

Norway's Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store addresses a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office in Oslo



Police officers and rescue members prepare for a rescue mission in Yashio, northeast of Tokyo, two days after a truck fell into the sinkhole made on a street



M23 rebels escort government soldiers and police who surrendered to an undisclosed location in Goma, Democratic republic of the Congo



Boats moored in a flooded area in the town of Redon, western France, as whole regions remain under red flood alert

House Foreign Affairs Committee to review US policy towards India

PTI, WASHINGTON: The powerful House Committee on Foreign Affairs will review the US policy towards India and the continued expansion of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the defence sector.

India appears on the 11th list of priorities for the House Committee on Foreign Affairs for the current Congress.

The committee said it "will review US policy towards India and the continued expansion of bilateral cooperation rooted in shared democratic values

while countering the influence of US adversaries in

South and Central Asia." "Particular attention will be paid to the US-India defence relationship, including security and technology cooperation, opportunities for expanded roles, missions, and capabilities, and counterterrorism efforts," it said.

The committee will also focus on efforts to effectively enhance US-India economic relations, including discussions surrounding bilateral efforts in the technology, telecommunications, and pharmaceutical

"The committee will also focus on efforts to bolster India's participation in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue efforts and review the implications of India's rapidly growing energy demands," it said.

The top priority for the committee will be the dangers posed by China.

Adopting its authorisation and oversight plan for the 119th Congress, the committee said it will review the international agreements and treaties China has signed and its violations thereof.

Bill introduced in US Senate to restrict birthright citizenship

PTI, WASHINGTON: A group of Republican Senators has introduced a bill in the US Senate to restrict birthright citizenship to the children of illegal immigrants and non-immigrants on temporary visas.

According to Senators Lindsey Graham, Ted Cruz and Katie Britt, who introduced the bill, the exploitation of birthright citizenship is a major pull factor for illegal immigration and a weakness for national se-

The US is one of only 33 countries in the world with no restrictions on birthright citizenship, they said.

The legislative move after an executive order on the matter. signed by President Donald Trump on the first day of his presidency, has been blocked by a federal judge order to address birthright

The Center for Immigration Studies estimates that in 2023, there were 2,25,000 to 2,50,000 births to illegal immigrants, amounting to close to seven per cent of births in the US.

It is long overdue for the United States to change its policy on birthright citizenship because it is being abused in so many ways, said Graham.

"One example is birth tourism, where wealthy individuals from China and other nations come to the United States simply to have a child who will be an American citizen. When you look at the magnets that draw people to America, birthright citizenship is one of the largest," he said.

"I also appreciate President Trump's executive

TRUMP ORDERS 30.000-PERSON MIGRANT DETENTION FACILITY AT GUANTANAMO BAY PTI, WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump

has signed a presidential memorandum to set up a 30,000-person migrant facility at Guantanamo Bay to detain "high-priority criminal aliens." The Guantanamo Bay facility, which has so far been used to hold terrorists, will now also house illegal immigrants with criminal records. The signing took place on Wednesday, with Trump directing the Departments of Defence and Homeland Security to prepare the facility. According to the memorandum, he ordered the expansion of the Migrant Operations Center at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to accommodate "high-priority criminal aliens" and address related enforcement needs.

citizenship. It is time for the United States to align itself with the rest of the world and restrict this practice once and for all," Graham said.

"The promise of American citizenship should not incentivise illegal migration, but that's exactly what has happened for far too long," said Britt. It's time to fix this, she

"Senator Lindsey Graham's and my Birthright Citizenship Act would codify President Trump's

end the abuse of birthright citizenship that I do not believe is consistent with the original meaning of the 14th Amendment's Citizenship Clause," she added.

This will protect our

nation's sovereignty, disincentivise illegal migration, and ensure America's citizenship practices are stronger and better aligned with peer countries around the globe," Britt said.

The three Senators said in September 2024, two individuals from California were found guilty in a "birth tourism" scheme.

Predominantly Chinese clients paid the operators of a "maternity hotel" tens of thousands of dollars to come to the US to give birth. Clients were coached on how to lie during the admissions process.

CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted smart female dental assistant For clinics in carambolim (old Goa) & Margao Attractive salary package assured Contact/ wsap 7020900219

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7887996633, 7507996633

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Required Girls/ Boys for the post of data entry tym 9. 30 to 5.30 salary 15000/-. Coordinator for tourist cruise line in Panjim and coordination on cruise- 4. 30 to 11. 30. Sal-15000/-9923704271.

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SITUATIONS VACANT

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Wanted a female sales executive for the builder's office in Orlim. near Varca church, freshers also welcome contact 7350429493

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2025003364 Walk In Interview for the post of Undergraduate Teacher B.A. B.Ed on (Child care leave basis) on 08/02/2025 09.00am to 01:00pm with your Application and original certificates. In Husn Sahara English Medium High School Gogal Margao Contact: - 9309101991.

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SITUATIONS VACANT Wanted experienced Barman for restaurant at Candolim. Salary plus tips 28k plus free food and accommodation. Contact: 902113461

THANKSGIVING

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past I have asked many favours. This time I ask you this special one mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your heart where your Father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your owr avour not mine. Amen. Say this praye or three times for three days and you favour will be granted. Never beer known to fail. Must promise publication

2025003395-1 THE MIRACLE PRAYER

(mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and lace it within your heart where your Father sees it. Then in his nerciful eyes it will become your owr avour not mine. Amen. Say this praye for three times for three days and you favour will be granted. Never been nown to fail. Must promise publication S.J.

TOURS & TRAVELS

Zion Tours- Holyland Pilgrimage-16th March & 11th May 2025, Amazing Vietnam- 07th May 2025, Georgia- A Hidden Gem- 19th May 2025, Exotic Turkey- 27th April 2025. Contact: 7498023167/ 8208537106. Margao Office: Office: 2739932 7822969683Email: holvland@ziontours.net.in. www. ziontours.net.in

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Sports Honda City IVETEC Black 42008KM p/steering, p/windows, cd, c/locking airbads, magwheels sports silencer (exchange wagon r, Alto, Swift) 7769811763 Margao. 2025003241

NRI Wagon r lxi (newshape) 2008 frost 76008km 20kmpit p/steering, cd, c/locking newtyre rto passing condition excellent 9326811763.

2025003242

Mini Suv Ford fusion 4x2 diesel 2009 white 86008km 22kmpit p/ steering, p/windows, cd, c/locking, new tyre new tyre rto passing 2029 (exchange Alto, Wagon r & Santro) 9326811804 Margao.

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Russian drone strike kills 6 in Ukraine apartment blast **AP, KYIV:** A Russian

drone blasted a hole in an apartment building in northeastern Ukraine during a nighttime attack, killing at least six people and wounding nine others, officials said on Thursday.

The Shahed drone blew out a wall and surrounding windows in the building in Sumy, a major city, just after 1 a.m., the Sumy regional administration said. Four people were rescued from the rubble, and a child was among the wounded, it said, adding that 120 people were evacuated.

The dead were three older married couples, Sumy Regional Prosecutors' Office said. The regional administration announced two days of mourning in the city.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called it "a terrible tragedy, a terrible Russian crime". The full-scale war

between Russia and Ukraine, which began nearly three years ago and shows no signs of ending, has killed more than 10,000 Ukrainian civilians, according to the United Nations.

SNOW WARRIORS



Longtan Park Temple Fair on the second day of Lunar New Year in Beijing

Hamas frees 8 more hostages, Israel starts to release Palestinian prisoners after delay

STRIP): Hamas-led militants freed eight hostages on Thursday as part of the ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, but the chaotic handover of some of the captives, who were shuttled through a rowdy crowd of thousands by masked militants, drew an angry protest from Israel.

Israel later began releasing 110 Palestinian prisoners after the swap was initially put on hold by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who demanded that mediators assure the safe exit for hostages going forward. He said later that he had received that commitment.

