



Romanian Prez Nicusor Dan delivers his speech in the front of Parliament after his swearing-in ceremony at the Parliament Palace in Bucharest



New Zealand Deputy PM and Foreign Minister Winston Peters addresses a joint press conference with Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath in Colombo



Austria's Foreign Minister Beate Meisl-Reisinger and her Czech counterpart give a joint press conference during their visit to Prague



Chairman and CEO of the CMA CGM Group Rodolphe Saade looks on as he takes part in agreement exchanges in Hanoi

# Russia showers drones on Ukraine, Trump says Putin has 'gone crazy'

AP, KYIV: Russia overnight launched the biggest drone attack on Ukraine in the more than three-year war, a Ukrainian official said on Monday. President Donald Trump said Russian leader Vladimir Putin has gone "crazy" by stepping up the bombing of Ukraine just as the US tries to broker peace. The Russian bombardment on Sunday night included 355 drones, Yuriylnhat, head of the Ukrainian air force's communications department, told The Associated Press. The previous night, Russia fired 298 drones and 69 missiles of various types at Ukraine in what Ukrainians said was the largest combined aerial assault during the conflict. From Friday to Sunday, Russia launched around 900 drones at Ukraine, officials said. The escalation appeared to thwart hopes that



A woman reacting next to her damaged house following Russian strike in Ukraine

Trump's peace efforts might lead to a breakthrough in the near term, as Putin looks determined to capture more Ukrainian territory and inflict more damage. Russia is also still pushing along the roughly 1,000-kilometre (620-mile)

front line, where it has made slow and costly progress, and is assembling its forces for a summer offensive, Ukraine and military analysts say. "Only a sense of complete impunity can allow Russia to carry out such attacks

and continually escalate their scale," Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky wrote on Telegram on Monday. "There is no significant military logic to this, but there is considerable political meaning." He repeated his call for tighter international economic sanctions on Russia as a way of ending the war, because Russia's "desire to fight must be deprived of resources". The European Union's top diplomat, foreign policy chief KajaKallas, on Monday described the latest attacks on Kyiv as "totally appalling" and said the bloc intended to impose more sanctions on Russia. Trump has threatened massive sanctions on Moscow, too, but so far hasn't taken action. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Putin makes decisions that are neces-

sary to ensure Russia's security and that the attacks were Moscow's response to deep strikes by Ukraine. Russia is grateful for American efforts to bring peace, which have included the countries' first direct peace talks in three years, Peskov said. He said negotiations are at "a decisive moment that is linked to emotional overloading for everyone and emotional reactions". The Ukrainian numbers for how many drones and missiles were fired could not be independently verified. Trump made it clear he is losing patience with Putin. "I've always had a very good relationship with Vladimir Putin of Russia, but something has happened to him. He has gone absolutely CRAZY!" Trump wrote in a social media post on Sunday night.

do and has dual US and German citizenship, had travelled from the US to Canada in early February and then arrived in Israel in late April, according to court records. He had made a series of threatening social media posts before attempting the attack, prosecutors said. Israeli officials deported Neumeier to New York on Saturday and he had an initial court appearance before a federal judge in Brooklyn on Sunday, the same day his criminal complaint was unsealed. Neumeier's court-appointed attorney Jeff Dahlberg declined to comment, and the US State Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment. During his first term, President Donald Trump recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital despite Palestinian objections and moved the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to the contested city.

## US - German citizen charged in embassy attack attempt

AP, NEW YORK: A dual US-German citizen has been arrested on charges that he travelled to Israel and attempted to firebomb the branch office of the US Embassy in Tel Aviv, officials said on Sunday. Federal prosecutors in New York said the man, Joseph Neumeier, walked up to the embassy building on May 19 with a backpack containing Molotov cocktails but got into a confrontation with a guard and eventually ran away, dropping his backpack as the guard tried to grab him. Law enforcement then tracked Neumeier down to a hotel a few blocks away from the embassy and arrested him, according to a criminal complaint filed in the Eastern District of New York. The attack took place against the backdrop of Israel's war in Gaza, now in its 19th month. Neumeier, 28, who is originally from Colora-

do and has dual US and German citizenship, had travelled from the US to Canada in early February and then arrived in Israel in late April, according to court records. He had made a series of threatening social media posts before attempting the attack, prosecutors said. Israeli officials deported Neumeier to New York on Saturday and he had an initial court appearance before a federal judge in Brooklyn on Sunday, the same day his criminal complaint was unsealed. Neumeier's court-appointed attorney Jeff Dahlberg declined to comment, and the US State Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment. During his first term, President Donald Trump recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital despite Palestinian objections and moved the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to the contested city.

