



EIGHT

terrorists killed in clashes with security forces in Pakistan, the army said on Sunday



GLOBAL
WEATHER

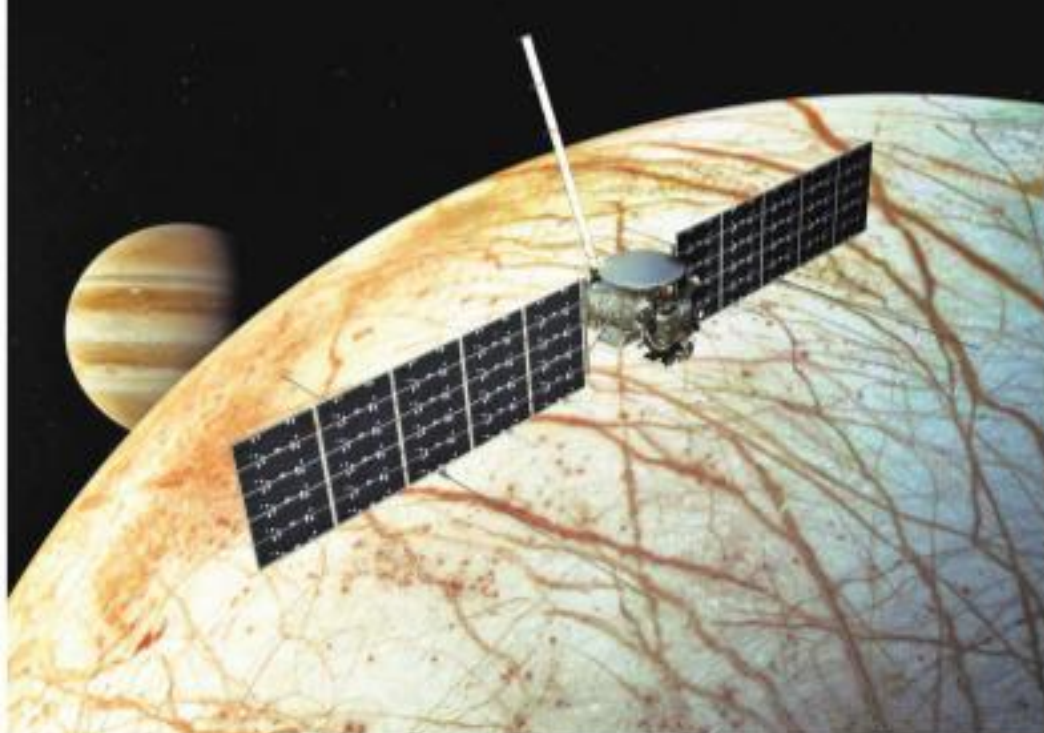
LR: Light Rain HR: Heavy Rain
LC: Light Cloud SNY: Sunny

TDS: Thunderstorm

Beijing	29	16	SNY	Los Angeles	26	17	LC
Colombo	29	24	LC	Melbourne	25	12	HR
Dhaka	32	27	SNY	Moscow	21	8	HR
Dubai	39	31	SNY	New York	26	16	LC
Houston	31	23	SNY	Singapore	32	27	SNY
Istanbul	29	17	SNY	Toronto	19	11	LC
London	24	13	LC	Washington	27	14	SNY

Exciting space missions slated for launch in 2024

2023 proved to be an important one for space missions, with NASA's OSIRIS-REx mission returning a sample from an asteroid and India's Chandrayaan-3 mission exploring the lunar south pole. Here's a look at how 2024 is shaping up to be another exciting year for space exploration



EUROPA CLIPPER

NASA will launch Europa Clipper, which will explore one of Jupiter's largest moons, Europa

With Europa Clipper, scientists want to investigate whether Europa's ocean could be a suitable habitat for extraterrestrial life

The mission plans to do this by flying past Europa nearly 50 times to study the moon's icy shell, its surface's geology and subsurface ocean

VIPER ON MOON

VIPER, which stands for Volatiles Investigating Polar Exploration Rover, is a robot the size of a golf cart that NASA will use to explore the Moon's south pole in late 2024

This robotic mission is designed to search for volatiles, which are molecules that easily vaporise, like water and CO₂, at lunar temperatures

VIPER's launch and delivery to the lunar surface is scheduled for November 2024

JAXA'S MMX

The Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), has a robotic mission in development called the Martian Moon eXploration (MMX), planned for launch in September 2024

The mission's main science objective is to determine the origin of Mars' moons. The spacecraft will spend three years around Mars conducting science operations to observe Phobos and Deimos. MMX will also land on Phobos and collect a sample before returning to Earth

ESA'S HERA MISSION

Hera is a mission by the European Space Agency (ESA) to return to the Didymos-Dimorphos asteroid system that NASA's DART mission visited in 2022

But DART didn't just visit these asteroids, it collided with one of them to test a planetary defense technique called "kinetic impact." DART hit Dimorphos with such force that it actually changed its orbit

Hera will launch in October 2024, making its way in late 2026 to Didymos and Dimorphos, where it will study the physical properties of asteroids



US Navy sinks three boats of Houthi rebels

Centcom terms it self defence; several insurgents killed in firing by Navy helicopters; one boat manages to flee

BEIRUT

THE US military said on Sunday that its forces opened fire on Houthi rebels after they attacked a cargo ship in the Red Sea, killing several of them.

The US Central Command (Centcom) said the crew of the USS Gravelly destroyer first shot down two anti-ship ballistic missiles fired at the Singapore-flagged Maersk Hangzhou late on Saturday, after the vessel reported getting hit by a missile earlier that evening as it sailed through the Southern Red Sea.

Four small boats then attacked the same cargo ship with small arms fire early Sunday and rebels tried to board the vessel, the US Navy said.

Next, the USS Gravelly and helicopters from the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower aircraft carrier responded to the Maersk Hangzhou's distress call and issued verbal warnings to the attackers, who responded by firing on the helicopters.

"The US Navy helicopters returned fire in self-defence," sinking three of the four boats and killing the people on board while the fourth boat fled the



US Navy Vice Adm. Brad Cooper | AP

area, the US Central Command said. No damage to US personnel or any equipment was reported.

There was no immediate comment from the Houthis.

The Denmark-based shipping giant Maersk, owner of Maersk Hangzhou, said on Sunday that it would suspend shipping through the Red Sea again after the two attacks on its freighter.

"In light of the (most recent) incident—and to give time to investigate the details of the incident and assess the security situation further—it has been decided that all transits through the area will be postponed for the next 48 hours," Maersk was quoted as saying by the Danish

public broadcaster DR.

The events surrounding the Maersk Hangzhou represented the 23rd illegal attack by the Houthis on international shipping since November 19, the Central Command said. It was the first time the US Navy said its personnel had killed Houthi fighters since the Red Sea attacks started.

For over a month, Houthis have claimed attacks on ships in the Red Sea that they say are either linked to Israel or heading to Israeli ports. They say their attacks aim to end Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip. AP

In New Year message, Xi praises China's economy as more resilient

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said on Sunday that China's economy has become "more resilient and dynamic than before" as he vowed to strengthen the momentum of economic recovery.

"We have gone through the test of winds and rains, have seen beautiful scenes unfolding on the way, and have made plenty of real achievements. We will remember this year as one of hard work and perseverance. Going forward, we have full confidence in the future," Xi said in New

TALKS ON HK AND MACAO

Xi also said China will continue to support Hong Kong and Macao. "China will be reunified, and all Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait should be bound by a common sense of purpose and share in the glory of rejuvenation of Chinese nation," he added.

Year message.

Xi said that as China achieved a smooth transition in Covid-19 response efforts, its economy has sustained the momentum of recovery, and steady progress has been made in pursuing high-quality development in the out-

going year, Xinhua news agency reported.

"Having weathered the storm, the Chinese economy is more resilient and dynamic than before," he said.

Noting that next year will mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, he said his government will steadfastly advance Chinese modernisation, fully and faithfully apply the new development philosophy on all fronts, speed up building the new development paradigm, promote high-quality development, and both pursue development and



RINGING IN 2024

The 9pm "family fireworks" explode over Sydney Opera House during New Years Eve celebrations in Sydney on Sunday | AFP

Israel and Gaza conclude dark year, with no end in sight to war

DEIR AL-BALAH

ISRAELI strikes in central Gaza killed at least 35 people on Sunday, hospital officials said, as fighting raged across the tiny enclave a day after Israel's PM said the war will continue for "many more months."

Benjamin Netanyahu stressed that "the war will continue for many months until Hamas is eliminated and the hostages are

returned. We will guarantee that Gaza will no longer pose a threat to Israel," he said on Saturday.

On Sunday, he vowed, "We will continue our defensive war, the justice and morality of which is without peer."

The military said Israeli forces were operating in Gaza's second-largest city, Khan Younis, and residents reported strikes in the central region.

In the area of Zweida in cen-



A girl mourns the death of her relatives in Khan Younis, Gaza City on Sunday | AFP

tral Gaza, an Israeli airstrike killed at least 13 people and wounded dozens of others. The bodies were draped in white plastic and laid out in front of a hospital, where prayers were held before burial.

Officials from Al-Aqsa Hospital in central Deir al-Balah said the 13 were among 35 bodies received on Sunday.

The Israeli military said it was battling militants in Khan

Younis, where Israel believes Hamas leaders are hiding. It also said its forces operating in the urban Shati refugee camp, in northern Gaza, found a bomb in a kindergarten and defused it. Israel expanded its offensive to central Gaza this week, targeting a belt of dense, built-up communities that house refugees from the war surrounding Israel's creation in 1948 and their descendants. Agencies

Sunak keen to clinch FTA with India by April

LONDON

UK PM Rishi Sunak is keen to clinch a free trade agreement (FTA) with India in time for Easter, which falls at the end of March 2024.

"Prime Minister Mr Sunak and India's premier Narendra Modi are said to be keen to get the deal wrapped up by April," reads a report in the Daily Express updated on Saturday. "It is hoped a deal can be signed and sealed before India's general elections begin on April 1."

The newspaper quoted a source close to the trade talks on the UK side to say that a lot of progress has been made, but some of the 'hardest' aspects remain pending.

UK hopes FTA will open up its trade in Scotch whisky and cars to India, and services and investment opportunities. PTI

NEW RESOLUTIONS

Kim vows to launch 3 spy satellites in 2024

SEOUL

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un vowed to launch three military spy satellites, produce more nuclear materials and introduce attack drones in 2024, as he called for "overwhelming" war readiness to cope with US-led confrontational moves.

He set forth plans to launch three more military spy satellites next year in addition to the country's first reconnaissance satellite launched in November. He underscored the need to establish "a reliable foundation" to build more nuclear weapons. Kim also ordered authorities to enhance submarine capabilities and develop various types of unmanned combat equipment such as armed drones. Kim said "vicious" anti-North Korea moves by the US and its followers "have reached the extremes unprecedented in history," pushing the Korean Peninsula to the brink of a nuclear war, according to KCNA.

Kim cited the expansion of US-South Korean military exercises and the temporary deployment of powerful US military assets such as bombers and a nuclear-armed submarine in South Korea. Kim called for "the overwhelming war response capability" to deter enemy provocations. AP

ICICI Home Finance

Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India

Branch Office: Door No. 23-8-156/A, 1st Floor, R. R. Enclave, New Balaji Colony, A.I.R. Bypass Road, Above ICICI Bank, Tirupati - 517502

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization 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 Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., 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/ Legal Heirs. 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 Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	P Venkatesh (Borrower) P Rani (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHTRU00001370984	D No. 23 524 Barbers Colony Gandipalli Village Accounts Chittoor Mandal Chittoor Municipal Corporation Chittoor Dist S No. 335/1 Tirupati-517501	Rs. 17,65,237/- December 15, 2023	Rs. 28,89,780/- Rs. 2,88,980/-	January 08, 2024 11:00 AM- 03:00 PM	January 19, 2024 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://BestAuctionDeal.com>) of our auction agency **Globe Tech**. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **January 18, 2024 before 05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Door No. 23-8-156/A, 1st Floor, R. R. Enclave, New Balaji Colony, A.I.R. Bypass Road, Above ICICI Bank, Tirupati - 517502** on or before **January 18, 2024 before 04:00 PM**. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, Door No. 23-8-156/A, 1st Floor, R. R. Enclave, New Balaji Colony, A.I.R. Bypass Road, Above ICICI Bank, Tirupati - 517502** on or before **January 18, 2024 before 05:00 PM**. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank in favor of **"ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. - Auction"** payable at **Tirupati**

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300** or our Sales & Marketing Partner **NexGen Solutions Private Limited**.

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 <https://www.icicifin.com/>

Date : January 01, 2024

Place : Tirupati

Authorized Officer
ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

CHANGE OF NAME

I. SHAIK MUJIBUNNISA BEGUM (Old Name) W/o **S.JAFAR ALI**, residing at D.No.27-27, Second Cross, Ramnagar Colony, Chittoor Town and District, AP, 517001 here by declare that I have changed my name as **SHAIK MUJEEBUNISA** (New Name) for all purposes

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No.APTDC/PPP/1/2023-24, Dt.29.12.2023

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

APTDC is inviting e-tenders for selection of PPP Developers for 7 Projects at various Tourist locations in Andhra Pradesh. For further details & RFPs visit <https://tender.apecprocurement.gov.in> and www.tourism.ap.gov.in

Sd/- **K. KANNA BABU, IAS., Managing Director**

DIPR No.25789PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt.29/12/2023

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

RAMAYATPATNAM PORT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

e-Procurement Tender Notice

Online tender Notice No.06/Locomotive/SE/RPDC/2023, Dt: 29.12.2023

Online tenders are invited for the following works. **NIT No.06/Locomotive/SE/RPDC/2023**. "For Package for Design, Manufacturing, Supply & Commissioning of 2 Nos. 1600 HP Diesel Hydraulic Locomotives (Each Locomotive should contain two Diesel Powerpacks of each 800HP), 1 Set of Intelligent Rail Monitoring System using Drone and 1 Number of In-Motion Weigh Bridge 140 MT capacity".

The details can be viewed and download online directly through www.tender.apecprocurement.gov.in from 03.01.2024 onwards. Last date for submission of online Tenders is 18.01.2024 till 3.00 PM.

Sd/- **Superintending Engineer, RPDC, Mangalagiri**

DIPR No.2575PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt.29/12/2023

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited

KMF Complex, Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore-560 029.

Phone: 080-26096782, 871

E-mail: director.marketing2@kmf.coop

Expression of Interest

Karnataka Co-operative Milk Producers Federation Ltd (KMF) Bangalore is the second largest Co-operative Milk Producers Federation in India and is marketing milk and milk products in the brand name of "NANDINI" across India. KMF is manufacturing and supplying cattle feed to the farmers through its own units spread across Karnataka. Nandini cattle feed is known for its quality throughout Karnataka. KMF intends to appoint Super stockists/distributors to market its cattle feed across South India and in this regard KMF invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from interested individuals/Firms/Organizations who are interested to be a part of KMF in marketing Nandini cattle in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh States.

Interested candidates may submit their expression of interest with relevant details and a brief write up on their experience and suitability for this on or before 15.01.2024 to director.marketing2@kmf.coop.

For any clarification, Contact Director (Marketing-2) - KMF, at the above numbers during office hours.

The EOI document can be downloaded from our website: www.Kmfhandini.coop. KMF reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications without assigning any reasons thereof.

SD/-
MANAGING DIRECTOR
KARNATAKA MILK FEDERATION Ltd.,