

allovertheworld



British-US actor Teo Briones attends the world premiere of Warner Bros' "Final Destination Bloodlines" at the TCL Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, California

**Bomb scare on plane halts operations at Belgian airport**

**BRUSSELS:** Operations at Belgium's second largest airport were briefly suspended on Tuesday due to a bomb alert on a Ryanair flight from Portugal, the company running the airport and the airline said. Shortly before 11:00 am (0900 GMT) "a bomb threat was triggered" on board an aircraft that landed at Charleroi airport, said a spokeswoman for its operator. "A security perimeter was established around the aircraft," the spokeswoman said. This required the runway to be closed as authorities took over, halting operations, she added. Air traffic eventually resumed at 1:45 pm.

**Latest quake sparks fear around Italy's Naples**

**ROME:** A 4.4 magnitude earthquake struck the volcanic area around Naples as part of a "major" quake swarm on Tuesday, sparking fear but no immediate reports of damage. The tremor hit the Campi Flegrei (Phlegraean Fields) area in southern Italy at 12:07 pm (10:07 GMT), at a depth of three kilometres, according to Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV). It was preceded by two quakes of 2.1 magnitude, and followed by one of 3.5 magnitude 15 minutes later. "A major seismic swarm is underway," wrote Gigi Manzoni, the mayor of the city of Pozzuoli near Naples, on social media.

**Buckingham Palace says French President Macron to have state visit in July**

**LONDON:** French President Emmanuel Macron has accepted an invitation from King Charles III to pay a state visit to the UK in July, Buckingham Palace said Tuesday. Macron and his wife, Brigitte, will stay at Windsor Castle for the visit, which will take place from July 8 to July 10. Charles and Queen Camilla travelled to France in September 2023 in a visit that underscored Britain's aim to bolster ties with its closest European neighbour. The trip came after years of sometimes prickly relations strained by Britain's exit from the European Union and by disagreements over the growing number of migrants crossing the English Channel on small boats.

**Europe's biggest 'green' methanol plant opens in Denmark**

**DENMARK:** Europe's largest "green" methanol plant opened in Denmark on Tuesday, boosting the continent's emissions reduction efforts - with customers ranging from shipping giant Maersk to toymaker Lego and pharmaceutical firm Novo Nordisk. Sitting next to northern Europe's biggest solar panel field and a large transformer station in the Danish countryside, the site will produce e-methanol, a synthetic fuel made from renewable energy and carbon dioxide.

**UnitedHealth CEO Andrew Witty Resigns Amid Rising Cost**

**WASHINGTON:** UnitedHealth CEO Andrew Witty is stepping down for personal reasons and the nation's largest health insurer suspended its full-year financial outlook due to higher-than-expected medical costs. UnitedHealth said Tuesday that Chairman Stephen Hemsley will become CEO, effective immediately. Hemsley was UnitedHealth Group CEO from 2006 to 2017. He will remain chairman of the company's board. Witty will serve as a senior adviser to Hemsley. UnitedHealth said that it suspended its 2025 outlook as medical costs of many Medicare Advantage beneficiaries new to UnitedHealthcare were higher than expected.

**EU seeks to better protect children from online dangers**

**BRUSSELS:** Pushing to better protect children online, the EU on Tuesday invited the public including parents and minors to help prepare recommendations for digital platforms such as TikTok and Instagram. The European Union has increasingly expressed concerns about online dangers for children, with the latest alarm raised by Belgium and France over the trend of #SkinnyTok videos promoting extreme thinness. The commission has prepared a list of draft measures that platforms could take to protect minors as part of a public consultation that will run until June 10. The DSA requires companies to police content online, or face hefty fines.

**Over 84,000 people affected by Somalia floods since mid-April: UN**

**NAIROBI:** More than 84,000 people have been affected by flash floods in Somalia since mid-April, the United Nations said Tuesday, leaving at least 17 people killed. The Horn of Africa is one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change, and extreme weather events are becoming increasingly frequent and intense. "Since mid-April, flash floods caused by heavy seasonal rains have killed 17 people and affected over 84,000 people in several areas," UN humanitarian agency OCHA said.

**NIA arrests two for brutal killing of woman in Manipur's Jiribam**

**PTI, NEW DELHI:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested two persons belonging to banned militant groups for their alleged involvement in the brutal killing of a woman and burning and looting of houses by armed militants in the Jiribam district of Manipur in November last year, officials said on Tuesday.

