



SC dismisses plea by Tarun Tejpal to quash charges of rape

page 12



Former Bihar Chief Minister Jagannath Mishra passes away

page 12



Pakistan Army chief Gen. Bajwa gets three-year extension

page 14

Sai Praneeth, Prannoy enter second round at World Championships

page 18



## NEARBY



Death toll 38 as rain lashes northern States

CHANDIGARH  
Rain in the northern States claimed at least 38 lives and triggered landslides that left hundreds of people in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh stranded and several areas in Punjab, Haryana and Jammu flooded. Three more people were reported dead in Himachal Pradesh where heavy rain over the weekend has caused floods and landslides, increasing the toll to 25. In neighbouring Uttarakhand, the death toll climbed to 12 with two more bodies being recovered on Monday.

NATION ► PAGE 9

Yamuna crosses danger mark, old bridge closed

NEW DELHI  
Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Monday appealed to the residents of the Yamuna floodplains to shift to government tents as the river water level breached the danger mark, adding that the next two days were "critical". Traffic movement on the Old Yamuna Bridge, also known as the 'Lohe Ka Pul', was closed in view of the rising water level. More than 23,800 people will be required to be moved out from low-lying areas, according to official estimates.

CITY ► PAGE 2

# Reduce tensions with Pakistan: Trump

Modi says extreme rhetoric and incitement to anti-India violence by certain leaders won't help

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN  
KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE  
WASHINGTON DC/NEW DELHI

In a telephonic conversation with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday, U.S. President Donald Trump sought reduction of tensions between India and Pakistan, the White House said in a statement.

During the 30-minute conversation, the two leaders also discussed regional developments and the ways to "strengthen U.S.-India economic ties through increased trade," the statement said. "The President conveyed the importance of reducing tensions between India and Pakistan and maintaining peace in the region," the White House said.



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THE WHITE HOUSE

In the context of the regional situation, the Prime Minister stated that extreme rhetoric and incitement to anti-India violence by certain leaders in the region were not conducive to peace

THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS



The call comes close on the heels of a telephonic conversation on Friday between Mr. Trump and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan. Mr. Khan had spoken to Mr. Trump on the same morning as a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) meeting was being held to discuss Kash-

mir and India's dilution of Article 370 (special status for Kashmir).

On his part, Mr. Modi told Mr. Trump on Monday that encouraging anti-India violence would not ensure regional peace. The Trump-Modi telephonic conversation is the first direct

communication between the two leaders since India ended Jammu and Kashmir's special status on August 5.

'Not conducive to peace' "In the context of the regional situation, the Prime Minister stated that extreme rhetoric and incitement to

anti-India violence by certain leaders in the region were not conducive to peace," the Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement on the conversation, without referring to Pakistan.

"The two leaders recounted the June meeting in Japan's Osaka where they participated in the G20 summit.

"He [the Prime Minister] highlighted the importance of creating an environment free from terror and violence and eschewing cross-border terrorism without exception," the Ministry of External Affairs said, summing up Mr. Modi's message during the conversation.

In Monday's conversation, both leaders also discussed the Afghan scenario.

## NRC issues may be tackled via legislative route

Assam Chief Minister says any decision can be taken after the list is published on August 31

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal indicated on Monday that any decision to challenge the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) through the legislative route could be discussed in future.

"In a democracy, everyone has the right to ask questions. After the publication of the NRC on August

31, if necessary, we will take whatever steps will be required," he said, asked whether the government was exploring any legislative options to delay the publication.

Both the Centre and the State have moved the Supreme Court for re-verification of the documents of 20% of the 3.29 crore applicants in areas bordering Bangladesh as they suspect

wrongful inclusions and exclusions.

Mr. Sonowal, who had an hour-long meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah, said that as per the directions of the court, the NRC would be published by August 31 and both the State and Central governments would ensure that it was conducted peacefully.

Millions are set to lose citizenship after the publica-

tion of the final list. The register, first published in Assam in 1951, is being updated as per the court directions.

It is a list to segregate Indian citizens living in Assam from those who had illegally entered the State from Bangladesh after March 25, 1971.

The Supreme Court has, in the past fortnight, twice rejected the State's and the Home Ministry's plea for re-

verification.

Around 41 lakh people have been excluded from the draft lists published in July 2018 and June this year. Around 36 lakh have filed claims against their exclusion and objections have been filed against two lakh inclusions. The hearing of these claims and objections are under way at various NRC centres.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

## Oppn. slams Bhagwat for reservation remarks

It is an unnecessary row, says RSS; no need to have a debate, says Athawale

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders on Monday accused the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) of being an organisation with an "anti-Dalit mindset" after RSS *Sarsanghchalak* (chief) Mohan Bhagwat sought a "harmonious conversation" on the issue of reservation.

BSP chief Mayawati asked the RSS to shed its "anti-reservation mindset," while the Congress said the statement had exposed the "anti-



Mayawati says the remarks have created suspicion.

Dalit-backward face" of the BJP and the RSS.

It's an unnecessary row, the RSS said, as it "supported reservation."

BJP ally Ramdas Athawale, who is also the junior minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, asserted that there was no need to have a debate on reservation. Ms. Mayawati, however, said Mr. Bhagwat's remarks created "suspicion and doubt".

"The RSS saying that there should be open-hearted debate pertaining to reservation given to SC/ST/OBC, generates dangerous situation of doubt, which is

not at all needed. Reservation is a humanitarian and constitutional provision, and disturbing it is injustice and improper. It would be better if the Sangh sheds its anti-reservation mindset," Ms. Mayawati tweeted.

On Sunday, Mr. Bhagwat said there should be a conversation in a harmonious atmosphere between those favouring reservation and those opposing it.

CONTINUED ON ► PAGE 12

## Kashmiri doctor denied room in city

HEMANI BHANDARI  
NEW DELHI

A 24-year-old Kashmiri doctor was allegedly denied a room by an online hotel aggregator in Jasola Vihar on Saturday night after the manager checked his Aadhaar details.

OYO Rooms said they have taken disciplinary action against the hotel manager.


DETAILS ON ► PAGE 4

## Unnao: CBI gets 14 days more

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday gave the CBI two more weeks to complete investigation into a road accident that left the Unnao rape survivor and her lawyer critical and instantly killed two women relatives travelling with them. The court was informed by the CBI that the girl and the lawyer continue to be in a critical stage at AIIMS here and their statements were yet to be recorded.

DETAILS ON ► PAGE 12



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