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Cadets during a passing out parade of 148th course of the National Defence Academy (NDA), in Pune, Maharashtra

Man arrested for threatening to kill PM Modi during his Bihar visit

BHAGALPUR (BIHAR): A 35-year-old man from Bihar's Bhagalpur district was arrested for allegedly threatening to kill Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his two-day visit to the state, police said on Friday. The accused was apprehended on Thursday evening from Maheshi village under the jurisdiction of Sultanganj Police Station, an official statement said. Notably, the PM arrived in Patna on Thursday on a two-day visit to Bihar. "A WhatsApp call was made to security agencies from Bhagalpur, threatening to kill the PM during his Bihar visit. Accordingly, Bhagalpur Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) was informed about the threat call on Thursday and a team was constituted to investigate the matter," the police statement said. A preliminary investigation revealed that the call was made from the mobile phone number of 71-year-old Mantu Chaudhary.

Mobile phone dealer commits suicide in UP's Deoria

DEORIA (UP): A 35-year-old mobile phone dealer allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself in his rented house in Uttar Pradesh's Deoria district on Friday, police said. According to police, Ajit Shah, a resident of Rampur Bujurg village, had been living in a rented house in Salahabad locality of Salempur town with his wife and two children. Family members have alleged that Ajit had purchased a plot of land in Salahabad over a year ago. Although the land was formally registered in his name, the seller allegedly kept demanding additional money in the name of handing over the possession, even after Ajit had already paid lakhs of rupees, the police said, citing the family's claims. The family also claimed that this ongoing pressure and financial stress had left him distressed. The incident occurred around 9 am on Friday.

Delhi HC bids farewell to Justice Dharmesh Sharma

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Friday bid farewell to Justice Dharmesh Sharma, who is due to retire on June 8, and praised him for his contributions to both the judicial and administrative side of the law. At present, the high court has a strength of 36 judges against a sanctioned strength of 45 permanent judges and 15 additional judges. Speaking at the farewell reference held on the court's last working day before the summer vacations, Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya said when a "seasoned judge" like Justice Sharma, who served the legal profession for over 30 years, leaves, it is a loss for the entire system. Justice Sharma said having "risen from the grassroots", he was proud of his "journey". However, considering his "relatively brief" tenure as a high court judge, he wished he had "done more for disposal of cases".

Man sentenced to 20 years Rigorous imprisonment for raping minor daughter

NEW DELHI: A court here has sentenced a man to rigorous imprisonment of 20 years for repeatedly raping and having unnatural sex with his 13-year-old daughter, saying that the victim was going through a never ending ordeal, where years after the crime, she feared that if her father were sentenced, she would be blamed by society. Expressing abject disappointment, Additional Sessions Judge Anu Aggarwal, in an order dated May 28, said the girl was subjected to the most heinous crime within the four walls of her home by her father, to whom she had bestowed her utmost trust. On May 19, the court had convicted the man under the POCSO provisions for committing aggravated penetrative sexual assault and under the penal provisions for rape, unnatural offences and criminal intimidation.

Electrician dies during repair work after power outage

PALGHAR: A 28-year-old electrician hired by the state power distribution firm MSEDCL for a repair work died due to electrocution in Arnala area of the district on Friday morning while three others suffered serious injuries, police said. The deceased was identified as Jayesh Gharat. Power supply had been switched off while the repair work was going on following an outage. As Gharat climbed an electricity pole, the power suddenly returned and he received a shock, said a local police official. As per the Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Limited (MSEDCL), the 22 KV Wathar line in Nalasopara West Sub-division tripped in the morning. MSEDCL staff along with Gharat who was hired for such work were carrying out repairs when the accident took place, it said in a release.

Elderly man tested positive for Covid-19 dies in Karnataka, death toll rise to 3

BENGALURU: A 63-year-old man who tested positive for Covid-19 died at a private hospital in Mysuru, taking the total coronavirus-related death toll in the state to three, officials said on Friday. The deceased, who was admitted to the hospital on May 15 died on May 25, they said. According to a statement by the health department, the patient died due to septic shock with MODS (Multiple Organ Dysfunction Syndrome), AKI (Acute Kidney Injury) with oliguria, Covid pneumonia with ARDS (Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome) and Hyponatremia.

