



2 years later
Haiti and Dominican Republic
to reopen direct air links in May



GLOBAL WEATHER

Beijing	21	1	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Columbo	28	24	SNY	Melbourne	26	15	LC
Dhaka	31	19	SNY	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	21	SNY	New York	7	2	SNY
Houston	31	19	TDS	Singapore	28	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	1	-5	SNY
London	13	9	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow
TDS: Thunderstorm • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Iran says it is reviewing new US proposals

TEHRAN: Iran's Supreme National Security Council said in a statement that Pakistan's army chief, serving as an intermediary, presented the proposals to Iran when he recently visited Tehran, and they were still under review. It was not revealed what was in the proposals. The council said Iran has yet to respond, but further talks would require the US to abandon "excessive demands and adjust its requests to the realities on the ground."

US says 23 ships turned back since Iran blockade

WASHINGTON: The US military says it has forced 23 ships to turn around near the Strait of Hormuz since it imposed a naval blockade of Iranian ports. In a post on X, the Central Command said US forces are still enforcing the blockade "against ships entering or exiting Iranian ports and coastal areas." The blockade ordered by President Donald Trump started April 13 as part of US pressure on Iran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

Macron blames Hezbollah for peacekeeper death

BEIRUT: A UN peacekeeping force in southern Lebanon came under attack with small arms fire Saturday morning leaving one French peacekeeper dead and three wounded, two of them seriously, France's president and the force known as UNIFIL said. Both President Emmanuel Macron and the UNIFIL force blamed Hezbollah, but the militant group denied involvement.

IRAN TURNS UP THE HEAT, CLOSES HORMUZ AGAIN OVER U.S. BLOCKADE

Emphasises that it would continue to block transit through the strait as long as the US blockade of Iranian ports remained in effect

CAIRO/ANTALYA

Iran reversed its decision to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and fired on a tanker attempting to pass the waterway on Saturday. It also warned that it would continue to block transit through the strait as long as the US blockade of Iranian ports remained in effect.

Confusion over the critical chokepoint threatened to deepen the energy crisis roiling the global economy and push the two countries toward renewed conflict, even as mediators expressed confidence a new deal was within reach.

Iran's joint military command said on Saturday that "control of the Strait of Hormuz has returned to its previous state ... under strict management and control of the armed forces."

Indian-flagged tanker fired on, cruise ship threatened

Commercial vessels faced threats in the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, maritime monitors said. A UK agency reported Iran's Revolutionary Guards fired at a tanker, while Vanguard

Tech said an empty cruise ship was threatened while leaving the Gulf. The UK Maritime Trade Operations Centre said IRGC gunboats opened fire on a tanker northeast of Oman, but the vessel and crew were safe. Vanguard identified it as the India-flagged Sanmar Herald, citing the captain's account that patrol boats approached without radio contact and fired shots, damaging bridge windows. Vanguard also reported that the Malta-flagged cruise ship Mein Schiff 4 experienced a nearby splash while crossing near Oman. In a separate incident, the UKMTO said a container ship in the area was hit by an "unknown projectile," damaging some containers but causing no fire.



US's maximalist demands stall talks, says Iran official

Iran is not yet ready to hold a new round of face-to-face talks with US officials, a senior Iranian official said Saturday, citing Washington's refusal to abandon "maximalist" demands on key issues.

In an interview with *The As-*

sociated Press on the margins of a diplomacy forum in Turkey, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Saeed Khatibzadeh also said his country will not hand over its enriched uranium to the United States, rejecting claims made by Donald Trump.

"I can tell you that no enriched material is going to be shipped to United States," Khatibzadeh said. "This is non-starter and I can assure you that while we are ready to address any concerns that we do have, we're not going to accept things that are non-starters."

Trump says Iran cannot 'blackmail' US with Hormuz

Meanwhile, Trump on Saturday warned Iran not to "blackmail" Washington with its flipping on the fate of the Strait of Hormuz, after Tehran declared the strategic waterway once again closed.

"We're talking to them. They wanted to close up the strait again — you know, as they've been doing for years — and they can't blackmail us," Trump said at a White House event. Trump said there would be "some information" about Iran later in the day, adding: "We're taking a tough stand." *AFP/AP*

Colonial-era row between Mexico, Spain put to rest

BARCELONA

WITH A few choice words and a handshake, Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum laid to rest a diplomatic spat between her government and Spain over the Spanish colonial past during her visit to Barcelona on Saturday.

"There is no diplomatic crisis, there never was one," she said upon arrival at the IV Meeting in Defense of Democracy, a gathering of representatives of 15 countries concerned with the rise of illiberalism. "The important thing is to recognise the efforts of the indigenous people of our land," she said, moments before shaking hands with Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez.

