



Manmohan Singh to lead Congress team to J&K | P8

Even if my journey ends now, I have nothing to lose: Kangana | P10



Stephens routs Keys for US Open title, first Slam crown | P12



■ NATION ■

■ ENTERTAINMENT ■

■ SPORTS ■

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HUMAN TRAFFICKING: Eight Manipur girls rescued from Myanmar

Our Correspondent Imphal, Sep. 10 (EMN): Eight girls from Manipur – who were taken for “immoral trafficking” – to Myanmar’s Yangon township have been rescued with the intervention of the government of Manipur, according to official sources.

“These girls from Churachandpur made a distress call to the office of the superintendent of police, Churachandpur, requesting to rescue them as they are likely to be sent to Thailand or Singapore.” Manipur’s Additional Chief Secretary, Dr. J Suresh Babu informed in a press statement issued on Sunday.

“On receiving the information, the home department immediately contacted the Indian Embassy officials in Yangon. With the help of Myanmar police and Indian Embassy officials, all the eight girls were rescued from a hotel located near Yangon railway station.”

The rescued girls were currently under the protection of Myanmar police

and a case has been registered in this regard at Churachandpur women police station, it stated.

The news agency IANS also reported that following the rescue of those eight girls, “the number of tribal girls rescued from the clutches of the sex traders in the past few weeks has increased to 15” in Manipur.

“Some local members of the international gang, all hailing from Churachandpur district of Manipur, were arrested...the Manipur government got in touch with the central government which in turn instructed the Indian Embassy to do the needful. With the help of the Myanmar police the Embassy officials raided the hotel. The girls are now in the protective custody of police. Arrangements are being made to bring them back to Manipur.”

Barely a week ago, Churachandpur police had laid multiple traps along the highway to rescue two girls, and arrest three traf-

fickers including two women, it reported.

“One of the girls told IANS that her parents were paid Rs. 10,000 with a vague assurance to be paid Rs 90,000 later. The traffickers had told the unlettered parents that she would be given gainful employment in foreign countries. Five more girls were rescued on Wednesday while they were being taken to Moreh on way to Thailand.

“Some years back three tribal girls from Manipur managed to return home with money donated by generous tourists. They said that many other girls are forced into immoral trafficking there. They said that first several boys and girls are taken to Chennai from where selected girls are taken to Thailand and Singapore. On the way their passports are confiscated. They were forced into drudgery as domestic servants and no money was paid to them for 10 hour work daily,” the report read.

Amaizing Barbies



Handmade versions of the Barbie – crafted purely out of dried corn husks and corn silk – are seen on display during a workshop at Mao Gate in Senapati district, Manipur. The dolls are the work of 35-year old florist Neli Chachea Mao (bottom). She has named the dolls Chachea Mao Doll. According to her, the ‘maize dolls’ are exported to countries such as the USA, the UK, and Nepal etc in collaboration with Manipur’s horticulture department.

Journalists among 50 injured as police baton-charge protestors in Gurugram

Gurugram, Sep. 10 (IANS): At least 50 people, including nine scribes and photo journalists, were injured when police baton-charged a group of people protesting the brutal murder of a seven-year-old student in Ryan International School here and demanding the arrest of the school management.

A liquor vend near the school was also set on fire.

The police used force to disperse the protestors who were agitating outside the school in Bhondsi in the wake of the murder of class 2 student Pradhuman, who was on Friday found in the washroom with his throat slit.

“We were protesting peacefully outside the school but police suddenly baton-charged us without any provocation,” said a protestor.

The journalists covering the protest were also injured.

“TV journalists Sunil Yadav, Sushil Kumar, and photo journalists Yogesh Kumar and Abhishek were injured and have been admitted to the civil hospital,” senior journalist Naveen Panchal told IANS.

“Yogesh Kumar suffered a fracture in his right hand while Abhishek’s left hand was fractured,” he said.

