

India denounces Pakistan, calls for global scrutiny

again during the first phase of elections to the local assembly on July 27, with security forces opening fire on protesters. Reports said some 20 people were killed in the violence.

"Facing a violent regime, the people there have requested international organisations for an independent investigation into the unlawful killings. We urge that the international community should scrutinise Pakistan's actions and hold it accountable for its atrocities," Jaiswal said.

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

thinkers capable of understanding complex problems in their entirety and finding solutions. By encouraging cross-disciplinary study, Cluster University, Jammu is preparing students not only to master theories but to generate new ideas and innovations," the LG said.

Cluster University, Jammu has also introduced one-year PG Diploma in Sanatan Dharma and Indian Knowledge Systems, along with the establishment of the Department of Vedic Studies.

Sinha said the true education must balance science with values. He stressed that India's intellectual heritage, from Panini's grammar to Aryabhata's astronomy, from Ayurveda to linguistics, represents a treasure of systematic thought and scientific vision.

"As modern knowledge is essential, it is equally essential that we understand who we are, what our intellectual tradition has been and what our civilisation has contributed to the world. Giving expression to this very sentiment, the establishment of the Department of Vedic Studies and the launch of the one-year PG Diploma programme in Sanatan Dharma and Indian Knowledge Systems today is a significant step. The students will get the opportunity to understand that the Indian Knowledge System is not limited only to ancient beliefs or religious rituals but that Indian philosophy, the Upanishads, the Vedas, ancient mathematics, medical science, astronomy and linguistics constitute an invaluable heritage of profound intellectual research, science and logical thinking that our ancestors gave to the world. This programme will allow students to engage deeply with India's civilizational wisdom while pursuing modern knowledge," he said.

He also inaugurated the Semiconductor Skilling Programme in collaboration with IIT Madras, describing it as a vital step in India's technological mission. He observed that semiconductors are the backbone of modern innovation, powering everything from mobile phones to space missions.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has resolved to become a leader in technology development and manufacturing. This skilling initiative will equip students with cutting-edge expertise, aligning them with the needs of future industries and strengthening India's position in the global deep-tech landscape," he said.

He called upon students to focus on skill development and innovation. He said every skill acquired and every innovation pursued will contribute to India's journey towards self-reliance and global leadership. He expressed confidence that these programmes will not only enrich individual academic journeys but also give new direction to Jammu Kashmir's progress.

"The new programmes at Cluster University, Jammu is the beginning of a new philosophy of education. Rooted in India's cultural identity and oriented towards global aspirations, these initiatives promise to empower students to dream, innovate and lead," he said.

The occasion also witnessed the launch of Post-Graduate Programme in Environmental Sciences with Minor Specialisation in Renewable Energy; One year Post-Graduate diploma in Dogri Translation; release of Nasha Mukti Bharat activity report, and renaming of Vice-Chancellor's office-cum-secretariat complex as "Suryaputri Tawi Bhawan" and old IIM Campus as "Chandrabhaga Campus".

Prof K S Chandrasekar, Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University of Jammu; Ankur Mahajan, Registrar, HoDs and office bearers of the Cluster University of Jammu; heads of several Constituent colleges of the University, faculty, and students attended the inaugural ceremony.

Sinha condemns Kulgam terror attack

curity forces to step up their operations and eliminate the terrorists," he said in a post on X. "Police and security forces have cordoned off the area

and launched an operation to bring the perpetrators to justice. Another injured labourer from Chhattisgarh has been rushed to the hospital for urgent medical care. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family and I am praying for the speedy recovery of the injured. J&K administration and the entire nation stand with the families," the LG added.

ACB files chargesheet against ex-tehsildar

that the accused public servant had demanded illegal gratification for granting permission to cut walnut trees for commercial purposes.

The ACB said the case was registered following a complaint alleging that the then tehsildar had sought a bribe for processing the required permission. After verification of the allegations, a formal case under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, was registered at Police Station ACB, Baramulla, and investigation was initiated.

During investigation, the ACB laid a successful trap on June 20, 2025, during which the accused tehsildar was allegedly caught red-handed while demanding and accepting the remaining bribe amount of Rs 50,000 at Kralgund, Handwara.

Officials said the tainted currency was also recovered in accordance with legal procedures. Both the accused were arrested in connection with the case. They were later released on bail by the competent court.

Following completion of the investigation and after obtaining the required prosecution sanction from the competent authority, the ACB presented the chargesheet before the Special Anti-Corruption Court, Baramulla, for judicial determination.