Musk says to remain 'friend and advisor' to Trump

AFP, WASHINGTON: Billionaire Elon Musk said Friday he would remain a "friend and advisor" to Donald Trump, as the US president hosted an Oval Office farewell for the man who led his turbulent cost-cutting drive. "I look forward to continuing to be a friend and advisor to the president," Musk told reporters after Trump handed a golden key as a gift to the departing leader of the so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).



Tesla CEO Elon Musk speaks alongside US President Donald Trump to reporters in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, DC

Musk, clad in a black T-shirt and jacket and wearing a baseball cap as he stood next to the seated Trump, said he would keep supporting the team that is "relentlessly pursuing a trillion dollars in waste" in reductions that will "benefit the American taxpayer." He complained about how he has been portrayed, saying: "We became, like, essentially the DOGE bo-

geyman, where any cut anywhere would be ascribed to DOGE." Musk, the world's richest person, has said he is stepping back from his role at the White House to focus on his companies, which include Tesla, SpaceX and social media platform X.

His formal exit comes after a bombshell report in The New York Times on his alleged drug use. The newspa-

per said that Musk used so much ketamine during the 2024 campaign that he developed bladder problems and that he was also taking ecstasy and psychoactive mushrooms, and traveled with a pill box last year.

Musk was immediately asked about the report. He did not reply directly and instead denounced The New York Times over

its previous coverage of Russian interference in the 2016 election before moving to the next question. DOGE under Musk's guidance has slashed billions of dollars in government spending, much of it already approved by Congress, including eviscerating the main US agency delivering foreign aid.

A Boston University study said that tens of thousands of people have already died because of the freeze in funding, a finding earlier denied by Secretary of State Marco Rubio. "We're totally committed to making the DOGE cuts permanent and stopping much more of the waste in the months that come," Trump said.

He said that Musk "is really not leaving" as DOGE is working on further priorities such as "modernization" of the tax-collecting Internal Revenue Service, whose ranks have been slashed.

Sikkim tourist vehicle plunges into Teesta river; 1 dead, 8 missing

PTI, GANGTOK: One person was killed, two injured and eight others went missing when a vehicle carrying 11 tourists plunged into the Teesta river in North Sikkim's Mangan district, police said on Friday.

The tourist vehicle plunged more than 1,000 feet into Teesta river near Munsithang along the Lachen-Lachung highway on Thursday night. Two critically injured persons have been rescued and one body recovered, they said.

Eight tourists are still missing, said Superintendent of Police, Mangan, Sonam Detchu Bhutia.

Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang in a Facebook post said, "I am deeply saddened by the tragic road accident that occurred on the night of May 29 near Chubumbu, Mangan district, where a tourist vehicle fell into the Teesta river while

travelling from Lachen to Lachung. My heartfelt prayers are with the victims and their families during this extremely difficult time."

The CM said that rescue operations began immediately under the supervision of SP Mangan, with the dedicated efforts of the police, ITBP, fire and medical teams, and local volunteers. He said that two individuals have been rescued and are receiving medical care. He further said that the search for others is ongoing, with NDRF teams joining the operation.

"Our government is fully committed to extending all possible support to the victims and their families. We are closely monitoring the situation and ensuring that every necessary resource is deployed for the ongoing rescue and relief efforts. Let us stand united in this hour of grief and extend our support to those affected," the CM said.

SC orders NEET-PG 2025 to be conducted in one shift

Says holding two shifts create arbitrariness

PTI, NEW DELHI: In a significant order, the Supreme Court on Friday issued directions that the post-graduate medical entrance exam scheduled on June 15 be conducted in a single shift, saying holding it in two shifts "creates arbitrariness".



A bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath directed the authorities to make arrangements for holding NEET-PG 2025 exam in one shift and to ensure that complete transparency is maintained and secured centres are identified.

"Any two question papers can never be said to be having an identical level of difficulty or ease," said the bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kumar and N V Anjaria.

