

IRGC DESTROYS 3 US F-35 FIGHTER JETS IN AL-AZRAQ AIRBASE



The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said in Statement No. 55 that it had carried out a ballistic missile strike on Al-Azraq Air Base in response to a

US airstrike on residential homes in Iran's Qeshm Island. According to the IRGC's Public Relations Office, the overnight US attack

targeted two residential houses in Qeshm with bunker-buster bombs, killing three members of a family—a father, mother, and child—and injuring two other children. The statement said that, in retaliation, the IRGC Aerospace Force launched several ballistic missiles at the parking apron and maintenance hangars used by US F-35 fighter jets at Al-Azraq Air Base on Thursday morning. The IRGC claimed that three F-35 aircraft were com-

pletely destroyed, three others sustained heavy damage, and several US officers and maintenance personnel were killed in the attack. The IRGC also addressed the people of Jordan, thanking them for what it described as their support and the outspoken positions taken by segments of the country's elite. It said its campaign against US forces would continue until "the last American occupier is expelled from Islamic lands."

GOVT CLEARS Rs 6,000 CRORE EMPLOYEE AR-REARS IN 100 DAYS

The Telangana government on Thursday, July 30, said it has released the third instalment of Rs 2,000 crore towards pending employee arrears, completing its commitment to disburse Rs 6,000 crore within 100 days. The first instalment of Rs 2,000 crore was released on May 29 and then on June 30. "commutation arrears of retired employees," said a statement from the Finance Department. The remaining categories of pending arrears would also be cleared in a phased and systematic manner in the coming days. The government said employees and pensioners across the State welcomed the release of the funds. Leaders of the Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC) appreciated the government's decision to honour its commitment despite financial constraints and thanked the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister for prioritising employee welfare.

INDIA SHIPPED 2,596 ARMS TO ISRAEL, RISKS WAR CRIMES COMPLICITY

In its report, Amnesty said Indian authorities "knew or should have known" that the transfers carried a substantial risk of contributing to serious violations of international law.



The Democratic News
Hyderabad 30 July

Indian companies, including three firms fully owned by the central government, continued to supply weapons, ammunition and parts to Israel through the war in Gaza, Amnesty International said in a report released on Thursday, July 30, warning that New Delhi risks complicity in violations of international law. The report, titled "Made

in India: The Supply of Weapons and Ammunition to Israel," said its investigators analysed 2,596 shipments of small arms, ammunition and military vehicles sent from India to Israel between October 7, 2023, and November 30, 2025. By Amnesty's own conservative count, Indian companies supplied Israel with at least 390,516 small arms parts for military-grade

weapons, 564,970 parts of explosive ordnance such as drone warheads and artillery shell casings and 298 components of military vehicles. The rights group said the figures very likely understate the true scale of the trade, as it excluded any shipments that could have been meant for civilian use or purely defensive purposes, along with data it could not verify.

PELLET GUNS CAN'T BE BANNED AS LONG AS ADVISORY PERMITS USE: SC

The Democratic News
New Delhi: 30 July

The Supreme Court on Thursday, July 30, said that pellet guns cannot be banned as long as the existing advisory permits their use for crowd control in exceptional circumstances by security agencies, while making it clear that allegations of

specific misuse can be examined on a case-by-case basis. The top court took note of a plea on the use of metallic pellet guns during the recent students' protests against the NEET paper leak in Delhi and asked the Centre to preserve the ammunition log of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) deployed at the Jantar Mantar.

Observing that police, as per the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) advisory, are empowered to use pellet guns in exceptional situations, a bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices Joymalya Bagchi and V Mohana termed "vague" the prayer in the plea seeking a complete ban on such usage.

PM Modi added a debt burden of Rs 151 lakh crore: CM Revanth

"While all the Prime Ministers till 2014 since Independence took a debt of Rs 51 lakh crores, the debt mounted by the present Prime Minister between 2014 and 2026, in 12 years, has been Rs 151 lakh crores," he said.



The Democratic News
Hyderabad 30 July

Attacking the NDA government at the Centre over the country's rising debt, Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Thursday, July 30, said the Prime Minister Narendra Modi regime has added a debt of Rs 151 lakh crores in the 12 years since assuming office in 2014. Addressing government teachers who visited Finland and Germany as part of international exposure programme, he claimed that the debt burden of the country now stood at Rs 201 lakh

crores. "While all the Prime Ministers till 2014 since Independence took a debt of Rs 51 lakh crores, the debt mounted by the present Prime Minister between 2014 and 2026, in 12 years, has been Rs 151 lakh crores," he said. He said previous Prime Ministers built a number of projects such as railway lines, National Highways and provided electrification, education, irrigation and drinking water to lakhs of villages. Questioning the Centre's development record, he asked, "Has the country got new airports, railway lines, major

ports in the last 12 years?" Quoting a recent reply in parliament, he said the country's debt burden rose to Rs 201 lakh crore. Reddy defended former Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, saying they made stellar contributions to the country, but are still criticised. While "small incidents" are projected as major victories, China and Pakistan were defeated in wars and Pakistan was split to form Bangladesh during previous Congress governments, he said. Reddy urged teachers and their unions to take a pledge to transform the education sector in five years and asserted that he would be in the CM's post till 2034. Noting that government teachers are now comfortably placed compared to several other sections of society, he said it is his responsibility to address all the problems and concerns of the teaching community.

