



Govt eases school approval norms

The government has amended the Jammu & Kashmir School Education Rules, 2010, easing several requirements for schools seeking approvals and permissions.

Through an order issued by the School Education Department under Section 29 of the J&K School Education Act, 2002, the government has replaced certain certification requirements with self-attested certificates from the concerned schools.

The certificates will cover compliance with

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Fireman held in graft case

The CBI today arrested a fireman in Udhampur district of Jammu for allegedly demanding a bribe for processing NOC for the construction of a hotel in the holy Katra town.

Fireman Nitish Singh Jamwal, posted in the office of Assistant Director, Fire and Emergency Services, Udhampur, was allegedly caught red-handed by CBI sleuths while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs 15,000 from

House of Afzal Guru's relative demolished

The authorities concerned today demolished an illegal shed constructed by relatives of Parliament attack convict Mohammad Afzal Guru on state land in Baramulla district of Kashmir.

The shed, constructed on a flood basin in Sopore area, was demolished during a drive carried out by a team of the revenue department, officials said.

Officials said the structure was erected on state land in violation of govern

Land approved for mobile towers in underserved areas

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 06

The Chief Minister Omar Abdullah-headed government today approved provision of land for installation of mobile towers in underserved areas across Jammu and Kashmir.

The step is aimed at strengthening high-speed telecom connectivity in remote and border villages.

Under the initiative, land has been approved for installation of BSNL mobile towers in underserved areas of Uri, Tangmarg, Karnah,

Saxena attends passing-out parade of police



LEH, OCT 06: Ladakh LG Vinai Kumar Saxenatoday attended the valedictory function and passing-out parade of Sub-Inspectors, Head Constables, Followers and Special Police Officers (SPOs) at Police Training School, Stongsar.

The ceremonial occasion marked the success

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Police sending notices to CJP activists, asking them not to participate in Oct 10 protest: Dipke

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Tiger Shroff sets social media abuzz with his new look

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Modi calls for technology-driven solutions to tackle cyber fraud

Says democratisation of technology essential

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: *Calling for technology-driven solutions to tackle cyber fraud, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today stressed that democratisation of technology was essential to ensure that no section of the society was left behind and that technology and digital services should be made affordable and accessible, particularly for the Global South.*

He also emphasised that technology must become a tool for inclusive and sustainable development.

"Democratisation of technology is essential to ensure that no section of the society is left behind," the PM said while interacting with the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) board members here.

EC cites 'procedure', 'unusual request' for not meeting Oppn MPs

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: The Election Commission on Tuesday defended its decision not to meet opposition MPs led by Rahul Gandhi, saying the request to receive a 240-member delegation at the Parliament House Annexe was "unusual" and did not follow its prescribed procedure, hours after police detained the Congress leader and other INDIA bloc MPs during a march to the poll panel's office.

The Commission said no political party had sought an appointment through its authorised representatives until 4 pm, when Delhi Police informed it that Gandhi wanted to lead a delegation to submit a memorandum.



He underlined the need to make technology and digital services affordable and accessible, particularly for the Global South, and highlighted the importance of taking technology to the last mile to prevent a widening digital divide.

"In my interaction with

EC cites 'procedure', 'unusual request' for not meeting Oppn MPs

The ECI said its protocol requires such meetings to be held at its premises and proposed instead that a senior officer receive the memorandum at Parliament House Annexe, an offer the MPs declined.

"Till 4 pm today, no political party, through its representatives, had sought an appointment for a meeting with the Election Commission," it said in a statement.

Rahul Gandhi, who was detained along with Priyanka Gandhi Vadra after protesters remained inside the Akashvani Bhawan premises for hours, hit back at the poll panel in a post on X. Sharing a video showing police dragging him away, he said: "To save the traitors

of democracy, the remnants of democracy have been dragged through the mud."

"There will be a reckoning - not a single traitor will be spared," he added.

The EC said it had laid down a procedure for meetings with political parties in 2025, under which a delegation of a political party or a joint delegation of several parties seeks an appointment through its duly authorised representative.

"The meeting is thereafter held at a time mutually agreed upon by both sides," the poll panel said.

When the commission was considering the proposal for a meeting with the MPs, it was informed by the

EC cites 'procedure', 'unusual request' for not meeting Oppn MPs

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while strengthening trust," he said in a post on X.

The interaction took place ahead of the India Mobile Congress. The GSMA is a global organisation unifying the mobile ecosystem, representing mobile operators and organisations across the ecosystem and adjacent industries.

Def Min launches Fleet Support Ship-1

VISAKHAPATNAM, OCT 06: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday launched Fleet Support Ship 1 (FSS 1), laid the keel of FSS-5 and also inaugurated the upgraded Slipway-4 and a 300-tonne Goliath Crane at the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd here.

