



Lynching victim Tabrez Ansari's wife threatens fast-unto-death

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Donald Trump to attend 'Howdy, Modi!' event in Houston

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No breakthrough in Johnson-Brexit talks with EC chief Juncker

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Saha in the spotlight as India-A takes on South Africa-A in second 'Test'

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NEARBY



P.K. Mishra emerges as PMO power centre

PMO power centre
AHMEDABAD
Prime Minister's newly elevated Principal Secretary P.K. Mishra has emerged as the most powerful bureaucrat handling the most important matters in the PMO as per the distribution of work among the three top bureaucrats: Dr. Mishra, NSA Ajit Kumar Doval and Principal Adviser P.K. Sinha.

NEWS PAGE 12

Petition in NGT against odd-even initiative

Petition in NGT against odd-even initiative
NEW DELHI
A plea challenging the odd-even vehicle rationing scheme announced by the Delhi government was filed at the NGT on Monday. CM Arvind Kejriwal had announced that the scheme will be rolled out between November 4 and 15.

CITY PAGE 3

Yogi gov't's move to shift 17 OBCs to SC list stayed

Yogi gov't's move to shift 17 OBCs to SC list stayed
LUCKNOW
In a major setback to the Yogi Adityanath government, the Allahabad High Court on Monday stayed its decision to include 17 Other Backward Classes in the Scheduled Castes list.

NORTH PAGE 6

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Govt. data on J&K terror justify lockdown, says SC

Numbers from 1990 present 'formidable reasons'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday found the government's statistics of thousands of instances of death, terror and violence in Jammu and Kashmir from 1990 as "formidable reasons" for the August 5, 2019, lockdown that followed the withdrawal of the special rights and privileges of Kashmiri people with the reading down of Article 370.

Attorney-General K.K. Venugopal reeled out numbers to prove that the restrictions stopped the bloodshed in the Valley, and there was no dearth of facilities for ordinary Kashmiris.

He told a Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi, that since 1990, 41,866 persons had lost their lives in 71,038 terror incidents. They included 14,038 civilians, 5,292 security personnel and 22,536 terrorists.

"A terrible state of affairs... These are formidable reasons [for the lockdown]... These are security matters," Justice S.A. Bobde, on the Bench, said.

'No bullets fired'

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta submitted that "not a bullet has been fired after August 5".

The court directed the Union of India and the Jammu and Kashmir government to file their responses

Small steps towards normalcy

Restrictions under Section 144 have been removed in:

- 93 out of 105 (88.57%) police stations of Kashmir division
- In all 90 police stations (100%) in Jammu division and in seven (100%) police stations of Ladakh division
- Three months' stock of essential items has been ensured
- 8,98,050 LPG refills have been home-delivered in the last month across Kashmir Valley
- 6.46 lakh quintals of rations have been distributed
- Primary, middle and high schools are functioning normally in Jammu and Ladakh divisions (100%), while in Kashmir 97% of all schools are functioning

SOURCE: CENTRE'S REPORT TO THE SUPREME COURT

Azad allowed to visit 4 districts

The Supreme Court on Monday allowed senior Congress leader Gulam Nabi Azad to go on a restricted tour of four districts of Jammu and Kashmir "without indulging in any political activity or rally".

people have access to healthcare facilities and schools, colleges and other educational institutions and public transport function and operate normally".

to petitions, like the one filed by Kashmir Times Executive Editor Anuradha Bhasin, against the lockdown. The court urged the J&K government to make "all endeavours", keeping in mind national and internal security, to ensure that "normal life is restored in Kashmir,

Students miss deadlines

The communication blockade has affected students who missed deadlines to fill up forms for courses at foreign universities. A Kashmiri scientist in the U.S. and an Indian scientist are trying to help them.

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AMIT SHAH REVIEWS SECURITY SITUATION PAGE 13

Drone strikes on Saudi facility lead to jump in crude prices

Supplies to India will not be affected, Saudi Aramco officials tell oil companies

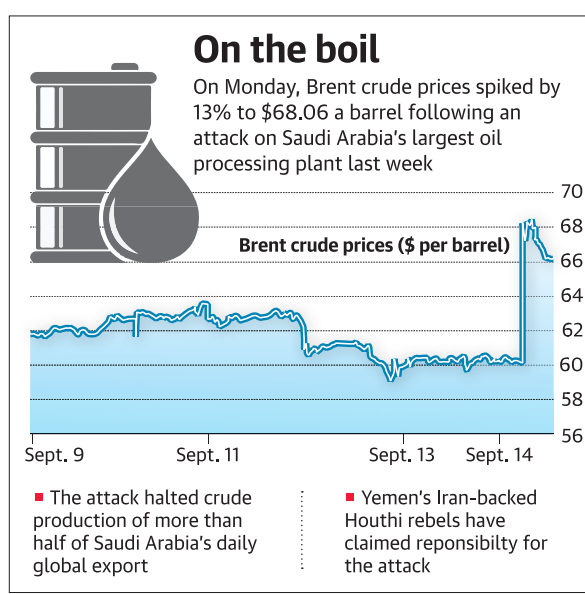
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Drone attacks last week on Saudi Arabia's crude processing facility, the largest in the world, have impacted half of the country's crude oil production and about 5% of the world supply. Following the attacks, on Monday, Global Brent crude futures shot up more than 20% to \$66.91 per barrel.