It said normalisation may

be applied in exceptional cases but not in a routine manner year after year.

The bench passed the order on pleas challenging a notification on holding the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test-Post Graduate (NEET-PG) 2025 examination in two shifts.

The top court said the total number of candidates

who have applied for the examination is 2,42,678 and the test is held all over the country and not in one city.

"We are not ready to accept that in the entire country and considering the technological advancement in the country, the examining body could not find enough centres to hold the examination in one shift," the bench said.

7 wounded in shooting at park in Washington state: Police

AP, LAKEWOOD: Seven people were shot and wounded at a park near Tacoma, Washington, where more than 100 people were gathered when the gunfire erupted, police said. Police detectives believe a dispute between two groups escalated to gunshots on Wednesday evening, Lakewood Police Sgt Charles Porche said.

Investigators don't know how many shooters were involved or whether the victims were targeted, he said. No arrests were made in the immediate aftermath of the shooting.

"Unfortunately, there were unintended/uninvolved victims struck during this careless act of violence," Porche said in a news release.

"Detectives will continue to sort through the information gathered to hold

those involved accountable for their actions."

The police spokesman said the victims ranged from a 16-year-old female, who was in stable condition, to a 38-year-old male who was the only person still in critical condition on Thursday.

He added that two others were in serious condition and the rest stable. Officers found a "very hectic scene" when they responded to

calls reporting shots at Harry Todd Park in Lakewood just before 8 pm (local time), Porche told KOMO-TV.

The park is beside a lake in the suburb just south of Tacoma. He said medics transported five people to hospitals and two others went to hospitals on their own.

The Seattle Times reported that Porche initially said three people were in critical condition.

FROM PAGE 1

GAUDE, CM SHARE STAGE EVEN AS TRIBAL LEADERS FLEX THEIR SUPPORT

"A conspiracy has been hatched against Gauda to end his leadership under the pretext of disciplinary action," he said.

Yugank Naik, a supporter of Gauda, emphasized that UTAA represents not just STs, but also supports the rights of the Bahujan Samaj.

"Gauda speaks the language of the common man in his strong, assertive tone. ST leaders must use strong language to fight against the injustice they face. Even former Chief Minister late Manohar Parrikar supported Gauda. The 'use and throw' policy won't work as UTAA remains a strong hope for STs," Naik stated.

ENGINEER HURLS CASH OUT OF WINDOW DURING VIGILANCE RAID

"On seeing the vigilance officers, Sarangi threw bundles of cash in Rs 500 denomination through the window of his flat in Bhubaneswar. The cash was recovered in the presence of witnesses," another official said.

He was accused of possessing assets disproportionate to his income.

Simultaneous raids are being conducted as search warrants were issued by Special Judge, Vigilance, Angul. The vigilance team located a two-storeyed residential house at Karadagadia, Angul, and flats in Bhubaneswar and at Siula, Pipili in Puri district, an official said.

Sarangi's ancestral house and relatives' homes in Angul district were also searched. His office chamber, located at the Chief Engineer, RD Planning and Road, Bhubaneswar, is also being raided.

BEAUTIFY COLVA - BUT CLEAN THE CREEK FIRST, SAY LOCALS

"Before implementing these plans, they should be made public so that villagers can be aware and provide their input," Rodrigues added.

Cavelossim Sarpanch Dixon Vaz — also a tourism stakeholder and vice-president of the Small and Medium Hotel Association — urged the government to address local concerns before pushing ahead with redevelopment.

He stressed the urgent need for a long-term solution to the pollution of Colva creek, and pointed to the ongoing struggles of local fishermen whose livelihoods depend on the beach.

Vaz said that Colva, once a thriving tourist hotspot popular with international visitors, particularly the hippie community, has lost its appeal due to years of poor maintenance. He called for the redevelopment plan to be discussed with all key stakeholders, including the panchayat, restaurant owners, taxi operators, and water sports businesses.

He also demanded a detailed presentation of the project and greater transparency in its execution to ensure the local community benefits. Vaz appealed to Chief Minister Pramod Sawant and Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte to resolve long-standing grievances before any final deci-

sions are made.

Citizens reiterated the need for open, transparent consultations to ensure that any development under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 is sustainable, inclusive, and beneficial to both residents and tourists.

LENS ON GCZMA OVER SHACK APPROVAL VIOLATING ITS OWN ORDER

"How can the GCZMA grant fresh approval on a damaged sand dune that needs to be restored?"

According to Almeida, the GCZMA had conducted three site inspections — most recently on January 28, 2025 — alongside the Goa State Biodiversity Board, specifically to enforce its 2019 order. However, without confirming the completion of restoration work, the authority allegedly conducted yet another inspection on April 2, 2025, and proceeded to grant approval for a temporary restaurant/shack on the same plot, survey No 96/1 of Betalbatim village in Salcete taluka.

Almeida further alleged that GCZMA's actions undermine its very mandate to protect Goa's fragile coastal ecosystems. "Such serious lapses wherein permissions are approved by the nodal agency (GCZMA) set up to preserve and protect the coastal environment is actually acting as an agent to cause severe damage to an already damaged eco-fragile primary sand dune," she said.

When contacted, GCZMA Member Secretary Sachin Desai defended the authority's actions. "The GCZMA in its 452nd meeting decided to grant approval to a temporary restaurant as per the site inspection report which is also uploaded on its website," he said.

TRUMP TARIFFS STAY IN PLACE FOR NOW AFTER COURT REPRIVE

Welcoming the latest twist in legal skirmishes over his trade policies, Trump lashed out at the Manhattan-based trade court, calling it "horrible" and saying its blockage should be "quickly and decisively" reversed for good.

Asian shares fell on Friday, reversing a rally across world markets the previous day, as the judicial wrangling around Trump's on-again-off-again tariffs fanned uncertainty.

Paris, London and Frankfurt were all in the green as EU trade chief Maros Sefcovic said following a call with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick that the bloc was "fully invested" in reaching a deal with the United States. Sefcovic could meet his US trade counterparts in Paris next week on the sidelines of a Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ministerial meeting, an EU official said.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Thursday that trade talks with China — the hardest hit by the tariffs — were "a bit stalled" and Trump might need to speak to President Xi Jinping in order to iron out tariffs between the world's two biggest economies.

"I think that given the magnitude of the talks, given the complexity, that this is going to require both leaders to weigh in with each other," Bessent told Fox News after the ruling from the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, known as an administrative stay.

MORE OBITS ON PAGE 12

DEATH
FILOMENA MASCARENHAS
Baag - Xelvona
Born : 14/05/1943
Died : 30/05/2025
Wife of Late Jose Francisco Mascarenhas, Mother of Late Betty Mascarenhas, Vanita / Alfred, Marshelo / Flora , Sydney/Emelia . Grand Mother of Alike, Amanda,

Mafion, Mafster, Siesla, Shiril, Valanka.
Funeral Cortege will leave her residence at 3:15 pm on 31st May 2025 to Fatima Chapel, Baag Xelvona for mass followed by burial.

Relatives & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

CONDOLENCE
LOURENCO PEREIRA
AGALLI - FATORDA
We deeply mourn the sad and untimely demise of beloved LOURENCO and convey our deepest sympathies to his bereaved family. May his soul rest in eternal peace.
A tearful tribute to our friend from:
Melwyn D'Costa; Milagres Tereza; Maria Rebello; Egidio D'Costa; Francisco Fernandes (Quepem); Oswaldo D'Costa. All from GFA Match Commissioner.

ADEUS BRO
We, deeply mourn the sad demise of our beloved brother/uncle
TRINDADE CRASTO
Capsantor - Seraulim
"Beloved brother, our hearts still ache in sadness and secret tears still flow, what it meant to lose you, no one will ever know."
Fondly remembered by:-
Loving sister/brother-in-law: Remediana/Seby Rodrigues
Nephews: Shane/Swizel and Snell/Nelisha.
You will be missed forever.
Rebello Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN
MARIANO DSILVA
"There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts."
Forever remembered, forever missed by
BABA KAYLAN (BAKAR) & BABY KENEESHA (NANU)
WE WILL MISS YOU