



Two policemen killed in separate targeted attacks in Pak's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



GLOBAL WEATHER

Beijing	29	20	SNY	Los Angeles	27	18	SNY
Colombo	29	27	SNY	Melbourne	26	15	LC
Dhaka	32	28	SNY	Moscow	28	16	SNY
Dubai	34	31	SNY	New York	30	22	SNY
Houston	33	27	TDS	Singapore	31	28	TDS
Istanbul	28	20	SNY	Toronto	26	19	SNY
London	23	13	SNY	Washington	31	21	SNY

Potential US-Iran deal likely to be signed in Geneva: Report

Don says signing ceremony as soon as this weekend, Vance to attend

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump has signaled that Vice President J D Vance is expected to attend the signing ceremony, which he said would take place in Europe as soon as this weekend.



A person stands in shallow water as cargo and commercial vessels are anchored in the Strait of Hormuz off Bandar Abbas, Iran | AFP

According to a CNN report, the signing ceremony for the memorandum of understanding would most likely be held in Geneva, Switzerland, as early as Sunday. Sources said Vienna was also being considered.

Two sources with knowledge of the diplomatic talks told the US network that the signing ceremony would be held in Swiss capital. One of them said the signing ceremony would mark the start of "phase two" of diplomatic talks.

The report said the memo is being called the "Islamabad declaration," in recognition of the key role played by Pakistan

in mediation. Switzerland, meanwhile, has offered to host the possible signing of a peace agreement, the Swiss foreign ministry told AFP on Friday.

"Switzerland is fully engaged. We are in close contact with the United States and Iran," the ministry said in a brief message sent to AFP.

The Swiss foreign ministry said it was playing an active role "to support efforts toward a Memorandum of Understand-

ing intended to consolidate the truce and pave the way for de-escalation in the context of the conflict between Iran and the USA".

A senior official in President Trump's administration said on Friday that the US was "80 to 85 percent" confident of inking an accord with Tehran to end the war in the coming days. President Trump has repeatedly declared Iran and the US are on the verge of agreeing on a deal to end the war, but a litany of sticking points has delayed finalising an accord and will complicate its implementation, analysts say.

Trump on Thursday withdrew a threat of renewed strikes on Iran and said a deal could be signed in the coming days, only for the Islamic Republic's foreign ministry to respond by saying it "has not reached a final conclusion on the agreement". Agencies

Tehran's grip over Strait of Hormuz loosening

DUBAI

IRAN'S stranglehold on the Strait of Hormuz may be easing — and its own oil problems now seem to be mounting. The crucial strait at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, through which a fifth of the world's oil and natural gas supplies once passed, has been effectively shut by Iran's attacks on shipping since the start of the war in February.

Even with much of its navy sunk, just Iran's threat to attack made shippers and insurers hesitant to send vessels through the strait. The resulting energy crunch has fueled global inflation, including in the US. Analysts say more oil from Gulf Arab states appears to be getting out to market. AP

Ukraine reclaimed more land in May than it lost

KYIV

UKRAINE recaptured more territory than it lost to Russian forces in May for the second straight month, an analysis of data from the Institute for the Study of War (ISW) showed.

Ukraine's army gained a net 282 square kilometres over the month, according to the analysis, as Kyiv hails its improving fortunes on the sprawling battlefield across the south and east of the country.

The pace of Russia's advance has been slowing since late 2025, hobbled by the increasing effectiveness of Ukraine's frontline and mid-range drone strikes, the ISW said.

Moscow had lost control of around 120 square kilometres in April, the first month in which its forces gave up more ground than they captured for two and a half years.

However, Russian soldiers are still infiltrated in most of the areas where Ukraine has retaken territory, the ISW said. The Russian army regularly sends small groups of soldiers to take up positions along parts of the front line and hide there



Ukrainian soldiers practise military skills at a training ground near the frontline in the Zaporizhzhia region, Ukraine on Friday | AP

-- a tactic designed to pave the way for larger groups of troops to advance later. Ukraine's gains in April and May -- around 403 square kilometres in total -- remain marginal, representing around 0.4 percent of the total territory held by Russia.

But they nevertheless point to a positive trend for Kyiv, which has touted itself as having recently gained the upper hand in the four-year conflict.

"Ukraine's successful mid-range and frontline drone strike campaigns are limiting Russia's ability to transport personnel to the frontline and to supply and sustain frontline positions," the ISW reported last week.

