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Punjab Police constable from Ferozepur wins Rs 7-crore Rakhi Bumper jackpot

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The Academy spotlights Deepika Padukone's iconic Naina Talwar from Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani

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Can't punish students for asking questions: SC judge

Supreme Court judge Ujjal Bhuyan on Sunday said that students expressing a different point of view or asking questions cannot be threatened with punitive action, as such an approach is unconstitutional and a misuse of power.

Justice Bhuyan said a university should be a place where "established positions" can be "examined

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Police attach house

Police today attached a residential house linked with an alleged narcos-offender in Kashmir's Shopian district.

"As part of the ongoing crackdown on narcos-related activities, Shopian police have attached a residential house valued at Rs 16.77 lakh belonging to Hilal Ahmad Dar, in Vehl area, under the provisions

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Ladakh's development must leverage unique strengths: NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Ashok K Lahiri has emphasised that Ladakh's development strategy should build on its unique strengths, including its natural resources, cultural heritage and renewable-energy potential.

He stressed that these advantages must be harnessed in a manner that ensures environmental sustainability and generates livelihood opportunities.

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2.63L appear in NEET-PG

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: The NEET-PG 2026 was successfully conducted for more than 2.63 lakh candidates across the country on Sunday, but the examination could not be completed at two centres in Rajasthan's Jaipur due to an internal power failure.

The National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) has scheduled a re-examination for the affected candidates in Jaipur at 3 pm on September 5, according to a notice issued by it.

The NBEMS has also called an immediate meet

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AFs Civilian Employees' delegation meets Jitendra



NEW DELHI, AUG 30: Union Minister Jitendra Singh today held an interaction with a delegation of Armed Forces HQ Association, during which various demands and service-related concerns of employees were discussed.

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'Mann Ki Baat' Modi calls for collective push towards 'Drug-Free India'

Highlights 'BharatRajya' website

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: *Emphasising the need for a collective push towards 'drug-free India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today urged youth to take up 'creative efforts' in support of the national campaign against drug abuse, including on social media.*

He termed it a noble mission, underlining that drug addiction does not just engulf a single individual but their entire family, and society had to bear the consequences, even as he sought to commend those raising awareness against drugs and stepping forward to help individuals struggling with addiction.

"Can you come up with a powerful slogan for a drug-free India? Can our young musicians create songs that convey the message of a drug-free life? Can students and theatre groups write touching short plays that highlight the dangers of drugs while also showing the path to recovery? Our country has no shortage of excellent content creators. I urge them to create content in various languages that helps society in this endeavour," the prime minister said.

He highlighted Mumbai-based Krishna Seshadri's initiative, India's Interactive Historical Atlas, to make the country's history more accessible and interesting. He also urged citizens, especially young people and content creators, to contribute to the campaign for a drug-free Bharat.

In the 137th episode of his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat, PM Modi spoke on Seshadri's initiative, 'BharatRajya' saying, "You go to this website, choose any one year, and you will get to know who ruled which part of Bharat at that time. This was done by Mumbai's Krishna Sheshadri."

He said he came across Seshadri's initiative on social media on the occasion of Ashadha Ekadashi and found

Cont. on P9 ➤

India, Uzbekistan upgrade ties to comprehensive strategic partnership

Set USD 5 bn trade target

TASHKENT, AUG 30: India and Uzbekistan on Sunday decided to elevate their ties to a comprehensive strategic partnership and set a target of USD 5 billion in annual trade by 2030, following talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

The two sides inked 11 agreements for boosting engagement in several key sectors, including mining and tourism and agreed to establish a framework for long-term supply of Uranium from Uzbekistan to India in line with cooperation in the civil-nuclear energy sector.

The Modi-Mirziyoyev talks focused on expanding cooperation in areas of trade, investment, infrastructure, critical minerals, mining, defence and security, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, health, information technology, digital public infrastructure, including UPI and education.

The two sides also set a target of USD 5 billion in annual bilateral trade by 2030, Modi said in his press statement. The current volume of bilateral trade between the two nations is over USD 1 billion.

Both the leaders announced elevating the In

Cont. on P9 ➤

India's growth to stay above 7 pc in FY27: Sitharaman

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: Stating that the country was continuing the pace recorded in the years since the Covid-19 pandemic, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Sunday said India was likely to sustain economic growth of 7 per cent or more in 2026-27 (FY27).

