

[Ties with other countries not at the cost of Russia](#)

H, 2 October 2009

Impressing upon the need for both India and Russia to engage more in critical sectors including expanding economic cooperation in the high priority area, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma on Friday said he had conveyed to the Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin that India's relationship with other countries would not be at the cost of the strategic relationship with Moscow. Mr. Sharma, who returned from a three-day trip to Russia, said that during his meeting with Mr. Putin, he reaffirmed the fact that Russia remains in the focus of the Indian radar. "I reiterated India's abiding commitment to nurture and consolidate the strategic partnership with Russia. I also expressed the need to enhance cooperation in core and critical sectors like atomic energy, space sciences and defence apart from expanding partnership in the oil and gas sector," he said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article28001.ece>

[Sri Lankan High Commission attacked](#)

Hindu, 2 October 2009

Around 40 activists of a Tamil outfit on Friday stormed the Sri Lankan High Commission here, pelting stones and ransacking the premises, an incident which the government regretted and promised appropriate action against the perpetrators. The activists of 'Puthiya Tamizhagam' based in Tamil Nadu entered the High Commission premises in Chanakyapuri at around 2.30 p.m., protesting against firing by Sri Lankan navy on Indian fishermen.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article27986.ece>

[17 policemen die in Maoist attack in Gadchiroli](#)

The Hindu, 8 October 2009

At least 17 policemen were killed in an ambush by Maoist guerrillas near Lahir village of Bhamragadh tehsil in Gadchiroli of Maharashtra on Thursday afternoon, police sources said. All those dead belonged to the C-60 anti-Naxal force raised by Maharashtra. Intense gun battles were on near Lahir as reinforcements, which were rushing to the first ambush site, also came under attack. Initial reports indicated that a team of commandoes from the C-60 force and local police went to some villages on election bandobust duties and were returning to Lahir when they were ambushed by nearly 200 Maoists clad in Olive Green Uniforms.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/incoming/article30760.ece>

[Manmohan to make aerial survey of flood-hit AP, Karnataka](#)

The Hindu, 8 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will arrive here on Thursday on a two-day visit to conduct an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The Prime Minister would arrive at Vijayawada airport from Delhi at 1425 hours and would go for an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged districts of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister K Rosaiah told reporters here. Dr. Singh would return to Vijayawada airport at 1515 hours and from there he would leave for Hyderabad.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article30817.ece>

[AIR India to present new plan before Parliamentary panel](#)

The Hindu, 8 October 2009

Crisis-ridden Air India is expected to present a new turnaround plan to the key Parliamentary Committee going into the issue of how the national carrier has landed deeply in the red. Chairman-cum-Managing Director Arvind Jadhav on Thursday made a presentation before the Committee on Public Undertakings headed by senior Congress MP V Kishore Chandra Deo. Sources said that the presentation led to a number of searching questions to the Air India top brass as to how it could term the current turnaround programme as adequate when a deficit of a whopping Rs 5,320 crore would remain even after its implementation.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article30920.ece>

[Security forces kill mastermind behind Srinagar car bomb blast](#)

The Hindu, 8 October 2009

"Doctor Saheb", the alleged mastermind behind last month's car bomb blast outside the high-security Central Jail here, has been killed in an encounter at Ledhu forest in South Kashmir, senior officials said on Thursday. Acting on a tip off, the police and the Army, had cordoned off the forest area stretching between Krew and Tral area of South Kashmir, after which three terrorists were killed while six to seven were still hiding in the forests. Identification of the dead Lashkar militants revealed that one of them was Muddasir, a resident of Awantipura (South Kashmir), who left Bachelor of Dental Science course to join Lashkar terror group.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article30866.ece>

[Uniform Civil Code is a highly 'sensitive' issue: CJI](#)

The Hindu, 8 October 2009

Uniform Civil Code is a highly "sensitive" issue in the country where people belonging to different races, castes and communities reside, Chief Justice of India K G Balakrishnan has said. "The question of Uniform Civil Code is a very-very sensitive issue. India is a country which has a multifarious race, caste and community," the CJI expressed his views while speaking at the M K Nambiar Memorial Lecture here. Appreciating the utter care and sensitivities required in countries like India when it comes to enacting and implementing legislation, he said that even Britishers took thirty years to implement Indian Penal Code.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article30835.ece>

[53 cross sides in Karvan-e-Aman bus](#)

Daily Excelsior, 8 October 2009

SRINAGAR :As many as 53 people crossed sides in the Karvan-e-Aman bus operating between Srinagar-Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-Occupied Kashmir (POK), official sources said here today. They said 31 residents, including three women and one child, arrived here this afternoon after crossing the Aman Setu bridge on foot at Kaman post, the last Indian Military post near the Line of Control (LoC) in Uri sector. However, only person, who had crossed over to POK, also returned in the bus after meeting his relatives there.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct08/newsupdate.htm#3>

[Dhaka goes for UN arbitration over maritime boundary](#)

Daily Star, 8 October 2009

The government has decided to submit the maritime boundary dispute to compulsory arbitration under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to settle dispute over maritime boundary with India and Myanmar. "We have decided to go for arbitration as the issue was not resolved through bilateral discussion with the two neighbours in the last 35 years," Foreign Minister Dipu Moni said at a press briefing at the ministry today. Foreign Secretary Mohammad Mizarul Kayas today handed over copies of the notification and statement of claim to the high commissioner of India and ambassador of Myanmar at the Secretariat.

http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/latest_news.php?nid=19781

[17 Die in Bombing Near Indian Embassy in Kabul](#)

NYT, 8 October 2009

KABUL, Afghanistan — A car packed with explosives blew up beside the Indian Embassy on Thursday, leaving more than a dozen dead in what India's foreign secretary said was an attack on the embassy compound, the second in two years. The blast killed 17 people and wounded 82, according to the Afghan Interior Ministry, whose own building is across the street from the blast site. Indian authorities said none of the embassy staff had been hurt, but three guards outside had been wounded. "The suicide bomber was directed against the embassy," India's foreign secretary, Nirupama Rao, told reporters in New Delhi. The blast appeared to be similar in pattern to one in July 2008, which American intelligence officials said Pakistan's intelligence agency had helped to plan. Pakistan denied the charges but promised an investigation. Fifty-four people were killed in that attack, including an Indian defense attaché.

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/09/world/asia/09afghan.html?_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print

[Economic stimulus to continue, says Manmohan](#)

The Hindu, 9 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday said that the economic stimulus packages announced in the wake of last year's downturn will continue for the time being. "I do not see that we are operating at full capacity of our economy. Until those capacity limitations are reached, inflationary consequences are likely to be minimal. "Whatever has been provided in the stimulus packages by the Finance Minister, we will continue for the time being," he said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article31580.ece>

[Verdict reserved on plea against withdrawal of Quattrocchi prosecution](#)

The Hindu, 9 October 2009

A Delhi court on Friday reserved judgment on the locus standi of an advocate who has challenged the withdrawal of prosecution by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against Italian businessman Ottavio Quattrocchi in the multi-crore Bofors gun payoff case. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Kaveri Baweja of the Tis Hazari district courts reserved the judgment after hearing arguments by Additional Solicitor-General, P.P. Malhotra, representing the investing agency, and the advocate petitioner, Ajay Aggarwal.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article31163.ece>

[Manmohan announces Rs. 1,000 cr for flood relief in Andhra Pradesh](#)

The Hindu, 9 October 2009

Describing the unprecedented floods in Andhra Pradesh as a national calamity in its own way, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday announced an immediate advance of Rs. 1,000 crore towards relief and rehabilitation works in the State. Addressing a press conference after an aerial survey of the affected areas in Kurnool, Krishna, Mehboobnagar and other districts, he said the Centre stands ready to assist the State in every possible way.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article31566.ece>

[Manmohan congratulates Obama on Nobel Peace Prize](#)

The Hindu, 9 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday congratulated U.S. President Barack Obama on being awarded the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize and praised his approach to problem-solving. "The world today is in need of a healing touch. Your pursuit of an inclusive approach to problem-solving, and primacy to dialogue as an instrument of policy are setting new benchmarks for the world community. I am confident that the world will be the better for it," Dr. Singh said in his congratulatory message .

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article31668.ece>

[Coping with rising China](#)

The Hindu, 10 October 2009

In the last few weeks a number of accounts have appeared in our media of 'incidents' on the Indo-China Line of Actual Control (LoAC) that portrayed China as exerting military pressure on India. There were also reports of China objecting to the Asian Development Bank loan to a development project in Arunachal Pradesh on the ground that it is a disputed territory and issuing stapled instead of stamped visas for travellers, of Kashmiri residence to China. Very hawkish articles appeared in the media on both sides. In China, an analyst repeated the argument of the 1960s that India cannot stay united. In India, the ghosts of 1962 were resurrected and there were predictions that there was likely to be a Chinese attack on India by 2012. The retiring Naval Chief's sober assessment that militarily India is not in a position to catch up with China on equality of forces and equipment in the conventional sense and therefore India should consider technological solutions to cope up with, and not confront a rising China, was misinterpreted as defeatist sentiment in certain media and strategic circles.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article31683.ece>

[Investing in India-Russia relationship](#)

The Hindu, 10 October 2009

With India's relationship with the United States and China under relentless focus, it is not surprising that the Indian President's recent visit to the Russian Federation went almost unnoticed. Yet the trip served to remind both sides of a friendship that they once swore by and whose potential remains high despite years of mutual neglect, changed global circumstances and diversification of interests. At one level, Pratibha Patil's trip, like any presidential outing, was all ceremony and nostalgia. Dulcet tunes

from the Raj Kapoor-directed Shri 420 filled the Grand Kremlin Palace's incredibly beautiful gold and red Alexander Hall when President Dmitry Medvedev raised a toast to his Indian guest. If the blast from the past was ever so sweet, so was the ritual recalling of the golden years of "Hindi-Rusi bhai-bhai" and the references to India and Russia's shared civilisational roots.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article27117.ece>

