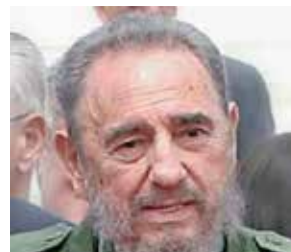


Pope Gregory XIII announces New Style (Gregorian) calendar

Battle of Karnal: Army of Iranian ruler Nadir Shah defeats the forces of the Mughal emperor of India, Muhammad Shah

US House of Representatives vote 126 to 47 to impeach President Andrew Johnson



Fidel Castro retires as the President of Cuba due to ill health after nearly fifty years

Facebook 'refriends' Australia after media law changes

Australia and the social media group have been locked in a standoff for more than a week

Australia will offer amendments, which include a change to the proposed mandatory arbitration mechanism

Canberra

Facebook said yesterday it will restore Australian news pages after negotiating changes with government to a proposed law forces tech giants to pay for content displayed on their sites.

Australia and the social media giant have been locked in a standoff for more than a week after the government introduced legislation that challenged Facebook and Alphabet Inc's Google's dominance in the news content market.

Facebook last week blocked Australian users from sharing and posting news content on its popular social media platform, drawing criticism from publishers and the government.

After a series of talks between Treasurer Josh Frydenberg and Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, a deal has been struck, with Australian news expected to



Picture courtesy of BBC

Facebook has refriended Australia, and Australian news will be restored to the Facebook platform

JOSH FRYDENBERG, TREASURER

return to the social media site in coming days.

The issue has been widely watched internationally as other countries including Canada and Britain consider similar legislation.

"Facebook has refriended Australia, and Australian news will be restored to the Facebook platform," Frydenberg told reporters in Canberra on Tuesday.

Frydenberg said Australia had been a "proxy battle for the world" as other jurisdictions engage with tech companies over a range of issues around news and content.

While Big Tech and media outlets have battled over the right to news content in other jurisdictions, Australia's proposed laws are the most expansive and seen as a possible template for other nations.

"Facebook and Google have not hidden the fact that they know that the eyes of the world are on Australia, and that's why they have sought I think to get a code here that is workable," Frydenberg said.

Australia will offer four amendments, which include a change to the proposed mandatory arbitration mechanism used when the tech giants cannot reach a deal with publishers over fair payment for displaying news content.

Wife of Mexican drug lord 'El Chapo' arrested

WS

Authorities arrested the wife of the late Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman on Monday at a court outside of Washington on drug trafficking charges, the Department said.

Coronel Aispuro, 31, faces charges of conspiracy to traffic cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin and marijuana for importation into the United States, the department said.

She was arrested at Dulles International Airport.

Guzman was the leader of the Sinaloa Cartel, one of Mexico's most powerful drug trafficking groups.

It was an operation that delivered hundreds of tons of narcotics to the United States and was linked to multiple murders of those



who crossed him, according to court filings.

He was extradited to the United States in 2017 to stand trial, and was convicted and sentenced to life in prison two years later.

Coronel, according to the Justice

Department, took part in cartel activities and also allegedly assisted in two plots to help Guzman escape from Mexican prison, including the successful first one in 2015.

It was not previously known that US authorities intended to arrest her.

A dual US-Mexico citizen and the mother of twins by Guzman, Coronel appeared in court nearly every day of his three-month trial in New York.

She had been barred from all contact with him during more than two years of pre-trial detention.

But during the trial, each day as he entered and left the courtroom, Guzman touched his heart and blew her a kiss.

During the trial, there were suggestions that she was involved in his business and prison escape, but authorities let her come and go freely.



Social media video grab shows volunteers helping to re-float stranded whales at Farewell Spit

Rescuers monitor whale pod off New Zealand

Reuters | Wellington

Rescuers were monitoring a pod of pilot whales swimming just off the northern tip of New Zealand's South Island late yesterday after more than a dozen of the group were killed in a mass stranding.

Rescuers have twice enticed the 28 survivors out to deep water over the past two days after they rebeached themselves and fear the whales could return for a third time overnight. At least 15 whales have died.

Officials said mammal medics and conservation experts would follow the group swimming just off remote Farewell Spit until last light.

"While the whales have come close to shore at times, they remain free-swimming," whale conservation chair Project Jonah New Zealand said on its Facebook page. "Our staff are staying onsite and will be up at first light to check the beaches."

New Zealand and neighbouring Australia are hotspots for mass whale strandings, owing to large colonies of pilot whales living in the deep oceans surrounding both island nations. Why the stranding occurs is a question that has puzzled marine biologists for years.

Last year nearly 100 pilot whales and bottlenose dolphins died in a mass stranding on the remote Chatham Islands, about 800 km (497 miles) off New Zealand's east coast.

The biggest beaching in modern history was recorded in Australia, also last year, when the majority of a 470-strong pod of pilot whales died after beaching themselves on the country's remote southern coast.

Chinese man causes outage after sit-ups atop power pole: reports

WS

A man in China scaled a utility pole to do sit-ups off the top of it, stunning onlookers and causing a power cut to thousands of homes, media said Tuesday.

The unnamed man was taken down by police following his antics Tuesday evening on the outskirts of the southwestern city of Chengde, People's Daily said.

He published a video on the Twitter and Weibo showing the man sitting about 10 metres (30



feet) in the air as he did a stomach crunch off the top of the pylon.

"The local power company initiated an emergency power cut... affecting tens of thousands of households," the People's Daily said.

Emergency services, including medical personnel, rushed to the scene, The Paper in Shanghai said.

It was not clear why the man decided to do sit-ups off the pole but state media warned against anyone copying him.

"The man's behaviour is too dangerous!" said one outlet.

The incident was a hot topic on Chinese social media, with at least 1.7 million views of one hashtag relating to it.

"I was annoyed because no electricity... and when I see the news and know the reason, I feel annoyed and amused at the same time," said one Weibo user affected by the bizarre incident.

Another on Weibo did not find it so funny.

"Black-outs can waste a lot of money and potentially lead to a fatal accident," they said.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



500,000 lives lost to COVID-19. It's an unfathomable number, but each one represents a family that will never again be whole. To those who have lost loved ones: I know no words can numb the pain, but I hope you find some solace in knowing the nation grieves with you. @JoeBiden

02



The United States is rebuilding our partnerships, founded on shared principles like the rule of law. In that spirit, I'm proud to launch the @StateDept's International Anticorruption Champions Award and recognize 12 individuals committed to transparency and accountability. @SecBlinken

03



Thanks to many colleagues & partners' hard work, a groundbreaking no-fault compensation programme for eligible individuals in 92 countries & economies accessing #COVID19 vaccines via #COVAX is now signed with ESIS, a @Chubb company @DrTedros

04



Leveraging the talent of our youth to solve global challenges. @narendramodi

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