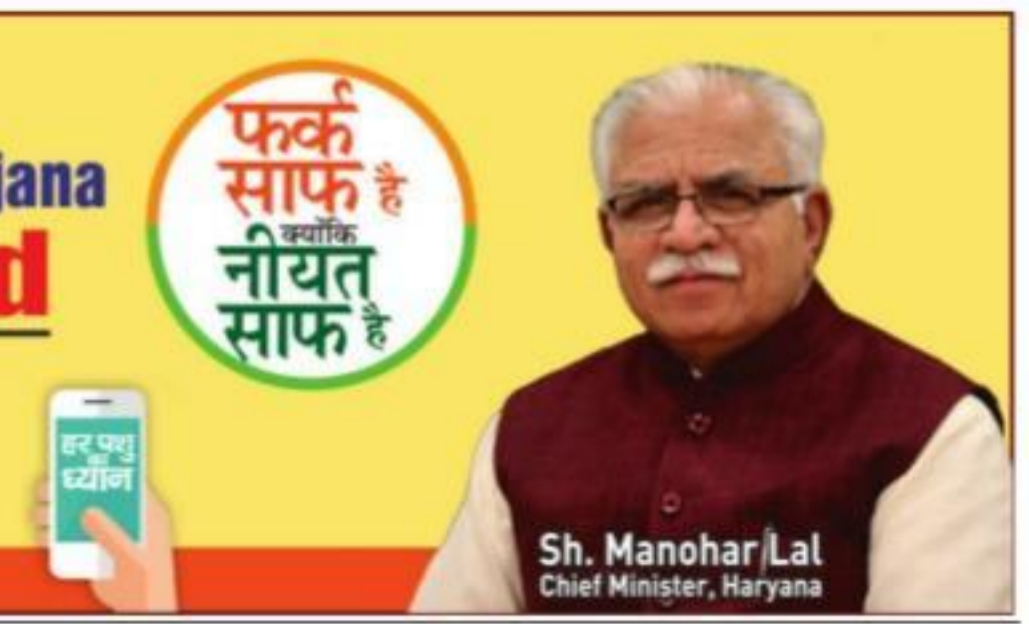


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## SOME CURBS BACK AFTER TEEN INJURED IN PROTEST DIES

### Desperate Pakistan is pushing infiltrators into Valley: Army

**ADIL AKHZER & BASHAARAT MASOOD**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 4

ANNOUNCING THE arrest of two Pakistani nationals affiliated to banned militant outfit Lashkar-e-Toiba, General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Army's 15 Corps Lt Gen K J S Dhillon said Wednesday that a "desperate" Pakistan was pushing infiltrators into the Valley to carry out "terrorist activities".

Addressing a joint press conference with ADG (Law and Order) Munir Khan in Srinagar, one month after the Centre scrapped Jammu and Kashmir's special status and bifurcated the

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**NAVEED IQBAL**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 4

IN THE 30 days since the removal of special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and its bifurcation into two Union Territories, at least 290 people have been booked under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act (PSA). Of these, 250 have been booked under this law in the Valley and 40 in Jammu, sources in the government told *The Indian Express*.

Before August 5, these figures



15 Corps GOC K J S Dhillon with ADG Police Munir Khan on Wednesday. *Shuaib Masoodi*

had ranged, on an average, between 70-80 per month.  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

### Overriding rule, Govt OKs NGT members for 3 years or 'until further orders'

**JAY MAZOOMDAR**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 4

THE APPOINTMENTS Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has cleared the appointment of an unspecified number of members in the National Green Tribunal for three years "or until further orders". This flies in the face of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

Under NGT Rules, a Tribunal member has a fixed five-year tenure and cannot be removed without consulting the Chief Justice of India and an inquiry conducted by a judge of the Supreme Court.

While the 'information note' issued on September 2 does not name the appointees or the date of appointments, sources in the Environment Ministry said the new appointees are serving Director General of Forest Siddhanta Das and Additional Director General of Forest Saibal Dasgupta. The ACC note stated that necessary communication in this regard had been sent to

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## VLADIVOSTOK-CHENNAI SEA LINK PLANNED

### Putin listening, Modi says no room for outside role in internal matters

**SHUBHAJIT ROY**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 4

ON A day when India and Russia signed 15 MoUs across a range of sectors, from space to deep-sea exploration, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a veiled reference in Vladivostok to J&K and Pakistan — and said that India and Russia "are against outside influence in internal matters of any nation".

Speaking at a joint press



Modi and Putin in Vladivostok, Russia. *ANI*

conference Wednesday, along with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Modi also said that the nuclear power plants being built in India by Russia had strengthened bilateral relations, and announced a proposal for a "full-fledged" maritime route between Chennai and Vladivostok.

Putin described India as "a key partner". "Relations between our countries can be described as truly strategic and privileged

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**EXPLAINED**

### Eye on Russia's Far East

THE PRIME Minister's visit is aimed at shoring up cooperation with Moscow in the Far East, which ties in with India's approach towards the Indo-Pacific and the Arctic.



In Reasi, the first Army recruitment rally since August 5

### Article 370 was never intended to be forever, says Tharoor

**MANOJ CG**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 4

THE CONGRESS is not defending Article 370 "for all time" because it was "never intended to be forever" but the manner in which J&K's special status was revoked was "undoubtedly violative of the spirit" of the Constitution, Lok Sabha MP and Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said.

Speaking to *The Indian Express* Wednesday, ahead of the release of his latest book *The Hindu Way*, Tharoor also said that given the "depth of belief" associated with the Ram temple in Ayodhya, "there would have been a case for having some sort

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

### EXPRESS NETWORK



23 KILLED IN PUNJAB FIRE CRACKER FACTORY EXPLOSION  
**PAGE 9**

## Chenab Valley & Pir Panjal youth line up to join Army

**ARUN SHARMA**  
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 4

AWAY FROM the intense political and legal debate over the removal of J&K's special status and its bifurcation into two Union Territories, an estimated 29,000


youth from the Muslim-dominated areas of the Chenab Valley and Pir Panjal region are queuing up to join the Indian Army.

Since Tuesday, over 6,000 youth have already participated in a week-long recruitment rally of the Army's Counter

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

By UNNY



Having failed to unite and govern at least be a unified opposition.

**THE EDITORIAL PAGE**

**BANK MERGER A DISTRACTION**

By DUVVURI SUBBARAO  
**PAGE 14**

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