

### [China urges India to maintain peace in border areas](#)

**People's Daily, 1 December 2009**

China on Tuesday urged India to maintain peace and stability in border areas as commenting on a road construction by the Indian side in disputed area. The two sides should make joint efforts to this end before the border issue gets final settlement, said Foreign Minister spokesman Qin Gang at a regular press conference here Tuesday afternoon.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6829361.html>

### [India triples budget for improving infrastructure in Indo-Pak border](#)

**The Hindu, 1 December 2009**

The Centre has increased the budget for road construction and fencing on Indo-Pak border by nearly 300 per cent, the Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday. "Along Indo-Pakistan border, the government has approved revision of cost estimates in fencing, floodlighting, roads and Border Outposts works from the earlier sanctioned Rs 380 crore to Rs 1,201 crore," Minister of State for Home Affairs Mullappally Ramachandran said in a written reply.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58180.ece>

### [MPs seek fair deal for Bhopal gas victims](#)

**The Hindu, 1 December 2009**

A fair deal to the victims of the Bhopal Gas tragedy, a fitting celebration on the 150th birth anniversary year of Rabindranath Tagore and plea for better preservation of remains of the ancient Vikramshila university were among several issues raised in the Lok Sabha today. Maintaining that the magnitude of those affected by the gas disaster was "five times more" than estimated in the rehabilitation plan, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury (Congress) asked the government to take a fresh look at the situation and, along with the state government, work out plans to provide relief to the victims.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58177.ece>

### [US to share clean energy technology with India](#)

**The Hindu, 1 December 2009**

Washington: The US will share innovative technology in the clean energy sector with India under an MoU signed between the two countries to help it achieve a climate-friendly growth ahead of the crucial Copenhagen summit. "This represents a major step forward in US-India partnerships to strengthen economic growth and energy security, while also addressing the threat of global climate change," says the MoU, the text of which was released by the State Department today.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58105.ece>

### [India can table national climate plan at Copenhagen: Pachauri](#)

**The Hindu, 1 December 2009**

Leading environment expert R K Pachauri on Tuesday said India could table its

domestic plans on climate change at the Copenhagen meet in case rest of the world agrees for collective commitments on emission cuts and ensures funds and technology to combat the threat. "Of course India being a growing country cannot take any binding emission cuts. But if the talks happen in that way (developed nations agreeing for emission reductions), there would be no getting away from the fact that India will be under pressure," he said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58135.ece>

**[Chinese incursions in India a matter of concern: BJP MP](#)**  
**The Hindu, 1 December 2009**

Growing Chinese incursions in India are a matter of concern and government should take the challenge to national sovereignty seriously, a BJP member said in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. China is repeatedly showing 'big brother' attitude by taking objectionable and provocative steps, India should not remain a silent spectator as the actions of Beijing were a "challenge to our sovereignty", Adityanath (BJP) said during the Zero Hour.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58019.ece>

**[Cong, BJP members clash in Lok Sabha on J&K](#)**  
**Daily Excelsior, 1 December 2009**

NEW DELHI: Remarks of Udhampur Congress member Lal Singh that BJP leaders were responsible for the troubles in Jammu and Kashmir led to a clash between members from the two parties in the Lok Sabha today. During the debate on the bill to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, Singh taunted the BJP members by blaming its leaders from late Shyama Prasad Mookherjee to present day leaders for "setting Jammu and Kashmir on fire every six months".

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec01/newsupdate.htm#1>

**[Infiltration increased along LoC in J&K in 2009: Govt](#)**  
**Daily Excelsior, 1 December 2009**

NEW DELHI : There was increase in number of infiltration cases along Line of Control (J and K) this year, Lok Sabha was informed today. According to the data furnished by Minister of State for Home Affairs Mullappally Ramachandran in reply to a written question, a total of 395 cases of apprehension of infiltration were reported this year as compared to 342 in 2008.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec01/newsupdate.htm#2>

**[LeT denies links to men held in US](#)**  
**The News, 1 December 2009**

HELD SRINAGAR: Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) denied on Monday that the two men arrested in Chicago on terrorism charges were among its members. David Headley, a Pakistani-born American, and Tahawwur Rana, a Canadian citizen of Pakistani origin, were arrested in October on charges of plotting attacks in India and Denmark. India has accused both of links to the LeT, the banned group fighting to end Indian rule in Kashmir.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=25854](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=25854)

**[2 more Bangladeshi criminals arrested in India](#)**

**Daily Star, 1 December 2009**

Two more Bangladeshi top criminals were arrested in India on Monday. An Indian citizen was also arrested for giving shelter to them, a source of Bongaon Police Station in West Bengal said. The arrested Bangladeshi criminals were identified as Milon alias Tapan alias Mukta, 40 and Babu alias Mahfuz, 38, while the Indian as Zia, 36.

[http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest\\_news.php?nid=20874](http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=20874)

**[WB bandh brings border business to a halt](#)**

**Kuensel, 1 December 2009**

Businesses along the border towns of Phuentsholing and Samtse came to a standstill yesterday after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) announced a 12-hour strike in the entire state of West Bengal. BJP's state vice president, Sabyasachi Bagchi, told Indian media that the 12-hour shutdown in the state was called to protest the price hike of essential commodities and electricity tariff. The strike began at 6 am and was lifted at 6 pm yesterday. Traffic in Jaigaon resumed around 6:30 pm.

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=14104>

**[Keep peace on China-India border: Official](#)**

**People's Daily, 2 December 2009**

China and India should work together to maintain peace and harmony in the border region between the countries, said foreign ministry spokesperson Qin Gang during a regular news briefing yesterday. Indian media said yesterday that work on the road to link Demchok village, which is 300 kilometers southeast of Leh, beyond India's last post in the Ladakh region, was stopped in October after objections by China.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6829558.html>

**[India remains vulnerable to terror attacks: Chidambaram](#)**

**The Hindu, 2 December 2009**

India is as vulnerable to a terror attack today as it was a few months ago because terrorist groups have forged alliances against the country, Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram said today. "We are as vulnerable today, as we were a few months ago. Groups like LeT are now coordinating their action. One of these groups appears to have forged ties with Al-Qaeda," he said in the Rajya Sabha.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58940.ece?homepage=true>

**[Navy has not shifted focus from primary task: Admiral Verma](#)**

**The Hindu, 2 December 2009**

The Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Nirmal Verma on Wednesday asserted that the Indian Navy remains focussed on its primary task of the country's security on the

high seas and has not shifted focus after being tasked with the overall responsibility of coastal security. "Just because of [the re-vamped] coastal security, we have not steered away from our role... the task is going on as before and another task [of coordinating coastal security] has been added. It has not distracted us from our main task," Admiral Verma said at a press conference ahead of the Navy Day celebration on Friday.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58830.ece>

### [India seeks revival of peace process in West Asia](#)

**The Hindu, 2 December 2009**

Reiterating its traditional solidarity with Palestine, India on Wednesday opposed an expansion of Israeli settlements and hoped for an early re-sumption of dialogue to resolve the conflict in West Asia, home to 4.5 million Indians. "Palestine has always occupied a special place in the hearts of my countrymen," Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor said at a function here to mark the 'International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People' that is observed Nov 29.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article58961.ece>

### [Top naxal among two killed in Andhra Pradesh](#)

**The Hindu, 2 December 2009**

Two top naxalites were shot dead in a gun battle with police in the remote Kerameri village in Adilabad district on Wednesday evening. Four weapons, an AK-47, an SLR, a sten gun and a pistol were recovered from the scene of gunfire. Police suspect that one of the slain was Bhaskar, secretary of the Adilabad district committee of the Maoists.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58932.ece>

### [Any formula arrived at quiet parleys not acceptable: Geelani](#)

**The Hindu, 2 December 2009**

Separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani, today said any formula arrived at during the on-going "quiet dialogue" on Kashmir would not be acceptable to people even it had the patronage of Pakistan or the United States.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article58950.ece>

### [Talks for resolution of Kashmir issue will not fail: Abdullah](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 2 December 2009**

NEW DELHI : Union Minister Farooq Abdullah today said the Centre would go ahead with its 'quite diplomacy' initiative with separatists in Kashmir and expressed hope that the measures taken by the government would not fail. "There was no way these talks can fail. We are going forward with the talks, we want a final settlement of the issue and it is going to happen," he said when asked about the latest peace initiative by the Centre for the resolution of the Kashmir issue.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec02/newsupdate.htm#3>

### [Ulfa founder held in Dhaka](#)

**Daily Star, 2 December 2009**

Indian separatist group United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa) founder and chairman Arabinda Rajkhowa was arrested in Dhaka on Monday, reports BBC Bangla Service. Quoting Indian intelligence, the BBC Kolkata correspondent reports the Ulfa chairman along with three to four other leaders was arrested in Gulshan in the capital.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=116156>

### [Gogoi appeals to ULFA leaders to come for talks](#)

**The Hindu, 3 December 2009**

Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi today appealed to all top ULFA leaders to come for negotiations and said the Government has received encouraging signals from the militant outfit to hold peace talks. He also said that his government favoured safe passage to the outfit's leaders if they come for talks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article59324.ece>

### [No legally binding emission cuts at Copenhagen: Ramesh](#)

**The Hindu, 3 December 2009**

India is not going to accept any legally binding emission reduction agreement at the Copenhagen climate summit, Minister of State for Environment and Forest Jairam Ramesh told the Lok Sabha Thursday. The minister was replying to a question on the climate change and the position India will take at the Dec 8-18 international summit.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59592.ece>

### [China backs India's stand on climate change](#)

**The Hindu, 3 December 2009**

Ahead of the Copenhagen meet, China on Thursday backed India's stand that developing nations have no obligation to binding emission reduction targets and said it is ready to enhance "cooperation and coordination" between the two countries, which it termed as "victims" of climate change. We understand the current situation in India. We should take adaptation and mitigation measures based on our national conditions and capacity," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Qin Gang told reporters here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article59545.ece>

### [US deports client of Headley's immigration service to India](#)

**The Hindu, 3 December 2009**

An Indian who used the services of Mumbai-based immigration offices of terror suspects David Headley and Tahawwur Rana has been deported by US authorities to India after his documents were allegedly found to be false. The person (name withheld) hailing from a Gujarat town arrived at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi well past midnight last night, airport sources said on Thursday.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59502.ece>

**[No change in India's stand in WTO on farm, industry: Sharma](#)**

**The Hindu, 3 December 2009**

India has not changed its position on agriculture and industry at the World Trade Organisation negotiations on freeing global trade to protect the interests of its farmers and small enterprises, Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma has said. "There was no change in India's negotiating position in agriculture and Non-Agriculture Market Access (NAMA)," an official release quoted Mr. Sharma as saying.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59320.ece>

**[significant chunk of forces to be withdrawn from J&K: PC \\*No dialogue with Pak till Mumbai attack pe](#)**

**Daily Excelsior, 3 December 2009**

The Government today announced withdrawal of a "significant" number of battalions of Central forces from Jammu and Kashmir in a significant confidence- building measure following the initiative for holding "quiet" dialogue with separatist groups. Home Minister P Chidambaram told the Rajya Sabha that the decision had been taken in view of improvement of law and order situation in the State.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec03/news.htm#1>

**[Kasuri for US role to improve Pak-India ties](#)**

**The News, 3 December 2009**

Former foreign minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri said Thursday United States will have to play its role to improve relations between Pakistan and India. He made these comments while speaking to newsmen at a meeting of Muslim League-Q (Like Minded group). He said Pakistan's nuclear arsenals are fully secure. The former minister also dismissed the impression that the present government would not complete its tenure. He, however, added that it depends on the performance of government.

