

USA WH: DEMS NOT SMART ENOUGH TO ASSESS TRUMP TAXES

White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders told a TV show that House Democrats were not "smart enough" to assess US President Donald Trump's tax returns. A key Congressional committee has given the IRS until April 23 to hand over six years' worth of Trump's tax filings. Trump had also said the filings were too complex for people to understand.

TOP OF THE WORLD



The Brazilian President

BRAZIL Bolsonaro raises eyebrows saying Holocaust can be forgiven

Jerusalem, Rio de Janeiro: Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro drew veiled rebukes from Israel on Saturday after saying the Nazi genocide of the Jews during World War Two could be forgiven. The far-right Bolsonaro made a solidarity visit to Israel last month during which he raised eyebrows by asserting, after a tour of the Holocaust memorial Yad Vashem, that the Nazis were "leftists". Addressing a group of Brazilian evangelicals on Thursday, Bolsonaro said: "We can forgive, but we can't forget. That's my phrase. Those who forget their past are condemned not to have a future." Israel's President Reuven Rivlin condemned the statement.

SUDAN Protesters submit demands to military

Khartoum: Sudanese protest organisers have presented demands to the country's new military rulers, urging the creation of a civilian government, the group spearheading demonstrations said. Thousands remained encamped outside Khartoum's army headquarters overnight to keep up the pressure on a military council that took power after ousting veteran leader Omar al-Bashir on Thursday. A 10-member delegation representing the protesters delivered their demands during talks late Saturday, according to a statement by umbrella group the Alliance for Freedom and Change.

MADAGASCAR Measles epidemic kills over 1,200

Ambalavao: Babies wail as a nurse tries to reassure mothers who have come to vaccinate their children. They fear a measles epidemic that has killed more than 1,200 people in this island nation where many are desperately poor. As Madagascar faces its largest measles outbreak ever and cases soar well beyond 115,000, resistance to vaccinating children is not the driving force. Measles cases are rising in the US and other parts of the world, in part the result of misinformation that makes some parents balk at a crucial vaccine.

AUSTRALIA One dead after shooting outside nightclub

Sydney: A drive-by shooting outside a nightclub in the Australian city of Melbourne inflicted "horrific injuries" that killed a security guard and wounded three men, police said on Sunday, but there was no suggestion yet that the attack was terror-related. Australia has some of the world's toughest gun control laws, adopted after its worst mass murder, when a gunman killed 35 people at Port Arthur in the island state of Tasmania in 1996.



WORLD'S LARGEST PLANE MAKES 1ST TEST FLIGHT

The world's largest airplane, built by Stratolaunch, takes off on its first test flight in Mojave, California, on Saturday. Reuters

- The world's largest airplane, featuring two fuselages and six Boeing 747 engines, has made its first test flight in California. The plane has a wingspan of 117 metres, the length of an American football field.
- The aircraft was built by Stratolaunch, a company set up by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, to provide a more flexible way to deploy satellites. But Allen died last year, so the future of the company is uncertain.
- The plane is supposed to provide a more flexible way to deploy satellites. It is designed to carry into space a rocket that would in turn ignite to deploy satellites. This would allow launches from runways.



The site of the crash in Lukla, Nepal, where a small plane hit a parked helicopter while taking off on Sunday. Reuters

Nepal plane hits helicopter while taking off, 3 killed

GOPAL SHARMA
KATHMANDU, APRIL 14

A SMALL plane operated by a private airline in Nepal hit a parked helicopter on Sunday while preparing to take off in a mountainous area near Mount Everest, killing three people including a co-pilot, an airport official said. The Twin Otter aircraft crashed into the helicopter at Tenzing Hillary Airport in Lukla, known as the gateway to the world's highest

mountain, 125 kilometres northeast of capital Kathmandu. The plane, operated by Summit Air, was not carrying passengers as it was trying to leave what is considered to be one of the world's most dangerous airports due to the shortness of its runway and its location surrounded by mountains. Officials said the cause of the incident was not immediately known. The dead included two security guards who were near the helicopter. **REUTERS**

