



Japan's Emperor Naruhito speaks during a press conference in advance of his visit to Mongolia, at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo



France's Minister of Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forest, Sea and Fisheries Agnes Pannier-Runacher leaves after the weekly cabinet in Paris



Spain's PM Pedro Sanchez leaves after delivering a speech at the United Nations 4th International Conference on Financing and Development in Seville



China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi (L) shakes hands with European Council President Antonio Costa during a meeting in Brussels

# Trump's giant tax bill faces make-or-break vote in Congress

AFP, WASHINGTON: Donald Trump is seeking final approval Wednesday in the US Congress for his marquee tax and spending bill, with Republicans pinning their hopes on a narrow victory that will help seal the president's legacy.

The party's senators passed the sprawling package by a tie-breaking vote Tuesday after a bruising 27 hours of fighting over provisions set to balloon the national debt while launching a historic assault on the social safety net.

It was originally approved by the House of Representatives in May but must return for a rubber stamp of the final wording in the lower chamber -- and success is far from guaranteed.

"This bill is President Trump's agenda, and we are making it law," House Speaker Mike Johnson said in a statement, projecting confidence that Republi-



The House Rules Committee, chaired by Representative Virginia Foxx (C), Republican from North Carolina, meets and discusses the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" after the Senate passed the legislation earlier in the day at the US Capitol in Washington, DC

cans were "ready to finish the job."

The package honors many of Trump's campaign promises, boosting military spending, funding a mass migrant deportation drive and committing \$4.5 trillion to extend his first-term tax relief.

But it piles an extra \$3.3

trillion over a decade onto the country's fast-growing deficits, while forcing through the largest cuts to the Medicaid health insurance program since its 1960s launch.

Fiscal hawks, meanwhile, are chafing over spending cuts that they say fall short of what they were prom-

ised by hundreds of billions of dollars.

Johnson has to negotiate incredibly tight margins, and can likely only lose three lawmakers among more than two dozen who have declared themselves open to rejecting the bill.

"It's hard for me to conceive that it will pass as is.

There's some amazingly bad stuff in here," Arizona conservative Andy Biggs told his local radio station, KTAR News.

- 'Abomination' - Lawmakers are expected to return from recess Wednesday morning to vote immediately, although they have a cushion two days before Trump's self-imposed July 4 deadline.

The 887-page text only passed in the Senate after a flurry of tweaks that pulled the House-passed text further to the right.

Republicans lost one conservative who was angry about adding to the country's \$37 trillion debt burden and two moderates worried about almost \$1 trillion in health care cuts.

Some estimates put the total number of recipients set to lose their health insurance at 17 million, while scores of hospitals are expected to close.

## Bangla ex-PM Hasina sentenced to six months in contempt case

PTI, DHAKA: Bangladesh's deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina was on Wednesday sentenced to six months in prison in a contempt of court case by the International Crimes Tribunal, while it now tries her on a major charge of committing crimes against humanity in absentia.

A three-member panel of the tribunal-1 (ICT), led by Justice Golam Mortuza Mozumder, simultaneously sentenced to two months a fugitive leader of the Bangladesh Chhatra League, Shakil Akanda Bulbul, in the same case.

It marks the first time that 77-year-old Hasina has been sentenced in any case since she left office in August last year.

'According to the verdict, the sentence will come into effect from the day of her arrest or surrender before the court,' chief prosecutor Mohammad Tajul Islam told reporters after the verdict was handed down.

A state-appointed law-



yer is defending Hasina, now staying in India, in the tribunal which earlier declared her a 'fugitive' while her trial was opened on Monday initially over the murder of student protester Abu Sayeed.

Sayeed's killing in northwestern Rangpur University during a demonstration escalated a nationwide violent protest that ultimately ousted her nearly 16-year-long regime on August 5 last year, when she secretly left the country on a military aircraft.

Three days later No-

bel laureate Muhammad Yunus, 85, flew from Paris to take charge of an interim government as the nominee of the protesters who were waging the movement under a platform called Students against Discrimination (SAD).

Yunus, the founder of the landmark Grameen Bank, was on a protracted row with the past regime for obscure reasons while a Bangladeshi court sentenced him to six months in jail for violating the Bangladesh labour laws in January last year.

