

11 killed in Pak as roadside bomb hits vehicle carrying coal miners

PTI, ISLAMABAD: At least 11 people were killed and seven others injured when a roadside bomb struck a vehicle carrying coal miners in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province on Friday, officials said.

The blast hit a mini truck in the Shahrag area of Harnai district of the province, according to Harnai Deputy Commissioner Hazrat Wali Kakar.

"We have moved at least 11 bodies to the hospital and seven workers who were wounded have also been sent for medical attention," Kakar said. He said the victim worked in the coal mines and they were shifted to a nearby hospital.

Police said that initial reports showed that the blast was caused due to an Improvised Explosive Device, which was planted on the roadside.

The officials of law enforcement agencies rushed to the place and launched a manhunt to nab the culprits.

Judge orders Trump admin to lift USAID funding freeze within 5 days

AP, WASHINGTON: A federal judge has ordered President Donald Trump's administration to temporarily lift a funding freeze that has shut down US humanitarian aid and development work around the world, and he has set a five-day deadline for the administration to prove it's complying.

The judge's ruling late Thursday cited the financial devastation that the near-overnight cutoff of payments has caused suppliers and nonprofits that carry out much of US aid overseas.

The ruling was the first to challenge the Republican administration's funding freeze. It comes amid a growing number of lawsuits by government employees' groups, aid groups and government suppliers asking courts to roll back the administration's fast-paced dismantling of the US Agency for International Development, or USAID, and US foreign assistance overall.

Trump and his aide Elon Musk say the 6-decade-old aid agency and much of foreign assistance overall is out of line with the Republican president's agenda.

Administration officials "have not offered any explanation for why a blanket suspension of all congressionally appropriated foreign aid, which set off a shockwave and upended

contracts with thousands of nonprofit groups, businesses and others, "was a rational precursor to reviewing programmes," Judge Amir H. Ali said in his ruling.

Contractors, farmers and suppliers in the US and around the world say the Trump administration's funding freeze has stifled them on hundreds of millions of dollars in pay for work already done, has forced them to lay off staff and is rapidly putting many near the point of financial collapse.

Farmers and other suppliers and contractors describe fortunes in undelivered food aid rotting in ports and other undelivered aid at risk of theft.

The judge ordered the administration to notify every organization with an existing foreign-aid contract with the federal government of his temporary stay. He set a Tuesday deadline for the administration to show it had done so and was otherwise complying with the order.

There was no immediate public response from the Trump administration.

The judge issued the temporary order in the US in a lawsuit brought by two organisations, the AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition and the Global Health Council, representing health organisations receiving US funds for work abroad.

UK imposes new sanctions on allies of Russian Prez Putin

PTI, LONDON: The UK on Friday announced new sanctions against people with links to Russian President Vladimir Putin's "inner circle" in what the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) dubbed a "crackdown on the Kremlin".

The latest set of sanctions come a year after the death of prominent Russian Opposition activist Alexei Navalny and targets high-profile figures working in the Russian government, including Russian Defence Minister Pavel Fradkov and Vladimir Selin, who heads up an arm of the Russian Ministry of Defence.

They also target Artem Chaika, whose extractives company the UK believes supports Russian state-owned business.

"I am announcing further sanctions to keep up the pressure on Putin. Ukrainians are fighting for their country's future and the principle of sovereignty across Europe at the front-line," said Foreign Secretary David Lammy.

"Nearly a year on from the death of Alexei Navalny, I am honoured to meet with (his widow) Yulia Navalnaya and make clear our commitment to weaken Putin's attempts to stifle political opposition and crack down on the Kremlin's corrupt dealings globally. We are calling on our friends and allies to continue to step up in the face of ongoing Russian aggression," he said.

LORD I AM COMING HOME

MARIA ALICE ANA DE MELO
(MIRAMAR)
DOB- 22/07/1952
DOD- 14/02/2025

Daughter of- late Luisa Sousa/late Dr. Joaquim De Melo
Sister/Sister in law of- late Fortunato/Greta De Melo, Filocha /Danny Haslam, Maria Lourdes/late Kevin Ross, late Maria Fatima/late Peregrino Fernandes, Diana/ Francis Fernandes
Loving Aunt to all her nieces, nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews.

Her mortal remains will be brought directly to **Stella Maris Chapel, Miramar at 11:00am on Sunday 16/02/25 (TOMORROW)**, for an Eucharistic Celebration at 11:30am, followed by burial at **St. Inez Cemetery**.

