

Indian gangster accused of killing eight policemen shot dead



Forensic team work near a toppled vehicle which was carrying Vikas Dubey in Kanpur

Reuters | Lucknow, India

Indian police shot dead yesterday a man who had been accused of ordering the killing of eight policemen when he tried to flee from officers who had taken him into custody after he surrendered, officials said.

Vikas Dubey, who was on the run for over a week after he allegedly ordered the eight policemen killed, was shot dead in northern state of Uttar Pradesh (UP) after an accident as he was being taken to detention.

"We were bringing Dubey to the prison when a car he was in overturned... we had to shoot him because he stole a policeman's gun and tried to flee," said a senior police official in the state capital of Lucknow.

Dubey had been accused in 60 criminal cases, of various offences including attempted murder, and talk of his links with police and politicians has been dominating headlines ever since the shootout last week in which the eight police were killed and seven wounded.

Two of Dubey's aides were killed in last week's violence and a police officer posted near Dubey's village was arrested over allegations that he helped him flee.

Kim's sister rules out another US summit

Kim Yo Jong says Washington must change its stance toward Pyongyang

AFP | Seoul

The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un said there was "no need" for another summit with the United States unless Washington offered a "decisive change" in approach.

Kim and US President Donald Trump first met in Singapore two years ago but talks over Pyongyang's nuclear arsenal have been stalled since their Hanoi summit collapsed in early 2019 over what the North would be willing to give up in exchange for sanctions relief.

Trump said this week he would "certainly" meet with Kim again "if I thought it was going to be helpful", after speculation that he might pursue another summit if it could help his re-election chances in November.

But in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, Kim Yo Jong -- who has emerged as one of her brother's closest advisers -- said: "There is no need for us to sit across with the US right now."

If a summit was held, she said, "it is too obvious that it will only be used as boring



Kim Yo Jong, sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, speaks with North Korean officials during a bilateral meeting (file photo)

boasting coming from someone's pride".

Denuclearisation, she added, was "not possible at this point", and could only happen alongside parallel "irreversible simultaneous major steps" by the other side -- which she emphasised did not refer to sanctions lifting.

She did not go into specifics, but Washington stations 28,500 troops in the South to defend it against its neighbour, and has a range of military assets in Japan and the wider Pacific region.

Pyongyang insists that it needs its nuclear arsenal to

deter against a possible US invasion.

Kim Yo Jong's statement was only her personal view, she said, but the lengthy declaration appeared intended to send multiple messages.

She said she had watched the July 4 Independence Day celebrations in the US on television and had been given permission by her brother to "personally obtain, for sure, the DVD of the celebrations... in the future".

Her brother had "entrusted me with conveying his wishes to President Trump that he would certainly achieve great successes in his work", she added.

Kim Jong Un declared in December an end to moratoriums on nuclear and ballistic missile tests, and Pyongyang has repeatedly said it has no intention to continue talks unless Washington drops what it describes as "hostile" policies towards the North.



Kim Yo Jong's remarks indicate that North Korea may be waiting to see whether Donald Trump remains in the White House after November's presidential election

News in brief

◆ **Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, who has tested positive for COVID-19, said on Facebook that he was "very well" and again advocated the use of the controversial drug hydroxychloroquine.** Bolsonaro, 65, appeared in his weekly Facebook Live post at his official residence. He appeared to be in good shape and was not accompanied, as is often the case, by ministers or senior officials, and the usual sign language interpreter was not present.



◆ **Bolivia's President Jeanine Anez said on Thursday she has tested positive for the novel coronavirus.**



Bolivia's President Anez has tested positive for coronavirus

Anez said in a tweet she was "well" and continuing to work while in isolation. "Together, we will come out of this," she said. The Bolivian government confirmed that at least seven ministers, including its health minister, had tested positive and were either undergoing treatment or recuperating at home.

◆ **France to restore Notre-Dame Cathedral as it was before inferno**

◆ **Paris' centuries-old Notre-Dame Cathedral will be rebuilt as it was before being engulfed in a fire last year, the public body in charge of its restoration said.** The April 15, 2019 blaze gutted the Gothic landmark and major tourist attraction, destroying the spire and roof in a disaster that stunned the nation.



◆ **US aircraft carriers conduct drills in South China Sea**

◆ **Four cities along China's Yangtze river have declared top-level flood warnings over the past two days after torrential rain triggered landslides and inundated roads and farmland, with parts of the river threatening to burst its banks.** The "red alerts" in Xianning and Jingzhou in Hubei province and Nanchang and Shangrao in neighbouring Jiangxi highlight the country's vulnerability to extreme weather from climate change and the risks of overdevelopment on flood plains, experts say.

◆ **Ethiopian authorities said they had arrested two suspects over the killing of a popular political singer, whose death last week sparked protests in which 166 people were killed.** The shooting of Haacaaluu Hundeesaa, a musician widely revered among his Oromo ethnic group, ignited protests in Addis Ababa and the surrounding Oromiya region. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed described his killing as "an evil act".