<http://thenews.jang.com.pk/updates.asp?id=92708>

**[Ulfa leader offered safe passage](#)**

**Daily Star, 3 December 2009**

The Indian government has offered peace talks and safe passage to the top rung of the United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa). The offers come a day after Ulfa's Chairman Arabinda Rajkhowa was found along the Triupara border by the Bangladesh government. Rajkhowa was handed over to the Indian government and was later flown to Delhi on Tuesday night in a special plane. He now becomes a key player in any discussions for peace.

[http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest\\_news.php?nid=20910](http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=20910)

**[More mules arrested in latest drug bust](#)**

**Minivan, 3 December 2009**

Police have taken two Maldivians into custody at Male' airport after receiving information from India that the pair were carrying drugs. Twenty-five year-old Nishana Rasheed of M. Lansimoog and a 17-year-old girl travelling with her were detained by customs officers after arriving in Male' from Trivandrum in India.

[http://www.minivannews.com/news\\_detail.php?id=7823](http://www.minivannews.com/news_detail.php?id=7823)

**[Thousands of Bodies Discovered in Unmarked Graves](#)**  
**NYT, 3 December 2009**

Kashmir: Thousands of Bodies Discovered in Unmarked Graves, Rights Group Says Nearly 2,600 bodies have been discovered in single, unmarked graves and in mass graves throughout mountainous Indian-controlled Kashmir, a human rights group said Wednesday. More than a dozen Kashmiri rebel groups have been fighting for independence from India or for a union with Pakistan since 1989. Rights groups say more than 8,000 people have disappeared since the rebellion began and the groups have for years accused the government of killing innocent civilians as well as militants.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/03/world/asia/03briefs-Indiabrf.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

**[LeT men taken to Bangalore to probe 2005 blast](#)**  
**The Hindu, 4 December 2009**

The two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terrorists who were handed over to India on Wednesday were taken to Bangalore on Friday as they had allegedly masterminded a blast in the Karnataka capital in 2005, officials here said. After being handed over by Bangladesh, T. Nazeer alias Nazeer Parvan and his relative Safiquq alias Shafaz Samsuddin, were arrested by the Border Security Force (BSF) troopers from Umkrem near Dawki along the India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya on Wednesday morning.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article60066.ece>

**[World Bank: India to return to 8-to-9 p.c. growth in 2 years](#)**  
**The Hindu, 4 December 2009**

India's economic growth rate over the next couple of years will be 8—9 per cent, World Bank President Robert Zoellick said on Friday. India's strong crisis management and sustained global demand from the 1.2-trillion-dollar economy was playing an important role in helping the world recover from the global economic crisis, Mr. Zoellick said in New Delhi.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59980.ece>

**[Centre treading cautiously on ULFA talks](#)**  
**The hindu, 4 December 2009**

With several top ULFA leaders deported to India from Bangladesh, the Centre is treading cautiously on holding deliberations with the outlawed outfit as it does not want to repeat the 1992 experience when five of the militant leaders, released for talks, used the opportunity to go underground and regroup. Though Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi has favoured safe passage to the group's leaders if they came

for talks and Home Minister P Chidambaram showed willingness for dialogue with ULFA if the group abjures violence, it was not clear whether any such peace process will be initiated immediately.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59901.ece>

### [India, U.S. in talks for Malabar joint services war game](#)

**The Hindu, 4 December 2009**

India and U.S. are in talks to convert their bilateral Malabar series of naval exercises into a joint services war game involving their navies, air forces and marine commandos. U.S. Pacific Command chief Admiral Robert F. Willard, who is on a two-day visit to India, said both nations' militaries had "joint capabilities" but that needed to be practised and hence the idea to involve both countries' air forces and marine commandos in the exercise.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article60053.ece>

### [India to work with Sri Lanka on resettlement of Tamils](#)

**The Hindu, 4 December 2009**

India on Friday said it would work with the Sri Lankan government to ensure the resettlement of 3,00,000 people displaced in the northern region freed from the LTTE, and was keen to see revival of the political process in the island nation. "We continue to work with the Sri Lankan government to ensure the resettlement of all Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)," External Affairs Minister S. M. Krishna said in a statement in the Rajya Sabha.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article59961.ece?homepage=true>

### [LeT real engine of terror in South Asia: India](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 4 December 2009**

India today said it has conveyed to the US that groups like Lashkar-e-Toiba were the "real engines" of terrorism in South Asia and hoped that America would be more proactive in containing these outfits. Speaking on Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh's visit to the US last week and its outcome, External Affairs Minister S M Krishna told both Houses of Parliament that the two countries have expressed commitment to expeditious realisation of full potential of the Civil Nuclear Agreement.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec04/news.htm#1>

### [FO says India interfering in Balochistan](#)

**The News, 4 December 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan stands by its claims that India is interfering in Balochistan and Fata areas, Foreign Office Spokesman Abdul Basit told a private channel on Thursday. He was commenting on a statement by Indian External Affairs Minister SK Krishna, denying Indian interference. "India cannot deny its involvement in Balochistan and Fata areas as Pakistan does have evidence," the spokesman said.

[http://thenews.jang.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=25904](http://thenews.jang.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=25904)

### **Bangladesh did not arrest Ulfa chief: Sahara**

**Daily Star, 4 December 2009**

Home Minister Sahara Khatun on Friday denied recent media reports that Indian separatist group United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa) chairman Arabinda Rajkhowa had been arrested in Bangladesh and later pushed back to India. "Since we did not even arrest him, how come the question of pushing him back arises?" the home minister said.

[http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest\\_news.php?nid=20918](http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=20918)

### **Navy assists stranded Tamil Nadu fishermen**

**Daily News, 4 December 2009**

Four Indian fishermen found drifting in their fishing boat near the Maradapuram fishing marshalling point in Karainagar Island yesterday around 10 a.m. were taken ashore by Naval authorities. The fishermen being cared by naval personnel. The four fishermen had set out to sea on November 28 from Kodiyakarei, Nagamawattam, India to fish in the Palk strait. They had lost track of their nets which they had laid in the night and this had resulted in them sourcing the high seas looking for the lost nets.

<http://www.dailynews.lk/2009/12/04/news42.asp>

### **India Announces Plan to Slow Emissions**

**NYT, 4 December 2009**

With international talks on climate change starting next week in Copenhagen, India staked out its early position on Thursday by announcing that it would slow the growth of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, while also leaving open the possibility of taking bolder steps if an "equitable" deal can be reached during the negotiations. The Indian initiative, presented in Parliament by the country's top environmental official, means that India has now joined the United States, China, Brazil, Indonesia and South Africa in making a domestic emissions pledge before the Copenhagen talks. Like China, its approach is focused on improving energy efficiency rather than accepting mandatory limits on emissions.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/04/world/asia/04india.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

### **India Says It Detained Separatist Leader**

**NYT, 4 December 2009**

The leader of a deadly insurgency fighting for an independent homeland in India's northeastern state of Assam has been arrested, government officials said Friday. Arabinda Rajkhowa, commander of the United Liberation Front of Assam, had been living in Bangladesh for the past decade, where he enjoyed a measure of protection from Indian authorities by governments hostile to New Delhi. Mr. Rajkhowa's group was at the heart of a violent separatist struggle that has killed about 10,000 people in nearly three decades.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/05/world/asia/05india.html?ref=asia&pagewanted>

=print

### [ULFA ready for talks if sovereignty figures: Barua](#)

**The Hindu, 5 December 2009**

ULFA's self-styled commander-in-chief Paresh Barua, who is known to be against talks, on Saturday said he had "full confidence" in chairman Arabindo Rajkhowa and the outfit was ready for a dialogue provided "sovereignty" for Assam was discussed. There was no confusion in the minds of the ULFA cadres on talks as right from the grassroots level cadre to the chairman and advisor, all "were ready for it provided sovereignty for Assam was discussed," Barua said in an email to North East Television.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article60487.ece>

### [Talks with Hurriyat to go on despite attack on Qureshi: Omar](#)

**The Hindu, 5 December 2009**

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Saturday said talks between the Centre and the Hurriyat Conference will continue despite attack on moderate separatist leader Fazl Haq Qureshi by suspected terrorists in an apparent attempt to disrupt the dialogue. "Talks will continue despite all these impediments and road blocks," Mr. Omar told reporters on the sidelines of a function at S K international convention complex here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/other-states/article60533.ece>

### [Karnataka police questioning two LeT men nabbed in Bangladesh](#)

**The Hindu, 5 December 2009**

Karnataka police on Saturday began interrogating the two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) men, handed over to India by Bangladesh on Wednesday, on their role in terror attacks in the tech hub in 2005 and 2008. Kerala police is expected to join their Karnataka counterparts to question T. Nazeer alias Nazeer Parvan and his relative Safique alias Shafaz Samsuddin as the two LeT men are wanted in various terror-related acts in the neighbouring State.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article60519.ece>

### [India, Russia sign nuclear deal](#)

**The Hindu, 7 December 2009**

India and Russia on Monday signed a path-breaking broad-based agreement in civil nuclear field that will ensure transfer of technology and uninterrupted uranium fuel supplies to its nuclear reactors and inked three pacts in the defence sector. The agreements were signed after talks between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev at the Kremlin here, during which they discussed a whole range of issues, including terrorism emanating from Afghanistan.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article61503.ece>