These milestones demonstrate India's indigenous shipbuilding competencies,

India calls for cessation of attacks in Hormuz

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: India on Tuesday expressed stern condemnation of the projectile strike on a Panama-flagged commercial vessel in the Strait of Hormuz, which injured 12 of the 19 crew members, of whom 17 were Indian nationals, calling for immediate cessation of attacks against civilian infrastructure and seafarers.

In an official statement, the Ministry of External Affairs noted that 11 of the 17 Indians aboard the vessel MT On Peace sustained injuries following the attack off the coast of Oman, while transiting the critical mar

Judicial officers' retirement age enhanced

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 06

The government has enhanced the age of superannuation of judicial officers serving in the Union Territory from 60 years to 62 years.

According to an order issued by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, the decision has been taken in pursuance of the Supreme Court directions.

The order states that the Supreme Court, while considering W.P.(C) No. 1022/1989 titled All India Judges Association & Ors

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Doval meets Canadian counterpart amid emerging power realignment

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: India and Canada agreed to explore new areas of security cooperation as the two countries moved forward on a larger political, security and trade reset amid strain in their respective relations with the US and a convergence over the need for countries like theirs to work together.

The meeting between National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and David Morrison, the Senior Diplomatic and International Affairs Advisor to the Prime Minister of Canada, signalled growing engagement in security ties, which were strained over intelligence and security matters not so long ago.

While the meeting was part of a regular bilateral security dialogue, the two sides agreed to identify additional areas for practical cooperation while reviewing progress in bilateral security and law enforcement cooperation.

The meeting also comes ahead of a potential visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Canada in December. The two countries are not just undergoing a reset but are also trying to build a broader relationship at a time of geopolitical contestation when middle and emerging powers are actively diversifying trade, political and



security partnerships.

As a result, the India-Canada security dialogue is also part of a larger reset in ties, with the two countries also moving forward in other aspects of the bilateral relationship.

The two countries are currently negotiating a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and have held five rounds of talks so far. Both countries are targeting to have a trade deal on the table by the end of 2026 to push trade, which was \$13.6 billion in 2025.

All this points to an effort by both sides to shed the past strain in ties. The current en

Govt notifies 375 permissible works under VB-G RAM G

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: The Centre has notified 375 permissible works under the new rural employment framework, with a greater emphasis on livelihood infrastructure, water security and disaster preparedness, expanding the list of works by 41 per cent over the previous scheme.

The Ministry of Rural Development said the new schedule, under the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Aajeevika Mission (VB-G RAM G) Gramin Act, 2025, divides the works into four categories -- water security, core rural infrastructure, livelihood-related in-

frastructure, and special works for extreme weather events and disaster preparedness.

Of the 375 works, 128 fall under water security, 111 under core rural infrastructure, 98 under livelihood-related infrastructure and 38 under disaster preparedness, according to the ministry.

The expanded list includes water conservation and irrigation structures, rural health and community facilities, agro-processing units, cold storage infrastructure and flood protection works.

The ministry said liveli-

Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit appointed new IAF Chief

NEW DELHI, OCT 06: The government has appointed Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the 29th Chief of the Air Staff in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from the afternoon of October 31.

The present Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh, will superannuate from service on October 31, following which Air Marshal Dixit will take charge as the head of the Indian Air Force.

He was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on December 6, 1986. He is an



nous aircraft projects in the force, Air Marshal Dixit is expected to further strengthen the government's Aatmanirbharta initiative in the defence sector.

Prez, Guv confer degrees on first graduating batch of AIIMS Bilaspur

BILASPUR, OCT 06: President Droupadi Murmutoday attended the first convocation of AIIMS Bilaspur, marking a historic milestone for the premier medical institution and for Himachal Pradesh.

On the occasion, the President and Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta conferred degrees on the first graduating batch of the AIIMS Bilaspur.

The occasion marked a major milestone in the growth of the institution and its contribution to medical education and healthcare in the country.

Murmu congratulated the first batch of graduates and

alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Defence Staff Service College in Bangladesh and the National Defence College. He has more than 3,500 hours of flying experience.

According to the Ministry of Defence, the Air Marshal has held several significant field and staff appointments during his career.

As Commanding Officer, he re-equipped No9 Squadron with Mirage-2000 aircraft and later commanded a frontline fighter air base in the Western Sector and a premier fighter training base in the

Prez, Guv confer degrees on first graduating batch of AIIMS Bilaspur

gold medallists, as well as their parents, guardians and teachers. She urged them to uphold the reputation of the institution through their conduct, commitment and service, particularly towards people living in remote and underserved areas.

A total of 92 students received their degrees at the ceremony, including 43 MBBS, 26 BSc Honours Nursing, 9 BSc Allied Healthcare and 14 MD/MS students.

The President also presented Gold Medals to meritorious students across dis

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