Ethiopia arrests suspects in the killing of popular singer

◆ **The charity at the heart of an ethics investigation targeting Prime Minister Justin Trudeau family paid by charity at heart of ethics probe**

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Trudeau paid members of his family for speaking engagements, Canadian media reported. WE Charity paid Margaret Trudeau, the prime minister's mother, Can\$250,000 (US\$184,000) for speeches at 28 events between 2016 and 2020, according to the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

New York paints Black Lives Matter sign outside Trump Tower

AFP | New York

New York City painted a huge Black Lives Matter sign on the pavement outside Trump Tower on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue, replicating similar murals supporting the movement elsewhere in the United States.

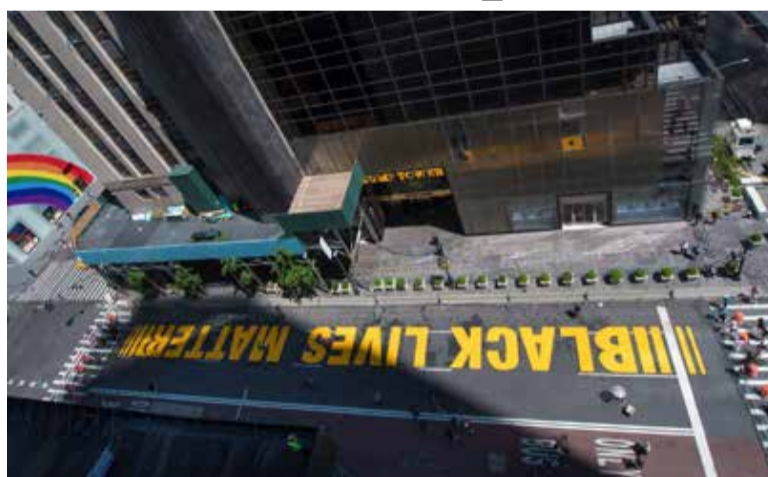
President Donald Trump, who has repeatedly assailed the Black Lives Matter movement, did not immediately comment on the sign, done in giant block lettering in school-bus yellow, which filled the pavement outside his flagship hotel.

But when the plan was floated last month he accused the city's Democratic leaders of "denigrating" the famous street with a "symbol of hate."

Around a dozen volunteers from different organizations painted the slogan, with civil rights leader Al Sharpton and Mayor Bill de Blasio picking up long-handled paint rollers to add some touches of their own.

"A painting is a nice symbol, but it doesn't address systemic racism in any way. So as cool as it is, it's important to focus on that," said Francie Brewster, a 17-year-old who had come to watch.

Similar murals have been painted in other American cities in sup-



A newly painted Black Lives Matter mural adorns Fifth Avenue outside of Trump Tower

port of the BLM movement, which has been at the forefront of public consciousness following weeks of anti-racism protests.

The demonstrations were sparked by the killing by police of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, in Minneapolis in May.

Washington Mayor Muriel Bowser renamed an area on her city's 16th Street, a block from the White House, as Black Lives Matter Plaza, unveiling a giant yellow mural on that street. The area has become the epicenter of anti-racist demonstrations.

Trump Tower, a luxury sky-

scraper near Central Park, is where Trump lived before leaving for the White House in January 2017.

He stays there when he visits his hometown, although such visits have grown relatively rare. Residents in overwhelmingly Democratic New York remain largely hostile to his presidency.

Trump has frequently clashed with De Blasio, a Democrat, as well as with New York's Democratic governor, Andrew Cuomo.

The president changed his official residence to Florida last year, but his business empire remains headquartered in the Big Apple.

Global

COVID-19 Cases: **12,523,018**

Deaths: **559,842**

Recovered: **7,297,487**

New cases: **+143,759**

New deaths: **+3,234**

Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	New deaths	Total Deaths
USA	3,254,896	+415	136,237
Brazil	1,768,970	+152	69,406
India	821,634	+521	22,144
Russia	713,936	+174	11,017
Peru	316,448		11,314
Chile	309,274	+99	6,781
Spain	300,988	+2	28,403
UK	288,133	+48	44,650
Mexico	282,283	+730	33,526
Iran	252,720	+142	12,447
Pakistan	243,599	+75	5,058
Italy	242,639	+12	34,938
South Africa	238,339		3,720
Saudi Arabia	226,486	+51	2,151

Figures as of closing

Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases	Serious, Critical	Tot cases/1m pop
Saudi Arabia	226,486	+3,159	2,151	+51	163,026	61,309	2,220	6,504
UAE	54,050	+473	330	+2	43,969	9,751	1	5,463
Kuwait	53,580	+740	383	+1	43,214	9,983	157	12,543
Oman	53,614	+1,889	244	+8	34,225	19,145	130	10,495
Egypt	79,254		3,617		22,753	52,884	41	774
Qatar	102,630	+520	146	+4	98,233	4,251	139	36,552