Assange to cooperate with Sweden, fight US warrant, says lawyer

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LONDON, APRIL 14

JULIAN ASSANGE will cooperate with Swedish authorities if they reopen a rape case against him but will continue to resist any bid to extradite him to the United States, his lawyer said Sunday. "We are absolutely happy to answer those queries if and when they come up," Jennifer Robinson told Sky News television about the rape claims. "The key issue at the moment is US extradition, which we have warned about for many years," she added. The WikiLeaks founder is in custody in London awaiting sentencing for breaching his British bail conditions in 2012 by seeking refuge in Ecuador's London embassy. He was arrested at the embassy on Thursday after Ecuador gave him up, and is now also fighting a US extradition warrant relat-



The WikiLeaks founder is in custody in London awaiting sentencing for breaching his bail conditions. Reuters

ing to the release by WikiLeaks of a huge cache of official documents. The Australian has always denied the claims of sexual assault and rape in Sweden. The first expired in 2015 and the other was dropped in 2017, but the alleged rape victim has now asked for the case to be reopened. If Stockholm makes a formal extradition request, the British government will have to decide whether to consider it before or after that of the US.

7 children killed, 10 injured in Afghanistan blast

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KABUL, APRIL 14

SEVEN CHILDREN were killed and 10 more wounded Sunday when an unexploded mortar shell blew up in eastern Afghanistan, an official said. Assadullah Dawlatzai, the Laghman governor's spokesman, said the circumstances around how the children found the mortar and why it exploded were under investigation. All the victims were below the age of 15, he said. The blast occurred on the outskirts of Mehtarlam, the capital of Laghman province, east of Kabul.

CRACKDOWN ON TERROR FINANCING

FATF asks Pak to track all gold purchases

Pak told to restrict supply of jewellery to banned groups

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ISLAMABAD, APRIL 14

AN INTERNATIONAL terror financing watchdog has asked Pakistan to implement a new set of constraints in its crackdown against terror financing, including documenting and regulating all gold markets, a media report said on Sunday. The finance ministry has reportedly received a new list of recommendations from the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force (FATF) which requires documentation of all gold markets and purchase and sale of gold in the country, Geo TV reported.

The FATF has asked Islamabad to collect data of all gold markets in the country and to restrict the sale and purchase of gold items using cash, instead requiring payment to be made with a debit or credit card, it said. The watchdog has also demanded that the country ensure restriction on supply of gold and jewellery to banned outfits and terrorist organisations. The FATF has urged Pakistan to collect data of all trusts operating across the country as well as their bank accounts on the district level. It has also asked the country to ensure regulation of thousands of registered trust organisations. Pakistan is due to submit a third report on the measures be-

EXPLAINED
E.
Non-compliance could lead to Pak's blacklisting

THE PARIS-BASED Financial Action Task Force has already put Pakistan on its 'grey list' for not doing enough to tackle terrorism financing. Recently, the Pakistan Foreign Minister said the country could be blacklisted due to "lobbying by India". Pakistan would lose \$10 billion annually if this were to happen, he said. With the FATF set to review Pakistan's status in May, it's imperative for the country to comply with the watchdog's recommendations in order to avoid the costly blacklisting.

ing taken by the government in compliance with the recommendations of the FATF and its regional affiliate, the Asia-Pacific Group (APG) till April 15. The compliance report would be taken up by the FATF review group in its meeting scheduled to be held in May. **PTI**

Hazaras in third day of sit-in protests over lack of security

Quetta: Minority Shia Hazaras blocked traffic in a sit-in protest for a third day in the southwestern Pakistani city of Quetta on Sunday after a suicide bomb killed 19 people in an outdoor market, many of them ethnic Hazaras. Dozens were injured in the blast Friday on the outskirts of Quetta, capital of the Baluchistan province, officials said. Islamic State claimed responsibility. Hazaras have been frequently targeted by Taliban and Islamic State militants and other Sunni Muslim militant groups in both Pakistan and Afghanistan. "We've lost hundreds of our loved ones in the last 10 years," Tahir Hazara, leading the sit-in, said. "The government failed to protect our community. Terrorists are free to target us." "Stop killing Hazaras," the crowd chanted. "Down with terrorism and sectarianism." The protesters have set up camps and burn wood to keep warm at night. A police official said there were about 200 people taking part Sunday, blocking the key Western Bypass leading into Quetta. **REUTERS**



Seychelles President Danny Faure (left) inside a submersible vessel under the water off the coast of Desroches, in the outer islands of Seychelles, on Sunday. AP

Protect oceans, Seychelles leader says in unprecedented underwater speech

ASSOCIATED PRESS
DESROCHES ISLAND, APRIL 14

IN A striking speech delivered from deep below the ocean's surface, the Seychelles President on Sunday made a global plea for stronger protection of the "beating blue heart of our planet". President Danny Faure's call for action, the first-ever live speech from an underwater submersible, came from one of the many island nations threatened by global warming. He spoke during a visit to an ambitious British-led science ex-

This issue is bigger than all of us, and we cannot wait for the next generation to solve it. We are running out of excuses to not take action, and running out of time.

DANNY FAURE
SEYCHELLES PRESIDENT

pedition exploring the Indian Ocean depths. Oceans cover over two-thirds of the world's surface but remain, for the most part, uncharted. We

have better maps of Mars than we do of the ocean floor, Faure said. "This issue is bigger than all of us, and we cannot wait for the next generation to solve it. We are running out of excuses to not take action, and running out of time," the President said from a manned submersible 400 feet below the waves, on the seabed off the outer islands of the African nation. Wearing a Seychelles T-shirt and shorts, the President said after his speech that the experience was "so, so cool. What biodiversity". It made him more determined than ever to speak out for marine protection, he said.

INVESTIGATORS ARE USING THE TECH GIANT'S DATA TO FIND SUSPECTS NEAR CRIME SCENES, RAISING PRIVACY CONCERNS

Tracking phones around the world, Google is a dragnet for police

JENNIFER VALENTINO-DEVRIES
APRIL 14

WHEN DETECTIVES in a Phoenix suburb arrested a warehouse worker in a homicide investigation last year, they credited a new technique with breaking open the case after other leads went cold. The police told the suspect, Jorge Molina, they had data tracking his phone to the site where a man was shot nine months earlier. They had made the discovery after obtaining a search warrant that required Google to provide information on all devices it recorded near the killing, potentially capturing the whereabouts of anyone in the area. Investigators also had other

circumstantial evidence, including security video of someone firing a gun from a white Honda Civic, the same model that Molina owned, though they could not see the licence plate or attacker. But after he spent nearly a week in jail, the case against Molina fell apart as investigators learned new information and released him. Last month, the police arrested another man: his mother's ex-boyfriend, who had sometimes used Molina's car. The warrants, which draw on an enormous Google database employees call Sensorvault, turn the business of tracking cellphone users' locations into a digital dragnet for law enforcement. In an era of ubiquitous data gathering by tech companies, it is just the latest example of how personal infor-



Google's headquarters in Manhattan. NYT

mation — where you go, who your friends are, what you read, eat and watch, and when you do it — is being used for purposes many people never expected. As privacy concerns have mounted among consumers, policymakers and regulators, tech companies have come under intensifying scrutiny over their data collection practices. The Arizona case demonstrates the promise and perils of the new investigative technique,

whose use has risen sharply in the past six months, according to Google employees familiar with the requests. It can help solve crimes. But it can also snare innocent people. Technology companies have for years responded to court orders for specific users' information. The new warrants go further, suggesting possible suspects and witnesses in the absence of other clues. Often, Google employees said, the company responds to a single warrant with location information on dozens or hundreds of devices. Law enforcement officials described the method as exciting, but cautioned that it was just one tool that they could use. It is unclear how often these search requests have led to ar-

rests or convictions, because many of the investigations are still open and judges frequently seal the warrants. The practice was first used by federal agents in 2016, according to Google employees, and first publicly reported last year in North Carolina. It has since spread to local departments across the country, including in California, Florida, Minnesota and Washington. This year, one Google employee said, the company received as many as 180 requests in one week. Google declined to confirm precise numbers. The technique illustrates a phenomenon privacy advocates have long referred to as the "if you build it, they will come" principle — anytime a technology company creates a system that

could be used in surveillance, law enforcement inevitably comes knocking. Sensorvault, according to Google employees, includes detailed location records involving at least hundreds of millions of devices worldwide and dating back nearly a decade. The new orders, sometimes called "geofence" warrants, specify an area and a time period, and Google gathers information from Sensorvault about the devices that were there. It labels them with anonymous ID numbers, and detectives look at locations and movement patterns to see if any appear relevant to the crime. Once they narrow the field to a few devices they think belong to suspects or witnesses, Google reveals the users' names and other information. **NYT**