



Heavy rains, hailstorm lash Jammu

Heavy rains accompanied by thunderstorms, lightning, gusty winds, and isolated hailstorms lashed Jammu and its peripheral areas today.

It started raining late last night but the down-pour got intense early this morning, uprooting trees at some places and inundating several low-lying areas.

Peripheral areas, including Kot-Bhalwal were lashed by hailstorm, with the frozen ice pieces hitting windshields and

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Jaiswal posted as LG's principal secy



The government has ordered the posting of AGMUT cadre IAS officer Govind Jaiswal as principal secretary to LG Manoj Sinha with the additional charge of chief executive officer (CEO) of Shri

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HC bans motorboats on Dal Lake

The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has banned fuel-powered motorboats and jet skis from being plied on Dal Lake till further orders.

"In the larger interest of justice, taking a comprehensive view of the submissions made, it is directed that the respondent authorities

LCMA, Tourism, and Police shall ensure that no motor boat, whether it be a shikara motorboat or Jet Ski which

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Actor Imran Khan ordered to leave India

MUMBAI, OCT 15: The Mumbai Police have issued a notice to Bollywood actor Imran Khan, an American national, directing him to leave India by October 28 for allegedly violating provisions of the Immigration and Foreigners Act.

The action comes after the actor, nephew of superstar Aamir Khan, participated in an agitation on October 10 in Mumbai, where protesters demanded the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, a police official said.

During the demonstration, the police had also

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India opens additional control room in Makkah

DUBAI, OCT 15: India has established an additional control room in Makkah to assist its nationals, particularly Umrah pilgrims, affected by flight disruptions between India and Saudi Arabia, the Indian Consulate in Jeddah has said.

Flight disruptions across Saudi Arabia come amid heightened tensions in the Gulf region following a series of deadly drone and missile attacks targeting civilian infrastructure in the country by the Yemen-based Houthi rebels.

The consulate on Wednesday said the new control room has been set

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Bringing higher education to UT Modi pushes for IIT, IIM Satellite Campuses in Ladakh

Inaugurates development projects worth Rs 3,350 cr in UT

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, OCT 15

Pushes for IIT & IIM Satellite Campuses, Prime Minister Narendra Modi today virtually inaugurated development projects worth Rs 3,350 cr in the Union Territory, asserting that special attention was being given to the youth of Ladakh so that they receive quality education, gain opportunities to learn new technologies, and not depend on other cities.

A total of five development projects worth around Rs 3,350 cr, covering airport infrastructure and strategic road connectivity,



were inaugurated by him virtually in Ladakh.

"The proposals to establish satellite campuses of IIT Jammu and IIM Jammu are being advanced, and through these academic centres, the youth of Ladakh will be able to access better opportunities in their own region for higher education, research and new skills," the prime minister said.

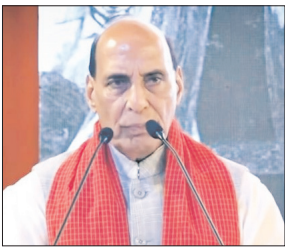
"Our special focus is on the new generation of Ladakh. The youth should receive good education, get opportunities to learn new technology, and not depend on other cities. That is why a major centre of excellence is being established in Leh," he said.

Any terror act from Pak will invite stronger response: Rajnath

Warns of new terror threats

NEW DELHI, OCT 15: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh today issued a stern warning to Pakistan, saying any future terrorist act originating from the neighbouring country would invite an even stronger response, as he described Operation Sindoor, the Balakot airstrikes and the surgical strikes as evidence of India's shift from diplomatic condemnation to decisive military action against terrorism.

"Operation Sindoor, Balakot Airstrikes and Surgical Strikes weren't just military operations; they symbolised a decisive shift in the nation's approach, moving from diplomatic condem-



nation to proactive action aimed at rooting out terrorism by reaching its very source," he said while addressing a Defence Conclave here.

Reaffirming India's resolve against cross-border terrorism, the Defence Minister said the country's commitment to peace must not be interpreted as an inability or unwillingness to respond

to security threats.

