

[Private airlines threaten to suspend flights on Aug. 18](#)

Hindu, 1 August 2009

Mumbai: Private airlines have threatened to suspend operations on August 18 if the government does not come out with a bailout package for them. The airlines, under the aegis of the Federation of Indian Airlines (FIA), said total losses for the private aviation sector were expected to be Rs. 10,000 crore in 2008-09. The aviation turbine fuel (ATF) taxes were unviable as the estimated airline levies stood at \$250 million

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/01/stories/2009080157380100.htm>

[Omar resumes office, seeks co-operation from opposition](#)

Daily Excelsior, 1 August 2009

SRINAGAR, July 31: A day after Governor N N Vohra absolved him of the sex slur, Omar Abdullah today resumed work as Chief Minister of the State by attending office and chairing a Cabinet meeting. Omar had tendered a conditional resignation to Vohra on Tuesday after opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP) leader Muzaffar Hussain Beigh claimed on the Floor of Legislative Assembly that the Chief Minister's name had figured in the infamous sex scandal case of 2006

[Manmohan reviews security situation](#)

Hindu, 2 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday held a meeting of the National Security Council and reviewed the security situation in the country and the region. The meeting came in the backdrop of intelligence reports of possible threat via sea on the West Coast. The Indian Navy and the Coast Guard had on Friday reported that its ships had stepped up patrolling off the Konkan coast following intelligence inputs from the Goa police that a suspicious ship was sailing towards the State

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/02/stories/2009080250060100.htm>

[26/11: India responds to latest queries](#)

Hindu, 2 August 2009

NEW DELHI: India's response to the latest set of questions sent by Pakistan in connection with their investigations into the 26/11 terror attack in Mumbai has been handed over to the Pakistan High Commission here. Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram said on Saturday that a seven-page response with annexures was given to the External Affairs Ministry for transmission to the Pakistani government

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/02/stories/2009080256560100.htm>

[Praful talks tough to private airlines](#)

Hindu, 2 August 2009

NEW DELHI: A day after private airlines threatened to go on a day's strike on August 18, the Centre has decided to act tough. The Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), the regulatory body of airlines in the country, on Saturday asked private airlines to formally inform it of the reasons behind their decision

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/02/stories/2009080256590100.htm>

[Man killed in Chhattisgarh for not attending Maoist meet](#)
Hindustan Times, 2 August 2009

Maoist militants have killed a tribal man for not attending a public meeting organised by them in Chhattisgarh's Surguja district, police said on Saturday. The rebels gunned down a Pahari Korva tribe member and assaulted his family members late Friday in Bhutha village in Surguja district, about 500 km from Raipur. "There is a report that Maoists forced a tribal family to attend their meeting. When they did not do so, the rebels shot dead the head of the family and beat up others," Director General of Police Vishwaranjan told reporters Raipur

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=d355bc5a-2031-4fb2-8d77-f843e2385203&Headline=Man+killed+for+not+attending+Maoist+meet>

[Militants shoot cop dead; 2 CRPF jawans critically hurt in simultaneous strike](#)

Tribune, 2 August 2009

Militants carried out coordinated strikes in the heart of the summer capital today, first time this year, and shot at two CRPF personnel on duty on the busy Residency Road and a policeman in Batamaloo. While the policeman died on the spot, both CRPF jawans, who received bullet injuries in vital body parts, were critical. An injured CRPF jawan, BD Ghosh from West Bengal, was in the ICU, while another jawan Firdous Bhat from Kashmir was also battling for life. A Congress convention presided over by its state president Saifuddin Soz was underway at a nearby hotel and went on uninterrupted

[Massive increase in Vaishno Devi, Shiv Khori yatra](#)

Daily Excelsior, 2 August 2009

JAMMU, Aug 1: Pilgrimage to holy shrines of Mata Vaishno Devi Ji and Lord Shiva in Shiv Khouri, both in Reasi district, has shown an impressive increase during first seven months of this year as compared to corresponding period in 2008. According to official figures, yatra to Goddess Vaishno Devi shrine in Trikuta hills of Katra has gone up by 4.01 lakh while it has registered an increase of 1.79 lakh in Shiv Khouri shrine in Ransu this year so far as compared to same period last year. Pilgrimage to Vaishno Devi shrine has gone up by 3.79 lakh in the month of July alone. In first half of the year i.e. up to June, the yatra was marginally up by 22,000 from last year. However this month's massive increase of 3.79 lakh has taken the increase to 4.01 lakh. By the end of July, 48.23 lakh pilgrims have paid obeisance to the Goddess Vaishno Devi ji while the number during first seven months of last year was 44.22 lakh

[Militancy finding foothold in Valley again](#)

Daily Excelsior, 4 August 2009

SRINAGAR, Aug 3: Even as the security establishment in J&K and in Delhi are making claims that militancy was on the wane, the militants have once again proved that they are just lying low and can strike anywhere in the Valley as was evident in recent incidents of violence across Kashmir including the Srinagar city. In the latest incident, a gun battle broke out in the wee hours today between militants and security forces in Hafruda forests of Handwara area - where a major encounter took place in March this year in which 17 militants and eight Army soldiers were killed

[We will protect government's interest over gas supply: Deora](#)

Hindu, 4 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The government on Monday told the Lok Sabha that it has got nothing to do with the "private dispute" of two industries and industrialists as far as supply of gas from the KG D-6 gas field is concerned, but will do everything to protect the interest of the government and the public. Making a statement in the House in response to Samajwadi Party leader Mulayam Singh's allegations that Uttar Pradesh was being discriminated against, Petroleum Minister Murli Deora said: "It is our constitutional and legal obligation. We will make all endeavours to protect the government's legal rights to regulate the utilisation of gas and its allocation."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/04/stories/2009080458040100.htm>

[Swine flu triggers panic in Pune](#)

Hindu, 6 August 2009

Mumbai: Parents in Pune have pressed the panic button after the death of Rida Shaikh, the first in the country to fall to swine flu, on August 3. On Wednesday over hundreds of people thronged Pune's Naidu Hospital to get themselves or their children screened for swine flu. Over 300 went to the Aundh Hospital, the only other government-designated hospital in Pune dealing with swine flu cases

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/06/stories/2009080658700100.htm>

[3 infiltrators among 7 killed in Kashmir](#)

Daily Excelsior, 6 August 2009

SRINAGAR, Aug 5: Seven militants were killed in three separate operations, including a foiled infiltration bid near the Line of Control (LoC) in Tangdhar sector, launched by the security forces in Kupwara district of Kashmir valley, officials said here. Alert Army troops foiled an infiltration bid by militants, who had managed to sneak in to Tangdhar sector from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), after noticing the movement of the heavily armed ultras, Defence Spokesman Lt Colonel J S Brar said. He said three militants had been killed in the exchange of gun fire with the security forces till reports last came in. Brar said the operation was still going on

[Death for three in 2003 Mumbai bomb blasts case](#)

Hindu, 7 August 2009

Mumbai: A special Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) court here on Thursday sentenced to death all the three persons convicted in the bomb blasts case of 2003. The explosions claimed 54 lives and injured 244 people. The case comprises blasts at the Gateway of India and Zaveri Bazaar on August 25, 2003, the blast aboard a bus at Ghatkopar on July 28, 2003 and the planting of a bomb in a bus in the Santa Cruz Electronics Export Processing Zone on December 2, 2002, which, however, did not explode

