The Himalayan Mail

www.himalayanmail.com

JAMMU, SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2026 | RNI No. 66860 | Vol. 31 | No. 197 | 12 Pages | Rs. 2.00

TMC's Koel Mallick resigns from Rajya Sabha, becomes 4th MP to sever ties with Mamata P-7

The cause that helped Manushi Chhillar win Miss World 2017, and everything she's built since P-10

Saxena commissions India's first geothermal wells

In a landmark milestone in India's clean energy mission, LG V K Saxena today commissioned India's first and deepest two geothermal wells in Puga Valley of Ladakh, executed by ONGC Energy Centre.

The development has

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SOG man killed in road accident

A cop of Special Operations Group of police was today killed and another injured in a road accident at the Bailey Bridge in Chadoora area of Kashmir's Budgam district.

According to officials, two SOG personnel were travelling in an official vehicle when it hit the steel girder of the Bailey Bridge, leaving both of them injured.

They were immediately rushed to a nearby hospi

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PWD AE caught while taking bribe

The CBI has caught an assistant engineer of PWD red-handed while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 30,000 for processing compensation related to a house damaged during the execution of a Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) road project in Doda district.

According to officials, the accused AE was associated with the implementation of PMGSY works in Jammu and Kashmir.

The CBI registered a case after receiving a complaint alleging that

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Court denies bail to accused in Abdullah assault case

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 17

The principal sessions court here today rejected the bail application of Kamal Singh, the accused in the alleged attempt-to-murder case involving ex-chief minister Farooq Abdullah.

The court held the seriousness of the allegations, the potential impact on public order, and the possibility of the accused repeating the offence weighed heavily against granting

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JeM terror module busted

AHMEDABAD, JUL 17: The five suspects arrested two days ago for alleged links with a Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) module in Gujarat were trying to learn bomb-making techniques and preparing to carry out blasts, the state Anti-Terrorist Squad said today.

Five men from different districts of Gujarat were arrested on July 15, days after the ATS busted an alleged JeM module. A court at Kadi in Mehsana district on Thursday remanded them in eight-day police (ATS) custody.

"During the interrogation

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'Kattar Beiman'

Modi tears into AAP over law & order, other issues

JALANDHAR, JUL 17: ***Prime Minister Narendra Modi today launched a fierce attack on the AAP government in Punjab over law & order and several other issues, dubbing the ruling dispensation as "Kattar Beiman" which neither had clean intentions, nor honesty.***

"The law & order situation is in shambles in Punjab, where no one can predict when or where a gang war might break out or from which direction bullets might fly," he said while addressing a gathering here after launching and laying foundation for rail and road infrastructure projects worth Rs 5,470 cr, including 75 redeveloped railway stations pan-India.

"Extortion demands are being made openly, and even attacks on police stations have become a frequent occurrence," Modi said.

The infrastructure projects are aimed at strengthening connectivity, improving passenger convenience and accelerating economic development in the region, according to officials.

Terming the AAP regime as "Kattar Beiman" with no clean intentions or honesty, the prime minister said that debts were being raised in the name of Punjab, and a large portion of the budget was being spent on servicing that debt, while those running the state government were enjoying the benefits of that money.

Modi also attacked the Akali Dal, saying it was not concerned with the public as it was caught up with its own affairs.

"Development work across Punjab has come to a standstill. The only projects that are being showcased are all initiatives of the government of India," Modi said.

"But Jalandhar is now becoming a witness to development," he added, referring to the unveiling of development projects here.

Although Punjab does not have a BJP government, the BJP-led NDA at the Centre is leaving no stone unturned

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LG visits Nunwan camp, calls for welfare of pilgrims

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 17

Continuing his outreach approach, LG Manoj Sinha today visited Shri Amarnathji Yatra's Nunwan base camp in the valley, interacted with pilgrims and directed the officials concerned to ensure their welfare.

At the base camp, he inspected the facilities in place for the pilgrims, besides chairing a meeting with senior officials.

In the meeting, the LG reviewed the arrangements made to provide essential services to pilgrims, including drinking water, electricity, telecom connectivity, accommodation, food, healthcare, emergency services and security. He also inspected the Yatra Registration Counter and reviewed the registration process.

He directed all the departments concerned to work in mission mode to ensure the welfare of pilgrims.

