



LG, CM grieved over Ramban road accident

LG Manoj Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah have expressed grief over the tragic road accident at Ukhral, Ramban," he said in a post on X.

"My deepest condolences to the bereaved families, prayers for speedy recovery of the injured. I have directed the district administration to provide best possible treatment to the injured," the LG added.

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Landmine recovered near LoC

Army troops today detected and destroyed a landmine near the Line of Control (LoC) in Mendhar sub-division of Poonch district.

Officials said the landmine was detected by the troops during routine patrolling in the forward Balakote area, and subsequently destroyed by a bomb disposal team.

As part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system, the forward areas are dotted with landmines which sometimes get washed away by rains and are subsequently found and destroyed to avoid any untoward incident.

Financial powers delegation rules amended

In a significant administrative move, the government has amended the delegation of financial powers regarding the accord of administrative approval, technical sanction, and award of contracts.

Anotification in this regard was issued by the finance department by the order of LG Manoj Sinha.

As per the notification, the LG has directed the inclusion of the Secretary (Technical) JSD and Secretary (Technical) PDD in the existing rules under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

HC announces changes in working days, holidays

Jammu, Oct 08

The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has issued a notification, changing working days and holidays.

"It is hereby notified for the information of all the concerned that October 16, which is a working day, is declared as 'non-sitting day' and in lieu thereof, November 6, which is a non-sitting day, is declared as 'working day' for the high court of J&K and Ladakh," a notification issued by registrar general M K Sharma said.

November 5, which has been shown as a holiday in

2 'criminals' held with firearms

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 08

The Special Operations Group of police has arrested two alleged associates of 'Khauf gang' in a coordinated operation carried out in Jammu and Samba district, recovering three firearms, including two pistols and a country-made pistol (katta), besides heroin, from them.

The arrests were made late last night, officials said and identified the accused as Vansh Sharma and Yogeshwar Singh, both residents of Samba.

Officials said during investigation, Vansh al

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Indian education system keeps all aspects of human development in harmony: Murli Manohar Joshi

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Classical maestros to take centre stage at Chandigarh Sangeet Sammelan

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Pak doublespeak exposed at UN

World has not forgotten 9/11, 26/11, Pahalgam attacks, says India

UNITED NATIONS, OCT 08: *Exposing Pakistan's doublespeak on terrorism at the UN, India has called out Islamabad's efforts to gloss over its state support for terror by announcing rewards for JeM chief Masood Azhar, underlining that the world has not forgotten 9/11, 26/11 and Pahalgam attacks.*

India on Wednesday exercised its Right of Reply in response to the Pakistan representative's statement in the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly on the Agenda Item: Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism.

"Pakistan speaks of combating terrorism while seeking to obscure the very question that this committee must confront: What



happens when terrorists are financed, facilitated, trained, sheltered, or supported from the territory of a state?" First Secretary in the Permanent Mission of India to the UN Raghuo Puri said.

He said India has been consistent on this question, underscoring that terrorism cannot be defeated by declarations and instead requires action against its perpetrators, organisers, financiers, and sponsors.

"For years, Pakistan has presented itself as a front-line state in combating terrorism and as a victim while masking the fact that the Frankensteins the Pakistani state has created and lost control over have moved from wreaking havoc in neighbouring countries to doing the same in Pakistan," Puri said.

Calling out Pakistan's doublespeak on terrorism, Puri said the country

"glosses over its state support for terrorism by announcing enhanced rewards for apprehending UN-listed head of Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorist and mastermind of several attacks against my country, Masood Azhar."

He said the world is aware of Pakistan's financial support to terrorism.

"Yet, we also remember that just a few months ago, Pakistani representatives used this forum to call the Jaish-e-Mohammed a defunct organisation. The world has seen the script play earlier, and we are clear-eyed that this time also it is going to be no different," he said.

