

**Give Army honourable exit from Kashmir: Mehbooba Mufti
Hindu, 1 July 2009**

NEW DELHI: People's Democratic Party leader Mehbooba Mufti has called for the withdrawal of the Indian Army from Jammu and Kashmir, saying its presence was no longer needed to fight terrorists. Pointing to several recent cases involving alleged human rights violations by Army personnel, Ms Mufti said there was a "general climate of resentment against the Army and Central Reserve Police Force" and "it is time to give them an honourable exit."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/01/stories/2009070158260100.htm>

**Strike cripples life in valley; One more killed, another hurt in
police firing
Tribune, 1 July 2009**

Life across the valley was paralysed today due to the three-day shutdown called by the hard line Hurriyat faction led by Syed Ali Shah Geelani against the death of two youths in Baramulla in police firing yesterday and the Shopian incident. The curfew in Baramulla continued for the second day today as strict restrictions on people's movement were put in place. A 22-year-old youth, Fiaz Ahmed Gojri, was killed in police firing when a violent mob attacked a police party at Khanpura in Baramulla

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2009/20090701/j&k.htm>

**J&K seeks Rs 46,000 cr from FC for 5 yrs
Daily Excelsior, 4 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 4: The State Government has sought a whopping award of Rs 46,000 crore from 13th Finance Commission which concluded its five day visit to the State today. "We have asked for Rs 46,000 crore plus from the Finance Commission in all sectors with major focus on Power and Finance Departments. However, all Departments will get their due share as per the demands projected by them from the Commission's award", Finance Minister Abdul Rahim Rather told the Excelsior at the conclusion of the visit of the Commission

**High Court orders fresh autopsy on Shopian women
Hindu, 5 July 2009**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Saturday asked the Special Investigation Team (SIT) to exhume the bodies of the two women who were murdered at Shopian for a fresh autopsy and collecting DNA samples. A Division Bench of Chief Justice Barin Gosh and Justice Mohammad Yaqoob Mir, hearing a public interest litigation petition filed by the Kashmir Bar Association, expressed dissatisfaction with the way the investigation was handled. The court found the report submitted by the SIT inconclusive, for, the DNA test report was missing and the post mortem seemed not to have been done properly. It said exhumation of the bodies was

conditional upon the consent of the families of the women, aged 17 and 23, who were found dead under mysterious circumstances on May 30

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/05/stories/2009070558170100.htm>

**Tonnes of Dal Moong imported
Daily Excelsior, 8 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 7: Dal Moong, which has high variation of prices in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) and Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), the two parts of erstwhile divided State, remained favourite of traders on this part of the State with all 19 trucks, which reached Poonch from Rawlakote today, carried the Dal. Official sources said barring a couple of items in very small quantity, all 19 trucks which crossed over to Poonch from PoK today during weekly trade on Poonch-Rawlakote route, carried Dal Moong

**CRPF can't be withdrawn overnight from J&K: Omar
Daily Excelsior, 8 July 2009**

NEW DELHI, July 7: Ruling out any immediate withdrawal of CRPF from Jammu and Kashmir, State Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said before considering any such step the State Police has to be augmented in numbers, equipment and levels of training. Omar, who had meetings with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Home Minister P Chidambaram here yesterday, said he had raised the issue of withdrawal of the controversial Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in a phased manner

**70 injured in fresh Srinagar violence
Hindu, 9 July 2009**

SRINAGAR: After four days of normality, the city was shaken by violence on Wednesday. People took to the streets, damaged property and set ablaze a police vehicle after the decomposed body of a youth, who went missing on July 3, was found at Rainawari. About 70 people, including 20 policemen, were injured in the clashes. Hundreds of protesters, mainly youth, took to the streets, chanting slogans and pelting the police with stones, after the news of death of 20-year-old Israr Ahmad reached Maisuma. The protest soon spread to other parts of the city

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/09/stories/2009070957140100.htm>

**Muslim priests keep the bells tolling
Hindu, 9 July 2009**

Pahalgam (Jammu and Kashmir): Situated on the banks of the icy Lidder river, a 900-year-old Shiva temple is perhaps the only major Hindu shrine in the Kashmir valley which has Muslim priests. After the migration of Kashmiri Pandits from a nearby village, two priests — Mohammad Abdullah and Ghulam Hassan — kept the doors of the Mamelaka temple open and bells continued to toll

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/09/stories/2009070961842000.htm>