"Today marks 15 days of the pilgrimage, and during these days, more than 3.50 lakh pilgrims have had darshans of Baba Bholenath. By the grace of Almighty Shiva, the yatra is proceeding smoothly. There is a great enthusiasm among devotees coming from every corner of the country. Locals and service providers are also actively engaged in making this sacred pilgrimage a success," the LG said.

He directed the officials concerned to ensure that the environment remains fully protected. He instructed them for special cleanliness drives along both routes and camps.

"We are dedicated to a waste-free Shri Amarnathji Yatra and we must, working together under a whole-of-government approach, fulfill this commitment," the LG said.

He directed the officers to regularly obtain feedback from pilgrims and ensure prompt redressal of any issues brought to their notice. He instructed that all services provided to the pilgrims should strictly follow a 100 per cent prepaid system to ensure trans

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Monsoon Session

NDA ministers discuss strategy to get bills passed

NEW DELHI, JUL 17: A crucial meeting of the NDA group of ministers including Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Home Minister Amit Shah ahead of the Monsoon session of Parliament was held at Kartavya Bhavan here on Friday.

The meeting, also attended by Union ministers and NDA allies Lallan Singh (JD-U), Jayant Chaudhary (RLD) and Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu (TDP), discussed the ruling coalition's strategy in the upcoming Parliament session beginning July 20, sources said.

Defence Minister Rajanath Singh presided over the meeting in which Women and Child Development Minister Annpurna Devi was also present.

The sources said the meeting discussed government business for the upcoming session and the government's "priority" of converting two Ordinances into Acts of Parliament during the session.

The government plans to introduce the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill in the upcoming Monsoon session to replace the Ordinance effected to exempt foreign investors from income tax on interest earnings and capital gains from investment in government securities (G-secs).

The Ordinance was promulgated last month to attract foreign capital to ease pressure on the depreciating rupee due to the West Asia crisis. The Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 2026, will replace the Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026.

The government also

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Must remain forward-looking: Prez to IFS officers

NEW DELHI, JUL 17: President Droupadi Murmu today said that conservation efforts will be more effective and long-lasting when communities are stakeholders in protecting forests.

"Technological advancements, demographic changes and rising aspira

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JPC defers adoption of report on J&K, UT Bills

Seeks more deliberations

NEW DELHI, JUL 17: The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) chaired by BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi on Friday deferred the adoption of its draft report on three key legislations related to Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territories, saying more deliberations and consultations with stakeholders were needed before finalising its recommendations.

The committee, which met at Parliament House Annexe, reviewed the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirtieth Amendment) Bill, 2025, the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2025, and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill, 2025. During the meeting, officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs briefed members on the proposed amendments, following which the panel discussed its draft report.

Addressing reporters after the meeting, Sarangi said the committee had decided against adopting the draft report at this stage.

"The meeting did not adopt the draft report today. We will have further deliberations," she said.

Explaining the decision, Sarangi said the committee unanimously felt that more consultations were required before submitting its report.

"There were five recommendations placed before all of us. But when we started discussing the recommendations, the entire Joint Parliamentary Committee unanimously felt

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In newly created JK4C, govt posts 5 police officers

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 17

In the newly created J&K Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (JK4C), which the government established to combat cyber-crimes, the home department today ordered the postings of five senior police officers.

As per an official order, I/c IGP Sheikh Junaid Mehmood is transferred and posted as CEO of the cyber-crime coordination centre.

Sameer Sharma, DIG Armed, Jammu, is transferred and posted as DIG, JK4C, while Mohammad Yaseen Kichloo, Principal STC, Talwara, is transferred and posted as SSP in administrative wing of the centre with additional charge of SSP, JK4C.

Ramnish Gupta, SSP CICE, Jammu, is transferred and posted as SSP, Cyber Investigation Wing, JK4C.

SP Shwetambri Sharma, awaiting orders of posting, is transferred and posted as SP, Online Crime against Women and Children (OCWC) Wing of JK4C.

Meanwhile, in a significant step towards strengthening the cyber security architecture and enhancing the capacity to combat cybercrime in the Union Territory, sanction was accorded for the establishment of the Jammu & Kashmir Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (JK4C) as an independent organisation under the overall superintendence and control of the DGP.

The JK4C will serve as the nodal cybercrime coordination agency for the Union Territory and will be responsible for coordinat

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1 killed, 3 SOG men injured in firing incident

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 17

In a firing incident that followed after an attempt was made late last night to snatch the rifle of a cop of Special Operations Group at Bhaderwah in Doda district, a 'youth' was killed and three SOG personnel were wounded.

According to officials, a religious preacher was detained by police in connection with the incident.

Officials said SOG personnel laid an ambush late last night on the Jaie-Gandoh road, about 35 km

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Shri Amarnathji Yatra

4,640 pilgrims leave for Himalayas for darshans of ice-Shivalingam

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, JUL 17

Amid tight security, a fresh batch of 4,640 Amarnathji pilgrims today left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the South Kashmir Himalayas to have darshans of the naturally formed ice-Shivalingam.

According to officials, the pilgrims left early in the morning in a fleet of 171 vehicles comprising Light Motor and Heavy Motor Vehicles.

The batch comprising 1,626 pilgrims for Baltal and 3,014 for Pahalgam left for the pilgrimage under a multi-layered security grid, with coordinated arrangements by the civil administration, police, security forces and the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board to ensure the yatra was conducted safely, securely and smoothly.

The 57-day pilgrimage to the cave shrine was officially flagged off by LG Manoj Sinha on July 2 morning from Bhagwati Nagar base camp here simultaneously for the traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and the shorter but steeper 14-km Baltal route in Ganderbal district. The yatra will conclude on August 28.

Authorities have put in place multi-layered security arrangements along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and at all transit camps to ensure the safe and smooth movement of the yatra convoys. A multi-tier security setup has been activated in and

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US strikes bridges, collapses tower at key port in Iran

DUBAI, JUL 17: The United States expanded its airstrike campaign against Iran early Friday by hitting more bridges and collapsing a tower at a key Iranian port as part of US President Donald Trump's threats to start striking infrastructure to pressure Tehran to ease its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz.

In retaliation, Iran launched new missile attacks against US-allied nations in the Middle East, including Qatar, a key mediator in the war.

The interim ceasefire agreed to last month has collapsed, and the region has endured days of back-and-forth attacks by the US and Iran as they battle for control of the strait. Iranian officials say US strikes have killed dozens of people and wounded hundreds of others, with new casualties reported in Friday's strikes.

When the US and Israel launched the war on Iran on February 28, Tehran effectively closed the strait to shipping traffic, a move that sent the price of oil soaring and gave Iran major leverage in negotiations.

Speaking in a primetime address to the American public, Trump insisted the war was going well. "We are likewise winning big in Iran, and you will see the fruits of that labour very, very shortly," he said.

Meanwhile, the US airstrikes hit bridges overnight into Friday in Iran's southern Hormozgan province, killing at least seven people, Iranian state television reported. The attacks hit Bandar Khamir, a city on Iran's coast on the Strait of Hormuz.

The highway and railway bridge strikes appeared aimed at cutting off Bandar

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Sheikh Hasina's extradition under scrutiny: India

NEW DELHI, JUL 17: India today said a request by Dhaka to extradite Bangladesh's deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina was still under scrutiny.

The remarks by external affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal came amid Hasina's reported

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SC seeks EC reply on plea for SIR data transparency

NEW DELHI, JUL 17: The Supreme Court today sought responses from the Election Commission, the West Bengal government and the state poll panel on a PIL seeking disclosure of assembly constituency-wise data of claims and objections filed by deleted voters during the SIR process.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana was hearing the plea filed by Prasenjit Bose, chairperson of the SIR Committee of West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee.

The petition, filed through lawyer Neha Rathi, sought assembly constituency-wise data relating to the West Bengal Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process, including the number of Forms 6 and 7 filed, admitted and rejected, as well as details regarding the pendency and disposal of appeals before the appellate tribunals.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayan, appearing for Bose, said that the manner in which 18 tribunals set up to deal with the claims and objections of deleted voters are functioning is causing discrepancies and delays at a practical level.

He said due to deletions, the persons are excluded from welfare measures like public distribution and Annapurna schemes in the state and they are being denied the caste certificates as well.

The bench referred to the judgement delivered in the Bihar SIR case and said, "There is a corresponding duty on the Election Commission that when a tribunal says a person cannot be on the SIR list, the EC has to refer the case to the Union ministry for the determina

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