



Sinha condemns Kulgam terror attack

LG Manoj Sinha has strongly condemned the Kulgam terror attack in which a non-local labourer today lost his life while another sustained critical injuries. "I spoke with DGP Nalin Prabhat and top security officials following the brutal terrorist attack at Kulgam in which a labourer from Chhattisgarh was killed. I strongly condemn this cowardly act. I have directed our se

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ACB files chargesheet against ex-tehsildar

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) today filed a chargesheet before the Court of Special Judge, Anti-Corruption, Baramulla, against then Tehsildar, Qaziabad, Ghulam Rasool Bhat and one Rafi Ahmad Lone in connection with an alleged Rs 1 lakh bribery case.

According to officials, the chargesheet was filed after completion of investigation into allegations

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Banned Chinese manja seized

Police seized five rolls of banned Chinese plastic manja (gattu) and arrested a shopkeeper here today.

Acting on a reliable information, officials said police conducted a raid at a shop in Purkhoo Camp area and recovered five rolls of the banned Chinese manja which were then seized.

One person was taken into custody in this connection and booked under relevant sections of law.

The sale, storage and use of Chinese Manja have been prohibited by the district magistrate, Jammu, as the hazardous

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Govt notifies uniform building permission fee

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 31

In a significant reform aimed at streamlining the building permission process across Jammu and Kashmir, the Housing & Urban Development Department (HUDD) has notified a Uniform Building Permission Fee Schedule under the provisions of the Jammu & Kashmir Unified Building Bye-Laws, 2021, vide government order number 157-JK(HUD) of 2026.

The new fee schedule has

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Lt Gen Pratik reviews training at Madras Regimental Centre

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 31

Northern Army Commander Lt Gen Pratik Sharma on Friday visited the Madras Regimental Centre in Wellington, Tamil Nadu, where he reviewed training, infrastructure and welfare measures, and lauded the high standards maintained by the premier infantry training establishment.

During his maiden visit to the centre as the Colonel of the Madras Regiment, he paid homage to the regi

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'Ruthless' crackdown in PoJK

India denounces Pakistan, calls for global scrutiny

NEW DELHI, JUL 31: Denouncing Pakistan, India today called upon the international community to scrutinise Islamabad's "ruthless" use of force against peaceful protesters in Pakistan-occupied Jammu & Kashmir (PoJK) and hold it accountable for the "atrocities".

Around 40 people were said to have been killed in the crackdown by the security forces in PoJK since July 27 amid local-body elections in the region.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the Pakistani establishment continued to "unleash ruthless force" against peaceful civilians in PoJK.

The PoJK has been witnessing massive protests since last month over inflated living costs, alleged administrative apathy and political discrimination and atrocities against minorities.

The Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) has been leading the protests.

"This crackdown has resulted in the tragic death of over 40 civilians and serious injuries to many," Jaiswal said at a regular media briefing here.

He contended that the Pakistani establishment's "absolute disdain for the innocent people of PoJK was laid bare"

when Defence Minister Khawaja Asif branded the protesting civilians as "enemies".

"Adding to this, the Special Assistant to the prime minister on political affairs, openly admitted that the very 'mujahideen' that Pakistani establishment trained, armed and sent to bleed India have now turned their guns inward, weaponising themselves against the state," he added.

Jaiswal said the "so-called" elections stand as a "humiliating rejection" of the Pakistani establishment.

"Facing a violent regime, the people have requested international organisations for an independent investigation into the unlawful killings," he said.

"We urge that the international community should scrutinise Pakistan's actions and hold it accountable for its atrocities," he added.

New Delhi has criticised Islamabad's actions in PoJK several times over the past few weeks as the region has witnessed widespread violence since June. The protests in the region, which are being spearheaded by the Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC), have been outlawed by Pakistani authorities.

"As you and all of us have witnessed, the Pakistani establishment continues to unleash ruthless force against

peaceful civilians in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir," Jaiswal said.

He also highlighted remarks made by veteran Pakistani politician Rana Sanaullah, who said on a TV news programme that the situation in PoJK had been exacerbated by the presence of mujahideen who were trained by Pakistan to target India. Sanaullah currently serves as the special assistant on political affairs to Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Jaiswal noted that Sanaullah had "openly admitted that the very mujahideen that the Pakistani establishment trained, funded, armed and sent to India have now turned their guns inward, weaponising themselves against the state".

Sanaullah told a TV news programme that the Pakistan-trained mujahideen are now "hanging around our necks". He alleged they were also involved in efforts to seize Muzaffarabad and Mirpur in an "India-like attack".

The JAAC initially launched a movement to protest against inflation, high electricity tariffs and the reservation of seats in the legislative assembly for refugees from the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, which it claimed were used to manipulate the outcome of elections. The protests flared up

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India has potential to become global powerhouse: Prez



NEW DELHI, JUL 31: President Droupadi Murmu on Friday said that India has the potential to become a global powerhouse in grassroots innovation by leveraging its vast scale and spirit of innovation.

Meeting a group of grass

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Pak drone shot down at Khour

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 31

A Pakistani drone was today shot down by Army troops during an operation in the border Chakla village of Khour in Akhnoor sub-sector of Jammu.