## US, Japan, India, Australia pledge mineral cooperation on China jitters

AFP, WASHINGTON: The United States, Japan, India and Australia pledged Tuesday to work together to ensure a stable supply of critical minerals, as worries grow over China's dominance in resources vital to new technologies.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio welcomed his counterparts from the so-called "Quad" to Washington in a shift of focus to Asia, after spending much of his first six months on the wars in Ukraine and the Middle East and on President Don-



A poised gathering of top diplomats as they reinforce Quad unity and cooperation on Indo-Pacific security

### SITUATIONS VACANT

**Distributor in Navelim is looking** for a Female Data Entry Staff (Purchase/Sales). Call 9970817543

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2025019399

**Wanted Watchman (VIII pass)** on contract basis till March 2026. Walk in interview with relevant documents on 10th July 2025 at 2.30 pm at Chubby Cheeks Spring Valley High School, Pilerne Bardez Goa.

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**Wanted 01 Trained Un Graduate Teachers** B.A, B. Ed. on Contract Basis for 04 Months, to teach Maths for Std. Vth in AIM Salcate High School. Rumdamol, Salcate-Goa. Attend the interview on 12/07/2025, at 10.00 am.

2025019415

**Wanted Female staff (B.com with** min 1 year experience in handling hospital cashless insurance claims) for Borkar Multispeciality Hospital, abade faria road Margao-Goa. Contact: 9823129004/ 7448094626

2025019417

**Wanted 02 Undergraduate Teachers** for the post of Special Educator Resource Room Teacher on contract basis till 30/04/2026. Candidates having required qualification as per Government recruitment Rules, below 45 years, having valid Employment Exchange Registration, Residence certificate, Valid RCI certificate and required testimonials, may appear for walk in interview - 07/07/2025 at 8:30 am at Infant Jesus High School, Colva.

2025019413

### SITUATIONS VACANT

**Wanted Female Accountant (B.com/M.com** with knowledge of tally and min 1 year experience in accounting) for Borkar Multispeciality Hospital, abade faria road Margao-Goa. Contact: 9823129004/ 7448094626

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**We are looking for a dedicated & responsible OT Staff** with basic knowledge of OT procedure and equipment. Having Bsc Nursing/ GNM/ Diploma in OT Technician. Contact number: 9561213574/ 9823129004

2025019418

**We are hiring a Nursing Staff** with basic clinical knowledge and holding a degree of Bsc and GNM/ ANM Nursing. Freshers may also apply. Contact number: 9561213574/ 9823129004

2025019419

### THANKSGIVING

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O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, I have asked you for many favours, now I ask you for this one (make request). Take it and place it in your own broken heart and when Thy Heavenly Father sees it He will not refuse it. It is not my prayer but Thy prayer of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee (say three times and publish). It has never failed. - F.D.

2025019385-1

### TOURS & TRAVELS

**Ac Bus departing to Velankanni** on 27th August for Fama and 5th September for Feast. Booking contact Eddie 8412026609/ 9702655005

2025019161

### VEHICLES AVAILABLE

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**Honda city 2014 diesel, 1.8 lakh** km., excellent condition. 23km/ltr at Porvorim. Rs 3 lakhs. Tel/WA 9823226935.

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2025016182

## Oil-drilling vessel capsizes in Gulf of Suez, killing 4

AP, CAIRO: An oil-drilling ship capsized in the Gulf of Suez, killing at least four crewmen and leaving four others missing, authorities said Wednesday.

The drilling ship overturned Tuesday evening off the city of Ras Ghareb, on the African side of the Gulf of Suez, the Red Sea's northwestern arm and a crucial shipping route, the Petroleum Ministry said in a statement.

There were 30 workers on board when the drilling ship capsized, said Amr Hanafy, governor of the Red Sea province.

Rescue teams recovered four bodies and rescued two 22 others who were taken to hospitals, he said.

He said ships from the Egyptian navy joined the search-and-rescue efforts

which were still ongoing overnight for four missing crewmen.

It wasn't immediately clear what caused the drilling ship to capsize and authorities say investigations were ongoing. Local media reported it was being tugged for excavations in another area when it overturned.

The capsizing happened in an area called Gabel el-Zeit, a prominent Egyptian oil production site around 300 kilometres south of the Suez Canal, the ministry said in a statement.

