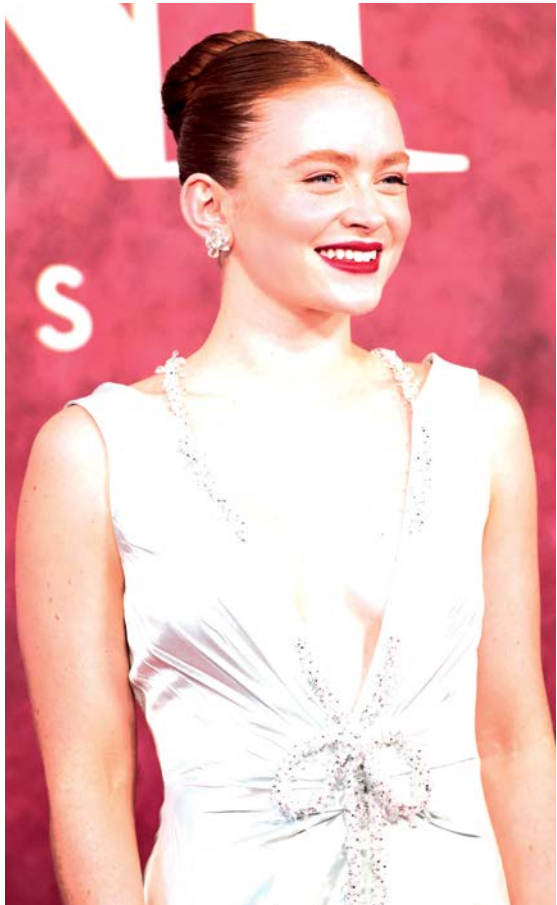


allovertheworld



US actress Sadie Sink attends the 78th Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall in New York

Lithuania sentences thief of rare Russian books
VILNIUS: A Lithuanian court on Monday sentenced a Georgian national for stealing rare editions of Russian literary classics, accusing him of belonging to a group behind a spate of similar thefts across Europe. Mikheil Zamtaradze was sentenced "for stealing, as part of an organised group, 19th-century publications valued at 606,000 euros that have high cultural and historical value," judge Mindaugas Razanskas told reporters at the Vilnius City District Court. He was sentenced to three years and four months in prison. The Georgian national was arrested in Belgium in 2023 and transferred to Lithuania later the same year. He is now due to be taken to France, where he is accused of similar thefts.

Kenya police say death-in-custody victim criticised officer online
NAIROBI, KENYA: Kenya's police chief said Monday that a man who died in custody over the weekend had been arrested for making a complaint against a senior officer. Albert Ojwang, 31, was found unconscious in a cell in Nairobi police station on Saturday and later pronounced dead in hospital. The police said he hit his own head against the wall. "We saw the body yesterday... (it) had a lot of injuries on the hands, the shoulder area, but the head was swollen all around the frontal part... the nose, ears... and there was a lot of blood," Julius Juma, lawyer for Ojwang's family, told reporters and supporters, who had gathered outside the morgue in Nairobi on Monday.

Taiwan exports to US hit record high as tariff threat looms
TAIPEI, TAIWAN: Taiwan's exports to the United States hit a record high in May, official data showed Monday, as the self-ruled island seeks to strike a deal with Washington to avoid hefty tariffs. US President Donald Trump slapped a 32 percent toll on Taiwanese products in April. It was later paused for 90 days, but a global 10 percent levy is still in place. As Taipei and Washington negotiate a trade deal, American companies have ramped up orders of Taiwanese-made high-tech products in case the higher tariff takes effect next month. Taiwanese shipments to the United States soared 87.4 percent in May from a year ago to US\$15.5 billion, finance ministry figures showed.

NATO chief to urge 400-percent rise in alliance's air defence
LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM: NATO head Mark Rutte will on Monday call for a "quantum leap" in defence capacities including a "400-percent increase" in air and missile defence which "protects" the alliance against Russia. "We see in Ukraine how Russia delivers terror from above, so we will strengthen the shield that protects our skies," the NATO secretary general Rutte was to say in a speech to the Chatham House think-tank in London, according to comments released in a statement. To maintain credible deterrence and defence, NATO needs "a 400-percent increase in air and missile defence". "The fact is, we need a quantum leap in our collective defence," he was to say.

SAfrica's coal dependency puts economy at risk: report
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA: South Africa's coal-dependent economy could lose billions in export revenue and thousands of jobs as more countries and companies seek carbon-free imports, the Net Zero Tracker watchdog said Monday. Africa's most industrialised nation is one of the largest polluters in the world and generates about 80 percent of its electricity through coal. This makes it "uniquely vulnerable" as companies decarbonise their supply chains and countries penalise carbon-intensive imports, according to the group, a collaboration of four non-profit organisations that tracks net zero pledges. "78 percent of South Africa's exports, worth \$135 billion, are traded with 139 jurisdictions.