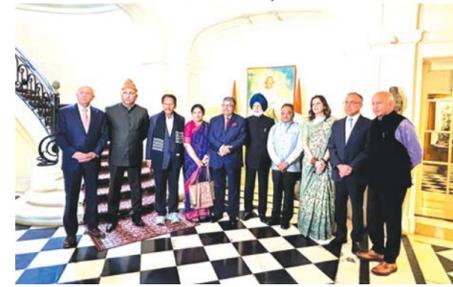
## DRAGON DANCE



Lion dance performers take part in the Surabaya Vaganza cultural parade in Surabaya, Indonesia's second largest city

## All-party delegation set to meet with think tanks, MP's in Paris

PTI, PARIS: The all-party delegation led by BJP leader Ravi Shankar Prasad arrived in the French capital of Paris on Sunday evening for the first stop in their six-country mission to reiterate India's zero-tolerance stance on terrorism. The delegation, the seventh group in an international outreach initiative in the wake of Operation Sindoor, includes Daggubati Purandeswari, Priyanka Chaturvedi, Ghulam Ali Khatana, Dr Amar Singh, Samik Bhattacharya, M Thambidurai, former union minister M J Akbar, and Ambassador Pankaj Saran. The group is scheduled to hold a series of meetings with community groups, think tanks and parliamentarians in Paris before



A multi-party delegation led by BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad with Indian Ambassador to France Sanjeev Singla during a meeting at the Embassy of India, in Paris, Monday

leaving for Italy and then onwards to cover other European destinations, including the UK, Germany and Denmark. "Together in the fight against terrorism. The seventh group of All Party del-

egation led by BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad has departed for 6-country visit," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said as the delegation departed from New Delhi earlier on Sunday. "The delegation will be visiting UK, France, Germany, EU, Italy and Denmark," the MEA social media post added. As part of India's diplomatic outreach, seven multi-party delegations are travelling to 33 global capitals to reach out to the international community on Pakistan's designs and India's response to terror, especially in view of the April 22 Pahalgaon terror attack that killed 26 people. India carried out precision strikes on terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in the early hours of May 7 under Operation Sindoor following which Pakistan attempted to attack the Indian military bases on May 8, 9 and 10. The Indian side responded strongly to the Pakistani actions.

## 11 hurt in Carolina beach town shooting

AP, LITTLE RIVER (US): At least 11 people were taken to hospitals after a shooting Sunday night in a South Carolina beach town, authorities said. Horry County Police did not give the conditions of anyone hurt or detail how they were injured in the incident, which happened about 9:30 pm in Little River. Investigators were getting reports of more people arriving at the hospital in private vehicles, Horry

County Police said on social media. About 90 minutes after the shooting, police called it an isolated incident and said there is no risk to the community. They did not release any information on possible suspects or what led to the shooting. The shooting happened around a boat dock near the Intracoastal Waterway. Video from the scene showed dozens of police cars and ambulances rushing in and out of the area.

## France urges Armenia, Azerbaijan to sign peace deal

AFP, YEREVAN, ARMENIA: France on Monday called on Azerbaijan and Armenia to "quickly" sign a finalised peace treaty, after efforts to hammer out an agreement between the two arch-foes appeared to stall. The two Caucasus neighbours had for decades fought for control of the Karabakh region, a mountainous area of Azerbaijan that Baku recaptured from ethnic Armenian separatists in 2023. Armenia and Azerbaijan agreed on the text of a peace deal in March, but Baku has since outlined a host of demands - including changes to Armenia's constitution - before it will sign the document.

