



Ladakh gets 8th distt, 5 new tehsils

LG Vinai Kumar Saxenatoday announced the creation of Sankoo as the eighth district of the Union Territory of Ladakh, along with the creation of five new tehsils, marking a big stride towards decentralising administration, strengthening grassroots democracy and bringing governance closer to the people.

The creation of Sankoo district comes less than six months after the announcement of five new

Employees warned against inappropriate language

The GAD has issued a circular stressing the need for all government officers and officials to maintain high standards of integrity, discipline, and professional decorum.

The circular said, under the J&K Government Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971, employees were required to show courtesy, restraint, and mutual respect when interacting with col

ACB books mining officials

The Anti-Corruption Bureau today registered a case against mining officials and private persons over allegations of illegal extraction and transportation of minor minerals, overcharging and manipulation of electronic challans in Udhampur district of Jammu.

According to officials, the case was registered at ACB Police Station, Udhampur, against Rajeev, Assistant Mining Engineer and District Mining Officer, Udhampur; Rameshwar

Strike over woman officer's 'humiliation'; probe ordered

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 16

While the interim body of JKASAssociation called a one-day pen-down strike in protest against the 'humiliation' of a woman officer by an IAS officer, the government today ordered a probe into the incident.

In a communication to its members, the interim body of JKAS Associationsaid the protest was aimed at defending the dignity, self-respect and institutional honour of the service fraternity. The association urged its

Jitendra pitches for 'Viksit Punjab'



SANGRUR, OCT 16: Union MinisterJitendra Singh today said the vision of Viksit Bharat would remain incomplete without Viksit Punjab, asserting that Punjab's development must be integral to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision for India.

Addressing the BJP's State Executive Committee meeting here, he said Punjab deserved a "dou

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Switzerland targets year-round Indian tourists, ropes in Jemimah Rodrigues as ambassador

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Anuparna Roy's 'Lovers in the Blue' Night wins NETPAC Award for Best Asian Film at Venice Film Festival

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Terrorism has no justification: India tells UN Security Council

Flags Middle East escalation as deeply worrying

UNITED NATIONS, OCT 16: Telling a UNSC debate that terrorism anywhere had no justification, India has strongly condemned the repeated attacks on civilian infrastructure, including Saudi airports, as well as on commercial shipping and Indian seafarers, describing the escalation in hostilities in the Middle East as "deeply worrying".

"Terrorism anywhere has no justification, and India had condemned the attacks of October 7, 2023, unequivocally," India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, said at the UN Security Council debate on the Situation in the Middle East.

"India has very high



stakes in the safety, security and stability of the Middle East," he said.

"The people of the Middle East need normalcy and lasting peace. Peace is not just the absence of war. It is imperative to strengthen stability and security for the people of the region. India is committed to their well-being that would lead to a more secure, stable and prosperous world. All our

actions will be derived from this approach," he said.

He said escalation in the region is "deeply worrying", underlining New Delhi's call for restraint and de-escalation in "what has developed into a principal challenge facing the international community today".

He voiced India's strong condemnation over repeated attacks on civilian

infrastructure, including Saudi airports, in the past few days that have led to the loss of lives, including that of Indian citizen Mohammad Yousef Ali in Riyadh.

"India stands in complete solidarity with the government and people of Saudi Arabia in defense of their sovereignty," Parvathaneni said.

India reiterated the need for immediate de-escalation and the resolution of the conflict through dialogue and diplomacy.

"Attacks on commercial vessels, seafarers and civilian infrastructure must cease. Freedom of navigation and the safe and unimpeded flow of maritime commerce through international waterways, in accordance with international law, must be upheld," he

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Terrorist hideout busted, IED recovered

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 16

During an anti-terror operation in the upper reaches of Rajouri district, security forces today busted a hideout of terrorists.

According to officials, a joint team of Army and police, assisted by intelligence agencies, launched an operation in Thungwali area of Kandi in the upper reaches of the district.

During searches, the forces came across a hideout of terrorists. Its search led them to the recovery of an IED which was subsequently destroyed, officials said.

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Missing SPO found dead in Ktwr woods

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 16

SPO Bashir Ahmad, who had gone missing along with his service rifle, was today recovered from Kishtwar woods.

According to officials, he was posted at Pedil police post since 2025 and had gone missing from his post along with his service rifle and a magazine, following which police and security forces launched a search operation.

During searches, police recovered his body from the woods adjoining his village. He was resident of Wanipora Trigam.

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Upgradation of ITIs in J&K, Maharashtra, Odisha

NEW DELHI, OCT 16: The government has approved investment plans worth Rs 1,194.92 crore to upgrade 25 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across Maharashtra, Odisha and Jammu & Kashmir in partnership with five industry players, including Tata Steel Foundation and Belrise Industries, to strengthen vocational training and youth employability.

The approvals were given at the sixth National Steering Committee meeting of the Pradhan Mantri Skilling and Employability Transformation through Upgraded ITIs (PM-SETU) scheme on Friday, according to the Ministry of Skill

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Omar calls CEP decisive step towards green growth

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 16



logistics across intermediate corridors, and advanced circular economy systems in major urban centres, including Jammu and Srinagar.

Recognising the diversity of waste streams across Jammu and Kashmir, the policy covers municipal solid waste, food and wet waste, tourism-related waste, horticulture and agricultural biomass, packaging waste, construction and demolition debris, e-waste and wastewater.

It also seeks to promote material recovery through repair, refurbishment and reuse, including resource loops linked to wool and

handicrafts.