**Omar govt stumbles from one crisis to another
Tribune, 9 July 2009**

The groundswell of goodwill for Omar Abdullah when he took over as the state's youngest Chief Minister in January is fast giving way to a mix of gloom and disappointment even among his avid supporters as his government stumbles through a series of crises. Official and political sources said the government has been left wanting on the administration as well as political fronts as protests erupting in different parts of Kashmir seem to feed off each other in the absence of a firm approach by the administration and knee-jerk responses

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2009/20090709/j&k.htm>

**Mourning family searches for clues to son's murder
Tribune, 10 July 2009**

My son was tortured to death. What is happening to us? Is this a land of human beings? This was the cry of Mushtaq Dar, father of Asrar Mushtaq Dar (20) whose body was found dumped with several injury marks on July 7 night. He made an emotional appeal to the government for speedy investigation and rued that the police could have acted more promptly when he reported to Maisuma police station about his missing son on July 3. "The officer entrusted with the investigation was trying to locate my son and also involved with lots of other cases. The police seemed more worried about the law and order problem than finding my son," he told mediapersons, exhorting Chief minister Omar Abdullah for solving the case soon

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2009/20090710/j&k.htm>

**Media misrepresented key facts on Shopian rape-murder
Hindu, 12 July 2009**

NEW DELHI: Ever since May, when the bodies of two women washed up near Shopian, journalists have chronicled the multiple failures of administration and policing that allowed the tragic deaths to spark off some of the worst street violence ever seen in Jammu and Kashmir. Following the release of the findings of the Justice Muzaffar Jan Commission of Enquiry on Friday, the Jammu and Kashmir government has announced that it intends to prosecute four police officials for some of those failures. But both journalists and the Jammu and Kashmir government have maintained a stoic silence on one institution blamed by Justice Jan for spreading falsehood and inciting violence: the media itself

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/12/stories/2009071255830800.htm>

**Jan Commission forprobing Neelofar'sbrother, husband
Daily Excelsior, 12 July 2009**

Srinagar, July 11: The Justice (retired) Muzaffar Jan Commission has suggested several lines for further investigation into the Shopian rape and murder of two women in May this year, including probing any possible link of Neelofar's brother and husband and their associates in the Commission of the crime. Although the

Commission in its report submitted to the Government on July 7 has not named any culprits in the incident, it has suggested to probe the animosity between the Shah family and the Ahangar family as Neelofar had eloped with Shakeel Ahmad Ahangar and the two had gotten married against the wishes of the girls family

**236 get permits for PoK visit
Daily Excelsior, 12 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 11: Shunning its rigid stand on giving nod for allotment of permits to cross-LoC visitors from Jammu region, Pakistan's Ministry of Home Affairs has suddenly taken a U-turn approving names of as many as 236 persons for visiting Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) from weekly Poonch-Rawlakote route. Following clearance from Pakistan Government, the Regional Passport Officer (RPO), J&K, has issued permits to all 236 citizens for visiting PoK. Majority of 236 citizens issued permits by the RPO hailed from twin border districts of Poonch and Rajouri, who have their divided families and relatives in PoK

**Where is Kashmir, ask Pakistani media
Hindu, 17 July 2009**

ISLAMABAD: The true import of the India-Pakistan joint statement following the meeting of the Prime Ministers of the two countries in Sharm-el-Sheikh seemed not to have sunk in fully here yet, with immediate reactions tending to pick instead on why there was no mention of Kashmir in the joint statement. As evident from the statement, India has made several significant shifts, including an agreement to continue with the composite dialogue format against the earlier thinking that a new framework was required for engaging with Pakistan post-26/11. Most importantly, there was an agreement that terrorism and talks must be delinked

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/17/stories/2009071760021000.htm>

**Police bust LeT module in Jammu & Kashmir
Hindu, 17 July 2009**

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Thursday claimed to have busted a module of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, with the arrest of two workers planning to carry out a "major strike" here. Fayaz Ahmad Bhat, a resident of Kishtwar, and Mohammad Yousuf Panchoo of Banihal were arrested at Dalgate, the city's tourist hub, a police spokesman said

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/17/stories/2009071757890100.htm>