Sheinbaum's participation came after Spain's King Felipe VI ironed out a longstanding diplomatic dispute when in March he publicly acknowledged the conquest of the Americas had led to the "abuse" of native peoples. The international tussle started in 2019, when Sheinbaum's predecessor, Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, demanded that Spain "publicly and officially" recognise the abuses committed during the conquest of Mexico in a letter sent to the Spanish king and Pope Francis.

Spain refused to do so, which soured relations between the two governments. Relations hit a low point in 2024 when Sheinbaum did not invite Felipe to her inauguration over the palace's refusal to issue a formal apology, a move that Sanchez called "unacceptable." Spain subsequently refused to send a representative to Sheinbaum's inauguration in a breach of tradition.

The unprecedented step toward reconciliation by Felipe was followed by the Mexican government inviting the Spanish monarch to attend a World Cup match this summer. Sheinbaum and Sanchez later met privately for nearly an hour, according to Sanchez's office. "I spoke with president Sheinbaum about global affairs and the importance of advancing the relations between Mexico and the European Union," Sanchez wrote on X. *AP*

Pakistan urges realism on US-Iran talks; Turkey meet backs cooperation

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN'S efforts to resolve the conflict between the US and Iran have been going on with a "realistic and positively optimistic" approach, official sources said on Saturday, while emphasising "a deal is only done when it's done".

As Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Asim Munir wrapped up their respective visits to West Asia, reports began to circulate about the second round of talks in Islamabad. It is not yet clear when the next round of talks will take place. "As all eyes are set on the next round of Peace Talks in Islamabad, there is a need to remain realistic and positively optimistic. However, what also must be understood is that a deal is only done when it's done," an official source said.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministers of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Egypt have discussed ways to enhance cooperation in "key areas of mutual interest" in a third consultative meeting held in Antalya. "The Foreign Ministers expressed a shared commitment to advancing this partnership, deepening coordination and expanding collaboration across key areas of mutual interest," it said.

Munir concludes Iran visit
Pakistan's Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed



Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif shaking hands with officials as he departs after attending the 5th edition of the three-day Antalya Diplomacy Forum in Antalya | AFP

Asim Munir has concluded his three-day visit to Iran as part of Islamabad's efforts to resolve the conflict between the US and Iran.

During the visit, Munir held discussions with Iran President Masoud Pezeshkian and also met with Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, the military's media wing said on Saturday.

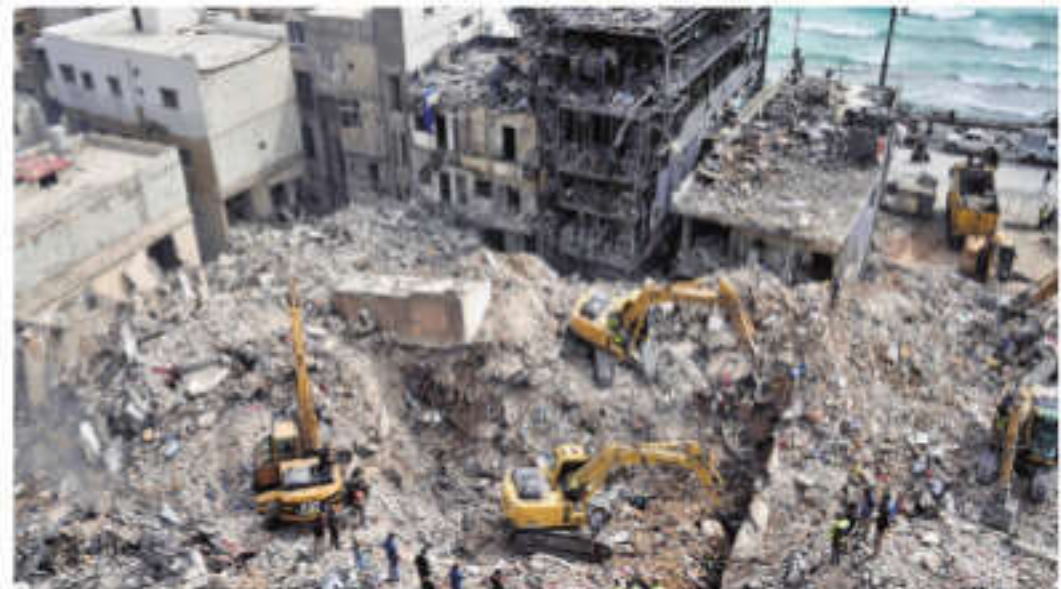
Pak returns \$2B to UAE

Pakistan has returned USD 2 billion it owed in debt to the United Arab Emirates, the country's central bank said Saturday. The announcement by the State Bank of Pakistan comes two days after Saudi Arabia deposited USD 2 billion, part of the USD 3 billion aid, with the SBP. *PTI*

Israel draws Gaza-style 'Yellow Line' in Lebanon

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S military said Saturday it had established a "Yellow Line" demarcation in southern Lebanon, similar to one separating its forces from Hamas-held areas in Gaza, adding it had hit a "terrorist cell" operating near its troops along the line.