Relatives & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

DEATH CONCEICAO PINHO

BORN: 02-02-1973 DIED: 13-02-2025
Beloved wife of Roque Barreto.
Daughter of Late Francisco Pinho / Late Filomena Pinho. Sister of Simon.
Daughter-in-law of Late Pedrinha Barreto / Late Piedade Barreto.
Sister-in-law of Late Constâncio Barreto / Late Sabina Barreto, George Barreto / Renuka D'Souza.
Ana Maria Barreto / Miquel Miranda, Conceicao Barreto / Inacio Dias.
Aunt of Late Cassilas Barreto.
Funeral cortege will leave her residence Borda at **4.45 p.m. on Saturday, 15th February 2025 to Holy Spirit Church, Margao** for Eucharistic celebration at **5.00 p.m.** followed by burial.

Relatives & Friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

DEATH Helena Brigida D'Souza
Aldona / Mapusa / Toronto

7 April 1928 - 11 Feb 2025

Helena touched many lives with her warm smile, welcoming nature, gentleness and generosity.

She passed away on 11th February and joins her husband Manuel D'Souza, her parents Nascimento and Luizinha Alvares, her brother Joe/Anne in God's home.

Remembered in love by her children Alba/Charles, Thelma, Connie/Francis, Monica/Colin, Anthony/Marina, Edgar/Tania, Mario/Jacinta, Les/Divya;

her grandchildren Doreen, Beverly/Rajeev, Michelle, Rachel/Rashid, Philip, Lynette, Ryan, Warren/Rhea, Clive, Akash/Shradha, Nicholas, Aaron/Veronica, Stephen/Mia, Alysha/Jon, Jordan, Nathaniel, Zachary;

her great-grandchildren Aalyana, Devin, Jaiden, Keyaan, Malik, Nylah, Logan, Zoe, Shilah, Megan, Cecilia, Lucia, Natalia, Dominic, Austin.

Funeral will be held on 18th February in Toronto.

No condolence visits please.

FROM PAGE 1 & 2

THIS GOVT CAN'T GET US MHADDEI WATER: ACTIVISTS

Supreme Court lawyer Bhavanishankar Gadnis urged the public to take a more active stance on the issue, calling for an agitation to press the government for an early hearing. "This government is deceiving the public. I appeal to the people to demand a resolution this year," Gadnis advised.

Prajal Sakhardande, speaking on the series of agitations that took place in 2023, questioned their effectiveness, expressing doubts about the government's commitment to the cause. "It seems that we will have to start another agitation to make any progress," Sakhardande remarked.

Adv. Avinash Bhosale emphasized the lack of political will, stating that despite both Goa and Karnataka having governments in power, Goa's lax attitude has allowed Karnataka to benefit from delays. "This is a straightforward case, but Goa's inaction has given Karnataka the upper hand," Bhosale noted.

The MBA representatives unanimously agreed that the delay in the Mhaddei case is not due to Karnataka or the Supreme Court but is directly linked to the Goa government's negligence. They urged the public to hold the state accountable.

In a related development, the third meeting of Mhaddei PRAWAH is set to take place on March 3. The meeting is expected to carry significant weight, as it coincides with the Supreme Court's upcoming final decision on the Mhaddei case.

VENUE HUNT LANDS KARACUS MARAKUS MUSIC FESTIVAL IN HOT WATER AGAIN

Despite the closure notice, crowds were reported to be gathering outside Echo after sunset on Friday, the first day of the trance festival, although no music was audible at the time of press. One ticket holder, waiting outside the venue, said, "I've been informed the party will start around midnight. That's why I'm waiting here, hoping they'll open the gate and let us in before it begins."

Locals, however, expressed outrage at the situation. Thaddeus D'souza, a resident living 50 metres from the venue, described his daily struggles with loud music, which sometimes starts in the afternoon and goes on through the night. "Living here is a nightmare. I've been making complaints to the police, sending copies to the Amicus Curiae handling the noise pollution case to let the judges know that the Advocate General is regularly lying," he said.

After O Herald's report forced the venue shift, organisers had informed ticket holders that the festival would be relocated to Origen in Vagator. However, on the opening day of the event, a flyer from Pralayahrecords announced that the party would be held at Echo.

