



For 'Nasha Mukht' Punjab, state has to be made 'AAP Mukht': Anurag Thakur

P- 7

Alia Bhatt Gushes Over Ranbir Kapoor's First Look From Love And War: 'Hey Handsome'

P- 10



Omar condoles loss of lives in Noida bus fire

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today expressed grief over the loss of lives in a tragic bus fire accident in Greater Noida.

He conveyed his deepest condolences to the bereaved families who lost their loved ones in the incident and prayed for strength to them in this hour of grief.

The chief minister also wished those injured in the incident a swift and complete recovery.

Nine passengers were killed after a bus travelling from Delhi to Mahoba in Bihar caught fire on the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida.

Oct 31 deadline set for 2027-28 Budget proposals

The finance department has directed all administrative departments to begin preparations for the 2027-28 Budget and Revised Estimates of 2026-27, setting a strict deadline of October 31, 2026, for the submission of estimates to the civil secretariat.

"All the administrative departments/HoDs/budget controlling officers/DDOs are requested to start Budget preparation exercise for

Cont. on P9 >

Private Members' Bill rejected

The legislative assembly today rejected a Private Members' Bill, proposing to make it obligatory for public representatives and public servants to educate their children in government educational institutions.

The Bill, moved by MLA Sheikh Khurshheed Ahmad, was titled "A Bill to make it obligatory for the Public Men and Public Servants to educate their children in government educational institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto".

Education Minister Cont. on P9 >

Govt working on establishing AI Centre of Excellence

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

The government today informed the legislative assembly that it had set in motion plans to establish an Artificial Intelligence Centre of Excellence, adopting a phased roadmap to build a regional AI ecosystem and advance its digital transformation agenda.

In a written reply to a question by Zaidal MLA Tanvir Sadiq, the government said it was promoting AI and other emerging technologies in the Union Territory as part of its broader digital transformation and

Cont. on P9 >

Can't set timeframe for regularisation of workers: Govt

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

The government today said it cannot set a "rigid timeframe" for finalising a policy on regularising casual, seasonal, temporary, contractual, and need-based workers, citing legal, administrative, and financial implications.

In a written reply to a question by Kulgam MLA, the government said the committee, constituted in March last year under the chairmanship of chief secretary, was examining the matter relating to casual, seasonal and other tempo

Cont. on P9 >

India rips into Pakistan, says terror won't repay loans

Dismantles its diversionary tactics

GENEVA, SEP24: Delivering a scathing rebuke to Pakistan at the United Nations, India asked Islamabad to direct its energy towards a debt-ridden economy surviving on bailouts rather than harbouring territorial ambitions or sponsoring cross-border terrorism.

"Pakistan's hostile posturing will do nothing to rescue its failing financial system," Indian diplomat Kshitij Tyagi said while exercising right of reply at the UN Human Rights Council.

He ripped into Pakistan, dismantling its diversionary tactics.

Stating that Pakistan's priorities remain fundamentally misplaced, Kshitij Tyagi remarked, "Pakistan would better serve its people by focusing on development, rather than by coveting territory of others or exporting terror, because neither these nor its theatrics in the Council would help repay the loans its economy survives on."

Kshitij Tyagi further exposed Islamabad's severe domestic hypocrisy, highlighting its suppression of civil-

ians and acute humanitarian crises in Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir, where widespread protests met with lethal state violence and blockades on essential supplies such as food, fuel, and medicine.

Calling out the glaring omissions in Islamabad's governance, he noted, "This Council was told last Friday of scores of civilians killed since June in the territory Pakistan occupies, of students arrested in Islamabad and Rawalpindi, and of food and medicine held back. When those accounts were given, Pakistan's answer was a point of order. If any delegation in this room meets every objective criterion for this Council's scrutiny, it is Pakistan."

Reiterating New Delhi's firm stance on Jammu and Kashmir, India reaffirmed that the Union Territory constitutes an unalienable and integral part of the nation, while demanding that Islamabad immediately vacate all illegally occupied territories.

Tyagi also laid bare Pakistan's role as a global epicentre of terrorism, noting how its proxy networks have tar-

geted innocent citizens of all faiths, including Muslims, before hypocritically demanding international inquiries.

Exposing this blatant double standard, he stated, "Those same terrorists have since killed Kashmiris of every faith, many of them Muslim. The State that sponsored them is now asking this Council for an inquiry. The irony will not be lost on this Council."

Separately, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal issued a stern rejection of a letter circulated by Pakistan to the UN Security Council concerning a Court of Arbitration pronouncement on the Indus Waters Treaty, castigating Islamabad for twisting international legal mechanisms.