Excavators remove rubble from buildings destroyed in Israeli airstrikes on Thursday as rescuers search for victims in the city of Tyre, southern Lebanon | AP

"Over the past 24 hours, IDF forces operating south of the Yellow Line in southern Lebanon identified terrorists who violated the ceasefire understandings and approached the forces from north of the Yellow Line in a manner that posed an immediate threat," it said, referring to such a line for the first time since a ceasefire came into effect.

threat... forces attacked the terrorists in several areas," it said, noting that the military was authorised to act against threats. "Actions taken in self-defence

and to remove immediate threats are not restricted by the ceasefire," it said.

In a separate statement later on Saturday, the military said

Lebanon readies for Israel talks after truce

BEIRUT: Lebanon's president and prime minister discussed preparations for direct talks with Israel after a ceasefire ended weeks of war with Hezbollah. President Joseph Aoun said talks marked a new phase toward "permanent agreements". The truce displaced over a million people. As it held, some residents began returning south, though many remain cautious. Hezbollah opposed the negotiations, while authorities worked to reopen roads and support displaced families.

the air force had eliminated a "terrorist cell" operating near troops in southern Lebanon.

It did not say how many militants were killed. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Gunman kills six, takes hostages in Kyiv supermarket, shot dead by police

KYIV: A gunman who killed six people in Kyiv before taking hostages in a supermarket was shot dead by police, Ukrainian officials said. Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said the attacker opened fire on the street, killing four people, then entered the store and killed another. A sixth victim later died in hospital, Mayor Vitali Klitschko said. Police negotiators spoke with the gunman for about 40 minutes before special forces stormed the building after he failed to respond. He was killed while resisting arrest.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA Stressed Assets Recovery Branch
LMS Compound, Opp: Museum West Gate, Vikas Bhavan P.O.
Thiruvananthapuram - 695033, Kerala, Ph: 7994753248

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 8 (6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the State Bank of India, the symbolic/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 19.05.2026, for recovery of Rs.62,11,286/- (Rupees Sixty Two Lakhs Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Six Only) as on 17/04/2026 with future interest and cost, due to State Bank of India from the Borrower Sri. Shriyan C, presently residing at Elimannal House, Chumathra P O, Kuttappuzha, Thiruvalla, Pathanamthitta.

Reserve Price: Rs. 35,50,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only)	Bid Increment: Rs : 10,000/- (Ten Thousand Only)
Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 3,55,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Only)	

Date of E Auction : 19.05.2026

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All part and parcel of land having an extent of 0.55 ares in Re Sy No: 110/3 & 4.60 ares in Re Sy No: 110/3-1 in Block No: 8, TP No: 21771 of Kuttappuzha Village, Thiruvalla Taluk, Pathanamthitta District registered in the name of Sri. Shriyan C, vide Sale Deed: 1070/2016 dated: 29.04.2016 of Thiruvalla SRO bounded by :-

Date : 17.04.2026 (Sd/-), Authorised Officer
Place : Thiruvananthapuram State Bank of India, SARB, Thiruvananthapuram

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin - 682024

ICICI Bank PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to Rule 9(b)]
[See proviso to Rule 9(b)]
Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	M/s Perumuttathu Traders Represented By Proprietor P A Shaji (Borrower) Mr. P A Shaji and Mrs. Najeera Mol M A, (Guarantor) Mr. P A Shaji (Mortgagor) Loan Account No. 074605000928	Vacant Land with Land Area of 22166 Sqft in 9.1 Ares situated in Re Sy No. 185/5, 4.5 Ares situated in Re Sy No. 185/5-1, 3.5 Ares situated in Re Sy No. 185/5-2, 3.5 Ares situated in Re Sy No.185/5-3, Total of 20.6 Ares (50.9 Cents) in Erumely South Village, Kanjirappally Taluk, Erumely Sub District, Kottayam District 686510. Bounded on the North by: Property of Pathrose, South by: Kochuraman-Pallipady Panchayath Road, East by: Property of KK Thomas Cheeramkuzhiyil, West by: Property of Aliyurakunju	Rs. 2,09,40,385/- (As on April 16, 2026)	Rs. 1,00,000/-	07.2026 From 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	May 14, 2026 From 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

The online auction will be conducted on the website (assets.matexauctions.com), of our auction agency M/s Matex Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by May 13, 2026 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 Branch on or before May 13, 2026 by 05:00 PM. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before May 13, 2026 by 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/are unable to submit his/ her offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents can be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 Branch on or before May 13, 2026 by 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at 'Cochin'.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9655225532/8129501439.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all bids without furnishing any further reasons.

For Detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/h4p4s

Date : April 19, 2026
Place: Kottayam
Authorised Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Girija G & N Mohan Das / '075151000003	(As Described In The Loan Document) Property Document Covering All That The Property House Being Property Address: Sy No 369/15, Koganzha Village, Changanacherry Taluk, Kottayam District, Kerala- 686541 (Admeasuring an area of 4 Ares 04 Sq Mtrs Bounded By: North: Property of Nedumparambil John, South: Property of Thankappan Vellara, East: Panchayath Road, West: Property of Karimundayil John/ 13th April 2026	November 15, 2025 Rs. 28,34,681.46/-	Adoor

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: April 19, 2026
Place: Kottayam
Sincerely Authorised Officer
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

SBI STATE BANK OF INDIA
RASMEC PATHANAMTHITTA, 1st Floor, Kachanathu Towers, Kumbazha P.O., Pathanamthitta-689653, Ph: 0468-2333406, Email: sbi.610444@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE
Notice Under Sec.13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

Notices under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, were sent to the following borrowers/guarantors, demanding repayment of loans availed from us which had been classified as non-performing assets and informing that if they failed to discharge the said debt with future interest and costs within 60 days of the notice, the Bank will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4) of Section 13 and other applicable provisions of the said Act including enforcement of the security interest created by them in favour of the Bank.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower / Co Borrower/Guarantor	Amount Demanded Under S.13(2)	Description of the Secured Assets
1.	Mr. Shaji K V, Mrs. Jayasree J, both having address at: Kaleeckal Kizhakkethil, Angadickal North P O, Angadickal, Pathanamthitta, Pin-689648 Branch: Chandanappally Notice Date: 13.04.2026 NPA Date: 07.04.2026	Rs.27,45,000/- (Rupees Twenty Seven lakh forty five thousand only) (Housing Term Loan A/c no. 41462887455) as on 13.04.2026 with further interest and incidental expenses, costs	Equitable Mortgage of 6.15 Ares of land in Re-Sy. No. 198/3 in Angadickal Village, Adoor Taluk, Adoor Sub District, Pathanamthitta District in the name of Sri Shaji K V, S/o Balakrishnan and Smt Jayasree J, W/o Shaji K V by Settlement Deed No.1538/2007 dated 03.05.2007 of SRO Adoor. Boundaries of 6.15 Ares: East: Property of Kottakuzhiyil Sasidharan Nair; North: Properties of Ponnamma, Gopi Pillai and Saraswathyamma; West: Edavazhy; South: Property of Balan
2.	Sri.Benzy Daniel, S/o. Daniel, Muttathil House, Kidangannoor P O, Pathanamthitta, Pin-689514. Branch: Kidangannoor Notice Date: 17.04.2026 NPA Date: 15.04.2026	Rs.61,88,610/- (Rupees sixty one lakh eighty eight thousand six hundred and ten only) (Home Loan (TL) A/c. No. 4085357212; Rs.50,10,968/- (Home Loan (TL) A/c. No. 42410675715; Rs.11,77,641/-) as on 17.04.2026 with further interest and incidental expenses, costs	Equitable mortgage of 10.53 Ares of Land and improvements in Re-Sy.No.381/4-2 (Old Sy. No.24/2) in Block No.2, Kidangannoor Village, Kozhencherry Taluk, Aranamulla Sub District, Pathanamthitta district in the name of Sri. Benzy Daniel, S/o. Daniel by virtue of Sale Deed No.6671/09 dated 16.06.2009 of SRO Aranamulla. Boundaries of 10.53 Ares (As per Location Sketch): East: PWD Road; North: Property of Geevarghese, Methanathu Dolly Vella; West: Property of Moncy Daniel; South: Property of Muttathil Chacko

Since the said notices have been returned unclaimed, we are constrained to cause this publication. The borrowers/guarantors are hereby called upon under S. 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act 2002 to discharge the above mentioned liability within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which the bank will be exercising all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the Act. They are also put on notice that as per the terms of sub-section (13) of Section 13 of the Act, they shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise, the said secured assets described above. The borrower's/Guarantor's attention is also invited to the provisions of S.13(8) of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets. This notice is issued without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate/continue such other actions or legal proceedings as it deems necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Place: Pathanamthitta, Date: 18-04-2026 (Sd/-) Chief Manager, Authorised Officer, State Bank of India