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/07/stories/2009080757860100.htm>

[India not fixated on Saeed, wants action on terror](#)

Hindu, 7 August 2009

New Delhi: Contrary to the demands of the Opposition and a section of the media, the government does not believe the fate of any one individual can serve as an "acid test" of Pakistan's commitment to act against the perpetrators of last November's terrorist attacks in Mumbai. But senior officials acknowledge the line they are walking is a fine one, demanding that Islamabad act against high profile terror

propagandists like Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Saeed while not allowing the future course of Indian engagement with Pakistan to be narrowly tied to his status alone

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/07/stories/2009080754381000.htm>

Pakistan: India has not given enough material against Saeed

Hindu, 7 August 2009

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan appears to have taken the firm position that India has the responsibility of providing it with the evidence to enable it to take action against Hafiz Saeed, founder of the Lashkar-e-Taiba which is blamed for the November 2008 Mumbai attacks. India has sought action against Mr. Saeed as part of its larger demand

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/07/stories/2009080760101200.htm>

Govt assurance an eyewash: CUAS

Daily Excelsior, 7 August 2009

JAMMU, Aug 6: Terming the assurance of Group of Ministers (GoM) to the people of Jammu over the establishment of Central University (CU) in this region as a mere eyewash, the Central University Andolan Samiti (CUAS) has rejected all their statements and called for Jammu bandh on August 10 in protest. Addressing a press conference here this evening, former Judge and CUAS Convenor Pavitar Singh claimed that all those Ministers who had gone to Delhi along with Chief Minister and met there with the Prime Minister and HRD Minister have returned empty-handed over their demand for two Central Universities in the State and now misleading the people with contradictory statements

Amarnath yatra down by 1.52 lakh

Daily Excelsior, 7 August 2009

JAMMU, Aug 6: Annual pilgrimage to holy cave shrine of Amarnath ji in South Kashmir Himalayas this year has registered a decline of 1.52 lakh yatris as compared to last year mainly due to delayed start and initial restrictions on unregistered pilgrims which were, however, later withdrawn. In 2008, 5,33,368 pilgrims had paid obeisance to holy Ice Lingam of Lord Shiva in Amarnath shrine despite trouble in both regions of Jammu and Kashmir due to Amarnath land row agitation. The number this year came down to 3.81 lakh. The number of 5.33 lakh yatris, recorded last year, was highest so far in the history of the shrine, official figures revealed. Besides 2008, there were two occasions when yatra to Amarnath ji shrine was more than the current year.

Rudd assures Krishna of safety of Indian students

Hindu, 8 August 2009

SINGAPORE: Australia on Friday allayed India's concerns over the security of Indian students and the quality of education given to them. The two countries also exchanged ideas on how to give a "forward-oriented" thrust to Hindu by External Affairs Minister the bilateral ties. This was conveyed to The S. M. Krishna and diplomatic sources after he met Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Foreign Minister Stephen Smith in Cairns. Mr. Krishna was representing India as a dialogue partner of the Pacific Islands Forum at their meeting there

Swine flu is under control, says Azad

Hindu, 8 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Union Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad on Friday said swine flu in the

country was under control and there was no need to panic. "We are constantly monitoring the situation. We have enough medicine to treat the disease, while hospitals and laboratories are fully equipped to deal with any eventuality. The rush we see at hospitals is more of a panic reaction," he said.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/08/stories/2009080858880100.htm>

[India-China border talks begin](#)

Hindu, 8 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Special Representatives of India and China, M.K. Narayanan and Dai Bingguo, began the 13th round of talks on the boundary issue with a wider ambit here on Friday. Besides continuing with the "second stage" of boundary talks, they are also discussing bilateral and regional issues ahead of several bilateral high-level exchanges, including President Pratibha Patil's visit to Beijing and a "top" Chinese leader's arrival here later this year

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/08/stories/2009080862511400.htm>

[First-timers, young MPs' performance below average: Study](#)

Times of India, 8 August 2009

NEW DELHI: First-time MPs and young parliamentarians, elected to the 15th Lok Sabha amid focus on youth, will have to do more to live up to expectations as their performance during the budget session has been below average, according to a study. The study by PRS Legislative Research of the proceedings of the house in its first month-long budget session that concluded Friday says the participation of the first-timers and the young MPs was below average and worse than their elders

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/First-timers-young-MPs-performance-below-average-Study-/articleshow/4868769.cms>

[India, US operationalise biggest-ever defence deal](#)

Times of India, 8 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The last hurdle for the execution of the biggest-ever defence deal with US, the \$2.1 billion contract for eight Boeing P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance (LRMR) aircraft, has now been cleared. The US and Indian governments have finalised the technical assistance agreement (TAA) for the P-8I contract after exchange of a few drafts and the formal approval by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).

[Manmohan: step up drive against swine flu](#)

Hindu, 10 August 2009

NEW DELHI: With swine flu claiming its fourth victim in the country – a 43-year-old NRI in Ahmedabad – Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday asked Union Health Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad to step up the preparedness and ensure closer coordination between the Health Ministry and the State governments to check the spread of the highly contagious disease. Dr. Singh, who called up the Minister to take stock of the situation, also stressed the need for creating more awareness and checking spread of misinformation on the disease, and asking State governments to create more isolation wards in hospitals and train more doctors and paramedical staff to deal with any eventuality

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/10/stories/2009081056780100.htm>

[Delhi meet can nudge Doha process forward: Anand Sharma](#)

Hindu, 10 August 2009

SINGAPORE: Set to host an "informal ministerial" in the Doha process in early September, India says the political "platform can help us in working out a path forward." The negotiators in Geneva, from diverse economies, can then have "a clearer course of action" for framing "a rule-based global trade order," according to Union Commerce Minister Anand Sharma. Speaking to The Hindu from Seoul on Saturday, Mr. Sharma said: "It is not a question of raising expectations" about the planned ministerial in Delhi. Nor was it India's intention to have the prospective talks judged against "any comparable yardstick" of progress at the previous ministerial meetings in the Doha process

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/10/stories/2009081054941200.htm>

[Private hospitals, labs to be roped in to tackle swine flu](#)

Hindu, 11 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Monday decided to involve private hospitals in checking for the A(H1N1) influenza that has already claimed seven lives and affected 864 persons across the country. The decision was taken in view of the increasing number of swine flu cases coming to government hospitals

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/11/stories/2009081158150100.htm>

[Multipronged strategy to take on terror, Centre tells court](#)

Hindu, 11 August 2009

New Delhi: The Centre on Monday informed the Supreme Court that after the Mumbai terror attacks, it asked the States to set up anti-terror squads, and many States did so. In its counter to the affidavit on a public interest litigation petition filed by the former Attorney-General, Soli Sorabjee, for a direction that the Centre equip the police and security forces with modern weapons for countering terror attacks, the government said that under the Modernisation of State Police Scheme, the States could avail themselves of the special component of the assistance to strengthen Special Branches

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/11/stories/2009081160871100.htm>

[ISRO develops constellation of 7 satellites to guard India](#)