### [FBI team in India with Headley information](#)

**The Hindu, 7 December 2009**

A Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) team arrived in India on a two-day visit with information on Pakistan-born suspected Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) operatives David Coleman Headley and Tahawwur Rana presently in US custody. "Investigations are on in the matter. The FBI team is here and we have been assured of all cooperation from the US," External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna said on the sidelines of the India-Africa Hydrocarbon Conference here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article61224.ece>

### [Violence continues on second day of Telangana bandh](#)

**The Hindu, 7 December 2009**

Incidents of violence and arson continued to erupt at various places in the troubled Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh today, the second day of the 48-hour bandh called by the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) in support of its demand for a separate state. Pro-statehood students fought pitched battles with the police at Manikeshwarnagar near Osmania University campus here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article61482.ece>

### [India keen to play deal-maker at Copenhagen](#)

**The Hindu, 7 December 2009**

Pledging to reduce its emissions intensity by 20-25 per cent as done by China, India led by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is ready to play a leadership role at the global climate summit at Copenhagen. Mr. Singh will join U.S. President Barack Obama and over 100 world leaders at the summit with the likelihood increasing of a consensus on a new global deal to replace the Kyoto Protocol which expires in 2012.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article61080.ece>

### [Russia supports India's claim for permanent UNSC seat](#)

**The Hindu, 7 December 2009**

Terming India a "deserving candidate", Russia on Monday backed its claim for a permanent membership in an expanded United Nations Security Council reflecting present-day realities. "Russia views India as one of the deserving candidates for the seat of permanent member in the expanded UNSC," says a joint declaration signed here after summit talks between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article61516.ece>

### [J&K CM meets Chidambaram: discusses peace process](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 7 December 2009**

NEW DELHI: In the backdrop of an attack on a top separatist leader, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today met Home Minister P Chidambaram and reviewed the ongoing peace process and security situation in the State. During the meeting, which lasted nearly 40 minutes, the Chief Minister told the Home Minister that the assassination attempt on moderate Hurriyat leader Fazal Haq Qureshi was carried out by those who want to sabotage the peace process.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec07/newsupdate.htm#1>

**[Evidence of Indian involvement at dialogue table: Malik](#)**

**The News, 7 December 2009**

KARACHI: Interior Minister Rehman Malik said on Monday that evidence of Indian involvement in Pakistan has been handed over to the foreign ministry in Islamabad. Speaking to the media after meeting with clerics at the CM House here, Malik said the evidence of Indian involvement in Pakistan will be shared with New Delhi during composite dialogue between the two countries.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=92990>

**[US, India not involved in terrorism: Taseer](#)**

**The News, 7 December 2009**

LAHORE: Punjab Governor Salman Taseer on Monday said that the United States or India were not involved in acts of terrorism in Pakistan. Speaking to newsmen after condoling with the family of Col. Fakharul Hassan, martyr of Parade Line attack, he said the government and army were winning the war against militants.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=92992>

**[PM's India visit deferred](#)**

**Daily Star, 7 December 2009**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's scheduled visit to India has been deferred following a request from Indian side, Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said on Monday. The Indian government requested premier Sheikh Hasina to defer her visit as Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is due to attend the Copenhagen climate summit in Denmark, the foreign minister told reporters at a press briefing. The new date for her India visit would not be set yet.

[http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest\\_news.php?nid=20973](http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=20973)

**[U.S. Report on Sri Lanka Urges New Approach](#)**

**NYT, 7 December 2009**

NEW DELHI — A report on Sri Lanka to be released next week by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee urges a less confrontational approach to that nation, citing strategic American interests in the region. The report says that while the Sri Lankan government has been widely criticized for its handling of the war against the Tamil Tigers, who were fighting for a separate state for the ethnic Tamil minority in northern Sri Lanka, the government has also achieved a measure of progress in resettling the conflict's displaced and rebuilding the war-shattered east of the country.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/07/world/asia/07lanka.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/07/world/asia/07lanka.html?_r=1&ref=asia)

**[The Legislature session began in the winter capital today. BJP broke every single promise made before](#)**

**The Hindu, 8 December 2009**

The BJP broke every single promise made before the Supreme Court and to the Government of India on Kar Seva at the disputed site, the Home Minister P Chidambaram, on Tuesday said during the discussion on the Liberhan report. He added that the then Central Government made a wrong political judgement. It is a matter of regret, the Home Minister said on the Babri Masjid demolition.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62099.ece>

### [Force One deployed in Nagpur following 'specific threat'](#)

**The Hindu, 8 December 2009**

Force One, the specialised commando unit of Maharashtra Police, has been deployed in Nagpur during the winter session of the State Legislature following a 'specific threat' about an attack in the orange city, a senior official said today. "Force One has been deployed after receiving specific threat about a terror attack in Nagpur," a senior Force One official told PTI.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62066.ece>

### [India favours legally binding climate agreement from developed world](#)

**The Hindu, 8 December 2009**

India on Tuesday favoured a legally binding climate change agreement from the developed countries saying a political pact will not be "enforceable", even as it asserted that its voluntary reduction of carbon emission intensity was not announced under pressure. Stressing the importance of a treaty at Copenhagen, the Prime Minister's Climate Change envoy Shyam Saran said it was too early to "pre-empt that the negotiations would fail to produce legally binding commitments and governments would have to settle for a political agreement."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62016.ece>

### [Cong U-turn on Vajpayee, says no reason to disagree with Liberhan](#)

**The Hindu, 8 December 2009**

After Union Minister Salman Khurshid gave a clean chit to Atal Bihari Vajpayee in Babri Masjid demolition, Congress on Tuesday took a U-turn saying it has no reason to disagree with the findings of the Liberhan Commission, which has held the ex-premier culpable. "We have no reason to disagree with the findings of the Commission. It's not a question of Congress party exonerating or holding anybody guilty. Vajpayee has been termed pseudo-moderate in the report and we have no reason to disagree with whoseever's name has come in the Commission report," party spokesperson Shakeel Ahmad told reporters here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62008.ece>

### [Editorial"Kashmir's bloody road to peace](#)

**The Hindu, 8 December 2009**

Hunched against the bitter December cold, as he walked home alone from Friday evening prayers at his local mosque, it is unlikely that Fazal Haq Qureshi saw the man who fired the shot that shattered his skull. Mr. Qureshi was, however, well aware that death would stalk his journey along the road to peace in Jammu and

Kashmir. The veteran secessionist leader, who was playing a key behind-the-scene role in the ongoing secret dialogue between the All Parties Hurriyat Conference, had seen many of his closest friends pay the price for walking that path. APHC chief Mirwaiz Umar Farooq's father, Mirwaiz Mohammad Farooq, was assassinated in 1990 for trying to end the violence that had torn the State apart. Pro-dialogue Hizb-ul-Mujahideen commander Abdul Majid Dar was assassinated by his one-time comrades in 2003. A year later, the Hurriyat's most vocal peacemaker, Abdul Gani Lone, was murdered by a Lashkar-e-Taiba hit squad.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article61612.ece>

### **[We have proof of Indian hand in terrorism: Malik](#)**

**Daily Times, 8 December 2009**

KARACHI: The government has concrete evidence of India's involvement in terrorism across the country and the issue will be taken up during a round of talks with New Delhi soon, Interior Minister Rehman Malik said on Monday. Talking to reporters after meeting clerics in Karachi, Malik said terrorists and weapons were also coming in from Afghanistan, and Pakistan had taken up the issue with Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\12\08\story\\_8-12-2009\\_pg7\\_13](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\12\08\story_8-12-2009_pg7_13)

### **[Years Later, Destruction of a Mosque Still Echoes](#)**

**NYT, 8 December 2009**

AYODHYA, India — To reach the most hotly disputed religious site in India, a pilgrim must negotiate a maze of caged paths, designed so that worshipers can approach it only single file, pockets emptied of everything but lint. Only the monkeys are not frisked by its thorough phalanx of security guards. From 1528 until 1992, a squat, nondescript mosque sat on this spot. But 17 years ago this week, a mob of Hindu activists tore the building to pieces with little more than their bare hands. Their goal was to clear the ground for a grand temple to Ram on the patch of ground they claimed was his birthplace.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/08/world/asia/08india.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia&page\\_wanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/08/world/asia/08india.html?_r=1&ref=asia&page_wanted=print)

### **[Manmohan calls meeting of senior colleagues on Telangana issue](#)**

**The Hindu, 9 December 2009**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday called a meeting with his senior ministerial colleagues to discuss the Telangana issue. The meeting was called hours after Rajya Sabha saw an uproar over the deteriorating condition of Telangana Rashtra Samiti leader K. Chandrashekar Rao who is on an indefinite fast over the demand for separate Telangana State.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62596.ece>

### **[Time to "think the unthinkable" to deal with terrorists](#)**

**The Hindu, 9 December 2009**

The Government today said the case of Pakistani-American David Headley showed the time has come to "think the unthinkable" as terrorists were working on new strategies to break the country's security. "As we have seen from the David Headley case that one can still slip through the radar. Because we are not looking for them. This is one of the big problems. Because nobody would look for a US citizen, with a US passport and a business visa, you would not think that he is a terrorist," Union Home Secretary G.K. Pillai, said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62572.ece>

### [Headley planned synchronised attacks on Jewish centres](#)

**The Hindu, 9 December 2009**

The last visit of American terror suspect David Headley, before being arrested by the FBI, to India in March this year was to finalise synchronised terror strikes on Jewish houses located in five cities at the instance of terror outfit Lashker-e-Taiba. Piecing together the travel trail of Headley during his visit to India in March this year, security agencies, who were briefed by FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice officials in New Delhi recently, are understood to have concluded that the U.S.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62517.ece>

### [ULFA sticks to sovereignty demand](#)

**The Hindu, 9 December 2009**

ULFA 'commander-in-chief' Paresh Baruah on Wednesday said the outfit is ready for a dialogue only if the sovereignty issue was discussed. "I will support talks if sovereignty of Assam is discussed," Baruah told a local TV channel. Baruah had earlier hailed ULFA chairman Arabinda Rajkhowa's statement that he would not hold talks with the government in handcuffs.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article62490.ece>

### [Editorial: Correct diagnosis, wrong cure](#)

**The Hindu, 9 December 2009**

Legitimate socio-economic grievances can take problematical political forms. Decades of neglect and denial of opportunities, especially in education and employment, have left the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh underdeveloped and backward. This inescapable reality explains the militancy of the movements that surface from time to time for a separate State. The region, which broadly corresponds to the areas that were under the princely state of Hyderabad, continues to fall behind both coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema in development indices. Dams and irrigation projects have helped to some extent, but the rural hinterlands on the Deccan plateau have resisted attempts to boost agricultural productivity and income.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article62156.ece>