[I sought Modi's ouster, opposed Advani's Rathyatra: Jaswant](#)
The Hindu, 10 October 2009

Expelled BJP leader Jaswant Singh on Saturday said he had sought removal of Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi after the post-Godhra communal riots and even opposed L K Advani's 'Ram Rathyatra'. "I had condemned the Gujarat riots along with Atal ji (former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee) so that the chief minister Narendra Modi was removed," Mr. Singh said at a Meet-the-Press programme of Andhra Pradesh Union of Working Journalists (APUWJ) here. Replying to a query over the issue of Babri Masjid demolition in 1992, Singh said he had even opposed the 'Rathyatra' of L K Advani.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32000.ece>

[Pak should sincerely act against terror: Antony](#)
The Hindu, 10 October 2009

India on Saturday asked Pakistan to be "sincere" in acting against terror groups on its soil in its own interest and "not to satisfy India". Defence Minister A K Antony told reporters here on the sidelines of an international flight safety conference that Pakistan "has to contain" terrorists operating from its soil. "India is telling always that unless they (Pakistanis) act sincerely (against terrorists) there is no solution. Still they are not sincere. That is the problem," Mr. Antony said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32052.ece>

[India hints at Pakistani link to Kabul attack](#)
The Hindu, 10 October 2009

Hinting at Pakistani link to the Kabul Embassy attack, India today said Afghanistan faces threat from terrorists and their "patrons residing across the border" and that the blast was handiwork of those who want to undermine Indo-Afghan friendship. Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao, who returned after a two-day visit to Kabul in the wake of Thursday's attack, made it clear that India will not be deterred by such acts as she reiterated the unwavering commitment to pursuing bilateral development partnership and assisting the people of Afghanistan in realising a democratic, peaceful and prosperous country.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article31988.ece>

[EC bans opinion and exit polls in assembly elections](#)
The Hindu, 10 October 2009

Publication and dissemination of results of opinion and exit polls of assembly polls in Maharashtra, Haryana and Arunachal Pradesh will be banned from Sunday till the end of polling, the Election Commission said on Saturday. The ban period would start from 3 p.m. on Sunday and end at 5 p.m. on October 13 when the polling concludes,

the EC said in a press note.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32066.ece>

Infiltration bid foiled; three militants killed

Daily Excelsior, 10 October 2009

SRINAGAR : Three heavily-armed militants were shot dead as the army foiled an infiltration bid from across the border in Gurez Sector of Bandipora district today. Troops guarding the border noticed suspicious movement and as soon as the intruders sneaked into Gurez, 140 kms from here, they confronted them and asked them to surrender but they opened fire, Defence Spokesman Colonel A S Brar said. In the ensuing encounter, three heavily-armed militants were killed, he said.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct10/newsupdate.htm#1>

IAF must have safeguards in place first: Antony

The Hindu, 11 October 2009

Defence Minister A.K. Antony said the Indian Air Force will have to put in place safeguards and operational details before it gets the go-ahead from the government to fire in self-defence at naxalites. "After carefully preparing safeguards and operational details for self-defence, we will give operational clearance. The IAF will be informed when we give permission," the Minister said on the sidelines of an international flight safety conference here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32162.ece>

Manmohan rules out use of armed forces against naxals

The Hindu, 11 October 2009

Refusing to bracket naxals with terrorists, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday ruled out use of armed forces against them and said that the government is willing to hold talks with them if they abjured violence. "They (the naxals) are banned organisations and are covered under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act," he said replying to a question if the government proposed to declare the ultra-left groups as terror outfits.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32290.ece>

India, ASEAN talks on opening services trade begin tomorrow

The Hindu, 11 October 2009

Negotiators from India and ASEAN bloc are meeting here on Monday to broad base their free trade agreement to include services, an area of key interest for India as the sector accounts for over half of its GDP. India signed the free trade agreement (FTA) with the 10-member Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) on August 13 that committed to begin breaking duty barriers from January 2010 on goods. With services contributing 55 per cent of its economy, India is quite keen on tapping the growing services market in south east-Asia.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32236.ece>

Nirupama: bid to undermine Delhi-Kabul friendship

The Hindu, 11 October 2009

The attack on the Indian mission in Kabul is "clearly the handiwork of those who are desperate to undermine Indo-Afghan friendship and do not believe in a strong, democratic and pluralistic Afghanistan," Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao said here on Saturday. During her October 9-10 Kabul visit, Ms. Rao met President Hamid Karzai, Foreign Minister Dafdar Rangin Spanta and National Security Adviser Zalmi Rassoul, all of whom were unanimous that Thursday's attack was carried out by elements outside Afghanistan seeking to damage the excellent relations between the two countries.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32148.ece>

Pak charges against India on Balochistan false: Manmohan

The Hindu, 11 October 2009

"We are not in the business of spreading terror in Pakistan or in any other country... And the Government of Pakistan and the people will surely know that their accusations are false." Rejecting Pakistan's allegations that India was fomenting trouble in Balochistan, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday termed the charges as "false accusations", saying the country is not in the business of exporting terror.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32304.ece>

LeT serious threat, Pak needs to act against Saeed: EU

Daily Excelsior, 11 October 2009

NEW DELHI: Viewing Lashkar-e-Taiba as a "very serious threat" to India and rest of the world, European Union has made it clear that Pakistan should act against the terror group, its frontal outfit JuD and its chief Hafiz Saeed as a "consequence" of ban imposed by the UN Security Council. EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator Gilles de Kerchove said the civilian democratic Government and army of Pakistan will have to get their "act together" to eliminate such threats emanating from that country. "27 member states (of EU) fully understand and share the assessment that LeT is a very serious threat," he said in an interview here.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct11/newsupdate.htm#3>

PM postpones visit to Kashmir for opening railway line

Daily Excelsior, 11 October 2009

NEW DELHI : Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has postponed by over a week his planned visit to Kashmir, during which he will inaugurate a 12-km railway line connecting Anantnag and Qazigund that will mark the completion of the rail project in the Valley. The Prime Minister was scheduled to visit the state on October 18 but it had to be postponed because of the non-availability of Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee, official sources said.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct11/newsupdate.htm#2>

Dahal, Deuba to fly north, south

Kathmandu Post, 11 October 2009

Kathmandu - Notwithstanding the crisis at home, political heavyweights are embarking on visits to India and China. Former Prime Ministers Pushpa Kamal Dahal and Sher Bahadur Deuba are leaving for Beijing and New Delhi on Sunday. State Minister for Home Mo. Rijwan Ansari is flying to China the same day. Prime Minister Nepal is scheduled to visit China in the third week of October, though the dates are yet to be fixed, said a Foreign Ministry official. Sources claimed that Deuba would meet Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and other leaders.

http://www.ekantipur.com/tkp/news/news-detail.php?news_id=928

India test-fires two Prithvi- II missiles

The Hindu, 12 October 2009

Two nuclear-capable, medium range surface-to-surface Prithvi-II missiles were successfully test-fired within minutes of each other by the armed forces from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, Balasore off the Orissa coast on Monday. According to Defence Research and Development Organisation sources, both the missiles had a range of 350 kms and were launched as part of the operational exercises by the Strategic Force Command. The missiles were fired from the launch pads at ITR around 10.30 hrs.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32683.ece>

India keen to bring peace and harmony with Pak: Manmohan

The Hindu, 12 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has said that India is keen to bring peace and harmony with Pakistan. Dr. Singh stated this in a message to 'Pakistan-India Friendship Forum, UK on the occasion of the Eid and Diwali celebrations at the C and L Country Club this weekend. "We are very keen to bring peace and harmony between the two countries," the Prime Minister said in the message.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32926.ece>

India may soon grant market economy status to Vietnam

The Hindu, 12 October 2009

The Union Cabinet is expected to take up the issue of granting market economy status to Vietnam soon, a move that will see the south east Asian nation joining the India-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement. "...it is under active consideration...The Cabinet is likely to take up the issue soon," an official said. Vietnam, a member of Association of South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) bloc, had not signed the free trade pact with India on August 13, in Thailand.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32945.ece>

Joint operations against Maoists to continue: Buddhadeb

The Hindu, 12 October 2009

Keen to continue joint operations against Maoists, West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee on Monday said the State government will retain the

paramilitary forces and suggested simultaneous operations by neighbouring Jharkhand. The Chief Minister said he had asked the Centre to continue to station 17 companies of paramilitary forces and carry on joint operations with the State police. Mr. Bhattacharjee said Home Minister P. Chidambaram had accepted his proposal.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article32765.ece>

[Conference calls for resumption of India-Pakistan talks](#)

The Hindu, 12 October 2009

A three day Intra-Kashmir conference organised by the Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation (CDR), a New Delhi-based NGO, concluded here on Sunday evening with a call for resumption of dialogue between India and Pakistan and an end to trade restrictions across the Line of Control (LoC). Winding up the conference, CDR executive secretary Sushoba Barve said the delegates resolved that the review meeting about trade across the LoC should take place in time.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33049.ece>

[On Cluttered Ballots of India, Families Proliferate](#)

NYT, 12 October 2009

AMRAVATI, India — Rajendra Shekhawat, nicely polished in a pressed white shirt and neatly parted hair, his face sunburned from campaigning in the south Indian sun, says he is running for office as a common man. His pink cheeks suggest otherwise, though, since common men in India usually toil outdoors without requiring sunscreen. Another clue is the elephant in every room in which he campaigns in this city in the state of Maharashtra: Mom. She is Pratibha Patil, the president of India. "I'm not using my parents' name at all," Mr. Shekhawat, 42, stated in an upstairs office in his parents' home, which he is indisputably using as a campaign headquarters. "I'm running on my own. But for sure, being in a political family for so many years does help me, and gives me easy accessibility for doing the work of the people."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/12/world/asia/12india.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

[China voices "strong dissatisfaction" over Indian leader's visit to disputed region](#)

