



Green tribunal seeks timeline for cleaning Yamuna river



India lags behind in quality of economic data reporting: IMF



Rahane, Vihari and Indian bowlers put West Indies on the mat Stokes' brilliant knock takes England to sensational win

PRINTED AT · CHENNAI · COIMBATORE · BENGALURU · HYDERABAD · MADURAI · NOIDA · VISAKHAPATNAM · THIRUVANANTHAPURAM · KOCHI · VIJAYAWADA · MANGALURU · TIRUCHIRAPALLI · KOLKATA · HUBBALLI · MOHALI · MALAPPURAM · MUMBAI · TIRUPATI · LUCKNOW · CUTTACK · PATNA



page 20



Man dies after scooty falls off Barapullah

A 36-year man was killed and his cousin injured after they fell off the Barapullah flyover in south-east Delhi, the police said on Sunday. The victims - Rohit Makol (36) and his cousin Pradeep were on a scooty when the accident occurred on

Saturday evening. **CITY** ▶ PAGE 3

Mob kills earth-moving machine driver in Nagaur

A driver of an earth-moving machine was killed and five government vehicles were vandalised by a mob during an anti-encroachment drive in Rajasthan's Nagaur district on Sunday, police said.

NORTH ▶ PAGE 6

Now and Then

Former tennis player and now coach, Ankita Bhambri, has always been the quiet, diligent worker. Her coaching philosophy for parents is simple - focus on training, rather than results. ▶ PAGE 5



EDUCATIONPLUS ▶ 4 PAGES

Manmohan Singh set to lose SPG cover

Decision taken after review involving Cabinet Secretariat, MHA with inputs from intelligence agencies

SUHASINI HAIDAR

The Narendra Modi government is likely to withdraw the Special Protection Group (SPG) from former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's security detail shortly, according to several sources.

The decision, reportedly taken after a three-month review involving the Cabinet Secretariat and the Ministry of Home Affairs with inputs from intelligence agencies the Research and Analysis Wing and the Intelligence Bureau, has not vet been formally communicated in writing, but was "orally" conveyed to the former Prime Minister, the sources confirmed to The Hindu.

This would mean that the elite protection force of about 3,000 officers meant for the Prime Ministers, the former Prime Ministers and their families would now be tasked with protecting only Mr. Modi, Congress president Sonia Gandhi and her children Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

According to an official privy to the development, who asked not to be identified, the government had, according to the procedures laid down by the SPG Act, 1988, renewed Dr. Singh's SPG detail for a year after he demitted office in 2014, and subsequently, on an annual basis after reviewing the threats faced by him and his

Prime Minister and members of his immediate family (parents spouse, children) Former PM and family members

Congress interim president Sonia Gandhi. Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi SPG has over with annual review

PM Narendra Modi

Former PM

wife Gursharan Kaur. (Dr. Singh's daughters, who were also eligible, had given up SPG cover voluntarily in

However, on May 25 this

year, the government decided not to fully renew the SPG cover, and instead ordered a three-month review process, which ended on Sunday. Dr. Singh's SPG unit was also

told about the decision and asked to await a final decision, "I can confirm that the government has informed Dr. Singh that he is no longer eligible for SPG protection," another well-informed source said, adding that this was conveyed by a senior intelligence official directly to the former Prime Minister. However, no written order had been sent as yet, and the 200-plus strong SPG force at Dr. Singh's Motilal Nehru Place residence in Delhi remains in place, indicating that there may yet be a change in decision.

(With inputs from Sandeep Phukan)

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Let us wage a war on plastic, says PM

Modi calls for campaign from Oct. 2

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged the people to observe the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi this year as a day to make India plastic-free and urged municipalities, NGOs and the corporate sector to come up with ways for safe disposal of accumulated plastic waste Deepavali.

The call for a mass movement came after his Independence Day's address in which he had urged the people to shun single-use plas-

In his monthly radio address Mann ki Baat, he also



Narendra Modi

asked the people to participate in the annual 'Swachhta Hi Seva' or 'quest for cleanliness is service.'

The 'Swachhta Hi Seva' campaign will begin on September 11.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12



Cong. hits out at curbs in Kashmir

Brute force unleashed, Rahul says on 20th day of shutdown

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI

With the official shutdown in Kashmir entering its 20th day, the Congress on Sunday accused the Modi government of curtailing the freedom and civil liberties of the people.

Posting a video on Twitter of his aborted visit to Srinagar along with 11 other Opposition leaders on Saturday, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "It's been 20 days since the people of Jammu & Kashmir had their freedom and civil liberties curtailed. Leaders of the Opposition and the Press got a taste of the draconian administration and brute force unleashed on the people when we tried to visit Srinagar yesterdav."

