



Demonising Modi all the time won't help, Jairam warns Oppn.

page 12



Johnson sees solutions 'readily available' for Irish border

page 14



Rupee hits 8-month low, Sensex dips 587 points amid selling pressure

page 15

Rahane, Rahul revive India after Roach rocks top-order

page 19



NEARBY



Temple protest: Azad, 95 others arrested

NEW DELHI
The police on Thursday arrested 96 people, including Bhim Army chief Chandrashekhar Azad, on charges of rioting and unlawful assembly following violent protest in the Tughlakabad area on Wednesday against the demolition of a temple. They were produced in a court which remanded them in 14-day police custody.

CITY > PAGE 3

Delhi NSUI chief blackens Savarkar bust

NEW DELHI
Protesting against the unauthorised installation of the bust of V.D.Savarkar, along with those of Bhagat Singh and Subhas Chandra Bose inside the Delhi University campus, Delhi State president of the National Students' Union of India Akshay Lakra blackened Savarkar's bust and garlanded it with footwear on Thursday.

CITY > PAGE 5

Husband held in DMRC engineer's death case

NEW DELHI
The autopsy report of a 26-year-old engineer with the DMRC, who was declared brought dead at a hospital on Sunday, has stated that the woman died of asphyxiation due to strangulation, the police said on Thursday. Her husband has been arrested, they added.

CITY > PAGE 5

Open Session
Ethics Case Studies & Interaction with
Varun Kumar Baranwal (IAS 2014)
24th & 25th August 11 AM-1 PM
6-2 PM-4 PM
Chanakya Mandali Parliwar, DRN, New Delhi
Registration: 8308837038, 8308837032

FRIDAY REVIEW > 8 PAGES
(TABLOID)

Macron: no space for third party mediation in Kashmir

India to receive first Rafale fighter jet next month: Modi

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron on Thursday discussed the government's move to suspend Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and split the State into two Union Territories.

Briefing the media in Chantilly after one-on-one talks that lasted more than 90 minutes, Mr. Macron said France would support any policy that would give the region "stability", adding that no one should "provoke violence" there.

'Sovereign issue'

"Prime Minister Modi explained the decisions to me, and said that this is a sovereign issue for India. France believes that the issue of Kashmir should be resolved between India and Pakistan, and no other party should be involved," Mr. Macron said.



Boost to ties: PM Modi and President Emmanuel Macron before their meeting at Chateau of Chantilly. ■ REUTERS

"We would like to support any policy that keeps the situation stable and free from terror. I will be speaking to the Pakistan PM shortly, and would say to him that this issue must be resolved bilaterally as well," he added.

Thanking the French government for its support on security and countering "cross-border terror", Mr. Modi said India and France

had finalised several steps to strengthen their strategic partnership.

He also said India was looking forward to the first delivery of the Rafael fighter jets in September. "In the past, India and France have walked together and fought fascism and extremism together," Mr. Modi said.

CONTINUED ON > PAGE 12

'Afghan, Pashtun fighters poised to enter J&K'

Over 100 trained militants positioned by Pak. at LoC, warn intelligence inputs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Intelligence inputs have warned that Pakistan is recruiting Afghan and Pashtun fighters for infiltration into Kashmir, and over 100 of them are positioned at various launchpads along the Line of Control (LoC).

"There have also been specific intelligence inputs that the Pakistan-based terror group Jaish-e-Mohammad has deployed over a dozen Afghan and Pathan terrorists for Border Action Team attempts, comprising Afghan militants and highly

FATF wing may blacklist Pak.

After being greylisted at the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) plenary, Pakistan faces being put on the blacklist of the FATF's Asia affiliate, Asia-Pacific Group (APG), that will conclude its meetings on Friday. > PAGE 13

trained Special Services Group (SSG) of the Pakistan Army and for infiltration into the Lipa valley in north

Top-level meet on Kashmir

The Secretaries of the Union Ministries will meet on August 28 to discuss the implementation of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, that will come into effect on October 31. > PAGE 13

Kashmir," defence sources said. They added that Pakistan is desperately trying to keep the LoC active in an at-

Chidambaram in CBI custody

Delhi court grants 5-day remand for his interrogation in the INX Media case

NIRNIMESH KUMAR
DEVESH K. PANDEY
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Thursday remanded senior Congress leader and former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram to the Central Bureau of Investigation's custody for five days for interrogation in the INX Media case. He was arrested on Wednesday night.

The CBI sought his custody to unearth the "larger conspiracy", stating that he had tremendous potential of not cooperating in the probe as he was highly intelligent.

Remanding him in custody till August 26, additional sessions judge Ajay Kumar Kuhar said, "It is impressed upon the investigating agency to ensure that the personal dignity of the accused is not violated in any manner."

'Remand justified'

"Considering all the facts and circumstances of the case as brought to the notice of the court, I am of the view that police custody remand



No relief: P. Chidambaram leaving the CBI court in New Delhi on Thursday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

of accused P. Chidambaram is justified," the judge said in a 10-page order.