"India is committed to peace, but it should not be mistaken for weakness. We're fully prepared to safeguard sovereignty, integrity and national interests," he asserted.

Singh said India's cultural ethos favoured dialogue, co-existence and peaceful resolution of disputes, but maintaining peace required strength, preparedness and the capacity to confront aggression.

"Our commitment to peace remains steadfast, yet we are fully prepared to confront any challenge. Our goal is to build an India that,

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India may achieve self-reliance before 2047: Prez Murmu

VIJAYAWADA (ANDHRA PRADESH), OCT 15: President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday said the country could achieve self-reliance before 2047, expressing confidence in the growing economic empowerment of rural women through SHGs.

"India is moving towards self-reliance and looking at the growing economic empowerment of rural women through Self-Help Groups (SHGs), I believe the country could achieve this goal even before 2047," she said while addressing the Na-



tional SARAS Mela, 2026 at Punnam Ghat here.

The president said the event had traditionally been held in Delhi and was being organised in the southern state for the first time.

The Sale of Articles of Rural Artisans Society

(SARAS) Mela, organised jointly by the Union Ministry of Rural Development and the Andhra Pradesh government, provides a platform for rural artisans and women SHGs to showcase and market their products.

President Murmu said such melas (large-scale events) would henceforth be organised every year in different states, providing women entrepreneurs with greater opportunities to showcase and market their products.

She emphasised that women were becoming

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EC announces Special Summary Revision of rolls in 17 states, UTs

NEW DELHI, OCT 15: The Election Commission (EC) announced on Thursday a Special Summary Revision (SSR) of electoral rolls in 17 states and Union Territories, including those scheduled to hold assembly elections next year.

The move comes amid debate and protests across India over the poll body's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise across the country.

In a letter to the chief electoral officers of the states and Union Territories, the EC said January 1, 2027, would be the qualifying date for the exercise.

According to the letter, the SSR covers Andaman and Nicobar Islands, As-

sam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

The letter says the schedule for states and UTs where the SIR is under way or has just ended, among them Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana and Delhi, will be announced later. The same applies to Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, where the SIR has not begun. Their schedule will follow, keeping weather conditions in view.

Under the schedule, polling stations are to be rationalised by November 2. Draft rolls will be published on November 12, with claims and objections accepted until December 11 and disposed of by December 28. Final rolls are due on January 4, 2027.

The commission is also seeking advance applications for three later qualifying dates: April 1, July 1 and October 1, 2027, the letter says. Only claims for January 1, 2027, will be decided in this round, while the rest will be handled in the relevant quarter.

The letter holds each electoral registration officer (ERO) responsible for

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2 JKAS officers posted in tourism deptt

Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, OCT 15

The government today ordered the posting of two JKAS officers in the tourism department with immediate effect.

According to a government order, Basharat Mehmood is posted as Assistant Director Tourism in the Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir.

Adnan Nazir has been posted as Assistant Director, Gulmarg, against an available vacancy.

The order, issued by tourism department's secretary Avny Lavasa, states that the postings will take effect immediately.

Pak pilots, crew barred under new Israeli aviation rules

JERUSALEM, OCT 15: Pakistani pilots and cabin crew have been barred from serving on flights entering Israeli airspace under new restrictions after a hijacking attempt last month on a flight travelling from the UAE to Israel, in which Indian Capt Smriti Machchhar was injured while foiling the suspected plot.

Israel's public broadcaster Kan reported that the Transportation Ministry's Aviation Security Operations Centre had issued the new and updated directives following the hijacking attempt.

According to Israeli broadcaster N12, the ministry had informed foreign

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LG calls upon youth to dream big, build drug-free society

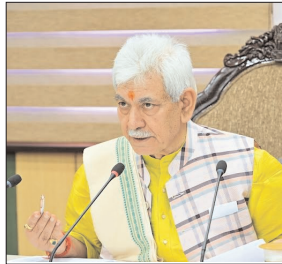
Himalayan Mail News
JAMMU, OCT 15

Asserting that sports are the celebration of human capability & perseverance, LG Manoj Sinha today called upon youth to dream and contribute in building a drug-free society.

