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Restore Special Status of J&K

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Flash floods in Uttarakhand



India may change stance amid tariff war



At least four persons were killed and dozens feared washed away in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand after flash floods triggered by torrential rain hit the Kheer Ganga river on Tuesday afternoon. The floods hit hotels and residential buildings in Dharali town, situated 8,600 feet above sea level.

The entire market area of the popular tourist town was washed away in minutes, leaving the place looking like a sludge filled river bed. Given the poor weather conditions and further predictions of heavy rains over the next couple of days, the administration has announced that all schools will be shut on August 06. Disaster management officials have been asked to use loudspeakers and sirens to alert people living in villages near the river. The Union government has assured the State of its help in the rescue efforts.



Aquaculture in AP to be affected

India-Philippines relations elevated to level of strategic partnership

India and the Philippines have decided to boost their defence and maritime links, begin direct flights, and start negotiating a new trade deal as they upgrade their ties to the level of a "strategic partnership". The two sides also announced the commencement of talks for a preferential trade agreement. The Prime Minister discussed regional and global issues with the Filipino President, and hinted at India's position on the disputes in the South China Sea.



India announced that it will extend its support to a pilot project to set up the infrastructure needed for the Philippines Sovereign Data Cloud. India also invited the Philippines to participate in its Information Fusion Centre for the Indian Ocean Region. Both countries vouch for a free and rules based Indo-Pacific region.



STATE

Trump's tariffs likely to severely affect aquaculture and seafood sector in A.P.



With the U.S. President Donald Trump announcing a 25% tariff on Indian products, the aquaculture sector in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be severely affected, particularly for the shrimp farmers. Aquaculture farmers in A.P. exporting their produce to the U.S have to bear about 25% tariffs, 5.77% countervailing duty and 3.96% anti-dumping duty from August 7, says the Seafood Exporters Association of India members. The contribution of A.P. to seafood exports was 9.52% Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) in 2023-24. As the prices fell of shrimp in the international market, many farmers announced crop holiday.



UPSC plans to send alerts via email to institutions

In a first, the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will alert educational and professional institutions to recruitment advertisements as many vacancies remained unfulfilled due to lack of information among jobseekers. Email alerts would be sent to universities, institutions, associations, professional and recognised bodies.

Restore special status, say J&K parties amid protests

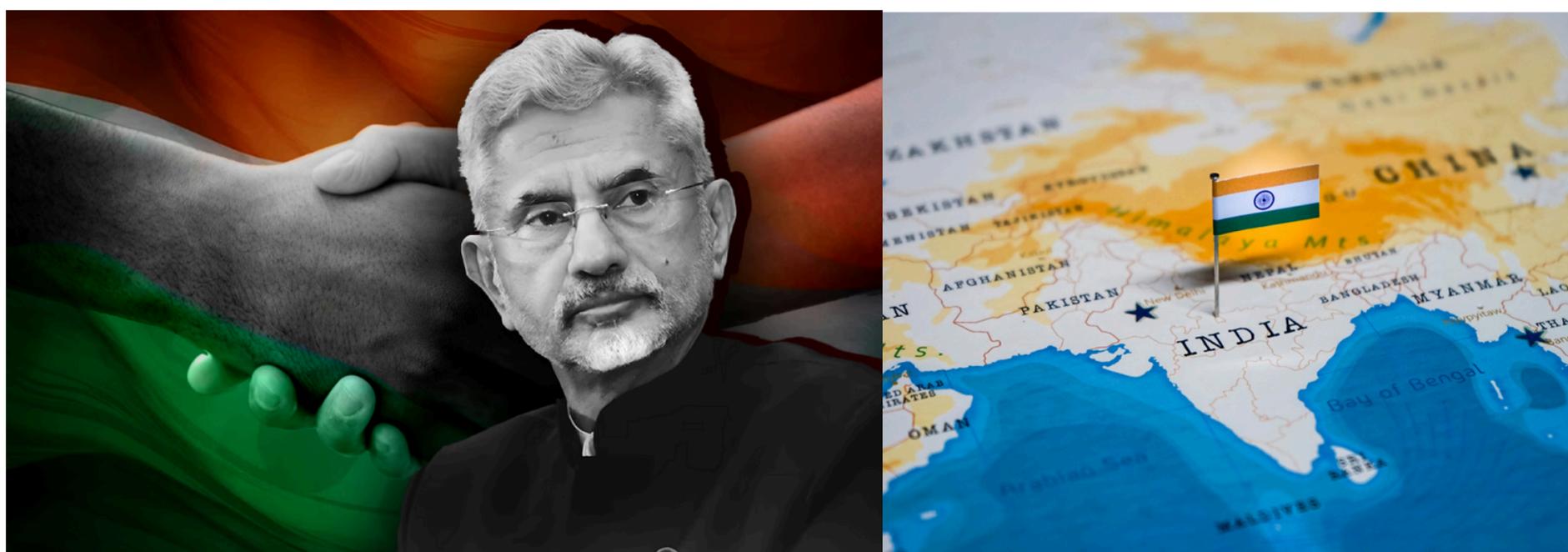
Street protests by regional political parties and the demand for special status marked the sixth anniversary of the abrogation of provisions of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday. They were marking the anniversary of Article 370 abrogation; BJP, on the other hand, celebrated the abrogation as a milestone that brought peace, development, and equal rights to the people. The Supreme Court on Tuesday agreed to list on August 8 an application questioning the



non-restoration of Statehood to Jammu and Kashmir despite an assurance made on behalf of the Centre to the court. The applicants argued that the lack of restoration of Statehood in a time-bound manner amounted to a violation of federalism.

