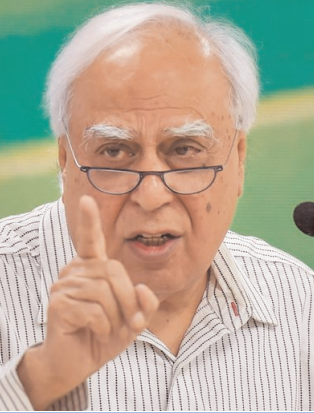




Searches continue for 7 missing persons

With the weather improving, Army today deployed a specially trained dog squad to aid the search for a government employee washed away in flash floods in Rajouri district.

According to officials, rescue teams have also intensified efforts to locate six other missing persons in the neighbouring Poonch district but all of them remain untraced so far.

Army showcases high-altitude combat capability

Army showcased its operational readiness, technological innovation and high-altitude combat capabilities through a live operational demonstration and static display in Drass sector of Ladakh as part of the 27th Kargil Vijay Diwas commemorations.

The demonstration featured Army's small team concept and the employment of drones and remotely piloted aerial systems (RPAS),

Rs 16.36 cr approved for restoration of temple, mosque

The Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-led government today approved two major heritage conservation projects worth Rs 16.36 cr for the revival and restoration of Sarvadhara Chaumanda Mata Mandir at Ramban and the historic Jamia Masjid Sharief at Shopian in Kashmir.

The government approved Rs 10.31 cr for the revival and restoration of Sarvadhara Chaumanda Mata Mandir at Ramban. The project seeks to conserve and strengthen the temple's historic and religious significance while

Horse Polo Cup Saxena orders increase in prize money

LEH, JUL 27: LG Vinai Kumar Saxena, who today attended the closing ceremony of 6th LG Horse Polo Cup 2026 at the historic Goshan Polo Ground at Drass, he announced a substantial increase in prize money for the winner and runner-up teams.

Notices issued to social media accounts

NEW DELHI, JUL 27: Delhi Police has started issuing notices to social media accounts directing them to delete "abusive" or "illegal" posts against senior leaders, including the prime minister, during the recent CJP protest at Jantar Mantar.

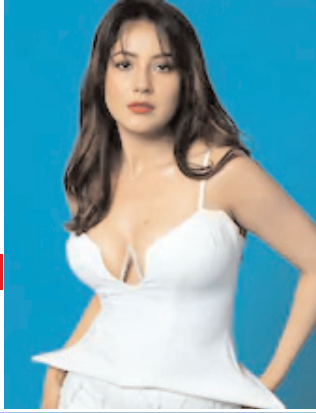
The action follows a review of content uploaded during and after the protest, with police scrutinising posts, videos and comments across multiple social media platforms for possible violations of law and their potential impact on public order.

SC seeks Centre's reply on Kapil Sibal's plea on interpretation of anti-defection law

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'Don't Want To Be Used As Prop': Shehnaaz On Not Doing Hindi Films, Says Radhika Apte Inspires Her | Exclusive

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Par logjam may end

Lok Sabha all set to discuss anti-paper leak Bill

NEW DELHI, JUL 27: After a week of repeated disruptions, the stalemate in the Lok Sabha was likely to end on Tuesday as Lok Sabha was set to discuss the anti-paper leak Bill, with officials saying that Speaker Om Birla had convinced leaders of all political parties to take up discussion.

The government and the Opposition reached an understanding to end the deadlock in Lok Sabha, paving the way for a discussion on The Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, from Tuesday.

This comes two days after Dharmendra Pradhan resigned as Education Minister on Saturday, following over a month-long protest over the NEET(UG) question paper leak.

"All political parties have agreed to discuss the anti-paper leak bill on Tuesday. Following Om Birla's initia-

tive and sustained dialogue, floor leaders of political parties have agreed to commence discussion on the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill 2026," officials said.

The Centre today introduced a Bill in the Lok Sabha to amend the anti-paper leaks law with stricter punishment of up to 10 years in jail and Rs 50 lakh fine, days after nationwide student protests over the NEET fiasco that led to Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation as education minister.

The proposed legislation was introduced by Union Minister Jitendra Singh amidst protests and sloganeering by the Opposition demanding a response from the government over the police crackdown on students during their protest march to Parliament.

However, no discussion could take place on the Bill as opposition refused to relent from its demand of

seeking response from the government over police action on the protesters at Jantar Mantar here and other parts of the country.

