



**Britain's Foreign Secretary David Lammy (R) with Ukraine's Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiha, during their meeting in Kyiv, Ukraine**



**Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov gestures speaking at a roundtable on Ukraine with ambassadors of foreign countries in Moscow**



**US Secretary of State Marco Rubio (L) with Guatemalan Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos Ramiro Martinez in Guatemala City**



**Britain's King Charles III listens to D-Day veteran Eugeniusz Niedzielski during a visit to the Polish Social and Cultural Association in London**

# Trump says he wants US to take ownership of Gaza Strip

AP, WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump suggested that displaced Palestinians in Gaza be permanently resettled outside the war-torn territory and proposed the US take "ownership" in redeveloping the area into "the Riviera of the Middle East."

Trump's brazen proposal Tuesday appears certain to roil the next stage of talks meant to extend the tenuous ceasefire between Israel and Hamas and secure the release of the remaining hostages held in Gaza.

The provocative comments came as talks are ramping up this week with the promise of surging humanitarian aid and reconstruction supplies to help the people of Gaza recover after more than 15 months of devastating conflict.

Now Trump wants to push roughly 1.8 million people to leave the land they have called home and claim it for the US, perhaps with American troops.

"The US will take over the Gaza Strip, and we will do a job with it too," Trump said at an evening

**"The US will take over the Gaza Strip, and we will do a job with it too. We'll make sure that it's done world-class. It'll be wonderful for the people — Palestinians, Palestinians mostly, we're talking about — Donald Trump, US President**

news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu by his side.

The president who made his name as a New York real estate developer added: "We'll make sure that it's done world-class. It'll be wonderful for the people — Palestinians, Palestinians mostly, we're talking about."

Trump outlined his thinking as he held talks with Netanyahu at the White House, where the two leaders also discussed the fragile ceasefire and hostage deal in the Israeli-Hamas conflict and shared concerns about Iran.

Trump said the US would redevelop the territory after Palesti-



**President Donald Trump meets with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Oval Office of the White House, on Tuesday**

tinians are resettled elsewhere and turn the territory into a place where the "world's people" — including Palestinians — would live. He offered no detail about what authority the US would use to take the land and develop it.

**Allies reject the idea**

Egypt, Jordan and other US allies in the Mideast have cautioned Trump that relocating Palesti-

nians from Gaza would threaten Mideast stability, risk expanding the conflict and undermine a decades-long push by the US and allies for a two-state solution.

Saudi Arabia's foreign ministry issued a sharply worded reaction to Trump, noting their long call for an independent Palestinian state was a "firm, steadfast and unwavering position."

Saudi Arabia has been in negotiations with the US over a deal to diplomatically recognise Israel in exchange for a security pact and other terms. "The duty of the international community today is to work to alleviate the severe human suffering endured by the Palestinian people, who will remain committed to their land and will not budge from it," the Saudi statement said.

Still, Trump insists the Palestinians "have no alternative" but to leave the "big pile of rubble" that is Gaza. He spoke out as his top aides stressed that a three-to-five-year timeline for reconstruction of the war-torn territory, as laid out in a temporary truce agreement, is not viable. Last week, both Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Jordanian King Abdullah II dismissed Trump's calls to resettle Palestinians in Gaza.

But Trump said he believes Egypt and Jordan — as well as other countries, which he did not name — will ultimately agree to take in Palestinians.

## Birthright citizenship order gets put on hold by 2<sup>nd</sup> federal judge

AP, GREENBELT: A federal judge on Wednesday ordered a second temporary pause on President Donald Trump's executive order seeking to end birthright citizenship for anyone born in the US to someone in the country illegally.

US District Judge Deborah Boardman said no court in the country has endorsed the Trump administration's interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment.

"This court will not be the first," she said.

Trump's inauguration week order had already been on temporary hold nationally because of a separate suit brought by four states in Washington state, where a judge called the order "blatantly unconstitutional."

In total, 22 states, as well as other organisations, have sued to try to stop the executive action.

Bringing the suit before Boardman are immigrant-rights advocacy groups CASA and Asylum Seeker Advocacy Project, and a handful of expectant

mothers. At the heart of the lawsuits is the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, ratified in 1868 after the Civil War and the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision that determined Scott, a slave, wasn't a citizen.

"The principle of birthright citizenship is a foundation of our national democracy, is woven throughout the laws of our nation, and has shaped a shared sense of national belonging for generation after generation of citizens," the plaintiffs argued in the suit.

