

Indian Man Abuses Bangkok Crowd, Warns Cops With Pistol-Shaped Lighter

In a bizarre incident, an Indian man was apprehended in Bangkok's Siam Square for brandishing a pistol-shaped lighter, sparking panic among onlookers. The incident unfolded around 4 pm on Monday in Siam Square soi 6, Pathum Wan district, prompting a swift response from the authorities. According to Bangkok Post, Sahil Ram Thadani, 41, was charged with threatening behaviour and causing a public disturbance after he allegedly waved the lighter at passersby.

Footage from the scene showed him walking around, making loud noises, and pointing a gun-shaped object at bystanders. The footage later shows Thadani sitting on the ground as security guards approach him to arrest him.

Despite efforts by police and security guards to intervene, he refused to comply and threatened the officers with the object, which was later revealed to be a cigarette lighter.

"An Indian national in Bangkok created panic on the streets after he was seen roaming around with a lighter gun intimidating commuters & shouting abuses. The chaos forced the authorities to intervene, and he was eventually detained by the local police. Thankfully, no one was injured during the incident," the video was captioned on X.

Thadani was taken to Pathum Wan police station, where he faced charges for threatening behavior and causing a public disturbance. Authorities believe his actions were influenced by hallucinations due to cannabis consumption.

According to a police report, Sahil Ram Thadani had previously served as a director for three companies in India that are no longer operational. Authorities are investigating his duration of stay in Thailand and checking for any past records of similar incidents.

Viral Video Shows Fire Erupt In Air China's Flight, Leading To Emergency Landing

Panic gripped the cabin as Air China flight CA139 from Hangzhou to Seoul had to land in Shanghai due to an emergency. During the journey, a lithium battery kept in the overhead compartment caught fire, causing fear among the passengers on board. Fortunately, all passengers remained safe.

The airline informed that the battery in an overhead compartment caught fire after the takeoff. After this, the flight was diverted towards Shanghai, where the plane has landed safely.

A video of this incident is going viral on social media, in which it can be seen that the passengers are nervous and the crew members are quickly trying to control the fire.

In the video, passengers' screams can be heard. Also, the smoke and the fire are clearly visible in the video.

Today, an Air China flight (CA139) from Hangzhou to Incheon was forced to make an emergency landing in Shanghai, China, after a lithium battery in a passenger's overhead bag caught fire.

According to the New York Times, Air China confirmed that the fire was extinguished in a few minutes and the plane was diverted to Shanghai. Soon the crew member were able to control the fire and no injuries were reported. Due to timely action, a major accident was averted and all travelers arrived safely.

The fire incident comes months after China imposed an emergency ban on some portable batteries in aeroplanes. The move was taken in June after a regulatory body warned about the increasing threat these batteries posed to flights.

Lithium batteries, which are found in many mobile phones, laptops, chargers and e-cigarettes, have been recalled by the millions in recent years due to a fire hazard. The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) says that if these batteries are damaged or have a short circuit, they can spontaneously combust.

Prince Andrew Asked Police To Dig Up Dirt On Sexual Abuse Accuser: Report



LONDON: Britain's Prince Andrew asked police in 2011 to dig up personal information about Virginia Giuffre, the woman who accused him of sexually abusing her as a teenager, a British newspaper reported on Sunday, days after the royal gave up his Duke of York title.

London's Metropolitan Police said it was "actively looking" into the allegations in the Mail on Sunday report. Buckingham Palace did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Andrew, the younger brother of King Charles, said on Friday he would no longer use his title following years of criticism about his behavior and connections to the late US sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

He said the accusations - which he has repeatedly denied - were a distraction from the work of the king and the royals. Sunday's report, however, suggests the move has failed to contain the scandal.

Andrew, 65, stepped down from a roving UK trade ambassador role in 2011, before quitting all royal duties in 2019 and then was stripped of his military links and royal patronages in 2022 amid allegations of sexual misconduct. That year, he settled a lawsuit brought by Giuffre, who died by suicide in April, which accused

him of sexually abusing her when she was a teenager. Andrew has always denied her account, which has returned to prominence with the release of her memoir.

The report in the Mail on Sunday said Andrew had asked one of his personal protection officers to dig up information about his accuser, citing an email sent by Andrew to Queen Elizabeth's deputy press secretary at the time.