Despite objections raised by the agency, the court permitted Mr. Chidambaram to make his submission in person. Submitting that he had answered all the CBI questions, he denied having any bank accounts abroad. He, however, said his son Karti had an overseas bank account with the RBI's approval.

Arguing for the CBI, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the accused was summoned, and he joined the probe on June 6, 2018. He was further interrogated after his arrest. However, he evaded questions and did not respond to the documents shown to him, Mr. Mehta said.

CONTINUED ON > PAGE 12

THIS IS TO SILENCE MY FATHER, SAYS KARTI > PAGE 12

Trump suggests India should fight Islamic State in Afghanistan

Says Pakistan is fighting it 'very, very little'

SRIRAM LAKSHMAN
WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump named India as one of the countries that ought to be fighting the Islamic State (IS) in Afghanistan. He also appeared to suggest that Russia, Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan and Pakistan were countries that should be fighting the IS in Afghanistan.



Donald Trump

"Look, India is right there. They're not fighting it; we're fighting it. Pakistan is right next door. They're fighting it very little - very, very little. It's not fair," Mr.

Trump said in the White House. He was responding to a question whether he was concerned about the potential re-emergence of the IS in Afghanistan and how that might impact his plans to withdraw troops from that country.

On Tuesday, Mr. Trump had said the U.S. would not completely withdraw from Afghanistan but "always have intelligence [in Afghanistan]" and "always have somebody there".

CONTINUED ON > PAGE 12

Nine parties join DMK-led protest

They sought the release of political leaders in Kashmir

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Nine Opposition parties on Thursday participated in a protest led by the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), demanding the immediate release of the political leaders detained in Kashmir and restoration of communication services in the Valley.

The protest is likely to be the first in a series. Sources said all those who were present would meet soon to chart out a plan for a countrywide protest.

"We discussed the need to take the protest further to convert it into a campaign. We may meet tomorrow or



Coming-together: Ghulam Nabi Azad, Sitaram Yechury and Brinda Karat at the protest in Delhi on Thursday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

day after to plan similar meets in every State capital to apprise the citizens of the true situation in Kashmir and counter the misinformation campaign run by the government," a top Opposition leader said. The protest was attended by the Congress, the

TMC, the CPI(M), the CPI, the SP, the RJD, the National Conference, the MDMK and the Jan Lok Tantrik Party. Political activist Shehla Rashid too was present.

'A GREAT JOKE' > PAGE 13
UN TEAM ALLEGES VIOLATION OF RIGHTS IN KASHMIR > PAGE 13

Shivamogga villagers opt for self-help, build bridge

Guided by three carpenters, 75 residents reconstructed the structure that was washed away by floods

P. M. VEERENDRA
SHIVAMOGGA

Many hands make light work, goes the adage. And when a bridge that served as their only link to the outer world got washed away in the monsoon fury earlier this month, the residents of Brahmanakeppige of Shivamogga district in Karnataka did not wait for official help - they came together and built themselves a new bridge.

The hamlet in Tumari panchayat, in the backwaters of the Linganamakki reservoir now has a spanking new wooden bridge, which

took less than a day to build. After the reservoir was constructed across the Sharavathi river near Linganamakki for power generation in 1962, as many as six panchayats in the Shivamogga district, including Tumari, became islands in its backwaters. At present, two barges provided by the Department of Ports and Inland Water Transportation are the only means of transportation for nearly 30,000 residents of these panchayats.

Only link

The president of the Tumari



Brahmanakeppige residents carry out the work in Shivamogga district. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Grama Panchayat, Sathyanarayan G.T., told *The Hindu* that for 80 families of Brahmanakeppige, the only link to the outer world was a

wooden bridge across the Kalkattu rivulet, a tributary of the Sharavathi river.

When the bridge was washed away on August 9, Brahmanakeppige became an island within an island, he said. The elected representatives and officials who visited the spot assured the villagers that another bridge would be constructed.

"But the people here realised that if the bridge work is to be executed by the government, it could take months as the proposal needs clearances at multiple levels. So, it was decided to rebuild it using

shramadaan," said Manjunath, a resident.

Work commenced on August 17 at 7.30 a.m. Using locally available wooden logs and arecanut trees, the citizens completed the construction by 4.30 p.m. The workforce comprised of 75 people, including women. Lokanna, Manju and Lakshman, who are carpenters, supervised the construction.

The Grama Panchayat provided ₹15,000 to meet the expenses. The 100-metre bridge is now open for pedestrians and two-wheelers.

EPFO to restore commutation of pension


PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Providing relief to 6.3 lakh pensioners, retirement fund body Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has approved a proposal to

restore commutation of pension, or advance part-withdrawal, under the Employees' Pension Scheme. The move would benefit the pensioners who had opted for commutation and got a

lump sum amount at the time of retirement before 2009. The provision for commutation of pension was withdrawn by the EPFO in 2009.

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