Banned Chinese manja seized

synthetic thread poses a serious threat to public safety. Its sharp, non-biodegradable nature has been responsible for causing grievous injuries and fatalities to pedestrians, two-wheeler riders, children and birds.

Govt notifies uniform building permission fee

come into force with immediate effect and will be applicable across all Urban Local Bodies and Development Authorities in the Union Territory.

The notification introduces a single, standardised fee structure for building permissions, replacing the varying rates that were previously followed by different Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Municipal Committees and Development Authorities. The reform aims to bring uniformity, transparency, predictability and ease of doing business while ensuring a more consistent and citizen-friendly regulatory framework for urban development.

As per the new rates, the fee has been fixed at Rs 80 per sq mt for residential buildings including housing colonies, Rs 150 for mixed-use buildings and Rs 270 for commercial, public/semi-public, industrial and other special category buildings. The religious buildings have been exempted. The additional charges include Malba Security of Rs 3,000 for residential and Rs 10,000 for all other categories. A compounding fee of 40 pc of the applicable permission fee will also be levied over and above the normal fee.

The uniform fee structure shall be applicable to all Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils, Municipal Committees and Development Authorities across the Union Territory. The notified rates will also be integrated into the Online Building Permission System (OBPS)/Auto-DCR to ensure uniform processing of building permission applications.

The reform is expected to simplify the building permission process, eliminate disparities in fee structures across different organizations under HUDD and shall provide a more citizen-centric and business-friendly regulatory framework for urban development in Jammu and Kashmir.

Lt Gen Pratik reviews training at Madras Regimental Centre

ment's fallen soldiers at the war memorial.

"Lt Gen Pratik Sharma, Army Commander and Colonel of the Madras Regiment, on his maiden visit to the Madras Regimental Centre, Wellington, paid homage to the Regiment's brave hearts at the war memorial", Northern Command headquarters said on X.

He also interacted with officers, Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs), Other Ranks (ORs) and Agniveers, and reviewed training and administrative infrastructure projects besides welfare initiatives for veterans and Veer Naaris.

The Army Commander commended all ranks for maintaining excellent professional standards and reaffirmed the Madras Regiment's commitment to operational excellence,

professional competence and selfless service to the nation.

Govt approves extension of PM-KISAN scheme with Rs 3.15L cr outlay

4.47 lakh crore directly into farmers' bank accounts through 23 instalments under the scheme.

Under the 23rd instalment, more than 9.49 crore farmers benefited, with over Rs 18,984 crore released.

"Women farmers have received more than Rs 1.06 lakh crore under PM-KISAN, and nearly one out of every four beneficiaries is a woman farmer," the statement said.

The government highlighted that the assistance provided under PM-KISAN has enabled farmers to make timely investments in seeds, fertilisers, irrigation, agricultural machinery and other agricultural requirements.

"This has enhanced farmers' productive capacity, reduced their dependence on informal credit and strengthened the financial stability of rural households," it added.

Further, the government said that the impact of the PM-KISAN Scheme has been assessed by various independent institutions.

According to the evaluation conducted by the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) of NITI Aayog, more than 92 per cent of beneficiaries reported that the amount was used for agricultural activities and agricultural investment.

Around 85 per cent of beneficiaries confirmed an improvement in agricultural income and a reduction in dependence on informal credit.

India has potential to become global powerhouse: Prez

roots innovators of Atal Innovations Mission, who had called on the President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre here, she said that societal changes do not come about through ideas alone and advancing these ideas requires an environment that guides talent and provides appropriate platforms and resources.

Murmu emphasised that grassroots innovations are well-suited to society's needs, as they combine local experience, scientific thinking, and individual creativity with a sense of social responsibility.

She said that India has the potential to become a global powerhouse in grassroots innovation by leveraging its vast scale and spirit of innovation.

She said that the dream of Viksit Bharat will be realised when every citizen works with an innovation mindset to find solutions to problems.

Murmu was happy to note that various institutions and citizens are working together with a shared objective, and a culture of innovation is gaining strength.

She expressed confidence that the benefits of such efforts will reach a wide cross-section of society.

The President said that many innovators persisted in their efforts despite limited resources, uncertainties, and recurring challenges.

Murmu appreciated them for their conviction in innovation to bring about positive change in the lives of individuals, families, or communities.

She advised them to continuously refine their innovations, foster collaborations with research institutions, the industry, and other innovators, and strive to scale up their innovations to a wider level.

