Two held in Italy over deaths of four migrant farmworkers who were burned alive in a car

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	24	14	SNY	Los Angeles	24	17	SNY
Colombo	30	27	SNY	Melbourne	14	11	LC
Dhaka	35	29	SNY	Moscow	23	12	SNY
Dubai	34	31	SNY	New York	28	18	SNY
Houston	28	24	TDS	Singapore	31	29	TDS
Istanbul	29	21	SNY	Toronto	24	14	SNY
London	18	12	SNY	Washington	31	17	SNY

Indian killed, 63 injured as Iran strikes Kuwait airport

Major attack damages passenger terminal, further strains nearly 2-month-old ceasefire

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AN Indian national was killed and several others were injured after an Iranian missile and drone strike hit Kuwait International Airport on Wednesday, prompting a strong condemnation from New Delhi and highlighting the widening impact of escalating hostilities across the Gulf.

The attack, which Kuwaiti authorities said targeted airport facilities and nearby diplomatic missions, left at least 63 injured, including airport staff and passengers. Flights were temporarily suspended as emergency teams assessed the damage and secured the area. Tehran said the operation was aimed at US military bases in both countries, as well as a vessel near the Strait of Hormuz.

The attacks came after the US military reportedly used a Hellfire missile to strike a Botswana-flagged oil tanker bound for an Iranian port on Kharg Island. The Indian Embassy in Kuwait confirmed the death of an Indian citizen, while the External Affairs Ministry said it was working closely with local authorities to assist the injured and ensure the welfare of Indian nationals in the country.

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad al-Abdullah al-Sabah (2R) inspecting the damaged airport on Wednesday after an Iranian attack in Kuwait City | AFP

"The Embassy is in touch with the bereaved family and is closely coordinating with the Kuwaiti authorities to render all possible support and assistance to the bereaved family as well as those injured in the incident," the embassy said. "We condemn the attack on the Kuwait International Airport today in which an Indian national has died and several of our nationals are injured," the MEA said in a statement. "Since the onset of the conflict in West Asia, we have strongly urged that the civilian population and civilian infrastructure must not be targeted. We again call upon parties to cease such attacks." The ministry added that India was extending "all possible assistance" to those affected and offered its "deepest condolences to the bereaved family."

The Kuwait airport attack was among the deadliest incidents in the Gulf since the latest round of fighting began, with officials reporting one fatality and more than 60 injuries.

Trump confirms tense exchange with Bibi

US President Donald Trump has confirmed a tense exchange with Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he reportedly berated his close ally with expletives. In an interview published Wednesday in the New York Post, Trump was asked about the conversation he had with Netanyahu over the phone on Monday. "You said, 'Are you f-ing crazy? What are you f-ing doing? I helped you stay out of jail.' Is that true? Did you speak to him in those terms?" the interviewer asked. "I did," Trump responded. "I was a little bit perturbed at his constantly fighting with Lebanon"

At least 9 dead as Israel pounds Lebanon's south

MOSCOW

LEBANON said Israeli strikes on Wednesday killed at least nine people in the country's south, including two paramedics, while another raid hit a car near Beirut.

The Israeli military, meanwhile, said it intercepted a "hostile aircraft" and two projectiles that crossed into Israeli territory from Lebanon. Israeli officials have warned the military will strike Beirut's southern suburbs, a Hezbollah stronghold, if the group targets northern Israeli communities, a stance they say has backing from Washington.

WAR WATCH

Hezbollah said its fighters on Wednesday attacked Israeli troops who have invaded southern Lebanon, but the group has not claimed a cross-border attack since Monday.

Israeli and Lebanese diplomats are to hold a second day of direct talks in Washington -- the fourth round since the fighting erupted on March 2, when Hezbollah entered the Middle East war on the side of its backer Iran with rocket fire at Israel.

Hezbollah is sharply opposed to the direct negotiations. Lebanon's state-run National News Agency (NNA) said an Israeli strike targeted "a car on the Khaldeh road".

An AFP correspondent saw an ambulance and onlookers gathering at the strike site, located on the main highway heading south from the capital. The NNA reported strikes on more than 20 locations in the south, some after Israel's military warned residents of several villages to evacuate.

The health ministry said an Israeli attack on Al-Hawsh near the city of Tyre killed four Syrians and two Palestinians.

