



28 KILLED
when illegal gold mine collapses in Angola



GLOBAL WEATHER

Beijing	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



Rescuers work to reach people who have been trapped in a cave in Laos | AP

Thai rescuers race to reach 7 trapped in cave

VIENTIANE

Cave rescue experts from Thailand who aided the dramatic 2018 retrieval of a youth football team joined efforts Monday to extract seven people trapped in a flooded cave for five days in neighbouring Laos, Laotian state media said.

Seven Laotian villagers entered the cave in central Xaysomboun province, about 125 kilometres (78 miles) northeast of the capital Vientiane, on May 20, state-run *Laophattana News* said. They were searching for gold but were trapped inside the cave after heavy rain triggered flash flooding, blocking their exit, it added. Authorities and villagers have been working to pump water out of the cave, but rescue teams have not been able to reach the group. “We still do not know whether there are any signs of life or if they are still alive,” Bounkham Luanglat, president of a Laotian volunteer rescue association, told AFP.

About 100 people from Laos and Thailand have gone to the site in Long Chanh district to help in the rescue operations, the association said.

Two Thai rescue specialists and a Finnish expert involved in the 2018 Tham Luang cave rescue in Thailand arrived at the Laos cave on Monday, *Laophattana News* said.

No quick deal as Hormuz, N-stockpile are sticking issues

Local media says any potential agreement would preserve Tehran's management over the strait, for which it imposes a tax on oil tankers

TEHRAN

THE United States and Iran have both played down chances of a quick deal to end a war that has engulfed the West Asia and disrupted the global oil market. US President Donald Trump said on Monday that a deal with Tehran would either be “great and meaningful” or there would be “no deal” at all. He added that Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations must normalise ties with Israel as part of efforts to reach a deal with Iran, adding fresh uncertainty into protracted peace negotiations.

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei said progress had been made in talks with Washington, but a final agreement was not yet within reach.

Talks remain inconclusive

A major issue in the talks is traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, the vital global conduit for oil shipments that has come under Iranian control since the outbreak of the war. Iran has insisted that vessels must obtain permission from its armed forces.

Trump said on Saturday that “in addition to many other elements of the Agreement, the Strait of Hormuz will be opened”, a development that would bring relief to global energy markets.

But Iran's Fars news agency said that, if finalised, the potential agreement would preserve Iran's management over the strategic waterway.

Tasnim news agency reported that the “status of the Strait of Hormuz would not revert to its pre-war situa-



Smoke rises following an Israeli airstrike that targeted the southern Lebanese village of Nabatieh | AFP

Israel orders evacuations in Lebanon ahead of strikes

JERUSALEM: Israel's military on Monday warned residents of 10 villages in southern Lebanon to evacuate ahead of expected strikes on alleged Hezbollah targets. Military spokesman Avichay Adraee accused Hezbollah of violating the ceasefire agreement and urged civilians to move at least 1,000 metres away. Later, fresh evacuation warnings were issued for buildings near the city of Tyre, which Israel said were linked to Hezbollah facilities. Despite an April 17 ceasefire, Israel and Hezbollah have continued near-daily exchanges of fire. Lebanese authorities say Israeli strikes since early March have killed over 3,100 people. The Israeli military also said a soldier was killed in southern Lebanon on Sunday, raising its military death toll to 23.

partial access to the assets”. It quoted an informed source as saying that Iran “has stressed that there will be no agreement unless a specified portion of Iran's frozen assets is released at the very first stage”.

According to Fars, a potential understanding would also see the US temporarily lifting sanctions on oil, gas and petrochemicals during the negotiation period.

Iran has previously said that any ceasefire must apply to all fronts of the regional war, including Lebanon. *AFP*



WAR WATCH

Focus on maritime access

Iran has long demanded the release of its frozen assets held under longstanding US sanctions. According to Tasnim, “Iran has insisted that any initial understanding must be conditional on at least

WORLD WATCHES

Belarus under scrutiny after major Russian strike on Kyiv

KYIV

BELARUS' exiled opposition leader visited Kyiv on Monday as the Ukrainian capital cleaned up after Russia's biggest missile attack of the year, and world leaders kept a close eye on how much support the Belarusian government is ready to provide for Moscow's all-out invasion.

