

National News

PCI moves Supreme Court over restrictions on press freedom in J&K

Agency
New Delhi Aug 24,

The Press Council of India (PCI) has filed a plea in the Supreme Court regarding restrictions on press freedom in Jammu and Kashmir. According to the plea, the PCI is seeking permission to intervene and allow it to assist the top court in deciding on a petition filed by Kashmir Times Executive Editor that seeks relaxation in curbs on the movement of media personnel, including photojournalists, in Kashmir. Kashmir Times Executive Editor Anuradha Bhasin's plea seeks relaxation in media movement and free reporting amid the security curbs and communication shut down in Jammu and Kashmir following the abrogation of Article 370

on August 5. In her plea, Bhasin has asked the Supreme Court to ensure that an enabling environment is created for all journalists and media personnel in the state to practice their profession. "The rights of the journalists/ media for free and fair reporting are on the one hand and national interest of integrity and sovereignty on the other. Hence the applicant is of opinion that it should present its views before this court and assist the court in deciding the instant writ petition justly in the interest of the freedom of the press as well as in the national interest," read the application. The PCI also cited norms of journalistic conduct Clause 23, which prescribes self-regulation in reporting by journalists in matters of

sensitive national, social or individual interests. Under Clause 23, newspapers should, as a matter of self-regulation, exercise due restraint and caution in presenting any news, comment or information which is likely to jeopardise, endanger or harm the paramount interests of the State and society, or the rights of individuals with respect to which reasonable restrictions may be imposed by law on the right to freedom of speech and expression under clause (2) of Article 19 of the Constitution of India. Clause 23 further states that the publication of a wrong or incorrect map is a very serious offence as it adversely affects the territorial integrity of the country and warrants prompt and prominent retraction with regrets.

The Press Council, in its plea, said the watchdog body was established for the purpose of preserving freedom of the press, maintaining and improving the standards of newspaper and news agencies in the country. The Bar Council of India supported the PCI application. "The media today is expected to act in a manner which strengthens the country. The entire world is witnessing the biased role played by the media of Pakistan and some other nations," said BCI chief Manan Kumar Mishra adding that every citizen of the country was duty-bound to protect its integrity and the media was no exception. "The Constitution has provided full freedom under Article 19, but it is subject to reasonable restrictions," he added.

Janmashtami being celebrated in different parts of the country

Agency
New Delhi Aug 24,

Janmashtami, which marks the birth of Lord Krishna, is being celebrated in different parts of the country today with religious fervor and gaiety. In Uttar Pradesh, birthday of Lord Sri Krishna-Janmashtami is being celebrated with religious fervour and gaiety across the state today. At some places the festival of Janamasthmi was celebrated yesterday also. The Janmashtami was celebrated in Banke Bihari and Prem Mandir in Mathura yesterday. AIR correspondent reports that the people are celebrating the Janmashtami function in their own ways at their places and homes, but main function of Lord Krishna incarnation will take place in Mathura at Jann Bhumi today. The devotees in sizable number have already reached here for incarnation function. Various cultural troops and artists from Bollywood and other places are depicting the life of deity Banke Bihari through their songs and Bhajans. The streets and roads in the town are reverberating by Radhey Radhey and the whole atmosphere has become divine. Elaborate security arrangements have been put in place in place and traffic diversions have been enforced to manage thronging crowd of devotees. President Ram Nath Kovind has greeted people on the occasion. In his message, Mr Kovind said, Yogeshwar Krishna embodied righteousness against evil and devotion to truthfulness. He said, Lord Krishna taught us to focus on Nishkam Karma which means responsibility rather than reward. The President said, Janmashtami is a day to commit ourselves to the life and teachings of Lord Krishna and called upon people to take a resolve to imbibe these timeless and universal values and follow them for the betterment of their lives and the world. Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu has extended his warm greetings to the people on Janmashtami. In a series of tweets, Mr Naidu said, the incarnation of Lord Krishna symbolizes the victory of Dharma over Adharma, righteousness over evil. He said, the eternal message of selfless service given by Lord