The Trump administration asserts that children of noncitizens are not "subject to the jurisdiction" of the United States and therefore not entitled to citizenship.

"The Constitution does not harbour a windfall clause granting American citizenship to, inter alia: the children of those who have circumvented (or outright defied) federal immigration laws," the government argued in reply to the Maryland plaintiffs' suit.

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#### ROT OF JOB SCAM GOT US THESE CORRUPT POLICEMEN: ACTIVISTS

Roshan Mathias, an outspoken critic of the system, linked the involvement of police officers in illegal activities to the deep-rooted political connections that shape recruitment practices. "The police are part of a system controlled by the ruling government. No officer is recruited without political influence, or without fulfilling other demands. This creates a culture where officers have to obey their political patrons, and corruption runs rampant," Mathias said.

Mathias added that the need for reforms is urgent. "Goa needs a comprehensive Police Reforms Act to ensure transparency in recruitment, transfers, and promotions. Only then will the system work on merit, not on political connections."

#### DELHI EXIT POLLS PREDICT BJP VICTORY

Among the exit polls that predicted a BJP victory, the People's Pulse showed the NDA was likely to get 51 to 60 seats, while the AAP may get 10-19 seats. The Congress, it claimed, will not be able to open its account.

According to People's Insight exit poll, the NDA is likely to get 40 to 44 seats, the AAP 25 to 29 seats, and the Congress 0-1 seat.

The P-Marq exit poll predicted 39-49 seats for the BJP and its allies, 21-31 seats for AAP and 0-1 for the Congress.

The JVC exit poll said the BJP and allies would get 39-45, the AAP 22-31 seats and the Congress 0-2.

Similarly, the Poll Diary predicted 42-50 seats for the BJP and allies, while giving the AAP 18-25 seats, 0-2 for the Congress and 0-1 for others.

Chankya Strategies exit poll said the BJP and allies are likely to get 39-44 seats, the AAP is likely to get 25-28, while Congress may get 2-3.

Two surveys predicted AAP's victory - Wee Preside, which gave 46-52 sets for AAP, 18-23 for BJP and 0-1 for Congress, and Mind Brink Media predicted 44-49 seats for AAP, 21-25 for BJP and 0-1 for the Congress.

Matrize exit poll predicted a close contest, giving the BJP led NDA 35-40 seats, while the AAP was said to get 32 to 37 seats. The survey gave Congress 0-1 seats.

The DV Research exit polls predicted 26-34 seats for the AAP, and 36-44 for the BJP and allies, giving zero seats to the Congress.

In the 70 member Delhi assembly, 36 is the majority mark. The AAP currently has 62 MLAs, the BJP has eight, and the Congress none.

The Delhi assembly polls were held on Wednesday, and results would be declared on February 8. There are 1.55 crore voters in Delhi, out of which nearly 58% exercised their franchise till 5 pm on Wednesday.

Several AAP leaders rejected the exit polls, while BJP leaders said they are confident of their victory.

#### DELHI RECORDS OVER 59% VOTING

Long queues of voters were witnessed outside polling stations in different constituencies since early morning, and there were people still waiting after the scheduled time of close at 6 pm.

According to the Election Commission's voter app, 59.71% votes — there are 1.56 crore eligible voters — were polled by 5 pm. The percentage will go up as officials update the figures from all the 13,766 stations.

"All 70 Assembly constituencies of Delhi went to polls today in a peaceful and festive atmosphere. Voters were delighted with the seamless polling process and facilities at the polling stations," an official statement of ECI said. "All voters in the queue after formal closing hours of polling i.e. 6 pm are allowed to cast their vote," the statement said.

Polling booths across the city daubed themselves with colours and hung posters of celebrities bearing special messages to give the voters an impression of a true festive spirit. One such poster bore the image of Lata Mangeshkar, while several others depicted paralympians.

A total of 699 candidates are engaged in a keen battle that would decide whether the AAP comes to power in Delhi for a fourth term or the BJP gets a chance to form a government in the national capital after 27 years. The Congress also made all-out effort to regain its foothold in the city politics.

#### INDIA IS SECOND BIGGEST MARKET FOR OPENAI: ALTMAN

Altman during his first visit to India in June 2023 had called India's ability to develop a foundational model similar to OpenAI's ChatGPT 'totally hopeless' and a few days later had clarified that his point was about the difficulty of competing with established AI giants on cost-efficient foundational models.