Hindustan Times, 11 August 2009

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is developing a constellation of seven satellites to give a boost to the country's security apparatus, a top scientist said in New Delhi on Sunday. ISRO chief G Madhavan Nair said the Indian Regional Navigational Satellite System (IRNSS) was being developed "considering security related issues". Speaking at the Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi, Nair said: "The proposed system would consist of a constellation of seven satellites and a ground support segment. Three of the satellites will be placed in the geostationary orbit and four near the geostationary orbit

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionOnPage&id=a008583a-625a-4697-97ab-dc5b1ef6989b&Headline=ISRO+develops+constellation+of+7+satellites+to+guard+India>

[Maoists kill two people in Orissa](#)

Hindustan Times, 11 August 2009

Maoists early Sunday shot dead two people in Orissa's Rayagada district suspecting them to be police informers, police said. The rebels killed Siba Sankar and Bibhisan Kalanandia near Chandrapur, some 140 km from the district headquarter of Rayagada, district Superintendent of Police Ashish Kumar Singh told IANS by phone

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=15cc8ae0-abff-4545-8b70-d77ab42458e0&Headline=Maoists+kill+two+people+in+Orissa>

Security forces, Maoists exchange fire in Lalgarh

Hindu, 12 August 2009

KOLKATA: Exchanges of fire between the security forces and Maoists were reported in the Lalgarh area of West Bengal's Paschim Medinipur district on Tuesday, even as Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee said the second phase of the joint operations to flush out Left wing extremists from the area had not been as successful as the first. Joint operations by paramilitary forces and the State Armed Police in the region started on June 18

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/12/stories/2009081260401000.htm>

'U.S. travel alert routine, no threat to foreigners'

Hindu, 12 August 2009

NEW DELHI: India has described the U.S. and Canada travel advisories as "routine" and said there is no threat to foreigners in the country. "The U.S. Embassy keeps sending advisories. These are routine and general in nature. There is nothing new in it," Home Secretary G.K. Pillai said when asked about the fresh travel alerts issued by the U.S. and Canada

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/12/stories/2009081257382200.htm>

Swine flu: TV channels asked to exercise restraint

Hindu, 12 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Centre has informally asked television channels to exercise restraint in the coverage of swine flu stories. Given the panic following swine flu-related deaths in the past few days, the channels are being urged not to add to the sense of alarm. Instead, the I&B Ministry would like them to send out the message that swine flu is curable and that people should get tested and treated only at designated centres

Split India, says China think-tank

Times of India, 12 August 2009

NEW DELHI: India may have survived doomsday predictions — once a favourite pastime of the West — of its balkanization but that does not seem to have deterred the Chinese. On Tuesday, New Delhi took exception to an article on a quasi-official Chinese website, which boasted that the "great Indian federation" was ripe for dismemberment if Beijing tried just a little. Posted on April 8 on the website iiss.cn (International Institute for Strategic Studies), the article detailed a roadmap for breaking up India. "To split India, China can bring into its fold countries like Pakistan, Nepal and Bhutan, support Ulfa in attaining its goal for Assam's independence, back aspirations of Indian nationalities like Tamils and Nagas, encourage Bangladesh to give a push to the independence of West Bengal and lastly recover the 90,000 sq km territory in southern Tibet," the write-up said

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Break-India-says-China-think-tank/articleshow/4883573.cms>

[US aware of India's step on North Korean ship](#)

Times of India, 12 August 2009

WASHINGTON: The United States on Tuesday said it was aware of the steps taken by India with regard to the North Korean ship, which has been detained by Indian authorities. "We are indeed aware of the steps that India took," state department deputy spokesman Robert Wood told reporters. However, he refrained from going into details. "We are certainly aware of it, but I would refer you to the Indian government with regards to the particulars on it," Wood said

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/US-aware-of-Indias-step-on-North-Korean-ship/articleshow/4880004.cms>

[Mumbai attackers came from Karachi: FBI](#)

Hindu, 13 August 2009

Mumbai: Reinforcing the Pakistan link to the Mumbai terror attack, the FBI told a special court here on Wednesday that its probe had established that the perpetrators came from Karachi. In crucial testimony at the trial of the lone surviving gunman Ajmal Amir 'Kasab', an official of the U.S. federal agency, giving evidence for the first time in India in terror cases, said the terrorists had used the GPS, a satellite navigation system to locate targets

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/13/stories/2009081358990100.htm>

[Six more swine flu deaths in Maharashtra](#)

Hindu, 13 August 2009

MUMBAI: Six more persons died of swine flu — one in Nashik and the rest in Pune — on Wednesday, taking the toll to 13 in Maharashtra. Additional Chief Secretary (Public Health) Sharvaree Gokhale said Sanjay Mistry (35) of Pune, who was admitted to Sassoon Hospital on August 9, developed symptoms of breathlessness. His sample was taken and the result came positive the next day. He died on Tuesday night

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/13/stories/2009081358820100.htm>

[Cauvery basin States' meet on Monday](#)

Hindu, 13 August 2009

CHENNAI: The Union government has called a meeting of the Cauvery basin States here on Monday to thrash out differences between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka over the 1,150-megawatt Cauvery Hydro Power Project (CHPP). To be chaired by Union Power Secretary Harishankar Brahma, the meeting is expected to be attended by the Chief Secretaries of the basin States. Kerala and Puducherry have been invited, apart from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, according to a government official here

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/13/stories/2009081359060100.htm>

[Number of drought-hit districts rises to 177](#)

Hindu, 14 August 2009

NEW DELHI: With the India Meteorological Department declaring on Thursday a deficiency of 29 per cent in the southwest monsoon, the number of drought-affected

districts has risen to 177. Last week, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said 141 districts were drought-hit. Dr. Singh will discuss the drought and price rise situation at a meeting of Chief Ministers here on Monday. Union Food and Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar has convened a meeting of State Food and Civil Supplies Ministers for Wednesday. This will be followed by a meeting of State Agriculture Ministers on August 21

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/14/stories/2009081458340100.htm>

[India regrets U.S. report](#)

Hindu, 14 August 2009

NEW DELHI: India has termed "regrettable" the move by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) to ask U.S. President Barack Obama to urge India to take new measures to promote communal harmony and prevent communal violence. In its India report, it also asked the U.S. administration to ensure that all Indian political parties and religious or social organisations publicly denounce violence against and harassment of religious minorities, women, and low-caste members, and to acknowledge that such violence constitute a crime under Indian law

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/14/stories/2009081460931000.htm>

[7 NSCN\(IM\) insurgents killed in encounter](#)

Hindu, 14 August 2009

IMPHAL: At least seven insurgents of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak-Muivah) were killed in an encounter with Assam Rifles in Manipur's Ukhrul district, bordering Myanmar, on Wednesday, tribal villagers said. A villager was also killed in cross-firing, they told journalists who rushed to the district headquarters. An automatic rifle was recovered from the mountains

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/14/stories/2009081455731200.htm>

[Manmohan will focus on drought](#)

Hindu, 15 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's concern over drought, the rising prices of essential commodities and shortage of water in crucial reservoirs is expected to be reflected in his Independence Day address to the nation on Saturday. Dr. Singh will seek to assure people of the steps being taken to tackle the situation. Three high-power meetings are lined up between the Centre and the State governments in the next week to work in tandem. The States are being requested to ensure that there is no hoarding of essentials, that the Public Distribution System is strengthened and that the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme is implemented well

[India for strategic relations with U.S., Russia](#)

