

OIC remark on SC's J&K verdict ill-intended: MEA

New Delhi: India rejected a statement issued by the general secretariat of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Supreme Court judgment on J&K saying it is both ill informed and ill intended.

“That OIC does so at the behest of a serial violater of human rights and an unrepentant promoter of cross-border terrorism makes its action even more questionable. Such statements only undermine OIC’s credibility,” said the external affairs ministry spokesperson without naming Pakistan.

The judgment had upheld the 2019 revocation of the special status to Jammu & Kashmir. On Tuesday, the OIC general secretariat expressed concern over the Supreme Court verdict. In a statement, it also reaffirmed its solidarity with the people of J&K. TNN

13 out of 100 killed in global road crashes in 2021 from India: WHO

At 1.7L, India Toll Up 20,000 In 2022: Report

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New Delhi: Thirteen out of every 100 killed in road crashes across the world in 2021 were from India, according to the latest global report on road safety released by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday. India is one of the 65 countries where road deaths have increased, with the numbers of fatalities going up from 1.3 lakh in 2010 to 1.5 lakh in 2021. Last year, the highest ever at 1.7 lakh lost their lives on roads.

Going by the Global Status



Eight people lost their lives in an SUV accident in Bareilly last Saturday

Report on Road Safety, which compared the fatalities of 2010 and 2021, India had almost 46% of the 3.3 lakh such persons killed in the entire South-East Asia Region. In absolute numbers, India remains at the top among 174 countries in road deaths since the WHO started bringing out

the global report.

Experts said until India achieves significant reduction in road fatalities, which has increased from 11% of all deaths on the roads in 2010 to 13% in 2021, the global target to halve such fatalities by 2030 can't be met. "When global road crash deaths

have fallen, unfortunately it is still rising in India. We need a robust framework and need to take urgent action at all levels to reduce these numbers and with the same intention as we did to deal with Covid-19 pandemic. Deaths are deaths," said Prerna Singh Arora, a member of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety. Globally, road deaths have fallen by 5% between 2010 and 2021.

As per the report while the Indian government had provided the number of people killed in 2021 for preparation of the report, the WHO has estimated the fatalities around 2.16 lakh considering the probability of many victims succumbing to road crash injuries months after meeting with the accidents.

Sunak wins key vote, but Rwanda plan battle still on

London: UK PM Rishi Sunak survived a major threat to his leadership on Tuesday, advancing his flagship immigration policy over the objections of hard-right factions in his Conservative Party. But the victory may prove fleeting as he faces several more hurdles to the plan, which would deport asylum-seekers to Rwanda.

While about two dozen Conservative lawmakers abstained or voted against the policy, the party's 56-seat majority ensured that it went through by a vote of 313-269. That will have been a relief to Sunak, who has lashed his political fortunes to the ambitious goal of stopping the arrival of migrants on small boats across the English Channel.

The Rwanda legislation now moves to the unelected upper chamber of parliament, where it is likely to get a hosti-

le reception from members.

Then it will face yet another vote in the House of Commons, where right-wing lawmakers who allowed it to pass on Tuesday have vowed to demand amendments to make the bill even more draconian.



Beyond the legislative maneuvering lies a treacherous political landscape for Sunak. He has chosen to make stopping the flow of asylum-seekers one of

the linchpins of his party's campaign to stay in power after 13 years. But his plan to deter migrants by threatening to send them to Rwanda has become totemic, both for critics who condemn it as abusive and inhumane and for hard-right Conservatives, who view it as part of the Brexit promise to regain control of Britain's borders. The latest version of the plan has divided the Tories. NYT

In a 1st, COP28 deal calls for 'transition from fossil fuels'

Keeps Alive Goal Of Restricting Warming To 1.5°C

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Dubai: Targeting for the first time the chief contributors to global warming, nearly 200 countries including India on

► **EDIT PAGE: Do buy what was said in Dubai**

Wednesday clinched a landmark climate deal calling for transitioning away from fossil fuels "in a just, orderly and equitable manner" while "accelerating action this decade to achieve net zero by 2050."