Mexican police kill four cartel suspects on the border with Guatemala
TUXTLA GUTIERREZ, MEXICO: Police in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas and federal forces killed four suspected criminals on Sunday during a chase in an area bordering Guatemala, the local government said. A statement from the local Security Secretariat said the events occurred in the municipality of Frontera Comalapa after security forces were attacked while on a routine patrol. "Authorities repelled the fire... and managed to kill four suspected members of organized crime," the statement said. Local media reported that the security forces may have entered Guatemalan territory during the pursuit. Guatemalan Vice President Karin Herrera wrote on social media platform X that "the border is under control" and that the army and police maintain "an active presence in the area to guarantee the protection and security of the population."

Israel diverts Gaza-bound aid boat carrying Greta Thunberg

AFP, JERUSALEM, UNDE-FINED: Israeli forces intercepted a Gaza-bound aid boat on Monday, preventing the activists on board -- including Swedish campaigner Greta Thunberg -- from reaching the blockaded Palestinian territory. The Madleen set sail from Italy on June 1 to raise awareness of food shortages in Gaza, which the United Nations has called the "hungriest place on Earth". After 21 months of war, the UN warns the entire population is at risk of famine. At around 4:02 am (0102 GMT), Israeli troops "forcibly intercepted" the vessel in international waters as it approached Gaza, the Freedom Flotilla Coalition said. "If you see this video, we have been intercepted and kidnapped in international waters," Thunberg said in pre-recorded footage shared by the coalition. Video from the group shows the activists with their hands up as Israeli forces boarded the vessel, with one of them saying nobody was injured prior to the interception. Israel's foreign ministry, in a post on social media, said "all the passengers of the 'selfie yacht' are safe and unharmed", adding it expected the activists to return to their home countries. Turkey condemned the interception as a "heinous attack" in international waters. Iran also denounced it as "a form of piracy", citing the same grounds. In May, another Freedom Flotilla ship, the Conscience, reported it was struck by drones in an attack the group blamed on Israel. In 2010, a commando raid on the Turkish ship



Activists on board the Gaza-bound aid boat Madleen, with their hands in the air, as they are being intercepted by the Israeli forces in international



Greta, saying that the vessel has been 'intercepted' by Israeli forces

Mavi Marmara, which was part of a similar attempt to breach Israel's naval blockade, left 10 civilians dead. On Sunday, Defence Minister Israel Katz said the blockade, in place since years before the Israel-Hamas war, was needed to prevent Palestinian militants from importing weapons. The Madleen was intercepted about 185 kilometres (115 miles) west of the coast of Gaza, according to coordinates from the coalition. President Emmanuel Macron requested that the six French nationals aboard the boat "be allowed to return to France as soon as possible", a presidential official said. Israel is facing mounting pressure to allow more aid into Gaza to alleviate widespread shortages of food and basic supplies. It recently allowed some deliveries to resume after barring them for more than two months and began working with the newly formed, US-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. But humanitarian agencies have criticised the GHF and the United Nations refuses to work with it, citing

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GMC DOCS KEEP THE HEAT ON DESPITE RANE'S APOLOGY

Later in the afternoon, Dr Kuttikar met the dean and spoke to the media, demanding that the Health Minister apologise publicly at the same location where the incident occurred. He warned that failure to do so would result in a full-fledged strike. Reacting to the widespread criticism, Rane took to his social media handle on 'X', expressing regret over the incident. "In the heat of the moment, my emotions overtook my expression, and I deeply regret the manner in which I addressed the situation," he wrote, adding that it was never his intention to undermine or disrespect the dignity of any medical professional. He acknowledged the critical role doctors play in society and reiterated his respect for their contribution to public health. Initially, while acknowledging that he erred in his reaction, Rane had refused to apologise for intervening on behalf of a patient. However, as public and media pressure mounted, he eventually issued a formal statement of apology. Despite this, doctors remained unconvinced. Dr Kuttikar termed it a 'studio apology' and insisted that only an apology delivered at the casualty ward and recorded for public circulation — just as the original video had been — would be acceptable. Senior physician Dr Nazareth, a 28-year GMC veteran, called on the Health Minister to personally visit the hospital and issue a public apology. GARD president Dr Aayush Sharma added that this was just the latest in a growing pattern of verbal abuse and threats faced by doctors, often by individuals claiming influence or filming confrontations. He proposed placing such persons on a 'no-treatment' list and called for clear Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to handle such cases. "It's sad that we can be threatened just by someone dropping the name of a higher-up," he remarked, also calling for an end to VIP culture within the hospital.