But an Israeli spokesperson told AFP's Jerusalem bureau that "we are not aware of any such attack". *AFP*

11 INJURED

Clashes erupt in UK over handcuffing of dying student

LONDON

VIDEO of a dying student who was handcuffed by British police after being stabbed by a Sikh man and falsely accused of racially abusing his murderer sparked outrage on Tuesday, with protesters throwing bricks at police, injuring 11.

Eighteen-year-old Henry Nowak was heard repeatedly telling officers: "I can't breathe" in police bodycam footage captured as he lay mortally wounded in December after a night out with his football team members.

Far-right figures have seized on the case, including firebrand Tommy Robinson, who spoke at a rally in the southern city of Southampton, where the murder took place, claiming police treat white British people as "second-rate citizens".

Protesters then marched through the city centre towards the scene of the crime, where police blocked the road. Demonstrators attacked officers with bricks, bottles and bins, AFP reporters saw.

Interior minister Shabana Mahmood condemned the "disgraceful violence" against police and said on X that "those responsible can expect to face the full force of the law".

A judge on Monday jailed Vickrum Digwa, 23, for at least 21 years for stabbing Nowak to death using a ceremonial knife with a 21-centimetre (eight-inch) blade.

When police arrived at the scene, Digwa lied to officers, telling them Nowak had racially insulted him and that he was the victim.

The footage, which was played during Digwa's trial, shows police accepting the aggressor's accusation, and rather than helping Nowak, initially handcuffing him despite his pleas that he had been stabbed and could not breathe.

One officer can be heard asking Nowak: "You've been stabbed, whereabouts?" before adding: "Don't think you have, mate."

Moments later, the student collapsed and became unconscious. *AFP*

Trump signs order forcing AI firms to share models with govt

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday signed an executive order creating a voluntary framework under which AI developers will share advanced models with the government before public release.

The central provision allows companies such as OpenAI, Google or Anthropic to give the government access to their most powerful models for up to 30 days before planned release.

The order was triggered by concerns over Anthropic's Mythos model, which the AI startup has held back from the public due to its ability to expose vulnerabilities in computer systems, including those of banks, governments and hospitals.

The 30-day window represents a compromise. The original draft called for up to 90 days of pre-release government access, while tech companies had pushed to cut that figure to just 14 days. For OpenAI chief Sam Altman, the executive order "gets the balance right".

"The US should lead on AI by continuing to develop the very best models, making sure they're safe, and getting cyber tools into the hands of trusted defenders," Altman said.

Kent Walker, Google's head of public affairs, called the order an "important step forward" that will ensure "defenders have the AI tools they need to keep America secure".

And Anthropic, which has repeatedly clashed with the Trump administration, called the order "an important step in strengthening America's leadership in AI".

The signing comes after a turbulent few weeks in which the White House appeared close to unveiling the measure, only to pull back abruptly.

According to Politico and other media, David Sacks, the Silicon Valley venture capitalist who served as Trump's AI and crypto czar, called the president to warn that the measure would slow innovation and hurt the United States in its AI race with China—blindsiding White House staff who believed Sacks supported the order.

Donald Trump

Sacks wrote on social media last week that "unnecessary regulation is the biggest threat to innovation in America," adding that winning the AI race required clearing "bureaucratic hurdles" from state legislatures and "woke" Washington politicians.

The order also instructs the Treasury, the National Security Agency and the CISA cybersecurity agency to form an "AI cybersecurity clearinghouse" in voluntary collaboration with industry and critical infrastructure operators to identify software vulnerabilities and find ways to fix them. *AFP*

UK lets sites opt out of Google's AI

LONDON

BRITAIN'S competition watchdog said on Wednesday that it had ordered Google to allow British website owners to opt out of having their content used by the US technology giant's AI search.

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) called the change a "world first" after it had proposed the measure in January. Website publishers, particularly media outlets, claim that artificial intelligence models take their content without compensation.

They also argue that the AI-generated summaries discourage clicks to publishers' original pages, reducing traffic to their sites and in turn cutting their advertising revenue.

Google said on Wednesday that sites opting out would not receive traffic or impressions from its generative AI features.