**Amarnath yatra crosses 3 lakh
Daily Excelsior, 17 July 2009**

SRINAGAR, July 16: The number of pilgrims, who have performed darshan of naturally-formed ice- Lingam of Lord Shiva at Shri Amarnath cave shrine this year has crossed three lakh mark even as Governor N N Vohra announced the launch of Pahalgam-Panchtarni helicopter service for the yatra with effect from July 22. The decision to launch heli-services on traditional Pahalgam route was

announced by the Governor, who is chairman of the Shri Amarnath Shrine Board (SASB), during his interaction with the senior officers of the district administration of Anantnag and the Board at Chandanwari, 14 kilometers from Pahalgam

**HM woman militant captured after gun-battle in Doda
Daily Excelsior, 18 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 17: Two top militants of Hizbul Mujahideen including a commander were killed and their female associate was injured and later arrested after a fierce gun-battle in the house of a contractor at village Dahrot, about 30 kms from Doda today. House of the contractor, Mohammad Sharief Naik was gutted in the fire that followed the gun-battle. The woman militant of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit, Shakeela wife of slain ultra Haq Nawaz (once a dreaded commander of HM outfit) and daughter of Mohammad Sharief Naik has been arrested by police and charged with attack on police and security forces, SSP Doda Parbhat Singh said, adding a case has been registered against her under Section 307 RPC

**Kashmir: Hurriyat sees US role
Tribune, 18 July 2009**

Accusing the Indian and Pakistani leaderships of lacking "commitment and seriousness" on the issue of peace dialogue, the moderate faction of the Hurriyat said today that the USA had a role to play in the region and sought a time frame for resolution of the Kashmir issue

**Pak should smash training camps: DG BSF
Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 18: Pakistan should smash terror infrastructure including the training camps located in PoK and other locations on that side if that country is really serious in waging its war against terrorism. "We have inputs that terror infrastructure is still intact on that side. Several training camps still exist in that side of Kashmir. If Pakistan is really serious in waging a war against terrorists, it should take a decisive action against the terror outfits operating on its soil," DG BSF M L Kumawat told reporters here today

**Initiate talks with separatists: NC
Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2009**

SRINAGAR, July 18: Welcoming the outcome of talks between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his Pakistani counterpart Yusuf Raza Gilani, ruling National Conference has called on Centre to initiate a purposeful dialogue with separatist leaders in Jammu and Kashmir to sort out the internal dimension of Kashmir issue. The Working Committee of the NC, which held a marathon meeting here yesterday, said the "Centre should initiate purposeful talks with the separatist leaders in the State to sort out the internal dimension of the issue"

**Govt hands over Baglihar to NHPC
Daily Excelsior, 19 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 18: In a move that may puzzle everybody, State Government has handed over 450 Mega Watt (MW) Baglihar Hydro Electric Project to National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) Limited for a period of two years by sidelining its own organisation—Jammu and Kashmir State Power Development Corporation (J&KSPDC). Official sources told the EXCELSIOR that State Government has signed a contract with National Hydroelectric Power Corporation for handling operation and maintenance of the State's first own mega power project for a period of two years beginning from the day NHPC formally takes over the same

Army-police row over lake in Leh

Daily Excelsior, 20 July 2009

NEW DELHI, July 19: A piece of land near the picturesque Pangong lake in Jammu and Kashmir, frequented by hundreds of foreign tourists, is at the centre of a legal battle between the police and civil administration and the Army over its ownership. The dispute was sparked as police secured a non-bailable warrant against three Army officials including an officer of Major General rank from Chief Judicial Magistrate in Leh for allegedly manhandling civilian officials, who were returning from Pangong lake after demolishing the alleged illegal structure erected by the Army in 2005

Youth shot dead in Gandoh

Daily Excelsior, 20 July 2009

JAMMU, July 19: A youth, who was working as a 'police source' was shot dead by three militants of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit at his residence at Chilli, Gandoh in Doda district tonight. He has been identified as Abdul Hamid, 26, son of Hussain, a resident of Chilli. Reports said three Hizbul Mujahideen militants identified as Shah Din Khanday, divisional commander, Tariq Ahmed, tehsil commander and Ghulam Nabi alias Gama, district commander struck at Chilli at 9.30 pm and gunned down Abdul Hamid in his house

India aims to bring together Karakoram communities

Times of India, 24 July 2009

NEW DELHI: India is reaching out to the communities in the Karakoram areas — stretching from Swat, Buner, Waziristan, Balochistan and Xinjiang to Gilgit, Hunza and Baltistan in the Northern Areas to Jammu & Kashmir. Significantly, most of these areas lie within the territory of the erstwhile Jammu & Kashmir state. India claims "legitimate interest in territories and peoples that are part of India but under illegal occupation, both to the west as well as to the east".