## Bangladesh's new service law: Protesting employees lock main entrance of secretariat

PTI, DHAKA/NEW DELHI: Hundreds of government employees on Monday briefly locked the main gate of Bangladesh Secretariat, the heart of the administration, in the capital Dhaka, intensifying their protests against a new service law which allows easier dismissal of officials for misconduct. According to eyewitnesses and media reports, officials and employees of the Secretariat, which houses ministries and important government offices, locked the main gate on the third day of their protest against the Public Service Act amendment. The agitating employees gathered near the main entrance around 12:30 pm. During that time, the gate



Government employees protesting outside the secretariat in Dhaka

was closed. It was reopened about half an hour later, around 1:00 pm. The protesting employees moved from the gate and gathered

in a scattered way across the secretariat premises. "The gate was reopened after half an hour," a private TV channel reported.

According to the reports, official activities inside the complex were largely stalled as the employees continued the work stop-

page. The protests started after Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus-led interim government published the revised version of the law, allowing easier dismissal of officials for misconduct. The government employees threatened to continue the protests until the ordinance was scrapped. The authorities deployed extra police to enforce a vigil against any possible violence at the complex. Meanwhile, the protest by employees of the Dhaka South City Corporation, demanding the installation of BNP leader Ishraque Hossain as its mayor in line with a court order, has brought administrative services to a halt, bdnews24.com reported.

### CLASSIFIED CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

**SITUATIONS VACANT**  
"Wanted Trained Primary Teacher, XII/Graduate D.El.Ed. on Contract Basis for the academic year 2025-26 to teach in the Primary Section (Std I - IV), Walk in interview on 03.06.2025 at 9.30 a.m. along with application and testimonials at Holy Rosary Convent High School, Nuvem- Goa."  
2025015331  
Wanted a Sales Person for the Paint / Hardware Shop in Benaulim. Contact: 8421566529 / 8999350874  
2025015335  
Wanted Experienced Driver with Tourist Badge for a Car Rental Company in Colva. Salary 15,000 + OT. Contact 9657565756  
2025015336  
Wanted a trained Pre-Primary teacher and Office clerk with necessary qualifications and experience for Trinity Primary School, Salcete, Curtorim. Contact or send your CV to 9823772456.  
2025015339

**TOURS & TRAVELS**  
A/C Lux bus leaving "Vailankanni" on 28th May.25 & Return on 1st June.25. Booking contact. Panjim: 9822128003/ 9359568275  
2025014299  
**VEHICLES AVAILABLE**  
15 Rent a Bike for Sale with licence. Contact: 9225903954.  
2025015157  
Bus for Sale Joliz Travels Bus for Sale with Route Coppimodi to Margao KTC, Extension Sanvordem. Interested Person can Contact Personally to Joliz Hardware and Paints Chandor Goa Morning Time 9 to 12.  
2025015341  
**VEHICLES WANTED**  
We buy all Car's & Bike's. Maruti, Toyota, Hyundai, Honda (Vintage Car's) etc, even accidental and scrap car's. Spot payment-8381027157  
2025013195

## Ancient town and its manuscripts face ravages of Sahara heat

AFP, OUALATA, MAURITANIA: From his roof, Sidi Mohamed Lemine Sidiya scans the mediaeval town of Oualata, a treasure that is disappearing under the sands of the Mauritanian desert. "It's a magnificent, extraordinary town," said Sidiya, who is battling to preserve the place known as the "Shore of Eternity". Oualata is one of a UNESCO-listed quartet of ancient, fortified towns or "ksour", which in their

heyday were trading and religious centres and now hold jewels dating back to the Middle Ages. Doors crafted from acacia wood and adorned with traditional motifs painted by local women still dot the town. Centuries-old manuscripts, a rich source of cultural and literary heritage handed down through the generations, are also held in family libraries. But the southeastern town near the border with



Library manager Mohamed Ben Baty looks at an old manuscript inside the Taleb Boubacar Library in Oualata

Mali is vulnerable to the ravages of the Sahara's ex-

treme conditions. In the punishing heat,

that are ripped open bear witness to the impact of the latest, especially heavy, rainy season. "Many houses have collapsed because of the rains," Khady said, standing by her crumbling home, which she inherited from her grandparents. An exodus of people leaving Oualata only compounds the problem. "The houses became ruins because their owners left them," said Sidiya,

a member of a national foundation dedicated to preserving the region's ancient towns. - Encroaching sands - For decades, Oualata's population has been dwindling as residents move away in search of jobs, leaving nobody to maintain the historic buildings. Its traditional constructions are covered in a reddish mudbrick coating called banco and were designed to adapt to the conditions.