### [In India, Anxiety Over the Slow Pace of Innovation](#)

**NYT, 9 December 2009**

In India, Anxiety Over the Slow Pace of Innovation Even as the rest of the world has come to admire, envy and fear India's outsourcing business and its technological

pro prowess, many Indians are disappointed that the country has not quickly moved up to more ambitious and lucrative work from answering phones or writing software. Why, they worry, hasn't India produced a Google or an Apple? Innovation is hard to measure, but academics who study it say India has the potential to create trend-setting products but is not yet doing so. Indians are granted about half as many American patents for inventions as people and firms in Israel and China. The country's corporate and government spending on research and development significantly lags behind that of other nations. And venture capitalists finance far fewer companies here than they do elsewhere.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/09/business/global/09innovate.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/09/business/global/09innovate.html?_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print)

**[China, India, Brazil agree to enhance cooperation against climate change](#)**  
**People's Daily, 10 December 2009**

Premier Wen Jiabao on Thursday held separate telephone conversations concerning climate change with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The three leaders all expressed willingness to enhance coordination and cooperation to deal with climate change, as the U.N. Climate Change Conference, which opened Monday and will run through Dec. 18, continued in Copenhagen.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6838884.html>

**['India, China seen as major powers of 21st century'](#)**

**The Hindu, 10 December 2009**

India and China are being seen as major powers of the 21st century, and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has conveyed to the Chinese leadership that differences should not be allowed to affect functional cooperation in other areas and peace and tranquillity needed to be maintained, External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna said on Wednesday.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63329.ece>

**[Congress treading a cautious path on Telangana issue](#)**

**The Hindu, 10 December 2009**

Congress is treading a cautious path on the sensitive issue of Telangana with the Centre's decision to carve out a separate state from Andhra Pradesh provoking a political backlash there. Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday assured agitated party MPs from non-Telangana regions, who had come to meet her that any final decision on Telangana would be taken only after consensus.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63294.ece>

**[Chargesheets in Ayodhya case to be re-visited: Chidambaram](#)**

**The Hindu, 10 December 2009**

Home Minister P. Chidambaram on Thursday said charge sheets against those connected with the demolition of the disputed structure at Ayodhya on December 6, 1992, would be re-visited and the sources of huge funds for the movement that led

to the incident probed. "We will have to examine whether charge sheets are complete, whether to re-visit them," he said in the Rajya Sabha replying to a two-day debate on the findings of the Liberhan Commission on the demolition of the Babri Masjid, 17 years ago.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63274.ece>

### **Every third Indian is poor, says Tendulkar panel**

**The Hindu, 10 December 2009**

Every third Indian is living below the poverty line, estimates an expert group saying that more than 37 per cent of people are poor, ten per cent more than estimated earlier. Among the states, Orissa and Bihar are at the bottom, while Nagaland, Delhi and J&K have the least number of poor, says a report by the expert group, headed by Suresh Tendulkar, former chairman of PM's Economic Advisory Council.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63279.ece>

### **'Indian decision to supply arms divisive'**

**Kathmandu Post, 10 December 2009**

The Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR), a Delhi-based regional human rights organisation, has expressed deep concern over India's decision to resume military supply and training to Nepal Army following joint-secretary level talks in Kathmandu from Dec. 4. India had cut military aid after former king Gyanendra took power in February 2005. "The timing of resumption of military aid is absolutely inappropriate," said ACHR Director Suhas Chakma. "This decision is highly divisive in divided Nepal and will only encourage the Nepal Army to play more proactive political role and further harm the dangerously stalled Nepal's peace process."

<http://www.ekantipur.com/the-kathmandu-post/2009/12/09/top-stories/Indian-decision-to-supply-arms-divisive/2870/>

### **Hunger Striker Tests India's Political Map**

**NYT, 10 December 2009**

HYDERABAD, India — Less than two weeks ago, K. Chandrasekhar Rao was a marginalized politician whose principles were questioned even by some of his supporters. His regional party was floundering, and his rivals snickered over his political comeuppance. Then a man staring at political oblivion reached out for a most unlikely source of inspiration: Gandhi. For the next 10 days, Mr. Rao waged a hunger strike that unexpectedly mutated into a national melodrama. He swore to starve to death if India did not reconfigure its political map by carving out a new state anchored by this city, a major technology hub and home to multinationals like Dell and Motorola. The sprawling size of the current state wrongly deprived local people, a minority known as the Telangana, of their share of prosperity, he argued.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/11/world/asia/11india.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

### **Nation rolls out steel tax on US**

**People's Daily, 11 December 2009**

China, the world's largest maker and consumer of steel products, fired back yesterday at the United States for its anti-dumping measures against Chinese steel exports, launching its own punitive taxes on steel from US as well as Russia. The Ministry of Commerce said yesterday on its website that US and Russian steelmakers must pay anti-dumping duties as high as 25 percent beginning today. The US steel industry must also tack on a 12 percent tax when it exports its products to China.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6839940.html>

### **[Mayawati for splitting U.P. into smaller States](#)**

**The Hindu, 11 December 2009**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mayawati on Friday backed the formation of separate States of Bundelkhand and Western U.P. by bifurcation of the State in a missive to Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh. She said it would fulfil the needs and aspirations of the people of the two regions of U.P. In this context, the Chief Minister appealed to the people of Bundelkhand and Western U.P. to up the ante, albeit within the parameters of law, on the creation of two smaller and separate States by incorporating the districts of the two regions.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63740.ece>

### **[Nothing will be done in haste, Manmohan Singh assures MPs](#)**

**The Hindu, 11 December 2009**

With protests mounting across Andhra Pradesh and the "consensus" over separate statehood for Telangana in tatters, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday informed agitated MPs from the Rayalaseema and Andhra regions of the State that "nothing will be done in haste." Armed with this assurance, the MPs are now heading back to their respective constituencies with the mission of getting Congress legislators who have submitted their resignations to withdraw their mark of protest and allow tempers to cool.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63541.ece>

### **[Seven Maoist rebels killed in Chhattisgarh](#)**

**The Hindu, 11 December 2009**

At least seven Maoist rebels were killed in a gunbattle with security forces on Friday in India's central Chhattisgarh state, the police said. The fighting took place between the militants and the state police's Special Task Force in the forests of Bastar in the Dantewada district, about 450 km. south of the state capital, Raipur.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63639.ece>

### **[BIMSTEC adopts convention to combat terrorism, insurgency](#)**

**The Hindu, 11 December 2009**

PTI External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna speaking at a press conference in New York. BIMSTEC, on Friday, adopts convention to combat terrorism, insurgency. File Photo: PTI. The seven-nation BIMSTEC grouping on Friday adopted a convention to combat terrorism and insurgency, a step that is expected to add teeth to India's action against militancy, particularly in its north east. Foreign Ministers of India,

Myanmar, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Thailand and Nepal signed the Convention on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism, Trans-National Organised Crime and Illicit Drug Trafficking at the 12th BIMSTEC Ministerial meeting here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63493.ece>

### [Talks will continue in J&K: G.K. Pillai](#)

**The Hindu, 11 December 2009**

Union Home Secretary G.K. Pillai said on Friday that the dialogue process in Jammu and Kashmir would continue. He said the situation had improved although Pakistan continued to support militancy. He also said Hyderabad would be Telangana's capital. After holding a series of meetings with State officials on security and other issues in Jammu, Mr. Pillai told journalists that Home Minister P. Chidambaram had already made it clear that the dialogue process would continue and he was ready to talk to everyone.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63765.ece>

### [US says no to mediation on Kashmir](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 11 December 2009**

WASHINGTON : Rejecting Pakistan's latest plea for US mediation on the Kashmir problem, the Obama administration today said it understood the importance of the issue to both India and Pakistan but it has to be ultimately resolved bilaterally. "We understand the importance of the Kashmir issue to both Pakistan and India, and it is something that we do discuss with both countries," Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, P J Crowley, said at a news briefing.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec11/newsupdate.htm#3>

### [US, UN informed about Indian interference: Malik](#)

**The News, 11 December 2009**

LAHORE: Interior Minister Rehman Malik on Thursday maintained that the government would not compromise on the security, solidarity and integrity of the country. He was talking to newsmen after inquiring about the health of the injured of the Moon Market blasts at the Jinnah Hospital here. He said that the government had categorically warned India to stop its interference in Balochistan and added the international community, including US and UN, had also been informed about the interference of India in the Pakistani territory. "A report has been sent to the foreign ministry about the involvement of India in terrorist incidents in Pakistan," he added.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=26026](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=26026)

### [India Faces Backlash Over a New State](#)

**NYT, 11 December 2009**

NEW DELHI — India's governing Congress Party on Friday faced an angry backlash against the possibility of dividing one of the country's largest states, Andhra Pradesh, with opponents staging protests in southern India even as advocates for creating other new states began agitating elsewhere in the country. The political crisis has dominated the news in India this week, as Congress party leaders in New Delhi

agreed late Wednesday night to start the "process" of creating a new state out of the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh. National leaders made the decision in response to a 10-day "fast unto death" by an advocate for Telangana statehood that had evolved into a national melodrama.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/12/world/asia/12india.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia&page\\_wanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/12/world/asia/12india.html?_r=1&ref=asia&page_wanted=print)

### [India not to budge on basic climate positions: Ramesh](#)

**The Hindu, 12 December 2009**

India will not compromise on its basic positions on climate change while playing a constructive role for evolving an effective and equitable global pact on emission cuts, Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh has said. On his first day at the climate meet here, Ramesh also said India's national voluntary domestic measures to tackle global warming were not up for international scrutiny and progress on these would be checked by country's Parliament.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63930.ece>

### [Pillai visits areas along IB, reviews security situation](#)

**The Hindu, 12 December 2009**

Union Home Secretary G K Pillai on Saturday visited border areas of Suchetgarh and Abdullian in Jammu region to review situation along the International Border. Mr. Pillai was accompanied by state Director General of Police Kuldeep Khoda, Additional DG of CID K Rajindra and senior officers of BSF, including IG Jammu frontier A K Surroliya, officials said here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article63999.ece>

### [New States can't be created everywhere, says Pranab](#)

**The Hindu, 12 December 2009**

Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Saturday said that the demand for smaller States does not mean that new States would be created everywhere. "The demand for Telangana is 60 years old. This does not mean everywhere new States are to be created," Mr. Mukherjee told reporters after inaugurating a new hospital here in North 24 Parganas.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64054.ece>

