

Sixteen killed, 30 injured in Afghanistan blast

KANDAHAR: At least 16 people were killed and 38 wounded on Tuesday when a minivan packed with explosives detonated as security forces were trying to defuse it in southern Afghanistan, officials said. Security forces in Kandahar had already cleared the area around a bus station where the van was found, provincial

governor spokesman Daud Ahmadi said. "As the security forces were trying to defuse the van, it detonated," said police spokesman Mohammad Qasim Azad. No group immediately claimed responsibility. The blast comes as the Taliban step up their spring offensive across the war-torn country.

Gobind Singh Deo becomes Malaysia's first Sikh minister

AGENCIES
Kuala Lumpur

Gobind Singh Deo, an Indian-origin Sikh politician in Malaysia, has become a cabinet minister, the first member of the minority community in the country's history to be appointed as a minister. Deo, 45, who has been given the communications and multimedia portfolio, is among the two politicians of Indian descent included in the Pakatan Harapan coalition's Cabinet.

The other Indian-origin lawmaker is M Kulasegaram from the Democratic Action Party who has been made the human resource minister. Deo represents Puchong constituency in the Malaysian Parliament and is the son of late Malaysian lawyer and politician Karpal Singh. He was sworn in during a ceremony at the National Palace on Monday after Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad included him in the new cabinet. He was first elected as an MP



Gobind Singh Deo (45) has been given the communications and multimedia portfolio

in the 2008 general elections. Deo was re-elected to the lower house, with an increased margin, in 2013 and he again won this year's election with a margin of 47,635 votes.

The Punjabi community in the country has hailed the appointment.

"It is good to see Gobind Singh, a member of the Punjabi community in the cabinet. It is a proud and happy occasion for our community," Miri Indian Association president, Councillor Karambir Singh was quoted as saying by the Borneo Post.

India to attend meet on counter-terror in Pak

AGENCIES
Islamabad

An Indian delegation will be among those attending an anti-terrorism conference being held in Islamabad under the banner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), Pakistan's Foreign Office said on Tuesday.

Pakistan will be hosting its first SCO meeting, since the country along with India became a member of the organisation in June 2017.

Experts from the eight SCO member states - China, Kazakhstan, India, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan as well as representatives of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (SCO-RATS) will participate in the three-day meeting beginning on Wednesday, it said in a statement.

The legal experts will discuss the terror threat faced by the region and ways and means to enhance the counter-terror efforts.

"The Pakistan government is pleased to welcome delegations from the SCO member states," it said.

The FO said that it supports SCO's efforts for regional cooperation in fighting terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime. "We are ready to share our experiences in tackling the menace of terrorism through the SCO-RATS," according to FO. India's presence at the meeting assumes significance since it had boycotted the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC) summit here in 2016 citing continuing support to cross-border terrorism from Pakistan.

SAARC Summits are usually held biennially hosted by a member state in alphabetical order. The member state hosting the summit assumes the Chair of the Association.

The last SAARC Summit in 2014 was held in Kathmandu. The 2016 SAARC Summit was to be held in Islamabad. But after the terrorist at-

tack on an Indian Army camp in Uri in Jammu and Kashmir on September 18 that year, India expressed its inability to participate in the summit due to "prevailing circumstances" and stepped up diplomatic pressure on Pakistan. Nineteen Indian soldiers died in the attack.

The summit was called off after Bangladesh, Bhutan and Afghanistan also declined to participate in the Islamabad meet. Maldives and Sri Lanka are the seventh and eighth members of the initiative.

The ties between India and Pakistan nose-dived after Pakistan-based terror groups carried out a series of attacks in India in 2016.

India responded to the attacks by carrying out a surgical strike inside Pakistan-occupied Kashmir in September 2016. The death sentence handed down to Indian national Kulbhushan Jadhav by a military court in Pakistan in April last year caused a further deterioration in ties.

Indian engineer's killer pleads guilty to hate crimes

AGENCIES
Washington



Srinivas Kuchibhotla

A US Navy veteran who yelled "Get out of my country!" before killing Indian engineer Srinivas Kuchibhotla and injuring two others at a bar in Kansas City last year, has pleaded guilty to three federal hate-crime charges.