Mobile phones and Internet remain cut off and



A market remains closed in Srinagar on Sunday. • NISSAR AHMAD

Driver killed in stone-throwing

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Protesters on Sunday hurled stones at a civilian truck in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, killing the driver, police said.

tricted, though officially no curfew has been imposed. Schools and offices have Noor Mohammed Dar, 42, who belonged to the same Zradipora Uranhall locality, was returning home when protesters

mistook his truck for a security force vehicle. been very thin. 'ANTI-NATIONAL' ▶ PAGE 13

ON THE WRONG SIDE

Separate flag, law key to peace: Naga group

NSCN(IM) writes letter to the PM

RAHUL KARMAKAR

Less than a month after the Centre ended Jammu and Kashmir's special status that allowed it to have its own constitution and a flag, a Naga extremist group has for the first time said a "separate flag and constitution" are necessary for an "honourable solution" to the 22-year-old

peace process. In a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Isak-Muivah faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland has said any solution would be far from honourable if the core issues such as a Naga flag and constitution are yet to be agreed upon between the group and the Centre. The letter followed former IB officer R.N. Ravi's statement that Mr. Modi had, before his appointment as Nagaland's Governor, want-

ed the peace process con-

cluded in three months. Mr. Ravi was speaking at a civic reception in Nagaland's capital Kohima on August 17 and allayed fears that the scrapping of Article 370 would cast a shadow on the peace process and the State. **CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 12

SC slams govt. for denying pension to freedom fighter

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

The Supreme Court has slammed the Centre for harassing a 90-year-old freedom fighter by filing repeated appeals in higher courts, often at the last minute, to deny him a fighter's freedom

The government had challenged a Delhi High Court order directing the Centre to pay Dev Narayan Mishra his freedom fighter pension.

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 9

New law to curb lynching unlikely

Group of Ministers yet to meet

VIJAITA SINGH

An empowered Group of Ministers, headed by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, to suggest measures to combat mob lynchings is yet to meet, but a senior official has indicated that a new law on such crimes is

unlikely. The official said the existing laws were enough to combat crimes like lynching, and all it required was "enforcement".

"There are enough laws to deal with lynchings; it is a matter of enforcement.

The police need to be trained to ensure conviction in these cases," the official said, when asked whether the Centre was considering any amendment to the Indian Penal Code (IPC) to prevent lynchings.

On August 5, the Rajasthan Assembly passed a Bill, the Rajasthan Protection from Lynching Bill, 2019, providing for life imprisonment and a fine of up to ₹5 lakh for persons convicted of lynching.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Jaitley cremated with state honours in the Capital

Thousands, including top party leaders, pay tribute to him



Final tribute: Amit Shah pays his last respect to former finance minister Arun Jaitley. •PT

A young biologist recreates a blue whale from bones

Complete skeleton formed in A.P. using several of the giants washed ashore

T. APPALA NAIDU MACHILIPATNAM It was like a jigsaw puzzle for the young wildlife biologist looking at the skeletal remains of dead blue whales washed ashore on the Andhra Pradesh coast. But he found a way to put them all together. All in just two months. Where the parts were missing, he used plaster of Paris and put in stainless steel and screws to configure a life-size skeleton of the endangered species.

In 2017, Kumpatla Balaji, the Andhra University alumnus launched a project to use the skeletal remains

to form the blue whale, replicating its natural anatomy structure. He was spurred to do so, after experts were unable to fit the bones collected from the Machilipatnam coast. Mr. Balaji is a research

scientist at the Coringa Marine Museum in Rajamahendravaram city, where the 32-ft-long life-size blue whale (Balaenoptera musculus) skeleton he engineered is being preserved and on public display since early 2018.

"Dozens of skeletal remains of blue whales were lying with our museum,



begging to be assembled," said Mr. Balaji.

Chemically treated "Many bones and the head part of the blue whale were brought to our museum by the Forest Department from

Machilipatnam coast in 2017, helping me form the complete skeleton within two months," he said.

The skeletal parts were chemically treated before being rigged together with stainless steel. At least two bones were made of plaster of Paris as they were missing."
The blue whale falls in

Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Dozens of dead blue and sperm whales have washed ashore on the Nagayalanka, Machilipatnam, Kakinada, and Srikakulam coast in Andhra Pradesh since 2015. What caused their death is the subject of study.

"The way the complete skeleton of the giant animal has been developed will help preserve it for the next three decades without the need for any further chemical treatment. The skeleton is painted with a white chemical for longevity," said Mr. Balaji.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Former Union Minister and senior BJP leader Arun Jaitley, who passed away on Saturday, was cremated at the Nigambodh Ghat here with full state honours in the presence of political leaders across party lines and supporters on Sunday.

As the BJP leader's last rites were being performed by his son Rohan Jaitley, it started raining. Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Defence Mi-

nister Rajnath Singh, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP working president I.P. Nadda were among Jaitley's former colleagues in attendance. Congress leaders Jyoti-

raditya Scindia and Kapil Sibal were also present at the cremation ground.

Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Bihar and Uttarakhand, Devendra Fadnavis, Vijay Rupani, B. S. Yediyurappa, Nitish Kumar and Trivendra Singh Rawat, respectively, were also there.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is in France for the G7 summit, was in Bahrain on Saturday when he said it was "upsetting and unbelievable" that someone he had known since their youth was no more. On Sunday morning, the mortal remains were taken from his South Delhi residence to the party headquarters on Deen Dayal Upadhaya Marg, where thousands, including top party leaders and Union Ministers, paid tribute to

From the BJP office, the

mortal remains draped in the Tricolour were carried in a procession to the cremation ground in a vehicle decorated with flowers in the afternoon. The former Finance Mi-

nister was admitted to AI-IMS on August 9 when he complained of uneasiness and and breathlessness. After being on life support for two weeks, he breathed his last at 12.07 p.m. on Saturday, according to AIIMS. He was 66. He had been diagnosed with a form of cancer, soft

tissue sarcoma, in January this year. Last year, he had under-

gone a kidney transplant and in 2014, he had had a bariatric surgery. He is survived by his wife and two children.

(With PTI inputs)

A ND-NDE