

Actor Tom Cruise poses for the photographers upon his arrival to promote his latest movie "Mission: Impossible" at the Gimpo Airport in Seoul



France's Prime Minister Francois Bayrou gestures as he leaves after the weekly cabinet meeting at the presidential Elysee Palace in Paris



US Vice President JD Vance speaks during a discussion at the **Munich Leaders meeting** at the Willard Hotel in Washington

allovertheworld



France's Prime Minister Francois Bayrou as he leaves after the weekly cabinet meeting at the presidential Elysee

Six Bulgarians face UK sentences for Russia spying

LONDON: Six Bulgarians, members of a sophisticated spy network dubbed "The Minions", will appear in a London court on Wednesday facing up to 14 years in prison for spying for Russia.

Papal conclave begins as Sistine Chapel doors close

Outside in St Peter's Square, hundreds of people watched the proceedings on giant video screens until the Vatican feed cut off

PTI, VATICAN CITY: The great doors of the Sistine Chapel closed on Wednesday and 133 cardinals began the secretive, centuries-old ritual of electing a new leader of the Catholic Church, opening the most geographically diverse conclave in the faith's 2,000year history.

The red-robed cardinals entered the Sistine Chapel in pairs, chanting the meditative Litany of the Saints as Swiss Guards stood at attention. The hymn, and the one that followed, implores the saints and the Holy Spirit to help the cardinals find a successor to Pope Francis to lead the 1.4 billion-strong Catholic Church.

Cardinal Pietro Parolin, the secretary of state under Francis and himself a leading contender to succeed him as pope, assumed the leadership of the proceedings as the senior cardinal under age 80 and eligible to participate in the



Cardinals attend a mass for the Election of the Roman Pontiff, prior to the start of the conclave, at St Peter's Basilica in The Vatican

Speaking in Latin, Parolin stood before Michelangelo's vision of heaven and hell, The Last Judgment, and led the cardinals in a lengthy oath. Each one followed, placing his hand on the Gospel and promising in Latin to maintain ut-

The dramatic ritual was more colourful than even Hollywood could create, a wash of colours, chants, incense and solemnity that underscored the seriousness of the moment.

Outside in St. Peter's

hundreds of Square, people watched the proceedings on giant video screens until the Vatican feed cut off.

Hailing from 70 countries, the cardinals have been sequestered from the outside world, their cellphones surrendered and airwayes around the Vatican jammed to prevent all communications until they find a new pope.

Francis named 108 of the 133 princes of the church, choosing many pastors in his image from far-flung countries like Mongolia, Sweden and Tonga that had never had a cardinal before.

His decision to surpass the usual limit of 120 cardinal electors and include younger ones from the global south often marginalised countries with ower economic clout has iniected an unusual degree of uncertainty in a process that is always full of mystery and suspense, with smoke signals telling the world if a pope has been elected or not.

Many cardinals hadn't met until last week and lamented they needed more time to get to know one another, raising questions about how long it might take for one man to secure the two-thirds majority, or 89 ballots, necessary to become the 267th pope.

Wait and see, a little patience, wait and see, said Cardinal Mario Zenari, the Vatican's ambassador to Syria.

Israeli strikes across Gaza **kill 59**

AP, DEIR AL-BALAH: Israeli strikes across Gaza killed at least 59 people, including women and children, hospital officials said Wednesday, as Israel prepares to ramp up its campaign against Hamas in a devastating war now entering its 20th month.

The strikes included one attack on Tuesday night on a school sheltering hundreds of displaced Palestinians, which killed 27 people, officials from the Al-Agsa Hospital said. including nine women and three children. It was the fifth time since the war began that the school in central Gaza has been struck.

An early morning strike on another school turned shelter in Gaza City killed 16 people, according to officials at Al-Ahli Hospital, while strikes on targets in other areas killed at least 16

Candolim. Deeply mourned by: Wife: Monalisa & Daughter: Janice. Parents: Aquelino & Flaviana. Siblings: Francis / Blanche, Fatima / Peter & Amilcar And nieces, nephews & friends.

Our heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family. May God grant her eternal rest.



(Tomorrow) at 8:15 a.m at Our Lady of Rosary Church Navelim, followed by the blessings of the grave.

Offered by his sorrowful wife Percila Rodrigues. Children Vellisa / Jeslan and Patrisha / Valinco. Grandchildren: Jaden and Predencia and family. Relatives, friends & neightbours kindly accept this as the only intim



MONTH'S MIND

In loving memory of

JULIAO JOSEPH DECOSTA (JULIO)

There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of dear Juliao Decosta on Friday 9th May 2025 at 8.30 am at St Daigo Church, Guirim, followed by prayers & blessings of the grave.