Exposing Pakistan's systemic falsehoods, Randhir Jaiswal stated, "Regarding the 'permanent court' or so-called 'Permanent Court of Arbitration', I would like to say that Pakistan has a habit of misrepresenting facts and propagating falsehoods to serve its malicious propaganda."

Cont. on P9 >

9 killed, 20 rescued as bus catches fire in Greater Noida



NOIDA, SEP 24: Tragedy struck the Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida late last night after a bus travelling from Delhi to Mahoba in Bihar caught fire, resulting in the death of at least nine passengers.

More than 20 passengers were rescued safely during the incident that took place late Wednesday night. The driver and conductor of the bus, which was carrying 35 passengers, had been taken into custody, officials said.

According to preliminary investigation, the fire might have been caused by a spark or blast in the air-conditioning system of the bus.

Chief Fire Officer Pradeep Kumar said the bus, bearing registration number BR32PA/8647, was travelling from Kashmere Gate in New Delhi towards Mahoba when it caught fire near the 33-km milestone on the expressway in the Jewar police station area.

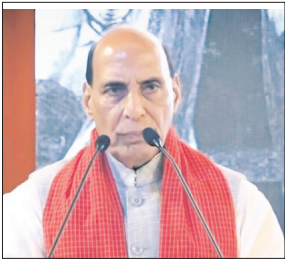
"On receiving information, police officials, along with local police personnel, a rescue tender, a fire tender stationed at Jewar toll plaza and four other fire tenders immediately reached the

Cont. on P9 >

Govt adopted holistic approach to bolster def preparedness: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: Reaffirming Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government's commitment to further bolster the country's defence preparedness and equip the military for emerging & future challenges, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today said 'to view national security solely in terms of safeguarding geographical boundaries amounts to Perimeter Fallacy'.

Addressing a defence conclave here, he emphasised that modern-day challenges encompass the use of drones and unmanned aerial vehicles, cyber-attacks,



lone wolf attacks, and disinformation campaigns, in addition to the utilisation of arms and artillery by adversaries.

He added that national security is linked to economic & energy security, and hostile actors may attempt to harm the economy or disrupt energy supply

chains. "We've adopted a holistic approach to tackle these highly fluid threats," he said.

The defence minister stressed that the concepts of strength and peace, which were never seen as contradictory in Indian tradition, were viewed as mutually exclusive alternatives by some leaders after independence.

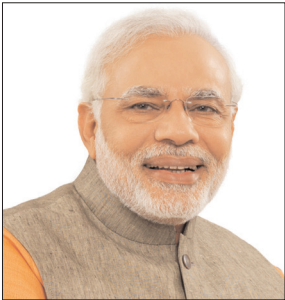
He noted that several wars imposed upon India were a lesson that security policy cannot be formulated based on wishful thinking; it requires taking into account ground realities and national interests.

Cont. on P9 >

No matter how much power we gain, service will remain our path: Modi

DEWAS (MP), SEP 24: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that from Gujarat to Delhi, service has always been the guiding principle of the BJP's governance and values, and the party will never deviate from the path of service.

He made the remarks during a video conference with participants of the Seva Sankalp Yatra, which is being taken out from Vadnagar in Gujarat to Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. The yatra, involving youth from different states, is being organised to mark Modi's 76th birthday and 25 years of his public life as an elected representative.



The participants are currently in Madhya Pradesh's Dewas district.

Modi said, "From Gujarat to Delhi, service has been the core of our governance and values. When service is at the heart of governance, the resolve of 'Nagarik Devo Bhava' (Citizen is God) is at the heart of every policy."

Cont. on P9 >

AAY families to get 6 free gas cylinders

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

The government today informed the legislative assembly that it had approved six free gas cylinders for AAY families in the Union Territory, an announcement that triggered noisy scenes with the opposition BJP accusing it of reneging on its promise of providing 12 cylinders.

"I want to inform the House that the six free gas cylinder scheme has got approval of the authority concerned. Details will be shared shortly," the minister for food, civil supplies &

Cont. on P9 >

Bill to amend J&K Municipal Act introduced in LA

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also holds the housing and urban development portfolio, today introduced a Bill in the legislative assembly to amend the Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000.

The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal (Amendment) Bill, 2026, which has already been published in an extraordinary issue of the Official Gazette, seeks to amend the J&K Municipal Act, 2000.

LA passes resolution seeking TET exemption for teachers

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

The legislative assembly today passed by voice vote a resolution moved by Minister for School Education, Sakeena Itoo, seeking exemption for teachers appointed before October 31, 2019 from appearing in the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET).

The resolution was passed after a two-day debate during which members deliberated upon various aspects of the issue and highlighted the concerns of teachers appointed prior to the cut-off date.