Hindu, 15 August 2009

NEW DELHI: While India's relationship with Russia has acquired stability, its ties with the U.S. appear to be still a work in progress with both sides attempting to broaden the ambit of their cooperation. India is more or less engaging with both countries in similar sectors such as defence and security, energy, space, science & technology and trade & economy. The agenda for dialogue with the U.S. also covers people-to-people contacts and health, which do not figure in the list of topics for dialogue with Russia. This was the indication from the government's reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha during the recent budget session

Manmohan makes pitch for inclusive, integrated society

Hindu, 16 August 2009

New Delhi: As the first Indian Prime Minister to win re-election after serving a full five-year term since Nehru, Manmohan Singh struck a confident political tone in his Independence Day address to the nation on Saturday, openly advertising the inclusive goals and secular credentials of his government and unabashedly proclaiming his intention to do right by the minority communities. With the spectre of drought looming, the Prime Minister also warned hoarders and black marketeers of food and sought to assure farmers that they would not be left in the lurch. "In view of the deficiency in the monsoons, we have postponed the date for repayment of bank loans of our farmers. We are also giving additional support to farmers for payment of interest on short-term crop loans," he said. "All efforts will be made to control the rising prices of food grains, pulses and other goods of daily use."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/16/stories/2009081657150100.htm>

Citizens have right to express dissent and anger: Manmohan

Hindu, 16 August 2009

New Delhi: In line with his emphasis on the need for resolution of political differences through dialogue and discussion, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday came down heavily on those who take the law into their own hands in the name of dissent. "Our citizens have the right to express dissent and anger. I also maintain that every government should be sensitive to people's complaints and dissatisfaction," he said in his Independence Day speech. "But nothing is achieved by destroying public property and indulging in violence against one's fellow citizens. Our democracy has no place for those who resort to violence to express their disagreement, and the government will deal firmly with such people," Dr. Singh said

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/16/stories/2009081659800800.htm>

[INS Arihant is an Indian design: Anil Kakodkar](#)

Hindu, 16 August 2009

Well, we have a compact propulsion reactor which has been tested at Kalpakkam for the last three years and this is an exact prototype of what has been installed in INS Arihant which was launched soon. So it's a major achievement of new reactor technology which incidentally will also be required for the larger power programme because this is based on pressurised water reactors (PWR). So this signifies both. We have a compact power plant for propulsion but we also have PWR technology which can be used for electricity production through indigenous route in future

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/16/stories/2009081655260900.htm>

[Old grouse on states' Naxal agenda](#)

Hindustan Times, 16 August 2009

The chief ministers of the Naxal-hit states, at their meeting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday in New Delhi, are likely to raise the same demands that they made seven months ago. For, the seven states identified as Naxal-affected grumble that the demands made in the January meeting with the Prime Minister have still not been fully met. The demands are mainly three-fold: Deployment of more central forces, use of helicopters to keep vigil on Naxal activities and inclusion of more districts in the home ministry's Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=70759a2e-b3df-42b3-a1fe-31469a326f03&Headline=Old-grouse-on-states-Naxal-agenda>

[Centre's plan: Put cops in rural areas to work](#)

Hindustan Times, 16 August 2009

In a move to ramp up resources available for launching India's biggest offensive against Naxalites, the Centre will next week ask affected states to reorient policemen in rural areas into fighting Naxalites and not just carry out routine duties. The Ministry of Home Affairs will make this point at Monday's conference of chief ministers convened by the Prime Minister as it seeks to build political consensus over allowing paramilitary forces to lead the coordinated offensive against Naxals and strengthening the state's police machinery

[BSF foils infiltration bid, heavy firing across border near Jammu](#)

Times of India, 17 August 2009

JAMMU: Heavy exchange of fire erupted on the Indo-Pak border in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday as BSF troops foiled a pre-dawn infiltration bid by suspected militants in Ramgarh in Samba district, official sources said. A group of suspected militants entered into the Indian side via the international border and the movement was picked up by the BSF troops near the Border Out Post in Palhad belt of Ramgarh at around 0105 hours, they said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/BSF-foils-infiltration-bid-heavy-firing-across-border-near-Jammu/articleshow/4898764.cms>

[Backlog of 3cr cases a scourge: PM](#)

Times of India, 17 August 2009

NEW DELHI: PM Manmohan Singh on Sunday talked tough by terming — for the first time in judicial history— the 3 crore backlog of cases in courts as a “scourge” and

promised that government would take two steps for each step taken by the judiciary in the war to eliminate this scourge. The PM said that "to wipe off every tear of litigants" should be the goal of every one even as he applauded the great tradition and reputation enjoyed by judiciary in India. Singh, however, wondered why an accomplished judiciary had to be snail-paced in disposing of cases.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articlelist/msid--2128936835,curpg-5.cms>

[After sweets, Rangers try to push militants](#)

Daily Excelsior, 17 August 2009

JAMMU, Aug 16: Within few hours after shaking hands with Army and BSF at Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) respectively to celebrate Independence Day, Pakistan army and Rangers tried to push two groups of trained militants into Indian territory from Ramgarh in Samba sector and Rattan Pathri, Sabjan in Mandi sector of Poonch district last night. An alert was sounded all along the Jammu-Pathankote national highway and Jammu-Lakhanpur railway track following unconfirmed reports that a couple of militants might have succeeded in intruding into the Indian side during heavy exchange of firing with the Border Security Force (BSF) though senior officers of the BSF categorically denied that any militant had infiltrated from the IB

[Pakistani terrorist groups planning more attacks: Manmohan](#)

Hindu, 18 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Stressing that cross-border terrorism remains a most pervasive threat, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday said "there is credible information of ongoing plans of terrorist groups in Pakistan to carry out fresh attacks." Inaugurating the Chief Ministers' Conference on Internal Security, he cautioned: "The area of operation of these terrorists today extends far beyond the confines of Jammu and Kashmir and covers all parts of our country."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/18/stories/2009081856770100.htm>

[Jaswant's views on Jinnah against party's ideology: Sushma](#)

Hindustan Times, 18 August 2009

NEW DELHI: BJP's deputy leader in the Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj has indicated that party leader Jaswant Singh's views on Pakistan founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah in his book that was released here on Monday would "certainly" be the subject of a detailed discussion at the party's three-day brainstorming session in Shimla due to begin on Wednesday. "Denigrating Sardar Patel [India's first Home Minister] and eulogising Jinnah are views that are totally against the party's basic ideology and belief," she said adding that there could be and would be no compromise on this

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/18/stories/2009081856900100.htm>

[Tamil Nadu seeks increased presence of Coast Guard, Navy](#)

Hindu, 18 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Deputy Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday urged the Centre to increase the presence of Coast Guard and Navy along the Tamil Nadu coast to safeguard the eastern coastal sector. He sought the creation of a common database on terrorism and other matters related to internal security at the Centre with facility for access by the States and deputation of police personnel for training in institutions abroad to fill the void in intelligence collection and sharing by exposing them to the best practices

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/18/stories/2009081859941000.htm>

578 posts set along Nepal, Bhutan borders

Hindustan Times, 18 August 2009

The Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), a paramilitary force, has set up 578 security posts on Bhutan and Nepal borders to check rising anti-India activities by Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) and Maoists in Nepal. These 578 Border Out Posts (BOPs) are out of the total 582 BOPs — 450 along the 1,751 km India-Nepal border and 132 along the 699 km India-Bhutan border — which the Centre had proposed to set up