People's Daily, 13 October 2009

China on Tuesday expressed its "strong dissatisfaction" over an Indian leader's visit to a disputed border region. "China is strongly dissatisfied with the visit to the disputed region by the Indian leader disregarding China's serious concerns," said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu. Ma said China and India had never officially settled demarcation of their border, and China's stance on the eastern section of the China-India border was consistent and clear-cut.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6782186.html>

[India objects to China's comments](#)

The Hindu, 13 October 2009

Expressing disappointment and concern over China objecting to the visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to Arunachal Pradesh, India on Tuesday said such statements will not help the boundary talks between the two countries. Emphasising that the State of Arunachal Pradesh is an integral and inalienable part of India, the Ministry of External Affairs said the people of Arunachal Pradesh are citizens of India, and proud participants in the mainstream of India's vibrant democracy. The Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson, Vishnu Prakash, said the Chinese side is well aware of this position of the Government of India.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33426.ece>

[CPI \(M\) demands strong action against persons taking bribes from U S firms](#)
The Hindu, 13 October 2009

Demanding an investigation into reports of Indian officials accepting bribes from U.S. companies, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Tuesday also insisted the Government blacklist all American firms involved in it. Expressing grave concern at the report that Indian officials took the bribes for showing special favours and awarding them major facilities and contracts, the CPI (M) Polit Bureau in a statement said the Government should also identify the persons who received the bribes and give them stringent punishments.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33326.ece>

[60 p.c. polling in Maharashtra; Arunachal 70 p.c., Haryana 65 p.c.](#)
The Hindu, 13 October 2009

Naxalites targeted police and poll personnel to enforce their election boycott call and candidates were booked for inducing voters as polling for the 288-member Maharashtra Assembly passed off, by and large, peacefully with an estimated 60 per cent voter turnout. Around 60 per cent of the 7.56 crore electorate cast their votes to elect the 12th Assembly, election officials said. The other poll-bound States of Arunachal Pradesh and Haryana registered 70 per cent and 65 per cent voter turnout respectively.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33148.ece>

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<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33148.ece>

[India says it will take up Saeed case with Pak](#)
The Hindu, 13 October 2009

Disappointed at Lahore High Court's decision to scrap terror cases against Jamaat-ud Dawa chief Hafiz Saeed, India on Monday said it would take up the issue with Pakistan as it was given to understand that formal investigation would be conducted against him. Maintaining that Pakistan should investigate Saeed in the Mumbai attack case, External Affairs Minister S M Krishna said India had provided evidence about his being the "brain behind" the strike but he was not booked in that case.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33070.ece>

[Omar for early engagement of people to address Daily Excelsior, 13 October 2009](#)

SRINAGAR: With the hope that dialogue with Pakistan will be on track soon, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today favoured early engagement of people of all shades of opinion, including separatists, for addressing the internal aspect of Kashmir issue. He said that India's talks with Pakistan and engagement with the State of Jammu and Kashmir by the Centre should go simultaneously, maintaining that separate talks with Kashmiri people and Pakistan have not been of any help.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct13/newsupdate.htm#2>

[Terror Suspect Cleared Again in Pakistan NYT, 13 October 2009](#)

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Criminal charges against Hafiz Muhammad Saeed, the man Indian and Western officials accuse of masterminding the terrorist siege of Mumbai last year, were dismissed Monday by a court in Lahore. Although Pakistan has been pressed to charge Mr. Saeed with involvement in the Mumbai attacks, Pakistan insists that it lacks enough evidence linking him to the attacks and that the charges dismissed Monday were not directly related to them. The charges were dismissed for lack of evidence, his lawyer said. It was the second time that Mr. Saeed had been held on lesser charges that did not hold up in court. Mr. Saeed is the founder of the banned militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba, 10 of whose members killed 163 people in a rampage in Mumbai in November.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/13/world/asia/13lahore.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>

[China's Communist Party attacks India over border issue The Hindu, 14 October 2009](#)

China continued its verbal assault on India on Wednesday with the ruling Communist Party's two official mouthpieces accusing India of "hegemonic" ambitions in South Asia and "provoking" China over the border dispute. The People's Daily, the Communist Party's official newspaper, and the Global Times, an English-language paper run by the Party's information department, launched a co-ordinated onslaught in their editorial pages on Wednesday, accusing the Indian government of "recklessness and arrogance".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article33779.ece>

[Manmohan has every right to visit Arunachal: Pranab](#)

The Hindu, 14 October 2009

Rejecting China's claims over Arunachal Pradesh, India on Wednesday made it clear that the State is an integral part of the country and its Prime Minister has every right to visit it. "Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India and the just-concluded Assembly election has proved that it was held under the Indian Constitution," Union Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee told a press conference at the WBPC head-quarters here after a party State Secretariat meeting.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33817.ece>

[India objects to Chinese activities in PoK](#)

The Hindu, 14 October 2009

India today took objection to its engagement in projects in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) and asked it to cease such activities taking "long-term view" of India-China relations. A day after China objected to the visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to Arunachal Pradesh, the Ministry of External Affairs took a strong view of President Hu Jintao's remarks that China will continue to engage in projects with Pakistan inside Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article33702.ece>

[Quiet talks, no verbal gymnastics, in J&K: Chidambaram](#)

The Hindu, 14 October 2009

Reaching out to separatists in Jammu and Kashmir, Home Minister P. Chidambaram on Wednesday said Government will hold "quiet" talks with all shades of opinion to find a political solution to the Kashmir problem that may be "unique" and not indulge in "verbal gymnastics." Responding promptly to the Home Minister's statement, Hurriyat Chairman Mirwaiz Umer Farooq welcomed it saying they also believed in constructive dialogue rather than having a photo-opportunity.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33908.ece>

[India-US making efforts to step up trade engagement](#)

The Hindu, 14 October 2009

Commerce and Industry Minister Anand Sharma has met US Trade Representative Ron Kirk and discussed ways of increasing bilateral commercial engagements through an institutional framework. On Tuesday, the two leaders met, for the fourth time in the last six months, and reviewed the agenda for India-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meeting to take place in New Delhi on October 26. "... the United States and India are working together to create greater opportunities for trade and investment," a statement from the USTR office said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article33739.ece>

[Omar calls for simultaneous dialogue with Pak, J&K people](#)

Daily Excelsior, 14 October 2009

SRINAGAR, Oct 13: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today expressed hope that Centre will simultaneously initiate a dialogue process with Pakistan and with all the sections of people in Jammu and Kashmir to address both external and internal aspects of Kashmir issue. "The dialogue process to address the external and internal aspects of Kashmir issue has to be carried out simultaneously ... in the past, separate processes between India and Pakistan and Centre and the State have not been of much help," Omar said at the inauguration of the two-day All India Editors' Conference at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) here.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct14/news.htm#1>

[Centre, provinces reach consensus on resource distribution](#)

The News, 14 October 2009

QUETTA/ISLAMABAD: After resolution of the issue of general sales tax (GST) on services, the centre and provinces on Tuesday struck another historic and win-win deal on a new formula to determine the gas development surcharge (GDS) with uniform wellhead price under which Balochistan will have 50 per cent more share in the GDS. Briefing media persons soon after the conclusion of two-day NFC meeting in Quetta, Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin said, "The longstanding issue of GDS has been resolved, which would mainly benefit Balochistan, while it has been decided to hand over GST on services to the provinces."

http://thenews.jang.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=24998

[Indian PM visit to southern Tibet sparks China's ire](#)

People's Daily, 14 October 2009

The Foreign Ministry of China said Tuesday that it was "seriously dissatisfied" by the visit of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to a disputed Himalayan region, marking the latest tense exchange between the two neighbors over border areas claimed by both. Ma Zhaoxu, spokesman of the ministry, accused the Indian leader of ignoring China's concerns by visiting southern Tibet, an area roughly the size of Austria.

<http://english1.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6782898.html>

[Indian hegemony continues to harm relations with neighbors](#)

People's Daily, 14 October 2009

Nobody can deny that today's India is a power. In recent years, Indians have become more narrow-minded and intolerable of outside criticism as nationalism sentiment rises, with some of them even turning to hegemony. It can be proved by India's recent provocation on border issues with China. Given the country's history, hegemony is a hundred-percent result of British colonialism. Dating back to the era of British India, the country covered a vast territory including present-day India,

Pakistan, Myanmar, Bangladesh as well as Nepal. India took it for granted that it could continue to rule the large area when Britain ended its colonialism in South Asia.