"Sports are the celebration of human capability, perseverance and collective aspiration," he said while congratulating police on the successful completion of Jashn-e-Dal-2026.

In his message, the LG also appreciated the enthusiasm of athletes and the efforts of the police, saying: "Sports not only produce champions but also instill determination, patience and courage among young people."

Highlighting the growing stature of Jashn-e-Dal, the LG said the event had evolved beyond an annual competition into a cher-



ished tradition emotionally connected with the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

Over the past few days, nearly 600 young athletes participated in 20 water-sports disciplines, including kayaking, canoeing, rowing, sculling and the traditional shikara race, showcasing the region's immense sporting potential and vibrant water-sports culture.

The LG urged athletes to dream without limits and strive for excellence with dedication and sincerity.

Referring to the achievements of sportspersons nurtured through initiatives of Jammu & Kashmir

Police, he, in his message, said that 'young athletes are inheritors of a proud legacy and ambassadors of the Union Territory's sporting future'.

Emphasising the importance of resilience, hard work and self-confidence, the LG noted that no challenge was insurmountable when faced with determination and perseverance.

He also called upon athletes and citizens to contribute towards building a healthy and drug-free society.

Stressing that sports provide a constructive path for youth empowerment, the LG said that initiatives, such as Jashn-e-Dal, channel youthful energy towards nation-building, creativity and positive social transformation.

Commending the Jammu & Kashmir police for its Civic Action Programme and youth-ori-

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First tranche of India-US trade pact finalised: Goyal

Says legal drafting underway

NEW DELHI, OCT 15: Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal today said the first tranche of the India-US bilateral trade agreement had been finalised and was undergoing legal drafting, expressing hope that the process would be completed soon.

He said the agreement could be operationalised once India secured a comparable or competitive advantage over its peer countries.

"US bilateral trade agreement's first tranche has been finalised and it is going through final contours, the legal drafting, and we hope to be able to finalise that soon and operationalise that once we get the comparable advantage or competitive advantage over our peer countries," Goyal said at the SRCC Centenary Conclave in New Delhi.

He said his latest remarks on the agreement were consistent with his previous



statements.

"My comments on the US-India pact are consistent and exactly what I've said yesterday and what I said a week ago and what I said three months ago. So nothing new in that," he said.

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34 students, teacher killed as school roof collapses in Pak

PESHAWAR, OCT 15: At least 34 children and a teacher were killed and 20 others injured after the roof of a private school collapsed in Peshawar, the capital of Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, today.

The collapse occurred at Al-Khair School in Dir Colony, a densely populated area of the city. Peshawar Capital City Police chief Mian Saeed said around 30 students were in classrooms on the upper floor when the roof gave way.

Thirty-two children and a teacher were brought dead to Lady Reading Hospital, hospital spokesperson Muhammad Asim said. Two other bodies were taken to Naseerullah Khan Babar Memorial Hospital.

Twenty injured children were admitted to Lady Reading Hospital, most of whom were discharged after receiving first aid.

Ashok Singhal's life inspiration for commitment to Indian culture: Kavinder

SHIMLA, OCT 15: Himachal Pradesh Governor Kavinder Gupta today said that the life and legacy of former VHP (International) president Ashok Singhal reminds society of its responsibility to preserve India's rich cultural heritage and keep it alive through conduct, social life and the values imparted to future generations.

He described Singhal's life as an inspiring example of dedication to Indian culture, Sanatan traditions and the cultural consciousness of Hindu society.

"Singhal devoted his life to preserving Indian culture, organising Hindu soci-



ety and fostering pride in the country's ancient traditions," he said while speaking at a programme organised at the historic Gaiety Theatre, Shimla, to mark the birth centenary year of

Ashok Singhal. "His lifereminds us that a nation's true strength lies not only in its economic and material achievements but also in its cultural con

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