Altman's visit comes days after the finance ministry directed its officers not to download or use AI tools and apps such as ChatGPT and DeepSeek in office computers and devices, saying they pose confidentiality risks to data and documents.

In response to a question on his view on development of low-cost foundational models, Altman said that's a reference to a comment he made in India a few years ago.

"That was a very specific time when there was a certain scaling thing. I still think that to stay on that frontier of pre-training models is expensive. We are now in a world where we made incredible progress with distillation.

"These reasoning models in particular, it's not cheap. It's still expensive to train them, but it's doable. I think that's going to lead to an explosion of really great creativity and India should be a leader there," he said.

Many believe that China's DeepSeek AI platform developed with \$6 million investment is based on "distillation" of foundational AI models but there is no clear evidence available.

Altman said India is an incredibly important market for AI in general, for OpenAI in particular.

"It's our second biggest market. Tripled users here last year, but mostly seeing what people in India are building with AI at all levels of the stack, chips, models, you know, all of the incredible applications. I think India should be doing everything. I think India should be one of the leaders of the AI revolution," he said.

To assuage the pricing debate triggered by China's DeepSeek AI platform across the industry, Altman attempted to address the curiosity of stakeholders with projection that the cost of intelligence unit in development of AI technology will drop about 10 times after a year.

Altman said there has been incredible development of technology in India where the company has tripled its user base last year and sees the country as one of the leaders in the AI revolution.

He said the cost of developing model models in AI is still not cheap but there has been a lot of progress in AI that will require less hardware and the rest of it can be used for other purposes.

"The cost for a given unit of intelligence, one year later, seems to fall by about 10x," Altman said.

Intelligence unit in AI platform development generally refers to a module that uses some input, processes it and gives an output generally based on the pattern in which they are trained or configured.

Altman said Moore's Law predicted that there will be a two-time increase in the number of transistors on a chip every 18 months and that has changed the world.

"But what's happening with the reduction in cost in AI models is extraordinary now, not only does it mean that the world is going to need less AI hardware, because you bring the cost down, they are going to use it for a lot more things," Altman said.

OpenAI has invested billions of dollars in the development of its foundational AI models and ChatGPT applications are being widely used in India.

OpenAI has set up a new company, The Stargate Project, in which it intends to invest \$500 billion over the next four years building new AI infrastructure for OpenAI in the United States.

#### AGA KHAN, LEADER OF ISMAILI MUSLIMS, DIES AT 88

His successor was designated in his will, which will be read in the presence of his family and religious leaders in Lisbon before the name is made public. The successor is chosen from among his male progeny or other relatives, according to the Ismaili community's website.

It said his burial and will-reading will be held in the coming days, followed by an homage ceremony.

Considered by his followers to be a direct descendant of

the Prophet Muhammad and treated as a head of state, he was a student when his grandfather named him as successor to lead the diaspora of Shia Ismaili Muslims, passing over his playboy father and saying his followers should be led by a young man "who has been brought up in the midst of the new age."

Over decades, the Aga Khan evolved into a business magnate and a philanthropist, moving between the spiritual and the worldly with ease.

Ceremonies were being held Tuesday in Ismaili communities in the US and others were held elsewhere in the world Wednesday.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called him "a symbol of peace, tolerance and compassion in our troubled world." Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called him a very good friend and "an extraordinarily compassionate global leader."

Condolences poured in online from charity groups he supported, as well as the equestrian world, where he was a well-known figure.

The Aga Khan was given the title of "His Highness" by Queen Elizabeth in July 1957, two weeks after his grandfather the Aga Khan III unexpectedly made him heir to the family's 1,300-year dynasty as leader of the Ismaili Muslim sect.

He became the Aga Khan IV on October 19, 1957, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, on the spot where his grandfather once had his weight equaled in diamonds in gifts from his followers.

He had left Harvard to be at his ailing grandfather's side, and returned to school 18 months later with an entourage and a deep sense of responsibility.

"I was an undergraduate who knew what his work for the rest of his life was going to be," he said in a 2012 interview with Vanity Fair magazine. "I don't think anyone in my situation would have been prepared."

A defender of Islamic culture and values, he was widely regarded as a builder of bridges between Muslim societies and the West despite — or perhaps because of — his reticence to become involved in politics.

The Aga Khan Development Network, his main philanthropic organization, deals mainly with issues of health care, housing, education and rural economic development. It says it works in over 30 countries and has an annual budget of about \$1 billion for nonprofit development activities.