<http://english1.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90780/91343/6783357.html>

[India has nothing to do with Baloch insurgency: Tharoor](#)
The Hindu, 15 October 2009

India has no role in insurgency in Pakistan's Balochistan province and unlike "certain other countries" it does not follow the policy of destabilising its neighbours, Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor said on Thursday. Negating Pakistan's recent accusations about India's support to separatists in Balochistan, Mr. Tharoor said: "We have to make one thing very clear. We do not have a policy of destabilising our neighbours."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34394.ece>

[India, Russia to launch fifth generation fighter jets](#)
The Hindu, 15 October 2009

India and Russia will launch the joint fifth generation fighters by year-end and have agreed to collaborate to develop heavy lift cargo helicopters and futuristic infantry combat vehicles. The path for more hi-tech defence collaboration between Moscow and New Delhi was paved with the signing of the joint defence protocol by Defence Minister A.K. Antony and his Russian counterpart Anatoly Serdyukov.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34376.ece>

[PoK 'Prime Minister' resigns](#)
The Hindu, 15 October 2009

Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) "Prime Minister" Sardar Yaqoob Khan has resigned ahead of a planned no-confidence motion against him by the opposition parties in the Assembly. Mr. Khan said he was quitting to avoid a political controversy in the legislative Assembly and to discourage horse-trading. "I took this decision to discourage horse-trading in the Assembly and set a democratic tradition aimed at promoting democracy," Mr. Khan told reporters on Wednesday night after submitting his resignation to the PoK "President".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article34521.ece>

[Arunachal Pradesh very much part of India: Rahul](#)
The Hindu, 15 October 2009

Amid China's objection to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Arunachal Pradesh, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said the state is very much part of India. "Arunachal Pradesh is an Indian state, Tamil Nadu is an Indian state, Jharkhand is an Indian state. My attitude towards all the states is the same and it

will not be changed. For me Arunachal Pradesh is like any other state. It doesn't make any difference," he told reporters here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34251.ece>

[Pak Taliban chief threatens to dispatch militants to India](#)

The Hindu, 15 October 2009

As his militants wrought havoc in the country by a series of attacks and suicide blasts, Pakistani Taliban chief Hakimullah Mehsud has threatened to dispatch terrorists to fight India, "once an Islamic state had been created in Pakistan." "We want an Islamic state. If we get that, then we will go to the borders and help fight the Indians," Hakimullah Mehsud said in footage aired by Britain's Sky News channel.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34541.ece>

[Situation not conducive for talks with Pakistan: Farooq](#)

Daily Excelsior, 15 October 2009

KATHUA : Pointing out that Pakistan has its own attitude towards tackling militancy, Union Minister Farooq Abdullah said today the present situation was not conducive for re-starting Indo-Pak dialogue. "There has been an attack on our mission in Afghanistan after the Mumbai terror attack last year", he said, adding the militancy was also going on in Jammu and Kashmir and armed militants infiltrating from across the border.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct15/newsupdate.htm#4>

[India invites Pak for talks on Kishenganga project](#)

Daily Excelsior, 15 October 2009

NEW DELHI : India has invited Pakistan for talks over Kishenganga power project in Jammu and Kashmir, an issue over which Pakistan has threatened to move the World Bank for arbitration. Indus Water Commissioner G Ranganathan has written a letter to his Pakistani counterpart Syed Jamaat Ali Shah inviting him for discussing the issue, official sources said.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct15/newsupdate.htm#2>

[Russia to support resumption of Indo-Pak dialogue](#)

The News, 15 October 2009

BEIJING: Russia has announced its support for the resumption of the composite dialogue between Pakistan and India while Pakistan and Russia have decided to re-engage in comprehensive process of dialogue through re-launching of the inter-governmental commission of the two countries by December next. The commission will cater to revamping and building of infrastructure, energy, rail links, heavy industries, trade and expansion of the Pakistan Steel Mills.

http://thenews.jang.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?id=25017

[‘India, China determined to resolve border issue’](#)

The Hindu, 16 October 2009

In the backdrop of war of words over Arunachal Pradesh, India has said the recent developments have intensified the need for the two countries to resolve the outstanding issues with “more seriousness and determination.” Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao said the boundary issue between India and China is “one of the most complicated” border disputes in the world and both countries are determined to resolve it.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34972.ece>

[China looking at possible Wen-Manmohan meeting](#)

The Hindu, 16 October 2009

In the midst of a war of words between India and China, an official Chinese newspaper on Friday spoke of a possible meeting between the Prime Ministers of the two countries next week in Thailand. China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs did not rule out the possibility of a meeting between Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and Manmohan Singh taking place on the margins of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Thailand from October 23-25.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35037.ece>

[India notifies separation plan to IAEA](#)

The Hindu, 16 October 2009

India has notified its Separation Plan to the International Atomic Energy Agency, almost 14 months after the 35-member board of governors of the IAEA approved the country-specific nuclear safeguards agreement. The notification formalities were completed on Thursday night, a crucial step in paving way for the implementation of international civil nuclear cooperation, Department of Atomic Energy sources said. The India Specific Safeguards Agreement (ISSA) or the ‘umbrella’ agreement approved by consensus by the IAEA Board on August 1, 2008 can now officially enter into force formally separating India’s civilian and strategic nuclear establishments.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article34851.ece>

[India, US hope to clinch agreement on reprocessing n-fuel](#)

The Hindu, 16 October 2009

India and the US may clinch the much-awaited “arrangements and procedures” agreement on reprocessing the spent nuclear fuel of American origin when they meet in Vienna soon. The talks between officials of the nuclear establishments of the two countries are expected to take place within the next fortnight and will be observed very closely by US companies which are keen to set up nuclear power plants in India.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article28658.ece>

[Commonwealth Games Fed rejects Indian demands](#)

The Hindu, 16 October 2009

The Commonwealth Games Federation has rejected calls for the removal of its leading official in New Delhi and urged Indian organizers of next year's event instead to focus on the issues highlighted in a full review of the troubled preparations. Suresh Kalmadi, who heads the New Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games organizing committee, had demanded that the CGF remove its chief executive officer, Michael Hooper, from his operational role in the Indian capital and accused him of being an "impediment to functioning."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article34701.ece>

[Will walk extra mile if Pak acts against 26/11 attackers:India](#)

Daily Excelsior, 16 October 2009

NEW YORK : India is prepared to walk the "extra mile" to normalise relations with Pakistan if it takes action against the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks and dismantles terrorism infrastructure, Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor has said. Tharoor, who is on a visit here, said India was not interested in an environment of conflict and hostility with its neighbour and asked Pakistan to step up efforts to combat terrorism in a "holistic way".

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct16/newsupdate.htm#1>

[Manmohan discusses internal security with President](#)

The Hindu, 17 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday met President Pratibha Patil and discussed various national and international issues, including matters related to internal security. The meeting takes place against the backdrop of stepped up violence from Maoists and the government already clearing an anti-Naxal offensive. A Rashtrapati Bhavan spokesperson said the two leaders met for 30 minutes. "The Prime Minister called on the President and greeted her on occasion of Diwali.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35249.ece>

[Indian students thrashed, robbed in Australia](#)

The Hindu, 17 October 2009

Three Indian students in Australia were bashed and robbed on Thursday when they were returning home at night, The Age reported. The latest incident took place on Thursday night at around 10.30 pm (local time) when the victims were on their way home from Sunshine station along Anderson road, the daily reported. Three to four persons approached the victims from behind near Derby Road Reserve demanding their wallets and cellphones, the police said in the report.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35259.ece>

[Orissa police hopeful of central forces soon to tackle Maoists](#)

The Hindu, 17 October 2009

Orissa police on Saturday said they are hopeful of getting additional forces from the Centre soon to tackle Maoists menace that has affected 17 of the 30 districts of the state. "We are hopeful of getting additional force from the centre soon", Inspector General (IG) of police (operation) Sanjeev Marik told reporters here adding that the state government had already made accommodation facilities for the central para-military force (CPMF) jawans.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35306.ece>

[U.S. welcomes site allocation for nuclear plants](#)

The Hindu, 18 October 2009

The U.S. has welcomed India's allocation of sites for the construction of nuclear plants by U.S.-led companies. Russia has been given a site at Haripur in West Bengal, besides Koodankulam. French company Areva will start work at Jaitapur in Maharashtra. Anil Kakodkar, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, had said recently that the government would soon announce the sites. The grant of the sites to the U.S.-led consortia at Chhayamithi Virdi in Gujarat and Kovvada in Andhra Pradesh followed an agreement between the U.S. and India for expanded cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35557.ece>

[Climate change meet in Delhi from October 23](#)

The Hindu, 18 October 2009

Terming the Delhi High Level Conference on Climate Change scheduled for next week a step forward in the process of the international policy dialogue on technologies needed to address climate change, the government on Thursday approved the proposal to exchange letters of agreement with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) for providing necessary privileges and immunities to the UN-invited participants. This is in accordance with the Charter of the UN and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the UN.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/article34336.ece>

[Special Team formed to probe Margao blast](#)

The Hindu, 18 October 2009

A Special Investigating Team (SIT) was formed by the Goa Government on Sunday to probe the Margao blast in which two members of a Hindu organisation, allegedly involved in the explosion, were killed. The SIT probe announcement came even as Maharashtra's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) sleuths joined the State police in investigations and conducted searches at the office of the organisation — Sanatan Sanstha — in Nesai near Margao town, 30 km from here. The outfit is allegedly linked to 2008 Malegaon blast accused Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur,

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35521.ece>

[Autonomous body to look into broadcasting sector: Soni](#)

The Hindu, 18 October 2009

Minister for Information and Broadcasting Ambika Soni on Sunday categorically said the government is mandated to set up an independent mechanism, which would look at all aspects of the broadcasting sector. Speaking to Karan Thapar on his programme 'Devil's Advocate' on CNN-IBN, Ms. Soni specifically said the intention of the government was not to regulate television news channels.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35395.ece>

[Editorial: Looking ahead](#)

The Hindu, 18 October 2009

It is reassuring that a positive and statesmanlike initiative by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M. Karunanidhi has been matched by a like response from Sri Lankan President Mahinda Rajapaksa. There can be little doubt that the five-day visit by a group of ten parliamentarians of the State's ruling combine to Sri Lanka, for a first-hand assessment of the conditions of the nearly 250,000 war-displaced Tamils housed in government-run camps in the north, has contributed to a better understanding of the prevailing situation in the island nation. After months of confusion and misperceptions, influential sections of the Tamil Nadu polity have had a rare opportunity to come to terms with the realities of post-Prabakaran Sri Lanka.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article35128.ece>

[U.S. plane with Marines takes off](#)

The Hindu, 19 October 2009

A Bangkok-bound chartered U.S. plane carrying U.S. Marines among 205 passengers, which was ordered by authorities to land at Mumbai airport for flying over Indian airspace without getting mandatory military clearance, took off on Monday after being grounded for over 33 hours. The aircraft was ordered to land in Mumbai on Sunday (Oct. 18) after it entered Indian airspace without necessary permission. "The necessary regulatory permissions have been worked out," a Mumbai Air Traffic Control (ATC) official told PTI here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35912.ece>

[Central team to inspect ship Platinum-II near Alang](#)