Adam Purinton, 53, who is already serving life in prison on a state murder charge, pleaded guilty in US District Court in Kansas City on Tuesday to three federal hate-crime charges alleging that he targeted the men "because of their actual and perceived race, colour, religion and national origin."

He had earlier in March pleaded guilty to first-degree murder of 32-year-old Kuchibhotla and two counts of attempted first-degree murder in state court in the shootings of the Indian tech worker's friend Madasani and a bystander.

The US Attorney's Office in Kansas had filed hate crime charges against Purinton last June.

Purinton, a white man,

faced a possible death sentence for the federal charges. Under the plea, though, Purinton will be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole on each of the three counts, with the sentences to run consecutively to each other and to the life term ordered earlier this month in Johnson County, Kansas.

"Hate crimes are acts of evil, and the Department of Justice has prioritized their zealous prosecution," said Acting Associate Attorney General Jesse Panuccio on Monday.

In this case, Purinton embarked on a murderous rampage with clear premeditation to kill on the basis of race, colour, religion, and national origin, he said.

US SC to hear plea against IFC-funded Guj power plant

AGENCIES
Washington

The US Supreme Court has agreed to look into the so-called immunity provided to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) against harm it may cause to environment through its financing, in this case against the IFC-funded Tata Power Plant in Gujarat's Kutch district.

The petition has been brought against the plant by local fishermen for environmental violations and destruction of livelihoods. IFC is the private lending arm of the World Bank Group with

over 180 member countries. The petition by local fishermen, represented by Earth Rights International and the Stanford Law School Supreme Court Litigation Clinic, challenges the long held claim of "absolute immunity" of the IFC and other such international organisations from legal scrutiny.

In 2017, the US Court of Appeals for District of Columbia Circuit had held that IFC was immune from such litigation under the 1945 International Organizations Immunity Act.

The petitioner fishermen and farmers, led by Budha

Ismail Jam, have alleged that the coal-fired Tata Mundra Power Plant had resulted in widespread environmental damages and destruction of livelihoods.

The Supreme Court's decision to hear their case means it will look at the immunity provided to international organisations "for their harmful conduct, or whether they enjoy the special status above the law that they claim," an EarthRights International spokesperson told IANS.

The Washington DC-based IFC Bank has provided financial assistance of \$450 million to the project.

Australian archbishop 'guilty' of covering up child sex abuse

AGENCIES
Canberra

An Australian court has found Catholic Archbishop Philip Wilson guilty of concealing child sexual abuse cases, media reported on Monday. He faces a maximum jail term of up to two years.

Wilson, the archbishop of Adelaide, becomes the most senior Catholic in the world to be charged and convicted of the offence, the BBC reported.

He was found to have covered up the abuse of altar boys by a paedophile priest in New South Wales in the 1970s. Wilson will be sentenced in June.

During his trial, Wilson denied any memory of being told about the abuse by two of the boys.

He told the Newcastle court he had not been aware of priest James Fletcher's abuse, which took place while he was

an assistant priest in Maitland, the BBC report added.

Fletcher was convicted of nine child sexual abuse charges in 2004 and died in jail in 2006.

One of his victims, Peter Creigh, told the court he had described the abuse to Wilson in detail when he was 15, five years after the abuse, the BBC reported.

Magistrate Robert Stone rejected Wilson's assertion that he could not remember the conversation and said he found Creigh to be a reliable witness.

The priest knew "what he was hearing was a credible allegation and the accused wanted to protect the Church and its reputation," said Magistrate Stone.

Wilson's lawyers had attempted four times to get the case thrown out after he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, the BBC said.

Pompeo's remarks absurd, interventionist, says Iran

AGENCIES
Tehran

Iran's Foreign Ministry has called the US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's threatening remarks of crushing Iran "absurd and interventionist."

The Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bahram Qasemi on Monday said that this is United States' new tactic to distract the global attention from its "illegal moves" regarding Iran's nuclear deal by threatening and insulting the Iranian nation, as per Xinhua.

According to Qasemi, the

problems in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Palestine and Afghanistan are the outcome of the US policies in the region.

Iran can legally sue the United States over its illegal measures and threats, he added.