At the end of the hottest year on record, the UN climate summit (COP28) in Dubai

'START OF END OF FOSSIL FUEL ERA'

► **Fossil fuels** addressed in climate talks for the first time

► 195 nations agree on 'transitioning away from fossil fuels' in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner'. Final text avoids the contentious 'phase out' phrase

► A 'loss and damage' fund to support countries that are impacted by climate change operationalised

► Need to cut GHG emissions by 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035 relative to 2019 level

► Global net zero goal by 2050 to limit average warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels

► Call to countries to triple renewable energy and double energy efficiency by 2030

► UNFCCC exec secy Simon Stiell calls deal 'the beginning of the end of fossil fuel era'

agreed to limit warming to 1.5 degree C (over 1850-1900 levels) through "rapid and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035 relative to the 2019 level.

The first global stocktake deal, where the words "fossil fuel" were in the final text for

the first time in three decades of such talks, urged countries to speed up efforts for phase-down of unabated coal use — dropping "rapidly" from the previous text after India and China strongly resisted the additional provisions.

► **Related report, P 15**

1/3rd of Delhi's power from green sources

Over one-third of the total electricity consumed by Delhi comes from renewable energy sources. City government officials said discoms had signed long-term power

► **500 e-buses to enter the capital's fleet today, P 8**

purchase agreements for nearly 8,267 megawatt (MW), of which 2,775 MW (34%) comes from renewable sources such as solar, wind, hydro and waste-to-energy, reports **Atu Mathur**. The share of renewables in the city's power mix is likely to cross 50% in next four years, they said. **P 8**

Satwik-Chirag nominated for Khel Ratna Award

PACER SHAMI FOR ARJUNA AWARD



Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy



Chirag Shetty



Mohammed Shami

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (PTI)

PACER Mohammed Shami, one of the architects of India's near successful World Cup campaign, has been nominated for this year's Arjuna Award, while men's doubles badminton pair of Satwik Sairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty were selected for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

Shami, 33, had a spectacular run in the ODI World Cup, where India finished second best, losing to Australia in the final.

As per the ministry's sources, a special request was made by the BCCI to the sports ministry to

include Shami's name as originally he didn't feature in the list of the country's second-highest sporting honour.

Shami was the leading wicket-taker in the World Cup, with 24 wickets to his name in seven outings. After sitting out of the first four games, Shami shone bright when given the opportunity, claiming 24 wickets at an average of just 5.26. Besides Shami, 16 other sportspersons have been nominated for the Arjuna Award.

They include men's hockey players Krishan Bahadur Pathak and Sushila Chanu, archers Ojas Pravin Deotale and Aditi Gopichand

Swami, boxer Mohammad Hussamuddin, chess player R Vaishali, golfer Diksha Dagar, shooter Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, wrestler Antim Panghal and paddler Ayhika Mukherjee among others. There are five nominations for the Dronacharya Award — Ganesh Prabhakaran (mallakhamb), Mahavir Saini (para athletics), Lalit Kumar (wrestling), RB Ramesh (chess) and Shivendra Singh (hockey).

Kavita (kabaddi), Manjusha Kanwar (badminton) and Vineet Kumar Sharma (hockey) are the nominees for the Dhyan Chand Lifetime award.

India votes in favour of UNGA resolution demanding immediate ceasefire in Gaza

UNITED NATIONS, Dec 13 (PTI)

INDIA has voted in favour of a draft resolution in the UN General Assembly that demanded an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas conflict and unconditional release of all hostages.

The 193-member UN General Assembly overwhelmingly adopted the resolution at an emergency special session on Tuesday, with 153 nations voting in its favour, 10 voting against and 23 abstentions.

India was among the 153 nations that voted in favour of the resolution, adopted amid a round of applause in the GA hall.

Those voting against included Austria, Israel and the US while Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ukraine and the UK were among those who abstained.

The resolution, introduced by Egypt, demanded "an immediate humanitarian ceasefire" and reiterated its "demand that all parties comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, notably about the protection of civilians".

It also demanded the "immediate and unconditional release of all hostages, as well as ensuring humanitarian access".

The resolution however did not

name Hamas. Austria and the US had each moved an amendment to the draft text.

The amendment tabled by Austria called for the insertion of the line "held by Hamas and other groups" after the word "hostages" in the main draft as well as called for ensuring "immediate" humanitarian access.

The amendment tabled by the US called for the insertion, in the main draft, of the paragraph "unequivocally rejects and condemns the heinous terrorist attacks by Hamas that took place in Israel starting October 7 and the taking of hostages".

India voted in favour of both the amendments.

However, the two amendments to the draft resolution could not be adopted since they failed to get the required two-thirds majority of votes.