Puri said that when the media can reach Azhar and get confirmation from him about the success of Opera

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Veteran actor Nana Patekar passes away



PANAJI, OCT 08: Veteran actor Nana Patekar, known for his versatility and powerful screen presence across films such as "Salaam Bombay", "Khamoshi" and "Welcome", passed away at his Goa residence in the early hours of Thursday.

He was 76.

Patekar is suspected to have suffered a heart attack,

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2 killed in Ramban road accident

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 08

A Tata Sumo carrying nine persons met with an accident near Senabati in Pogal Paristan area of Ramban district late last night, resulting in the death of two of them and injuries to the remaining.

The ill-fated cab was on its way from Senabati to Chunthan. At about 10 pm, it skidded off the road and rolled down a roadside slope, officials said.

Cab driver, who was identified as Vijay Singh, son of Raj Singh of Chunthan, died

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16 Indian seafarers killed in West Asia conflicts

NEW DELHI, OCT 08: Conflicts in West Asia and the Persian Gulf region have claimed the lives of 11 Indian seafarers, Shipping Secretary Vijay Kumar said on Thursday.

Addressing a press conference here, Kumar said that the Indian government has repatriated 4,232 Indian seafarers safely from the Strait of Hormuz area.

Missile attacks on vessels have become rampant in parts of the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf area since the start of the US-Iran war on February 28, when the US and Israel attacked Iran, killing the country's supreme Leader

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GST Council meeting

Tax officers' arrest powers scrapped, prosecution threshold raised

CBIC to launch faceless assessment from FY28

NEW DELHI, OCT 08: The GST Council today approved the removal of GST tax officers' powers to arrest individuals under the Goods and Services Tax (GST) law and raised the prosecution threshold five-fold from Rs 1 crore to Rs 5 crore, while leaving tax rates unchanged at its 57th meeting.

It was informed that CBIC was also working to implement a centralised assessment system for about 2 lakh taxpayers registered under central GST jurisdiction but having businesses in multiple states by April 1.

The Council also approved reducing the general penalty from Rs 25,000 to Rs 10,000, accelerating tax refunds, simplifying registration for small e-commerce sellers and



easing compliance requirements for businesses.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the reforms announced on Thursday would be implemented from April 1, 2027, the beginning of the next financial year.

The Council also decided that GST rate-related matters would be considered once a year at a meeting dedicated exclusively to tax rates.

Under the approved changes, GST tax officers

will no longer have the power to arrest taxpayers or other individuals under the GST law. The Council also increased the monetary threshold for initiating prosecution from Rs 1 crore to Rs 5 crore.

It removed the provision for minimum punishment, leaving decisions on fines, imprisonment or both to judicial discretion.

The general penalty, applicable where no specific penalty is prescribed, will be reduced from Rs 25,000 to Rs 10,000.

Taxpayers who file returns late, make mistakes or delay payments will face tax recovery, interest and proportionate penalties, without additional punitive action for such defaults.

The Council reduced the time limit for acknowledgment

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GST Council decisions will strengthen J&K's fiscal position: Omar

NEW DELHI / JAMMU, OCT 08: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who today attended the 57th meeting of the GST Council chaired by Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, in New Delhi, expressed confidence that the meeting would strengthen the J&K fiscal position and support growth.

The meeting was attended by chief ministers and finance ministers from across the country, along with senior officials of the union ministry of finance.

The Council held detailed deliberations on key GST-related issues, with discussions focused on strengthening the fiscal capacity of states and Union Territories, improving revenue mobilisation and advancing balanced fiscal federalism.

Attending the meeting in his capacity as finance minister, the chief minister expressed confidence that the decisions taken by the Council would further strengthen Jammu & Kashmir's fiscal position, support



economic growth and accelerate development & public welfare.

Meanwhile, the GST Council approved a series of measures to ease compliance for taxpayers, includingscrapping the arrest powers of tax officers and raisingthe prosecution threshold to Rs 5 crore from 1 crore.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomed the GST reforms, saying the focus

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CAPF Act that governs officer posts, deputation comes into force

NEW DELHI, OCT 08: The Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026, which provides a common framework for recruitment and conditions of service of Group-A general duty officers and other officers in the CAPFs, came into force on Thursday, according a government notification.

