

allovertheworld



A mural made as part of the voter awareness campaign, ahead of the third phase of Lok Sabha elections, at a shopping mall, in Ahmedabad

Five Azerbaijan nationals held at Delhi airport for smuggling gold worth Rs 2.4 cr

NEW DELHI: Five Azerbaijan nationals have been arrested by customs officials for allegedly smuggling into the country gold worth over Rs 2.4 crore at the international airport here, according to an official statement issued on Friday. The accused persons, comprising one female passenger, were intercepted after their arrival from Dubai on April 30, the statement released by the customs department said.

"On personal search of the said passengers, gold items in the form of jewellery, wire, belt buckle and handbag handle etc, totally weighing 3.5 kg valued at Rs 2.44 crore were recovered from them," it read. The accused were arrested and the gold items were seized, it added.

Punjab man arrested for spying for Pakistan's ISI: Police

HOSHIAHPUR (PUNJAB): A man from Punjab's Hoshiarpur district was arrested for allegedly spying for Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence and helping the agency in organising anti-India activities, police said on Friday.

The man is accused of aiding anti-India activities by providing sensitive information about Indian Army deployments, and transmitting documents and photos from his mobile phone, they said. Acting on a tip-off, police apprehended Harpreet Singh near a railroad crossing on Phagwara road in Hoshiarpur on Thursday night. The man, who hails from Tarn Taran district, was currently residing in Vijay Nagar area here. According to police, Singh, who has been living in the city for the past four years, had allegedly travelled to Pakistan twice on a visitor visa where he met ISI officials. He was allegedly in contact with these ISI officials via WhatsApp, they said.

Fire breaks out in forest near Rajghat

NEW DELHI: A fire broke out in a forest area near Rajghat here on Friday, Delhi Fire Services (DFS) officials said. The fire spread due to strong winds, they said. "We received two calls regarding a fire in a forest area close to Rajghat. The first call was received at 10:30 am and two fire brigades were pressed into service. Another call was received at 2:30 pm and three more fire brigades were sent to the spot," a DFS official said. The fire spread due to strong surface winds but is under control now, officials said.

Delhi court convicts juvenile of gruesome murder, rape of 5-year-old girl

NEW DELHI: A court here has convicted a juvenile for the gruesome murder and rape of a 5-year-old girl in 2017, saying the totality of all circumstantial evidence established his guilt.

Additional Sessions Judge Amit Sahrawat was hearing the case against the child in conflict with law (CCL) who was accused of raping and battering the victim's head with cement stones, causing her death in February 2017. "This is a case of circumstantial evidence and all the circumstances against CCL are to be considered together. Collectively from these circumstances, the only hypothesis is the guilt of the accused," the court said in an order passed on April 27.

The court said that the deceased was last seen with the CCL and after the victim's father confronted him, the accused disclosed that he had raped and murdered the girl, following which the victim's body was found hidden under large stones in an under-construction site.

TN: Pregnant woman falls from moving train, dies

CUDDALORE (TAMIL NADU): A pregnant woman accidentally fell from a moving train between Ulundurpet and Vriddhachalam and died, police here said on Friday. The woman was identified as Kasthuri (22) from Tirusulam, Chennai who was travelling in the Kollam Express with her husband Suresh Kumar and other relatives for her baby shower function in Tenkasi district.

"The woman, who was seven months pregnant, had complained of nausea and rushed to the washroom. However, she slipped and fell from the train on Thursday night," a senior police official said.

First year B. Tech student commits suicide in Rajasthan's Phagwara

PHAGWARA: An 18-year-old student allegedly committed suicide by jumping from the 10th floor of his hostel here, police said on Friday.

Phagwara Sub-divisional Superintendent of Police (SP) Rupinder Kaur Bhatti identified the deceased as Mayank, a first-year student of B.Tech Computer Science. Mayank was from a Nimoth village in district Rewari, Haryana. He lived in a boys' hostel and jumped from the 10th floor of the building on Thursday night, she said.

The body was handed over to the family on Friday after the post-mortem. The reason behind him taking this extreme step is yet to be ascertained, she said.

German foreign min says Russia will face consequences for cyberattack; NATO, EU show support

AP, BRUSSELS: Germany's top diplomat on Friday said Russia will face consequences after accusing its military intelligence service of masterminding an "absolutely intolerable" cyberattack, as NATO and European Union member countries said they will not let Russia's "malicious" behaviour in cyberspace go unanswered.

Relations between Russia and Germany were already tense, with Germany providing military support to Ukraine in its ongoing war with Russia.

German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock said Russian state hackers were behind a cyberattack last year that targeted the Social Democrats, the leading party

in the governing coalition.

"Russian state hackers attacked Germany in cyberspace," she said at a news conference in the Australian city of Adelaide. "We can attribute this attack to the group called APT28, which is steered by the military intelligence service of Russia."

"This is absolutely intolerable and unacceptable and will have consequences," she said.

The Council of the EU later said that Czechia's institutions have also been a target of the cyber campaign.