The Hindu, 19 October 2009

A three-member team from the Union government, including the head of the Radiology safety Division from Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), will inspect ship Platinum-II, anchored near Alang and allegedly carrying toxic and radioactive substance, Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) officials said today. "A three-member team from the Central government has arrived here and are on their way to inspect the Platinum-II ship," the officials told PTI here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/sci-tech/article35979.ece>

[Security concerns holding back IPI pipeline, says Tharoor](#)

The Hindu, 19 October 2009

India has said that security considerations were delaying its participation in the tri-nation Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline, but it had not shut its doors on the project. "Its not that we're not interested and we certainly haven't shut the door on it. It's true we've pushed it to the back burner," Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor said on an online radio show here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36004.ece>

Situation in Pak very serious: Antony

The Hindu, 19 October 2009

Warning that the situation in Pakistan is "very serious", Defence Minister A.K. Antony on Monday said terrorism is "spreading" in that country and asserted that India is prepared to meet any challenge from Taliban militants. "The situation in Pakistan is very serious and terrorism is spreading," he told reporters on the sidelines of the Territorial Army Day parade here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35693.ece>

Editorial:How to end this discordance

The Hindu, 19 October 2009

The tone, although not the substance, of India-China relations has recently been through a problematical phase, with misperceptions and motivated media campaigns creating the impression of some kind of crisis. That this is not so has been made clear by the governments of both countries; in their own ways, they have made the point that the positive overall trend of the "China-India Strategic and Cooperative Partnership for Peace and Prosperity" remains unaffected.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article35560.ece>

India does not rule out spillover effect of Pak events

Daily Excelsior, 19 October 2009

NEW DELHI: Not ruling out the possibility of spillover effect of the "very serious" situation in Pakistan, India today said its defence forces are prepared to meet any challenge and expressed confidence that any threat, including that from Taliban, would be neutralised. "The situation in Pakistan is very serious and terrorism is spreading," Defence Minister A K Antony told reporters here when asked to comment on developments in the neighbouring country and Taliban threat to attack India.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct19/newsupdate.htm#1>

Chinese FM to attend foreign ministers' meeting of China, Russia, India

People's Daily, 20 October 2009

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi is to attend the foreign ministers' meeting of China, Russia and India next week, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ma Zhaoxu said in Beijing Tuesday afternoon. During the meeting to be held in Bangalore, India on Oct. 27, Yang will meet Indian Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna. Ma said the two foreign

ministers will, in an extensive way, exchange views on bilateral ties and regional and international issues of common concern.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6788835.html>

[I wanted to walk out of Agra summit: Musharraf](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

Former Pakistani president Pervez Musharraf has said he wanted to walk out of the failed 2001 Agra summit but was dissuaded from doing so by a senior official. His frustration, he told reporters in New York, stemmed from the fact that then Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had twice refused to include a reference to Kashmir in the joint declaration issued after the summit.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article36176.ece>

[Pak must end distinction between good and bad terrorists: Tharoor](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

Underlining that New Delhi has not seen any change in Pakistan's attitude towards terrorists working against India, a top Indian minister has said Islamabad must end the distinction between "good and bad terrorists". "One of the concerns we've had in recent years is that there appears to have been a tendency in some parts of the Pakistani establishment to think there are good terrorists and bad terrorists," said Shashi Tharoor, the Minister of State for External Affairs.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36080.ece>

['U.S. ready to support India to modernise its armed forces'](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

Pitching for robust India-U.S. military ties, U.S. Ambassador to India Timothy J. Roemer on Monday said that America is ready to support India's drive to modernise its armed forces. "The United States is ready to support India in its drive to modernise its armed forces," Mr. Roemer said, inaugurating the five-day Cope India 2009 joint air exercises here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article35777.ece>

[India, China to hold joint workshop on climate change](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

India and China will hold a joint workshop on National Action Plan on Climate Change here on Wednesday to share experiences on scientific, technical and policy aspects of global warming in the two countries. The decision to hold the workshop ahead of the Copenhagen summit on climate change in December has been taken in view of the National Action Plans drawn by both the countries on almost similar lines such as energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainable development.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36125.ece>

[Krishna to arrive in Moscow today, to attend IIRGC session](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

External Affairs Minister S M Krishna will arrive here on Tuesday on a two-day visit during which he will co-chair a session of Indo-Russian Intergovernmental Commission (IIRGC) to discuss ways to further consolidate the bilateral strategic partnership. Mr. Krishna and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Sobyanin will chair the 15th session of IIRGC meet tomorrow which will review the progress made by the two countries in bilateral cooperation in trade, economic, cultural, scientific and technical spheres.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36127.ece>

[Three killed in Maoist attack in Jharkhand](#)

The Hindu, 20 October 2009

Three persons, including the head of a naxal outfit, were killed and six others critically injured when Maoists attacked at Rajpur in the district in the early hours on Tuesday. The dead, identified as Umesh Mali, head of a naxal outfit 'Sastra People's Morcha' (SPM), Umesh Singh Bhokta, a local leader of Lok Janshakti Party and Ranjit Rajjak, were watching a cultural programme near Rajpur Middle School around 2 a.m., when a group of armed Maoists fired on them, District Superintendent of Police Deo Bihari Sharma said here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36098.ece>

[Self-rule agenda equivalent to de-facto freedom: PDP](#)

Daily Excelsior, 20 October 2009

SRINAGAR : Opposition party PDP today said the party's agenda of self-rule was equalvent to "de-facto" Azadi (freedom) without undermining the sovereignty of India and Pakistan. "Yes, self-rule is equalvent to de-facto Azadi... Freedom from siege. From mental, physical, political siege but without undermining the sovereignty of India and Pakistan", PDP President Mehbooba Mufti told reporters here.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct20/newsupdate.htm#2>

[Doctors continue stir: Govt constitutes committee](#)

Daily Excelsior, 20 October 2009

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government today constituted a six-member committee to take stock of the situation arising out of ongoing strike of agitating junior doctors in the State. Government doctors across the state are on an indefinite strike called by the Doctors Joint Action Committee (DJAC), demanding revision in their pay packages. The strike continued for the 16th day today even as the health-care services in both the Government Medical Colleges and several hospitals remained paralysed.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct20/newsupdate.htm#1>

[22 killed in train mishap near Mathura](#)

The Hindu, 21 October 2009

At least 22 people were killed and as many injured when a Delhi-bound Goa Express rammed into the stationary Mewar Express near here early on Wednesday. The Goa Express hit the Udaipur city-Hazrat Nizamuddin Mewar Express from behind between Mathura and Vrindavan at around 4.30 AM, apparently after its driver ignored the signals, railway officials said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/other-states/article36533.ece>

[CBI files charge sheet in Scarlett murder case](#)

The Hindu, 21 October 2009

The CBI on Wednesday charge sheeted two persons in connection with the 2008 murder case of British teenager Scarlett Keeling for allegedly outraging her modesty which led to her death. The charge sheet was filed against Samson D'Souza and Placido Carvalho and the duo was charged under sections 304 (II) culpable homicide not amounting to murder, 354 (assault or use of criminal force to a woman with an intent to outrage her modesty), 328 (administering stupefying drug with an intent to cause hurt).

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36772.ece>

[India, China sign MoA on climate change](#)

The Hindu, 21 October 2009

Reiterating that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Kyoto Protocol are the most appropriate framework for addressing climate change, India and China on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Agreement to establish a partnership in the area for strengthening dialogue and practical cooperation. They agreed to set up an India-China Working Group on Climate Change that will hold annual meetings alternately in China and India to exchange views on important issues concerning international negotiations and domestic policies and measures.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36828.ece>

[SAARC to make statement in Copenhagen](#)

The News, 21 October 2009

Member-states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) on Tuesday agreed to make a separate statement as an entity at the Copenhagen meet on climate change in December. This was decided at the Delhi Statement on Cooperation in Environment that was adopted at the end of the SAARC Ministerial meeting here. Environment Ministers of seven SAARC countries parties participated in the meet while Pakistan was represented by its Environment Secretary.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36525.ece>

[Manmohan to meet Wen in Thailand](#)

The Hindu, 21 October 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will meet Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in Thailand later this week, ahead of which the two sides struck a conciliatory tone saying the ties were on a "very good term" and the boundary disputes can be resolved amicably. Both India and China on Wednesday confirmed the meeting between Mr. Singh and Mr. Wen in Hua Hin beach town on the margins of the ASEAN and East Asia Summits on October 24 and 25.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36733.ece>

[CM hopes for resumption of Indo-Pak talks](#)

Daily Excelsior, 21 October 2009

SRINAGAR: Welcoming the Centre's decision to start internal dialogue with "everyone", Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed the hope that the process of interaction between India and Pakistan will also resume soon. He asserted that problems are not solved through the barrel of gun or bloodshed and expressed the hope that the internal talks would be result-oriented. However, the Chief Minister said there is a need to assess and analyze the earlier dialogue processes and carry forward them with an aim to achieve the result.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct21/newsupdate.htm#3>

[India would be responsible for any further Mumbai attacks-like incident if they occur in the country](#)

The News, 21 October 2009

ISLAMABAD : Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik Wednesday said India would be responsible for any further Mumbai attacks-like incident if they occur in the country. Talking to media here, he said India is involved in worsening the situation in Balochistan, which could be borne out with clear-cut evidences. Jundullah's Chief Abdul Malik Regi is in Afghanistan and Iran has been apprised of his hideout, he informed. Commenting upon the Indian allegations, Malik warned against them, saying Indian Home Minister should see about their home first, as it is beset with flaws and failings, adding criticizing Pakistan would not set their issues right.

