

King Louis XVI of France and his Foreign Minister clandestinely agree to supply the United States with munitions during the American Revolution

William Austin Burt patents America's first typewriter, the typographer



Union Act passed by British Parliament, uniting Upper and Lower Canada

Comet Hale-Bopp is discovered and becomes visible to the naked eye nearly a year later



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



A @WHO staff member in #Gaza remains in detention by the Israeli military.: <http://bit.ly/4mbImrU>. WHO demands the immediate release of our colleague. We call for the protection of all humanitarianians. A ceasefire in Gaza is overdue!

@DrTedros

02



Saddened by the passing of former Kerala CM Shri VS Achuthanandan Ji. He devoted many years of his life to public service and Kerala's progress. I recall our interactions when we both served as Chief Ministers of our respective states. My thoughts are with his family and supporters in this sad hour.

@narendramodi

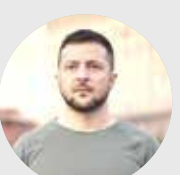
03



The fossil fuel age is flailing & failing. We're at the dawn of a new & clean energy era. An era where cheap, abundant, renewable energy powers a world rich in economic opportunity. We have the tools to power the future for humanity. This is our moment of opportunity.

@antoniouterres

04



I received reports on the completed stages of prisoner exchanges and those currently being prepared. We expect several rounds of exchanges to be carried out in accordance with the agreements reached at the second meeting in Istanbul.

@ZelenskyyUa

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



Palestinian children wait for a meal at a charity kitchen in the Mawasi area of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip

## 'Extremely high' risk of serious Gaza abuses

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The United Nations warned yesterday that Israel's expanded operations in central Gaza created an "extremely high" risk of serious international law violations.

It also cautioned that permanently displacing Gaza's population would be a war crime and possibly a crime against humanity.

"These Israeli airstrikes and ground operations will invariably lead to further civilian deaths and destruction of civilian infrastructure," UN rights chief Volker Turk said in a statement.

"Given the concentration of civilians in the area, and the means and methods of warfare employed by Israel until now, the risks of unlawful killings and other serious violations of international humanitarian law are extremely high."

Deir el-Balah came under intense shelling on Monday, a day after Israel's military ordered residents to leave, warning of

imminent action in an area where it had not previously operated.

Between 50,000 and 80,000 people were in the area when the evacuation order was issued, according to initial estimates from the UN's humanitarian agency OCHA.

"The latest Israeli displacement orders, followed by intensive attacks on southwestern Deir el-Balah... have added more misery to the suffering of hungry Palestinians," Turk said. "It seemed the nightmare couldn't possibly get worse. And yet it does."

The UN high commissioner for human rights highlighted that the area targeted by the latest attacks was "also home to several humanitarian organisations, including clinics, other medical facilities, shelters, a community kitchen, guesthouses, warehouses and other critical infrastructure."

At the same time, he pointed out that "homes have already been destroyed, and thousands have been forced to flee the area

again".

"Their only choice is to go to the ever-shrinking areas of Gaza where hundreds of thousands are being forced to gather, rendering difficult any attempt to deliver humanitarian assistance," he said, stressing that "even these areas are not safe".

"I remind Israel that permanently displacing people living under its occupation would amount to unlawful transfer, which is a war crime, and in certain circumstances, may also amount to a crime against humanity."

Turk stressed that "Israel, as the occupying power, must ensure food, medical and other supplies are provided for the population".

"And instead of launching round upon round of new military attacks, there must be an immediate end to the killings, destruction and the wide scale violations of international law," he insisted.

"More and more countries are joining the calls to shake us out of this nightmare."

## Chinese state hackers targeting Microsoft

● Linen Typhoon, Violet Typhoon, and Storm-2603

AFP | San Francisco, United States

Chinese state-sponsored hackers are actively exploiting critical security vulnerabilities in users of Microsoft's popular SharePoint servers to steal sensitive data and deploy malicious code, the US tech giant warned Tuesday.

Microsoft said it has observed three threat groups -- dubbed Linen Typhoon, Violet Typhoon, and Storm-2603 -- targeting internet-facing SharePoint servers using two newly disclosed vulnerabilities that allow attackers to bypass



authentication and execute remote code.

SharePoint Server is Microsoft's collaboration and document management platform designed for businesses and organizations.

Many large organizations use SharePoint as their primary platform for internal collaboration and for storing documents, and is appreciated for working well with other Microsoft products like Office,

Teams, and Outlook.

The attacks, which Microsoft said began as early as July 7, affect only on-premises SharePoint installations and do not impact the cloud-based SharePoint Online service, the company said in a security bulletin.

Microsoft warned that it "assesses with high confidence" that the threat actors will continue their assault against vulnerable systems where companies haven't taken the necessary precautions.

The vulnerabilities allow attackers to spoof authentication credentials and execute malicious code remotely on vulnerable servers.

Microsoft has released comprehensive security updates to address the malware and urged customers to apply the patches immediately.

## ISRO to launch NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite on July 30



ANI | New Delhi

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Monday said that it will launch the NISAR, the first joint Earth observation satellite by ISRO and NASA, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh on July 30 at 17:40 IST.

According to ISRO, the launch of the NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) satellite will mark a milestone in over a decade of collaboration between the two space agencies.

Additionally, ISRO stated that the satellite would provide high-resolution, day-and-night, all-weather data by scanning the entire world every 12 days, identifying minute variations in the Earth's surface, such as vegetation dynamics, ice sheet shifts, and ground deformation.

"On July 30, 2025 at 17:40 IST, ISRO's GSLV-F16 will launch NISAR, the first joint Earth observation satellite by ISRO & NASA, from Sriharikota. NISAR will scan the entire globe every 12 days, providing high-resolution, all-weather, day-and-night data. It can detect even subtle changes in Earth's surface--like ground deformation, ice sheet shifts, and vegetation dynamics," ISRO stated in a post on X.

"The mission will support many critical applications, including sea ice monitoring, ship detection, storm tracking, soil moisture changes, surface water mapping, and disaster response. A milestone in over a decade of collaboration between ISRO & NASA/JPL," it added.

2,392 kg

According to ISRO, the NISAR satellite, weighing 2,392 kg, will be injected into a 743 km Sun-synchronous orbit with an inclination of 98.40 degrees.

Equipped with dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar--NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band--NISAR features a 12-metre unfurlable mesh reflector antenna integrated into ISRO's modified I3K sat-

ellite bus. Utilising SweepSAR technology for the first time, the satellite will offer a 242 km swath with high spatial resolution, enabling comprehensive Earth observation.

"NISAR, weighing 2392 kg, is a unique Earth observation satellite and the first satellite to observe the Earth with a dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar (NASA's L-band and ISRO's S-band), both using NASA's 12m unfurlable mesh reflector antenna, integrated to ISRO's modified I3K satellite bus. NISAR will observe Earth with a swath of 242 km and high spatial resolution, using SweepSAR technology for the first time," ISRO stated in a press release.

NISAR's ability to provide high-resolution, all-weather data every 12 days will support critical applications, from tracking climate change impacts to aiding disaster management.

"The satellite will scan the entire globe and provide all weather, day & night data at 12-day interval and enable a wide range of applications. NISAR can detect even small changes in the Earth's surface, such as ground deformation, ice sheet movement and vegetation dynamics. Further applications include sea ice classification, ship detection, shoreline monitoring, storm characterisation, changes in soil moisture, mapping & monitoring of surface water resources and disaster response," the release added.



NISAR will be the first satellite to use dual-frequency synthetic aperture radar (SAR) - operating in both L-band and S-band - to observe and measure changes on Earth's surface with unmatched precision.