Since the Monsoon Session began on July 20, the opposition has been raking up the NEET paper leak issue due to which no legislative business could be taken up so far, except for the introduction of two Bills.

The breakthrough on Monday came after a day of behind-the-scenes negotiations led by Birla and government floor managers even as both Houses were repeatedly adjourned amid the Opposition protests.

Officials said Birla, who repeatedly appealed in the House for a discussion on the Bill, personally reached out to floor leaders across party lines during a three-hour adjournment from 2 pm to 5 pm. The government floor managers simultaneously engaged Opposition leaders.

By evening, both sides had agreed that the Bill

would be taken up on Tuesday, with members expected to move amendments before the government replies. A senior Congress leader confirmed that discussions had taken place to break the deadlock and the party had agreed to debate the Bill on Tuesday.

The breakthrough came after another day of washout in Parliament on Monday.

The day began with Opposition MPs protesting at Parliament's Makar Dwar over two separate issues - police action against the protesters, and the Ram Temple donation row.

In Lok Sabha, Opposition MPs rushed into the Well as soon as Question Hour began, demanding a statement from Union Home Minister Amit Shah. Amid repeated disruptions, Minister of State for the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Jitendra Singh introduced the Public Examinations (Pre-

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Only Modi, Shah can restore J&K statehood: Omar



HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 27

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said that only Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah could take a decision on the restoration of statehood to Jammu & Kashmir.

"The decision on restora-

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Pak drones sighted near IB, LoC

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 27

After the sighting of Pak drones near the IB in Samba sub-sector and the LoC in Rajouri district, massive operations were launched by security forces to search for payloads, if any.

Officials said forces picked up the movement of an enemy drone near the IB at Nandpur, Samba. It, however, flew back to Pakistan before it could be fired upon by the troops, officials said.

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Right to peaceful protest guaranteed: SC

NEW DELHI, JUL 27: An agitation cannot justify "police excesses" or a "lathi charge", the Supreme Court said on Monday while observing that the right to peaceful protest was absolutely guaranteed.

A bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant also said it will hear on Tuesday a batch of pleas alleging police excesses against students protesting over NEET paper leak across the country and other exam irregularities.

Besides, the bench, also comprising Justices Joy-malya Bagchi and V Mohana, agreed to take up a separate plea filed by a few

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Ethical Tourism Conclave

In 6 yrs, J&K tourism has set new records in arrivals: LG

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 27

Highlighting the need to redefine tourism as a responsibility towards nature, LG Manoj Sinha today said that J&K tourism had set new records in arrivals & investments in the past six years.

"There is a need to redefine tourism as a responsibility towards nature, culture and society," he said while addressing 'Ethical Tourism Conclave' in the valley.

"Tourism must be inclusive and it should empower boatmen, pony owners, artisans, homestay families and local youth. In six years, J&K tourism has set new records in arrivals, investments, and opportunities. However, true success lies in hope, dignity, and prosperity reaching every household," the LG said.

"Ethical Tourism is a collective resolve. Together, let us ensure that prosperity

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Amarnathji Yatra surpasses 4.22-lakh mark

3,823 pilgrims leave for holy cave shrine in Himalayas

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 27

On the 20th day of the pilgrimage, the holy Amarnath Yatra today crossed the 4.22-lakh mark while a fresh batch of 3,823 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp here for the holy cave shrine in South Kashmir Himalayas.

The yatra started on July 2 but it remained suspended from July 19 to July 24 due to heavy rains, landslides and flash floods. It resumed on July 25 from

the Baltal route only as the traditional Pahalgam track, which suffered damages during the six days of rains, was closed for repairs.

According to officials, chants of "Bam Bam Bhole" and "Har Har Mahadev" rent the air as 3,823 pilgrims, including 2,966 men, 855 women and two children, left for the Baltal route in 140 vehicles amid tight security.

With this, 1,27,326 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp so far. However, nearly 4.22 lakh pilgrims had performed darshans of

the naturally formed ice-Shivalingam, a senior official said.

"As of 1 pm today, around 4.22 lakh pilgrims had performed darshans at the holy cave shrine," he added.

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

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Jitendra introduces 'Paper Leak, Unfair Means' Bill in LS

NEW DELHI, JUL 27 Union Minister Jitendra Singh today introduced the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026 in the Lok Sabha.

