



Fire damages Katra helipad terminal

A fire partially damaged a helipad terminal at Katra, the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the holy cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine in Trukuta hills, early this morning.

No casualties were reported.

According to officials, the fire broke out in the helipad terminal at about 3.15 am apparently due to a short circuit and was controlled within 30 minutes by the joint efforts of staff, security personnel and fire & emergency ser

4 drug peddlers held with heroin

Four drug peddlers were arrested along with heroin at separate places in Kathua and Reasi districts of Jammu.

Officials said Murad Ali & Barkat Ali were arrested after 11 grams of heroin was seized from their possession during checking at Maroli-Lakhanpurin Kathua district late Saturday night.

They were travelling on a motorcycle when they were intercepted and checked, leading to the

2 agri officers among 3 held in graft case

The anti-corruption wing of CBI has arrested a Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer (SDAO), an Agricultural Extension Assistant (AEO) and a private person in connection with an alleged demand of Rs 35,000 from a complainant for facilitating the release of subsidy under the High-Density Agriculture Development Programme (HADP).

The accused were identified as SDAO (Akhnoor) Rajan Sharma, SDAO, AEO HithAbhilashi

In a first, Japanese fighter planes operate from Indian soil

JODHPUR, SEP 20: Japanese fighter aircraft operating from Indian soil for the first time marks a major milestone in defence cooperation between India and Japan, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh said here on Sunday during an ongoing bilateral air exercise.

The exercise, being held at Air Force Station, Jodhpur from September 9-22, involves Indian Air Force frontline aircraft, including the indigenous Tejas, Su-30MKI and Rafale, and Japan Air Self-Defense Force's F-2A fighters.

Japanese Air Self-Defense Force Chief of Staff General Takehiro Morita said the de

CAT Jammu bench's case disposal among highest in country: Jitendra



Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, SEP 20

Union Minister Jitendra Singh today said the CAT-Jammu bench's disposal of service cases had gone beyond expectations and was

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Purmandal, Uttervehini restoration begins Heritage, development must walk together, says LG Sinha

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, SEP 20

LG Manoj Sinha today laid the foundation stone for renovation and restoration of sacred sites at Purmandal & Uttervehini near here, asserting that heritage and development must walk together.

The government is to spend Rs 7.15 cr on the renovation, restoration & revival of ancient heritage site of Purmandal, and Rs 6.85 cr on development works at the sacred Uttervehini site.

"The initiative is not merely about repairing bricks and stones, but about reconnecting the nation's glorious past with a radiant future," he said in his address on the occasion.



Referring to India's cultural ethos, the LG noted that the preservation of history, sacred knowledge and values rooted in Dharma serves the lifeline of a nation.

"A nation that forgets its heritage loses its foundation but a nation that respects, preserves and revives its roots ensures that its future generations stand with confidence, resilience, self-belief and a strong sense of identity," he said.

"Purmandal, blessed by

In Gen Z's view of India's key def partners, Israel beats US, France

NEW DELHI, SEP 20: Israel is emerging as a significant partner in the eyes of young Indians, with a new pan-India survey showing that a sizeable share of Gen Z respondents place the country among India's leading diplomatic and defence partners.

The survey, cited by the India Israel Centre, found that 41 per cent of respondents aged between 18 and 29 considered Israel one of India's key diplomatic partners. That figure put Israel ahead of the United States, which was cited by 39 per cent of respondents.

The shift was also visible in perceptions of defence cooperation. About 52 per cent of those surveyed de-

India's semicon push targets chips for cars, TVs: Vaishnav

NEW DELHI, SEP 20: Outlining the sheer breadth of chip-making prowess the country aims to build going forward, Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said that 'India wants its semiconductor capabilities to reach into everyday products such as cars, televisions and refrigerators, as well as critical power infrastructure in the coming years'.

His vision comes as India steps up efforts to establish a larger presence in the global semiconductor value chain, with the government seeking to move beyond chip assembly and testing, and build capabilities spanning design, fabrication, equipment and materials.

Under the second phase of the semiconductor programme, the government has committed Rs 1.27 lakh cr to expand the domestic ecosystem and attract global investments.

The government recently said it received about Rs 1 lakh crore in investor interest under the second phase

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Russia repels 'largest drone attack' involving 1,600 UAVs

MOSCOW, SEP 20 : Amid ongoing Russian parliamentary elections, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said on Sunday that Russia had repelled what he described as the "largest enemy drone attack" on Moscow, claiming the attack was aimed at disrupting the ongoing parliamentary elections.

In a post on Telegram, he said that more than 1,600 unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) had been repelled "at all front lines" since Saturday, including 450 that were approaching Moscow.

"The largest enemy drone attack on Moscow has been repelled," Sobyanin said, thanking Russian air de-

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NC, Cong, Independents unite ahead of assembly session

Farooq calls for coordinated approach

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, SEP 20

Ahead of the autumn session of legislative assembly that begins on Monday, NC, Congress and Independents put up a united show in a meeting that was held in Srinagar today to discuss the floor strategy.

NC president Farooq Abdullah chaired the meeting which was also attended by the party vice-president and chief minister Omar Abdullah. Six Congress MLAs & supporting Independents also joined the deliberations as part of preparations for the forthcoming session.

The meeting discussed the legislative business expected to come up during the session, along with various issues of public importance, including public welfare, development and

governance.

Farooq Abdullah called upon the legislators to maintain close coordination and ensure that the concerns and aspirations of the people were effectively raised in the House.

He stressed the need for "constructive participation and focused engagement" on matters concerning people, according to a party statement issued after the meeting.

The members also discussed priorities to be taken up during the session and deliberated on issues related to public welfare, development and governance.

The meeting emphasised the importance of coordinated participation by the party legislators during the assembly proceedings.