In a statement by the EU's top diplomat, Josep Borrell, the bloc's nations said they "strongly condemn the malicious cyber campaign conducted by



Germany's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock, left, and Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong attend a news conference in Adelaide, on Friday

the Russia-controlled Advanced Persistent Threat Actor 28 (APT28) against Germany and Czechia."

The EU noted that it had previously imposed sanctions on individuals and en-

ties responsible for APT28 attacks targeting the German parliament in 2015. It said it will not tolerate the continuation of such attacks, particularly with EU elections upcoming in June.

NATO said that APT28 targeted "other national governmental entities, critical infrastructure operators and other entities across the Alliance," including in Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden.

"We are determined to employ the necessary capabilities in order to deter, defend against and counter the full spectrum of cyber-threats to support each other, including by considering coordinated responses," said the North Atlantic Council, the principal political decision-making body within NATO.

Baerbock is visiting Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, with the trip focusing on security policy as China

pushes for influence in the Pacific region.

"The defense cooperation between Germany and Australia is close and we would like to deepen it further and together expand it, because we are in a situation where we face similar threats," said Baerbock, who is the first German foreign minister to visit Australia in 13 years.

Discussions between Baerbock and Australia counterpart Penny Wong centered on the conflict in Gaza. "I think we all understand that the only path out of this cycle of violence that we see in the Middle East at such great cost is one that ultimately ensures a two-state solution," Wong said.

New Delhi, Male review withdrawal of Indian military personnel from island nation

PTI, NEW DELHI: India and the Maldives on Friday reviewed the ongoing process of replacing Indian military personnel from the island nation with Male saying New Delhi would complete the withdrawal of its troops by May 10.

The two sides held the fourth meeting of the bilateral high-level core group in Delhi.

India has already withdrawn some of its military personnel who were operating three aviation platforms in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

The military personnel were replaced by civilian technical experts. The Indian personnel were operating three aviation platforms in the Maldives and New Delhi is now deploying civilian personnel to operate them.

Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu had set May 10 as the deadline for withdrawal of the Indian military personnel from his country.

"Both sides continued their discussions on wide ranging issues related to bilateral cooperation. This included defence cooperation, development projects, efforts to enhance bilateral trade and investment, and capacity building initiatives," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

It said both sides also reviewed the ongoing efforts to enable "continued operation of Indian aviation platforms that provide humanitarian and medvac (medical evacuation) services to the people of Maldives," it said in a brief statement.

Allegations of molestation against Governor spark political firestorm in West Bengal

PTI, KOLKATA/ PURBA BARDHAMAN: The political tussle over a complaint by a Raj Bhavan woman employee who accused Governor C V Ananda Bose of "molesting" her escalated on Friday with the Governor dubbing the allegations as "absurd drama" and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee attacking him, calling the charges "shameful and distressing".

Meanwhile, the police remained tightlipped over their action in the matter. "All necessary steps are being taken following the complaint by the woman," a senior police official said.

A contractual woman employee on Thursday evening had lodged a police complaint at the Hare Street Police station accusing Bose of molesting her and a host of TMC leaders posted on social media about the incident dubbing the incident as "horrific and appalling."



Banerjee dubbed the incident as "deeply distressing", and claimed that the same governor who showed great urgency in reaching Sandeshkhali now stands accused of molesting a female staff at Raj Bhavan."

Earlier in the day, Bose said he expected more such allegations to surface but that would not deter him from his "determined efforts to expose corruption and curb violence" in the state.

In a recorded statement

released by Raj Bhavan, Bose said, "I welcome all the generous allegations and the frequent innuendoes passed on me by some political forces. I understand, my friends, there is more in the offing. But one thing is clear, none of the absurd dramas is going to deter me from my determined efforts to expose corruption and curb violence."

Claiming that character assassination is the last resort of a "failing majority", Bose said, "A more sinister plot has been hatched in the Raj Bhavan". Bose mocked the allegations, saying one day he would also be blamed for the Great Bengal Famine of 1943 as well as the '1946 Calcutta Killings'. "That is the nature of the political forces working in the state," he said.

The governor said he was briefed about what he can expect in Bengal from certain political parties.

"I have braved many storms. I tell the political party that is plotting against me, this is no storm. This is only a storm in a teacup. Do not be surprised if you realise I am the storm. Bring out all the weapons from your armoury. Use it against me. I am willing. I am prepared. I shall continue my fight for the dignity and respect of my brothers and sisters of Bengal," he stated.

He also said that the wound closed within five days and fully healed within one month.

"Interestingly, Rakus also rested more than usual when being wounded. Sleep positively affects wound healing as growth hormone release, protein synthesis and cell division are increased during sleep," Laumer said.

She explained the "intentional" nature of Rakus's behaviour, as he "selectively treated his facial wound," and no other body part.

"The behaviour was also repeated several times, not only with the plant juice but also later with more solid plant material until the wound was fully covered. The en-

terity and diabetes, said Laumer, first author of the study published in the journal Scientific Reports.

The researchers observed no signs of wound infection in the days following the injury. They also saw that the wound closed within five days and fully healed within one month.

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