In a statement on their social media, Pralayahrecords explained the shift, stating, "This update is the result of extensive discussions with relevant authorities, landowners, and all parties involved."

The organizers also added, "We kindly request that you refrain from spreading negative comments on our social media posts, any

such behavior will result in immediate blocking and denial of entry to the venue."

The controversy surrounding the festival intensified with comments from local officials. Varsha Parab, the new Deputy Collector of North Goa, confirmed that no permission had been granted for the event. "I have received no application for permission to play music and was not aware that a closure notice stands against the venue," she said.

Anjuna Police Station PI Suraj Gawas echoed the sentiment, stating, "The question of us giving permission to play at Echo does not arise as I am aware of the affidavit presented to the Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court by GSPCB."

Local activist Alex Noronha sharply criticized the event's organizers, calling the move "arrogant" and a "contempt of the High Court." He added, "Trying to have a party at a place with a closure notice not only smacks of arrogance but is in contempt of the Goa Bench of the High Court, which has been informed that closure directions have been issued."

Noronha also expressed his frustration with the situation, suggesting that the police's failure to act may be due to political influence. "The police would not act with total disregard for the High Court without the blessing of the government. There is big money involved, and the cops are being made scapegoats. This is why Goa is known for its 'Kuch bhi chalta hai' attitude in India," he said.

In a letter to the Anjuna Police Station, D'souza reiterated his concerns, stating that the festival should not be allowed to proceed at Echo, citing the closure notice issued by GSPCB. His letter was acknowledged by the police at 6:06 pm on Friday.

COURT CONVICTS MAN FOR 2017 RAPE-MURDER OF DANIELLE MCLAUGHLIN

Her body was later repatriated to the Republic of Ireland by her family.

Danielle McLaughlin had arrived in Goa on February 23, 2017, and stayed at Arambol, Pernem. She later left for Canacona and checked into a hotel at Agonda with a friend. After spending a night at the hotel, she left for Palolem on March 13.

During the trial, Bhagat denied the charges. The court proceedings faced several delays and adjournments over the years. Public prosecutors V G Costa and Govind Gaunkar conducted the trial, while public prosecutors Sanjay Samant and D Korgaonkar represented the State. Danielle's family, along with their counsel Adv Vikram Varma, were present during the conviction. Adv Arun Bras de Sa argued on behalf of Vikat Bhagat.

Reacting to the conviction, a family member of Danielle said: "I am thankful to all the policemen, lawyers and the court for finally bringing us justice. We have lost eight years of our lives to this. Danielle was full of laughter and lived life to the fullest. She did not deserve what he put her through. We are grateful that the man who took Danielle from us has finally been convicted and that we got to witness the conviction and see Goa, which Danielle loved so much."

Headley, one of the main conspirators of the terror attack. "He is going to be going back to India to face justice," Trump said. "We're giving him back to India immediately" and more such extraditions could follow as we have quite a few requests (from New Delhi)," he added.

The US president also noted positive momentum in India-US cooperation in the civil-nuclear energy sector.

"In the groundbreaking development for the US nuclear industry, India is also reforming laws to welcome US nuclear technology to the Indian market," he said.

In his remarks, Prime Minister Modi said cooperation between India and the US can shape a better world.

A defence cooperation framework will be prepared for next decade, he said.

"One thing that I deeply appreciate, and I learn from President Trump, is that he keeps the national interest (of the US) supreme. Like him, I also keep the national interest of India at the top of everything else," Modi said.

On ties between India and China following the eastern Ladakh border row, Trump described the "skirmishes" as "vicious".

"I do see the skirmishes on the border which are quite vicious... If I could be of help," he said. The US president said he wished China, India, Russia and the US - all could get along well. Prime Minister Modi and President Trump also answered questions on the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

"I support Donald Trump's efforts towards finding a possible solution to end the war. The world somehow feels India has been neutral during the war. But I would like to reiterate that India has not been neutral. In fact, India has been on the side of peace," Modi said.

FROM 24X7 TO 4 HOURS, CM'S FALTERING PLEDGE ON WATER

A PWD official claimed that most of the areas across the State receive water 24x7. Very few areas including Panjim is receiving water for four hours, two hours in the morning and two hours in the evening.

Recently water supply to parts of Bardez taluka was affected due to breach in the Tillari canal.

"We provide water to Panjim and entire areas of Tiswadi taluka after bringing it from Opa water treatment plant. Enroute, the same pipeline feeds water to other areas and there are growing demands," the official said.