In the session, which would have seven sittings, opposition parties plan to

corner the Omar Abdullah government over issues such as jobs and "failure" to fulfill electoral promises.

BJP, the principal opposition party, said the National Conference government had failed on all fronts.

BJP leaders plan to raise the outsourcing of government jobs, corruption in public offices and the delay in holding panchayat and urban local bodies' polls.

The electricity tariff hike and "failure" to deliver on election promises will also figure in the BJP's floor tactics to corner the government.

A few days back, the ruling party had also convened an all-party meeting and sought the support of opposition parties in the smooth conduct of the House.

JKPCC president Tariq

'No limits on retaliation'

Iran warns US, its allies against fresh attacks

TEHRAN, SEP 20: Iran on Sunday warned that any major new attack by the United States and its allies would trigger sustained retaliation against American bases and interests across West Asia.

Iran's Central Military Command said it had received information that Washington, with support from some regional countries, was preparing to resume military action against the country, according to reports.

"Any fresh US military action would be met with strikes without any limitations or considerations on

American bases and interests across the region," reports said.

The Military Command did not identify the countries allegedly supporting Washington but warned that any nation assisting a US attack would be treated as a party to the conflict and face retaliation.

Mohsen Rezaei, secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, said Qatar had conveyed Tehran's conditions to Washington.

"We remain in contact with the mediator Qatar, which has conveyed our conditions to Washington with the aim of ending the

war. We are awaiting President Trump's response," Rezaei said.

The demands include an end to the war on all fronts, the release of frozen Iranian funds and the lifting of the naval blockade against Iran.

"It is in Washington's interest to accept these conditions. Trump's threats will not achieve any results. We are prepared for a decisive war," Rezaei said.

Qatar and Pakistan have been trying to restart negotiations between Tehran and Washington since a memorandum of understanding expired last month.

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Canada explores EU 'associate membership'

OTTAWA, SEP 20: Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney wants closer links with the European Union and is exploring whether his country could become an "associate member" of the bloc.

The EU, which has not been flexible about membership rules in the past, is open to the idea of granting Canada a yet to be created status of associate membership, reports said, citing unnamed officials both from the EU and Canada.

The Canadian embassy in Brussels and spokespeople at the European Commission did not respond to separate requests for comment.

Canada's escalating trade

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Cong calls SIR 'Shah-Instigated Removal'

NEW DELHI, SEP 20: The Congress today dubbed the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls as "Shah Instigated Removal" of voters, alleging that the exercise was leading to large-scale deletions and amounted to an "assault on the Constitution".

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh claimed that nearly one in three voters in the states and Union Territories covered by the third phase of SIR had either been deleted from the electoral rolls or faced the risk of deletion.

"The deletion rate works

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PoJK activists face wider crackdown under anti-terror law

MUZAFFARABAD, SEP 20: Pakistan has further intensified its crackdown on political and civic activists in Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK), with authorities placing another 43 individuals associated with the Jammu & Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee (JK-JAAC) under the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act.

The latest action, approved by the Home Department of PoJK, places activists and supporters of a movement that has been at the centre of sustained protests in the region under

a legal framework meant for monitoring individuals considered a security threat.

According to a Home Department notification, issued on September 3, 2026, the inclusion of the 43 individuals was approved following a decision taken at the 41st Cabinet meeting on June 5, 2026.

The notification identifies the individuals as active supporters or members of the JK-JAAC, which has been proscribed under Section 12 of the Anti-Terrorism Act.

The latest list includes people from Poonch, Sudhanoti, Muzaffarabad,

Kotli, Bagh and Bhimber, as well as several districts of Pakistan's Punjab province.

Poonch accounts for 15 of the 43 names, while six are from Sudhanoti. Others are from Muzaffarabad, Kotli, Bagh and Bhimber, with several individuals listed from Jhelum, Layyah, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh, Vehari, Bahawalnagar and Gujrat.

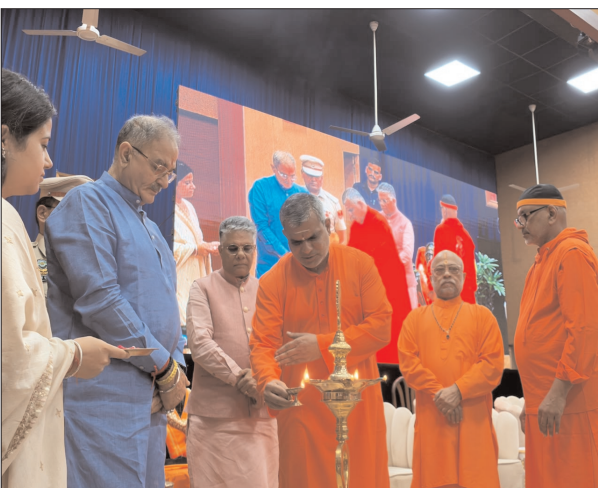
The action effectively expands the state's surveillance and restrictions over people associated with the JK-JAAC at a time when the region has been witnessing sustained political mobili

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Kavinder calls for strengthening moral, spiritual foundations

DHARAMSHALA, SEP 20: Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta today emphasised the need to strengthen moral, spiritual and cultural foundations of society, saying the ideals of knowledge, devotion and service were essential for building a strong and responsible nation.

Addressing the 'Chinmaya Amrit Yatra' organised at Chinmaya Tapovan Ashram, Sandeepany Himalayas, Sidhbari, here to commemorate 75 glorious years of the Chinmaya Movement, he said the 75-year journey of Chinmaya Mission was not merely the journey of an institution, but a remarkable chapter in



the revival and dissemination of India's timeless knowledge tradition, spiritual consciousness and culture of selfless service.

Gupta recalled the contribution of Swami Chinmayananda ji Maharaj in taking the profound teach

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