### [Talks on for nuclear power plants: French envoy](#)

**The Hindu, 12 December 2009**

Negotiations were on between France and India to set up two nuclear power plants in southern Maharashtra, French Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont said here on Friday. Replying to questions at a press conference, he said the two 1,600 MWe European pressurised reactors (ECRs) would be set up by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India and French company Areva. This could be followed by four more power plants.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64286.ece>

[Talks with all sections of people: Home Secy](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 12 December 2009**

JAMMU, Dec 11: Union Home Secretary Gopal Krishna Pillai said today that despite an attempt made on the life of moderate Hurriyat Conference leader Fazal Haq Qureshi, the Centre would continue dialogue with all sections of people in the State as it was only solution to resolve the problem. Emerging from a high level meeting of the senior police officers in Police Control Room (PCR), Mr Pillai told a group of reporters that the Centre will talk to every body...every section of people. "This is what Home Minister (P Chidambaram) has already stated and we stand for this", he said.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec12/news.htm#1>

[Agents grill held Americans](#)

**The News, 12 December 2009**

SARGODHA: US FBI agents and their Pakistani colleagues interrogated on Friday five young American Muslims who wanted to go to Afghanistan to fight US-led forces, Pakistani officials said. The case is bound to fan fears in Western countries that the sons of immigrants from Muslim countries are being drawn to Islamist militancy, a process made easier by the Internet. The five men, students in their 20s from northern Virginia, were detained this week in Sargodha in the Punjab province.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=26041](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=26041)

[Request for Indian Military Hardware](#)

**Kathmandu Post, 12 December 2009**

New Delhi will not provide lethal military hardware to Nepal in the near future and the recent news that India will provide tanks and Insas rifles to Nepal is misleading, according to an official with the Indian Ministry of External Affairs. The Indian claim comes on the heels of concerns expressed from various quarters, pointing out that resumption of supplies of Indian arms, put on hold since the royal takeover in 2005, will further endanger the already shaky peace process. It also violates the spirit of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

<http://www.ekantipur.com/the-kathmandu-post/2009/12/11/top-stories/Request-for-Indian-Military-Hardware/2941/>

['Army can be confident of the nuclear arsenal at their command'](#)

**The Hindu, 13 December 2009**

The Army should be fully confident as there is no doubt about the nuclear arsenal at their command, former Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Anil Kakodkar has said seeking to put at rest questions raised over the efficacy of the country's hydrogen bomb test. "I think that is guaranteed. Army should be fully confident. There is no doubt about the arsenal at their command," he told Karan Thapar on 'Devil's Advocate' programme on CNN-IBN.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64423.ece>

### ['Dhanush' missile test-fired successfully](#)

**The Hindu, 13 December 2009**

Dhanush, the ship-based anti-surface missile was successfully launched from a naval vessel, INS Subhadra in the Bay of Bengal, off the Orissa coast on Sunday. The missile was fired by Indian Navy personnel as part of user training exercise. The nuclear-capable Dhanush is a naval version of Prithvi and was test-fired at 11.35 hrs. It flew over a range of 350 km and splashed down at the target point in the Bay of Bengal with "pin-point accuracy", according to Defence Research & Development Organisation sources. The missile followed the pre-designated trajectory with text-book precision and two naval ships located near the target have tracked the splash.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64463.ece>

### [BJP accuses Cong of ignoring consensus over Telangana](#)

**The Hindu, 13 December 2009**

Advocating a proper study and consensus before carving out small states, the BJP on Sunday alleged that the Congress did not take the parties concerned into confidence before deciding on creation of a separate Telangana state. "A thorough study should be made before creating smaller states in future. Consensus should be taken from all the sections concerned to maintain social harmony," BJP leader Arun Jaitley said at a news conference here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64640.ece>

### [India hints at political statement on climate at Copenhagen](#)

**The Hindu, 13 December 2009**

Ruling out any compromise in its stand, Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh on Sunday pitched for a strong political statement at the end of the climate change talks and asserted that a deal must be reached by next year. Speaking to reporters here, he made it clear that the text of the political statement would be ready before Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and other world leaders reach Copenhagen for the final leg of the 12-day talks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64648.ece>

### [Headley was in room from where LeT men were guided in Mumbai](#)

**The Hindu, 13 December 2009**

American-born terror suspect David Headley, had not only actively played a role in conducting reconnaissance of targets in Mumbai but was also present in a control unit in Pakistan along with the masterminds of the attacks to guide 10 Lashker-e-Taiba terrorists to carry out strikes in the megapolis. Sources privy to the investigations of the terror suspect's trail in India said 48-year-old Headley was very much present in the room from where the 10 LeT terrorists were being guided to various locations during the 26/11 attacks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64607.ece>

### [India-Russia ties back on track: Russian envoy](#)

### **The Hindu, 14 December 2009**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's recent summit with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in Moscow has injected "a new freshness" into India-Russia relations which are now "back on a very solid track," the Russian envoy said here Monday. A new freshness has been infused into the India-Russia relationship, Russian Ambassador Alexander Kadakin told reporters here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64827.ece>

### **[76 MPs move petition for Dinakaran impeachment](#)**

#### **The Hindu, 14 December 2009**

Seventy-six Rajya Sabha members on Monday formally petitioned Chairman Mohammad Hamid Ansari, seeking the removal of Karnataka High Court Chief Justice P.D. Dinakaran on several grounds that include corruption and land-grabbing charges. Cutting across party lines, members of the Left, BJP, SP, JD(U), TDP, AIADMK and the BSP submitted the notice on the impeachment motion. A Rajya Sabha Secretariat release said the matter "is being examined as per the provisions of the Act and the rules framed thereunder."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64827.ece>

### **[Next step on Telangana issue after resolution in Assembly: Cong](#)**

#### **The Hindu, 14 December 2009**

The formation of a separate Telangana state could take a while with Congress on Monday making it clear that any forward movement on it was possible only after the State Assembly passes a resolution for it. At the same time, the AICC also made it clear that it was not averse to the formation of a second State Reorganisation Commission if there was a consensus on the issue.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article65081.ece>

### **[CPI \(M\) member says India should get access to Headley](#)**

#### **The Hindu, 14 December 2009**

A CPI(M) member on Monday expressed serious concern over the US denying India access to David Coleman Headley, Pakistani-origin Lashkar-e-Taiba operative, for interrogation in connection with the 26/11 terror attacks and asked the Government to be "bold enough" to demand it. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, M B Rajesh said India has a right to interrogate Headley as he appears to be the prime conspirator behind the Mumbai attacks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article64861.ece>

### **[Sufficient proof of Indian involvement in attacks: FM](#)**

#### **The News, 14 December 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has categorically said Pakistan is not involved in the Mumbai terror attacks. On the contrary, he said, Islamabad has substantial evidence to prove New Delhi's hand in terror activities in the country. In an interview with an Arab television, Qureshi said the international community also supported the stance that Pakistan was not involved in the Mumbai attacks. "Now, it

has been admitted worldwide that Pakistan is above question with regard to the Mumbai terror incident," Qureshi said.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=26069](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=26069)

### [Indian State in Paralysis Over Proposed Division](#)

**NYT, 14 December 2009**

NEW DELHI — The Indian state of Andhra Pradesh sank into a seething political paralysis on Monday as local lawmakers adjourned indefinitely without addressing a controversial resolution to divide the state. Elsewhere in India, demands for statehood intensified in several regions as the issue has mushroomed into a nationwide political tempest for the governing Congress Party. In Hyderabad, the capital of Andhra Pradesh, the State Assembly adjourned Monday morning after shouting broke out and supporters of maintaining a unified state began waving banners. Meanwhile, authorities moved to prevent potential confrontation on the streets after hundreds of protesters were blocked from entering the capital city on Sunday and placed in police custody. Officers also denied permission for their leader, a pro-unity lawmaker, to enter Hyderabad and start a hunger strike.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/15/world/asia/15india.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

### [Deaths of Kashmir Women That Sparked Riots Said to Have Been Accidental](#)

**NYT, 14 December 2009**

Two Muslim women whose deaths sparked major independence rallies in Indian Kashmir earlier this year were not murdered, investigators said on Monday. Many Kashmiris opposed to New Delhi's rule over the Muslim-majority region have accused Indian security forces of raping the 17-year-old girl and her 22-year-old sister-in-law before their bodies were found in a shallow stream. "The CBI today handed over its report to the high court. It says the women had drowned and had not been raped or murdered," Central Bureau of Investigation lawyer Anil Bhan told reporters in Srinagar.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/15/world/asia/15kashmir.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/15/world/asia/15kashmir.html?_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print)

### [Editorial: Hard line diplomacy is not homeland security](#)

**The Hindu, 15 December 2009**

As a victim of terrorism, much of which has emanated from across the border in Pakistan, it is hardly surprising that India should confuse diplomatic strategy with counter-terrorism strategy and believe that "toughness" on the external front hardens the country internally and insulates us from terrorist attacks. For the better part of a decade, India's politicians and pundits have bought into the fallacy that diplomacy and security policy are one and the same thing, effectively handing the terrorists who would harm us a double bonus. Our complacency-induced vulnerability allows them to strike fairly easily; and our predictable tendency to suspend diplomatic engagement with Pakistan and rattle our sabres every time there is a major incident gives them an added incentive to target us.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article65228.ece>

**[Prosecution to close examination of 26/11 evidence tomorrow](#)**

**The Hindu, 15 December 2009**

The prosecution is all set to close examination of terror evidence in the 26/11 special trial court here tomorrow, a year after the dastardly strikes that left 166 dead and 304 wounded. "We have examined 267 witnesses personally and about two more are left. The case would be wrapped up tomorrow, a year after the terror attacks," special public prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article65644.ece>

**[Any effort to bifurcate TN 'dangerous': CPI \(M\)](#)**

**The Hindu, 15 December 2009**

Joining the ruling DMK and AIADMK in opposing the bifurcation of Tamil Nadu, CPI(M) today described any efforts to split the state as "dangerous." The two-day party's state executive, attended among others, by General Secretary Prakash Karat and state secretary N. Varadarajan yesterday adopted a resolution in this regard, a party statement here said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/tamil-nadu/article65619.ece>