However, allaying Indian fears, Saudi Aramco officials told oil companies that the attacks would not result in a shortage of supplies, the Ministry of Petroleum has said.

Ratings agencies, however, said India would see a rise in prices due to the increase in the risk premium. "Yesterday [September 15], Saudi ARAMCO officials informed the Indian refiners that there would be no shortage of supplies to them," the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) said in a statement.

MEA condemns attacks
Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Raveesh Kumar in a statement, condemned the drone attacks. "We reiterate our resolve to oppose terrorism in all its forms and manifes-



Petrol price may rise by ₹5

Prices of petroleum products like petrol and diesel are likely to go up by up to ₹5 a litre each over the course of the next few days after international crude oil prices shot up following the drone attack on Saudi Aramco's facility at Abqaiq. Oil marketing companies will have to increase the retail prices in a fortnight. Shares of Indian refiners closed in the red on the BSE.

Rupee tumbles 68 paise

Rise in crude oil prices spooked all the emerging market currencies with rupee being hit the worst, despite the Central bank's intervention that helped the currency to reduce losses. The rupee opened weaker at 71.75 against the dollar, compared with the previous close of 70.93. It hit the day's low of 71.68 before closing at 71.60, down 68 paise. This was the first season of weakening of the domestic unit after eight days of gain.

Farooq detained under PSA, his house declared a jail



Under cover: Security men standing guard outside the house of NC leader Farooq Abdullah in Srinagar on Monday.

Move comes ahead of Vaiko's plea in Supreme Court against his detention

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Hours before the Supreme Court was to hear a petition by Raiva Sabha member Vaiko against the detention of National Conference leader and former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, the Jammu and Kashmir Home Department issued orders to detain the Srinagar Member of Parliament under the Public Safety Act (PSA) for 12 days on Sunday night.

As per the latest order under the PSA, his residence has been declared a subsidiary jail.

A senior government official told The Hindu that Dr. Abdullah would be detained initially for 12 days, but the period could be extended for a maximum of three months. Any detention beyond three months will have to be ratified by the PSA Advisory

Board. The maximum detention period under the PSA, enacted in 1978, is two years. Mr. Vaiko last week moved a habeas corpus petition in the court to have the State government produce the former Chief Minister in court and set him free.

The court heard the petition on Monday and issued notice to the Centre and scheduled the hearing for September 30. When the Bench, led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, turned to Solicitor General Tushar Mehta for a response, he questioned the locus standi of Mr. Vaiko to file a habeas corpus petition for Dr. Abdullah. This petition was reserved for family members alone, the law officer said.

Continued on page 12
NC CHIEF CONFINED TO ONE ROOM PAGE 13

Ayodhya parties want to resume talks

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Ayodhya mediation committee on Monday filed a short memorandum informing the Supreme Court that parties across the Hin-

du-Muslim religious divide have approached it with a request to resume talks to amicably resolve the over 70-year-old Ramjanmaboomi-Babri Masjid title dispute.

The parties had suggested that mediation could continue even as the Supreme Court continues to hear the Ayodhya dispute appeals.

The memorandum said

Former Andhra Pradesh Speaker found dead

STAFF REPORTER
HYDERABAD

Former Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Assembly Kodela Siva Prasada Rao was found dead under suspicious circumstances at his residence here on Monday.

Joint Commissioner of Police (West Zone) A.R. Srinivas said the 72-year-old politician was suspected to have committed suicide by hanging from a ceiling fan at his residence in Banjara Hills.

He was taken to Basavarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. "After attending on him for more than an hour, doctors pronounced Rao dead," Mr. Srinivas said, adding that

there was a ligature mark around his neck.

Preliminary inquiries revealed that Mr. Rao's daughter, Vijaya Lakshmi, found him hanging in his bedroom on the first floor of the house. Based on her complaint, the Banjara Hills police registered a case under Section 174 (suspicious death) of the Cr. P.C.

"Around 11 a.m., when Vijaya Lakshmi went to the first floor to inform Rao that she was taking her mother, Kodela Sasikala, to hospital, she found the doors bolted from inside. She opened the window to find him hanging," the Joint Commissioner said.

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A SURGEON PAGE 8

Four of Muslim family injured in attack at Aligarh railway station

Likely that altercation could have led to incident, say police

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GHAZIABAD

Four members of a Muslim family were injured when a mob of around a dozen unidentified people attacked them at the Aligarh railway station on Sunday afternoon, allegedly because of their religious identity.

According to an FIR registered by the Government Railway Police (GRP), Sahim Khan, a resident of a village near Kannauj, and his family had just alighted from the Kanpur-Anand Vihar Express at Aligarh at 4.30 p.m. when the group attacked them on the platform. Mr. Khan's nephew, Tafteeq Khan, suffered an injury on the forehead. Their wives



Victim of attack: Tafteeq Khan suffered an injury on the forehead and is admitted to hospital.

were also beaten. Station House Officer Yashpal Singh said an FIR was registered against unidentified people. "CCTV footage is being looked into to identify the culprits. Prima facie, it seems like a case of altercation leading to an attack."

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