

X

TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Delighted to mark International #YouthDay with members of the @WHOYouthCouncil in a dynamic discussion on solutions to advance global health. The creativity, passion, and commitment shown by these young leaders was truly inspiring. I encouraged them to keep broadening their skills, lead with patience and composure, and continue challenging assumptions by asking “why” as they work to improve health and wellbeing around the world.

@DrTedros

02



On #YouthDay we celebrate the creativity & leadership of young people everywhere. By working with them as equal partners, we can use their energy & expertise to tackle some of the defining crises of our time. Together, let's build a future where every generation can thrive.

@antonioguerres

03



This year, we have two and a half times fewer interceptors than we had in 2025. Russia has two times more ballistic missiles per month than they had before.

@ZelenskyyUa

04



Trump Admin Opens New Front In War On Fraud, This Time In Child Sex-Changes

@VP

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

Air India mandates drug tests for all pilots after mid-air plunge

AFP | New Delhi, India

Air India pilots will undergo mandatory drug screening starting Thursday, according to an internal memo seen by AFP, after a captain involved in a serious mid-air incident reportedly tested positive for marijuana.

Existing rules require airlines to randomly test at least 10 percent of their flight crew for psychoactive substances each year.

“We have decided to undertake a full screening of all Group pilots for any substances or medications that are not permitted under prevailing regulations,” the memo said.

“Testing is mandatory and will start today.”

On August 4, at least 24 pas-



sengers were injured when an Airbus A320 lost about 300 feet (91 metres) of altitude shortly after departing from Thailand's Phuket for New Delhi.

Local media reports said the

main pilot had smoked marijuana and had tested positive in a second confirmatory test. Air India said the results have not been shared with them.

Never wake a sleeping bear -- or pay a hefty fine in the Arctic

AFP |



Oslo, Norway

A person in Norway's Svalbard archipelago in the Arctic has been fined 50,000 kroner (\$5,255) for using a foghorn to wake a sleeping polar bear, local officials said Thursday.

The incident took place earlier this month when a vessel was sailing in a fjord in northeastern Svalbard, around 1,000 kilo-

metres (620 miles) from the North Pole.

“Its occupants are said to have spotted a polar bear sleeping on land,” the governor of the territory said in a statement.

“A person on board then used the ship's foghorn, waking the animal, which moved to another location,” he added.

Neither the identity nor nationality of the person has been disclosed.

The governor's office ordered the individual to pay the hefty fine, which the person agreed to do.

Under local regulations “it is forbidden to needlessly disturb, attract or pursue a polar bear”, which was declared a protected species in Svalbard in 1972.

Some 260 polar bears were counted in the archipelago during the last scientific estimate, carried out in 2015.

Tata Trusts says panel will decide next chairman of firm

● The panel would include three nominees

AFP | Mumbai, India

A group of charities that wields indirect control of India's Tata Group said yesterday a panel would be set up to recommend the next chairman of the conglomerate's holding firm.

The announcement came a day after N Chandrasekaran, chairman of holding firm Tata Sons, said he would not seek reappointment when his term ends in February.

The Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, one of the group's charity institutions, passed a resolution to initiate the setting up of a selection committee “as soon as possible”, Tata Trusts said in a statement Thursday.

“We place on record our deepest appreciation for his

contribution and stewardship of Tata Sons and the Tata group over the past decade,” it added, referring to Chandrasekaran.

The \$180 billion Tata Group, whose interests range from salt to software, has grappled with a leadership crisis for about a year due to boardroom disagreements over several issues, including losses at some group firms. While Chandrasekaran did not name anyone, local media have widely reported it to be Noel Tata, half-brother of the late family patriarch Ratan Tata and head of the Tata Trusts, a group of philanthropic institutions that owns 66 percent of Tata Sons.

While Tata Trusts does not play a role in the day-to-day management of the conglomerate, their shareholding in the parent firm gives them decisive influence over the group's future.

The panel would include three nominees from Tata

Trusts, one from the Tata Sons board and an independent member, according to local media reports. Tata Steel chief executive TV Narendran was among the top candidates being considered to lead the conglomerate, the Times of India said.



In 1868, 29-year-old Jamsetji Tata started his trading company with a capital of just Rs.21,000. More than 150 years later, that small trading business has grown into the global Tata Group.

‘If you can, move!’ say Rome’s viral dancing seniors



AFP | Rome, Italy

Bopping to Michael Jackson and Elvis Presley in a Roman square, an elderly dancing duo has become a viral sensation in Italy -- something they hope will inspire other seniors to take up a more active lifestyle.

Retired dance teacher Pasquale Iannotta, 70, and his dancing partner Elisa Fava, 79, have won praise from Rome's mayor and twirled on national TV since one of their street performances was shared online by a social media savvy tour operator last week.

“No one ever thought we could go viral like this,” Fava told AFP on Wednesday, as the pair returned to Testaccio square, in the namesake historic working-class district of the Italian capital, for another spin.

Their moves have struck a chord with many in Italy -- whose population is the oldest in the European Union.

The original clip posted by The Tour Guy gathered almost more than 370,000 likes and thousands of comments on Instagram, including from mayor Roberto Gualtieri who complimented the “excellent dancers”, writing: “There's so much beauty in this simple video”.

Iannotta and Fava have since been invited to perform on the flagship morning TV show of national broadcaster Rai Uno and other television programmes.

The two met at dancing class, where Fava was one of Iannotta's pupils, and started performing outdoors regularly in the summer since, as Iannotta puts it, they both “hate sitting around at

home”.

Now they hope their sudden popularity will push others off the sofa and onto the dance floor, they said.

“I have many friends who, unfortunately, when they retire, like many others end up sitting on the sofa watching television. I'd like to see them get a bit more active,” Iannotta, who wore a floral short-sleeve shirt and sunglasses, said after the duo showed off their skills to the tune of Presley's “Jailhouse Rock”.

With a median age of 49.1, Italy is the EU's oldest country, according to the bloc's data agency.

Births fell last year by nearly four percent, plunging the fertility rate to an 80-year low, national statistics show.

As the country ages, putting pressure on care among other challenges, doctors say physical activity is vital for older people, helping with brain and heart health among other benefits.

“Don't be idle: if you can, move,” Fava, who recently became a great-grandmother, said in a message to fellow seniors. “Particularly dancing is good for you”.



Three US states to execute inmates on the same day

Washington, United States

Three US states are each set to execute a death row inmate on Thursday, as the country marked an upswing in capital punishment under President Donald Trump.

The death penalty has been abolished in 23 of the 50 US states, while three others -- California, Oregon and Pennsylvania -- have moratoriums in place.

The last time that three executions were scheduled on the same day was in 2010, according to the non-profit group Death Penalty Information Center.

Trump has called for expanding the use of the death penalty “for the vilest crimes,” and the Department of Justice proposed in April to broaden execution methods to include firing squads, gas and electrocution.

On Thursday, Tennessee is



set to execute Anthony Darrell Dugard Hines, 66, for murdering a woman in 1985, according to US media.

Oklahoma will put to death Carlos Cuesta-Rodriguez, 70, who was found guilty of murder in a 2003 shooting.

Alabama plans to execute Jeremy Williams, 42, who was convicted of raping and killing a five-year-old.

There were 47 executions in the United States last year, the highest figure since 2009, when 52 inmates were put to death.