ESPERANCA

Birth- 12/01/1949 Death- 07/05/2025

Wife of: late Mariano Afonso

Relatives & friends kindly accept this as the only intimati

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY In loving memory of **ANTONIO FILIPE MENDES** -: Raia / Silvanagar, Ponda :-There will be Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our Beloved Antonio Filipe at 8:15 a.m. on Friday, 9th May 2025 at St. Anne's Church, Ponda, Goa, followed by prayers & blessing at the grave, offered by his sorrowful wife: Carmelina Bragança e Mendes, children and grandchildren



and the blessing of the grave.

FROM PAGE 1

PAHALGAM PAYBACK FOR PAKISTAN

The statement said the actions by the Indian Armed forces have been "focused, measured and non-escalatory" in nature and that no Pakistani military facilities have been targeted

"India has demonstrated considerable restraint in selection of targets and method of ex-

In his remarks, Misri said the Indian military carried out the "measured, non-escalatory, proportionate, and responsible" military strike to dismantle terrorist infrastructure to deter and pre-empt" any further terrorist strikes.

"Our intelligence monitoring of Pakistan-based terrorist modules indicated that further attacks against India were impending."

He further said India's actions were in line with the UN Security Council's statement about holding perpetrators, organisers, financiers and sponsors of the Pahalgam attack accountable.

Shortly after the missile attacks, the Pakistan Army resorted to heavy artillery and mortar shelling on forward villages along the Line of Control (LoC) in J and K, officials said. At least 13 people, including a soldier and four children, were killed and 57 others injured with the Poonch sector bearing the brunt.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval spoke to US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and his counterparts in several countries including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Officials said Doval told his counterparts that India has no intent to escalate tensions but is prepared to "retaliate resolutely" if Pakistan

Wing Commander Singh said Indian armed forces are fully prepared to respond to Pakistani "misadventure, if any, to escalate the situation."

The two women officers, providing an overview of 'Operation Sindoor', said the strikes on the terror camps was undertaken through precision capability, using weapons with careful selection of warheads that ensured no collateral damage

"The point of impact in each of the target was a specific building or a group of buildings," said

In a post on 'X' in Hindi shortly after the strikes, Defence Minister Singh said: "Long live Mother India!" (Bharat Mata Ki Jai)".

"The world must show zero tolerance for terrorism," External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said.

Sources in the Indian military establishment said all air defence units have been put on alert along the frontier with Pakistan.

13 KILLED, OVER 50 INJURED IN PAK SHELLING ALONG LOC IN J-K

The officials said the Indian Army is responding to the shelling in a befitting manner, resulting in many casualties on the enemy side after several of their posts engaged in firing were destroyed.

This is the first time that such an intense shelling has been witnessed after the ceasefire agreement was renewed between the two countries on February 25, 2021.

Poonch district accounted for all 13 deaths, the officials said, adding 42 people were also injured and the condition of two of them was stated to be serious.

The shelling was reported from all along the LoC in Poonch, including Balakote, Mendhar, Mankote, Krishna Ghati, Gulpur, Kerni and even Poonch district headquarters, resulting in damage to dozens of houses and vehicles, they said.

The shelling from across the border was intense till noon and later continued intermittent-

ly, mostly restricting to the Poonch sector for the next few hours. Locals faced a tough time evacuating the victims to hospital due to the heavy shelling, which also hit Poonch bus stand, damaging several buses, the officials said.

Three Sikh men lost their lives when an artillery shell hit a Gurdwara and adjoining houses in Poonch town, they said. Several parties from Punjab condemned the incident.

In a post on X, Shiromani Akali Dal chief Sukhbir Singh Badal said, "Strongly condemn the inhuman attack by Pakistani forces on the sacred Central Gurdwara Sri Guru Singh Sabha Sahib in Poonch, in which three innocent Gursikhs, including Bhai Amrik Singh Ji (a raagi Singh), Bhai Amarjeet Singh and Bhai Ranjit Singh lost their

Ten persons, including five children, were also injured in cross-border shelling in Uri sector of Baramulla district, while three others were injured in Rajouri district, the officials said, adding several houses also caught fire due to shelling in Karnah sector of Kupwara district.

The officials identified the deceased as Balvinder Kour alias "Ruby" (33), Mohd Zain Khan (10), his elder sister Zoya Khan (12), Mohd Akram (40), Amrik Singh (55), Mohd Iqbal (45), Ranjeet Singh (48), Shakeela Bi (40), Amarjeet Singh (47), Maryam Khatoon (7), Vihaan Bhargav (13) and Mohd Rafi (40) and a Lance naik of Army.

This was the 13th consecutive night of unprovoked firing along the borders in Jammu and Kashmir, amid heightened tensions following the Pahalgam attack.

MOCK DRILLS TEST CIVIL DEFENCE **ACROSS GOA**

In North Goa, the exercise was led by Deputy Collector Vinayak Chari, with key events staged at the Paniim Ferry Wharf, the Mandovi Bridge, the National Institute of Water Sports (NIWS) in Dona Paula, and Goa Glass Fibre Ltd in Colvale, Bardez. The simulation featured a drone strike on the Mandovi Bridge, which was portrayed as partially collapsed, resulting in people drowning and vehicles submerged.