To address terrain-related and logistical constraints, the roadmap provides for targeted regional value-chain clusters to facilitate the aggregation, transportation, recovery and productive utilisation of materials. These clusters are envisaged around urban material recovery, apple and horticulture biomass, tourism circuits and artisan material loops, linking waste management with local economic activity and livelihood generation.

The policy outlines an indicative 10-year planning envelope of Rs 3,548.7 cr. with financing envisaged through convergence with Central schemes, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) mechanisms and user charges, alongside opportunities for Public-Private Partnerships. The framework seeks to sup

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Battle lines drawn between 'Dimagi Naxals', patriotic Indians: Rijiju

NEW DELHI, OCT 16: Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Friday said battle lines have been drawn between "dimagi Naxals" and patriotic Indians, and exhorted people to remember the "traitors".

The comment came a day after Supreme Court advocate Prashant Bhushan made "regime change" remark at a press conference here.

"The battle line has been drawn. It is Dimagi Naxals Vs Patriotic Indians. Between those who believe in the Constitution of India Vs Anarchists," the Union minister said in a post on X.

"Dear Patriotic Indians... Remember: Forgive your Enemies once, Friends twice, but never Traitors," Rijiju said in another post.

He posted two video clips of Bhushan on X with the caption, "They want to separate Kashmir and North East from India and break India".



The senior BJP leader posted Bhushan's recent picture with the Congress leader and others.

Hours after lawyer-activist Prashant Bhushan told the press that "we want a regime change" and AISA leader Neha Bora referred to the Gen Z movement in Bangladesh as having "shown the way" for

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'Unwarranted & uninformed' MEA condemns US lawmaker's comments on revision of electoral rolls

NEW DELHI, OCT 16: India on Friday rejected US Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal's criticism of the Election Commission's revision of electoral rolls, calling her remarks "unwarranted and uninformed" and an interference in the electoral practices of a fellow democracy.

Responding to a question at his bi-weekly media briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said such remarks amounted to interference in India's electoral processes and under-

mined democracy itself.

On United States Representative Pramila Jayapal's remark on SIR, he said, "We find the remarks of the congresswoman unwarranted and uninformed, and tantamount to interfering in the electoral practices of a democracy. This is an approach that undermines democracy itself."

On the mass shooting attempt in Aurora, Illinois, he said, "This is obviously a matter of deep concern for us, and at the same time, it is something that shows or highlights the increasing cases of hate crimes and

racial discrimination against the Indian community in the United States. We have taken note of the action that U.S. law enforcement authorities have undertaken after this incident happened. We call on the United States side to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of internationals in the United States in the country."

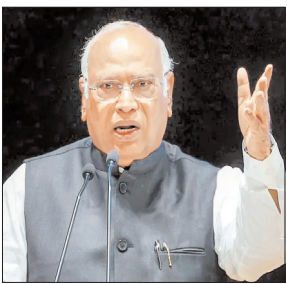
Jayapal had expressed concern on Wednesday over reports of 13 crore voter names being removed from India's draft electoral rolls. In a post on

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Kharge writes to Modi, seeks all-party meeting on delimitation proposals

NEW DELHI, OCT 16: Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday called upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi to convene an all-party meeting to discuss the Centre's delimitation proposals, warning against attempting to push through another Constitutional Amendment Bill without wider consultation.

In a letter to Modi, Kharge referred to the defeat of the Constitutional Amendment Bill on delimitation in the Lok Sabha on April 17, which failed to secure the required two-



thirds majority.

Kharge said he had previously written to the Prime Minister on April 11, July 16 and August 27, seeking an all-party meeting on the issue.

He alleged that the government had not convened such a meeting before mak-

ing the Bills public late on April 14 and calling a special session of Parliament two days later.

He called for political parties to be given sufficient time to deliberate on the new proposals with one another and other stakeholders before they are finalised for consideration in Parliament.

The letter also flagged that 64 days had passed since the Monsoon Session was adjourned sine die on August 13, while both Houses of Parliament were yet to be prorogued. Kharge described the situation as "unprecedented".

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Navratra festival

2.53 lakh pay obeisance at Mata Vaishnodevi shrine in 6 days

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 16

Over 2.53 lakh pilgrims visited the holy cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi in Trikuta Hills of Katra in the first six days of the ongoing Sharad Navratras, which began on October 11.

The pilgrimage is proceeding smoothly, with over 2.53 lakh pilgrims having paid obeisance at the shrine till 3 pm on Friday, according to officials.

A total of 47,574 pilgrims visited the shrine on October 11, followed by 48,400 on October 12, 46,558 on October 13, 41,961 on Octo-

ber 14 and 39,951 on October 15.

As many as 28,713 pilgrims had visited the shrine till 3 pm on October 16, officials said.

Long queues of devotees formed at RFID registration counters at Katra on the sixth day of Sharadiya Navratri as pilgrims collected their cards before heading to the highly revered Shri Mata Vaishno Devi cave shrine for darshans.

The nine-day Shat Chandi Maha Yagya entered its sixth day with prayers and Vedic rituals dedicated to Mata Brahmacharini at the

Yagyashala in the shrine complex.

Organised by Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, the yagya would culminate with Purnahuti on Mahanavami, officials said.

"Its proceedings are being telecast live on Shradha MH One channel daily from noon to 2 pm throughout Navratras," officials said.

The shrine, pilgrimage track and Katra town have been decorated with flowers, fruits and dazzling lights. Security arrangements have also been strengthened to ensure a smooth and safe pilgrim

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