In response to the opt-out ruling, Google said that "Today, we're beginning to test a new control that lets website owners manage how their links and content appear in generative AI search features," its Search Ecosystem general manager, Mrinalini Loew, said in a statement. The CMA said the ruling "will secure a fairer deal for publishers and consumers". *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS

SLEUTHS RAID NUTRITION AGENCY OFFICES

Indonesian investigators searched the National Nutrition Agency's offices Wednesday a day after the president fired the head of the agency responsible for his troubled free meals programme. It wasn't clear whether the search was tied to a criminal investigation. The programme delivered on a campaign promise of President Prabowo Subianto and aimed to fight malnutrition by feeding nearly 90 million children and pregnant women. But it has come under steep criticism due to high costs and cases of food poisoning among schoolchildren

AVG LIFE EXPECTANCY RISES TO 83.9 YEARS

Life expectancy of Singapore residents increased to 83.9 years in 2025 from 81.8 in 2015, a study has found. According to a Singstat study, male life expectancy improved by 1.3 years to 81.8 years and that of female by 0.9 years from 85.1 years in 2015. Residents aged 65 at present can expect to live up to 21.6 years more.

SHINAWATRA FREED EARLY AFTER PARDON

Thailand's former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra formally completed all his obligations related to a prison sentence on Wednesday, when a royal pardon ended his four-month probation early. The 76-year-old billionaire populist, who was a dominant force in Thai politics for more than two decades, was released from a Bangkok prison last month to cheering crowds. There has since been growing speculation that he might continue to exert his strong influence over the Pheu Thai Party, which is part of the governing coalition

Setback for Trump for Iowa governor election

DES MOINES

BUSINESSMAN Zach Lahn's win in Iowa's Republican gubernatorial primary over President Donald Trump's pick, Rep Randy Feenstra, delivered a rare electoral setback for Trump in a primary season that had previously handed him back-to-back victories.

The narrow upset Tuesday revealed cracks in Trump's coalition in the deep-red state, encouraging Democrats who are hopeful they can flip control of the governor's office this year.

It also marked a potential breakthrough moment for the Make America Healthy Again movement, which has clashed with the Trump administration over its embrace of pesticides and backed Lahn's message in favor of regenerative farming and against large agricultural corporations. *AP*

Ukraine drones hit oil terminal at St Petersburg

MOSCOW/KYIV

UKRAINIAN drones hit energy and military sites in Saint Petersburg on Wednesday as officials gathered for a flagship economic forum in the city, Russian and Ukrainian authorities said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky described the strikes as "fair" retaliation for Russia's bombardment of Ukraine and threatened to launch more.

Some 20,000 people from 130 countries were to attend the three-day annual Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF)—an event once dubbed "Russia's Davos"—which began Wednesday.

The Kremlin vowed to respond to the strikes, which came a day after a barrage of Russian missiles and drones killed 23 people across Ukraine. The attacks on Saint Petersburg damaged "several" infrastructure, the city's governor Alexander Beglov said. "Several people were injured. There were no fatalities," Beglov added.

Ukraine said it had hit the Saint Petersburg Oil Terminal and the city's Kronstadt military base. An AFP reporter saw a plume of black smoke rising from behind the Peter and Paul Fortress, among the city's most popular tourist attractions.

The commander of Ukraine's drone forces said a Russian warship was hit at the Kronstadt naval base, posting footage from the drone of what he said was the attack. Saint Petersburg's main airport closed for hours, while several flights from Moscow to the northern capital were delayed. *AP*

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIA'S HERITAGE, GANDHI'S MESSAGE

The resolution sponsored by Senator Jeremy Cooney noted that it is the custom of the state legislature to recognise official days that are important to the cultural heritage of New York's citizens

During the discussion on the resolution, several state senators hailed India's civilisational heritage, democratic traditions, Gandhi's enduring message of peace and the growing contributions of the Indian-American community in New York and across the US

There are large Indian-American communities throughout New York State, state senator Jack Martins said they have become integral to "our communities, not only participating as business owners and civic leaders, but also academically excelling in our schools. They truly are the path to the future"

PUSH TO RECOGNISE AUG 15 AS INDIA I-DAY IN NEW YORK

The New York State Senate has adopted a resolution urging Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim August 15, 2026 as India Independence Day in the state

A session of New York state senate in progress | AP

India's independence is enormously important to people around the world; it marks the end of a 90-year struggle to achieve stronger civil, political, and economic rights along with self-determination - Resolution

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE CAMPUS BALAJI NAGAR, SIRIPURAM, VISAKHAPATNAM

Authorised Officer's Details: Name : Mr. Y. Srikant (Chief Manager), Mobile No.80994 44378, e-Mail ID : sbi.10077@sbi.co.in For Property Inspection : 89858 67892

E - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO RULE 6 (2), 8(6) (SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002).

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of **State Bank of India** has taken over **PHYSICAL POSSESSION** of the following property u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002. Public at large is informed that e-Auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property mentioned below for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS" BASIS** and on the terms and conditions specified hereunder.

Borrower: M/s. Sri Venkata Sai Eswara Poultries, Prop: Smt. Mareddy Divya, W/o. M. Anil Kumar, Door No.1-5A, Bhimolu Village, Gopalapuram Mandal, East Godavari District. **Sri Mareddy Anil Kumar,** S/o. M. Jagga Rao, Door No.1-5A, Bhimolu Village, Gopalapuram Mandal, East Godavari District. **Sri Thota Rama Chandrudu,** S/o. T. Sitaramaiah, Door No.12-21, Ashok Nagar, Parimpudi Village, Koyyalagudem Mandal, Eluru District. **Smt. M. Divya,** W/o. M. Anil Kumar, Door No.1-5A, Bhimolu Village, Gopalapuram Mandal, East Godavari District. **Smt. Thota Sailaja,** W/o. T. Ramachandrudu, Door No.12-21, Ashok Nagar, Parimpudi Village, Koyyalagudem Mandal, Eluru District.

Demand Notice Date: 01-03-2023 **Outstanding Amount as per Demand Notice: Rs.3,27,44,479/-** as on **01.03.2023** with future interest and other expenses thereon from **02.03.2023.**

Present Outstanding Amount : Rs.2,75,65,685.34 Ps as on 26.05.2026 with future interest and other expenses thereon from **27.05.2026.** (Post Repayments if any)

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

Property -1: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Ac.1.86 Cents or 9002.39 sq.yds in R.S. No.92, Ac.4.67 Cents or 22602.79 sq.yds in R.S. No.87, Ac 0.24 cents in R.S. No. 88/1, Ac. 2.72 cents in R.S. No.541/1, total to an extent of Ac.9.49 cents or 45931.60 sq.yds of vacant Residential site situated near Polavaram R & B Road, Parimpudi Revenue Village, West Godavari District belonging to Sri Thota Rama Chandrudu, S/o. T. Sitaramayya, Vide Regd. Doc. No.3822/2015, dt. 23.03.2015 is bounded as follows. **Boundaries: East :** Land of Pali Veera Raghavulu, **South:** Land of Kadagatla Maha Lakshmi, **West :** Canal, **North:** Road.

Reserve Price:Rs.5,46,00,000/- EMD: Rs.54,60,000/- Bid Multiplier Amount: Rs.1,00,000/-

Note: SA No.493/2024 filed by the Borrower/Guarantor at DRT, Visakhapatnam. However, there is no stay.

Date of E-auction: 23-06-2026 Time: 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM

Date & Time of Inspection of property: 04-06-2026 to 22-06-2026 from 10.00 A.M to 04.00 P.M.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE E-AUCTION ARE AS UNDER:

1) For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **State Bank of India**, the Secured Creditor's website **www.sbi.co.in/web/sbi-in-the-news/auction-notices** . **For Registration, EMD, Auction Details etc., visit https://baanknet.com/eauction-psb/x-login** of the service provider : **M/s PSB Alliance and M/s. Baanknet, e-Auction Portal: https://baanknet.com & Toll free Number : + 91 - 8291220220, Mail ID : support.baanknet@psballiance.com.**

2) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/ additional stamp duty/ transfer charges, fee etc. and also all the statutory / non-statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessment charges, fees etc.

Note: Interested bidder may deposit Pre-Bid EMD through **https://baanknet.com** website of PSB Alliance on or before E-Auction Date.

Note -2: As per Section 194-IA of the Income Tax Act 1961, **TDS @ 1%** will be applicable on the sale proceeds where the sale consideration is **Rs.50,00,000/-** (Rupees fifty lakhs) and above. The successful bidder/purchaser shall deduct the TDS from the sale price / Government guideline value, whichever is higher and deposit the same with the Income Tax Department in Form No. 16-B and submit the original receipt of the TDS Certificate to the Bank. (Applicable for immovable property, other than Agricultural land).

Date:26-05-2026, Place: VISAKHAPATNAM **Sd/-Authorized Officer, STATE BANK OF INDIA**