The President also visited the exhibition set up by these innovators, witnessed their innovations and interacted with them, according to a statement issued by her office.

She was happy to note that innovators across the country are developing solutions for local problems that hold significance at the national level.

She said that today's exhibition demonstrates how grassroots innovators are contributing to areas such as converting waste into wealth, energy conservation, enhancing convenience for women and persons with disabilities, environmental protection, agriculture, and the preservation of art.

Murmu was happy to note that the Atal Community Innovation Centres are providing grassroots innovators with guidance and technical support, as well as opportunities to transform innovative ideas into sustainable enterprises.

Migrant worker killed, another injured in terror attack

their families.

Attacks on non-locals have taken place after a gap of two years. Earlier, on April 17, 2024, a non-local vendor from Bihar, identified as Raja Shah, was killed by terrorists in Bi-jbehara area of Anantnag district. On February 7, terrorists killed Amritpat Singh, a labourer from Amritsar in Punjab, in the old city area of Srinagar. Another non-local worker, Rohit Mashi, was injured and succumbed to his injuries on February 8.

Births & Deaths amendment bill passed in LS amid protests

ister Narendra Modi had posted a video on Instagram in which he assured that "any paper mafia, paper leak gang, gang which tries to play with the future of the youth of the country would not be spared".

Underlining that his government had delivered on its promise to bring a tough law, he said: "We are taking step after step towards creating a reliable education system, whether it is the creation of a task force, fast-track courts, taking suggestions from states... A nationwide reform in education sector has become compulsory... work in this direction will continue."

Earlier, before Union Minister Jitendra Singh could respond to the debate on the Bill in the Rajya Sabha, INDIA bloc MPs had walked out, demanding that Home Minister Amit Shah make a statement on the police action against

protesting students last week. Singh said it was unfortunate that the MPs who had spoken most vociferously during the debate had walked out.

JPC examining bill to remove PM, CMs gets extension

proven guilty, and resort to automatic sacking of a prime minister, chief ministers, and ministers if they fail to get bail within a month of arrest in serious criminal matters.

Pak drone shot down at Khour

by the forces and the area secured for further examination," officials said.

A tight vigil was being maintained in the area, the officials added.

Kavinder expresses grief over demise of Gen V N Sharma

Gupta conveyed his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and the Indian Army fraternity. He prayed to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to the family to bear this irreparable loss.

Rs 5,070-cr PM Surya Sarovar Yojana approved

Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the scheme would accelerate the deployment of floating solar technology while improving grid reliability through co-located energy storage systems.

"The union Cabinet has approved the Pradhan Mantri Surya Sarovar Yojana (PM-SSY) for the development of Floating Solar Photovoltaic Projects with Energy Storage Systems with a total outlay of Rs 5,070 crore," Vaishnaw said.

Under the scheme, 5,000 MW of floating solar capacity will be developed along with Energy Storage Systems (ESS) having a minimum storage capacity of two hours, equivalent to 10,000 MWh. The projects will be sanctioned between FY 2026-27 and FY 2030-31, while financial assistance will continue to be disbursed until FY 2032-33.

The Cabinet approval follows a recent assessment by the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), which estimated that India has a floating solar potential of approximately 102.18 Gwp across reservoirs and other suitable inland water bodies.

To encourage project development, the Centre will provide Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of Rs 1 crore per MW for eligible floating solar projects after successful commissioning. Additionally, project developers will be eligible for up to Rs 50 lakh per project to undertake feasibility studies, including bathymetry and hydrography surveys, environmental assessments and other preparatory work required to de-risk project implementation, according to a statement here.

The government said the scheme would benefit all States and union Territories while expanding India's floating solar capacity from the current level of around 700 MW to 5,700 MW after completion of the approved projects.

According to the statement, floating solar installations will enable productive utilisation of existing reservoirs, dams and industrial ponds, reducing the need to acquire scarce land for renewable energy projects. The integration of battery storage systems will also improve grid stability by ensuring better management of intermittent solar power generation.

The government estimates that the scheme will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by around 10 million tonnes annually and generate approximately 16,000 to 17,000 full-time equivalent employment opportunities across manufacturing, construction, installation, operations and maintenance.

The Cabinet also said the programme would provide a major boost to domestic manufacturing by promoting the production of floatation systems, photovoltaic cells and modules, energy storage systems and other components required across the floating solar value chain, in line with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

The government said the PM Surya Sarovar Yojana would contribute significantly to renewable energy capacity addition, support India's energy transition and climate commitments, enable optimal utilisation of water resources and strengthen the country's progress towards the goal of Viksit Bharat.