Senior journalist Mahavir Yadav from a national Hindi daily, and fellow journalists Pawan Sethi, Sanjay Chauhan, Lok Kumar and Dinesh Kumar were also injured.

The journalists were targeted after a senior police officer allegedly said that “all this (protest) was happening due to the me-

dia coverage.”

An Assistant Commissioner of Police and area SHO also threatened the journalists to leave the place.

Cameras were also damaged during the police action. Several Press Clubs, Press Associations and social bodies across the state have condemned the police action.

Former Haryana Chief Minister Bhopinder Singh Hooda visited the hospital to meet the injured journalists.

“Attack on media was pre-planned and BJP workers and leaders were behind it. Journalists will not get proper treatment in the hospital because it is also run by the state government,” he said.

Later, Deputy Commissioner Vinay Pratap Singh and Additional Deputy Commissioner Pradeep Dahiya also visited the hospital.

A group of angry protestors also set fire to a liquor vend, located less than 50 metres from the school.

This came even as Haryana Education Minister Rambilas Sharma was announcing in a press conference that the licence of the liquor vend has been cancelled.

Meanwhile, Varun Thakur, father of the murdered student, appealed to people not to get violent during the protests.

“We must protest in a peaceful manner,” he said.

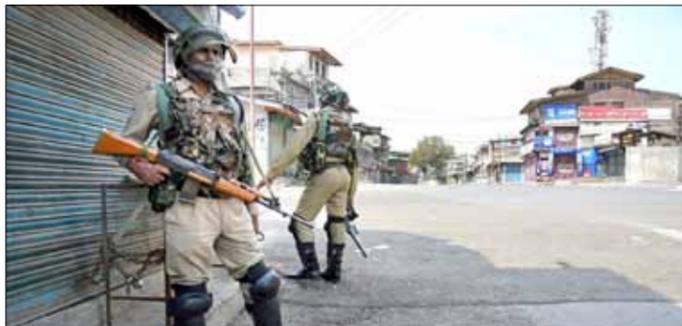
Police late on Friday arrested Ashok Kumar, a conductor of a school bus, for allegedly killing the child, but many believe that he was only a scapegoat.

Rajnath meets 24 Kashmir delegations amid gunfight

Srinagar, Sep. 10 (IANS): Union Home Minister, Rajnath Singh on Sunday addressed Jammu and Kashmir Police and the CRPF and announced a few measures for them, on the second day of his four-day visit to the state, and also met a delegation of opposition National Conference, led by former Chief Minister, Omar Abdullah.

As the union minister visited Anantnag for his meetings, an overnight gunfight between security forces and militants in Shopian district left two militants dead, while one surrendered.

The union minister, who met 24 delegations on the first day of his visit on Saturday, including boatmen and artisans, has said he is visiting Jammu and Kashmir with an open mind and was willing to meet with anyone who



Security personnel patrolling a street during a strike called by separatist groups due to the visit of Home Minister Rajnath Singh, at downtown in Srinagar on Sunday.

could help in finding solutions to the Kashmir issue. He leaves for Jammu on Monday.

Singh’s visit comes as former Prime Minister and senior Congress leader Manmohan Singh arrived in Jammu, heading the party’s policy planning group on Jammu and Kashmir, in an effort to bring peace in the state.

Earlier in the day, the home minister addressed a ‘Darbar’ (gathering) of local policemen at the district police lines in Anantnag district, and later a Sainik Sammelan at the Khanabal

headquarters of the 90th battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force.

He said his ministry has allotted funds for opening of a trauma centre and purchase of bullet proof vehicles for personnel of J&K Police.

Praising the police, Singh said: “You are discharging your duties under extremely difficult conditions and even the prime minister has appreciated your services and bravery.”

“There are militants who only want militancy while they claim to be fighting for making Kash-

mir a ‘Jannat’ (Heaven). “But it is the local policemen and CRPF jawans who actually want to make Kashmir a real heaven”, Singh said.

“J&K Police men are giving sacrifice for Kashmir, for the country and for Kashmiris, but it is unfortunate that people are not ready to understand it.”