"Since then (Covid), we have been sustaining growth at 7 per cent or more. This year too our growth will be in that range," she said while addressing the Indian diaspora in Chicago, United States.

India was likely to maintain its growth momentum despite geopolitical uncertainties and supply-chain disruptions following the US-Iran conflict and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, Sitharaman added.

"Continuously keeping in touch with global uncertainties as much as understanding India's own requirements have kept us floating. Whereas many countries are completely disturbed, their calculations have gone haywire," she said.

"We have set ourselves a certain target, which is to bring the borrowing down to the 50 plevel of GDP by 2030. Therefore, I will be

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Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Pak to hold first defence pact meeting

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: Top officials from Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan will gather in Istanbul on Monday for a first committee meeting under the joint defence accord that they signed this month.

The "Mecca Joint Defence Agreement", signed on August 7, brought together Sunni Muslim US allies concerned by the Iran war and regional conflict that has led to Iranian missile fire on Gulf oil exporters.

It is intended to strengthen collective deterrence against any act of aggression and stipulates that an armed attack against any of the three would be regarded as an attack on all, similar to NATO's Article 5 collective defence clause.

Foreign and defence ministers, as well as the chiefs of staff, of the three countries will attend the meeting in Istanbul, a Turkish foreign ministry source said.

"International security issues will be on the agenda,"

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Curiosity first lamp of learning, says LG Sinha

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, AUG 30

Highlighting the importance of balancing values & science, LG Manoj Sinha today said that 'curiosity is the first lamp of learning as asking questions has never been regarded as a weakness in our tradition'.

Addressing the foundation day celebrations of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, he appreciated the SMVDSB initiatives to enhance convenience, safety, and facilities for devotees.

"These achievements reflect dedication, discipline, and the spirit of service, the intrinsic qualities to Sanatan culture," the LG said.

He also addressed the foundation day celebrations of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Gurukul, emphasising the importance of curiosity in learning.

"Curiosity is the first lamp of knowledge. In our tradition, asking questions has never been regarded as a weakness. The Upan-

Cont. on P9 ➤

New terror tactic Pak-based terrorists using porn sites to contact 'recruits' in J&K

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: After exposing the misuse of online gaming platforms by terror groups, security agencies have uncovered a new operational tactic adopted by terrorists and their handlers who are now using pornography websites and niche encrypted applications to communicate secretly.

According to officials, the covert channels are being used by terror outfits and Pakistan's intelligence agency, ISI, to convey instructions to recruits in Jammu and Kashmir while evading surveillance on conventional social media platforms.

"These pornography platforms feature real-time chat tools, operating under the guise of helping users find dates nearby, which handlers exploit to broadcast messages and coordinate activities," officials said.

Security agencies have placed a wide array of specialised digital tools under scrutiny. Terror handlers are relying on Tor-based messaging applications like Coatex and Conion to route data through encrypted nodes and obscure user identities.

Access to the APK for Conion reportedly faces restrictions within India. An APK file (Android Package Kit) is the file format used by the Android operating system to distribute and in

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All registered workers migrated to VB-G RAM G: Govt

NEW DELHI, AUG 30: The Union Rural Development Ministry today said that every worker registered under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), irrespective of whether e-KYC of their job cards has been completed, has been migrated to Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G].

The Ministry also underlined that pending e-KYC does not prevent a worker from demanding or receiving employment.

So far, e-KYC has been completed for 15.89 crore workers, including 10.27 crore of 10.84 crore active workers, which is approximately 95 pc.

The government said that e-KYC is a database authentication measure and not a precondition for exercising the statutory right to demand employment under VB-G RAM G.

"Every worker registered under MGNREGA, irrespective of whether e-KYC has been completed, has been migrated to VBGRAM G. Pending e-KYC

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Kavinder administers oath to newly appointed judges of Himachal HC

SHIMLA, AUG 30: Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Guptatoday administered oath of office and secrecy to the newly appointed judges of Himachal Pradesh High Court.

While Chirag Bhanu Singh took oath as a judge, Bhupesh Sharma and Yogesh Jaswal too oath as additional judges of the high court at a ceremony held at Lok Bhavan here.

Himachal Pradesh High Court Chief Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia was also present on the occasion.

Chief Secretary KKPant conducted the proceedings of the oath-taking ceremony and read out the war

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