



**South Korea's People Power Party former leader Han Dong-hun announces a bid to run in presidential election at National Assembly in Seoul**



**Store owner Kyung Sook Im cleans the floor of her shop in the Toy District of Los Angeles, where the majority of the merchandise is imported from China**



**Queen Camilla makes fresh pasta as she visits a food market in Ravenna, during the last day of a state visit to Italy**



**Cast of movie Pavane For An Infant arrive at the opening ceremony for the 49th Hong Kong International Film Festival in Hong Kong**

allovertheworld



**Aerial view of 9 de Julio avenue during a 24-hour strike, except buses, called by workers' unions against the economic policies of President Javier Milei in Buenos Aires. The 24-hour general strike started at midnight as President Javier Milei awaits news on a fresh IMF loan**

**Sudan paramilitaries used women as sex slaves: Amnesty**  
**CAIRO:** Sudan's paramilitary forces subjected women to sexual slavery and gang raped women and girls as part of their war strategy, rights group Amnesty International said in a report on Thursday. The paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have been battling the army since April 15 2023, and the war has created what the United Nations describes as one of the world's worst humanitarian crises.

# China slashes import of US films, seeks fair dialogue

**PTI, BEIJING:** As US President Donald Trump hiked tariffs against China to 125 per cent while pausing levies on most countries, Beijing in retaliation has reduced the import of US films and called on Washington to return to fair dialogue without threats. Meanwhile, a rare survey of Chinese public opinion highlighted growing concerns of the Chinese public over the impact of the trade war on their country.

The state-run China Film Administration said, "The US government's erroneous practice of imposing excessive tariffs on China is likely to further diminish the Chinese audience's favourable perception of American films. "We will adhere to market principles, respect audience choices and moderately reduce the import volume of American films," it said. Separately, China's Commerce Ministry

**EU PAUSES TARIFF RETALIATION FOR 90 DAYS, HOPES FOR TALKS**

**AP, BRUSSELS:** The European Union's executive commission said Thursday it will put retaliation measures on hold for 90 days to match President Donald Trump's pause on his sweeping new tariffs on global trading partners and leave room for a negotiated solution. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said that the commission, which handles trade for the bloc's 27 member countries, "took note of the announcement by President Trump." New tariffs on 20.9 billion euros (\$23 billion) of US goods will be put on hold for 90 days because "we want to give negotiations a chance," she said in a statement.

spokesperson He Yongqian told a press briefing on Thursday that while Beijing remains open to talks, any dialogue must be based on mutual respect and conducted on equal footing. If the US is bent on waging a trade war, China will fight to the end, He said. "Pressure, threats and blackmail are not the right way to deal with China. We hope that the two countries

will meet each other half-way and work towards resolving differences through dialogue and consultation, guided by the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation," He added. Trump's tariffs will affect over USD 438 billion in Chinese exports, while China has imposed tariffs on 84 per cent of USD 143 billion in US exports.

Earlier Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Li Jian, while answering questions on Trump hiking the tariffs against China and whether Beijing will retaliate, said Beijing will not sit idle and won't let Washington use tariffs as a weapon. "Out of its selfish interests the US has used tariffs as a weapon to exert maximum pressure to seek self-interest gains," Lin told a media briefing. The US tariffs are "against the whole world," he said, dispelling the impression that only China was targeted. Taking countermeasures to oppose the US bullying moves is not only aimed at protecting our own sovereignty, security, and development interests but also safeguarding international fairness justice, multilateral trading system, upholding the common interests of the international community, Li said.

## Pope meets King Charles, Queen Camilla in Vatican, exchanges gifts



**Pope Francis during a private meeting with Britain's King Charles III and Queen Camilla in The Vatican**

**AP, ROME:** Pope Francis met privately with King Charles III and Queen Camilla on Wednesday at the Vatican during the royal couple's four-day state visit to Italy and on the occasion of their 20th wedding anniversary, the Vatican announced. It was the first known meeting since the pope's return to the Vatican after five weeks in the hospital for life-threatening double pneumonia. Francis had planned to have an

audience with Charles, but the official state visit to the Vatican was postponed due to the pope's health. The pope issued a new invitation for a private audience, but it was subject to his health and only confirmed Wednesday morning. The mid-afternoon visit lasted about 20 minutes and included a private exchange of gifts. Discussions continue about a future visit by the monarch to the Vatican.

### FROM PAGE 1 & 2

#### 26/11 ATTACK ACCUSED RANA IN NIA CUSTODY

Rana was being held in judicial custody in the US pursuant to proceedings initiated by the NIA under the India-US Extradition Treaty.

The extradition finally came through after Rana's various litigations and appeals, including an emergency application before the US Supreme Court, were rejected with the active assistance of US Department of Justice's Office of International Affairs, US Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, US Marshals Service, FBI's Legal Attache Office in New Delhi, and US Department of State's Office of the Legal Adviser for Law Enforcement, the statement said.