Krishna in the Bhagwad Gita has been a source of inspiration for the entire humanity. On the occasion, Mr Naidu called upon people to take a resolve to embrace Dharma, reject Adharma and seek the path of righteousness and service with the endeavor to perform their duties to the best of their abilities. The Vice President expressed hope that this Janmashtami will bring peace, amity, harmony and prosperity in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also greeted the people on the occasion of Janmashtami. In a tweet, Mr Modi expressed hope that the blessings of Lord Krishna will always bring happiness and good health in the lives of people. Shri Krishna Janmashtami is also being celebrated in Gujarat with traditional fervor and gaiety. The main celebrations are being held at Jagatmandir- Dwarika and Lord Ranchhodrai Temple in Dakor. AIR Correspondent reports that thousands of devotees have started gathering at Dwarika and Dakor to participate in special Janmashtami Mahotsava to be held during mid-night. Meanwhile, Gujarat Governor and Chief Minister have greeted the people of the state on Janmashtami. AIR correspondent reports that devotees are participating in special pujas and functions being held at Bagawat Vidhyapeeth at Sola and Iskon temple in Ahmedabad. Large number of devotees have started gathering at Dwarika and Dakor to participate in special Janmashtami Mahotsava. At Dwarika, after the morning pujas, the devotees are waiting for Shayan Bhog, Shayan Arti and Maha Bhog followed by Janmashtami Mahotsav during the midnight. Devasthan Committee of Dwarika has

arranged a special live web casting of Shri Krishna Jannotsav. In the wake of severe floods in western Maharashtra, especially in Kolhapur and Sangli districts, earlier this month, the Dahi Handi festival is being celebrated in a subdued manner in Mumbai and other parts of the state. The Dahi Handi ritual is part of the Janmashtami festival in Maharashtra, where youngsters, called Govindas, dressed in colourful attire, make human pyramid to reach an earthen pot containing buttermilk and suspended in mid-air, and break it. AIR correspondent reports that many Govinda Mandals and organizers of events in Mumbai and other parts of the state have decided to keep the celebrations low-key, to show solidarity with the people affected by the devastating floods. Some of the Mandals are also donating money for the flood relief work. Many Mandals have decided to celebrate the festival just to keep the tradition on. The city is witnessing several Govinda Mandals on the streets since morning. Not only men but also women Govindas are participating in the competition. Meantime, Deputy Commissioner of Police Pranab Ashok informed that along with SRPF and BDS, police force of 40,000 is deployed to maintain law and order. The CCTV cameras are installed to keep an eye on the venues of Dahihandi. In Delhi, various temples have been decorated with colourful lights and flowers, depicting the life of Lord Krishna. Devotees are thronging temples to pay their obeisance to Lord Krishna. There is huge rush of devotees at Birla and ISKCON temples. The main celebration will be held at midnight when the birth of Lord Krishna takes place. Many people are observing fast on the occasion.

PM Narendra Modi arrives in UAE to strengthen bilateral ties

Agency
Dubai Aug 24,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday arrived in the UAE where he will discuss bilateral and regional issues with the top leadership. Modi reached UAE capital Abu Dhabi from Paris on the second leg of his three-nation tour to France, UAE and Bahrain. During the visit, Modi will discuss bilateral, regional and international matters of mutual interest with the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and also formally

hold talks with King Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and also witness the formal beginning of the redevelopment of the temple of Shreenathji — the oldest in the Gulf region before returning to France on Sunday to attend the G7 Summit meetings. Modi's visit to Bahrain is significant as it will be the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister to the country. He would also meet and interact with the Indian diaspora during the visit. Earlier in the day, Modi held bilateral meeting with his French counterpart Edouard

Philippe and discussed issues of bilateral and mutual interests to further boost the comprehensive strategic partnership. He also met UNESCO Director General Audrey Azoulay and addressed the Indian community at the inauguration of a memorial at the foothills of the Mont Blanc mountain in the honour of the victims of two Air India crashes in France in 1950s and 1960s in which several Indians, including Homi J Bhabha, regarded as the father of India's nuclear programme, were killed.