**[Headley a double agent?](#)**

**The Hindu, 15 December 2009**

Pakistani origin American citizen, David Coleman Headley, who is at the centre of a global terrorism investigation for his alleged role in 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks, may well have been a "double agent" working for U.S. agencies as well as Pakistani terror organisations like Lashkar-e-Toiba. Headley had travelled to India in March 2009, four months after the 26/11 terror strikes but the U.S. agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) did not alert or inform their Indian counterparts because it could have led to his arrest here, top officials in the Union Home Ministry said on Tuesday. Investigations have also pointed towards the fact that Headley could have travelled to India with his wife in March this year.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article65676.ece>

**[India fears climate talks will collapse](#)**

**The Hindu, 15 December 2009**

With no signs of breakthrough in the tough negotiations in the climate change conference here, India fears that the talks could collapse. As negotiators raced against time to hammer out a deal, four developing countries - India, Brazil, South Africa and China - today issued a joint statement accusing the rich nations of trying to derail the talks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article65657.ece>

**[Prosecution winds up 26/11 case; Kasab statement on December 18](#)**

**The Hindu, 16 December 2009**

Seven months into the trial of the 26/11 terror attacks, the prosecution today

winded up its case before a special court which fixed December 18 to record the statement of lone surviving Pakistani gunman Ajmal Kasab. The prosecution wrapped up examination of evidences and a total of 610 witnesses against Kasab and two Indian accused - Faheem Ansari and Sabauddin Ahmed.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article66092.ece>

### **Jaswant resigns as Public Accounts Committee chief**

**The Hindu, 16 December 2009**

In a sudden development, Jaswant Singh has resigned as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), which he had refused to quit when he had a parting of ways with the BJP four months ago. His resignation raised questions whether there was any rapprochement with the BJP but the 71-year-old leader ruled out any such possibility saying his action was not done under "any pressure" or with "some calculation".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/incoming/article66035.ece>

### **Major cities, iconic installations on terrorist crosshairs: Govt**

**The Hindu, 16 December 2009**

Country's major cities and iconic installations continue to remain target of terrorists, the government today said. "As per available inputs, some of the major cities including Hyderabad and iconic installations are on the terrorists' targets," Minister of State (MoS) for Home, Ajay Maken told the Lok Sabha.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article65964.ece>

### **PM to leave for Copenhagen on Thursday**

**The Hindu, 16 December 2009**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will leave for Copenhagen on Thursday to renew India's pitch for "a balanced, equitable and ambitious outcome" at the U.N. climate summit there. The Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Climate Change Shyam Saran and Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao and Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh will accompany Singh during the visit to the Danish capital, said the report. India has announced that it will consider an emission intensity cut of 20 to 25 percent by 2020, but has made clear that it would not be forced into accepting binding cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article66072.ece>

### **Around 700 terrorists in J&K: Govt**

**Daily Excelsior, 16 December 2009**

NEW DELHI : An estimated 700 terrorists are operating in Jammu and Kashmir with logistical support from across the border, Government today said. "The number of militants in the valley is estimated to be around 700. Inputs suggest that they are provided every type of assistance including money and material from across the border," Minister of State for Home Affairs Ajay Maken told Rajya Sabha in a written reply.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec16/newsupdate.htm#1>

[\*\*A foreign policy for our times\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 17 December 2009**

Analogies are never one hundred per cent applicable to politics, but Turkey offers an example for policymakers, especially India, caught up in the imperative of adjusting to the phenomenal volatility in the international system. All the uncertainties and imponderables of our times are gnawing at Turkey's consciousness. Like India or Pakistan, Turkey has a strategic location that offers commanding heights over surrounding regions. Its policies leave footprints on a broad regional landscape. In social formation, Turkey outstripped India but developmental issues are not dissimilar. It has long been where Indian elites aspire to reach — a close partnership with the United States. What Turkey is doing about the U.S. decline is of special interest.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article66657.ece?css=print>

[\*\*Opposition questions Govt. over US cooperation into Headley probe\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 17 December 2009**

Seeking to corner the government, Opposition parties today asked it to spell out the kind of cooperation that the US had extended in the probe against David Coleman Headley and Tahawwur Rana as they noted that Indian investigators had not even been allowed access to them. The BJP, Samajwadi Party and Left parties questioned in the Rajya Sabha whether the US had passed on all information related to Headley and Rana, Lashkar—e—Taiba operatives held in Chicago in October and charged with conspiracy in Mumbai attacks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article66382.ece?css=print>

[\*\*Mamata, G8 ban cast shadow on Indo-Russian nuclear deal\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 17 December 2009**

Indian officials put on a brave face earlier this year when the G8 decided to ban the sale of enrichment and reprocessing (ENR) technology to countries that had not signed the NPT, insisting the resolution was not binding and that members of the rich nations club remained free to sell sensitive nuclear items to India. But when negotiations to finalise a broad-based nuclear compact were held in Delhi earlier this month, all attempts by the Indian side to include ENR items and technology in the areas of cooperation envisaged by the new agreement drew a firm nyet from the visiting delegation. "Russia's hands are tied because of the G8 decision," they told the Indian negotiators.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article66686.ece?css=print>

[\*\*His Majesty to visit India\*\*](#)

**Kuensel, 17 December 2009**

His Majesty King Jigme Khesar will make his first state visit to New Delhi, India, from December 21 to 26 at the invitation of the president of India, Pratibha D Patil. During the visit His Majesty will meet and hold talks with President Pratibha D Patil, vice president Mohammad H Ansari, prime minister Dr Manmohan Singh, foreign minister

S M Krishna and other senior government officials and political leaders.

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=14250>

### [\*\*Air strip for Indian Air Force in Nepal targets Tibet\*\*](#)

**People's Daily, 18 December 2009**

According to a report published Wednesday in the Telegraph Nepal, India plans to construct an air strip in Surkhet, Nepal, which is close to the tri-junction, Kalapani, where China meets India in Nepali territory. The move caused great concern from the Chinese side. A military delegation, headed by Jia Xiaoning, deputy chief of the Foreign Affairs Office at China's Ministry of National Defense arrived in Nepal December 14 to conduct negotiations.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6845368.html>

### [\*\*Troops haven't been withdrawn from Jammu & Kashmir: Mirwaiz\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 18 December 2009**

Chairman of moderate faction of Hurriyat Conference Mirwaiz Umer Farooq, today claimed that troops had not been removed from Jammu and Kashmir as stated by Defence Minister A.K .Antony. He termed the statement of the defence minister about troops withdrawal as "mere announcement".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article66941.ece>

### [\*\*Jharkhand assembly polls end, 58 per cent turnout\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 18 December 2009**

The nearly four-week long five-phase Assembly polls in Jharkhand held in the shadow of Maoist violence concluded today with an overall 58 per cent voter turnout after the end of the final phase marred by landmine explosions in which two policemen were killed. The electorate in the mineral-rich State rejected the call for poll boycott given by Maoists and turned in larger numbers than in the previous 2005 Assembly polls, which recorded a 55 per cent voter turn-out.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article66957.ece>

### [\*\*Chief Justice of India confirmed that the collegium of judges has decided to keep Mr. Dinakaran's ele\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 18 December 2009**

Karnataka Chief Justice P.D. Dinakaran will not be elevated to the Supreme Court just yet. Rajya Sabha Chairman Hamid Ansari had yesterday admitted a notice of the motion to start impeachment proceedings against the judge. On Friday, the Chief Justice of India confirmed that the collegium of judges has decided to keep Mr. Dinakaran's elevation in abeyance. Karnataka High Court Chief Justice P. D. Dinakaran's elevation to the Supreme Court has been kept in abeyance in view of the impeachment proceedings against him in the Rajya Sabha over land grabbing allegations, Chief Justice of India K. G. Balakrishnan said today. "We have kept Justice Dinakaran's name in abeyance in view of impeachment proceeding initiated against him in the Rajya Sabha," the CJI told reporters.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article66979.ece>

### [Copenhagen outcome may fall well short of expectations: PM](#)

**The Hindu, 18 December 2009**

With no breakthrough in sight, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday said the outcome of the Copenhagen climate summit may fall short of expectations and warned against any dilution of the principles of UNFCCC, particularly of “common but differentiated” responsibilities. Addressing the crucial final day of the summit, the Prime Minister emphasised that India will deliver on its voluntary target of reducing the emission intensity by around 20 per cent by 2020 as compared to 2005 regardless of the outcome of the conference.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article66991.ece>

### [Advani makes way for Sushma Swaraj as Leader of Opposition](#)

**The Hindu, 18 December 2009**

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) saw signs of a generational change in its leadership on Friday, as Sushma Swaraj was appointed leader of the opposition and Nitin Gadkari is likely to be the party president. L.K. Advani was elected to the newly-created post of Chairman of the BJP's Parliamentary Party. The 82-year-old Mr. Advani was chosen at a meeting of party MPs, which amended the Constitution of the BJP Parliamentary Party to create the post, paving the way for election of Sushma Swaraj as the next Leader of the BJP in Lok Sabha and to be its Leader of the Opposition.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article67005.ece>

### [Accused Mumbai Gunman Recants](#)

**NYT, 18 December 2009**

MUMBAI, India — A Pakistani man standing trial for his accused role in the terrorist attack on Mumbai last year recanted his earlier confessions in court on Friday, saying he had been framed by the Indian police. It was the latest in a series of contradictory statements from the suspect, Ajmal Kasab, who had confessed in July to killing commuters at a busy Mumbai train station. Indian authorities say Mr. Kasab was one of 10 Pakistani men who attacked two five-star hotels, the train station and a Jewish center, killing more than 160 people over three days. All of Mr. Kasab's suspected accomplices were killed in battles with the police.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/19/world/asia/19mumbai.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

### [Editorial: Moving towards peace in Assam?](#)

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

The facts and circumstances of the return of the chairman of the outlawed United Liberation Front of Asom, Arabinda Rajkhowa, its deputy commander-in-chief Raju Baruah (both aliases though their actual names are widely known), with eight others — mostly women and children —, to Assam from Bangladesh on December 4 were surrounded by some controversy. Fugitives from law, they had been living in Bangladesh, with several other leaders and cadres of ULFA, for long. The huge

popular interest that greeted their return and the carpet bombing coverage by the media also contributed to the controversy.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article67057.ece>

#### **['Resist U.S. pressure to sign CTBT'](#)**

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

Scientists who claim the 1998 test of a thermonuclear device by India was a failure have urged the government to resist American pressure to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). They want the government to set up a high-level, independent, broad-based panel of experts to "monitor the implementation, on a continuing basis, of an effective course of action in the realm of thermonuclear weapons." Pointing out that renewed pressure from U.S. President Barack Obama on India to sign the CTBT was causing the issue to be raised again, they urged the government to remain firm in its opposition.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article67529.ece>