Cont. on P9 >

'One officer, one vehicle' ceiling Speaker expresses displeasure over delay in policy rollout

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

Legislative Assembly Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather today expressed sharp displeasure over the delay in implementing a high-level committee report on allotment of official vehicles to government officials as per 'One Officer, One Vehicle' ceiling proposal.

He took a serious note of the delay and directed the government to place a clear and definite timeline before the House during the ongoing session.

"The high-level committee submitted its report on 'one officer, one vehicle' policy on September 1. What have you done in these 24 days? Why is there a delay in implementing the report?" he asked transport minister Satish



Sharma during Question Hour.

Intervening while Sharma was replying to a question by BJP MLA R S Pathania regarding the implementation of 'One Officer, One Vehicle' ceiling across all departments, PSUs, boards and autonomous bodies to curb retention of multiple official vehicles by officers, the Speaker said, "A poor state like Jammu and Kashmir cannot afford such luxuries

for officers when people are suffering."

The minister initially tried to justify the delay, saying, "It is a legacy issue which will be addressed."

However, the irked Speaker asked the minister, "If the previous policy is wrong, are you going to continue it?"

"Why does an officer need two vehicles if he has two charges? Why cannot he use the same vehicle for

Cont. on P9 >

Autumn Session

113 projects stuck due to court cases, regulatory decisions: Govt

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, SEP 24

The government today informed the legislative assembly that as many as 113 development projects worth Rs 245 cr were currently held up in Jammu & Kashmir due to court cases and pending decisions by the competent authorities.

In a written reply to a question by a BJP MLA, the government said the projects were under status quo owing to decisions pending before courts or competent authorities.

"The roads and buildings

department accounts for the highest number of such projects at 54, followed by 12 under jal shakti department and 10 in higher education," the government said.

Jammu and Srinagar, the twin capitals of Jammu and Kashmir, have 13 projects each under status quo, followed by 11 in Anantnag district of south Kashmir, according to the reply.

The government said a budgetary allocation of Rs 244.62 cr was earmarked for the 113 tied-up works during 2026-27, while Rs 213.17 cr remains unutilised due to the status quo.

"An expenditure of Rs 85.95 cr has been incurred on these projects before the status quo orders were issued by courts or competent authorities," it added.

The government said where the execution of a work was affected by a status quo order or any other legal impediment, the matter of its surrendering the budget amount or carrying it forward was dealt with by the concerned department in accordance with the applicable budgetary and financial provisions and the directions of the competent authority or court.

Cont. on P9 >

Sessions court can't impose 'till rest of life' sentence for murder: SC

NEW DELHI, SEP 24: In a significant verdict, the Supreme Court on Thursday held that a sessions court, while convicting an accused for murder, cannot direct that the convict will remain in prison for the remainder of the natural life.

The verdict dealt with a vexatious legal question as to whether a trial court, while awarding the life imprisonment to a convict in a murder case under section 302 of the IPC, can hand down the sentence specifying that the convict will remain in jail for remainder of his life without the benefits of statutory regime of re-

mission and commutation.

A bench comprising Justices Aravind Kumar and Vipul M Pancholi, referring to verdicts, said, "Although life imprisonment denotes imprisonment for the remainder of the life of convict, the statutory powers of remission and commutation cannot be curtailed by a Sessions Court and thus, the power to impose a special category sentence of life imprisonment without remission belongs to the Constitutional Courts and not to the Sessions Court."

The bench also said that the power to grant remission and commutation un-

der the Code of Criminal Procedure cannot be curtailed by the sessions court.

It said that a direction by "the sessions court that imprisonment for life shall continue till the end of the natural life of the convict is in conflict with the statutory scheme".

Dealing with the facts of the case, the bench upheld the conviction of a man and another convict in a triple-murder case and substituted the sentence of imprisonment for remainder of life with rigorous imprisonment for 25 years without the benefit of statutory re

Cont. on P9 >

Kavinder inspects NH 4-laning work ahead of Prez's visit to Bilaspur

BILASPUR, SEP 24: Ahead of the upcoming visit of President Draupadi Murmu to AIIMS at Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta today inspected the ongoing four-laning work on NH-205 from Kalar Bala village to Nauni Chowk, directing the NHAI officials to complete the project well in advance

NHAI officials briefed the governor on the overall progress of the four-laning project, which involves upgradation of the existing road from Kalar Bala to Nauni Chowk on NH-205 over a stretch of 17.450 km.

They apprised him of the work completed so far, on-



going construction activities and the proposed timeline for completion, informing that the project was scheduled to be completed by September 2027.

They also briefed him on the arrangements being made to facilitate smooth

connectivity and traffic movement in the vicinity of AIIMS Bilaspur during the forthcoming visit of the President.

Gupta directed the concerned officials to accord priority to all works related

Cont. on P9 >