Russia and ally Belarus held joint nuclear drills last week, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has warned in recent days that Belarus could provide a launchpad for Russia to open a new front in northern Ukraine. Some Russian troops entered Ukraine from Belarusian territory in Moscow's invasion on February 24, 2022.

In a further sign of concern, French President Emmanuel Macron spoke by phone with Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko on Sunday about the war in Ukraine, their first call since the invasion began. Further “systemic strikes” on Kyiv are in store, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement Monday. It urged foreign citizens, including members of diplomatic missions, to leave the city as quickly as possible and told residents to stay away from military and government facilities.

The ministry said on Friday's deadly Ukrainian drone strike on a college dormitory in Starobilsk was “the final straw.” Ukraine said it hit only targets supporting Russia's invasion.

The Russian army is locked in a hard and costly slog on the 1,250-kilometer front line that mostly snakes through eastern and southern Ukraine. “Russia hit a dead-end on the battlefield, so it is terrorising Ukraine with deliberate strikes,” European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said on X after the week-end barrage that killed two people in Kyiv. With U.S.-made air defence missiles running low amid the Iran war, Ukraine struggles to stop Russian strikes as peace efforts stall. *AP*

Man sprays suspected capsaicin at Tokyo luxury mall, 20 hospitalised

TOKYO

AROUND 20 people were injured at a luxury shopping complex in central Tokyo on Monday after a man sprayed a substance inside, police and fire department officials said.

Tokyo police spokesman Yusuke Koide told AFP that a man sprayed a substance at an ATM on the ground floor of the building, while a local fire department official said “around 20 people were injured” after a report of a “smell”.

The road in front of the mall — located in the touristy and upmarket shopping district of Ginza — was blocked off following the incident, and fire



A person is taken on a stretcher to an ambulance by paramedics at the Ginza 6 Shopping Center in Tokyo | AFP

trucks lined the street.

However, shoppers continued to come and go from the building using side entrances.

An AFP reporter at the scene saw two people on stretchers being put into an ambulance,

while firefighters and officials dressed in hazmat suits brought people from the mall into specialised trucks to examine them. “As of now, 19 people have been transported to a hospital,” fire department official Ryo-uke Kobayashi told reporters.

Public broadcaster NHK said the injuries appeared to be light. It said the spray was believed to have contained the irritant capsaicin, the active component of chilli peppers, according to unidentified investigative sources.

One 70-year-old woman who was at the mall told the broadcaster that her throat started “stinging and hurting” as she approached the ATM. *AFP*

EXPRESS READ

Cambodia pardons oppn leader Kem Sokha

PHNOM PENH: Cambodia's acting head of state Hun Sen on Monday pardoned opposition leader Kem Sokha, who was serving a 27-year sentence for treason under house arrest. Kem Sokha has repeatedly denied the charges, while rights groups and UN experts criticised the case as politically motivated.

Syrian Kurds reject parliament ballot

QAMISHLI: Prominent Syrian Kurdish parties on Monday rejected a Damascus-organised ballot for the transitional parliament. Representatives of 21 Kurdish groups said the appointments did not reflect the “free will of all Syrians”. The vote followed an agreement earlier this year to integrate Kurdish institutions into the Syrian state.

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

CIN:L65910KL1992PLC006623
IV/470A(Old)/W33A(New), Manappuram House,
Vilapad, Thiruvananthapuram - 690 567.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 18/08/2026 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-
KOLLAM, ANCHAL, 0105250730010077, CHANDANATHOPPU, 0105700700037764, 0105700730008642, CHATHANNOOR, 0101390700038084, 0101390730008482, KADAKKAL, 0105690700748368, 8634, 0105690730020359, KADAPPACKKADA, 0105910700036968, 7046, KANNANALLUR, 0131210730007721, KOLLAM, 0100770700791203, 1793, KULATHUPUZHA, 0105760730013347, KUNDARA, 0103380700731178, 1648, OCHIRA, 0102280700765385, PATHANAPURAM, 0104780700744194, PUNALUR, 0104290730014878, PUNNALA, 0102003700023832, PUTHUR, 0116500730011157, SOUTH PARAVOOR, 0105650700037965, PATHANANTHITTA, ADOOR, 0104220700744927, 5334, 0104220730010547, ENATHU, 0131600730010373, 0756, 0950, EZHAMKULAM, 0117840700020968, KOZHENCHERY, 0104250700740058, KP ROAD ADOOR, 0130570700027369, 7409, 7420, 8082, 0130570730011195, 1320, KUTTOOR, 0133630700016895, 01336307300009708, MALLAPALLY, 0103850700054249, 0103850730011826, 2119, 2120, PATHANANTHITTA, 0102700700795711, 6931, PULLAD, 0120500700015685, 0120500730008931, THIRUVALLA, 0103480700751964, 2236, 2678, 2835, 01034807300100978, 1298, TRIVANDRUM, AMBALATHARA, 0117730700022552, 2698, 2833, 0117730730007211, ARYANADU, 0112800730017735, ATTINGAL, 0102050700779655, 9833, 0102050730010289, CHIRAYINKEEZHU, 0123290700021871, 2559, KALLAMBALAM, 0107190730000645, KANIAPURAM, 0107020700039591, 0107020730012521, KILIMANNOOR, 0106330700046871, KUDAPPANAKUNNU, 0120900700036475, 9758, 9878, 0048, 0119, 0137, 0716, KUMARAPURAM, 0126200700021124, 0126200730006730, MALAYANKEEZHU, 0101250700023634, MAMAM, 0132660700017271, MEDICAL COLLEGE TVM, 0104810700042965, 3444, 0104810730012118, 2420, 2552, 3726, MUTTADA, 0113080700019734, 1523, NEDUMANGAD, 0101400730015906, OLATHANI, 0121140700027479, PARUTHIPARA, 0126960700016729, 7092, 7224, 7261, 0126960730008744, 8745, 8789, 8790, 8791, 8925, 9322, PATTOM, 0128220730012410, PEROORKADA, 0107620700037474, 7511, 0107620730007067, 7435, PERUMKADAVILA, 0110220700018419, 0102220730003836, POOJAPPURA, 0121770730011144, POOVACHAL, 0113060730011726, POOVAR, 0110130700029246, POTHEKODE, 0119960700028372, 0119960730006465, 6466, 6730, SREEKARIYAM, 0103390700757072, 7148, 7243, 7264, 0103390730011618, 2048, 2180, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2300, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, 0100780700833621, 3698, 3900, 4374, 4471, 4516, 0100780730015872, VARKALA, 0101780700803324, 3450, 3849, VATTAPARA, 0106300700029348, 0106300730010169, 0381, VATTIYOORKAVU, 0105680700041811, 2350, VAZHUTHACAD, 0132280730010174,

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of NEFT/RTGS on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact 9072807147.

Authorised Officer
For Manappuram Finance Ltd

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

Short Notice
For sale of Cement Grade Limestone

30001/27/2627: The Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd intends to sell Cement grade Limestone produced at Ampavalli Limestone Mines, Ampavalli, Pattangi, Koraput district, Odisha through e-auction which will be conducted by MSTC Ltd. The e-auction shall be held from **11.00 A.M. to 2.00 P.M on dtd.29.05.2026.**

For details, please visit the website of MSTC i.e www.mstcecommerce.com .

OIPR- 30001/30005/1/26-27/0027 **sd/- CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER (S&M)**

CANARA BANK

REGIONAL OFFICE NORTH, Recovery & Legal Section, Regional Office North, 1 Floor, LIC Divisional Office Building, Pattom Thiruvananthapuram-695004, PH: 0471 2577996, E-mail: rotnv2nrec@canarabank.com

Sub: Notice issued under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

The following Borrowers & Co-borrowers/guarantors availed the below mentioned loans from the following branches at **Canara Bank**. The loans of below mentioned borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors have been secured by the mortgage of properties mentioned below. As they have failed to adhere to the terms & conditions of the loan agreement and as the loan become irregular, their loans were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **Canara Bank** are below mentioned branches. This amount with further interest & costs on the said amount shall also be payable as applicable and the same will be charged with effect from their respective dates.

Name & Address of the Borrowers/Proprietor/Guarantors/co-obligants/ mortgagors	Loan No./Nature of Loan, Date & Amount	Total Liability as on date & Rate of Interest	SCHEDULE OF ASSETS
SI.No.1 BR. THYCAADU Ms Chananya Associates Proprietor Mr. Krishna Dutt B. TC 35/845, Cheruva thoor Madom, YMA Road, ERA 34, Near Karimpalli Devi Temple, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695008 Mr. Krishna Dutt B S/o Biju S. TC 36/845, Cheruvathoor Madom, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala-695008, Mrs. Gayathri Devi G K W/o Biju Sambhu Potti, TC 3 2144 S, Panchang nryam, Omana Nagar, Kattayikonam, Iroopara, P.O. Trivandrum, Kerala-695584	Rs. 50.00,000/- 125006020209 OD/OCC on 01/05/2026 Demand Notice date: 02.05.2026 NPA : 30.04.2026	Rs.51.52,836/- 125006020209 OD/OCC as on 01-05-2026 @ 10.25% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that is part and parcel of 7.21 Acres of Vacant land in Re Sy No. 677/2 in Block No 28 (Old Sy Nos 732/1 and 732/2) of Manickal Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram District in the name of Mrs. Gayathri Devi G K. BOUNDARIES: North: Property of Krishna Kumari, South: Properties of Gangapathy Potty & Suvamanoor, East: Thadani, West: Property of Ravendran Nair. Security Interest ID: 400080795445, Asset ID: 200082537894
SI.No.2 BR. PANAVOOR Smt.Ushakumar A & Smt. Panka jakshi amma S, both resides at Sabhalayam, Kochupalode, Panaya muttom P.O, Trivandrum - 695562	Rs.8.00,000/- 40129730000070 Housing Loan on 08/08/2017 Demand Notice date: 02.05.2026 NPA : 01/05/2026	Rs.8.45,279/- 40129730000070 Housing Loan @ 9.00% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that part and parcel of land having an extent of 0.235 Acres and building thereon comprised in old Re Sy No.4088/2-3 & Sy No.20118-1 in Block No.20 of Panavoor Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district in the name of Smt.Ushakumar A & Smt.Pankajakshamma S. BOUNDARIES: North: Property of Vijayadharani, South: Own Property, East: Property of Vijayadharani, Security Interest ID: 400015525174 Asset ID : 20001448145
SI.No.3 BR. PATTOM II Sri. Arun C Nair, Shri Chandrasekharan Nair, both resides at Chandiara Geetham, Mozhilji, Cheikakulam P.O. Karakulam, Trivandrum - 695584. Smt. Geetha Kumari S, Mozhilji, Anil Bhavani Cheikakulam P.O. Karakulam, Trivandrum-695584	Rs.15.00,000/- 40049740000093 Housing Loan on 18/05/2018 Demand Notice date: 02/05/2026 NPA : 01/05/2026	Rs.15.05,202/- 40049740000093 Housing Loan @ 9.00% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that part and parcel of land having an extent of 4.05 Acres and building thereon comprised in old Sy No.1198/2 & 1297/4 and Re Sy No. 218/3-4 in Block No.34 of Karakulam Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district in the name of Sri. Arun C Nair. BOUNDARIES: North: Property of Alahuddeen and Pvi Road, South: Property of Ramakrishna Babu, East: Own Property, West: Property of Maya. Security Interest ID: 400021367792 Asset ID : 20001321937
SI.No.4 BR. NEDUMANGAD Sri. Vijaya Kumar M & Smt. Rajeswari S, both resides at Saraswathy Vilasam Mottamoodu, Karippoor P.O, Nedumangad, Trivandrum - 695541	Rs.20.00,000/- 40277730000045 Housing Loan on 25/11/2015 Demand Notice date: 04.05.2026 NPA : 01/05/2026	Rs.14.76,755/- 40277730000045 Housing Loan @ 9.10% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that part and parcel of land having an extent of 7.20 Acres and building thereon comprised in old Sy No.1149/2 (Re sy no.374/26) in Block No.37 of Karippoor Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district in the name of Sri. Vijaya Kumar M. BOUNDARIES: as per Title Deed: North: Property of Maniyan, South: Property of Soman, East: Road, West: Property of Govindan Nadar. Security Interest ID: 400056226337 Asset ID : 200015995972
SI.No.5 BR. VELLANAD Sri. Akhil A & Smt. Silpa S M, both resides at Priya Bhavan Nearazhitha (Jakkal), Vellannad PO Trivandrum - 695541	Rs.10.00,000/- 160000819657 Housing Loan on 21/05/2022 Demand Notice date: 04.05.2026 NPA : 01.05.2026	Rs.8.23,425/- 160000819657 Housing Loan @ 8% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that part and parcel of land having an extent of 12.28 Acres and building thereon comprised in old Sy No.348/1 (Re sy no.408/10) in Block No.36 of Vellannad Village, Nedumangad Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district in the name of Smt. Silpa S M. BOUNDARIES: as per Title Deed: North: Property of Maniyan, South: Property of Soman, East: Road, West: Property of Govindan Nadar. Security Interest ID: 400056226337 Asset ID : 200015995972
SI.No.6 BR. VEMBAYAM Angeel G J Johnson Dio Geetha R TC 14/1104 2, Lenin Nagar, Palayam, Thycaud Post, Trivandrum-695074. Geetha R, Vill/71A Bethel Gandhi Smarakam Kutthirakulam PO Nedumangad Trivandrum-695615	Rs.18,30,000.00 3586651000047 Education Loan on 13/10/2017 Demand Notice date: 15.05.2026 NPA : 14.05.2026	Rs.14,06,561.50/- 3586651000047 Education Loan @ 10.25% + further interest and incidental expenses/Costs	All that part and parcel of land having an extent of 10.12 Acres in old Sy No. 2125/55-76 (Re. Sy. No. 203/5-2) Uliyazhithura Village, Thiruvananthapuram Taluk, Thiruvananthapuram district in the name of Angeel G J Johnson Dio. BOUNDARIES: North: Pvi Property, South: Corporation Road, East: Road, West: Property of Sulaiman. Security Interest ID: 400018633272 Asset ID: 20017993447

The above said loans/credit facilities are duly secured by way of mortgage/charge/hypothecation etc. (delete the terms which are not applicable) of the assets more specifically described in the schedule to this notice, by virtue of the relevant documents executed by you/mortgagor(s) in our favour. Since you have failed to discharge your liabilities as per the terms and conditions stipulated, the bank has classified the debt as NPA on the appropriate date as described in the table. Hence, we hereby issue the notice to you under the section 13(2) of the subject Act calling upon you to discharge the entire liability of Rupees as detailed in above table with accrued and up to date interest and other expenses, within sixty days from the date of notice failing which we shall exercise all or any of the rights under section 13(4) of the subject Act. Moreover you/mortgagor(s) are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets mentioned in the schedule in any manner whatsoever, without any prior consent. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject Act and any other law for that purpose. This notice is given since the demand notice issued to you on the dates detailed in the above table by Registered post/ Courier could not be served. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Place : Thiruvananthapuram, Date : 25.05.2026 (Sd/-) Authorised Officer, Canara Bank