Afghans scrap protest plans amid fears of crackdown

HERAT

AFGHANS scrapped protest plans in Herat on Friday as heavily armed security forces were deployed in the city, after an earlier rally against tightening restrictions on women was violently dispersed.

An AFP journalist saw military vehicles stationed around the city and patrolling the area where a demonstration had been called for Friday afternoon.

"People gave up on the demonstration today to prevent more bloodshed," said a 34-year-old teacher, who along with other residents AFP is not naming for safety reasons.

The deployment followed a crackdown launched by the morality police on Saturday, during which dozens of women were arrested for not wearing the body-cloaking chador or burqa.

At least two people were killed and more than 20 wounded in a protest held by residents days later, a group of UN experts said.

TAYLOR SWIFTLY ENTERS HALL OF FAME

Taylor Swift on Thursday became the youngest woman ever inducted into the prestigious Songwriters Hall of Fame, another milestone in the 36-year-old US pop star's record-breaking career

RECORDS GALORE

Taylor Swift has recorded 12 albums spanning country, pop, and folk, earning her 14 Grammy Awards in the US, including four Album of the Year trophies -- a record. Estimates put her worldwide sales at more than 250 million album-equivalents. Her most recent tour in 2023 and 2024, titled *The Eras Tour*, brought in a record sum of around two billion dollars, reports said.

20-year wait

Artists become eligible for the Hall of Fame 20 years after the release of their first commercial track. For Swift, that was *Tim McGraw*, released in June 2006

The female record was previously held by Carole Bayer Sager, who was 43 when she joined in 1987. Stevie Wonder remains the youngest person ever admitted, at age 32 in 1983

Also inducted on Thursday were Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley of KISS, the band behind hits such as *Rock and Roll All Nite* and *Detroit Rock City*



TAYLOR SWIFT

Pak hikes its defence spending by 17.6%

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN on Friday hiked its defence spending by 17.6 per cent to PKRs 3,000 billion, marking a significant increase from last year. Last year, the government allocated PKRs 2550 billion for defence, which was 20 per cent higher than the previous year. "The government has made a significant increase in the defence budget," Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb said while presenting the budget 2026-27 before the National Assembly.

Aurangzeb said that the total federal budget is estimated at PKRs 18,771 billion and the "GDP growth target is 4 per cent".

Among the key expenses, the federal government will spend PKRs 8,054 billion on debt service and interest payments. Another PKRs 1169 billion has been allocated for pension expenditure and PKRs 1091 billion for subsidies. The size of the federal government Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) has been set at PKRs 1,000 billion for the next fiscal year.

Among the income, the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has set a tax collection target of PKRs 15,264 billion, while the government expects to generate PKRs 5,336 billion in non-tax revenue. PTI

US to slash jets, warships to NATO in Europe: Report

NEW YORK

THE United States plans to slash the number of fighter jets and warships it provides to NATO in Europe, the *New York Times* reported on Thursday.

The reported cutbacks come as European nations race to bolster their defence capacities since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 sparked fears that Moscow could attack a NATO country.

US President Donald Trump has called the alliance a "paper tiger" and its members "cowards" in frustration that they have not joined the US-Israeli war against Iran.

Washington plans to reduce the number of fighter jets it supplies to Europe by one third, cut all eight aerial refueling tankers and reduce maritime reconnaissance aircraft, the *New York Times* reported, cit-

ing two unidentified senior European officials.

Other assets to be reallocated include a missile-launching submarine, an aircraft carrier, a group of bomber aircraft and several jets and warships.

The US European Command said this month that it would reassess Washington's contributions to NATO to "ensure Europe takes primary responsibility for its own conventional defence."

The 32-member NATO bloc was founded in 1949 and its collective security is based on the principle that if one member is attacked, the entire alliance comes to its defence.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said last week that Trump will attend a NATO summit in Turkey in July. Rubio described it as "probably the most important meeting in NATO's history." AFP

ART GIANT

David Hockney, a contemporary master of brilliant, bold colours, no more

LONDON

BRITISH artist David Hockney's paintings captured the world in brilliant colour, from carefree 1960s California to the bucolic landscapes of his native Yorkshire.

Hockney, who died Thursday aged 88, always retained his Yorkshire burr and a determined liking for fish and chips and cigarettes as he grew to be "perhaps the most popular and versatile British artist of the 20th century", in the words of Britain's Tate gallery.