It was later recovered by the forces, officials said.

The drone was spotted hovering over Chakla, which falls under the jurisdiction of Khour police station, officials said.

Soon thereafter, the troops fired at it and brought it down. "The drone has been recovered

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Rs 5,070-cr PM Surya Sarovar Yojana approved

NEW DELHI JUL 31: The Union Cabinet on Friday approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY), a new scheme to promote floating solar power projects with integrated energy storage systems, with a total outlay of Rs 5,070 crore.

The initiative aims to significantly expand India's renewable energy capacity by developing 5,000 MW of Floating Solar Photovoltaic (FSPV) projects across reservoirs and other suitable inland water bodies.

Announcing the decision after the Cabinet meeting, union Information and

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Future belongs to those who see possibilities rather than boundaries: LG

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, JUL 31

Stating that the 21st century would welcome those who possess the ability to integrate from multiple fields, LG Manoj Sinha today said that 'future belongs to those who see possibilities rather than boundaries'.

"I believe that the 21st century will welcome those young people who are not specialists in just one subject but possess the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple fields and discover new solutions," he said in his address after inaugurating a series of groundbreaking academic programmes designed to redefine the future of higher education in the region.

The LG highlighted the significance of the "Design Your Degree" programme, calling it a revolutionary step towards student-centric learning. He noted that the world today demands multi-disciplinary thinkers who can integrate knowledge across diverse fields.

"The frontiers of knowledge are continuously expanding. Problems are multidimensional, and their solutions are possible only through multi-disciplinary approaches. The future belongs to those who recognise possibilities, not boundaries. This initiative empowers students to shape their own academic journeys, com-

Migrant worker killed, another injured in terror attack

SRINAGAR, JUL 31: Terrorists today fired at two non-local brick kiln workers at Kelam in Kulgam district of the valley, killing one of them and causing critical injuries to the other.

This was the second terror attack in south Kashmir in the last two weeks despite a high security alert.

Officials said terrorists opened fire on non-local labourers at a brick kiln in Kelam village in the evening, injuring both of them. Thereafter, they fled the spot.

One of them succumbed to his injuries before he

could be taken to hospital for hospital, officials said and added that the other was admitted to the government medical college & hospital, Anantnag. However, following deteriorating in his condition, he was later referred to a Srinagar hospital for advanced treatment.

The dead was identified as Deepak of Chhattisgarh and the injured as Bhupinder.

Security forces reached the spot soon after the incident and launched a massive operation which was continuing when reports last came in late this

evening. The forces, however, were yet to find any trace of the escaped terrorists, officials said.

Today's attack was the second in South Kashmir in July.

Earlier, on July 22, terrorists had shot dead a policeman at Lal Chowk in Anantnag district. The cop was deployed on Amarnath Yatra duty when he was targeted by the terrorists.

On April 22, 2025, Pak terrorists had massacred 25 Hindu holidayers and a local at Baisaran in the valley's Pahalgam area while they were enjoying with

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JPC examining bill to remove PM, CMs gets extension

NEW DELHI, JUL 31: The joint parliamentary committee examining the bill for the removal of the prime minister and chief ministers if they are jailed for 30 straight days on serious charges was on Friday given an extension of the deadline to submit its report.

The Lok Sabha passed a resolution to allow the joint committee, examining the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, 2025, to submit its report by the first day of the last week of the Winter Session.

The Winter Session of Parliament usually commences in the last week of November and ends ahead of Christmas.

The panel chaired by BJP MP Aparajita Sarangi had recently postponed adopting its draft report, saying that its members felt further consultations were needed.

The committee is reviewing the proposed law to remove a prime minister, chief minister, or ministers if they are jailed for 30 consecutive days on serious charges.

The joint committee on the Constitution (130th Amendment) Bill, the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Bill had earlier this month decided to invite the political parties that boycotted the panel.

Several opposition parties have stayed away from the committee, contending that the Bills violate the fundamental principle of law of a person being presumed innocent until

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Kavinder expresses grief over demise of Gen V N Sharma

SHIMLA, JUL 31: Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta today expressed profound grief over the demise of former Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Gen V N Sharma, who passed away at the age of 97.

Gen Sharma, the 14th Chief of Army Staff, served as the head of the Indian Army from 1988 to 1990. A highly respected military leader, he played a pivotal role in strengthening the nation's defence preparedness and left behind a legacy of exemplary leadership, professionalism and selfless service to the country.

The governor said with pride that Gen Sharma's roots remained firmly embedded in Himachal Pradesh. The Sharma family hailed from Dadh village in Kangra district, a region renowned for its rich military tradition and unwavering contribution to the armed forces.

Despite spending decades in national service, Gen Sharma maintained a deep connection with his ancestral village and had recently travelled from Dadh to his residence in Delhi's Defence Colony.

Describing his demise as the end of an era, Gupta said that Himachal Pradesh had lost one of its finest soldier-statesmen whose distinguished service, integrity and patriotism would continue to inspire generations to come.

He said Gen Sharma's unwavering commitment to safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of the nation earned him the respect and admiration of the armed forces and citizens alike. His invaluable contribution to strengthening the Indian Army will always be remembered with gratitude and pride.

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