The Austrian-introduced amendment got 89 votes in favour, 61 against and 20 abstentions while the US-proposed amendment got 84 votes in favour, 62 against and 25 abstentions.

In October, India had abstained in the General Assembly on a resolution that had called for an immediate humanitarian truce in the Israel-Hamas conflict leading to a

cessation of hostilities and unhindered humanitarian access in the Gaza strip.

The resolution was adopted with 120 nations voting in favour, 14 against and 45 abstentions.

Along with India, countries that had abstained from the October resolution included Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

'OUR CHALLENGE IN THIS EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT TIME IS TO STRIKE THE RIGHT BALANCE': INDIA, voting in favour of a General Assembly resolution demanding an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, has said the challenge in "this extraordinarily difficult time" is to strike the "right balance".

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Mohan Yadav Takes oath as MP CM

Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla sworn-in as Deputy Chief Ministers

■ By Bhavana 'Aparajita' Shukla
BHOPAL, Dec 13

MOHAN Yadav took oath as the 19th Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other dignitaries. Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla were also sworn-in as Deputy Chief Ministers.

Yadav, as 19th Chief Minister of the State, was administered the oath by Madhya Pradesh Governor Mangubhai Patel in a function held at Bhopal's Lal Parade Ground.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, BJP President Jagat Prakash Nadda, other party stalwarts and the Chief



Prime Minister Narendra Modi asks Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister-designate Mohan Yadav to take oath as Chief Minister in Bhopal on Wednesday. MP Governor Mangubhai Patel is also seen. (Pic by Bhupendra Singh)

Ministers of several other BJP-ruled States including Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde, Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami were also present on stage.

Hindu seers, who were present in proximity of the main podium, chanted

mantras and blew conch shell while State Governor Mangubhai Patel administered him oath of office and secrecy.

Three-time MLA from Ujjain South, Yadav held the Higher Education Minister portfolio in Chouhan's Government. He has also served as the Chairperson of the Madhya Pradesh

(Contd on page 3)

Vishnu Deo Sai Takes oath as C'garh CM

Arun Sao, Vijay Sharma as Deputy Chief Ministers

■ By Roshan Chachane
RAIPUR, Dec 13

VISHNU Deo Sai assumed office as the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh, taking the oath of office and secrecy in a grand ceremony held at the Science College Ground in Raipur. The swearing-in ceremony was graced by the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan administered the oath, marking the formal beginning of Vishnu Deo Sai's tenure as the Chief Minister. The Science College Ground was abuzz with political luminaries and leaders from various States, adding to the significance of the event.

The swearing-in ceremony also witnessed the oath-



Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai greeting the Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and T S Singhdeo also seen. (Pic by Manoj Dewangan)

taking of BJP State President Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma, who were sworn in as Deputy Chief Ministers.

Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP President J P Nadda also graced the ceremony with their presence, symbolising the national leadership's support for the new leadership in Chhattisgarh.

Chief Ministers Yogi Adityanath, Himanta Biswa Sarma, Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis and Ajit Pawar, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, along with Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and Jyotiraditya Scindia, added

(Contd on page 3)

On anniversary of Parliament attack.....

BIG BREACH of LS Security

2 persons jump into House from public gallery, open gas cans before **brave MPs** round one up
2 protest outside Parliament, too



Brave Members of Parliament in Lok Sabha encircle attacker to capture him on Wednesday. (A video-grab from Sansad TV)

(PTI)

NEW DELHI, Dec 13 (PTI)

IN A major security breach on the anniversary of the deadly 2001 Parliament terror attack, two persons on Wednesday jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the visitors'

gallery, shouted slogans and released yellow smoke from canisters that triggered panic and chaos in the House.

Around the same time, two others, including a woman, raised slogans and released yellow smoke from canisters out-

side the Parliament premises, prompting the police to get into action and round up the duo.

The incident in the Lok Sabha chamber took place at around 1:01 pm when BJP member Khagen Murmu was raising an issue during Zero

Hour. While one started crossing the benches in a bid to approach the Speaker's chair, the other was seen dangling from the railing of the visitor's gallery before jumping into the chamber, according to several MPs present in the House.

Alarmed members, including Hanuman Beniwal, Malook Nagar and Gurdip Singh Aujla, overpowered and thrashed the intruders, who had come to the gallery with visitor passes facilitated by two-term Lok
(Contd on page 3)