The US Secretary of State had earlier said that the US will "crush" Iran with military pressure and by imposing sanctions till the time it changes its behaviour in the Middle East.

Pompeo said the US will monitor Tehran's regional activities, restrict its influence in the Middle East and

ensure that it never acquires a nuclear weapon.

On May 8, US President Donald Trump announced the Washington withdrawal from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) or the Iran nuclear deal which limited the country's uranium enrichment in exchange for sanctions relief.

The Iran nuclear deal was signed between six countries in 2015 - Iran, US, Britain, Germany, Russia, France and China for lifting economic sanctions on Tehran in exchange for limitations to the country's nuclear programme.

Hafiz seeks PML-F and MML alliance in polls

AGENCIES
Lahore

Mumbai terror attack mastermind and Jamaat-ud-Dawah chief Hafiz Saeed has reached out to Pakistan Muslim League-Functional (PML-F) president Pir Sibghatullah Shah Rashidi and sought his party's al-

liance with Milli Muslim League (MML) in Sindh province for the upcoming elections.

Saeed has already started campaigning for the MML with an eye on the general elections in Pakistan expected to be held on July 27. He is currently on the visit of Sindh province to explore

chances of political alliance for his MML which is yet to be registered with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

He held a meeting with Rashidi, a spiritual leader of the Hur in Sindh province, yesterday and sought PML-F and MML alliance in Sindh province for forthcoming

Pakistan heatwave kills 65

AGENCIES / Karachi

At least 65 people died of heatstroke in Pakistan's Karachi city over past three days during the Holy month of Ramadan, media reports said, amid fears the death toll could rise as the temperatures soar.

The temperature hit 44 degrees Celsius on Monday and the heatwaves coincided with the month of fasting when most of the Muslims do not eat or drink during daytime.

Nearly 114 bodies were brought to the Edhi Foundation's morgues in Karachi's Korangi and Sohrah Goth areas in the past three days, out of which at least 65 had died from heatstroke, Faisal Edhi, who runs the foundation, was quoted as saying by the Dawn News. The Foundation operates morgues and an ambulance service in Pakistan's biggest city Karachi.

Most of the citizens who died from heatstroke were residents of Landhi and Korangi, Faisal said.

Accused of cheating in exams, Indian-origin boy goes missing

LONDON: A 15-year-old Indian-origin boy has been missing from his school in central England after he was reportedly accused of cheating when he scored top marks in an exam paper. Abhimanyu Chohan went missing from King Henry VIII Independent School in Coventry on Friday after he scored 100 per cent marks in a mock test and was worried about getting into trouble. "Officers are concerned for his welfare after he disappeared from school on Friday. We are appealing for any dog walkers, horse riders or members of the public out enjoying the warm weather to keep an eye out in rural and quiet areas as it's thought Abhimanyu could be taking refuge there," West Midlands Police said in its appeal this week.

Russia adopts bill freezing trade cooperation with US

AGENCIES / Moscow

Russia's parliament has adopted a wide-ranging bill that could freeze crucial exports to the United States and imports to Russia from the US and other countries.

The bill, drafted by leading lawmakers at the State Duma in response to the latest round of US sanctions, lays out a wide range of restrictions for US businesses in Russia and for cooperation with the US.

Among other things, the bill allows the Russian president to "ban or suspend cooperation with a hostile state" and ban imports of goods from unnamed countries.

The original bill proposed specific restrictions to US imports including drugs as well as banning crucial exports, such as titanium, to the US. But lawmakers toned it down to get rid of references to specific restrictions before adopting the bill.

≡ GLOBE-TROTTING

For first time in 226 yrs, woman to lead NYSE

NEW YORK: The New York Stock Exchange for the first time in its 226-year history will be led by a woman. Stacey Cunningham, who started her career as a floor clerk on the NYSE trading floor, will become the 67th president of the Big Board. Cunningham, who is the chief operating officer for NYSE Group, becomes president on Friday.