<http://thenews.jang.com.pk/updates.asp?id=89652>

[China-India MoA on climate change co-op conducive to positive results of Copenhagen meeting reddit](#)

People's Daily, 22 October 2009

The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on cooperation in dealing with climate change signed by China and India is conducive to the positive results of the upcoming Copenhagen meeting, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ma Zhaoxu said Thursday. At a regular press briefing, Ma said, the agreement was signed by Xie

Zhenhua, vice minister of the National Development and Reform Commission of China, and Jairam Ramesh, Minister of Environment and Forestry of India, at the national action plan joint meeting on climate change held by the two governments Wednesday.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6791434.html>

[EGoM to consider allocation of gas to power, refinery firms](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

An Empowered Group of Ministers headed by Finance Minister Pranab Mukerjee will meet shortly to decide on allocation of natural gas produced by Reliance Industries to users in power, petrochemical and refinery sectors. The seven-member EGoM (a Cabinet sub-committee) may meet as early as this week, sources said. RIL now has capacity to produce at least 65 million cubic meters per day (mmscmd) of gas from its eastern offshore KG-D6 fields but is forced to restrict the output to under 35 mmscmd for lack of government-identified buyers.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/business/companies/article371177.ece>

[Abducted officer will be released: Kishenji](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

Abducted police officer Atindranath Dutta will be released as the women who were arrested by security forces from Lalgah were granted bail on Thursday, Maoist leader Kishenji said. He told PTI over phone, "Atindranath Dutta, who was taken as a 'Prisoner of War' on Tuesday from Sankrail police station, will be released." On a question if the government has accepted the demand of releasing the women, Kishenji said there were 15 women altogether whose bail applications were taken up by a court today.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article371103.ece>

[23 Indians picked up in U.K.](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

Twenty-three Indians were picked up in a major operation to arrest illegal immigrants in Norfolk in England on Thursday. Five multi-agency teams carried out warrants to search for suspected illegal immigrants at various locations in Thetford, officials said. Twenty-three Indians, five Hungarians and three Polish workers were found, while three were detained by the U.K. Border Agency and taken to the Harwich port on the Essex coast for "immigration procedures," media reports said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article37320.ece>

[Navy to get dedicated communication satellite next year](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

Defence Minister A.K. Antony on Thursday said the Navy, tasked with the overall responsibility of coastal security, is preparing Standard Operating Procedures with other stakeholders to face threats such as the Mumbai terror attacks. And the Navy would get a dedicated communication satellite next year. "Numerous measures have been initiated after 26/11 to enhance coastal security. The Navy, assisted by the Coast Guard and other stakeholders in the maritime domain, is playing a proactive role to bring about synergy and establish the Standard Operating Procedures in coordination with the States," Mr. Antony said at a conference of Navy commanders here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37315.ece>

[Advantage Congress in Assembly elections](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

It was advantage Congress all the way as results came in on Thursday for the Assembly elections in Maharashtra, Haryana and Arunachal Pradesh. Standing at midpoint in a house of 288, the party was set to form a government with decade-old ally, the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), in Maharashtra and it swept Arunachal Pradesh winning 42 of the 60 seats. But in Haryana, seen as the best bet for the Congress ahead of the polls, it was stuck five short of the bare majority mark, creating some uncertainty as to who would be able to put the required numbers together.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36941.ece>

[Indian Navy has a plan to deal with sea piracy: Chidambaram](#)

The Hindu, 22 October 2009

As Somali pirates seized one more ship carrying 24 Indians, the Union government on Thursday said the Indian Navy has a plan to deal with hijacking of vessels on the high seas. Home Minister P Chidambaram said the Indian Navy has earlier undertaken missions and rescued a number of hijacked ships. "I think, the Navy has a plan," he told reporters here when referred to the fresh case of a ship, with 24 Indians on board, being hijacked in Seychelles and asked whether the government was doing anything to beef up security.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37290.ece>

[Dalai Lama to Visit Indian Region Claimed by China](#)

NYT, 22 October 2009

BEIJING — Despite protests by the Chinese government, the Dalai Lama is going ahead with plans to visit a heavily militarized Tibetan Buddhist area in northeast India that is the focus of an intense territorial dispute between China and India, a Tibetan official in India said Thursday. The Dalai Lama, 74, the spiritual leader of the Tibetans, is expected to visit the state of Arunachal Pradesh from Nov. 8 to Nov. 15, the official said in an e-mail message. China considers the Dalai Lama, who lives in exile in the Indian hill town of Dharamsala, to be a separatist who advocates Tibetan independence. The Dalai Lama insists he wants only true autonomy for Tibet, which the Chinese Army invaded in 1951. On Tuesday, a spokesman for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, Ma Zhaoxu, said China "firmly opposed" the Dalai Lama's visit to the region, according to Xinhua, the state news agency. "We believe that this further exposes the Dalai Lama clique's anti-China and separatist nature," Mr. Ma said.

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/23/world/asia/23dalailama.html?_r=1&ref=asia&pagewanted=print

[Dalai Lama goes further down traitorous road](#)

People's Daily - Tibet, 23 October 2009

The Dalai Lama clique cooperates closely with India whenever Sino-Indian border negotiations are being held or the Indian side is maliciously speculating over a border dispute. Furthermore, his words and deeds are becoming increasingly inappropriate. According to a report posted on the Times of India website on June 4 2008, when interviewed by a reporter from the New Indian Express, the Dalai Lama

openly said that the McMahon Line created in accordance with the Shimla Agreement in 1994 is a legitimate boundary line. The Dalai Lama believes that judging from the above-mentioned agreement signed between Tibet and the British Government, Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India.

<http://chinatibet.people.com.cn/6791227.html>

[Govt. to hold auction of 3G spectrum in January](#)

The Hindu, 23 October 2009

The government will hold the auction of 3G spectrum during January 7-10 next year and is likely to give out soon details of time schedule and eligibility criteria of prospective bidders. When contacted official sources confirmed that Telecom Minister A. Raja has cleared the Information Memorandum (details of timing and eligibility criteria). The move comes within a week of Mr. Raja writing a letter to Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee seeking his intervention to resolve some of the issues with the Defence Ministry, which has refused to release the required spectrum.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37772.ece>

[India hopes Pakistan nuclear arsenal is safe](#)

The Hindu, 23 October 2009

India on Friday expressed the hope that Pakistan government would "effectively secure" its nuclear assets, amid rising concerns over their safety in the wake of a terror strike at a facility housing such arsenal in that country. "We have seen reports of what happened today at Kamra (in Pakistan). We hope the Pakistan government will continue to take steps to effectively secure their nuclear assets," Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao told journalists here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37725.ece>

[CBI searches on at 19 places, including telecom firms](#)

The Hindu, 23 October 2009

The CBI on Friday searched offices of the Telecom Ministry for the second day and also visited a number of private operators in connection with alleged irregularities in the allocation of spectrum to new operators. According to sources in the CBI, the agency searched a total of 19 premises, including offices of 10 telecom companies and some of the offices of the DoT. They, however, declined to name the telecom firms.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article37691.ece>

[India looks east amidst changing Asian equations](#)

The Hindu, 23 October 2009

Amidst renewed debate on the future structure of cooperation in East Asia, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh arrived at this beach resort on the Gulf of Siam Friday for back to back regional summits carrying one big message: the evolving Asian economic community should be based on "an open and inclusive regional architecture". But in a part of the world where China has risen, India is rising, Japan has declined and the United States is looking to reprise its Cold War role as a leading 'Asian' power, everything hinges on the question: how open should open be? As of

now, there is little clarity on the matter.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37747.ece>

[Bhattacharjee meets Chidambaram; discusses naxal surge](#)

The Hindu, 23 October 2009

West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee on Friday met Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram and is understood to have discussed issues related to the naxal surge in the State. Issues related to the anti-naxal operation in Lalgarh and the deployment of Central paramilitary forces in the State were believed to have been discussed, sources said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article37698.ece>

[Pak army shifts ultras from LoC to Govt buildings](#)

Daily Excelsior, 23 October 2009

JAMMU, Oct 22: Pakistan army is reported to have been shifting the militants lodged in its forward posts and pickets across Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) to the Government buildings close to LoC with a strategy to keep them near the border for a longer period and push them into this side after getting an opportunity. Intelligence sources told the Excelsior that Pakistan army, Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and militant commanders have shifted the ultras especially from those pickets of army on the forward areas, which were clearly visible from the posts of Indian troops on this side.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct23/news1.htm#2>

[Yangon unhappy over Dhaka's bid for UN arbitration](#)

Daily Star, 23 October 2009

Myanmar is disappointed as Bangladesh decided to take the maritime boundary delimitation issue to arbitration at the United Nations. As India and Myanmar have started developing their offshore resources, Bangladesh government opted for UN arbitration. "When Bangladesh has decided to take the issue of delimitation of maritime boundary to arbitration at the UN, we were a little (bit) disappointed," Myanmar Ambassador in Dhaka Phae Thann Oo told UNB in an interview.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=111084>

[Quake costs 10th Plan](#)

Kuensel, 23 October 2009

The September 21 earthquake has cost the government Nu 2.5 billion and could delay programmes in the 10th Plan, which is already short by Nu 4.8b for the second year (2009-2010) of the plan period. The government needs Nu 2,192m for early recovery, reconstruction and disaster risk reduction, according to the final cost assessment report released yesterday. The amount is almost 70 percent of the annual net revenue of Tala, the country's biggest hydropower project. Prime Minister Lyonchhoen Jigmi Y Thinley said that the government is concerned that the

earthquake would cost programmes in the 10th Plan, but "there has been a heartening response from the international community and developing partners, especially India, UN and Turkey to support the reconstruction".

<http://www.kuenselonline.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=13789>

[Sri Lanka Pressed to Investigate Possible Atrocities](#)

NYT, 23 October 2009

NEW DELHI — International pressure is mounting on Sri Lanka's government to investigate atrocities that may have been committed during the final stages of its war with the Tamil Tiger insurgency as two new reports from the European Union and the State Department detailing alleged human rights abuses were released this week. The reports come as Sri Lanka also faces intensifying criticism for its decision to keep more than 250,000 Tamils who were displaced by the fighting in closed camps that critics have likened to internment camps. The government said it plans to allow 80 percent of these people to return to their homes by the end of January, but insists that it must first weed out any remaining Tamil Tiger rebels hiding among them.

