

# 1st pillar erected on Assam-Arunachal border, major step towards dispute resolution

ITANAGAR, Feb 23 (IANS)

IN A significant step towards resolving the long-pending inter-state boundary dispute, the first border pillar along the Assam-Arunachal Pradesh border was erected at Seijosa, officials said.

The installation of the border pillar was closely monitored by officials from both States on Sunday to ensure accuracy and mutual agreement on the ground. Among those present during the erection of the pillar were the Deputy Commissioner of Arunachal Pradesh's Pakke Kessang district, Beni Lego; and Deputy Commissioner of Assam's Biswanath district, Munindra Nath Ngatey; senior police officials, community leaders, and village heads.

The border pillar has been installed in accordance with the Namsai Declaration, signed in July 2022, which laid the foundation for resolving the decades-old boundary dispute along the 804-km inter-State border between the two North-eastern



States.

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu described the installation of the first border pillar as a significant step that reflects the spirit of the Namsai Declaration.

Taking to social media platform X, the Chief Minister wrote: "A historic milestone has been achieved in the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam boundary resolution process with the successful installation of the first official border pillar at Seijosa in

Pakke Kessang district."

He said that the development marks a transition from decades of uncertainty towards peaceful coexistence, clarity and stability for communities living along the border areas. Meanwhile, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Arunachal Pradesh counterpart Pema Khandu had signed an agreement in the presence of Union Home Minister Amit Shah in New Delhi in April 2023 to resolve the inter-State border dispute.

# Eye on boosting ties, Canada PM to embark on India visit from Feb 26

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney will pay a three-day visit to India beginning this week, Ottawa said in an official announcement. Carney will spend two days in Mumbai before arriving in New Delhi on March 2 for a bilateral meeting with PM Narendra Modi that is expected to further cement the relationship that was rocked by the killing of a Sikh separatist in 2023.

Energy, trade, defence and technology, apart from security, are issues that will likely dominate the agenda for what will be Carney's first visit to India as Prime Minister. The leaders will review efforts to reach a framework for a comprehensive econom-



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ic partnership agreement.

India and Canada are looking to start fresh negotiations for a trade pact that will help enable \$50 billion annual trade by 2050. A 10-year agreement for uranium procurement by India from Canada is likely to be signed during the visit.

Canada said that the leaders will focus on elevating and expanding the Canada-India relationship, with am-

bitious new partnerships in trade, energy, technology and AI, talent and culture, and defence. He will meet with business leaders to identify investment opportunities in Canada and create new partnerships between businesses in both nations.

"In a more divided and uncertain world, Canada's new govt is focused on what we can control. We are building a stronger, more inde-

pendent, and more resilient economy. We are building our strength at home, diversifying our trade abroad, and attracting massive new international investment," said Carney's office in a statement, announcing his visit to India, Australia and Japan.

"To these ends, the Prime Minister, Mark Carney, announced that he will travel to India, Australia, and Japan, from Feb 26 to March 7, 2026, to unlock new opportunities for Canadian workers and businesses across trade, energy, technology, and defence. Through these visits to three of Canada's strongest Indo-Pacific partners, the Prime Minister will deepen regional ties that are critical to our security and prosperity," it added.

# Israel to share Iron Dome tech with India, says Consul General

MUMBAI, Feb 23 (IANS)

ISRAEL plans to expand its bilateral defence agreement with India to share its technology and manufacture military hardware in India, as well as extend the cooperation to the latest Iron Dome and other defence systems, Israeli Consul General to Midwest India Yaniv Revach said on Monday.

In an exclusive interview with IANS ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Israel, Revach said, "Prime Minister Netanyahu specifically said that one of the aspects of this visit is defence cooperation, and we try to promote and to upgrade the defence cooperation with India, definitely."

"First of all, we have an ongoing defence cooperation, very unique and strong between the two states, because of the mutu-



al challenges that we're both facing. Now, during this specific visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we plan to expand this agreement to focus on specific topics, for example, manufacturing here in India, defence cooperation, and also cooperation regarding the Iron Dome and other defence systems in

Israel that we can actually share the technology with our partners here in India," Revach explained.

He further stated that to tackle the radical axis, Israel is keen to establish a different axis with India, the states of the Abraham Accords, some African nations, and countries in the Middle East, including Cyprus and Greece.

"And I think it's very important that Prime Minister Modi will visit Israel this week try to promote this initiative," he added.

The Consul General also said, "The summit is very important very important because once you see the two leaders meet together and try to promote this agenda and specifically promote a few resolutions to strengthen the ties between the two countries in so many fields, I think it will go down to the private sector, to the companies, to try also to promote cooperation."

## Massive blow to terror network, says Army on elimination of 3 terrorists



Army personnel address a press briefing on the counter-insurgency operation, in Kishtwar, J&K, on Monday. (PTI)

JAMMU, Feb 23 (PTI)

**THE** Army termed the killing of three Jaish-e-Mohammad terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar a "massive blow to the terror network", and said it was the culmination of a relentless, high-altitude joint operation conducted over 326 days in extremely challenging terrain.

Three members of the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) terror outfit, including its self-styled commander, were killed in an encounter with security forces in Kishtwar on Sunday.

"Troops of White Knight Corps, police and CRPF, based on a well-knit intelligence grid established by civil and military intelligence agencies, have finally eliminated all seven dreaded terrorists in Chatroo belt of Kishtwar (in several operations during last near one year)," the White Knight Corps said in a post on X. It described the outcome as a "massive blow to the terror network" in the region.

# PRAHAAR: India brings counter-terror policy

NEW DELHI, Feb 23 (PTI)

**THE** Government on Monday unveiled the country's first counter-terrorism policy, "Prahaar", setting out a multi-layered strategy based on "zero tolerance", intelligence-led prevention and disruption of extremist violence that aims to deny terrorists, their financiers and supporters access to funds, weapons and safe havens.

The policy unveiled by the Home Ministry is based on seven key pillars to counter the terror threats emanating from India or abroad -- prevention, responses, aggregating internal capacities, human rights and "Rule of Law"-based processes, attenuating the conditions enabling terrorism including radicalisation, aligning and shaping the international efforts to counter terrorism and recovery and resilience through a whole-of-society approach.

"There has been a history of sporadic instability in the immediate neighbourhood of India, which has often given rise to ungoverned spaces. Besides, a few countries in the region have sometimes used terrorism as an instrument of State poli-



cy," the document said, without naming Pakistan.

"Notwithstanding this, India does not link terrorism to any specific religion, ethnicity, nationality or civilisation. India has always denounced terrorism and its use by any actor for achieving any stated or unstated ends unambiguously and unequivocally," it added.

Stating that India has consistently stood by the victims of terrorism and has been steadfast in its belief that there can be no justification whatsoever for violence in the world, the document said it is this

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