

Christopher Columbus embarks on his second expedition to the New World, setting sail with a fleet of 17 ships



US Federal Judiciary Act passes, creating a six-member Supreme Court

Black Friday: Panic on Wall Street after investors Jay Gould and James Fisk attempt to corner the gold market

Battle of Shiroyama: Imperial Japanese Army decisively defeats the Satsuma Rebellion

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No country can stop a pandemic alone. No army can halt rising temperatures. No algorithm can rebuild broken trust. Therefore I ask leaders at #UNGA to reaffirm international law & the centrality of multilateralism, reinforce human right & recommit to the principles of the @UN

@antonioguterres

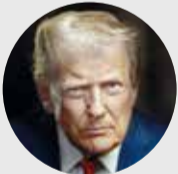
02



Today we mark #7YearsOfAyushmanBharat! This was an initiative that anticipated the needs of the future and focussed on ensuring top quality as well as affordable healthcare for people. Thanks to it, India is witnessing a revolution in public healthcare. It has ensured financial protection and dignity. India has shown how scale, compassion and technology can further human empowerment.

@narendramodi

03



I don't mind making this speech without a teleprompter — because the teleprompter is not working... I can only say that whoever is operating this teleprompter is in big trouble

04 @POTUS



Today's attack on a Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) primary health care center in #Gaza City turned it into rubble. Two health workers were reportedly injured.

@DrTedros

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

Hundreds trapped as typhoon triggers lake burst in Taiwan

Ragasa lashed the northern Philippines and Taiwan on Monday

AFP | Taipei, Taiwan

A decades-old barrier lake formed by a landslide in eastern Taiwan burst yesterday as Super Typhoon Ragasa pounded the island with torrential rains, flooding a nearby town and trapping over 260 people, officials said.

Ragasa lashed the northern Philippines and Taiwan on Monday with heavy rains and strong winds, forcing thousands to evacuate.

In Taiwan's eastern Hualien county, where downpours continued on Tuesday, the barrier lake on the upper Mataian Creek burst around 3:00 pm (0700 GMT), washing away a bridge and sweeping into a town, a local fire official said.



A man stands near debris on a waterfront road amid heavy rain due to weather patterns from Super Typhoon Ragasa in Aparri town, Cagayan province



At its peak, Ragasa had one-minute sustained winds estimated at around 270 km/h (165 mph), making it a Category 5-equivalent super typhoon, and it's currently the strongest tropical cyclone recorded in 2025 in the northwest Pacific basin.

"In some places, water temporarily rose as high as the second floor of a house and was about (as high as) one floor in the town centre, where the water has been receding," Lee Lung-sheng, deputy chief of Hualien County Fire Department, told AFP.

"About 263 people were trapped and moved up to higher ground when the river suddenly rose. They are not in immediate danger, but they are very worried about the high water,"

he said.

He added that two people were missing, and a search was underway to recover them.

The stranded residents were asked to stay put and wait for the water to recede, he added.

Footage released by Taiwan's National Fire Agency showed flooded streets and half-submerged cars as trees were uprooted in the area.

Across Taiwan, more than 7,600 people were evacuated

due to Typhoon Ragasa.

Around 3,100 people were evacuated beforehand and moved in with relatives in the area near the creek in Hualien, according to the fire agency.

Taiwan experiences frequent tropical storms from July to October.

Typhoon Danas, which hit the island in early July, killed two people and injured hundreds as the storm dumped more than 20 inches of rain across the south over a weekend.

Man charged with shining laser pointer at Trump helicopter



AFP | Washington, United States

US authorities charged a man who shone a laser pointer at the presidential helicopter as it departed the White House with President Trump aboard, according to a court filing Monday.

A Secret Service officer saw Jacob Samuel Winkler, 33, shine a red laser beam from the sidewalk outside the White House grounds, pointing it at the Marine One helicopter as it took off on Saturday, an affidavit said. Winkler was detained at the scene and charged with aiming a laser pointer at an aircraft -- a felony punishable by up to five years in prison.

Winkler's "conduct posed a risk of flash blindness and pilot disorientation, especially during low-level flight near other helicopters... and the Washington Monument," the filing said.

"This placed Marine One at

risk of an airborne collision."

After he was handcuffed, Winkler "got on his knees and started saying things like, 'I should apologize to Donald Trump,'" the filing, signed by the Secret Service officer, showed.

Winkler later told authorities that "he did not know he could not point the laser at Marine One" and that "he points the laser at all kinds of things, such as stop signs."

The filing did not mention whether anyone aboard the helicopter noticed the laser.

Trump had been travelling to the state of Virginia to give a speech to the American Cornerstone Institute, according to US media.

The Federal Aviation Administration says lasers pose a "serious safety threat" to aircraft and can incapacitate pilots.

The agency recorded 5,913 laser incidents this year.

Australia probes how Bali body returned home without heart

AFP | Sydney, Australia

Australian officials have demanded answers from Indonesian counterparts after the body of a young man who died on the resort island of Bali was repatriated without his heart.

Queensland man Byron Haddow, 23, was found dead in the plunge pool of his Bali villa this year while on holiday.

His body was returned to Australia four weeks later, where a second autopsy found he was missing his heart.

A spokesperson for Australia's foreign ministry said Tuesday they were providing consular assistance to Haddow's family but could not comment further owing to privacy obligations.

"They just rung us to ask if we were aware that his heart had been retained over in Bali," mother Chantal Haddow told Australia's Channel Nine.

"Just when I thought I couldn't feel any more heartbroken, it was another kick in the guts," she said.

"I feel like there was foul play. I think that something's happened to him prior to being in the pool."

Senior Australian officials



in Bali and Jakarta have made representations to the Indonesian Government regarding the matter.

The Australian Consulate-General in Bali has also conveyed the family's concerns to hospital officials.

But the forensic doctor who performed the original autopsy rejected claims of wrongdoing.

"For forensic purposes, his heart was tested and was kept behind when the family repatriated the body home," doctor Nola Margaret Gunawan told The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper on Monday.

"I have given the autopsy result and explanation to the family. They have accepted my explanation."

Trump demands Europe stop buying Russian oil, hits India and China

United Nations, United States

US President Donald Trump demanded yesterday that European allies immediately stop buying oil from Russia and accused China and India of funding the Ukraine war through their purchases.

"They have to immediately cease all energy purchases from Russia. Otherwise we're all wasting a lot of time," Trump said of Europe in an address at the UN General Assembly.

US says dismantled telecoms shutdown threat during UN summit

New York, United States

The US Secret Service said yesterday it had dismantled a network of electronic devices that could have crashed New York's telecommunications network in an attack ahead of the UN General Assembly.

The protective agency did not say who was responsible for the sophisticated material but linked it to "nation-state" actors and "individuals that are known to federal law enforcement."

ABC News quoted a law enforcement source briefed on the investigation as saying officials "believe the plot is connected to the Chinese government."

"The potential for disruption to our country's telecommunications posed by this network of devices cannot be overstated," Secret Service Director Sean Curran said.

Iranian, European ministers to hold nuclear talks Tuesday

United Nations, United States

Iranian and European ministers will hold nuclear talks in New York yesterday, a French diplomatic source said, after the UN Security Council voted to reimpose sanctions over Tehran's atomic program.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi has until the end of Saturday to reach a deal with his British, French, German and EU counterparts to avoid the reinstatement of UN sanctions, which had been suspended under a deal signed in 2015. The meeting on the sidelines of the United Nations' signature high-level week, is scheduled for 10:00 am local time (1400 GMT), a diplomatic source told AFP. European countries and the United States suspect the Iranian government of seeking to acquire the atomic bomb.