His agent Erica Bolton described Hockney as "one of the most important figures in contemporary art in both the 20th and 21st centuries," adding he had "passed

away peacefully at home" in London on Thursday a month before his 89th birthday. He leaves behind a huge body of works.

In 2018, his iconic swimming pool picture, "Portrait of an Artist (Pool with Two Figures)" sold for \$90.3 million in New York, setting a new auction record for a living artist. He was unseated by Jeff Koons's "Rabbit" a year later. Born in 1937 to working-class parents in the northern English town of Bradford, Hockney went against the conventions of post-war Brit-

ain, realising at an early age that he was gay and that he wanted to be an artist. Works such as "We Two Boys Together Clinging" boldly referenced same-sex relations at a time when they were taboo.



REGIONAL OFFICE, ERNAKULAM

SIB Building, Infopark Road, Rajagiri Valley P.O, Kakkandam, Ernakulam, Kerala - Pin code: 682039. Ph: 0484-2771361, 2771363, 2771369, Email: ro1003@sib.co.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

- Mr. Sreekumar Menon (Borrower), S/o Ramankutty Menon, "Manimandiram", Udyogamandal P.O. Ernakulam - 683501
- Smt. Hemavathy Menon (Guarantor), W/o Mr. Ramankutty Menon, "Manimandiram", Udyogamandal P.O. Ernakulam - 683501
- Mr. P K Parameswaran (Guarantor), S/o Kumanar Nair, Charakkathi House, Poikattusseri, Chengamandal P.O. (Via Angamaly) Pin 683578

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/Guarantor that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the South Indian Bank Ltd, Branch Kalamassery, the PHYSICAL POSSESSION of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The South Indian Bank Limited (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "as is where is" basis, "as is what is" and "whatever there is" condition on 02.07.2026 for recovery of an amount of Rs. 1,38,56,790.71 (Rupees One Crore Thirty-Eight Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety and Paise Seventy One Only) as on 08.06.2026 with future interest, costs and expenses etc. thereon in the account of Sreekumar Menon with Kalamassery Branch of the Bank, subject to the following terms and conditions:-

Name of Property Owner: Mr. Sreekumar Menon	Description of properties: All that Part and Parcel of land admeasuring 4.05 Ares property with residential building of approximate 1100 Sq Ft of Eloor Municipality comprised in Old Sy No. 2112, Re Sy No. 75 IN Block No. 25 in Eloor village, Paravur Taluk owned by Sreekumar Menon more derived vide Sale Deed No. 5228/2013 of Alangad SRO bounded on the North: Private Road, East: Private Road and Property of Kochu Kadeja & Jameela, South: Property of Ambika W/o Parameswaran Pillai, West: Property of Sulekha and James
Reserve Price	Rs. 31,72,500/- (Rupees Thirty-One lakhs Seventy-Two Thousand Five Hundred Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs. 3,17,250/- (Rupees Three Lakh Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only)
Mode of submission of EMD/Sale amount	All amounts payable regarding EMD and sale shall be paid by way of Demand Draft drawn in favour of "The Authorised Officer, The South Indian Bank Ltd" payable at Ernakulam or through RTGS to Account No 0024073000025480 held by "The Authorised Officer" in The South Indian Bank Ltd, Branch Ernakulam Market Road (IFSC Code: SIBL0000024)
Last date and time for submission of Bid along with EMD	On or before 01.07.2026 by 05.00PM.
Property inspection	From 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM on working days with prior appointment.
Bid incremental amount	Rs. 10,000/-
Date and time of E-auction	02.07.2026 from 10.00 AM to 10.30 AM (with 5-minute unlimited auto extensions till sale is concluded)
E-auction service provider	Website Name: MIS 4 Closure Contact Official: Mr. Arun Raj S Mobile: 8142000735 Email: tnik@bankauctions.in and info@bankauctions.in
Encumbrances known to the Bank	The Authorised Officer has obtained EC/ search report regarding the property from 01.12.2013 to 19.02.2025 and it contains no encumbrances.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in web portal of South Indian Bank Ltd. (Secured Creditor) website i.e. www.southindianbank.com. Details also available at <https://bankauctions.in>. For any further information and for inspection of property, the intended bidders may contact the Authorised Officer or The South Indian Bank Ltd., Branch Kalamassery during working hours or may contact at the South Indian Bank Ltd SIB Building, Infopark Road, Rajagiri Valley P.O, Kakkandam, Kochi-682039. Phone: 9507493136, 9045044474

Place : Ernakulam
Date : 09.06.2026

(Sd/-) Authorised Officer
(Chief Manager)

RAIL WHEEL FACTORY
Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064
website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

Tender Notice
No. RWF/W/26-27/07/td. 11.06.2026

E-TENDERS: On Behalf of the President of India, the Dy. CHIEF ENGINEER invites electronic tender for the following works online through the website <http://www.reps.gov.in> (Works).