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=India&id=58afc97a-bd7f-4700-9df4-1f1b40391e87&Headline=578-posts-set-along-Nepal-Bhutan-borders>

Govt's Naxal policy: Reclaim Red areas, reinstate administration

Hindustan Times, 18 August 2009

Union Home Minister P Chidambaram on Monday laid out his policy on dealing with the Naxals on the table, promising every possible help from the Centre to the states at the conference of Chief Ministers on Internal Security. But as he heard chief ministers demanding more assistance from Delhi, he regretted that only a dozen states had bothered to respond to the central questionnaire to prepare where India stood in fighting terrorism in all its forms

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/StoryPage/StoryPage.aspx?sectionName=IndiaSectionPage&id=920727d8-5d9c-4710-b618-d64db1400c5a&Headline=Govt-spells-out-Naxal-policy-reclaim-Red-areas-reinstate-administration>

Insurgents could exploit CRPF absence; replacement needed: Omar

Times of India, 18 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Cautioning that withdrawal of CRPF deployed for counter-insurgency operations in sensitive districts would leave a vacuum that could be exploited by insurgents, Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Omar Abdullah sought an "immediate replacement" for the paramilitary forces in the state. Speaking at the chief ministers' conference on Internal Security, Omar said, "The ministry of home affairs has ordered the withdrawal of five CRPF battalions from the state. Four IRP battalions from Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and Uttarakhand which were meant to replace the CRPF battalions have not reported as yet except for one battalion."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Insurgents-could-exploit-CRPF-absence-replacement-needed-Omar-/articleshow/4903017.cms>

No ban on Jaswant's book for now

Hindu, 21 August 2009

Chief Minister B.S. Yeddyurappa, who is away in Shimla to attend a brain-storming session of the top leadership of the Bharatiya Janata Party, has conveyed that the Government of Karnataka, as of today, has no intention of banning the book. He told The Hindu that "we have taken this decision. As of today, I have not applied my mind on banning the book, and the general opinion is that there is no need to ban the book in the State".

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/21/stories/2009082150030100.htm>

[Islamabad given another dossier to nail Lashkar founder](#)

Hindustan Times, 22 August 2009

India handed over another dossier to Pakistan on Friday to build a case against Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed, saying there was "cogent and convincing evidence" pointing Saeed's role in the Mumbai terror attacks. Jamaat-ud-Dawa is a front for terror outfit Lashkar-e-Tayyeba founded by Saeed. The dossier, handed over by Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao to Pakistani High Commissioner Shahid Malik, is the sixth set of documents passed on to Islamabad to enable it to conduct investigations into the Mumbai attacks

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News/newdelhi/Islamabad-given-another-dossier-to-nail-Lashkar-founder/Article1-445740.aspx>

[Russia to deliver MiG-29 engines to India](#)

Hindustan Times, 22 August 2009

Russia will deliver 26 engines for upgrading the MiG-29 combat jets of the Indian Air Force (IAF), with another 120 to be assembled in India, following an agreement with the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) at the ongoing MAKS 2009 air show near Moscow, officials said on Friday. The RD-33/series 3 engine, being delivered by state-run arms exporter Rosoboronexport, is an upgraded version of the powerful RD-33 turbofan with thrust vectoring for the MiG family of fighters. The engine provides superior maneuverability and enhances the fighter's performance in close air combat

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News/india/Russia-to-deliver-MiG-29-engines-to-India/Article1-445657.aspx>

[Sea Harrier crashes off Goa, pilot killed](#)

Times of India, 22 August 2009

PANAJI: A Sea Harrier crashed off the Goa coast on Friday morning, killing lieutenant commander Saurav Saxena, 31, who was flying the aircraft. The aircraft crashed around 15 nautical miles west of Vasco at 11.57am, 42 minutes after take-off. Navy officials say the British-made Sea Harrier was on a routine exercise with a missile vessel, when a distress call was made to the air traffic controller

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Sea-Harrier-crashes-off-Goa-pilot-killed/articleshow/4921371.cms>

[Muslim scholars declare jihad against terrorism](#)

Times of India, 22 August 2009

MUMBAI: Nine months after terrorists brutalised Mumbai, including its iconic Taj Mahal hotel, an international seminar held at the same hotel has declared a jihad against terrorism. Convened jointly by Fatimi International Organisation and Sahyog Cultural Society last week, the seminar on Unity, Love and Tolerance had Indian and foreign scholars iterating the need to reclaim Islam from a handful of self-declared jihadis

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Muslim-scholars-declare-jihad-against-terrorism/articleshow/4921318.cms>

[Govt plans Rs 10,000cr dedicated telecom network for armed forces](#)

Times of India, 22 August 2009

NEW DELHI: In a significant national security-related development, the government is moving to build a \$2 billion or Rs 9,970.16 crore dedicated, highly secure and state-of-the-art optical fiber cable (OFC) network for the Army, Navy and Air Force. This will be one of the world's largest, closed user group (CUG) networks for exclusive use by the million-plus personnel of the Indian armed forces

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Govt-plans-Rs-10000cr-dedicated-telecom-network-for-armed-forces/articleshow/4921054.cms>

I covered up for Advani on Kandahar: Jaswant

Times of India, 22 August 2009

NEW DELHI: With his break from BJP and one-time cabinet colleague L K Advani complete, expelled leader Jaswant Singh launched a hard-hitting L K Advani with Jaswant Singh. Singh claims that he was not aware of the Kandahar hostages-for-terrorists swap. (TOI Photo)

attack on the former deputy PM alleging that he had covered-up for Advani's claim that he was not aware of the Kandahar hostages-for-terrorists swap. In a clear indication that Jaswant Singh is not pausing in his war against his former colleague, the expelled leader told TV channels that Advani was very much aware of the decision to exchange three hardcore jihadis for passengers on board IC-814

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/I-covered-up-for-Advani-on-Kandahar-Jaswant/articleshow/4920651.cms>

Law must be dynamic to fight terror: Moily

Hindu, 23 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Pointing out that the "exact frontiers" of terrorism are still unknown, Union Law Minister M. Veerappa Moily on Saturday said law should be dynamic to meet the growing challenge posed by terror networks and outfits across the world. "It is a scenario of worrying future because terrorism attacks democratic institutions, human rights and innocent people. Vigilance by jurists and dynamism by lawmakers should be wedded in the process of law-making to deal with the menace."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/23/stories/2009082354890800.htm>

Swine flu death toll rises to 54

Hindu, 23 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The total number of A(H1N1) influenza deaths in the country touched the 54 mark on Saturday. Maharashtra accounted for 31 deaths, Karnataka 12, Gujarat 5, Delhi 3, Tamil Nadu two and Kerala one

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/23/stories/2009082360721200.htm>

'Vajpayee wanted to quit after Godhra'

Hindustan Times, 23 August 2009

On an attacking spree since his expulsion from the BJP, Jaswant Singh has now said former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee was so upset over the 2002 Gujarat riots that he had contemplated resigning. But he stopped Vajpayee from doing so. The former PM had wanted to take action against chief minister Narendra Modi, but was stopped by L.K. Advani, Singh said in an interview to Shekhar Gupta on NDTV's 'Walk the Talk'