SC agrees to dissolve Omar's marriage with estranged wife

the 2016 family court order refusing to grant a decree of divorce to him.

On August 30, 2016, the family court dismissed Omar Abdullah's plea, holding that he could not prove his claims of "cruelty" or "desertion" which were the grounds alleged by him for seeking a decree of divorce.

In his plea seeking divorce, Omar Abdullah claimed before the family court that his marriage had broken down irretrievably and he had not enjoyed a conjugal relationship since 2007 and that the couple, married on September 1, 1994, was living separately since 2009.

The petition before the trial court also alleged that Omar Abdullah was subjected to "unreasonable conduct" by Payal, causing pain and harassment to the politician.

In August 2023, a single-judge bench of the Delhi High Court directed Omar Abdullah to pay Rs 1.5 lakh as monthly interim maintenance to his estranged wife.

He was also ordered to pay Rs 60,000 every month for the education of each of their two sons.

The high court's order had come on the petitions filed by Payal Abdullah and the couple's sons against the 2018 lower court orders granting her and them interim maintenance of Rs 75,000 and Rs 25,000 till they attained the age of majority, respectively.

Lieutenant Governor interacts with officers of Higher Command Course-55

SRINAGAR, JULY 31: Lieutenant Governor Shri Manoj Sinha interacted with the officers attending Higher Command Course - 55 at Army War College, Mhow.

In his address to the officers and faculty members of Army War College at Lok Bhavan, the Lieutenant Governor highlighted the pressing geo-political and geo-strategic challenges of the present era, along with a comprehensive counter-terrorism strategy anchored in a "whole of government approach" aimed at dismantling the terror networks.

He said the transformation in Jammu Kashmir over past 6 years, is the result of a sustained commitment to rebuilding trust, enabling citizens to

lead lives of their own choosing and restoring the dignity that had long been overshadowed by instability.

"I have consistently emphasized that governance cannot be managed from a distance. Effective administration must reach out to every household in the most remote village and serve the most marginalized citizen, with unwavering dedication and responsibility," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also noted that our forces must be ready to tackle the challenges of asymmetric warfare. He said the strategic value of data analysis and algorithmic precision is as important as conventional kinetic operations today.

The Lieutenant Governor said that strong action has been taken with surgical firmness against the terror ecosystem and the conflict entrepreneurs who were working to keep terrorism alive in Jammu Kashmir.

"The systematic infiltration of terrorist sympathizers into government machinery over the past 30 years was decisively dismantled, delivering an unambiguous message of zero tolerance to terror and public money will no longer sustain those quietly subverting the nation from within," he said.

Lt Gen Ajay Chandpuria, Commandant, Army War College, faculty members and senior officers of the Security Forces were present.



fiendish character that their continued existence, even in prison, will be a menace to society. For the other offenses the convicts have been found guilty of, they must face the full force of the law." He said that the state has not bought anything on record to establish that any of the convicts has any violent disposition or propensity to crime. "The final test that law requires me to undertake before I conclude that this case invites capital punishment is whether the convicts are beyond redemption and there being no chance of reformation, it is now firmly established in our criminal jurisprudence that death penalty is of the last absorp-

tion," the judge said. On being asked about his sentence, Hussain said the high court will serve him justice. Earlier, Delhi Police had sought death penalty for all the five accused, saying they fell to the "level of being animals" while relentlessly assaulting Sharma. Special public prosecutor Madhukar Pandey had submitted that Sharma was brutally killed and was not shown any mercy by the convicts, so they should not be given any leniency. Those who are asking for mercy today should have shown mercy themselves. No mercy was shown from anyone's side. No one even took Ankit to the hospital.

They are asking for mercy after committing such a brutal murder, Pandey had said.

On July 13, the court convicted Hussain and four others for the murder of Sharma, who was attacked by a mob during the riots. His body was later found in a drain.

In its verdict, the court held that Hussain was a member of a heavily armed mob that assembled with animus against Hindus to commit rioting, arson and loot, and murdered Sharma in a savage and relentless assault. The court said the prosecution had proved that the members of the unlawful assembly knew that, in pursuing their common object, death could (be the) result and someone could be killed.

Hussain was convicted under IPC sections 302 (murder), 365 (kidnapping or abducting with intent secretly and wrongfully to confine a person), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting armed with a deadly weapon), 153A (promoting enmity) and 188 (disobedience to an order duly promulgated by a public servant), read with Section 149 (unlawful assembly).