India may change stance amid Trump's threat and EU sanctions

The statement by the Ministry of External Affairs on Monday, defending India's purchases of Russian oil, is its most explicit since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, making it clear that India will take "all necessary measures". The MEA's statement could indicate that it is prepared to change to a third tack — that of considering "measures" against any further costs imposed by the West, even though Indian oil companies have begun reducing their Russian intake. These measures, according to experts could be three-fold: maintaining status quo, looking for alternative partners, and retaliatory actions. India could also consider restarting Iran and Venezuela oil supplies, which could prove cost-effective, but could also incur further sanctions. All eyes are now on whether the turbulence will impact the strongest pillar of India-U.S. ties — their shared Indo-Pacific strategy



Office layout in Kartavya Bhawan impacts confidentiality, efficiency: Officers to PMO



A day before Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the first of the 10 new secretariat buildings planned as a part of the Central Vista redevelopment, a forum representing 13,000 Central Secretariat Service (CSS) officers on Tuesday wrote to the PM's Office raising concerns that the open layout of the new building would adversely impact confidentiality and efficiency of those working there.

The CSS Forum, which represents CSS Group B and organised Group A officers, wrote to the PM's Principal Secretary P K Mishra and secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, which is responsible for the Central Vista project, Srinivas Katikithala. They said under secretaries who work on confidential matters, including classified files, court cases and vigilance issues, need a private workspace.



Brazil judge puts Bolsonaro under house arrest

A Brazilian judge on Monday placed former President Jair Bolsonaro under house arrest for breaking a social media ban, escalating a dramatic stand-off between the court and the politician, who is accused of plotting a coup. Mr. Bolsonaro is banned from social media for the duration of the proceedings, and third parties are barred from sharing his public remarks. Several mobile phones were seized at his home on Monday, the police said.

Japan sets temperature record, worries mount over rice crops



Japan logged a new heat record on August 5, with the mercury hitting 41.8 C, the weather office said, warning temperatures may rise further still. The scorching temperature in the city of Iseaki on Tuesday surpassed the previous record seen in the western Hyogo region of 41.2° C only last week. Tokyo has also been struggling with extreme heat. In Japan some dams and paddies nationwide are experiencing a water shortage, with farmers complaining that the sizzling heat combined with the lack of rain is slowing rice cultivation. Experts warn Japan's beloved cherry trees are blooming earlier due to the warmer climate or sometimes not fully blossoming. The famous snowcap of Mount Fuji was absent for the longest recorded period last year. Blistering heatwaves have also hit other parts of Asia this summer, from South Korea to Vietnam, as well as Europe.

The student-people uprising of 2024 that overthrew the Sheikh Hasina-led government of Bangladesh will get “constitutional recognition”, said the July Declaration that was launched by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus on Tuesday in Dhaka. The Declaration, launched on the anniversary of the fall of the Hasina government, blamed the Awami League for creating a one-party state in Bangladesh after 1971. Bangladesh Chief Adviser slams former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for turning the country into a ‘mafia state’; he vows to write to the Election Commission to organise national polls in February 2026.



Explained:

How should money laundering be tackled?



Overview of the Issue

- Since 2015, 5,892 cases were taken up under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).
- Only 15 convictions have been ordered, indicating a very low conviction rate.
- This highlights concerns about the effectiveness of enforcement and the ability to check financial crimes.

What is Money Laundering?

- Defined under Section 3 of PMLA, it involves:
 - Concealing or disguising proceeds of crime.
 - Possessing, acquiring, using, or projecting such assets as untainted.

Stages of Money Laundering

- Placement – Inserting illicit funds into the financial system.
- Layering – Shifting money to different accounts to obscure its origin.
- Integration – Reintroducing funds into the economy (e.g., via real estate or business).

Supreme Court Interpretations

- In *P. Chidambaram vs Enforcement Directorate* (2019), hiding illegal money undermines sovereignty.
- In *Vijay Madanlal Choudhary vs Union of India* (2022), no pre-registered FIR is needed under PMLA.

Challenges Identified

- Rising number of laundering cases.
- Low conviction rates.
- Allegations of misuse by authorities for political motives.
- Burden of proof lies with the accused.
- ECIR (Enforcement Case Information Report) is enough to initiate proceedings.

Global and Legal Framework

- PMLA aligns with UN resolutions and FATF (Financial Action Task Force) recommendations.
- India signed the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) with 85 countries to:
 - Prevent illegal money transfer.
 - Enable financial and tax data sharing.
 - Address tax evasion and laundering.

Recommendations

- Strengthen implementation and oversight.
- Ensure misuse of law is avoided.
- Follow FATF guidelines strictly.
- Improve investigation and prosecution process to raise conviction rate.

Indian Navy Recruitment 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization: Indian Navy• Post - SSC Officers• Eligibility: Visit our Website	No. of Vacancies 260
Union Bank of India Recruitment 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization: Union Bank of India• Post - Wealth Manager• Eligibility: MBA/PGDM, PGDBM, PGDBA, PGDM	No. of Vacancies 250
Cochin Shipyard Recruitment 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization: Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL)• Post - Ship Draftsman Trainee• Eligibility: SSLC	No. of Vacancies 35
NTPC Recruitment 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization: National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)• Post - Professionals• Eligibility: Available Soon	No. of Vacancies 25
BHEL Recruitment 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Organization: Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)• Post - Paramedical & Technician Staff• Eligibility: Visit our Website	No. of Vacancies 07

Indian Navy Recruitment 2025

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“Seven Deadly Sins Wealth without work Pleasure without conscience Science without humanity Knowledge without character Politics without principle Commerce without morality Worship without sacrifice.”

Mahatma Gandhi