GMC Dean Dr Shivanand Bandekar confirmed that no formal suspension order had been issued against Dr Kuttikar, and the Minister's remarks were only verbal. The Dean assured the doctors that the demand for a formal on-site apology had been communicated to the Minister and that once a response was received, it would be shared with GARD. Dr Bandekar also supported the demand to ban videography and media recording in patient care areas, calling them private spaces. Despite existing signage, violations had continued, he said, and stricter enforcement would now be implemented. The Dean added that an FIR would be filed at the Agassaim Police Station against the cameraman who filmed the incident during the Minister's visit. He also backed the call to end VIP culture within the hospital and announced that SOPs for handling VIP patients would be drafted immediately in coordination with the Medical Superintendent. These recommendations would be forwarded to the government for formal adoption.

CALLS GROW TO MOVE OLD GOA POLICE STATION FROM HERITAGE ZONE

Another member, Jennifer Lobo, condemned the proposed construction and reiterated the committee's demand for a comprehensive development plan for Old Goa. "We have submitted a petition to the Chief Minister signed by over 30,000 citizens," she said. "We are calling upon the government to first prepare a masterplan for the area before allowing any construction." Local resident Jacqueline Fernandes echoed these concerns, stating that the structure falls within the buffer zone and contradicts heritage conservation principles. "Old Goa is a UNESCO site. Allowing this police station could set a precedent for other high-rise constructions. There are alternatives, such as building a police outpost in Ribandar," she said. Separately, Old Goa resident Glean Cabral has written to the National Monuments Authority (NMA) and the Goa Town and Country Planning (TCP) Department objecting to the reported approval of a G+2 (ground plus two floors) building within the regulated zone of a centrally protected monument. Cabral cited the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act, 2010, and noted that the proposed construction site — Survey No 117/0 — is within 300 metres of the Basilica of Bom Jesus, a UNESCO-recognized monument. Cabral questioned the legality of the approval, stating there is no public record

of any such exception being granted by the NMA for a G+2 structure in this zone. Committee convenor Peter Viegas also called on the government to shift the proposed building outside the 300-meter buffer zone. "This new building is intended to serve the constituencies of St Cruz and Cumbarjua. It need not be located in the heritage core of Old Goa," he said. "The existing police station is a much smaller structure. Allowing a large new development in this zone could eventually jeopardise the site's World Heritage designation."

4 DEAD AFTER FALLING OFF LOCAL TRAINS NEAR MUMBAI

The commuters were hanging from the doors of the crowded trains and their backpacks brushed against each other as the trains passed in opposite directions, police said. The guard of a train going towards Kasara alerted the railway authorities about the incident. Those who fell off the trains were rushed to nearby hospitals, where four were declared dead on arrival, police said. The Railway Ministry has decided to have automatic door closing facilities in coaches of all existing and new local trains for Mumbai Suburban, a senior official said. Dilip Kumar, Executive Director, Information and Publicity, Railway Board, said that after the tragedy in Maharashtra, the Ministry has decided to have automatic door closure facilities in all local trains under manufacturing for Mumbai Suburban. All rakes in service will also be redesigned and the door closure facility will be provided in these rakes of Mumbai Suburban, Kumar added. Officials stressed that safety is Railway's top priority and all efforts are being taken to prevent such incidents from recurring. Around 75 lakh commuters travel daily by suburban trains in Mumbai, the official said. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said the railway administration was probing the cause of the accident. Deputy CM Eknath Shinde said steps were being taken to help the victims and their families. The incident highlights the need to pay serious attention to overcrowding and passenger safety in the suburban railway system, Deputy CM Ajit Pawar said. The deceased were identified as Ketan Saroj, Rahul Gupta, Mayur Shah and Thane Government Railway Police (GRP) constable Vicky Mukhyad. Nila said an injured person informed that commuters fell from local trains travelling in opposite directions after some of those standing on the footboards collided with each other. Responding to concerns over inadequate facilities for Mumbai commuters despite their significant contribution to the Railways' revenue, Shinde said, "A high-powered Railways committee will investigate the matter. The truth will come out, and if anyone is found guilty, strict action will be taken." Congress leader Rahul Gandhi expressed his condolences to the families of the deceased and wished the injured a speedy recovery. "While the Modi Government is celebrating 11 years of 'service', the reality of the country is reflected in the tragic news coming from Mumbai — several people died after falling from a train."

