



Pilgrims throng holy Vaishno Devi shrine

The holy cave shrine of Mata Vaishno Devi in Trikuta Hills of Katra today witnessed a huge rush of pilgrims, including women & children, with religious slogans rending the air.

As today was the first day of nine-day Navratra festival, thousands of devotees had already reached the Bhawan to have darshans of the Almighty Goddess, which is present in the cave in the form of 'pindies'.

Despite inclement weather conditions, pilgrims continued to arrive

2 killed, 4 injured in road accident

Two persons were killed and four injured after a car collided with a bike in NeliporaMagam area of Handwara in Kashmir's Kupwara district this evening.

Officials said an Alto car collided head-on with a motorcycle at NeliporaMagam, resulting in the on-spot death of two persons and injuries to four others.

The dead were identified as Tahir Ahmad and Mohammad Aamir. They hailed from Salkoot,

Cont. on P9 >

AGMUT cadre IAS officer posted in J&K

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has ordered the posting of 2007 batch AGMUT Cadre IAS officer Govind Jaiswal to the Jammu & Kashmir segment.

He was posted in J&K, following his return from the Central deputation, an issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs said.

"Consequent upon his repatriation from the central deputation, Govind Jaiswal is hereby posted to Jammu and Kashmir segment of the AGMUT cadre with immediate effect and until further orders," says the order.

NMC invites applications for new MBBS colleges

NEW DELHI, OCT 11: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has invited online applications for establishing new medical colleges offering MBBS courses and increasing the annual intake capacity of existing medical colleges for the academic year 2027-28, with December 31, as the deadline for submission of applications.

The Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) of the NMC issued the public notice on October 8, setting out the application schedule, documentary requirements, prescribed fees,

Cont. on P9 >

Woman held for 'sharing' info with Pak ISI

FEROZEPUR, OCT 11: Punjab Police's Counter Intelligence wing has arrested a woman for allegedly transmitting classified information about Army installations to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), while two Army personnel have been booked for their alleged role in the espionage operation.

Suspect Gurnoor Sidhu, a resident of Faridkot, was arrested near an under-construction bridge on the Hussainiwala border road. She was currently being interrogated, police said.

Police said they re

Cont. on P9 >



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JAMMU, MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026 RNI No. 66860 Vol. 31 No. 281 12 Pages | Rs. 2.00

Will march to SC on Monday to seek removal of CEC Gyanesh Kumar, end to 'vote chori': Rahul

P-7

Nushrratt Bharuccha shares first social media update after Bali accident, says picture abhi baaki hai

P-10



India's youth have talent to solve emerging global challenges: Modi

Inaugurates projects worth Rs 13,000 cr

CHENNAI, OCT 11: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said the world was looking for solutions to emerging challenges and expressed confidence that India's youth had the talent and potential to provide them.

"The youth will play a crucial role in realising the vision of a Viksit Bharat, or a Developed India," he said while speaking at Golden Jubilee celebrations of Jaigopal Garodia Hindu Vidyalaya in Chennai.

He said, "India offers immense opportunities for young people," and urged them to realise their potential and contribute to the nation's development.

He asserted that the innovative ideas and solutions developed by young people would shape not only In-



dia's future but also the future of the world.

The prime minister expressed confidence that the country's aspirations could be achieved through collective efforts.

Highlighting India's manufacturing growth, Modi said, the expansion of the sector has generated direct and indirect employment opportunities for young people.

He noted that India's defence exports had increased 50-fold, while engineering exports had also reached a new record.

He said India had become the world's second-largest mobile phone manufacturer. He added that electronics exports had increased 11-fold since 2014.

Modi also highlighted the expansion of Metro rail services, saying the number of

cities with Metro connectivity had increased from five in 2014 to 25 at present.

Referring to Tamil Nadu's development, the Prime Minister said governments may change, but his commitment to the state's progress and the welfare of its people remained steadfast. He said he will work with Chief Minister C. Joseph Vijay to take the state's development journey forward.

On the occasion, Modi also congratulated Vishwa Hindu Vidya Kendra on completing 50 years. Recalling its beginnings in 1975 as a small school in Chennai's West Mambalam area, he said the institution had started with just seven students, limited facilities and no permanent building. He credited its growth to

Cont. on P9 >

Flash floods hit Nepal again Houses, bridges, hydel project damaged

KATHMANDU, OCT 11: Nepali authorities on Sunday rescued nearly 50 people and urged the villagers to move to safer places after a flash flood in the Budhi Gandaki River swept away more than a dozen houses, bridges and also damaged two hydropower projects in the Gorkha district.

However, at least 10 people remain missing but there were no immediate reports of casualties.

The Gorkha district administration has urged people by the riverside to stay alert and shift to safer places, Netra Prasad Sharma, Assistant Chief District Officer of Gorkha

Cont. on P9 >

EAM discusses ties with Ethiopian IH CEO



ADDIS ABABA (ETHIOPIA), OCT 11: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Sunday said he discussed ways to deepen investment partnerships between India and Ethiopia during a meeting with Brook Taye, CEO of Ethiopian Investments Holdings, in Addis Ababa.