#### MINOR RESCUED FROM CLUTCHES OF PAEDOPHILE AT TIVIM

The police said that based on the statement of the minor, counselled by Bailancho Ekvott, it appears that Paul had also abused the younger sibling of the rescued child. The child disclosed that the accused had allegedly abused several other kids.

The police further stated that the accused used to lure children from marginalised families by offering them gifts and bike rides.

The police said that Paul used to take the children to his residence, offer "intoxicated" drinks, show pornographic content and sexually abuse them for days, in violation of the Goa Children's Act.

PI Sunil Gudlar conducted the investigation under the supervision of SP Harishchandra Madkaikar.

Meanwhile, Colvale Police have registered a case against the accused for sexually abusing the child and also under Section 8 of Goa Children's Act.

#### US MILITARY PLANE CARRYING DEPORTED INDIANS LANDS IN PUNJAB

The deportees were questioned inside the airport terminal building by different government agencies, including the Punjab Police and various state and central intelligence agencies, to check if they have any criminal record.

Around 6:45 pm, the deportees from Punjab were taken to their respective hometowns in police vehicles after the completion of all formalities. Similarly, the illegal immigrants from Haryana were taken by the state police to their native places, the sources said.

They also said arrangements were made by the state governments concerned to take the deportees to their native places.

There was heavy barricading outside the airport and police personnel were deployed in large numbers.

Except for an Amritsar-based man, who came to receive his grandson, none of the family members of the deportees showed up at the airport. He, however, refused to talk to reporters at the airport and seemed miffed by the volley of questions.

Earlier, media reports claimed that the US military plane was carrying 205 illegal immigrants.

Among the illegal immigrants hailing from Punjab, six were from Kapurthala, five from Amritsar, four each from Patiala and Jalandhar, two each from Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Shaheed Bhagat Singh (SBS) Nagar and one each was from Gurdaspur, Tarn Taran, Sangrur, SAS Nagar and Fatehgarh Sahib, the sources said.

Jaspal Singh (36), who was among the deportees, claimed that they were handcuffed and their legs were chained and those were taken off only at the Amritsar airport.

Singh, who hails from Hardorwal village in Gurdaspur district, said he was captured by the US Border Patrol after he crossed the US border on January 24.

After reaching his hometown in the evening, Singh said he was defrauded by a travel agent, who had promised him that he would be sent to the US legally.

"I had asked the agent to send me after getting a proper US visa. But he deceived me," he said.

Singh said the deal with the agent was finalised at Rs 30 lakh.

He left home for the US in July last year and reached that country only in January.

Singh said he was arrested by the US Border Patrol, kept there for 11 days and then sent back.

He said initially, they did not know where they were being taken. "We thought we were being taken to another camp. Then a police officer told us that we were being taken to India. We were handcuffed and our legs were chained. The handcuffs and chains were taken off at the Amritsar airport," he said.

Replying to a reporter's question, Singh said they were shattered when they got to know that they would be deported. "A huge sum was spent. The money was borrowed," he said.

Family members of the other illegal immigrants from Punjab also said they took huge loans to send these people to the United States, hoping for a bright future, but now feel that it is impossible to break free from the crushing debt.

They alleged that the travel agents adopted unfair means to facilitate these people's travel to the US without their knowledge. They now seek strict action against those agents.

Hours after the US military aircraft landed at the airport, Punjab NRI Affairs Minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal sought Prime Minister Narendra Modi's intervention, requesting him to speak to his "friend" Trump regarding the deportation of Indians.

#### BILL ON COMUNIDADE LAND USE IN ASSEMBLY SESSION

Once such an order is issued, no other authority — including the Town and Country Planning Department, Planning and Development Authority, Municipal Council, Village Panchayat, or Corporation of the City of Panaji (CCP) — will be allowed to grant permissions, clearances, approvals, or No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for the land in question.

In addition, the government is also set to introduce two more bills. The first, titled "The Goa Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation)" seeks to address the revival and extension of provisional registrations for clinical establishments, following the withdrawal of a similar amendment Bill in August 2023. Additionally, the Goa Goods and Services Tax (GST) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024 will also be tabled in the upcoming legislative session.

#### ONLINE ROW OVER 'RACIST NIGHTCLUB'

However, others offered a different perspective, suggesting that the nightclub's actions may have been driven by financial interests. "Fancy clubs prefer people who could spend a few thousand in the club, so they filter the crowd based on how they dress and behave. Not all foreigners are allowed in for free, only whites," one comment argued.