Accused Nongthombam Meiraba, hailing from the Bishnupur district and belonging to the proscribed insurgent group United National Liberation Front (UNLF), was allegedly involved in the shooting of the woman identified as

**3 ARRESTED WITH HEROIN WORTH RS 11 CR IN MANIPUR**

**PTI, IMPHAL:** Three persons were arrested with heroin worth Rs 11.05 crore in Manipur's Churachandpur district, police said on Tuesday. A four-wheeler was intercepted near New Lamka on Saturday by the police, an officer said. On searching the vehicle, 97 soap cases containing 1.16 kg of heroin were found, he said. Following this, the three persons in the vehicle were taken into custody, he added. A case was registered, and an investigation started, police said.

Zosangkim in the Zairawn village, they said.

The other accused, Sogsem Sanatomba alias Surchandra Singh alias Piba of the Thoubal district, was a member of the Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL),

another insurgent outfit in Manipur, and was allegedly part of the group involved in the carnage, the official said.

The two accused are in NIA custody till May 17, and further investigations in the case are on, they said.

**Zelensky urges Trump to make Putin meeting happen**

**AFP, KYIV:** Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky urged Donald Trump to help secure a meeting with Vladimir Putin in Turkey on Thursday, accusing the Russian leader of not seriously wanting to negotiate an end to the war.

Zelensky told reporters in Kyiv on Tuesday that the West should respond with massive sanctions if Putin skips the meeting, emphasising that he would do "everything" he could to make it happen and secure a ceasefire.

The Kremlin has refused to say whether Putin will travel to Turkey, after he himself proposed Russia-Ukraine talks in a late-night address from the

Kremlin at the weekend. Any meeting between Russian and Ukrainian officials would be the first direct negotiations on the conflict since the early months of Moscow's invasion in 2022.

Trump came to office in January promising a swift end to the three-year war but has become increasingly frustrated at both Moscow and Kyiv for what he sees as their failure to compromise and the ongoing bloodshed.

"I do not know the US president's decision, but if he confirms his participation, I think it would give additional impetus for Putin to come," Zelensky said

at a press conference. "Trump on Monday urged both leaders to attend and said he was "thinking" about going to the talks. Zelensky said Putin was not serious about peace.

"Putin does not want the war to end, does not want a ceasefire, does not want any negotiations," Zelensky said, adding however that he "will do everything to ensure that this meeting takes place".

He urged the United States to hit Russia with its "strongest" ever sanctions should Putin not turn up -- saying a refusal would be "a clear signal that they do not want and are not going to end the war".

**FROM PAGE 1**

**ANJUNKARS STAND UP TO LOBOS OVER ROAD WORK**

Anger is growing against MLA Delilah Lobo, whom villagers accuse of hiding behind a High Court order relating to PILSM/03 of 2024.

Environmental lawyer Marisa Zemira Simoes, who represents Goa Foundation in multiple cases before the Goa Bench of the Bombay High Court, weighed in on the matter. In a written statement, Simoes expressed concern about the legal validity of the ongoing work.

"In relation to the ongoing matter concerning the Anjuna-Assagao area, the situation appears to pertain to a proposed road-widening exercise. However, it is understood that the contractor presently executing or intending to execute the work does not possess a valid work order. It is a settled legal position that no contractor is permitted to commence any public work in the absence of a Work Order," her statement reads.

She further warned against the misrepresentation of court orders, stating: "Furthermore, in the event that any land that is privately held, is alongside the existing roadway and has not been acquired in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, such structures on such land cannot be classified as 'encroachment.' That would amount to misrepresentation of the judgment, in order to circumvent the Land Acquisition Act."

Simoes added that if the PWD or Panchayat proceeds with road expansion without following legal acquisition procedures, it would constitute encroachment by government authorities themselves.

Local residents have voiced personal concerns over what they claim are coercive and misleading practices. Janice Plavinkal, a resident whose heritage home lies on Survey No 1395/1, recounted her experience: "My house is a heritage house and when I was told by Michael that my wall and balcony needed to be demolished, I was convinced that he is out trying to cheat me because the land acquisition process has not started."

She further alleged, "He (Michael Lobo) came and told me that I had to submit a letter at his wife's office in Siolim and that she would make arrangements for one architect Edgar Afonso to build a new balcony for me. Do you believe the government operates this way?"

Balbhim Malvankar, popularly known as Bolgo, questioned the MLA's involvement: "How is an outsider MLA interested in demolitions in my village when he himself has been hauled by court?"

An unnamed local woman shared her experience, saying, "The MLA came and told me that one room is going to be demolished and he is building another room for me free of charge. Ours was the first barber's shop of the village."