The Bill seeks to further strengthen the provisions of the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024 by providing for fast-tracked investigation, speedy trial through Special Fast Track Courts, appointment of Special Public Prosecutors, time-bound disposal of appeals and more stringent penal provisions to effectively deter unfair means



and organised malpractices in public examinations.

The proposed amendments have been brought in to reinforce the existing

legal framework in view of incidents of question paper leakages and organised examination-related malpractices reported in recent

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PoJK votes amid protests; Oppn alleges military interference

ISLAMABAD, JULY 27: Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) voted on Monday in the first phase of its legislative assembly elections amid tight security.

The polls come against the backdrop of months of anti-government protests, a boycott by former Prime Minister Imran Khan's party, and opposition allegations of military-backed "election engineering."

Polling began in 13 constituencies across the Mirpur division, the first stage of a three-phase election for 45 directly elected seats in the 53-member assembly.

Voting in the remaining constituencies will be held on August 2 and August 10.

More than 1.4 million registered voters are eligible to cast ballots in the first phase, with over 2,500 polling stations set up across the districts of Mirpur, Bhimber, and Kotli. Nearly 300 candidates are contesting the 13 seats.

According to PoJK's Election Commissioner Ghulam Mustafa Mughal, polling in 13 constituencies of the Mirpur division began on July 27, nine constituencies of the Muzaffarabad division and all 12 refugee constituencies will go to polls

on August 2, and 11 constituencies of the Poonch division on August 10.

The elections are being held amid one of the region's biggest protest movements in recent years, with demonstrators accusing the Pakistani administration of economic neglect, political repression, and denying locals a meaningful role in governance.

The staggered polls took place under heavy security arrangements.

Pakistan's Punjab province deployed about 14,000 police personnel to the region to maintain secu-

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MeT predicts heavy rains, flash floods; traffic disrupted on NH

Doda bridge closed

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 27

While vehicular traffic remained disrupted on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway due to a landslide at Dewal in Udhampur district, the meteorological department today predicted a fresh spell of heavy to very heavy rains, thundershowers and flash floods in vulnerable areas across J&K from July 28-31.

According to officials, a fresh landslide blocked the

highway at Dewal in Udhampur district, leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded.

The landslide struck early in the morning, forcing authorities to suspend vehicular traffic from both sides.

The road closure left several trucks and passenger vehicles stranded between Udhampur and Banihal, which were being cleared through the single carriage way while repairs to the bumpy road surface were underway.

While the road was partially restored later, only stranded vehicles were allowed to proceed to their destinations on either side. No fresh vehicles were allowed from Jammu towards Srinagar and vice versa.

NHAI had deployed its men and machinery to clear the debris and make the highway fully operational, officials said.

Traffic on the highway had resumed on Sunday after remaining suspended

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Cong MPs protest in Par complex, seek Amit Shah's apology

NEW DELHI, JUL 27: Congress MPs protested in the Parliament House complex on Monday over alleged "police brutality" against student protesters during the agitation on the NEET paper leak issue and demanded Home Minister Amit Shah's apology.

Carrying placards and a large banner, they protested in front of the steps of the Makar Dwar of Parliament. They raised slogans, demanding answers from the home minister over alleged police excesses against protesting students.

The Congress-led oppo-



sition is set to keep the pressure on the government in Parliament over the issue, demanding action against those responsible for the assault on students and an apology from

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shah.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi has written to Shah, seeking accountabil-

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Kavinder calls for connecting younger generation with Sanatan values

KATHUA, JUL 27: Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta today called for connecting the younger generation with the timeless values of Sanatan Dharma.

"There is a pressing need to connect the younger generation with the timeless values and ideals of Sanatan Dharma. India's ancient scriptures and spiritual traditions provide invaluable guidance for leading a life of discipline, righteousness, compassion and selfless service, he said in his address after participating in the inaugural session of four-day Vedic Yajna-Anushtan or-



ganised at Kathua under the guidance of Yogacharya Pujya Swami Ram Swarupji Maharaj of Yol, Kangra.

On the occasion, Gupta took part on yajna, offered aahutis and prayed for peace, harmony, prosperity and the well-being of humanity.

He called upon parents, teachers and society to inspire the youth to understand and preserve the country's rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

The governor said that saints and spiritual leaders had, through the ages, played a pivotal role in preserving India's spiritual legacy and nurturing moral values in society.

Appreciating the contribution of Yogacharya Swami Ram Swarupji Maharaj, he said that his efforts in disseminating the timeless wisdom of the Vedas

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