area flagged off the riders.

Brigadier MR Subodh, Deputy General Officer Commanding 41 Sub Area further flagged off the expedition from Jorhat on June 13.



All the motorcyclists of the expedition are from the Regiment of Artillery.

The spirit of the expedition is to highlight the stellar role played by the Indian Army in the war and to honour the bravehearts who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. The Delta 5 Motorcycle Expedition will felicitate Kargil Veer Naris and war veterans en route in true recognition of their selfless sacrifice to the nation. The expedition, while commemorating the victory in the icy heights of Kargil, also aims at educating school children, NCC cadets and citizens of India about the valour of soldiers of the Indian Army in achieving the Kargil Victory.

Saudi Arabia not to renew petro-dollar deal with US

RIYADH, June 13 (Agencies)

SAUDI Arabia has decided not to renew its 80-year petro-dollar deal with the United States. This crucial decision to not renew the contract enables Saudi Arabia to sell oil and other goods in multiple currencies, including the Chinese RMB, Euros, Yen, and Yuan, instead of exclusively in US dollars. Additionally, the potential use of digital currencies like Bitcoin may also be considered

Significant financial upheaval is potentially ahead of the financial world as Saudi Arabia has decided not to renew its 80-year petro-dollar deal with the United States.

The deal, which expired on Sunday June 9, was a cornerstone of the United States global economic dominance.

Originally signed on June 8, 1974, the deal established two joint commissions, one based

on economic cooperation and the other on Saudi Arabia's military needs. At the time, it was said that it heralded an era of close cooperation between the two countries.

American officials at the time expressed optimism that the deal would motivate Saudi Arabia to ramp up its oil production. They also envisioned it as a blueprint for fostering economic collaboration between Washington and other Arab countries.

This latest development signifies a major shift away from the petrodollar system established in 1972, when the US decoupled its currency from gold, and is anticipated to hasten the global shift away from the US dollar.

Additionally, Saudi Arabia has joined Project mBridge, a collaborative effort exploring a digital currency platform shared among central banks and commercial banks.

Ajit Doval reappointed NSA

■ Delhi Bureau & Agencies

NEW DELHI, June 13

THE Government on Thursday reappointed former IPS officer Ajit Doval as the National Security Advisor (NSA). His appointment will be co-terminus with the term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi or until further orders, it said. Doval will be assigned the rank of Cabinet Minister in the Table of Precedence, it said, adding the terms and conditions of his appointment will be notified separately.



P K Mishra PM's Principal Secy again

FORMER IAS officer P K Mishra has been re-appointed as the Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a Personnel Ministry order said.

His appointment will come into effect from June 10, 2024, it said. "The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet

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WITHDRAWN

NTA withdraws Grace marks to 1,563 NEET-UG candidates

SC 'no' to stall counselling from July 6

NEW DELHI, June 13 (PTI)

AMID a raging row over the NEET-UG examination, the Centre told the Supreme Court on Thursday it has cancelled the grace marks given to 1,563 candidates who took the examination for admission to MBBS and other such courses. They will have the option to either take a re-test or forgo the compensatory marks awarded to them for loss of time.

Refusing to stall the counselling for NEET-UG, 2024, scheduled to commence from July 6, the top court made it clear that the admission of successful candidates to medical colleges and other institutions will be subject to the outcome of the petitions which have sought reliefs like cancellation

of the examination held on May 5 on grounds of question paper leak and other malpractices.

A vacation bench of justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta termed as "fairly reasonable" the decision to cancel the grace marks awarded to 1,563 candidates on the recommendation of a panel set up
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Options for 1,563 affected students

- Take a re-test on June 23, result on June 30
- Forego grace marks



No evidence of paper leak: Edn Minister

NEW DELHI, June 13 (PTI)

UNION Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday rejected allegations of paper leak in the medical entrance exam NEET-UG, saying that there is no evidence to substantiate the claims and added that the Government is ensuring no student is at a disadvantage.

"There is no proof of paper leak in NEET-UG. The allegations of corruption in NTA are unfounded, it is a very credible body. It conducts exams for over 50 lakh school students annually, besides exams at the higher education level," Pradhan said.



India strongly rejects references to J&K in China-Pak statement

NEW DELHI, June 13 (PTI)

INDIA on Thursday stoutly rejected “unwarranted” references to Jammu and Kashmir in joint statement by China and Pakistan and asserted that the Union Territory and Ladakh “have been, are and will always remain” its integral parts.

The joint statement was issued in Beijing on June 7 following talks between Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chinese Premier Li Qiang.

“We have noted unwarranted references to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in the joint statement between China and Pakistan of June 7. We categorically reject such references,” External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

“Our position on the issue is

consistent and well-known to the concerned parties. The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh have been, are and will always remain integral and inalienable parts of India,” he said.

Jaiswal was responding to a media query on the joint statement. “No other country has the locus standi to comment on the same,” Jaiswal said.

The MEA spokesperson also took strong note of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) that featured in the joint statement. “The same joint statement also mentions activities and projects under the so-called CPEC, some of which are in India’s sovereign territory under forcible and illegal occupation by Pakistan,” he said.