Hamas released seven of the hostages in front of the destroyed home of its slain leader, Yahya Sinwar, as thousands pressed in. The militant group called it a "message of determination", but it triggered the latest in a series of disputes

AP, KHAN YOUNIS (GAZA in the southern city of

A crowd greets Islamic Jihad and Hamas fighters as they arrive for the hand-over of Israeli and Thai hostages to the Red Cross in the south Gaza Strip town of Khan Younis

that have sent US and Arab mediators scrambling to patch up the truce. The ceasefire is aimed

at eventually ending the deadliest and most destructive war ever fought between Israel and Hamas, and securing the release of dozens of hostages abducted in the militant group's October 7, 2023, attack that ignited the war.

A show of force as hos-

tages are released The first hostage - female soldier Agam Berger. 20 - was released after Hamas paraded her in front of a smaller crowd in the heavily destroyed urban Jabaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza.

Hours later, a chaotic scene unfolded at a handover of the other seven

Khan Younis. Hundreds of militants from Hamas and the smaller Islamic Jihad group arrived with a convoy, and thousands of people gathered to watch, some from the tilted rooftops of bombedout buildings.

Footage showed hostage Arbel Yehoud, 29, looking stunned as masked militants hustled her through the shouting crowd, pushing people back. Also released were Gadi Moses, an 80-year-old Israeli man, and five Thai laborers. Both Yehoud and Moses are dual German-Israeli nationals. Israel identified the

Thai hostages released as: Watchara Sriaoun, 33; Pongsak Thaenna, 36: Sathian Suwannakham, 35; Surasak Rumnao, 32; and Bannawat Saethao, 27. Thai officials said they appeared to be in good health.

Tears of joy for Thai hostages freed in Gaza

AFP, KUMPHAWAPI: The families of Thai farm workers held for over a year in Gaza cheered and wept with relief Thursday as they were freed in a hostage-prisoner exchange between Israel and Hamas. Five Thais were freed

held by Hamas as part of a ceasefire deal aimed at ending the Gaza war. When Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, 2023, 31 Thais were abducted. with 23 released by the

end of that year and two

along with three Israelis

confirmed dead in May. "It is confirmed everyone, my son did not die. Thank you God," Wiwwaeo Sriaoun said as she heard the confirmation that her son Watchara Sriaoun was

among those freed. "I will hug him when I see him. I want to see if his health is OK, I am worried about his health," she added between sobs.

World witnessing rapid changes, pro-active, bold steps required to prepare for future: Saudi minister

PTI, RIYADH: The world has been witnessing rapid technological advancement, fundamental demographic changes and various emerging issues, which require "pro-active and bold steps" to prepare humanity for the future, a Saudi minister said on

Wednesday.

Saudi Arabia is "proud to host this conference" as part of its continuous efforts to play an "active role" in global change, Minister of Human Resources omies, communities and and Social Development Eng. Ahmed bin Sulaiman The

AlRajhi said in his address at the second edition of the Global Labour Market Conference (GLMC) here. At the conference, he also announced two initia-

tives of the government of

Saudi Arabia "Our commitment to international collaboration is reflected in the initiatives we are unveiling today. These initiatives aim to transform challenges into opportunities, ensuring the prosperity of our econ-

workforces," he said. first initiative, thanks to Saudi Arabia's long partnership with the World Bank, "we are proud to launch the labour academy, an institution that will be a turning point in how policymakers worldwide are trained," the min-

ister said. The academy will be permanently based in Riyadh, reflecting the Kingdom's commitment. It will focus on equipping these leaders with comprehensive tools to address current future challenges in labour markets, drive inclusive employment,

train young people and integrate social protection into labour market policies, he added. "The second initiative, I

am also pleased to present, the navigating the future report, a comprehensive analysis of global labour markets trends, both current and future. The report provides practical recommendations based on.. research, offering innovative strategies to bridge skill gap, to promote life-long learning," AlRajhi said.

He hoped that this conference will have a tangible and positive impact on the labour market.

In his address, he also underlined that at the global level, around 67 million young people are unemployed.

'We all united in our

efforts to discuss current challenges, draw the future roadmap for the labour market," said AlRajhi, who delivered the opening remarks on behalf of the King of Saudi Arabia at the global conference being hosted at King Abdulaziz International Conference Centre (KAICC).