



Death toll in Mumbai building collapse rises to 13, search called off

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India, China are maintaining peace on the borders: Rajnath

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Netanyahu makes history as Israel's longest-serving leader

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India gets an easy draw for 2022 World Cup Asian qualifiers

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Review Jadhav sentence, grant consular access, ICJ tells Pak.

World court rejects claim that the Vienna Convention doesn't apply in a 'spy case'

SUHASINI HAIDAR
 NEW DELHI

In a major verdict that accepted India's plea that former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav's trial under espionage and terror charges in Pakistan violated international law, the International Court of Justice on Wednesday ruled that Pakistan should "review and reconsider" his conviction and death sentence. The court, based at The Hague in the Netherlands, also ruled that Pakistan should give the Indian government consular access to Mr. Jadhav, something Pakistan has failed to do in the three years since his arrest and to stay the execution of his sentence, pending the review process.

The ICJ held that the denial of consular access con-

Long fight for justice

India wanted ICJ to say that:

- Pakistan acted in breach of Vienna Convention by failing to inform India of the detention, failing to inform Jadhav of his rights, and declining access by consular officers
- the sentence by the military court is violative of international law
- Pakistan annul the court decision and restrain it from giving effect to the sentence or the conviction

The court order said:

- by not informing Jadhav of his rights and by not informing India, Pakistan breached the obligations incumbent upon it
- reparation consists in Pakistan providing effective review of the conviction and sentence of Jadhav
- a stay of execution constitutes an indispensable condition for review and reconsideration of the conviction and sentence of Jadhav



stituted a "breach" of article 36 para 1(b) of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (1963) which Pakistan is a signatory to, which stipulates that all foreign nationals arrested must be given access to their government

or local embassy, and rejected Pakistan's counter-claim that the Vienna Convention didn't apply in a case of espionage.

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'Indian stand vindicated'

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
 NEW DELHI

India on Wednesday said the ICJ verdict in the Kulbhushan Jadhav case vindicated its position that Pakistan had violated the Vienna Convention. "The court has directed that Pakistan is under an obligation to inform Shri Jadhav without further delay of his rights and to provide Indian consular officers access to him in accordance with the Vienna Convention," the MEA said.

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 TAKEAWAYS FROM THE JADHAV CASE RULING ► PAGE 10



Nine gunned down in U.P. over land dispute

LUCKNOW
 Nine persons, including three women, have been gunned down by a village head and his associates in Sonbhadra district of U.P. over a land dispute, police said on Wednesday.

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'Withdraw non-bureaucrat nominees to DMRC board'

NEW DELHI
 The Centre has asked the Delhi government to withdraw its nomination of "four private individuals" to the DMRC board of directors.

CITY ► PAGE 2

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Karnataka's rebel MLAs need not attend House: SC

Says Speaker can decide on resignations 'when appropriate'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
 NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday gave the 15 dissident MLAs from Karnataka complete freedom to opt out of the ongoing Assembly session even as it acknowledged the Speaker's discretion to decide on their resignations as and when he considers it appropriate.

A five-page order pronounced by a Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, gave a clear indication to the 15 rebel Congress-Janata Dal (Secular) legislators, led by Pratap Gouda Patil, that they could bail out of the trust vote scheduled for July 18.

"Until further orders, the 15 members of the Assembly ought not to be compelled to participate in the proceedings of the ongoing session



Gearing for a fight: Congress leader Siddaramaiah going to meet the Speaker on Wednesday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

of the House and an option should be given to them that they can take part in the said proceedings or to opt to remain out of the same," the interim order said.

The free run given by the Supreme Court to the dissident legislators means they can defy a party whip without fear of disqualification for defection under clause 2 (b) of the Tenth Schedule of

the Constitution. Clause 2 (b) mandates that a legislator is liable for defection if he or she "votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by the political party to which he belongs or by any person or authority authorised by it in this behalf..."

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 BALANCE AND TILT ► EDITORIAL

Hafiz Saeed held in terror financing case

Sent to prison on judicial remand, to face trial in Anti-Terrorism Court

MEHMAL SARFRAZ
 LAHORE

Pakistan on Wednesday arrested Hafiz Saeed, the alleged mastermind of the 2008 Mumbai terror attack that killed 166 people.

An FIR against Saeed, who has been declared a global terrorist by the U.S. and the UN, and four others – Abdul Ghaffar, Hafiz Masood, Ameer Hamza and Malik Zafar Iqbal – was registered at



Hafiz Saeed

the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) police station in Gujranwala, Punjab, on July 1 on charges of terror

financing. According to a statement from the CTD Punjab spokesperson, Saeed "has been sent to prison on judicial remand... He will face trial in the ATC [Anti-terrorism Court] Gujranwala in the said case."

A spokesman for Saeed's group, Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD), a wing of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, confirmed the arrest to the news agency AFP.

Lahore bureau chief of

Geo News Raees Ansari said Saeed was arrested on his way from Lahore to a court in Gujranwala to seek anticipatory bail. "Saeed got interim bail from an anti-terrorism court in Lahore earlier this week. The CTD, anticipating another interim bail – which is a norm in such cases – arrested him before he could reach the Gujranwala ATC," said Mr. Ansari.

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Bill to revamp medical education cleared

National Exit Test must for practice

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI

In a move to bring sweeping changes to the medical education sector, the Centre plans to introduce the National Medical Commission Bill in this session of Parliament and repeal the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.

The Union Cabinet approved a revised version of the Bill on Wednesday, almost two years after the original version was introduced in Parliament in December 2017. The 2017 Bill, which had provoked widespread protests over a proposal for bridge courses to allow AYUSH practitioners to prescribe allo-

pathic medicines, was referred to a Parliamentary Standing Committee and amended to remove that contentious initiative. However, it lapsed with the dissolution of the 16th Lok Sabha.

The current Bill proposes to convert the final year MBBS examination into a licentiate exam, which will be a requirement for doctors to practise medicine. The examination, to be called the National Exit Test (NEXT), will also be used for entrance into post-graduate medical courses, and act as a screening test for foreign medical graduates.

AHIMS, JIPMER TO COME UNDER NEET ► PAGE 12

All illegal immigrants will be deported: Shah

Says govt. will identify infiltrators

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
 NEW DELHI

Answering a question on the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Home Minister Amit Shah told the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday that his government will ensure that all illegal immigrants are identified and deported.

Mr. Shah was replying to a supplementary question from Samajwadi Party MP Javed Ali Khan on whether the government intended to carry out an exercise on the lines of the NRC in Assam across the country.

Mr. Shah said the BJP manifesto, on the basis of

which his government had been elected, had clearly said the government would identify "illegal immigrants" and "infiltrators" from every "inch" of the country and "they will be deported in accordance to prevailing international laws".

His statement drew loud applause from the treasury benches.

The original question on the NRC was raised by BJP MP Amar Shankar Sable who questioned the inordinate delay in publishing the final list in Assam.

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