POPE FRANCIS HOSPITALISED WITH BRONCHITIS

"This morning, at the end of the audiences, Pope Francis will be admitted to the Agostino Gemelli Polyclinic for some necessary diagnostic tests and to continue in a hospital setting treatment for bronchitis that is still ongoing," a Vatican statement said.

No details were given about the duration of Francis' hospitalization, but it later announced he was cancelling his participation in Holy Year events through Monday.

The pope had a busy weekend agenda planned with an audience with artists in town for the Jubilee on Saturday, a Mass for them on Sunday and a trip to Rome's famed Cinecitta studios on Monday. While a Vatican cardinal would preside over the Mass in Francis' place, the Vatican said the other events were cancelled "due to the impossibility of the pope to participate."

The Vatican announcements, delivered ahead of Francis' hospitalization, came in sharp contrast to its 2023 hospitalization for bronchitis that caused confusion.

PALESTINIANS MUST 'STAY ON THEIR LAND': VATICAN

"The solution in our opinion is that of two states because this also means giving hope to the population," he said.

Trump has proposed taking over the war-ravaged Gaza Strip and moving its more than two million residents to Jordan or Egypt. Experts say the idea would violate international law but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called it "revolutionary".

Pope Francis this week criticised Trump's plans for mass deportations of undocumented migrants in the United States - drawing a sharp response.

In a letter to US bishops, the head of the Catholic Church called the deportations a "major crisis" and said sending back people who had fled their own countries in distress "damages the dignity" of the migrants.

Trump's border czar, Tom Homan, responded: "I wish he'd stick to the Catholic Church and fix that and leave border enforcement to us."

DEATH

Godfrey (Babush) J. I. Gonsalves
(NGO)
Ex- Chowgule & Co. Ltd, Vasco
Borda, Margao

Beloved Son of late Cirilo Gonsalves & late Genoveva Ferrao e Gonsalves.
Brother / Brother-in-law of Victoria, Goretti / Melchior, Babacier / late Antonetta, Sarojini / late Eudes.
Affectionate Uncle of Queenie / Niyaz, Genevieve / Jon, Ryan, Reuben & Ethan.
Grand Uncle of baby Olivia.

Passed away on 14th February.

Funeral will be held on **Sunday, 16th February 2025 at 5:00 pm at Holy Spirit Church, Margao**, for Eucharistic Celebration followed by burial.

No condolence visits please. We solicit your prayers.

Rebello Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
Bridget Araujo
NOV 16, 1955 - FEB 10, 2025

Daughter of both late David & Josephine Araujo (Espin)
Loving wife of Thomas Brown,
and sister to Joe Araujo.
Niece to late Joao/late Ruzai, late Gracy,
late Jose(Patan) /late Sebastiana, late Miguel /Elsa, late Maria
Cousins to Jerome, Janette, Josephine, Bonny, Francis & Severina
As per her wishes, she will be cremated
in her home town of Milwaukee, USA.

Memorial Mass on Feb 17, 2025 at 7:15 am
at Holy Cross Church, Santa Cruz, Goa - India.

Months Mind Mass on March 11, 2025 at 7:15 am
at Holy Cross Church, Santa Cruz, Goa - India.

HUGS ASIDE, TRUMP CALLS SHOTS AS MODI NODS

The US president also said that both sides have decided to expand the overall defence partnership.

"Starting this year, we will be increasing military sales to India by many billions of dollars," Trump said.

"We are also paving the way to ultimately provide India with F-35 stealth fighters," he added. The F35 jets are known as the most lethal, survivable and connected fighter aircraft in the world.

Trump also announced that India and the US will be working together like "never before" to confront the threat of radical Islamic terror across the world.

"I am pleased to announce that my administration has approved the extradition of one of the very evil people of the world," he said, referring to the extradition of 26/11 Mumbai attack plotter Tahawwur Rana to India.

Rana, currently detained at a metropolitan detention centre in Los Angeles, is known to be associated with Pakistani-American terrorist David Coleman

20th DEATH ANNIVERSARY
In Ever Loving Memory of
MANUEL GOMES VADDY - MERCES
Days will pass and turns into many years but I will forever remember you with silent tears.
Dad your memories will always live in my heart and guide my way.
Deep in my heart you will always stay Loved and remembered everyday.

Fondly remembered by
JOHN PAUL GOMES