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/24/world/asia/24lanka.html?_r=1&ref=asia&page_wanted=print

[Chinese, Indian PMs meet on bilateral ties](#)

People's Daily, 24 October 2009

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao met with his Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh here on Saturday to discuss bilateral ties and issues of common concern. "We have reached important consensus on promoting bilateral ties, and I believe that our two countries could maintain a good relationship in the future, which conforms with the interests of the two countries and I have confidence about that," Wen said at the beginning of the talks.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6792751.html>

[Dorjee Khandu elected CLP leader in Arunachal](#)

The Hindu, 24 October 2009

Dorjee Khandu is all set to become the chief minister of the northeastern state of Arunachal Pradesh for the second straight term with the newly elected Congress legislators on Saturday unanimously electing him the leader of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP). Mr. Khandu was the unanimous choice at the CLP meeting held in Itanagar. "All the 42 newly elected Congress legislators were present," a senior Congress leader said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/states/other-states/article38002.ece>

[Bengal cites Rubaiya, IC-814 to justify its deal with Maoists](#)

Indian Express, 24 October 2009

The West Bengal government today admitted that it had given in to the Maoists' demands — and helped free 22 suspects — to secure yesterday's release of Atindranath Dutta, the abducted Officer in Charge (OC) of the Sankrail police

station. Home Secretary Ardhendu Sen justified the decision by claiming that India was a “soft” state. And cited the release of militants in the 1989 Rubaiya Sayeed kidnapping case and the 1999 IC-814 Kandahar hijack as precedents.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/bengal-cites-rubaiya-ic814-to-justify-its-deal-with-maoists/532655/>

[Brahmaputra dam, Arunachal, visas on table, Singh meets Wen today](#)
Indian Express, 24 October 2009

The most anticipated meeting of the ASEAN and East Asia Summit will take place at the Thai beach resort town of Hua Hin tomorrow. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will meet with Chinese premier Wen Jiabao at 9 am India time — 10.30 am in Thailand — at the club room of the luxurious Dusit Thani Hua Hin Hotel. Immediately afterward, at 11.30 am, Singh is scheduled to meet with Yukio Hatoyama, the Prime Minister of Japan. He will be accompanied by Secretary (East) N Ravi and Joint Secretary (East Asia division) Vijay Gokhle — who handles the China-Japan desk in the Ministry of External Affairs and speaks fluent Mandarin — at the talks with Wen and Hatoyama.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/brahmaputra-dam-arunachal-visas-on-table-singh-meets-wen-today/532651/>

[Pak troops open fire; jawan injured](#)
Daily Excelsior, 24 October 2009

POONCH: In a fresh ceasefire violation, Pakistani troops today fired on an Indian post in Mendhar sector of Poonch district leaving an army jawan injured. Pakistani troops, using LMGs and MMGs, fired on Kripan post in Mendhar sector of this border district from 0930 hours to 1030 hours, defence sources said, adding they fired approximately 500 rounds. Indian troops also retaliated, after which the firing stopped at around 1030 hours.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct24/newsupdate.htm#2>

[Border issue with China complex: Manmohan](#)
The Hindu, 25 October 2009

Describing the boundary question with China as a “complex issue”, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday said it cannot be “wished away” and both sides have an obligation to maintain peace and tranquillity pending a solution. A day after he met his Chinese counterpart Wen Jiabao here on the sidelines of the ASEAN-India and East Asia Summits and talked about the border row, Singh said Foreign Ministers of the two countries would discuss the problem in detail when they meet in Bangalore on Tuesday.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article38386.ece>

[No Asia without us, India reminds Asean, Japan](#)
The Hindu, 25 October 2009

Seeking to up the level of engagement with Asean, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday proposed the establishment of a joint task force that could ensure a “substantive outcome” for India’s 10th summit with the South-east Asian grouping in

2012 and also offered to play host to the bilateral gathering that year. In a further reminder of the centrality of India to the emerging institutional arrangements in Asia, he also urged Japan's new Prime Minister, Yukio Hatayama, whom he met on the sidelines of the Asean summit, to use the existing East Asia Summit platform — which includes India — as the building block for his proposed East Asian Community.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article38277.ece>

[Army could take 20 years to bridge officer shortage](#)

The Hindu, 25 October 2009

Bogged down by shortage of 11,500 officers due to low intake at military academies and a high rate of premature retirements, the army has indicated to its leadership that it will take 20 years of best efforts to fill up the vacancies. In an internal study, the army has said the projection was conditional and the vacancies could be filled up in two decades only if training capacities in the academies are increased and the exit rate of officers wanting to retire prematurely is kept low.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38341.ece>

[Dalai visit to Arunachal yet to be cleared by ministry: Khandu](#)

The Hindu, 25 October 2009

The proposed visit of the Dalai Lama to Arunachal Pradesh next month is yet to get clearance from the External Affairs Ministry, according to Chief Minister Dorjee Khandu. Addressing his first press conference after taking oath as Chief Minister for the second time, Khandu said he got to know about the receipt of a communication by the Tawang deputy commissioner from Dharamsala on the Tibetan spiritual leader's week-long trip.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38367.ece>

[Pak plans to push terrorists to create mayhem in India: Chidambaram](#)

The Hindu, 25 October 2009

Pakistan-based terror organisations Lashkar-e-Toiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed and Hizbul Mujahideen are planning to infiltrate terrorists into India to "create mayhem", Home Minister P. Chidambaram said on Sunday, asserting that the country's security forces were, however, prepared to meet any external threat. He said Pakistan has no will to prosecute and punish the perpetrators of last year's Mumbai attacks and voiced concern over the spread of Taliban in that country, apprehending that the danger could spread to the rest of South Asia including India.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38343.ece>

[J&K quiet diplomacy to consider all issues brought to table:PC](#)

Daily Excelsior, 25 October 2009

NEW DELHI : Union Home Minister P Chidambaram today said that the "quiet diplomacy" promised with "every shade of political opinion" in Jammu and Kashmir will consider "everything that is brought to the table". He indicated that separatist Hurriyat Conference will be part of the dialogue that will also cover issues like autonomy in the State. He also said that the issue of amendments to the Armed

Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), which the state would like to be withdrawn, was before the Cabinet.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct25/newsupdate.htm#1>

[Pak army violates cease-fire to push infiltrators on LoC](#)

Daily Excelsior, 25 October 2009

JAMMU, Oct 24: After making repeated abortive attempts to facilitate infiltration from the Line of Control (LoC) during night hours, Pakistan army today targeted Indian Army posts at Krishna Ghati sector in broad day light reportedly with an aim to create confusion and push militants from other areas. Three Army jawans were injured, one of them seriously, in firing by Pakistani troops. Official sources said Pakistan army opened firing with LMG, MMG and some small arms from their Battalion post targeting Kirpan and surrounding posts of Indian troops in Krishna Ghati sector at 9.25 am.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct25/news.htm#2>

[New ISRO chief highly competent: Madhavan Nair](#)

The Hindu, 26 October 2009

Exuding confidence that India's space programme will soar fresh heights under new ISRO chief K Radhakrishnan, its outgoing chairman G Madhavan Nair on Monday said his successor will be able to carry forward the agency's plans, including the most challenging manned moon mission to space. "He (Radhakrishnan) is a talented and highly competent scientist. He knows things as he has been there in ISRO for 35 years. He will be able to carry forward our plans. We have drawn up plans for 2020-25," Mr. Nair told reporters at the airport here in the presence of Radhakrishnan.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/article38691.ece>

[India concerned over diversion of US aid by Pak: Tharoor](#)

The Hindu, 26 October 2009

India supports US efforts in Pakistan, but is concerned about the diversion of American aid and military equipment by Islamabad against it. "We have actually applauded the US supporting Pakistan on two things. First is its own economic development, and the second is equipping it to overcome the homegrown horror of terrorism," Minister of State for External Affairs Shashi Tharoor said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38769.ece>

[Amendment to RTI Act 'an obviously retrograde step'](#)

The Hindu, 26 October 2009

More than 200 eminent citizens have urged Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to abandon the "ill advised move to amend the RTI Act". This is the full text of the letter signed by Aruna Roy, Magsaysay Award winner, and others. 25th October, 2009, Dear Dr. Manmohan Singh, We are alarmed and distressed to learn from media reports that the Government of India proposes to introduce amendments to the RTI Act. This is despite categorical assurances by the Minister of State, DoPT that any amendments, if at all necessary, would only be decided upon after consultations with the public. We are further dismayed to read that far from strengthening the RTI Act, as stated by the Honourable President of India during her speech to the Parliament on 4th June 2009, the government's proposition would in fact emasculate the RTI Act. The proposed amendments include, introducing an exemption for so-called

“vexatious and frivolous” applications, and by excluding from the purview of the RTI Act access to “file notings” and the decision making process, this time by excluding “discussion/consultations that take place before arriving at a decision”.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38610.ece>

[Dalai Lama India's honoured guest, PM tells Wen Jiabao](#)

Indian Express, 26 October 2009

Rebuffing Beijing's wish that New Delhi bar the Dalai Lama from travelling to Arunachal Pradesh, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has told Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao that the Tibetan spiritual leader was an “honoured guest”. The Dalai Lama plans to visit Arunachal Pradesh early next month. “I explained to the Premier (Wen) last night that the Dalai Lama is our honoured guest. He is a religious leader.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/dalai-lama-indias-honoured-guest-pm-tells-wen-jiabao/533337/>

[employment visas for Chinese workers in India](#)

Indian Express, 26 October 2009

The Centre's decision to insist on employment visas for Chinese workers in India has upset the government of Himachal Pradesh where, in the Theog-Rohru apple cultivation belt, Chinese workers and engineers have been made to stop work on a road project, key to the shelf life of the state's famed produce.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/visa-rules-take-chinese-off-apple-belt-road-project-himachal-govt-upset/533334/>

[Chinese, Russian and Indian FMs reach major consensus at meeting in Bangalore](#)

People's Daily, 27 October 2009

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi Tuesday met with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov and Indian counterpart S.M. Krishna in the southern Indian city at the 9th meeting of foreign ministers of the three countries. The ministers exchanged in depth views on deepening trilateral cooperation and on international and regional issues of common concern, and reached important consensus.