The diligent and persistent efforts of MEA and MHA culminated in securing the surrender warrant for the fugitive, leading to his eventual extradition, it said.

Rana is accused of conspiring with David Coleman Headley alias Daoud Gilani, and operatives of designated terrorist organisations Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Harkat-ul-Jihadi Islami (HUJI) along with other Pakistan-based co-conspirators, to carry out the devastating terror attacks in Mumbai in 2008.

A total of 166 people were killed and more than 238 injured in the deadly attacks.

#### 100 STUDENTS FROM IMS BOGDA FALL ILL; FOOD POISONING SUSPECTED

A parent has lodged a formal complaint with the Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), which promptly initiated a probe. "The FDA has taken samples from the institute, and we are now awaiting the test results," an FDA official confirmed.

Meanwhile, Mormugao Police have visited the institute and begun their own inquiry into the matter.

#### HC NOTICE TO POWER DEPT OFFICIALS OVER CABLE-CUTTING

The counsel further argued that the notice violated principles of natural justice and contravened provisions of the Telecommunication Act, 2023. Citing the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016, they emphasised that only designated nodal officers under the Ministry of Communications have the authority to regulate telecom infrastructure, both underground and overhead.

Taking note of the arguments, the High Court issued notices to the Chief Engineer of the Electricity Department, Executive Engineer (Division I - O&M), the Chief Secretary of Goa, the Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications, and the Ministry of Communications, Government of India. All respondents have been directed to file their replies within three weeks. The matter has been posted for further hearing on May 5, 2025.

It may be recalled that the state experienced widespread internet outages in February and March this year following a large-scale cable-cutting drive initiated by the Electricity Department, which sparked criticism from various service providers and public outcry over disrupted connectivity.

#### UNDER MOPA'S SHADOW, TALES OF LOSS AND DESPAIR AROUND

Further complicating matters, some villagers say they were misled about legal proceedings regarding land disputes. "Someone told me they'd file a case for us, and later said we lost in the Supreme Court. I don't even know what happened. That man now lives in Porvorim," Aroskar said.

Nearby, Ulhas Vishal Naik, tending to his cattle, voiced similar concerns. "We've been told our areca nut trees will be cut and our homes demolished. After so many broken promises, all we can do is pray."

Although roads have improved and commercial activity around the village has picked up - with new liquor stores and home-stays - many villagers say the gains have come at their expense. Motorbikes and taxis are now common sights, yet so too is a lingering sense of injustice.

"We are tenants, not landowners, but under the law, that still gives us rights," said Kunta Parab, walking home with her young son. "But because we are uneducated, we are being taken for a ride. In this world of the rich, we are just animals."

Parab also pointed to changes in the local education set-up. "My son goes to the government primary school. The bigger school has shut down. Now, children have to go to Pernem to study. The airport changed our village, but it's

too soon to say if it's for the better, especially for our children."

On the village roads, young people in uniforms bearing airport facility logos wait for transport - one of the few visible signs of local employment.

Warkhand-Nagzar Sarpanch Gauri Govind Josalkar acknowledged the villagers' grievances. "The Panchayat has tried to help, but we have limitations. The real issues lie higher up, and the land rates fixed by the government are too low," she said. "It does appear that people are being exploited because of their economic status."

Local youth like Amit Aroskar say nepotism is also a barrier to opportunity. "You need to be connected to get a job," he admitted. "For us, the airport was supposed to be a way out of poverty. Now, only God can help us - not the government that built it on our land," he said.

#### THIEVES BREAK INTO 4 SHOPS IN PANJIM, 3 SUSPECTS HELD IN KOLHAPUR

The arrested individuals have been identified as Mustakeen Dasna, Mohammad Hamed Musahid alias Gabaru, and Mohammad Chote, all residents of Uttar Pradesh.

According to police, the thefts occurred at the 'W for Woman' store in Ribeiro Building, 'Mansur Enterprises' near Café Tato's, 'Casa Barreto' near the Panjim Municipal Garden, and 'Aaradhya Wine Stores' on Jose Falcao Road, near the Old Secretariat. In each case, the suspects gained entry by bending the shutters and breaking toughened glass panels.

The robbers stole Rs 11,000 from the 'W for Woman' store, Rs 1.5 lakh in cash from Mansur Enterprises, around Rs 3,470 and an Oppo mobile phone worth Rs 10,000 from Aaradhya Wine Stores, and approximately Rs 5,000 in cash from Casa Barreto. Acting on CCTV footage obtained from Smart City surveillance systems and using inputs from local sources, the Panaji Town Police were able to track down the suspects within four hours.

The operation was led by PI Vijaykumar Chodankar of the Panjim Police Station, under the overall supervision of SDO Panjim Sudesh Naik and North Goa SP Akshat Kaushal, IPS.