"Indian Railways is the backbone of the lives of crores of people, but today it has become a symbol of insecurity, congestion and chaos," Gandhi posted on X. "11 years of Modi government = no accountability, no change, only propaganda. The government has stopped talking about 2025 and is now selling dreams of 2047. Who will see what the country is facing today?" he added. NCP (SP) president Sharad Pawar said the Central Railway should implement measures like installing automatic doors in suburban trains in view of overcrowding. "The Central Railway should increase local trains on important routes. Necessary measures should be implemented immediately for the safety of passengers," he posted on X. "It is well known that the increased crowding in local trains is the main reason. After such accidents, it is not right to blame the passengers for their deaths," Pawar said. Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Priyanka Chaturvedi said, "The Railways should just shut up about what they are planning to do because none of them have been delivered as far as Mumbai local trains are concerned." "These are not deaths by overcrowding but murders executed by an apathetic Reel Minister and the government of

concerns over its practices and neutrality. Dozens of people have been killed near GHF distribution points since late May, according to Gaza's civil defence agency.

It said Israeli attacks killed at least 10 people on Sunday, including five civilians hit by gunfire near an aid distribution centre. Civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal and witnesses said the civilians had been heading to a GHF-run site west of Rafah, in southern Gaza. The Israeli military said it fired on people who "continued advancing in a way that endangered the soldiers" despite warnings. The GHF said there had been no incidents "at any of our three sites" on Sunday. Outside Nasser Hospital, where the emergency workers brought the casualties, AFP TV footage showed mourners crying over blood-stained body bags. "I can't see you like this," said Lin al-Daghma by her father's body.

Maharashtra," Chaturvedi posted on X. Mumbai Congress president Varsha Gaikwad said Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw should own responsibility for the tragedy and resign. MNS president Raj Thackeray said the railways infrastructure in Mumbai has collapsed due to the "hordes" of migrants. NCP (SP) leader Jitendra Awhad ridiculed the proposal for installing automatic doors in suburban trains, claiming commuters will suffocate due to this facility.

MISSING WIFE HELD FOR MURDER OF HUSBAND

The fourth accused, Anand Kurmi (23), was arrested later from Sagar district in Madhya Pradesh. Sonam, who had been missing since her husband's body was discovered, surfaced in Uttar Pradesh's Ghazipur district on Sunday night. She surrendered at the Nandganj police station and was taken into custody by the Meghalaya Police around 6.30 pm on Monday. Legal procedures for her transit to the northeastern state are underway. "The arrests mark a decisive development in unravelling the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of Raja and the subsequent disappearance of his wife," said officials involved in the probe. Raja's body was identified by his relatives through a distinctive tattoo on his right hand. A woman's white shirt, a medicine strip, part of an LCD screen of a mobile phone, and a smartwatch were also found near the body. Police said they recovered a bloodstained machete believed to be the murder weapon. A raincoat, suspected to belong to the couple, was recovered from Mawkma village, a few kilometres from the gorge. The post-mortem examination, conducted at the North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS), revealed two sharp-force injuries on Raja's head — one on the front and another at the back. A key eyewitness — a local guide in Mawlakhiat — claimed he saw the couple with three Hindi-speaking men on May 23. The guide told investigators that he had interacted with the couple a day earlier when they visited Nongriat's famed living root bridge but they had declined his services and opted for another guide. As the investigation progressed, police suspected that the murder was premeditated and possibly financially or personally motivated. Raja, the youngest of three brothers, was involved in his family's bus rental business in Indore and described by relatives as responsible and soft-spoken.

Meanwhile, Sonam's father, Devi Singh Raghuvanshi, strongly denied the police allegations. "My daughter is 100 per cent innocent. Meghalaya Police is misleading the media and not investigating the matter properly," he said, adding that the family has demanded a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe. He further claimed that Raj Singh Kushwaha's name was being wrongly associated with his daughter and threatened to send a legal notice to the police. Devi Singh, who runs a Sunmica sheet business in Indore, insisted that his daughter had been abducted and falsely implicated in the case. In contrast, Raja's mother, Uma Raghuvanshi, expressed grief and disbelief. She said Raja had gone on the honeymoon only because Sonam insisted. "He did not want to go so soon. But Sonam had booked the tickets, so I told him to go," she said. According to her, Sonam hadn't booked return tickets, claiming they would plan it after a few days. "My son told me they would return in six or seven days. He never came back. I want to ask Sonam — why, how, and in what condition she left my son," she said, visibly heartbroken. Uma added that she was shocked to see a recent picture of Sonam after her surrender, saying, "There was not even a scratch on her body." Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma praised the state police for the swift progress. "Within seven days, a major breakthrough has been achieved... The woman has surrendered, and three assailants have been arrested. Operation still on for one more. Well done to Meghalaya Police," Sangma posted on X (formerly Twitter). Tourism Minister Paul Lyngdoh also addressed concerns raised about tourist safety, asserting that Meghalaya remains safe for visitors. He said appropriate legal action would be taken against those responsible for damaging the state's image. The arrested suspects from Madhya Pradesh have been granted a seven-day transit remand by a district court in Indore and are being sent to Meghalaya for further investigation. Police have not ruled out additional arrests as the investigation continues.