The capsizing didn't disrupt vessels transiting through the canal, which links the Gulf of Suez to the Mediterranean Sea, Adm. Ossam Rabei, head of the canal authority, said.

## Imran Khan says he prefers prison instead of slavery

PTI, LAHORE: Pakistan's jailed former prime minister Imran Khan has said he will prefer to live in the dark cell of a prison, instead of accepting slavery, as he urged his supporters to stage protests against the hybrid regime.

Khan called on the workers of his party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), to stage an uprising against the current regime after Ashura, the 10th day of mourning in Moharram to commemorate the 7th-century martyrdom of the Prophet's grandson, Imam Hussein, which falls on July 6 this year.

"To the entire nation, especially PTI workers and supporters, I urge them to rise against this tyrannical system after Ashura," Khan posted on X on Tuesday.

## Indian-origin woman dies after street assault in UK

PTI, LONDON: A 56-year-old Indian-origin woman succumbed to a head injury suffered during an assault while out on a street in the eastern England city of Leicester and a 23-year-old male suspect charged with her murder has been remanded in custody.

Nila Patel died in hospital from her injuries last week after being attacked as a pedestrian and Leicestershire Police has said a post-mortem examination gave the 'provisional cause' of her death as a head injury.

Michael Chuwuemeka appeared before Leicester Crown Court sitting at Loughborough on Tuesday charged with her murder and also faces additional charges of dangerous driving, possession with intent to supply Class B or banned drugs, attempted grievous bodily harm relating to a



prior incident and assault of an emergency worker following an alleged assault on a police officer after his arrest on June 24.

He has been additionally charged with causing actual bodily harm in connection with a separate victim in London earlier.

'A post-mortem examination has been conducted and a provisional cause of Nila's death has been given as a head injury,' Leicester-

shire Police said.

The force also shared a statement on Tuesday issued by Patel's son Jaidan and daughter Danika in tribute to their 'kind-hearted and devoted' mother, who was a 'loyal friend, and an incredibly hard worker'.

'We are heartbroken, but we want the world to know who our mum truly was - a beautiful, vibrant soul who deserved so much more,' reads the statement.

'Her love was quiet but powerful - shown through warm meals, thoughtful words, and a smile that could light up any room. She always put others before herself, offering comfort without ever asking for anything in return. Even when life was hard, she carried on with strength, dignity and a smile on her face,' they said.

## RED HOT SKY



The sun rises by the Eiffel Tower and the Sacre Coeur Basilica on top of the Montmartre hill in Paris as the city is on red alert for high temperatures

## 'Writing is thinking': Do students who use ChatGPT learn less?

AFP, PARIS: When Jocelyn Leitzinger had her university students write about times in their lives they had witnessed discrimination, she noticed that a woman named Sally was the victim in many of the stories.

"It was very clear that ChatGPT had decided this is a common woman's name," said Leitzinger, who teaches an undergraduate class

on business and society at the University of Illinois in Chicago.

"They weren't even coming up with their own anecdotal stories about their own lives," she told AFP.

Leitzinger estimated that around half of her 180 students used ChatGPT inappropriately at some point last semester -- including when writing about the ethics of artificial intelligence

(AI), which she called both "ironic" and "mind-boggling".

So she was not surprised by recent research which suggested that students who use ChatGPT to write essays engage in less critical thinking.

The preprint study, which has not been peer-reviewed, was shared widely online and clearly struck a chord with some frustrated

educators.

The team of MIT researchers behind the paper have received more than 3,000 emails from teachers of all stripes since it was published online last month, lead author Nataliya Kosmyna told AFP.

For the small study, 54 adult students from the greater Boston area were split into three groups. One group used ChatGPT

to write 20-minute essays, one used a search engine, and the final group had to make do with only their brains.

The researchers used EEG devices to measure the brain activity of the students, and two teachers marked the essays.

The ChatGPT users scored significantly worse than the brain-only group on all levels. The EEG

showed that different areas of their brains connected to each other less often.

And more than 80 percent of the ChatGPT group could not quote anything from the essay they had just written, compared to around 10 percent of the other two groups.

By the third session, the ChatGPT group appeared to be mostly focused on copying and pasting.