This incident follows a similar spate of burglaries reported in December last year in the Sao Tome area of Panjim - a popular tourist neighbourhood - where an unidentified thief broke into several cafes and a bar, and even attempted to target a residential property, raising concerns over security in the area.

#### ALLAHABAD HC BLAMES RAPE VICTIM, GRANTS BAIL TO ACCUSED

According to the FIR registered in September last year, the victim is a postgraduate student and lived as a paying guest in Delhi. On September 21, she and her friends visited a restaurant in Hauz Khas. They drank there till 3 am and became 'very intoxicated'. "Since she needed support, therefore, she herself agreed to go to the house of the applicant and take rest," Justice Sanjay Kumar Singh has said in the order.

"The allegation of the victim that applicant instead of his house took her to his relative's flat and raped her twice is false and against the evidence on record. On the strength of said facts, it is argued that considering the facts of the case as disclosed by the victim, it is not a case of rape but may be a case of consensual relationship between the parties concerned," the order added.

Justice Singh has said that the accused's counsel has submitted that there is no chance of him running from the judicial process or tampering with evidence. The counsel has also pointed out that Nischal has been in jail since December 11 and that he has no criminal history. The counsel has assured the court that the accused will not misuse the liberty of bail.

"Having heard learned counsel for the parties and examined the matter in its entirety, I find that it is not in dispute that victim and applicant both are major. Victim is student of MA, hence she was competent enough to understand the morality and significance of her act as disclosed by her in the FIR. This Court is of the view that even if the

allegation of the victim is accepted as true, then it can also be concluded that she herself invited trouble and was also responsible for the same. Similar stand has been taken by the victim in her statement. In her medical examination, her hymen was found torn but doctor did not give any opinion about the sexual assault," the judge has said in the order.

The court granted bail to Nischal Chandak, asking him to cooperate with the investigation.

"...the allegation against accused Pawan and Akash is that they grabbed the breasts of the victim and for that purpose they had broken string of her lower garments and tried to drag her beneath the culvert, but due to intervention of witnesses they left the victim and fled away from the place of incident. This fact is not sufficient to draw an inference that the accused persons had determined to commit rape on victim as apart from these facts no other act is attributed to them to further their alleged desire to commit rape on the victim," reads para 21 of the high court ruling.

#### HEAT IS ON: HERE'S HOW STUDENTS CAN COPE

From dehydration and weakened immunity to more serious health concerns, the list is long. It is essential, they say, for all stakeholders to understand the risks and take proactive steps to minimise them.

Dr Pinky Paliencar, a pediatrician, explains, "It's common for children to get dehydrated, which can lead to burning urination. When a child is dehydrated, it's not just water but also essential salts that are lost, causing persistent headaches. Without enough water or frequent wash-room breaks, children risk developing urinary infections or even kidney stones."

Dr Madhav Wagle, a pediatrician from Panjim, adds, "Children lose significant amounts of water and electrolytes in this heat, which can lead to dehydration and heat stroke. We also see a spike in cases of Hepatitis A, Cholera and Typhoid during the summer months."

The impact isn't just physical. The relentless heat and humidity are affecting children's mental health too. Janet Fernandes, counselor and head of the psychology department at St Xavier's College, Mapusa, notes, "Extreme heat can lead to irritability, aggression, lack of appetite, avoidance of food, poor sleep and in some cases, heat stroke."

These issues, she warns, can severely hamper students' ability to focus, learn, and engage meaningfully in the classroom. "The discomfort caused by heat interferes with mental processes like reasoning, creativity, and holistic learning," she says.

For parents like Cecille Rodrigues, the effects are already visible. "I've seen boys with tears in their eyes and painful rashes, and girls who develop urinary tract infections because school toilets are either unhygienic or don't have water," she says. "Many children avoid drinking water altogether, and their energy levels are dropping drastically."

To safeguard children's health, Dr Paliencar emphasises the importance of hydration - at least 1.5 liters of water during school hours - and a diet rich in cooling fruits like watermelon, oranges and tender coconut. "Fennel seeds help too," she says. "Outdoor activity should be avoided. Instead, encourage indoor alternatives like yoga. Frequent wash-room breaks, proper sleep and comfortable clothing are also key. Avoid black clothing, which absorbs heat and encourage the use of hats. And most importantly - if a child is unwell, do not force them to attend school."

### CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

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**THREE YEARS WITH THE LORD**

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 † VALERIANA †  
**DA CRUZ E CALDEIRA**  
 (PADRI BHATT - AGASSAIM)

*"You Were my Strength my Support & Courage Your Absence Is A Silent Grief Your Life Is A Beautiful Memory"*

There will be an Eucharistic celebration for her soul on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2025 (TOMORROW), at 7:45am sharp at St. Lawrence Church, Agassaim Goa, thereafter followed by prayers at the graveyard, offered by her sorrowful Son. Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

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