The home minister said it was only the local police that can help normalize the situation in Kashmir.

While meeting the CRPF, Singh said his aim is to provide Rs one crore as monetary relief to the

families of personnel of central armed forces killed on duty.

“It is my aim that at least Rs. one crore should be given as monetary relief to families of martyrs of our central armed forces personnel.

“We are also considering helicopters services to CRPF in J&K,” he added.

Praising the valour of CRPF personnel doing counter insurgency duties in the country, the home minister said: “We are proud of our CRPF personnel. Courage cannot be purchased from any market. You are born with unassailable and unmatched courage”.

Later, a delegation of National Conference met Rajnath Singh here asked him to translate Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s words of embracing Kashmiris with love into reality.

Talking to media after the meeting, Abdullah said: “We have discussed various issues including the basic political problem in J&K with the union home minister. We also brought up governance issues with the home minister during our meeting today.”

“The words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

during his Red Fort speech, have touched the hearts of Kashmiris. It is high time these words are translated into reality.”

A statement issued by NC said: “While highlighting the political, historical and the constitutional context of the state’s special status, Omar Abdullah reiterated the party’s concern and disappointment over the central government’s ambiguity in defending state’s special status with respect to Article 35A (of the Constitution) in the Supreme Court.”

A delegation of the People’s Democratic Front led by legislator Hakim Yaseen also called on Rajnath Singh.

Meanwhile, BJP state general secretary, Ashok Koul told reporters in Jammu that by meeting people from across the political and social spectrum with an open mind, the home minister would find solutions to peoples’ problems in the state.

In Shopian, security forces gunned down two terrorists - identified as Altaf Ahmad Rather and Tariq Ahmad Bhat - while the third one identified as Adil Hussain Dar surrendered.

Bus and taxi service from 6 am today in Dimapur

Dimapur, Sep. 10 (EMN): In a fresh order issued Sunday, the Dimapur district administration has informed that the bus and taxi services introduced in response to the strike called by autorickshaw drivers in Dimapur would be operational from 6 am, September 11 ‘till further order.’

SI No.	Route	Fare	
		Buses	Taxi
1	Dhobinallah – Sub Jail Junction	10	-
2	Dhobinallah – Thakheku Clock Tower	-	30
3	Dhobinallah – Upto DC Court Junction	-	15
4	Kuda Dhansiri Bridge – Railway Station	-	15
5	Purana Bazaar – Sub Jail Junction	15	-
6	Purana Bazaar – City Tower	10	-
7	Chumukedima – Railway Station	20	50
8	Chumukedima – Agri Expo (4th Mile)	10	25

Rohingya rebels call one-month Myanmar ceasefire as exodus grows

Cox’s Bazar (Bangladesh), Sep. 10 (PTI/AFP): Rohingya militants, who sparked an army crackdown in Myanmar that has seen nearly 300,000 Rohingya flee to Bangladesh, today declared a unilateral ceasefire to allow aid to reach the increasingly desperate fugitives.

The United Nations said 294,000 bedraggled and exhausted Rohingya refugees have arrived in Bangladesh since the militants’ attacks on Myanmar security forces in Rakhine state on August 25 sparked a major military backlash.

Tens of thousands more are believed to be on the move inside Rakhine after more than a fortnight without shelter, food and water.

Three Rohingya are reported to have been killed by a mine near the border allegedly laid by Myanmar security forces to stop the fugitives returning.

Mainly Buddhist Myanmar does not recognise its stateless Muslim Rohingya community, labelling them as “Bengalis” – illegal immigrants from Bangladesh.

A further 27,000 ethnic Rakhine Buddhists as well as Hindus have also

fled violence that has gripped the northern part of the state.

“The Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) hereby declares a temporary cessation of offensive military operations,” the group said in a statement on its official Twitter account.

It urged “all humanitarian actors” to resume aid delivery to “all victims of humanitarian crisis irrespective of ethnic or religious background” during the one-month ceasefire period until October 9.