Mohammed bin Zayed Sultan Al-Nahyan will jointly release the commemorative stamp on Mahatma Gandhi commemorating the 150 years of Bapu. Previously, The Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Sultan Al-Nahyan expressed his appreciation for the role and the efforts of developing friendly relations extending the bridges of cooperation between the two countries. Ambassador Navdeep Suri in an interview earlier said that the Rupy card was launched in Singapore and Bhutan. United Arab Emirates is the third largest trade partner and fourth largest exporter of crude oil for India. This is a home for more than three million Indians.

UAE can be valuable partner in realizing India's five trillion dollar economy: PM

Agency
New Delhi Aug 24,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that United Arab Emirates can be India's valuable partner in realizing the objective to achieve five trillion dollar economy through a mutually beneficial partnership. Speaking to the Emirates News Agency representative, in an interview, the Prime Minister said that India has embarked on the ambitious, yet achievable, path to be a five trillion dollar economy by 2024-25. The country is targeting about 1.7 trillion dollar worth of investments in the coming five years. To achieve this vision, the government is working to promote inflows from domestic as well as

foreign sources. He said that UAE-India relations are at their best ever. There has been an increasing interest in investments in India in sectors ranging from renewable energy, food, ports, airports, defence manufacturing and other sectors, he added. Prime Minister Modi said that he is very upbeat about the trajectory of relations with UAE and for opening up new areas of cooperation. There exists a huge potential to make the cooperation a win-win partnership for both countries, he added. Speaking about Indian community in the UAE, he said, the country is immensely proud that the rich contribution of the community to building a modern, diverse and vibrant UAE are also being

acknowledged and appreciated by the UAE leadership. This is the Prime Minister's third visit to the UAE in the last four years, which reflects the desire and will of the two countries to sustain the momentum achieved in the bilateral relationship. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Rupy Card in the United Arab Emirates today. With this, UAE has become the first country in the Middle East to have this facility. Mr Narendra Modi will receive the highest civilian award of United Arab Emirates, the Order of Zayed at a special function in a short while from now. The ceremony will take place in the Presidential Palace of the Emirates. Prime Minister Modi and the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh

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India, United Arab Emirates to sign six MoUs

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New Delhi Aug 24,

India and United Arab Emirates will sign six Memorandums of Understanding today in presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi visiting the United Arab Emirates. The Memorandums will be signed on work practice for dependents of members of diplomatic and consular missions. India will sign a memorandum of bilateral currency swap agreement between Reserve Bank of India and the Central Bank of the UAE. The growing relationship between the two countries will further strengthen the cooperation in the field of

peaceful uses of nuclear energy between Emirates Nuclear Energy cooperation and the global centre for nuclear energy partnership. The ties have broadened with the signing of memorandum on employment of ex-servicemen of Indian Navy in the Navy and Coast Guard of the UAE. There will be a trilateral cooperation in Africa. The Institute for Defence

Studies and Analysis and Emirates Centre of Strategic Studies and Research will ensure more cooperation through a memorandum of understanding. In his tweet, Prime Minister Modi in his tweet said that he was looking forward to holding talks with the Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Zayed and discuss a full range of friendship between the two countries.

HM stresses on maintaining peace & tranquility for development of country

Agency
New Delhi Aug 24,

The Home Minister has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi completed the national integration which was started by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

He said, Sardar Patel integrated Hyderabad in 1948 and the integration has been completed with complete integration of Kashmir now. He was addressing Indian Police Service probationers after reviewing a passing out

parade at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy in Hyderabad this morning. The Home Minister stressed on maintenance of peace and tranquillity for the development of the country.

He said law and order plays key role in the economic development and particularly in achieving five trillion dollar economy. He asked the IPS probationers to be SMART police as the Prime Minister always stresses.

LICENSE LOST

I, undersigned, have lost my Driving Licence, On 21, August 2019, on the way between Nagamapal to Sagolband Meino Leirak.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned

Sd/-
Nongthombam Goroba Singh
Nagamapal Paomam Leikai, Imphal West
Ph. 7085792496