<http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6795622.html>

[India, China and Russia agree to enhance cooperation](#)

The Hindu, 27 October 2009

India, Russia and China on Tuesday agreed to closely cooperate in the fight against terrorism emanating from Pakistan and Afghanistan to provide stability to the region. The three countries also decided to give impetus to their trilateral relations in various areas including health, agriculture and disaster mitigation besides deciding to cooperate closely on climate change and reducing the impact of global recession.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article39284.ece>

[Sibal to meet US officials on education sector](#)

The Hindu, 27 October 2009

Union Human and Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal is slated to meet top officials of the Obama Administration later this week as part of the endeavour of the two countries to forge greater collaboration in the field of education. During the visit

of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, to India in July, education was identified as one of the pillars of deepening relationship between the two countries.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39147.ece>

[RBI initiates first phase of exit policy](#)

The Hindu, 27 October 2009

Amid the discussion on when the government would withdraw the fiscal stimulus, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Tuesday said it has started exiting the accommodative monetary policy. The Reserve Bank, which today reviewed its monetary policy, increased statutory liquidity ratio (SLR), which requires banks to keep a portion of their deposits in government bonds, gold etc, by one percentage points to 25 points among other steps.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/business/article39411.ece>

[Indian pilgrims advised not to travel to Pakistan](#)

The Hindu, 27 October 2009

As Pakistan witnesses a spurt in terror attacks, the Government on Tuesday issued a travel advisory asking Indian pilgrims against visiting that country. "Government of India is of the view that it is not advisable for Indian pilgrims to visit Pakistan in the prevailing situation when frequent terrorist attacks are taking place in Punjab province of Pakistan, where all Gurudwaras are situated," the advisory said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39253.ece>

[World Bank loan to India unwarranted, says Bardhan](#)

The Hindu, 27 October 2009

The World Bank loan to re-capitalise Indian banks is both unwarranted and avoidable, General Secretary of Communist Party of India (CPI), A. B. Bardhan has said. In his letter to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Mr. Bardhan said, "I learnt with deep concern that the Government has approached the World Bank for a \$3 billion loan to capitalise our public sector undertaking (PSU) banks and am further worried to learn that the World Bank has already sanctioned a sum of \$2 billion as the first instalment."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39476.ece>

[Forces on alert on eve of PM's Kashmir visit](#)

Daily Excelsior, 27 October 2009

SRINAGAR: Security forces across the Kashmir valley have been put on maximum alert with firm instructions to foil any militant attempt to cause disturbances during the two-day visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh from tomorrow. Dr Singh is arriving here to dedicate the 18-km-long Anantnag-Qazigund rail link to people of Kashmir.

"We have deployed additional forces in the entire Anantnag district to ensure peaceful function," official sources said.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct27/newsupdate.htm#3>

[India can count on help in tackling terror: Roemer](#)

The Hindu, 28 October 2009

India could look forward to American help in anti-terror measures such as the setting

up a national counter-terrorism cell and rapid deployment of forces at the time of terror strikes besides sharing 'actionable intelligence,' U.S. Ambassador to India Timothy J. Roemer said here on Wednesday. He was responding to a question at a press conference on the outcome of the recent visit of Home Minister P. Chidambaram to the U.S. and the cooperation between the two countries in fighting terror.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article36834.ece>

[Pak. should destroy terror groups wherever they are operating: Manmohan](#)
The Hindu, 28 October 2009

In a fresh initiative, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today expressed the Centre's willingness to "talk to anyone" having "meaningful ideas" to promote peace in Jammu and Kashmir and offered to resume dialogues with Pakistan provided it curbed activities of those engaged in terrorism in India. Flanked by Congress President Sonia Gandhi and State leaders — Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, Union Ministers Farooq Abdullah and Ghulam Nabi Azad and former Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed — Dr. Singh announced the Centre's assistance to a series of development measures in the State at a public meeting here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39755.ece>

[Quiet diplomacy in J&K will consider all issues: Chidambaram](#)
The Hindu, 28 October 2009

Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram on Sunday said the "quiet diplomacy" promised with "every shade of political opinion" in Jammu and Kashmir will consider "everything that is brought to the table." He indicated that the separatist Hurriyat Conference will also be part of the dialogue that will also cover issues like autonomy in the State.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article38491.ece>

[Russia, India, China for concerted action](#)
The Hindu, 28 October 2009

The Foreign Ministers of Russia, India and China (RIC) on Tuesday pushed their trilateral dialogue towards a strategic dimension by coordinating their approaches on several pressing international issues including terrorism and climate change. Sergei Lavrov (Russia) and Yang Jiechi (China) came out strongly in support of India in its fight against terrorism and called for the implementation and "strict observance" of all United Nations resolutions on the issue.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39622.ece>

[India, Britain natural partners: Pratibha](#)
The Hindu, 28 October 2009

Drawing a parallel between the traditions of diversity and democracy embraced by India and Britain, President Pratibha Patil on Tuesday described the two countries as "natural partners" who are set to shape the course of the 21st century. "Our bilateral relations have been, for some time now, perhaps better than they have ever been before — we are conscious of the need to continuously nurture it," the President told a gathering of some 150 guests at a state banquet hosted in her honour by Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's reigning monarch, in Windsor Castle.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article39698.ece>

[Ethno-nationalism: theory and practice](#)

The Hindu, 28 October 2009

In the beginning it was Indian nationalism, an idea that took birth from the very forces in opposition to which it was mobilised: the European powers, principally England, that rapaciously colonised this land, and their more progressive ideological aspect, European Enlightenment, integral and causally linked to this colonial rapacity and cruelty to which, when necessary, it also provided rationalisations. It is true that some ideologues of Indian nationalism maintain that the idea of an Indian nation, indeed the reality of a complexly structured and administered Indian state, goes back deep into history, to historical figures like Mauryan king Ashoka, if not to pre-historic figures of myth and legend like Ramachandra of Ayodhya.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/lead/article39650.ece>

[Manmohan, Sonia arrives on two-day visit](#)

Daily Excelsior, 28 October 2009

SRINAGAR : Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi arrived here today on a two-day visit to Kashmir valley. They were accompanied by Union Ministers Mamata Banerjee, Ghulam Nabi Azad, Dr Farooq Abdullah, Prithviraj Chavan and K H Muniyappa. Dr Singh was received at the airport by Jammu and Kashmir Governor N N Vohra, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, his Cabinet colleagues, senior Army, paramilitary and police officers.

<http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09oct28/newsupdate.htm#1>

[Raja takes on BJP over spectrum distribution](#)

The Hindu, 30 October 2009

Facing allegations of irregularities in spectrum allotment, Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology A. Raja on Friday hit out at the BJP saying free distribution of radio frequency among operators during the NDA regime may have cost the country over Rs 1.6 lakh crore. Alleging that the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance regime had distributed for free, 250 Mega Hertz of spectrum among the telecom operators, he told reporters that "the scam during the NDA regime could be worth much more than Rs 1.6 lakh crore."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article40794.ece>

['Special forces being modernised to deal with asymmetric warfare'](#)

The Hindu, 30 October 2009

Army Chief General Deepak Kapoor has said that asymmetric warfare was a "matter of concern" for the country and the Special Forces were being modernised and equipped to deal with it. "There is a whole set of new equipment which we have thought of for the Para (Special Forces) modernisation, especially in view of the fact that asymmetric and fourth generation warfare are a matter for concern," Gen. Kapoor told PTI on the sidelines of the Parachute Regiment reunion here.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article40945.ece>

[Inferno rages at IOC depot; six officials dead](#)

The Hindu, 30 October 2009

The inferno at the IOC fuel depot near here continued as army personnel assisted

local authorities in bringing the flames under control 18 hours after the fire broke out on Thursday night. Six company officials were dead and 150 persons injured in the fire mishap. Petroleum Minister Murli Deora, who rushed here to take stock of the situation, said the fire has to die down on its own and there was "no other solution. There is nothing else one can do. There is no other solution or alternative".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article40689.ece>

[Allegation of corruption is not proof: Pranab](#)
The Hindu, 30 October 2009

In the face of controversy over Telecom Minister A Raja's role in spectrum allocation, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee today said allegation of corruption is not a proof. Asked if he was giving a clean chit to Telecom Minister A Raja, whose department has come under scanner over awarding licences to new players, and whether the UPA coalition is winking at corruption, he said, "I am not talking of that. In coalition, there is no coalition in corruption."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article40972.ece>

[India, Switzerland to discuss tax treaty in Nov.](#)
The Hindu, 30 October 2009

Amid allegations of black money being stashed in Swiss banks, India and Switzerland have advanced their talks on amending the taxation treaty by a month to the second week of November. The discussions on renegotiating the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA), which comes in the wake of India seeking details of the black money stashed in Swiss banks, was earlier scheduled to be held in December.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article40946.ece>

[Investigations in India Point to New Government Focus on Corruption](#)
NYT, 30 October 2009

Less than a year after India was rocked by a large fraud at one of its biggest technology companies, Indian authorities are starting a raft of high-profile corporate investigations. On Thursday, Sesa Goa, the country's biggest exporter of iron ore, confirmed that the Serious Fraud Investigation Office had begun an inquiry into "mismanagement, malpractices, financial and other irregularities" at the company. Regulators have sought documents dating to 2001. Other government agencies are investigating the finances of India's second-largest mobile phone company, allegations of favoritism against an energy regulator and irregularities in how the Telecommunications Ministry handed out cellular licenses nearly two years ago.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/10/30/business/global/30fraud.html?ref=asia&pagewanted=print>