ARSA called on Myanmar to “reciprocate this humanitarian pause” in fighting.

There was no immediate response from Myanmar’s military, but yesterday authorities said they would set up three relief camps in Rohingya-majority areas.

Rohingya refugees say army operations against ARSA led to mass killings and the burning of hundreds of villages, sending them across the border.

International aid programmes in Rakhine have been severely curtailed, as the fighting tore through parts of the state.

India’s foreign ministry called for an

immediate end to the violence, urging the situation “be handled with restraint and maturity”.

Thousands are arriving in Bangladesh each day, joining already overcrowded camps of Rohingya who have fled Myanmar over decades of troubles. The UN refugee agency UNHCR gave the latest figure of 294,000 for the new arrivals.

The UN has appealed for urgent donations of 77 million.

Bangladesh already hosts around 400,000 Rohingya from previous crises. The Red Cross in Bangladesh welcomed the ceasefire pledge as aid agencies struggle to meet the needs of an “overwhelming crisis”, battling monsoon rains to deliver relief to people who have fled with few belongings.

“How can you handle such a big influx of people? They want shelter, they want a safe place,” Misada Saif, Prevention and Communication Coordinator of the ICRC Bangladesh delegation, told AFP.

Cradling her naked screaming infant, Rohingya refugee Zohra Begum was close to tears as several hundred people were ordered to leave a strip of

forest alongside the beach near Shamlapur, where families were clearing land with hoes to build shelters.

“We went to all the camps but there was no place to stay.

“That’s why we came here,” she told AFP. “If we have to move from here, where will we go? We will die.”

Better-known locally as Harakah al-Yaqin (Faith Movement), ARSA launched coordinated raids using hundreds of militants on August 25 on around 30 police posts and state offices in the north of Rakhine state.

The backlash by security forces prompted the Rohingya exodus.

Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh say ethnic Rakhine Buddhists joined security forces in the indiscriminate killing of villagers.

In an area split by claim and counterclaim, Rakhine villagers accuse militants of murdering their civilians while the government says fleeing Rohingya set fire to their own homes to form fear and anger against the authorities.

At the makeshift camp near Shamlapur, Rohingya refugees doubted a ceasefire would allow their return any time soon.

“They (Myanmar army) are saying ‘go away or we’ll burn all of you’. How can we believe a ceasefire will have any effect?” Hafez Ahmed, 60, told AFP.

But Hashem Ullah, a 33-year-old farmer from a village west of Maungdaw, said he would accept “if I got compensation, and they accept us as Rohingya”.

How can we live like this here?” he added, gesturing to the swampy earth.

ARSA says it is fighting to defend the Rohingya from persecution in Myanmar.

But Myanmar labels them “extremist Bengali terrorists” intent on carving out an Islamic enclave for the Rohingya.

The army says it has killed nearly 400 militants so far, while some Rohingya refugees have complained they were forced to fight by ARSA.

The first ARSA attacks in October last year were less ambitious, but the subsequent military response by a security force notorious for its scorched earth response to insurgency sent 90,000 Rohingya fleeing across the border.

That means over a third of the estimated 1.1 million Rohingya in Rakhine state have fled in less than a year.

The winds and the waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators.
Edward Gibbon

Mirror Takes



I used to get first rank in our class but in 2017, there was an auto strike and after that I stopped going to school and here I am now.

WEATHER TEMPERATURE

	Max:	Min:
KOHIMA	25°	18°
DIMAPUR	32°	25°
	RF:	RH:
KOHIMA	12mm	92%
DIMAPUR	47mm	92%

* Rainfall (RF) * Relative Humidity (RH)
Temperature in State Capitals

	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	
Atizawl	24°	20°	Itanagar	28°	23°
Agartala	31°	24°	Shillong	22°	18°
Gangtok	25°	17°	Delhi	37°	25°
Guwahati	30°	24°	Kolkata	32°	27°
Imphal	27°	21°	Chennai	33°	26°