"Pleased to meet Brook Taye, CEO, Ethiopian In

Cont. on P9 >

ASI shot dead in Punjab

AMRITSAR, OCT 11: An Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) was shot dead by unidentified assailants on Lauhka Road in Tarn Taran district of Punjab this evening.

Identified as Iqbal Singh, he was presently posted with CIA staff at Ferozepur. He hailed from Naushera Pannuan village under Sarhali police station.

Officials said he was returning home after completing his duty at Ferozepur when the assailants intercepted him at about 6 pm and opened fire, killing him on the spot.

The identity of the assailants and the motive behind the killing were not immediately known, officials

Cont. on P9 >

Centre may decide on J&K statehood in coming days: Athawale

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 11



Reiterating the assurance given by the government after the J&K's bifurcation into the UTs of J&K and Ladakh, Union Minister of State for Social Justice Ramdas Athawale today said the Centre could take a decision on restoring statehood to Jammu & Kashmir in the coming days.

"After the abrogation of Article 370, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had given this assurance that statehood to Jammu and Kashmir will be restored. And, it can definitely be decided after a few days," he told a press conference in Srinagar.

Responding to a question on the demand for statehood by the ruling National Conference government, Athawale said the Centre would consider the issue,

while making it clear that he could not specify a timeline for the decision.

"Our government is definitely going to think about it. If you look at Amit Shah's speech, when he announced the UT for J&K, the government said that we will do it when the time comes," the union minister said.

"I can't say when it will happen. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and HM Amit Shah know when it will happen. But they have promised to do it," he added.

Athawale also highlighted the Centre's development initiatives in Jammu and Kashmir, including road infrastructure, tunnels and railway connectivity, saying the government was making efforts to support the region's development.

On the security situation, he said peace had improved in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370.

"There has been lot of reduction in violence. But

Cont. on P9 >

India rejects UN rights body's remarks on Delhi protest crackdown

NEW DELHI, OCT 11: India today rejected as "unwarranted" the United Nations Human Rights Office's concerns over the detention of protesters during a demonstration in Delhi, with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) asserting that law enforcement authorities had acted "strictly in accordance with the law".

In a video statement posted on X, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the Indian Constitution guaranteed the right to peaceful assembly, which was safeguarded by the country's institutions, an independent judiciary and a free media.

"We have seen certain remarks by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights about yesterday's events in New Delhi. India is the world's largest democracy, where the right to peaceful assembly is guaranteed by our Constitution and safeguarded by robust institutions and an inde-

pendent judiciary, and a free media," he said.

He added that the right to peaceful assembly, as in other democracies, was subject to the maintenance of public order and safety.

Jaiswal said Indian courts remained accessible to citizens seeking redressal of grievances and described the UN body's concerns as "an unacceptable interference in the internal affairs of India".

"As in every democracy, Indian citizens exercise this right subject to the maintenance of public order and safety. Our law enforcement authorities act strictly in accordance with the law and our courts remain available to all for the redressal of any grievances. The OHCHR's concerns are therefore unwarranted and constitute an unacceptable interference in the internal af

Cont. on P9 >

Pakistan declares emergency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa region

Provincial govt ceases to exist

ISLAMABAD, OCT 11: Pakistan on Sunday declared an emergency in the northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province over the deteriorating law and order situation, bringing the provincial government led by jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party to an end.

An emergency allows Pakistan's federal government to assume key executive and legislative powers in a province during a security crisis or breakdown of constitutional governance.

President Asif Ali Zardari issued a proclamation un-

der Articles 232(1) and 234(1) of the Constitution, citing rising terrorist attacks and a breakdown of constitutional machinery in the northwestern province, according to the presidential declaration. Under the proclamation, the chief minister, provincial ministers, advisers, special assistants and advocate general will immediately vacate their offices.

The move comes amid an ongoing protest march led by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, who is pressing for Imran Khan's release and

access to medical treatment for him. The march began in Lakki Marwat on October 4 and has passed through several districts of the province.

Afridi on Saturday vowed to continue peaceful protests and rejected military operations as a solution to the province's problems. The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party had initially planned to take the march to Islamabad for a sit-in, but the federal government said it would not allow protesters to enter the capital.

The presidential declara

Cont. on P9 >

J&K Bank inaugurates fresh currency facility at Mata Vaishno Devi Bhawan

Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, OCT 11



On the eve of Navratri, the J&K Bank further strengthened its services for pilgrims visiting the holy cave shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi by inaugurating a fresh currency counter at Bhawan in collaboration with Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB).

The counter will facilitate access to fresh currency notes for offerings, rituals and routine transactions, adding to the banking services available to pilgrims and the local community. Commending the collab-

oration between the Bank and the Shrine Board in enhancing convenience for pilgrims, MD & CEO Amitava Chatterjee said, "Our asso-

ciation with the Shrine Board reflects the Bank's commitment to serving pilgrims and supporting the

Cont. on P9 >