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/India-aims-to-bring-together-Karakoram-communities/articleshow/4812870.cms>

Only one traveller to PoK

Daily Excelsior, 24 July 2009

SRINAGAR, July 23: Only one citizen from here travelled to Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) while 55 guests from across the LoC arrived

today in the weekly Karvan-e-Aman bus, operating between Srinagar to Muzaffarabad since 2005. As many 52 returnees also crossed the side, official sources said today. They said only one man from Kashmir crossed over to PoK to meet his relatives for the first time after 1947

**Supreme Court directive on bail in Shopian case
Hindu, 25 July 2009**

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday asked the two senior police officers arrested in connection with the alleged rape and murder of two women in Shopian to approach the Sessions Court in Jammu and Kashmir for bail. A Bench, comprising Chief Justice K. G. Balakrishnan and Justice P. Sathasivam, passed the order while disposing of special leave petitions filed by Superintendent of Police Javed Iqbal Mattoo and DSP Rohit Baskotra, praying for bail and challenging the High Court order directing their arrest

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/25/stories/2009072558250100.htm>

**Omar: why this silence?
Hindu, 25 July 2009**

SRINAGAR: The gruesome killing of a three-year-old and his father by militants in Shopian village on Wednesday has evoked condemnation from various quarters. Speaking at a function here on Friday, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said those who raised a hue and cry on human rights violations and gave calls for marches were "mysteriously silent" on the incident

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/25/stories/2009072560911000.htm>

**Rs.5,500-crore Plan for J&K
Hindu, 26 July 2009**

NEW DELHI: After four days of consultations, the Planning Commission and the Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday agreed on a Rs.5,500-crore Plan for the current fiscal

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/07/26/stories/2009072650060100.htm>

**PoK traders relent as threat to stop cross-LoC trade works
Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 25: Last week's warning by the traders of Poonch and Jammu threatening to stop the cross-LoC trade with their counterparts in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) for not sending goods of an amount equal to the items imported by them from here seemed to have worked with businessmen from across the Line of Control (LoC) this week exporting items worth Rs 3.10 crore, an all time high since the launch of trade. According to official sources and traders, the businessmen of PoK were benefiting a lot from the cross-LoC trade both in terms of import and export.

**Students up against Omar on University issue
Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2009**

JAMMU, July 25: With the State Government yet to finalize the

location of Central University, the scholars and students of the region, under different banners, today continued to hold protest demonstrations in support of the establishment of the Varsity here, in Jammu. The activists of Akhil Bhartiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) this morning assembled at MAM College and held a demonstration

Baglihar's unit resumes generation
Daily Excelsior, 26 July 2009

JAMMU, July 25: The 150 Mega Watt (MW) unit of Baglihar Hydro Electric Project, which was shut down by the Power Development Corporation (PDC) on July 10 following a technical snag, resumed electricity generation today. An official spokesman said that an engineer of V A Tech Company from Germany, who arrived here yesterday, rectified the fault this morning following which the 150 Mega Watt unit resumed electricity generation from 11.50 am

Baglihar's unit resumes generation

J&K may not achieve growth rate projected for 2009-10
Daily Excelsior, 27 July 2009

JAMMU, July 16: In view of civil strife, impact of scanty rains on the agricultural and horticultural produces and overall economic slowdown, the Jammu and Kashmir is unlikely to meet the growth rate of 8 per cent projected in the 11th Five Year Plan for the current financial year (2009-10). Official sources said that at the beginning of the 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12), the growth rate for the current financial year (2009-10) was targeted at 8 per cent. However, the growth rate achieved during the first two financial years came to be 6.28 per cent in 2007-08 and 6.12 per cent in 2008-09

J&K seeks 2 Central Varsities
Daily Excelsior, 27 July 2009

JAMMU, July 26: In a meeting held here under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chief Minister Tara Chand which was attended by Legislators, representatives of various social, political, business and trade associations, prominent citizens and academicians, it was unanimously resolved that the Union Government should allocate two Central Universities for the State, one to be located in Jammu province and another in Kashmir. The meeting also unanimously resolved and urged that the State Government should take up with the Union Human Resource Development Ministry that two institutes, one an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) and another an Indian Institute of Management (IIM), which are both prestigious institutions be allocated to the State, one to be located in Jammu and another in Kashmir