Vande Mataram Bill cleared in LS, insulting national song to become criminal offence

The Lok Sabha cleared the Vande Mataram Bill on Thursday amid the din in the House and following a brief debate on the crucial legislation.

The Democratic News
New Delhi: 30 July

The Lok Sabha cleared the Vande Mataram Bill on Thursday amid the din in the House and following a brief debate on the crucial legislation. The bill — Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2026, was cleared by the Lower House with a voice vote, setting the stage for bringing the National Song — Vande Mataram, on the same footing as that of National Anthem — Jana Gana Mana. The bill was approved



by the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. While Lok Sabha debated the Bill before its passage, the House proceedings were marred by continued protests and noisy ruckus by the

Opposition as the latter kept demanding answers from the government over police excesses during the students' agitation over NEET paper leaks. The DMK voiced strong opposition to the Bill, saying that this is being imposed on people against their will and is an attempt to polarise the atmosphere. DMK MP Kanimozhi said that the country's forefathers had the wisdom to adopt only two stanzas of the national song, but the Union government was furthering its divisive agenda by weaponising the legislation.

Opposition walk out of Rajya Sabha

Union Minister JP Nadda said that since the beginning of the Monsoon Session, the opposition's conduct has been negative.

The Democratic News
New Delhi: 30 July

Rajya Sabha on Thursday, July 30, is set to discuss the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill, 2026, a day after the bill was passed in the Lok Sabha after an intense debate between the Treasury and Opposition benches. 10:28 pm: Opposition parties led by Congress staged a walkout in the Rajya Sabha, prompting Leader of the House JP Nadda to condemn the move. Congress demanded the presence of Home Minister Amit Shah in the House. "We talked about sticks, we talked about bullets. We had



a hope that before the discussion in the House, Home Minister Amit Shah would come, but he is not coming," he said. However, Radhakrishnan rejected it and asked Singh to proceed with his reply, following which the Congress, along with some Opposition parties,

staged a walkout. 07:56 pm: BJP MP Raghav Chadda, who in the last Parliament Session represented the Aam Aadmi Party, defended the anti-paper leak Bill in the Rajya Sabha, saying "today is a historic day when the system is getting fixed." His state-

ments triggered a massive uproar in the House, with the Speaker urging Opposition members to settle down to let Chadda finish his address. Chadda, amid the uproar, said now that he stands from the treasury benches, he has a responsibility to present

a solution, unlike when he was in the opposition raising questions. "Jab mein opposition me betha tha sawal mera hatyar tha, aaj me treasury benches pe beth tha hu, solution meri zimmedari hai, (When I sat in the opposition, questions were my weapon; today, sitting on the treasury benches, providing solutions is my responsibility)," said Chadda. 06:44 pm: Attacking MP Kapil Sibal during the debate in Rajya Sabha, BJP MP Sudhanshu Trivedi said, "Several paper leaks happened during Kapil Sibal's tenure as education minister, who has now pledged legal aid for NEET protesters."

CJP FOUNDER ABHIJEET DIPKE ALLEGES THREATS TO JOIN BJP, DEMANDS CLARITY ON PELLET GUN USE

The Democratic News
New Delhi: 30 July

: Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke has alleged that he has been receiving threats from unidentified individuals, who are allegedly pressuring

him to join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Addressing the media, Dipke claimed that he had been warned of "serious consequences" if he refused to join the BJP. He further alleged that anonymous callers had threatened to kill

his family members, prompting him to lodge a complaint with the concerned authorities. Dipke said that intimidating people for expressing differing political views was a matter of serious concern in a democratic country.

NO REFORMS, ONLY POLITICS: KHARGE ATTACKS CENTRE OVER ANTI-PAPER LEAK BILL

New Delhi: Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday launched a sharp attack on the Central government during the debate on the Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Amendment Bill 2026 in the Upper House, accusing it of prioritising politics over students' futures and demanding accountability from Union Home Minister Amit Shah for alleged police excesses against protesting students in Delhi. Kharge alleged that the government had ordered a lathi charge on protesting students.

INDIA bloc stages 'Who gave the order' protest at Parliament; NDA says 'raise meaningful questions'

New Delhi: The Congress party and its allies in the INDIA bloc on Thursday staged a protest at Makar Dwar of the Parliament, demanding answers from the NDA government over the alleged use of lethal force against student protesters during the July 20 'Sansad Chalo' march against NEET paper leaks. Holding banners carrying the message 'Who gave the orders?', INDIA bloc MPs gathered at the Parliament premises and sought accountability over the police action against students who had participated in the demonstration against NEET-related irregularities and paper leaks. The protest came a day after Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition, Rahul Gandhi, raised serious questions over the alleged use of force against the students and sought answers from Union Home Minister Amit Shah on who had ordered the reported "firing" during the NEET protests. "Rahul Gandhi is not the Leader of the Opposition; he is the 'Leader of Propaganda.' He is only interested in creating disruption, and everyone has seen what I consider his double standards. If you genuinely want constructive discussions, then raise meaningful questions. Debate the Anti-Paper Leak Bill and highlight the issues faced by students. However, your only focus is targeting the Prime Minister and the Home Minister," she claimed.