Pence warns Kim: Don't 'play' Trump

WASHINGTON: US Vice President Mike Pence has warned North Korean leader Kim Jong-un not to "play" President Donald Trump if they meet next month. "It would be a great mistake for Kim Jong-un to think he could play Donald Trump," Pence said, according to excerpts of a Fox News interview. Pence also said Trump could walk away from the 12 June summit, BBC reported on Monday. North Korea has threatened to pull out of the meeting after comments by US National Security Adviser John Bolton.

Data breach: FB CEO apologises to EU Parl

BRUSSELS: Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg on Tuesday apologised again for the massive Cambridge Analytica data breach, this time in front of the European Parliament (EU) leaders. Zuckerberg stressed that the social networking giant is trying to plug loopholes across its services, including curbing fake news and political interference on its platform in the wake of upcoming elections globally, including in India.

Hollywood iconic film poster creator dead

LOS ANGELES: Bill Gold, one of Hollywood's best-known creators of film posters, has died aged 97. The veteran illustrator had a hand in more than 2,000 posters, including those for Casablanca, Dial M for Murder, and Dirty Harry, BBC reported on Monday. Gold began work at the film production company Warner Brothers in the 1940s. The poster for Casablanca, a 1942 World War Two romantic drama, was one of Gold's first assignments.

Airlines refer to Taiwan 'as part of China'

SHANGHAI: Global airlines are obeying Beijing's demands to refer to Taiwan explicitly as a part of China, despite the White House's call this month to stand firm against such "Orwellian nonsense." The Associated Press found 20 carriers, including Air Canada, British Airways and Lufthansa, that now refer to Taiwan, the self-ruled island that Beijing considers Chinese territory, as a part of China on their global websites.

Turkey coup: Lifer for 104 ex-army officers

ISTANBUL: A Turkish court has sentenced 104 former military officers to life in prison for their involvement in a 2016 coup attempt, state media report. They were given "aggravated life sentences", which come with tougher terms than a normal life sentence, BBC reported on Tuesday. The country's president had previously said he backed reintroducing the death penalty for coup plotters.

Sherpa guide dies on Mt Everest

KATHMANDU: An experienced sherpa guide has died after falling into a crevasse on Everest, officials said on Tuesday, the fourth confirmed fatality of the spring climbing season on the world's highest mountain. Damai Sarki Sherpa, 37, was helping a foreign climber to a rescue helicopter at Everest's Camp Two when he slipped and fell more than 60 metres. —Agencies

THACKER AND COMPANY LIMITED

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**EXTRACT OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS
FOR THE QUARTER / YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2018**

(Figures ₹ in lakhs except Earnings per share)

Particulars	Consolidated			
	Quarter ended		Year ended	
	31.03.2018 (Audited)	31.03.2017 (Audited)	31.03.2018 (Audited)	31.03.2017 (Audited)
Total income from operations	195.16	103.72	498.90	465.40
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period (before tax, Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	39.48	(11.01)	88.39	1.23
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	39.48	(11.01)	88.39	1.23
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary Items)	33.39	(11.88)	77.35	(3.48)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period (after Tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after Tax))	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A
Equity Share Capital	10.88	7.88	10.88	7.88
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet of previous year)	-	-	1,004.08	1,007.56
Earnings Per Share (of ₹1/-) each (for continuing and discontinued operations)				
1. Basic	3.07	(1.51)	7.11	(0.44)
2. Diluted	3.07	(1.51)	7.11	(0.44)

Notes:

- The above results have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their meeting held on 22nd May, 2018.
- Indian Accounting Standards (Ind-AS) is not currently applicable to the Company.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchange for the quarter / year ended on 31st March, 2018, under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results are available on company's website www.thacker.co.in and also can be accessed on the website of Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com
- The Company has temporarily closed down the product and culinary operations of Cakesmiths Division of the Company with effect from May 1, 2018.
- The key standalone financial information are as under:

Particulars	Quarter Ended		Year ended	
	31.03.2018 (Audited)	31.03.2017 (Audited)	31.03.2018 (Audited)	31.03.2017 (Audited)
	Turnover	127.33	44.28	245.40
Profit before tax	34.37	(5.65)	48.33	(18.84)
Profit after tax	34.62	(5.34)	48.43	(17.40)

By Order of the Board
For Thacker and Company Limited

Arun Kumar Jatia
Director

Place : Mumbai
Date : 22nd May, 2018