Tender No: W.496/RWF/YNK/1087

Description: Construction of building for storage and office accommodation, improvements to roads, sheds and buildings for stores inside factory premises of RWF Estimated Value in Rs. 27762704.53 EMD Amount in Rs. 555300.00 Date & Time of Closing of Tenders: 02.07.2026 at 15:00 hrs.

Dy. Chief Engineer

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CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Office: "CHOLA CREST" C 54 & 55, Super B-4, Thiru V. K. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032
Branch Address: 2nd Floor, VJ Towers, Wylfa, Ernakulam, Cochin (Kerala) - 682019

POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [E] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules made there under. The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.

Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstanding including all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl No	Name & Address of Borrower / Loan A/c	Date of Demand Notice	Outstanding Amount	Date of Possession
1.	Loan A/c. No. HE01TAY0000047598	06.09.2025	Rs.20,83,313.00 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Three Hundred Thirteen Only) as on 06-09-2025 and interest thereon.	10.06.2026

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

District : Alappuzha, Sub District: Amalappuzha, Taluk: Kuttanadu, Village: Thalavady, Limit: Thalavady Panchayath, Character Of Right, Sy. No.: 305/8, Block No.: 36, Sy. Sub Division : 1, Resy No.: 430, Resy. Sub Division : 8, Extent: 14.50 Ares. **Description of the Property:** All the piece and parcels of immovable property admeasuring 14 Ares 50 Sq. meters in Resurvey No. 430/8 in Block No.36 of Thalavady Village, Kuttanadu Taluk with building No.9/97 of Thalavady Grama Panchayath V.430/8 14 Ares 50 Sq. Meters. **Boundaries (As per Title Deed):** East: Karukaparambil Wet Land, North: Maljily and Kokkodi properties, West: Ramavampurathu Thoppil property, South: Kudakulthumthara property. **(As per Location Sketch):** East: Property of Cherian Madackal, North: Property of Raju Maliprath, West: Kuttithara property, South: Panchayath Road

Date : 13.06.2026
Place : Alappuzha
Sd/-, Authorised Officer
M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin - 682024

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

(See proviso to rule 8(6))
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" as per the brief particulars given hereunder:

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date of E-Auction
1.	M/s. Axis International Represented by Partners Thekkethil Sulaiman & Shabnam Sulaiman Mr. Muhammed Solman, Mr. Shabnam Sulaiman, Mr. Thekkethil Sulaiman (Guarantors and Mortgagee) Account No. 323505000530	Property 2 - Vacant land with land area 43550 in 40.47 Ares (100 cents) in Re. Sy No. 279/1/3/2-4 in Chunakkara Village, Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha District- 690534. Bounded on the North by: Property of Sulaiman South by: Property of Muhammed Salman East by: Public Way West by: Property of Chellichira Family	Rs. 3,52,30,105/- (As on June 06, 2026)	Property 2 Rs. 47,50,000/-	02.07.2026 From 10:00 AM to 02:00 PM	09.07.2026 From 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
		Property 3 - Vacant land with land area 37590 in 34.93 Ares (86.28 cents) in Re. Sy No. 279/1/3/2-2 in Chunakkara Village, Mavelikkara Taluk, Alappuzha District- 690534. Bounded on the North by: Property of Shabnam Sulaiman South by: Property of Chellichira Family East by: Public Way West by: Property of Chellichira Family		Property 3 Rs. 37,00,000/-		

The online auction will be conducted on the website (assets.matexauctions.com) of our auction agency M/s. Matex Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagee/ Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by July 08, 2026 before 05:00 P.M., else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin - 682024 Branch on or before July 08, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before July 08, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin - 682024 Branch on or before July 08, 2026 by 05:00 P.M. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at "Cochin".

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9655225532/8129501439.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/mh4p4s

Date : June 13, 2026
Place: Ernakulam & Alappuzha & Palakkad

Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited