



\$100 million will be provided by the United States to repair Chernobyl dome after Russian attack



Belling	21	1	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	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

SL court orders resumption of mass grave excavation

COLOMBO

A Sri Lankan court has ordered the recommencement of excavation work on a mass grave in Chemmani, on the outskirts of Jaffna, which first came into focus during the LTTE conflict in the 1990s, seven months after it was halted.

The excavation work in Chemmani in the Northern Province came to a halt in September last year due to the pending new allocation of funds by the Ministry of Justice. The Jaffna magistrate's court was told on Tuesday that LKR 2.1 million allocation has been made available so that work can be resumed.

The court granted permission for diplomatic representatives from the EU, France, Germany, Italy and Romania to be present for observations at the excavation site. When the second stage of work was halted after 45 days, 240 skeletal remains had been excavated.

Apart from the skeletons, 14 piles of bones and items such as feeding bottles for infants, a doll, toys and children's bags and shoes were dug out.

The work was to be carried out over eight more weeks as per the report submitted by the judicial medical officer of Jaffna to the Jaffna magistrate dated August 14.

During routine development work in Chemmani on February 13, 2025, skeletal remains had been discovered. The court a week later ordered a judicial examination of them. On May 15, the excavations began under judicial supervision.

Chemmani came under focus in 1998 at the height of the conflict between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and government troops for an alleged mass grave. Some 15 skeletons were discovered then. The three-decade-long armed conflict started in 1983 and was ended by the island nation's military by killing the leaders of the LTTE in 2009. PTI

Trump warns Iran better 'get smart soon', accept proposed nuclear deal

Tehran signals defiance amid stalled negotiations as rial plunges and economic strain deepens

TEHRAN

US President Donald Trump warned Tehran on Wednesday that it should "get smart soon" and capitulate to Washington's demands for tight controls on its nuclear programme, as a US naval blockade turned the screws on Iran's economy.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said congressional Democrats are "the biggest adversary we face" as he parried questioning from lawmakers on Wednesday for the first time since the launch of the war against Iran. And the Pentagon's chief financial officer released a detail Democrats have been demanding, saying the war has cost an estimated \$25 billion and counting. However, US press reports suggested Trump has already decided to reject Iran's latest proposed deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

The news sent oil prices higher once again. At around 1335 GMT, a barrel of Brent crude for June delivery was up 5.16 per cent at \$117, its highest level since the fragile ceasefire between the United States and Iran came into effect on April 8. According to the Wall Street Journal, Trump intends to pursue the blockade of Iranian ports until Tehran is forced to dismantle its nuclear programme. "Iran can't get their act together... They better get smart soon," Trump posted

on his social media platform, above a mocked-up picture of himself toting a rifle in front of explosions wrecking a desert fortress and the slogan: "No more Mr Nice Guy."

US may extend Iran blockade

The United States could extend its naval blockade of Iran for months more, oil executives were told in a meeting with Donald Trump, a White House official said on Wednesday.



Israeli tanks and military vehicles standing along the road between destroyed houses in southern Lebanon near the border with Israel. Lebanon's army said an Israeli strike killed a soldier and another person in the south, despite a ceasefire | AFP

Participants at a White House meeting, which took place Tuesday and was first reported by Axios, discussed "the steps President Trump has taken to alleviate global oil markets and steps we could take to continue the current blockade for months if needed and minimise impact on American consumers," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

On Wednesday, the Iranian

rial fell to historic lows against the dollar, while Tehran residents speaking to AFP journalists in Paris reported a sense of despair. "Every time in recent years that negotiations have taken place, the economic situation of the people has only gotten worse. Sanctions have either started or intensified," a 52-year-old architect told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity. "They go to negotiate and come back with even more sanctions, and the issue is always nuclear. There's no talk about people, the economy, or freedom..." he said.

Iran army war not over

Iranian army spokesman told state TV on Tuesday that "we do not consider the war to be over", saying Tehran had "no trust in America". "We have many cards that we have not yet used... new tools and methods of fighting based on the experiences of the past two wars, which will definitely allow us to respond to the enemy more decisively" should the fighting resume, Amir Akraminia said in an interview. Efforts to end the war have stalled in recent days. The latest Iranian proposal, passed along by Pakistan and studied by Trump administration officials in a meeting Monday, laid out red lines including on nuclear issues and Hormuz, according to Iran's Fars news agency. AFP

Protocol breached, private talk with Charles revealed

LONDON

IN the world of diplomatic faux pas, it could have been a lot worse. At Tuesday's state dinner honouring King Charles III and Queen Camilla, Donald Trump said that during a private meeting earlier in the day the British monarch had agreed with him that Iran should never be allowed to have nuclear weapons.

"We're doing a little West Asia work right now ... and we're doing very well," Trump told the audience. "We have militarily defeated that particular opponent, and we're never going to let that opponent have a nuclear weapon." While many Britons would agree with the president's sentiment, the comment triggered mild consternation among pundits in the UK.

In Britain, this isn't done. By convention, people aren't supposed to relay private conversations with the monarch, partly because the king has to remain above political fray, but also because the sovereign



Britain's King Charles III toasts with President Donald Trump | AP

doesn't have the ability to wade into a public debate and correct the record if he's misquoted.

"As a matter of protocol, I would expect discussions between heads of state to be sort of behind the scenes," said Craig Prescott, an expert on constitutional law and the monarchy at Royal Holloway, University of London. "And, you know, this was something that the UK government wanted to avoid."

There had been a fair amount of jitters before the king's trip to the United States, which comes amid Trump's very public frustration with the monarch, Keir Starmer over his failure to support US actions in the Iran war.

ISRAELI STRIKES KILL DOZENS IN LEBANON AS CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS MOUNT, TALKS STALL

BEIRUT: Israeli airstrikes across southern Lebanon have killed more than 20 people over two days, including civil defence workers, even as a fragile ceasefire holds. The Lebanese army reported wounded troops, marking the first such incident since the truce. Joseph Aoun condemned the attacks and insisted Israel must fully implement the ceasefire before direct talks. Israel said it struck Hezbollah targets and destroyed tunnels, while the group claimed retaliatory drone and rocket attacks.

The truce remains shaky amid evacuation orders and continued bombardment. Separately, Lebanese authorities detained former Palestinian ambassador Ashraf Dabbour on corruption charges upon arrival in Beirut, acting on an Interpol Red Notice linked to alleged illicit property sales tied to the Palestine Liberation Organization

IAEA SAYS IRAN'S ENRICHED URANIUM LIKELY REMAINS AT ISFAHAN DESPITE AIRSTRIKES

UNITED NATIONS: Most of Iran's highly enriched uranium likely remains at the Isfahan nuclear complex, despite airstrikes during last year's war, said Rafael Grossi. Satellite images show damage but suggest material may still be stored in tunnels. Inspections have not resumed since the conflict. The International Atomic Energy Agency estimates Iran holds 440.9 kg enriched to 60%, with about 200 kg at Isfahan—close to weapons-grade potential. The agency seeks access to sites including Natanz Nuclear Facility and Fordo Fuel Enrichment Plant. Talks on removing or diluting the uranium have been discussed with partners, including Russia. Grossi stressed inspections are essential, while stalled US-Iran negotiations hinge on political will despite mutual interest in a deal.



Rescue workers put out a fire of a residential building destroyed by a Russian drone strike on Odesa region, Ukraine. Meanwhile, another oil facility deep inside Russia was reportedly on fire Wednesday following what Ukraine's president claimed was his country's latest long-range drone attack | AP

STRIKES INTENSIFY

Attack injures two in London; police term it act of terrorism

LONDON

TWO Jewish men were stabbed and injured on a London street on Wednesday, in what police called an act of terrorism. Police arrested a 45-year-old man on suspicion of attempted murder in the city's latest antisemitic attack.

The Metropolitan Police said the attack in the Golders Green area left two men, ages 34 and 76, hospitalised with knife wounds. Counterterrorism police are investigating whether the stabbings are linked to recent arson attacks on synagogues and other Jewish sites in the British capital.

Politicians condemned the stabbings. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said that "attacks on our Jewish community are attacks on Britain," and called a meeting of the government's emergency committee to discuss the response. Metropolitan Police chief Mark Rowley said that it was "another horrendous act of violence directed against our Jewish communities." But some British Jews expressed anger at authorities' failure to keep them safe. Rowley faced shouts of "shame on you" and "resign" from bystanders when he made a statement to media at the scene of the stabbings.

The security organisation Shomrim said that a suspect "was seen running along Golders Green Road armed with a



People gather at a road block in Golders Green neighbourhood that has a large Jewish community in London | AP

knife and attempting to stab Jewish members of the public." It said that the suspect was detained by Shomrim members and arrested by police, who used a stun gun on him.

Surveillance camera footage showed a man beside a bus donning a kippah, or traditional skullcap, before a passerby with a knife lunges at him.

Police said that the suspect also tried to stab police officers, but none was injured. Rowley said the suspect, whose name hasn't been released, had "a history of serious violence and mental health issues." Arson attacks in recent weeks targeted Jewish sites in London, including a charity's ambulances in Golders Green and a synagogue a few miles away. AP

CHINA TO GRANT ZERO TARIFFS TO AFRICAN ALLIES FROM MAY 1

BEIJING

CHINA will expand zero-tariff treatment to all African countries that have diplomatic ties with Beijing, starting May 1, an official announcement said.

The announcement specified that for products under tariff quotas, only the in-quota tariff rate will be reduced to zero, while the out-of-quota tariff rate will remain unchanged.

From May 1, 2026, to April 30, 2028, China will grant zero-tariff treatment, in the form of a preferential tariff rate, to 20 African countries that have established diplomatic ties with China and are not classified as the least developed

countries, the Customs Tariff Commission of the State Council, China's central cabinet, said.

During the two-year implementation period, China will continue to promote the negotiation and signing of the agreement of China-Africa Economic Partnership for Shared Development with relevant African countries, it said. China's zero-tariff policy applies to 53 African countries, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a media briefing here.

"China will continue to negotiate and sign economic partnership agreements for common development with relevant African countries", Lin said. PTI

KFC Kerala Financial Corporation
STRESSED ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH (SARB) GEETHA TRADE CENTRE, MC ROAD, KOTTAYAM-686011.
Email: sarb@kfc.org, website: www.kfc.org

SALE NOTICE FOR THE SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction sale notice for the sale of immovable assets under Section 29 of State Financial Corporations Act, 1951. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers/Guarantors that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to Kerala Financial Corporation, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Kerala Financial Corporation will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" Condition.

Branch: SARB - KOTTAYAM Unit Name: Perfect Alloys, Industrial Development Plot, Chengannur

Sl. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)	Balance outstanding as on 30.04.2026	Details of property
1.	Smt. Rya Manoj, Panchayil House, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Panchanambitta - 689106.	Rs. 22,22,48,315/- (Rupees Twenty Seven Crore Twenty Two Lakhs Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Fifteen Only) with future interest and other charges from 01.05.2026.	47.98 ares (118.55 Cents) of land in R/Sy. No.6/2 & 6/3 situated in Chengannur Industrial Estate in Chengannur Village, Chengannur Taluk, Alappuzha District in the name of Smt. Rya Manoj, Managing Partner M/s Perfect Alloys covered under the proceedings No. DI/1915/93 dated 8.10.2002; DI/8956/2001 dated 10.06.2005; DI/8956/2001 dated 25.10.2007; DI/8956/2001 dated 08.01.2008; DI/145/2008 dated 09.07.2008; DI/4482/98 dated 13.01.2009; DI/8956/2001 dated 25.11.2009K; DI/8956/2001 dated 22.01.2010 issued by General Manager, District Industries Centre, Alappuzha. Boundaries: East- Private Property, North- M/s Radha Engineering Works & Private Property, South- Road, West- Mamoon Steel & Wood Industries and Road.
2.	Sri. P.J.A Manoj, Panchayil House, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Panchanambitta - 689106.	Rs. 1,40,34,639/- (as on April 27, 2026)	May 26, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
3.	Smt. Ammin Joseph (I. are), Panchayil House, Kuttoor P.O., Thiruvalla, Panchanambitta - 689106.	Rs. 91,07,275/- (As on April 20, 2026)	May 26, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

The reserve price Rs. 126.41 lakh (Rupees One Crore Twenty Six lakh and Forty One thousand only). EMD- Rs. 6.40 lakh (Rupees Six Lakh Forty Thousand only) (To be remitted on or before 26/05/2026 at 5 PM). For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in "www.kfc.auction.org". Phone No.0481-2563681,9446002745.

Place: Kottayam Date: 30/04/2026 (5d-) Authorized Officer Kerala Financial Corporation

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Pushpamangalam Estate, Nh Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET
(See proviso to rule 8(6))
Notice for sale of immovable assets

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 Authorized 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.	Mr. Abdul Nazer (Borrower) Mrs. Shamera Abdul Nazer (Co-Borrower) Loan Account no. LBCC00002642931	4 BHK House with Land area 52251 in built up area of 2700 Sq.Ft in 48.56 Ares (120 Cents) in Survey No. 295/1 Anakkara Village, Ottapalam Taluk, Palakkad District 679554. Bounded on the North: Property of Clement South: Municipal pathway East: Property of Boban West: Property of Reinold	Rs. 1,40,34,639/- (as on April 27, 2026)	Rs. 1,43,00,000/- to Rs. 14,30,000/-	May 20, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	May 26, 2026, from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM
2.	Mr. Vbin A B (Borrower) Mrs. Kumari K V (Co-Borrower) Loan Account no. LBPGT00005264031	3 BHK house with Land area 8277 Sq. Ft and built-up area 2000 sq. ft in 7.69 Ares (19 cents) Sy No. 360/2-1 in Chazoor Village, Thirissur Taluk Thirissur District, Pin-680517. Bounded on the North: Property of Santhosh, Madhu and Private Lane South: Property of Karippamkulam Ibrahimkutty and Thiyath Anilkumar East: Property of Shaji West: Property of Karippamkulam Ibrahimkutty	Rs. 91,07,275/- (As on April 20, 2026)	Rs. 64,00,000/- to Rs. 6,40,000/-	May 19, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	May 26, 2026, from 10:30 AM to 11:30 PM

The online auction will be conducted on the website (assets.matexauctions.com) of our auction agency M/s Matex Technologies Pvt Ltd. The Mortgagors/ Notices are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by May 25, 2026 before 05:00 P.M. 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, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 Branch on or before May 25, 2026 before 05:00 P.M. Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before May 25, 2026 before 05:00 P.M. 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/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank, Pushpamangalam Estate, NH Bye Pass Road, Edappally, Cochin- 682024 Branch on or before May 25, 2026 before 05:00 P.M. EMD/ 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. on 9655225532/8129501439. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date: April 30, 2026 Place: Palakkad & Thirissur Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website : www.pspcl.in
Mobile No. 96461-55525

E-Tender Enq. No. 7801/P-3/EMP-13308 Dated: 28.04.26

Dy. Chief Engineer / Headquarter (Procurement Cell-3) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2026_POWER_167174_1 for Procurement of M.S. Pipe of size 200 NB and 250 NB installed at dry fly ash handling system GGSSTP, Roopnagar. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 29.04.2026 / 03.00 PM onwards.

Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

683/RTP-47/26/29/04/2026
1079/12/2026-27/11028

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala- 147001.
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website : www.pspcl.in
(Contact No. 9646118773)

Tender Enquiry No.: QQ-4039/P0-T/26-27/CE-MM

Chief Purchase Officer / MM, Central Purchase Organization, PSPCL, 2nd Floor, Multi Storey Building, The Mall, PSPCL invites E-Tender of 2000 No. Single Phase 16kVA & 2000 No. Single Phase 25kVA, EEL-1, ISI Marked, oil immersed, CRGO/Amorphous core, Aluminium wound, distribution transformers complete with fittings as per PSPCL specification & conforming to IS 1180 Part-1 (2014) & IS 2026 (with latest amendments). For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 30.04.2026 onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

682/C-546/26/29/04/2026
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ADARA RESIDENCY, Near Pettah Railway Station Trivandrum, Clean & Hygienic, AC Rooms (Cell : 6282703911, 9048197363).

ERNAKULAM
ANADIYIL LEELA KRISHNA INN, Near Valanjambalam, Kalathiparambil Cross Road, Ernakulam South, Clean & Hygienic, AC & Non-AC rooms. Ptc: 0484-2370180, 2373180.

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