Meanwhile, others have accused the authorities of silencing dissent. "There are some people who have been threatened and hence do not wish to speak in the open. But, he cannot keep all of us quiet. It is up to the people - and not him - to decide whether they want their road widened," said villager Agnel Fernandes.

"I am ready to knock on the doors of the High Court. If the voice of the people of Siolim was listened to, ours will also be heard," affirmed Bolgo.

**FACT-FINDING PANEL BLAMES TEMPLE COMMITTEE, OFFICIALS FOR SHIRGAO ZATRA STAMPEDE**

The committee conducted site visits, consulted stakeholders, and reviewed administrative records.

It concluded that the incident was entirely preventable and resulted from poor planning, lack of enforcement, ignored directives, and inadequate infrastructure.

The immediate cause of the stampede, according to the report, was overcrowding on the pathway between Devi-chi Tali (holy pond) and Homkhand (ritual bonfire), particularly at the upper section of the sloped gradient near the RBL Bank branch in Shirgao. This was worsened by the unruly behaviour of the dhonds (devotees) and a lack of effective crowd control measures.

The crowd was allowed to enter the pathway from Tali in groups, which were later funnelled into a two-by-two queue formation after the slope. This caused a bottleneck, with people accumulating along the sloped section. The situation escalated when some dhonds pushed forward through the crowd, causing instability and panic. One person reportedly fell face-first on the slope, triggering a chain reaction in which several others lost their balance and fell. Due to the slope, poor visibility, and continued crowd pressure from behind, others were unaware of the fall, leading to the fatal stampede.

The committee stated that the tragedy could likely have been averted with proper planning, risk assessment, and effective crowd management. It also noted that unruly and irresponsible behaviour by a section of dhonds significantly contributed to the overcrowding. Despite this behaviour being well known, neither the temple committee nor the administration took tangible preventive measures - possibly due to sensitivities around religious sentiments.

The report highlights the temple committee's failure to plan meticulously, especially considering the expected crowd size and behaviour. Even though multiple alternate routes existed, no multi-route circulation plan was implemented, leading to heavy congestion along the primary pathway.

A review of pre-event meeting minutes revealed that the temple committee did not provide critical information about expected attendance, past risks, or alternative routes. Moreover, the committee appeared to have

ignored specific crowd management instructions from revenue and police officials, focusing solely on conducting religious rituals.

The committee also found that temporary stalls, despite warnings from authorities, were allowed to operate on both sides of the pathway. This significantly reduced available space, further worsening the crowd situation. The organisers were fully aware of this issue but failed to take preventive steps.

One of the committee's strongest recommendations is that the government consider dissolving the current temple management committee and appointing an administrator, following due legal process.

The report also pointed out that while CCTV cameras had been installed within the temple premises, surveillance was not extended to high-risk external areas, including the sloped section - known for overcrowding and disorderly crowd movement.

Administrative meetings lacked meaningful capacity planning and risk assessment, especially during the peak ritual hours from 11 pm on May 2 to 6 am on May 3, 2025. Although the District Magistrate visited the site on April 29, no coordination meeting was convened at their level to comprehensively assess preparedness, despite the scale of the event.

While it had been mentioned that six watch towers would be installed, the committee found - based on interaction with the Bicholim Police Inspector - that the tower near the sloped section was never erected. Furthermore, the two constables assigned to that area had been redeployed elsewhere.

The police had also deployed a drone for surveillance, but it was not used during the critical hours. The reasons for this remain unclear.

Chief Minister Sawant announced that, moving forward, the government will appoint special nodal officers responsible for granting permissions and ensuring proper planning and safety measures at all zatras, in coordination with respective temple committees

**KASHMIR A BILATERAL ISSUE BETWEEN INDIA, PAKISTAN: MEA**

"There were some reports that Pakistan's National Command Authority will meet on May 10. But this was later denied by them. Pakistan foreign minister has himself denied the nuclear angle on record," Jaiswal said.

"As you know, India has a firm stance that it will not give in to nuclear blackmail or allow cross-border terrorism to be conducted invoking it," he said.

"In conversations with various countries, we also cautioned that their subscribing to such scenarios could hurt them in their own region," he added.

Jaiswal said India will keep Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abjures support for cross-border terrorism.

Pakistan nurtured terrorism on an industrial scale, he said.

Terrorist infrastructure that India destroyed under Operation Sindoor were responsible not only for the deaths of Indians but of many other innocents around world, he said.

**TRUTH DEFICIT IN LEGAL PROFESSION BOTHERS ME: OUTGOING CJI KHANNA**

"Today we are witnessing a sea change in the legal profession. The court room dynamics are shifting from being driven by oratory skills to being shaped by subject matter expertise...It is essential for the Bar to focus becoming domain experts."