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Vajpayee-wanted-to-quit-after-Godhra-Jaswant->

Singh/H1-Article1-446054.aspx

[Clean chit for Fernandes, 3 army officers chargesheet](#)

Hindu, 23 August 2009

Three Indian Army officers and a US supplier were chargesheeted on Saturday by the CBI in the Kargil war coffin scam. The agency, however, has given a clean chit to then defence minister George Fernandes. "The CBI has named Major General (retd) Arun Roye, Colonel (retd) S.K. Malik and a serving officer Colonel F.B. Singh, besides a private person and US citizen Victor Baiza in the chargesheet. But Fernandes's does not figure in the chargesheet," said a CBI officer who did not want to be identified as he is not authorised to speak to the media

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india/Coffin-case-Clean-chit-for-Fernandes/Article1-446079.aspx>

[Central forces to cover more areas near Lalgarh](#)

Hindu, 23 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Central paramilitary forces engaged in clearing operations in Maoist-dominated Lalgarh of West Bengal since June 19 are planning to spread their operations to nearby areas to neutralise the banned outfit. At a briefing here on Thursday, Union Home Secretary Gopal K. Pillai and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director-General A.S. Gill said the Central forces would stay in Lalgarh area "as long as it was necessary." Asserting that the Centre was looking forward to the situation returning to normality, they said shops were open and civilian vehicles were plying at night

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/21/stories/2009082156011000.htm>

[Maoists blow up railway track, mobile tower](#)

Hindu, 25 August 2009

The BSNL mobile tower that was destroyed by Maoists, in Tukhbera Gaon, Jharkhand, during the 48-hour bandh on Monday. Latehar (Jharkhand): Maoists blew up a railway track in Latehar and bombed a mobile tower in the neighbouring Palamu district during a 48-hour bandh they called in five States, including Jharkhand. Train services were disrupted on the Barwadih-Barkakana route

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/25/stories/2009082560731300.htm>

[Jaswant may visit Pakistan to promote his book](#)

Hindu, 25 August 2009

ISLAMABAD: If all goes according to plan, Jaswant Singh is to head to Pakistan later this week to promote his controversial book on Mohammed Ali Jinnah. The planned visit has not been publicised yet but The Hindu learns that Mr. Singh may arrive here on Friday

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/25/stories/2009082560691200.htm>

[Centre asks five States to tighten security](#)

Hindu, 25 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Union Home Ministry on Monday asked five States to maintain utmost vigil against possible attacks by left wing extremists on vital installations during the 48-hour, Maoist-sponsored bandh, beginning Monday. Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and West Bengal have been asked to tighten security, especially

around vital installations, a senior Home Ministry official said here. The Maoists have called for the bandh in these States to condemn the alleged arrest of two senior members of the CPI(Maoist). Sources, citing intelligence inputs, said the Maoists might target railway, telecom, road networks and power stations. The advisory came shortly after the Maoists blasted a stretch of rail line at Latehar and a cellular phone tower at Palamau in Jharkhand on Monday

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/25/stories/2009082554831300.htm>

All in one day: Maoists blow up rail station, building and tower

Times of India, 26 August 2009

PATNA: Suspected Maoist rebels blew up a train station and a wedding hall and torched more than a dozen vehicles in eastern India on Tuesday, No casualties were reported in the two attacks. The violence erupted on the second day of an indefinite strike called by the rebels to protest the alleged arrest of two of their senior leaders

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/All-in-one-day-Maoists-blow-up-rail-station-building-and-tower/articleshow/4931338.cms>

Centre-ruled Jharkhand faces Naxal wrath

Times of India, 26 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Maoists seem to have begun their 48-hour bandh on Monday with a `message': choosing Jharkhand for attacks. The reason -- it is the only one among five states facing the bandh which is directly ruled by Centre by virtue of being under governor's rule and therefore has no problem in coordinated action against the Red ultras. Though other states - Bihar, Orissa, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal - too faced some heat, two attacks in Jharkhand appeared to be part of a well thought out Maoist plan

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Centre-ruled-Jharkhand-faces-Naxal-wrath/articleshow/4930020.cms>

'26/11 terrorists accessed email from 10 IP addresses, 5 from Pak'

Times of India, 27 August 2009

MUMBAI: Wanted accused in the 26/11 attack case had communicated with terrorists using an email ID which was accessed from ten IP addresses -- five from Pakistan, two USA, two Russia and one Kuwait- - a cyber law expert informed the special trial court in Mumbai on Wednesday. Kharak_telco@yahoo.com was the email ID used by wanted accused while communicating with terrorists via Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) through New Jersey-based Callphonex, Mukund Pawar, Crime Branch inspector, told special public prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam during examination in the court

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/26/11-terrorists-accessed-email-from-10-IP-addresses-5-from-Pak-/articleshow/4937795.cms>

Maoist blitzkrieg forces Jharkhand cops to blink

Times of India, 27 August 2009

BHUBANESWAR/RANCHI/PATNA: Maoists rampaged through parts of Orissa, Jharkhand and Bihar early Tuesday, the second day of their 48-hour bandh in three states, blowing up a railway station and a community centre and torching more than 12 vehicles. In the process they forced a rattled Jharkhand police to comply with their diktat. The Maoists had called for a two-day bandh in these three states along

with West Bengal and Chhattisgarh in protest against 'illegal detention' of two their top leaders. "We had called the bandh to force the police (Jharkhand) to admit that they had arrested two of our comrades and produce them in Ranchi court before 5pm on Tuesday. Since they produced them an hour before 5pm, we are calling off the strike," CPI(Maoist) politburo member Kishanji said

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Maoist-blitzkrieg-forces-Jharkhand-cops-to-blink/articleshow/4934937.cms>

[Indian envoys meet evades talks on Indo-Pak joint statement](#)

Times of India, 27 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Two days into an annual conference of India's envoys in the capital has seen a reverberating silence into the UPA government's most recent foreign policy affair. There has been no reference to, and almost no questions asked, about the India-Pakistan joint statement at Sharm el-Sheikh, which raised a political firestorm in the country only weeks ago. Interestingly, though privately Indian ambassadors repeatedly refer to the joint statement, at the envoys' conclave there has been a remarkable lack of curiosity about the event. On Tuesday, the ambassadors gathered together for a pow-pow on India's neighbourhood policy. Initially Pakistan was not even on the agenda, which only goes to show what everyone has always suspected, that India's policy on Pakistan is driven by domestic politics and domestic imperatives

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Indian-envoys-meet-evades-talks-on-Indo-Pak-joint-statement/articleshow/4934351.cms>

[Navy grounds Sea Harrier fleet](#)

Times of India, 27 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Navy has grounded the entire Sea Harrier fighter jet fleet in the backdrop of one of the aircraft crashing off Goa last week, rendering its lone aircraft carrier INS Viraat without its aerial firepower. "The Sea Harriers have been grounded following the crash that left a fighter pilot dead," Navy officials said here on Tuesday. With the grounding of the 10 Sea Harrier jump jets, INS Viraat, which got afloat at the Cochin Shipyard's dry dock after a 18-month refit a fortnight ago, may have to sail to Gulf of Aden next month without its fighter jets

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Navy-grounds-Sea-Harrier-fleet/articleshow/4933904.cms>

[Interpol issues Red Corner notice against Hafiz Saeed](#)

Times of India, 27 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Interpol has issued a Red Corner Notice (RCN) on Tuesday against Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Saeed, who has been chargesheeted. Earlier, government sources said that the CBI, which acts as the nodal agency for all dealings with Interpol, has already written to the world police body, based on the 26/11 chargesheet, to get an RCN issued against Saeed who was let off by the Lahore High Court as Islamabad didn't press charges against him

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Interpol-issues-Red-Corner-notice-against-Hafiz-Saeed/articleshow/4934172.cms>

[Black money trail: India to begin talks with Switzerland in Dec](#)

Times of India, 27 August 2009

NEW DELHI: In the midst of a row over tainted money stashed in banks in Switzerland, the government on Tuesday said it will begin talks with that country in December for amending the relevant treaty and it was not interested in a "roving inquiry". "We are pursuing with the Swiss authorities and after our persuasion they have agreed to discuss and begin the negotiations on the amendment of the avoidance of double taxation agreement in respect of the exchange of information."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Black-money-trail-India-to-begin-talks-with-Switzerland-in-Dec/articleshow/4933317.cms>

[BJP rebels focus fire on Advani](#)

Hindustan Times, 28 August 2009

The infighting in the BJP took a crucial turn on Thursday, with the dissidents targeting parliamentary party leader LK Advani directly. First, they contested his claim that he had been unaware of the terrorists for passengers swap carried out in January 2000 after an Indian Airlines flight was hijacked to Kandahar, Afghanistan. Next, they repeatedly harped on how much better former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee would have handled the current crisis in the party, had he been in charge

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/BJP-rebels-focus-fire-on-Advani/H1-Article1-447819.aspx>

[India, China armies clash in Sikkim?](#)

Hindustan Times, 28 August 2009

The Indian and Chinese armies have reportedly been locked in sporadic exchanges of fire in Sikkim, where the two countries share a high-altitude border, since Tuesday night. A senior defence ministry official in Kolkata, where the Eastern Command is based, said the conflict had been on at Nathu-la pass — 54 km east of Sikkim's capital Gangtok. In a statement issued on Thursday, the Ministry of Defence, however, denied any shooting on the border.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-China-armies-clash-in-Sikkim/H1-Article1-447812.aspx>

[Sikh, Islamist outfits planning joint strikes](#)

Hindustan Times, 28 August 2009

International Islamic and Sikh terrorist outfits have joined hands to strike in India and are recruiting youngsters abroad for it, the Intelligence Bureau (IB) has warned. Pro-Khalistan elements — in coordination with the Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence and Lashkar-e-Tayyeba — have stepped up their activities in Duerin (Germany), Lahore and Dhaka. They are planning joint operations against important targets in India, the report says. The Sikh groups have also recruited people willing to be human bombs

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Sikh-Islamist-outfits-planning-joint-strikes-in-India/H1-Article1-447807.aspx>

[US nuclear gurus see signs of more Indian nuclear tests](#)

Times of India, 28 August 2009

WASHINGTON: US nuclear pundits feel the Indian establishment -- political, scientific, or both in concert -- may be lining up to conduct more nuclear tests to validate and improve the country's arsenal before the Obama administration shuts the door on nuclear explosions. "You bet he wants to test again," said Henry

Sokolski, Executive Director of the Washington DC-based Nonproliferation Policy Education Center, when asked about the remarks from a key Indian nuclear scientist suggesting India's thermonuclear test was not up to mark. "Imagine you are a nuclear weapons designer who has corrected the mistakes and ironed out the wrinkles. You would be crazy not to want to test again."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/US-nuclear-gurus-see-signs-of-more-Indian-nuclear-tests/articleshow/4943249.cms>

'India has given enough proof to Pak on 26/11 attacks'

Times of India, 28 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Having given six dossiers of evidence on Mumbai attack, India on Thursday said the "ball is in Pakistan's court" and it should take meaningful steps to bring the perpetrators of the terror strike to justice. India is willing to provide Pakistan with more evidence "as and when" it is available. India has already given six dossiers carrying "comprehensive" information and evidence about involvement of Pakistan-based individuals in the attack on November 26 last year in Mumbai, sources said here

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/India-has-given-enough-proof-to-Pak-on-26/11-attacks/articleshow/4942264.cms>

Indian armed forces confident about nuclear arsenal

Times of India, 28 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Indian armed forces seem quite confident about the country's nuclear arsenal despite the controversy over the "yields" of the 1998. Pokhran-II nuclear tests, which included a 15 kiloton fission device, a 45 kiloton thermonuclear device (hydrogen bomb) and three sub-kiloton devices. Outgoing Navy chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta, also the chairman of the chiefs of staff committee, on Thursday said India had "a credible minimum nuclear deterrent" in line with its no-first use (NFU) policy

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Indian-armed-forces-confident-about-nuclear-arsenal/articleshow/4941925.cms>

India, Bangladesh to develop border infrastructure

Hindustan Times, 28 August 2009

New Delhi and Dhaka would develop infrastructure along the border and simplify trade barriers to boost business between Bangladesh and northeast India, officials said in Agartala on Thursday. The two neighbours would upgrade existing infrastructural facilities of 27 Land Customs Stations (LCS) in four northeastern states of Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya and Mizoram - which share a 1,879-km border with Bangladesh

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/tripura/India-Bangladesh-to-develop-border-infrastructure-nbsp/Article1-447568.aspx>

Interpol issues Red Corner Notice against Abu Hamza

Times of India, 28 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Interpol on Wednesday issued Red Corner Notice against a Lashker-e-Taiba terrorist wanted in connection with Mumbai terror strikes in November last year. The Interpol issued notice against Abu Hamza, accused of motivating and training the 10 terrorists sent to Mumbai for carrying out the terror strike

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Interpol-issues-Red-Corner-Notice-against-Abu-Hamza/articleshow/4937471.cms>

[BJP will survive crisis, says Mohan Bhagwat](#)

Hindu, 29 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat on Friday expressed the confidence that the Bharatiya Janata Party would survive the crisis it is facing and "rise from the ashes." The "jolt" of defeat in the Lok Sabha election threw it "off balance" from which it had yet to recover. Time and again, leaders of the party were told that it should put in place "systems and procedures" to deal with indiscipline. If it did not, the party would suffer

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/29/stories/2009082961130100.htm>

[Maoists 'organised' terror group: Govt](#)

Asian Age, 29 August 2009

Aug. 28: The Centre on Friday said that the true face of the CPI (Maoist) is that of an "organised group of terrorists" and indicated stern action against the banned outfit. Condemning the murder of a woman and three students by Maoists in Jharkhand, the home ministry, in a statement said, "Apart from such inhuman acts, the Naxalites remain anti-development and continue to target the very instruments of development — school buildings, roads, telephone towers and railway stations. The government will take strong action against the perpetrators of violence and terror."