#### **[India not fulfilling Sharm-el-Sheikh commitment: Pak](#)**

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

Pushing for resumption of dialogue, Pakistan has suggested that India was not fulfilling its commitment made in the Sharm-el-Sheikh joint statement and relinking talks with action against terrorism. Pakistan's High Commissioner to India Shahid Malik said the "diplomatic vacuum" would not help the cause of peace and by not talking to each other, "we are strengthening the forces which don't want the two countries to make any progress".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article67596.ece>

#### **[Worst possible outcome at Copenhagen, says CSE](#)**

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

The US-brokered climate deal with India and three other emerging economies reached at the fag end of the Copenhagen summit is "disastrous" for the world as it will allow rich countries to increase emissions, the Centre for Science and Technology claimed today. "The accord eliminates the distinction between developed and developing countries, prevents effective action to curb global warming and fatally undermines efforts to renew the Kyoto Protocol," CSE spokesperson Souparno Banerjee said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article67620.ece>

#### **[Use tact and wisdom apart from vigil: Chidambaram to SSB](#)**

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

Sending out a strong message to the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), guarding the porous and open Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan borders, Union Home Minister P Chidambaram on Sunday said the force needs to use "great tact and wisdom" to execute its duties effectively. "Unlike other borders, these two (Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bhutan) borders present special difficulties. They are open borders. For a border guarding force with an open border... calls for great tact and wisdom apart from

being vigilant and strong," Mr. Chidambaram said while addressing troops and officers during the 46th raising day celebrations here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article67683.ece>

### [BARC, Bollywood studios on Headley's hitlist?](#)

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

Piecing together the investigations on terror suspect David Headley, investigators have found that he had conducted a proper reconnaissance of not only Bhaba Atomic Research Centre but also of some Bollywood studios in north-eastern suburb of the city. The 49-year-old Headley, who has been under arrest in the U.S. since October 3, had travelled to Chembur and Trombay many times and filmed the exits and entries of the BARC besides the entry of employees, official sources said here on Sunday.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article67667.ece>

### [CPI \(M\) against creation of smaller states](#)

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

Taking a stand opposing bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, the CPI(M) on Sunday said the need of the hour was not creation of smaller states but curbing price rise. The demand for smaller states does not hold any ground as it is not the solution to the problems, party General Secretary Prakash Karat told a public rally here, referring to the Telangana demand.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article67726.ece>

### [Rangnath panel recommends three-language formula](#)

**The Hindu, 20 December 2009**

A panel, which recommended reservation for Muslims and other minorities in government jobs, has advocated implementation of a three-language formula all over the country for welfare of linguistic minorities. The five-member National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities headed by former Chief Justice of India Rangnath Mishra said, "the three-language formula should be implemented everywhere in the country making it compulsory for the authorities to include in it the mother tongue of every child — including especially Urdu and Punjabi."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article67736.ece>

### [Telangana: Govt. Cong begin consultations with AP MPs](#)

**The Hindu, 22 December 2009**

In a bid to find a way out on the Telangana issue, Government and the Congress on Tuesday began hectic consultations with MPs from Andhra Pradesh, a day after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said a decision would be taken soon to "bring everything in order". Law Minister M Veerappa Moily and Political Secretary to Congress President Ahmed Patel met the state party MPs demanding creation of a separate Telangana and those advocating a united Andhra separately.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article68794.ece>

### [India to unveil strategy for low carbon emissions soon](#)

**The Hindu, 22 December 2009**

To combat threats of climate change, India will soon unveil a detailed roadmap for a low-carbon growth strategy, Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh said on Tuesday. "Post-Copenhagen, our priority will be to cut emission intensity by 20-25 per cent by 2020 on 2005 levels which is not only eminently feasible but which can also be improved upon the benefit of our own people," he said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article68899.ece>

### ['US can't interfere in India's domestic climate actions': Pachauri](#)

**The Hindu, 22 December 2009**

Dismissing the US claims that India's domestic climate actions can be challenged, top environmentalist R K Pachauri on Tuesday made it clear there was no power granted to America in the Copenhagen accord for such interference. The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was reacting to White House senior advisor David Axelrod's remark that the climate accord allows US to not only unilaterally review India's progress but also challenge the country if it failed to meet its domestic climate targets.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article68686.ece>

### [No talks till 'vigorous prosecution' in 26/11 case: India to Pak](#)

**The Hindu, 22 December 2009**

India on Tuesday said it is not in a position to resume the composite dialogue with Pakistan till "vigorous prosecution" is mounted against the accused in the 26/11 case and the infrastructure of terror across the border, responsible for the numerous attacks, is dismantled. "Pakistan has to ensure that the infrastructure of terror from which so many attacks have taken been launched in our country should be dismantled. We have not seen so far sufficient progress on this.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article68581.ece>

### [Heavy firing on India-Pakistan border](#)

**The Hindu, 22 December 2009**

Indian and Pakistani border guards exchanged heavy firing at the international border between the two countries in Jammu and Kashmir Monday evening, an official said. According to the Border Security Force (BSF), the Pakistani border guards opened fire on the Indian positions in Ramgarh sector in a bid to infiltrate terrorists, provoking the Indian side to retaliate.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article68466.ece>

### [3rd infiltration bid in 4 days by ultras](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 22 December 2009**

Pakistan Army and Rangers resorted to heavy firing on Indian positions to facilitate infiltration by the militants from the International Border (IB) in Ramgarh sector of Samba district tonight. This was third intrusion bid on the Line of Control (LoC) and

IB during last four days. Official sources said Pakistan Rangers targeted Indian posts of SM Pur, SM Pur-1 and Kangral besides surrounding areas in Ramgarh sector at 9 pm tonight with a view to push infiltrators into Indian territory.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec22/news.htm#4>

### **DG Military Ops calls Indian counterpart, rejects allegations**

**The News, 22 December 2009**

LAHORE: Director General of Military Operations at the Pakistan Army contacted his Indian counterpart on Tuesday and rejected the New Delhi's allegations about violations of ceasefire. According to sources, India alleged Pakistan has violated ceasefire five times during the last seven days and in this regard local commanders held flag meetings.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/updates.asp?id=94197>

### **Governor to hold by-polls if Punjab govt fails to: CJ**

**The News, 22 December 2009**

The Supreme Court on Monday issued notices to the Election Commission and the government of Punjab against a Lahore High Court verdict, delaying by-elections in four Punjab constituencies. A three-member bench of the apex court, comprising Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry, Justice Anwar Zaheer Jamali and Justice Khilji Arif Hussain, was hearing a petition filed by Awami Muslim League (AML) chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed, who is to contest by-election in NA-55 Rawalpindi-VI.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=26217](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=26217)

### **Strike Enters Second Day, Paralyzing Most of Nepal**

**NYT, 22 December 2009**

NEW DELHI — Thousands of Maoist protesters in Nepal enforced the second day of their nationwide general strike on Monday, shouting antigovernment slogans and paralyzing much of the country as businesses remained closed and vehicle traffic was almost nonexistent in the capital, Katmandu. The quieter protests on Monday contrasted with the violent clashes that erupted a day earlier between the police and demonstrators in Katmandu. On Sunday, the police arrested at least 70 people as officers used batons and tear gas to break up protesters, who were blocking roads and preventing Nepal's prime minister from reaching his residence after returning from the international climate change talks in Copenhagen.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/22/world/asia/22nepal.html?\\_r=1&ref=asia&page\\_wanted=print](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/22/world/asia/22nepal.html?_r=1&ref=asia&page_wanted=print)

### **China, India, South Africa vital for climate deal**

**The Hindu, 23 December 2009**

The emergence of China, India, South Africa and Brazil as a grouping was the most significant outcome of the climate talks in Copenhagen, a U.N. official said on Wednesday. The Copenhagen Accord - which urges major polluters to make deeper emissions cuts but does not require it - emerged principally from President Barack Obama's meeting with the leaders of the four countries, a group referred to as

BASIC.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article69518.ece>

### [Jharkhand headed for hung Assembly](#)

**The Hindu, 23 December 2009**

Jharkhand was headed for a hung Assembly with the Jharkhand Mukthi Morcha (JMM) emerging as the kingmaker as the Indian National Congress and another State party gained an edge by leading in 23 seats in the 81-member House. As counting of votes progressed, the Shibu Soren-led JMM was leading in 20 seats and the BJP-JD(U) combine was ahead in 21 seats. The JD(U) was ahead in one seat. The RJD headed by Lalu Prasad and its alliance partners led in eight seats, while others were leading in nine seats.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article69120.ece>

### [Chidambaram proposes new national security architecture](#)

**The Hindu, 23 December 2009**

Proposing a "bold, thorough and radical restructuring" of the security architecture at the national level, Union Minister P. Chidambaram on Wednesday suggested bifurcation of the Home Ministry, saying subjects not directly related to internal security should be dealt with by a separate Ministry or should be brought under a separate department in the Home Ministry itself and dealt with by a Minister independently. "The Home Minister should devote the whole of his/her time and energy to matters relating to security," Mr. Chidambaram said. In his view, given the imperatives and the challenges of the times, a division of the current functions of the Ministry of Home Affairs "is unavoidable".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article69375.ece>

### [Indian economy could grow by 8 p.c. in current fiscal](#)

**The Hindu, 23 December 2009**

The Finance Minister, Pranab Mukherjee on Wednesday said the economy could grow by 7.5 to 8 per cent during the current financial year, though price rise and fiscal consolidation remained areas of concern. "The Mid Year Review projected a growth rate of 7.75 per cent (for 2009-10), but it would be more appropriate to say 7.5 to 8 per cent", Mr. Mukherjee said, addressing the 104th annual session of the industry chamber PHDCCI.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article69241.ece>

### [India will aid in Bhutan's democracy cause](#)

**The Hindu, 23 December 2009**

Describing Bhutan as "India's closest friend and neighbour," Prime Minister Manmohan Singh presided over the signing of a dozen pacts with Thimphu in the presence of King Jigme Khesar here on Tuesday. In summit-level talks, New Delhi expressed satisfaction with its cooperation in checking the activities of insurgent groups trying to operate from southern Bhutan.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article69031.ece>

