



on Sunday



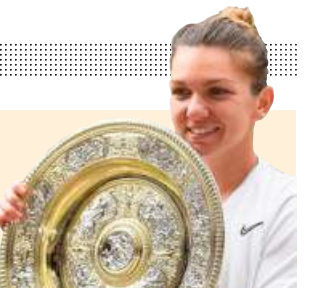
ISRO all set for Monday's launch of historic moon-landing mission
page 9; explainer: page 14



No transgression by China in Demchok sector, says Army chief
page 10



Halep blows away Serena, clinches her first Wimbledon title
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NEARBY

Floods, landslips cause havoc in northeast

GUWAHATI
Flood and rain-induced landslips have claimed eight lives across the northeast in the past 36 hours. While five persons died in Meghalaya, two drowned in Mizoram's Lunglei district and one in Assam's Dhemajai district.

NATION ▶ PAGE 9

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MAGAZINE ▶ 32 PAGES (TABLOID)
CLASSIFIEDS ▶ PAGES 4 & 6

Five more Cong. MLAs move SC

'We're intimidated into supporting Kumaraswamy'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

Five more rebel Congress MLAs urgently moved the Supreme Court on Saturday, saying they were being "threatened and intimidated" into supporting the H.D. Kumaraswamy government in Karnataka during the proposed floor test.

The legislators - Anand Singh, Dr. K. Sudhakar, N. Nagaraju, Munirathna and Roshan Baig - said they were in an identical situation as the 10 MLAs who had earlier approached the court against Speaker K.R. Ramesh Kumar and Mr. Kumaraswamy. They have also tendered their resignation from the Assembly, but their resigna-



Congress MLA N. Nagaraju, extreme right, with Minister D.K. Shivakumar and others in Bengaluru. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

tions are yet to be accepted by the Speaker.

The MLAs said that despite having submitted their resignation, they were being forced to support the government "on the threat of disqualification" in a floor test announced by Chief Minister Kumaraswamy on July 12.

The 24-page application said Mr. Singh had resigned on July 1, Mr. Munirathna followed, on July 6, and the other three put in their papers on July 10.

'A fundamental right'
"The MLAs wish to resign, acting in accordance with their conscience. The right

Leaders make all-out efforts

Leaders of the ruling Congress-JD(S) coalition and the Opposition BJP went all out to guard their MLAs at the weekend, before the Assembly session resumes on Monday. Late on Saturday, N. Nagaraju of the Congress said he has decided to withdraw his resignation. ▶ PAGE 8

to resign from their office is their fundamental right to a citizen as well as a public representative... The Speaker is acting in violation of their fundamental right," the MLAs said.

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BJP TRIES TO KEEP MORALE OF REBELS HIGH ▶ PAGE 8



Xi Jinping

Xi-Modi meet in Varanasi on October 12

ATUL ANEJA
BEIJING

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi are set to hold their second informal summit in Varanasi on October 12, as part of a fresh drive to energise ties following their meeting last month in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit.

A Chinese official said the decision to hold the second informal summit, following the Wuhan meeting last year, is in line with Beijing's decision to celebrate the 70th anniversary of China's diplomatic relations with India. Besides, it is based on the "consensus" between Mr. Xi and Mr. Modi to raise bilateral ties to a higher level, especially after the Doklam military stand-off in the summer of 2017.

BOAT RIDE ▶ PAGE 10

India builds 250 homes in Myanmar to assist Rohingya

But rebuilding refugees' trust is tough



Friendly gesture: Pre-fabricated houses built by India at Nan Thar Taung in Myanmar. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Two years after more than 700,000 Rohingya fled to camps in Bangladesh alleging ethnic cleansing by Myanmar forces, the Indian government says it is stepping up efforts to help them return to their villages.

On July 9, Ambassador to Myanmar Saurabh Kumar handed over 250 completed pre-fabricated homes to the Myanmar government for use by the refugees when they return.

Part of 2017 pact

The project is part of an agreement signed by the two governments in 2017, under which the government had committed to

spending \$25 million over five years. The houses, measuring 40 square metres each, are designed to survive quakes and cyclonic storms, according to a presentation by the Ministry of External Affairs.

The 250 houses, built in three clusters, are in the Shwe Zar, Kyein Chung Taung and Nan Thar Taung areas that saw some of the worst cases of violence, including mass murder, gang-rape of women and children and burning of thousands of homes. They have cost about ₹10 crore. However, there are no signs yet that the Rohingya will return at any specific date.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 10

Three dead in Delhi factory fire

HEMANI BHANDARI
NEW DELHI

Three persons, including two women, suffocated to death when a massive fire broke out in a factory in the city's Jhilmil industrial area.

The victims have been identified as Shoab Ali (19), Sangeeta Devi (46) and Manju Devi (50), all workers at the factory.

"The fire broke out around 9.15 a.m. Over 10 pe-

ople were trapped inside, of whom three were found dead and the rest rescued," Delhi Fire Services chief Atul Garg said.

Fire tenders to the rescue
Thirty fire tenders were pressed into service and the fire was doused by 2.45 p.m.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) Meghna Yadav said the factory co-owner, Naeem Ahmed, has

been arrested.

"An FIR has been registered under Sections 304A and 285 of the IPC. The factory is owned by two brothers. The role of the other brother is being ascertained," she said.

The East Delhi Municipal Corporation said it will conduct a detailed investigation into the incident.

REPORTS ON ▶ PAGE 2

Sawant inducts 3 former Cong. MLAs into Cabinet

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PANAJI

Days after 10 Congress MLAs in Goa joined the ruling BJP, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Saturday reshuffled his Cabinet, dropping three members of the ally Goa Forward Party (GFP) and an Independent MLA as Ministers.

Michael Lobo, who had resigned as Deputy Speaker of the Assembly, and three of the 10 MLAs who joined the BJP on Wednesday - Chandrakant Kavlekar, Jennifer Monserratte, Philip Neri Rodrigues - were sworn in as Ministers.

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