Justice Khanna said the Bar should also make a conscious effort to explore forum of alternate resolution mechanism like mediation.

"Mediation is not just about settling disputes it is about finding solution that meets interests of the parties," he said.

Justice B R Gavai, who will succeed Justice Khanna on Wednesday, said his predecessor's tenure was not about making a spectacle or noise for the sake of attention but it was about encouraging changes within the judiciary, so that the system not only changes but it evolves.

Overwhelmed by the rich accolades on his last day in office, Justice Khanna said he was certain his successor would uphold values of the Supreme Court, fundamental rights and the basic constitutional doctrines.

The ceremonial bench comprised the outgoing CJI, Justice Gavai, and Justice Sanjay Kumar, showcasing a rare moment of reflection, celebration, and reverence, not just for Justice Khanna's contributions, but the legacy of his uncle, a former Supreme Court judge Justice H R Khanna, he took forward.

The CJI called Justice Gavai his "biggest support" while expressing confidence in the latter's leadership and commitment to constitutional values.

Emphasising the role of the Bar and the Bench in earning public trust, he said, "The judiciary is not just judges; it includes the bar. You are the conscious keepers of the system."

Justice Gavai praised his predecessor for his clarity, moral conviction, and commitment to fundamental rights, describing his judgments as "simple, elegant, and imbued with constitutional values".

When it came to the Bar, Attorney General R Venkataramani said CJI Khanna added "immense value" to the court.

"Your lordship leaves a void not easily filled. Like a river flowing quietly, you accomplished much with grace," he said.

The judgments, the CJI penned, were stated to carry "impeccable logic, simplicity, and elegance".

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta commended the CJI's legal acumen and clarity in judgment.

"Even if litigants lost, we lawyers felt enriched. We always left with a new insight," he said, "as your verdicts were crisp, clear, and always enlightening."

After the conclusion of the ceremonial bench proceedings, the CJI met journalists in the apex court premises and said, "I will not accept any post-retirement post...perhaps will do something with law."

Many former apex court judges begin their innings in arbitration post judgeship. "I will have a third innings and will do something related to law," the CJI said.

**13 DAYS ON, NO END TO TALEIGAO WATER CRISIS**

Responding to the concerns, a senior PWD official told O Herald that supply to Borbhat is expected to resume by the end of the week. "The water supply was stopped after the residents complained of receiving contaminated water. The work of replacing the pipeline started May 1. In Vodlem Bhat, supply to some houses has been restored from Saturday, May 10, while some individual connections are yet to be completed. Supply to Borbhat will most likely start by Friday, May 16," the official said. According to the department, there are approximately 450 individual water connections in the affected area.

**21 DIE AFTER DRINKING SPURIOUS LIQUOR IN PUNJAB**

The AAP government drew flak for the tragedy, with the opposition demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. The state government said most of the culprits have been arrested and vowed to ensure the strictest punishment for them.

"These are not deaths, these are murders," said Chief Minister Mann, who visited the affected villages and met the families of the victims.

A police probe revealed that methanol - a chemical used in industrial products - was procured in bulk online to prepare the toxic brew.

Methanol is a light, colourless organic chemical compound which is poisonous when ingested and is illegally added to alcoholic beverages as a cheaper alternative to ethanol, which is the normal consumable alcohol.

Shiromani Akali Dal leader Bikram Singh Majithia alleged that the state government was trying to shield an accused and was involved in a "cover-up".

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh sought the resignation of Mann over the deaths in the hooch tragedy.

This incident is another proof of the failure of the AAP government, said Chugh.

"Mann should resign while taking moral responsibility for the incident," he said.

**MORE OBITS ON PG 12**

<b>MONTH'S MIND</b>		<b>11TH DEATH ANNIVERSARY</b>	
In everloving memory of			
			
<b>JACINTO VAZ</b>	<b>PAULINA VAZ</b>		
Born: 29-10-1952 Died: 12-04-2025	Ambora - Camorlim	Born: 03-04-1966 Died: 15-05-2014	
"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live, even if he dies." John 11:25			
There will be an Eucharistic celebration for the souls of our beloved Jacinto & Paulina at 8:00 am on Thursday, 15th May 2025 at Our Lady Of Candelaria Church, Camorlim, Salcete, Goa followed by prayers and blessing at the grave, offered by their sorrowful Children: <b>Placida, Johnson/ Maizie, Priyana/ Francis</b> Grandson: <b>Johan Mark Vaz &amp; family.</b>			
Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation			