

TOP OF THE WORLD



**USA**  
Sanders had heart attack, released from hospital, his campaign says

Las Vegas: Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders had a heart attack, his campaign confirmed Friday as the Vermont senator was released from a Nevada hospital. The 78-year-old was at a campaign event Tuesday when he experienced chest discomfort and was taken to a hospital where he was diagnosed with a heart attack. The senator was transferred to Desert Springs Hospital Medical Center, where doctors inserted two stents to open up a blocked artery in his heart, according to a statement from the Las Vegas doctors.

**THAILAND**  
Judge shoots himself in court

Bangkok: A Thai judge shot himself in the chest in front of a packed court after acquitting several murder suspects and decrying the kingdom's judicial system in an impassioned speech broadcast on Facebook Live. Kanakorn Pianchana, a judge at Yala court in the heart of the insurgency-battered Thai south, was delivering the verdict for five Muslim suspects in a gun murder case on Friday afternoon. He acquitted the group, delivered a courtroom plea for a cleaner justice system, before pulling out a handgun and shooting himself in the chest. He was taken to hospital and is out of danger, a government spokesperson said.

**PAKISTAN**  
Govt: UN envoy replaced as she finished tenure

Islamabad: Pakistan has said Maleeha Lodhi was not sacked and was replaced with Munir Akram after the completion of her tenure as the country's permanent representative to the UN, according to a report. Prime Minister Imran Khan in a surprise move this week appointed Akram, known for his strident anti-India stand, as Pakistan's new permanent representative to the UN. The development came a day after Khan returned from New York, where he raised the Kashmir issue in his speech to the UN General Assembly.

TRUMP IMPEACHMENT PROBE

Investigators subpoena White House, seek records from Pence

NICHOLAS FANDOS  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 5

US HOUSE impeachment investigators widened the reach of their inquiry on Friday, subpoenaing the White House for a vast trove of documents and requesting more from Vice President Mike Pence in a bid to better understand President Donald Trump's attempts to pressure Ukraine to investigate his political rivals.

The subpoena, addressed to Mick Mulvaney, the acting White House chief of staff, calls for documents and communications that are highly delicate and would typically be subject in almost any White House to claims of executive privilege. If handed over by the Oct. 18 deadline, the records could provide keys to understanding what transpired between the two countries and what steps, if any, the White House has taken to cover it up.

The request for records from a sitting vice president is unusual in its own right, and Pence's office quickly signaled he may not comply. In a letter to Pence, the chairmen of three House committees conducting the impeachment inquiry wrote that they were interested in "any role



US President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence at an event in the White House on Friday. AP

you may have played" in conveying Trump's views to Ukraine. They asked for a lengthy list of documents detailing the administration's dealings with Ukraine, to be produced by Oct. 15.

Katie Waldman, Pence's press secretary, promptly said that "given the scope, it does not appear to be a serious request but just another attempt by the 'Do Nothing Democrats' to call attention to their partisan impeachment."

But that will not help Trump's case on Capitol Hill. Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the chairmen leading the inquiry have consistently warned the White House

that noncompliance with their requests will be viewed as obstruction of Congress, a potentially impeachable offense.

In addition to the new subpoena and request, a significant subpoena deadline for the State Department to hand over similar material in its possession was also scheduled to arrive by the end of the day. The State Department missed the deadline, a House official said late Friday, but department officials were in contact with the committees and lawmakers were still hopeful they would cooperate soon. **NYT**

Hong Kong goes quiet as trains, shops shut after violent night



Masked anti-government protesters at a rally in Hong Kong on Saturday. Reuters

Govt says Friday violence justified use of emergency law

FELIX TAM & GREG TORODE  
HONG KONG, OCTOBER 5

HONG KONG fell eerily silent on Saturday, with the subway and most shopping malls closed in an unprecedented shutdown of one of the world's biggest commercial centres after the government invoked emergency measures to curb months of unrest.

Hundreds of anti-government protesters defied a ban on face masks and took to the streets across the Chinese-ruled city earlier in the day. But by evening they had largely dispersed in preparation for bigger marches planned for Sunday.

Rail operator MTR Corp suspended all services, paralysing transport in the Asian financial hub, while malls and shops

**The extreme violence clearly illustrated that Hong Kong's public safety is widely endangered."**

—CARRIE LAM  
HONG KONG CHIEF EXECUTIVE

closed early after a night of chaos in which police shot a teenage boy and protesters torched businesses and metro stations.

Protests had erupted on Friday across the former British colony hours after its embattled leader, Carrie Lam, invoked colonial-era emergency powers for the first time in more than 50 years to ban the use of face masks demonstrators have been using to hide their identities.

The night's "extreme violence" justified the use of the

emergency law, Beijing-backed Lam said in a TV address Saturday.

"The extreme violence clearly illustrated that Hong Kong's public safety is widely endangered. That's the concrete reason that we had to invoke emergency law yesterday to introduce the anti-mask law," she said.

Undeterred by the ban and transport shutdown, several hundred pro-democracy protesters — many wearing masks — marched through the normally bustling shopping district of Causeway Bay on Saturday, but there was no repeat of Friday's violence.

Other groups gathered in Sheung Shui close to the border with mainland China and in the busy shopping and tourist district of Tsim Sha Tsui. "We felt we had to get out and show our basic right to wear a mask," said Sue, a protester. **REUTERS**



Harry's wife Meghan had sued a tabloid days earlier. AP

Harry's claims were brought last week against the owners of *The Sun* and *The Daily Mirror*, according to court filings. Reach PLC,

which owns *The Mirror*, declined to comment Friday night. A message left for Rupert Murdoch's News Group Newspapers, which

NIGERIA

‘AFRICA’S OLDEST’ TORTOISE DIES

A tortoise whose royal owners claimed was 344 years old years old has died in the palace of the traditional ruler of Ogbomosho, southwest Nigeria, a spokesman said Saturday. Although animal experts doubt the tortoise could have attained such an advanced age, its royal owners say Alagba, meaning Elder, had lived in the palace for centuries.

Trump set to block immigrants unable to pay for healthcare

MICHAEL D SHEAR & MIRIAM JORDAN  
WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 5

THE TRUMP administration will deny visas to immigrants who cannot prove they will have health insurance or the ability to pay for medical costs once they become permanent residents of the United States, the White House announced Friday in the latest move by President Donald Trump to undermine legal immigration.

Trump issued a proclamation, effective Nov 3, ordering consular officers to bar immigrants seeking to live in the US unless they "will be covered by approved health insurance" or can prove that they have "the financial resources to pay for reasonably foreseeable medical costs."

In the proclamation, Trump justified the move by saying that legal immigrants are far more likely than US citizens to lack health insurance, making them a burden on hospitals and taxpayers in the United States.

The surprise order is the latest step in a long effort by Stephen Miller, the President's top immigration adviser, and others in the administration, to limit what they consider the financial burdens of allowing immigrants into the United States. Thousands of people annu-

**EXPLAINED**  
**E**  
**Humanitarian, legal & logistical challenges ahead**

THE BAN on giving visas to immigrants who cannot prove they'll get health insurance within 30 days of entering the US does not apply to those already in the US. However, it is likely to affect plans that US residents may have to bring their parents, spouses or other relatives from outside the country unless they have insurance that covers these family members. The rule, which is set to come into force on Nov 3, is almost certain to face legal challenges. Implementing the rule is also expected to be a logistical challenge as thousands of officials will have to be taught in a short period of time how to determine if an immigrant has the capacity to get health insurance.

ally would be denied green cards if the executive order takes effect, said Steve Yale-Loehr, an immigration scholar at Cornell Law School. **NYT**

AFGHAN PEACE TALKS

Taliban meet US envoy for first time since Trump declared peace deal dead

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
KABUL, OCTOBER 5

THE TALIBAN met US peace envoy Zalmay Khalilzad in the Pakistan capital for the first time since President Donald Trump declared a seemingly imminent peace deal to end Afghanistan's 18-year war 'dead' a month ago, a Taliban official said early Saturday.

He offered few details of Friday's meeting between Khalilzad and the Taliban delegation led by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the movement that was ousted in 2001 by the US-led coalition. The official spoke on condition of



US special envoy Zalmay Khalilzad's meeting with the Taliban is not a resumption of peace talks, officials said

anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

US officials, however, have been keen to say there is no re-

sumption of peace talks, at least not now in Islamabad.

Still, the meeting is significant as the United States seeks an exit from Afghanistan's 18-year war.

Khalilzad has been in Islamabad for much of the week meeting with senior government officials in what the US State Department described as follow-up meetings he held in New York during last month's UN General Assembly session. At the time he met Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, who has been calling for a resumption of peace talks.

The Taliban delegation led by Mullah Baradar — one of its more powerful members — arrived separately in the Pakistani capital

Paralysed man walks again with brain-controlled exoskeleton

KATE KELLAND  
LONDON, OCTOBER 5

AMAN paralysed from the shoulders down has been able to walk using a pioneering four-limb robotic system, or exoskeleton, that is commanded and controlled by signals from his brain.

With a ceiling-mounted harness for balance, the 28-year-old tetraplegic patient used a system of sensors implanted near his brain to send messages to move all four of his paralysed limbs after a two-year-long trial of the whole-body exoskeleton.

The results, published in *The Lancet Neurology* journal, bring doctors a step closer to one day being able to help paralysed pa-



A patient with tetraplegia walks using an exoskeleton in Grenoble, France. Reuters

tients drive computers using brain signals alone, according to researchers who led the work.

But for now, the exoskeleton

is purely an experimental prototype and is "far from clinical application", they added.

"(This) is the first semi-invasive wireless brain-computer system designed... to activate all four limbs," said Alim-Louis Benabid, a neurosurgeon and professor at the University of Grenoble, France, who co-led the trial. He said previous brain-computer technologies have used invasive sensors implanted in the brain, where they can be more dangerous and often stop working.

In this trial, two recording devices were implanted, one either side of the patient's head between the brain and the skin, spanning the sensorimotor cortex region of the brain that controls sensation and motor function. **REUTERS**

FIR registered against Nepal's ex-Speaker over rape allegations

SHIRISH B PRADHAN  
KATHMANDU, OCTOBER 5

NEPAL POLICE on Saturday registered a case against the former Parliament Speaker Krishna Bahadur Mahara, who has been accused of raping a member of the parliamentary staff, according to a media report.

Police lodged an FIR after receiving a formal complaint from the woman, *The Himalayan Times* reported.

Police said they have filed a case of attempt to rape against the former Speaker.

In a video released by online news portal Hamro Kura, the woman said that she had known Mahara for years and that he had behaved indecently with her in the past as well.

The woman said Mahara visited her rented room on September 23 while she was alone.

She said she tried to stop Mahara, who was in an inebriated state, from entering her home, but he did not listen.

She alleged that Mahara forced himself on her, and when she tried to stop him, he abused her.

In the video, the woman displayed blue marks on her body, saying they were a result of Mahara striking her.

Mahara resigned from his post of Speaker on October 1 after pressure from the ruling Nepal Communist Party over the allegations. However, he continues to hold his position as a member of the House of Representative.

The police said it will carry out further investigation. **PTI**

BRITISH ROYAL SUES TWO TABLOIDS OVER ALLEGED PHONE-HACKING

Prince Harry goes to battle with tabloids, rupturing old relationship

BENJAMIN MUELLER  
LONDON, OCTOBER 5

PRINCE HARRY has started legal proceedings against the owners of two British tabloids over accusations that they hacked his phones, Buckingham Palace confirmed Friday, opening a new front in a remarkable crusade against the British press.

Coming at the end of a 10-day royal tour of southern Africa that was lavishly covered by the British news media, Harry's broadsides rankled some royal insiders and stunned longtime palace observers. They amounted to an un-

usually public rupture in an old, symbiotic relationship, one that shatters a longtime royal mantra: "Never complain, never explain."

The legal claims address allegations that the tabloids illegally intercepted Harry's voicemail messages, perhaps as far back as in the early 2000s, British news reports suggested.

Those accusations could potentially excavate a phone-hacking scandal of that period that touched a vast number of victims, eventually leading to the conviction of a tabloid editor, the shutdown of a popular newspaper and sweeping changes to the rules governing news coverage in Britain.