<http://www.asianage.com/presentation/leftnavigation/news/india/maoists-'organised'-terror-group-govt.aspx>

[Work to resume soon on Kashmir rail link project](#)

Daily Excelsior, 29 August 2009

NEW DELHI, Aug 28: A year after the suspension of construction activity on the Katra-Qazigund section of the Kashmir rail link project, work in the difficult terrain is likely to resume soon with the Railway Ministry giving its nod. "Ministry has accepted the report of the expert committee which has recommended re-commencement of the work in the Katra-Qazigund section which include the construction of the tallest bridge on the Chenab river," said a senior Railway Ministry officer involved with the project

[Scorpene project will cost Rs 2,000cr more](#)

Times of India, 29 August 2009

NEW DELHI: India will have to soon shell out well over Rs 2,000 crore more to French armament companies if it does not want its ongoing mammoth Rs 18,798 crore project to construct six Scorpene submarines at Mazagon Docks Ltd (MDL) in Mumbai to come to a grinding halt. The Scorpene project, under which the first submarine was to roll out by December 2012, with the others following one per year thereafter, is already running two years behind schedule, as was first reported by TOI

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Scorpene-project-will-cost-Rs-2000cr-more/articleshow/4946064.cms>

[ISRO loses radio contact with Chandrayaan-1](#)

Hindu, 30 August 2009

CHENNAI: In a major blow to India's maiden mission to the moon, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) abruptly lost contact with Chandrayaan-1 at 01.30 a.m. on Saturday. This means no command can be given to the spacecraft and no data, including images of the moon's surface, are being received from it. The Chandrayaan-1 mission has come to an end in ten months instead of its slated life of two years

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/30/stories/2009083058150100.htm>

[No succession plan as yet in the BJP](#)

Hindu, 30 August 2009

NEW DELHI: No succession plan in the BJP has as yet been finalised in the party or by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. But, what appears certain is that L.K. Advani will step down as Leader of the Opposition "sooner rather than later" — as early as September or the latest by December — to make way for a change of leadership. Party spokesperson Prakash Javadekar and RSS spokesperson Ram Madhav said separately on Saturday that no names had as yet been finalised to succeed party president Rajnath Singh and Mr. Advani

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/30/stories/2009083060690100.htm>

[Two ULFA militants shot dead in Kamrup](#)

Hindu, 30 August 2009

RANGIYA (ASSAM): Two hardcore ULFA men were shot dead on Saturday in an encounter between the militants and a joint team of police and Army in Assam's Kamrup district. Police said the joint team raided Naguparahills village on specific information that five ULFA ultras were holed up in a house. The militants fired at the approaching security personnel and the encounter lasted for about an hour. While two militants were shot dead, three others managed to escape

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/30/stories/2009083058220100.htm>

[Navy factors in terrorism, coastal security in revamped maritime doctrine](#)

Times of India, 30 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Making major changes in its maritime doctrine given the evolving nature of modern warfare, the Indian Navy has revamped its existing policies to factor in maritime terrorism, piracy and coastal security as matters of greater strategic importance. The revamped doctrine, which was released by outgoing Navy chief Admiral Sureesh Mehta on Friday, has an all-new chapter on naval combat power which highlights the everchanging demands on conceptual, human and physical components of warfare

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Navy-factors-in-terrorism-coastal-security-in-revamped-maritime-doctrine/articleshow/4949176.cms>

[Can climate change bridge India-Pak divide?](#)

Times of India, 30 August 2009

NEW DELHI: Can climate change transform the dynamics between India and Pakistan as both countries face similar environmental challenges? Environment minister Jairam Ramesh believes it can certainly be a start, as he prepares to host

environment ministers from SAARC countries for a special session on climate change and Copenhagen on October 19-20 to evolve common strategies both in international climate change negotiations and within the region

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Can-climate-change-bridge-India-Pak-divide/articleshow/4949126.cms>

[Hafiz Saeed not 'litmus test' but Pakistan action important: NSA](#)

Hindu, 31 August 2009

NEW DELHI: In his first substantive comments on relations with Pakistan since the July 16 Sharm el-Sheikh summit, National Security Adviser M.K. Narayanan said that averting another major Mumbai-like incident was the government's top priority and that unless Islamabad took "real action" against those involved in terrorism, the progress it had reported so far in the Mumbai case would amount to "a chimera."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/31/stories/2009083158020100.htm>

[Chandrayaan-1 mission terminated](#)

Hindu, 31 August 2009

PANAJI: The Chandrayaan-1 moon mission has been formally called off, as the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has lost radio contact with the craft. There was no possibility of retrieving it, ISRO Chairman Madhavan Nair said here on Sunday. However, the Chandrayaan-II mission would be on the track as per schedule (2012\13), albeit with "valuable lessons learnt in the Chandrayaan-1 expedition," he said

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/31/stories/2009083157910100.htm>

['Sharm el-Sheikh was neither a step forward nor backward'](#)

Hindu, 31 August 2009

New Delhi: Seeking to draw a line under the controversy surrounding last month's meeting between Manmohan Singh and Yusuf Raza Gilani, National Security Adviser M.K. Narayanan on Saturday replied in the negative when asked whether the Sharm el-Sheikh summit between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan had been a step forward. "But," he hastened to add, "it certainly wasn't a step backward." The inclusion of Balochistan in the joint statement had made many critics see red but Mr. Narayanan was categorical that it made no difference to India's position

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/31/stories/2009083156271000.htm>

['Pakistan illegally modified missiles'](#)

Hindu, 31 August 2009

New York: Validating New Delhi's fears that Islamabad was using U.S. security aid to beef up its military against it, the Obama administration has accused Pakistan of illegally modifying the Harpoon anti-ship missile and maritime surveillance aircraft P-3C for potential land attacks against India. The New York Times reported in a front page story that the U.S. lodged a protest in this regard with Pakistan Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani in June, adding to the tension between the two countries

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/08/31/stories/2009083157700100.htm>

[At night, Maoists rule Lalgarh](#)

Times of India, 31 August 2009

LALGARH (West Midnapore): The veneer of security is stretched too thin over the Maoist badlands of Bengal. And it can often be deceptive. On paper, the Lalgarh Operation that started on June 18 to flush out Maoists is still on. Security forces are stationed at the outposts. The tarred roads are still being patrolled. But once the sun wanes and the shadows lengthen, the Maoists take over. If there's a knock on the door late at night, villagers can only huddle together and pray. No security forces will come to the rescue

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/At-night-Maoists-rule-Lalgarh/articleshow/4952569.cms>

Crashes, engine failures ground IAF trainer aircraft

Times of India, 31 August 2009

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force (IAF) has grounded its entire fleet of HPT-32 initial trainer aircraft owing to a series of crashes and engine failures. This comes at a time when the force is facing an acute shortage of efficient pilots. Authoritative sources in the IAF told IANS that recurrent engine failure of the Hindustan Piston Trainer (HPT)-32 aircraft - stationed at the Air Force Academy (AFA) in Hyderabad - is the reason behind the grounding since last month

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/Crashes-engine-failures-ground-IAF-trainer-aircraft/articleshow/4952567.cms>

J&K's Jawahar tunnel to remain open 24/7

Times of India, 31 August 2009

JAMMU: The two-and-half kilometres long Jawahar tunnel, connecting Kashmir with Jammu region on Jammu-Srinagar national highway, will remain open round the clock, J&K Traffic Department officials today said. "The Jawahar tunnel will remain open for vehicular traffic round the clock and arrangements for night traffic movement at the tunnel and security of vehicles on the highway has been made in this direction," they said

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/NEWS/India/JKs-Jawahar-tunnel-to-remain-open-24/7/articleshow/4951550.cms>