"Our focus was on the possibility of drone attacks targeting coastal infrastructure," said Chari. "Being a coastal city, Panjim is particularly vulnerable, and this drill aimed to prepare civilians to respond effectively."

More than 150 participants, including NSS and NCC cadets, civil defence volunteers, and Home Guards, took part in the Panjim drill. A simulated night-time blackout was also conducted to train civilians in response to after-dark attacks.

Evacuation exercises at NIWS and search-andrescue operations at Colvale further tested coordination and response time. Chari, who acted as the incident commander, said emergency teams were mobilised within five minutes of receiving the alert, praising the inter-agency coop-eration.

In South Goa, a high-intensity, multi-agency drill was overseen by District Collector Egna Cleetus. The exercise began at 4 pm with a mock air raid alert issued from the Police Control Room. Emergency scenarios unfolded across Dabolim Airport, the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. terminal in Vasco, and Margao Railway Station.

Each site simulated distinct threats: a fire and building collapse at Dabolim Airport, a hazardous chemical spill at the IOC terminal, and a mass casualty incident at Margao Railway Station. Fire services, police, civil defence teams, and healthcare personnel carried out coordinated evacuation and rescue operations.

To reinforce emergency preparedness, a temporary medical relief camp was established at ESI Hospital, Margao, and a state-wide blackout drill was conducted from 7:30 to 7:45 pm in high-risk zones including Chicalim, Sancoale, and parts of Margao.

"Operation Abhyaas was a critical step in testing our collective emergency response capabilities," said Collector Cleetus. "The coordinated effort of all agencies and the support of the public made this exercise a success. It's through such simulations that we build resilience."

The operation marked the first time Goa has conducted a state-wide drill simulating an enemy-induced disaster, signalling a proactive shift in the State's approach to civil defence and emergency management.

INDIAN FORCES' TECH PROWESS ON DISPLAY

"Pakistan is in crisis. Already their economy is in a shambles, the security situation is worsening and on top of that, India has already taken punitive action before by suspending the Indus Water Treaty. The army is increasingly becoming unpopular. In this situation if it chooses to climb the escalation ladder by attacking India, then its troubles will further mount," the former navy

chief said. Colonel (retd) Balakrishna Shirodkar, an Armoured Engineer, who fought the militants in the Northeast while serving the Assam Rifles and also fought in the Kargil conflict, said that such a strong reply was required.

"The weapons, the place and time were of our choosing. But we attacked our enemy without crossing the LoC. The attack carried out was very precise. Hence, we could maintain the element of surprise for the third time," Colonel Shirodkar said.

He added that this was also a diplomatic victory for India as none of its allies reacted adversely to the operation. This also shows the growing isolation of Pakistan, especially after the heinous killings of innocent civilians in Pahalgam by terrorists," he said.

1999 Kargil conflict veteran, Lt Col (retd) Austin Collaco said that by precise bombing of terror camps inside Pakistan, India's message was very clear. It didn't intend to escalate the volatile situation.

"Our message to Pakistan is very clear. We won't let anyone use their soil for terrorism against India. But at the same time, by not attacking any military or civilian installation, we have strongly signalled that we don't want to escalate the situation. So, it's for the Pakistan army to decide whether it wants to heed to our message by acting against terror groups or continue to earn our wrath by supporting the proxy war in Kashmir," Lt Col Collaco said.

However, knowing that Pakistan is ruled by the military, which thrives on anti-India sentiments, will not sit quietly and will retaliate. So what are our options?

Lt Col (retd) Mrinal Kumar Gupta Ray, 1971 Bangladesh Liberation war veteran, said that India's intention was to punish the perpetrators of the barbaric killings in Pahalgam. But knowing conducting such a strike once won't be enough.

"Pakistan will retaliate and the army won't sit quietly. Since we have demonstrated our ability to strike deep inside enemy territory with high precision and without causing collateral damage, such action should be repeated at regular intervals for eliminating the entire terror network inside Pakistan. This action could also embolden Pakistan's nemeses like the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). This will further help our cause," Lt Col Gupta Ray said.



DEATH **Justino Antonio**

Former Goalkeeper, Candolim Sports Club Ex Fort Aguada, Taj Group of Hotels

Do Rosario



6th Aug 1961 - 7th May 2025 The funeral cortege will leave his residence at 3:45 PM on 8th May, 2025 for the funeral Mass at 4:00 PM at Our Lady of Hope Church













Mother/Mother in law of: Melvita Afonso/Paulo Cardozo; Grandmother of: Chris Cardozo and Norah Cardozo.

The funeral cortege will leave her residence on Friday, 09/05/2025 (TOMORROW) at 3:45pm for an Eucharistic celebration at 4:00pm at Our Lady of Assumption Church, Velsao followed by burial.