The notification came at a time when the Supreme Court is hearing a bunch of petitions filed by thousands of CAPF officers challenging the validity of the law that was passed by the Parliament in April.

"In exercise of the powers

conferred by sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Central Armed Police Forces (General Administration) Act, 2026, the Central Government hereby appoints the 08th day of October, 2026, as the date on which the provisions of the said Act shall come into force," said the notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The CAPF Act provides for regulation of recruitment, promotion, deputation and other conditions of service of officers in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Central In-

dustrial Security Force (CISF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB).

The Centre recently told the apex court through an affidavit that the appointment of Group 'A' general duty officers in the respective CAPFs is now regulated by the CAPF (General Administration) Act.

It had said that the Act "expressly empowers" the Central government to prescribe the method, manner and mode of recruitment, including by deputation, and the conditions of service of officers in the five

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INDIA bloc holds protest, vows to continue 'vote chori' agitation

NEW DELHI, OCT 08: Opposition leaders today held a peaceful sit-in protest at Rajghat, with Congress president and Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha joining INDIA bloc MPs in protesting against "vote chori" and attacks on democracy and the Constitution.

It was the third day of protests against Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar and alleged 'vote chori' by opposition leaders, who pledged to continue their agitation until Kumar resigns.

After two days of fierce



protests, during which several leaders were detained and forcibly removed by police, the opposition leaders gathered at Rajghat to offer floral tributes and pray for "wisdom to the BJP government and the chief election commissioner".

INDIA bloc constituents Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (SCP) have not taken part in the protests so far.

The opposition leaders are now seeking an appointment with President Droupadi Murmu to present their case and demand the CEC's dismissal.

Addressing the media, Rahul Gandhi said Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

committed and ready to meet any challenges."

"Our operational capabilities are growing in the right direction," he said, adding that the IAF would leave no stone unturned to live up to expectations, rather exceed them.

On his superannuation on October 31, Air Chief Marshal Singh said serving as the IAF chief was "my biggest fortune" and it was a proud moment for him.

The 94th Air Force Day celebrations at the Hindan air base saw a ceremonial parade and display of some of the IAF's prized combat assets.

"They will all be brought to justice and this is our guarantee," he asserted.

Referring to the ongoing protests, Gandhi said around 300 MPs wanted to stage a peaceful protest but were stopped near the Election Commission office on Tuesday and prevented from proceeding to Jantar Mantar the following day. "Our people were beaten

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Prez's visit has strengthened her cherished bond with HP people: Kavinder

MANALI, OCT 08: As President Droupadi Murmu's three-day Himachal Pradesh visit concluded today, Governor Kavinder Gupta said her visit had further strengthened the cherished bonding between her and the people of the state.

"Her presence in Himachal Pradesh was a matter of immense pride and honour for the people of the state. Her gracious presence, warmth and interaction with the people added special significance to the visit and will leave a lasting impression," he said after seeing off the President at DRDE Helipad here.



The governor said the visit included the first convocation of AIIMS Bilaspur, besides visits to the Atal Tunnel, the historic Hidimba Mata Temple, Mall Road and Sissu.

Referring to her address to the graduating students of AIIMS Bilaspur, he said that the emphasis on serving humanity and ensuring quality healthcare for peo-

ple living in remote and difficult areas was highly inspiring and particularly relevant to Himachal Pradesh.

He said that the message would inspire young medical professionals to dedicate their knowledge and skills to the service of people in far-flung areas.

The governor said the visit to Atal Tunnel highlighted Himachal Pradesh's growing connectivity and strategic significance, while the visit to Hidimba Mata Temple reflected the state's rich spiritual and cultural heritage.

He said that the visit further reflected the deep and

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