**[NCTC to be set up by 2010 to prevent,respond to terror: PC](#)**

**Daily Excelsior, 23 December 2009**

NEW DELHI : Home Minister P Chidambaram today attributed terror-free 2009 to "luck and better intelligence" and called for radically restructuring the security agency at the top by setting up a National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) by next year end to prevent, contain and respond to terrorist attacks by inflicting pain upon the perpetrators. Delivering the 22nd Intelligence Bureau Centenary Endowment Lecture, Mr Chidambaram said NCTC's mandate would be to deal with all kinds of terrorist violence directed against the country and the people.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec23/newsupdate.htm#2>

**[Infiltration attempt was serious: BSF](#)**

**Daily Excelsior, 23 December 2009**

JAMMU, Dec 22: A serious infiltration attempt was made by a group of eight militants to infiltrate into this side from Kandra forward post in SM Pur area of Ramgarh sector in Samba district last night taking advantage of heavy firing by Pakistan Rangers on forward Indian posts. At least two militants were seriously injured as the BSF jawans pushed back the infiltrators about 10 hours of firing that stopped at 7 am today.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec23/news.htm#1>

**[India guarded on international nuclear report](#)**

**The Hindu, 25 December 2009**

India has adopted a guarded approach to the report on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament released by the Prime Ministers of Japan and Australia in Tokyo on Tuesday. "The focus remains very much on what could be done to shore up the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT] in the run-up to the 2010 conference," informed sources said. While endorsing some of the provisions, the sources were dismayed by the report's observations on the new-found enthusiasm for civil nuclear energy by some countries, which it felt, could be a possible source of proliferation. However, former National Security Adviser Brajesh Mishra, one of the Commissioners on the panel, did not endorse the perception. "They have not targeted India," he said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article66168.ece>

**[India-Japan to strengthen bilateral relations](#)**

**The Hindu, 26 December 2009**

Apart from improving their coordination on security issues, India and Japan will also consolidate their economic ties during the visit of Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama this week. Meeting against the backdrop of Japanese investment in India having exceeded its investment in China for the first time in 2008-09, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Mr. Hatoyama will seek to give a push to the multi-billion dollar Delhi-Mumbai freight corridor with the aim to complete it by 2016-17. The summit level meeting will aim to tie up the loose ends so that the assistance agreement is finalised by

early next year. The project will provide speedy transportation to goods from the industrial heartlands of north India to ports on the western flank.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/business/article70674.ece>

### [N.D. Tiwari resigns, Naidu demands CBI probe](#)

**The Hindu, 26 December 2009**

Telugu Desam Party president N. Chandrababu Naidu, on Saturday demanded a thorough probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against N. D. Tiwari, who resigned on Saturday evening from the post of the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, to protect the sanctity of the office of Governor. Mr. Tiwari stepped down citing "health grounds", a day after a Telugu television channel accused him of involvement in a sex scandal. A brief press communique was issued by the Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad without going into details of the resignation submitted by the 86-year-old leader to President Pratibha Patil.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article70935.ece>

### [Opinion:Copenhagen, tsunami and hunger](#)

**The Hindu, 26 December 2009**

The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities is the core of the many climate agreements arrived at so far, including the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Bali Plan of Action (2007). The differentiated responsibilities aim to meet the special needs of developing countries for accelerated and equitable economic development. Both at L'Aquila and Copenhagen, the industrialised countries proposed limiting the rise in mean temperature to 2 degrees C above normal. Even this seems to be unattainable in the context of the present rate of emission of greenhouse gases (GHG). Hence, the principle of common but differentiated impact of 2 degrees change in mean temperature is essential for prioritising climate victims.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article70593.ece>

### [Opinion:How to face security challenges](#)

**The Hindu, 26 December 2009**

"By a quirk of fate," Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram said in a December 23 lecture to the Intelligence Bureau, "India in the twenty-first century has turned out to be the confluence of every kind of violence: insurrection or insurgency in order to carve out sovereign states; armed liberation struggle motivated by a rejected ideology; and terrorism driven by religious fanaticism. Never before has the Indian state faced such a formidable challenge." Drawing on the lessons of the November 2008 carnage in Mumbai, he proposed a new architecture for India's internal security administration. There would be a single-point source of authority for all counter-terrorism-related issues. Key counter-terrorism elements of organisations as diverse as the Intelligence Bureau, the Research and Analysis Wing, the National Intelligence Agency, and the National Security Guard would be brought under the supervisory authority of a National Counter-Terrorism Centre.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article70589.ece>

### [His Majesty returns today](#)

**Kuensel, 26 December 2009**

His Majesty King Jigme Khesar returns today after a historic five-day state visit to India from December 21 to 26, which leaders of the two countries hailed as a milestone in Indo-Bhutan cooperation. During the visit, 12 agreements covering various sectors, including hydropower projects, were signed. "The signing of the very important documents was a clear reflection of the very special bonds of friendship and goodwill and very close relationship that Bhutan enjoys with India," Lyonpo Khandu Wangchuk, who accompanied His Majesty, told the Bhutanese media yesterday.

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=14321>

### [Japanese PM arrives on first official visit to India](#)

**The Hindu, 27 December 2009**

Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, arrived here today on his first official visit to India. The Japanese premier who is leading a high level delegation was received at the Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport by Maharashtra Health Minister Suresh Shetty. Chief Protocol Officer Sumeet Mallik, was also present along with members of the Japanese consulate. Mr. Hatoyama will visit Hotel Taj Mahal and Trident to pay tributes to victims of 26/11 terror attacks and sign a condolence book at Trident Hotel.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article71385.ece>

### [JAC of Telangana uniformed forces formed](#)

**The Hindu, 27 December 2009**

Representatives of seven uniformed services in Telangana region, who formed a Joint Action Committee in support of the separate Telangana State agitation, here on Sunday have decided agitate peacefully till the State was bifurcated. The newly formed Telangana Uniform Services JAC comprises representatives of personnel from Police, Jails, Forest, Prohibition and Excise, Transport and Weights and Measures departments. The JAC has elected a 12-member state-level steering committee and has also decided to form district-wise JAC steering committees, the JAC convenor K. Venkateshwar Reddy said in a press release here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/andhra-pradesh/article71429.ece>

### [We agreed to live to fight another day: Saran](#)

**The Hindu, 27 December 2009**

India has said that the Copenhagen Accord endorses the view that the rich nations have the responsibility to agree to emission reduction cuts but conceded that it also opens a window for the burial of the Kyoto Protocol in the future. However, it said that future of the Kyoto Protocol, which commits industrialised nations to undertake legally binding emission cuts, depends on the way the post-Copenhagen negotiations are carried out.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article71205.ece>

### [Nation needs to apologise to Kashmiri Pandits: Sinha](#)

**Daily Excelsior, 27 December 2009**

NEW DELHI : The nation needs to apologise to Kashmiri Pandits for not doing enough to protect their interests, former Jammu and Kashmir Governor S K Sinha said today. "The whole nation needs to apologise to the Kashmiri Pandits, because we have not done what we should have done for them," Sinha said, referring to the community being forced out of their home State by terror groups.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec27/newsupdate.htm#1>

### [We support democracy, not the corrupt: Nawaz](#)

**The News, 27 December 2009**

ISLAMABAD: Former prime minister and PML-N Quaid Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Saturday said the PPP government should have sought resignations from NRO beneficiaries, who are in the government. "The government should have moved for getting resignations from NRO beneficiaries following the Supreme Court verdict declaring the NRO as unconstitutional," Nawaz Sharif said while talking to newsmen after chairing a party meeting here at the Punjab House.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=26316](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=26316)

### [Talks on sharing water with India to resume](#)

**Daily Star, 27 December 2009**

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday said the government would start talks with India to resolve the problems over the waters of Teesta and other common rivers. The prime minister said this at the national council of the Institution of Diploma Engineers, reports private television ATN Bangla. Sheikh Hasina said her government proved its efficiency since it took office nearly one year ago and that Bangladesh is now safe from the risk of global economic meltdown. She said the government had started work to protect the country from an environmental disaster through freeing the rivers and water bodies from encroachers.

[http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest\\_news.php?nid=21328](http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=21328)

### [Japan hopes India will sign nuclear test ban treaty](#)

**The Hindu, 29 December 2009**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh underlined India's "impeccable record" in nuclear non-proliferation and pitched for the civil nuclear cooperation with Japan. Japan on Tuesday expressed the hope that India would sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) but kept the door open for civil nuclear cooperation, saying it will be an important agenda for the future. "I express the hope that India will sign and ratify the CTBT," Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama told reporters here at a joint press conference with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article72318.ece>

### [Telangana agitation intensifies, thousands protest on streets](#)

**The Hindu, 29 December 2009**

The ongoing agitation for Statehood to Andhra Pradesh's Telangana region intensified

on Tuesday as thousands of people from all walks of life came on to the streets in various districts to press for their demand. Protests, road blockades, rallies, processions, meetings, human chains and cultural programmes were organised across the region by all political parties and other pro-Telangana groups.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article72451.ece>

**[Cong. arrogance prevented secular govt. in Jharkhand: Lalu](#)**  
**The Hindu, 29 December 2009**

Blaming the Congress for non-formation of a "secular" ruling coalition in Jharkhand, RJD chief Lalu Prasad on Tuesday said the party's "arrogance" virtually cleared the pitch for a government with support of "communal" BJP. "Had the Congress taken initiative for formation of a coalition government comprising secular parties and groups, it would have succeeded and the State would have been saved from a rule with support of communal forces, Mr. Prasad told reporters.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article72443.ece>

**[Opinion:South Asian agenda for Jammu & Kashmir](#)**  
**The Hindu, 29 December 2009**

The separatists' bullet that killed the moderate Hurriyat leader, Fazl Haque Qureshi, also wounded Home Minister Chidambaram's "quiet diplomacy" for settling the Kashmir problem by making the Line of Control between India and Pakistan "just lines on a map," as Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in Srinagar on March 24, 2006. The doubts about the government's credibility aired by the Qureshi assassins was disproved by the withdrawal of two Army divisions (about 30,000 troops) from Jammu and Kashmir over the last year and there are plans to pull back more troops if the law and order situation continues to improve, according to a statement made by Defence Minister A.K. Antony on December 18, 2009 ( The Hindu, December 19, 2009).

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article72166.ece>

**[DoT asked to prepare fool proof mechanism](#)**  
**Daily Excelsior, 29 December 2009**

JAMMU, Dec 28: The Government of India has asked the Department of Telecom (DoT), New Delhi to work out a fool proof mechanism for verification of regularisation of existing and fresh pre-paid mobile telephone connections before a decision is taken by the Union Home Ministry to lift a ban on pre-paid connections, imposed in the State in October this year.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09dec29/news.htm#1>