Andrew said he had given police her date of birth and social security number, adding that he believed she had a criminal record in the United States, according to the email quoted by the Mail on Sunday.

Giuffre's family told the newspaper she did not have a criminal record. There is no suggestion that the officer complied, the Mail on Sunday said. "We are aware of media reporting and are actively looking into the claims made," a spokesperson for the Metropolitan Police said.

British Energy Secretary Ed Miliband told the BBC the new allegations were "deeply concerning".

"25,000 Americans Would've Died": Trump As US Strikes 'Drug-Carrying Submarine'

UNITED STATES: President Donald Trump said Saturday the United States was sending two suspected drug traffickers back to their native Ecuador and Colombia, after a military strike on their "drug-smuggling submarine" in the Caribbean that killed two others. "It was my great honor to destroy a very large DRUG-CARRYING SUBMARINE that was navigating towards the United States on a well known narcotrafficking transit route," Trump said on his Truth Social platform, adding that the vessel was loaded with fentanyl and other drugs.

"Two of the terrorists were killed. The two surviving terrorists are being returned to their Countries of origin, Ecuador and Colombia, for detention and prosecution." Colombian President Gustavo Petro confirmed that the Colombian suspect had been repatriated. "We are glad he is alive and he will be prosecuted according to the law," Petro said on social media platform X. The strike, which Trump had announced on Friday, was the latest in an unprecedented US military campaign that he says is aimed at choking the flow of drugs from Latin America to the United States. At least six vessels, most of them speedboats.

'No Kings' Protests Sweep US Cities, Millions Rally Against Trump

UNITED STATES: Protesters spanning all age groups took to the streets en masse for "No Kings" rallies across the United States on Saturday, denouncing what they view as authoritarian tendencies and unbridled corruption of US President Donald Trump.

Organisers expected millions of people to turn out by day's end at more than 2,600 planned rallies in major cities, small towns and suburbs, challenging a Trump-led agenda that has reshaped the government and upended democratic norms with unprecedented speed since he took office in January.

By all accounts, the demonstrations were largely festive, often featuring inflatable characters and marchers dressed in costumes. The demographically mixed crowds included parents pushing youngsters in strollers alongside retirees and people with pets in tow. "There is nothing more American than saying, 'We don't have kings' and exercising our right to peacefully protest," said Leah Greenberg, co-founder of Indivisible, a progressive organisation that led planning of Saturday's events.

Demonstrators filled Times Square in New York City, where police said they made "zero protest-related arrests" even as more than 100,000 people rallied



peacefully across all five boroughs.

Events in Boston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Denver, Chicago and Seattle also drew crowds that each appeared to encompass thousands, if not tens of thousands, of people. On the West Coast, more than a dozen rallies occurred around the Los Angeles area, including the primary site downtown. In Seattle, demonstrators filled a parade route that stretched for more than a mile from downtown through the Seattle Center plaza around the city's landmark Space Needle. More than 25,000 protested peacefully in San Diego, police said. The protests reflected growing unease among many Americans, mainly on the ideological left, with developments such as the criminal prosecution of Trump's perceived political enemies, his militarized immigration crackdown and the sending

of National Guard troops into US cities - a move Trump has said was aimed at fighting crime and protecting immigration agents.

As his administration has tried to rapidly implement its policies, Trump has installed inexperienced loyalists throughout the ranks of his administration and sought to apply pressure on the news media, law firms and universities.

Saturday's rallies were boisterous but orderly, with police largely keeping a low profile.

Demonstrators filled a street in Washington, DC, to march toward the US Capitol, chanting and carrying signs, US flags and balloons, as a carnival-like atmosphere prevailed.

Aliston Elliot, wearing a Statue of Liberty headpiece and holding a "No Wannabe Dictators" sign, said: "We want to show our support for democracy and fighting for what is right."

War In Gaza Not Over Until Hamas Disarms: Israeli PM Netanyahu



Palestinian Territories: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned on Saturday that the war in Gaza would not be over until Hamas was disarmed and the Palestinian territory demilitarised.

His declaration came as Hamas's armed wing, the Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades, handed over the remains of two further hostages on Saturday night under a US-brokered ceasefire agreement.

Netanyahu's office said late Saturday that a Red Cross team had received the remains of two hostages from Hamas and handed them to Israeli forces in Gaza, from where they would be taken to Israel to be identified.

The issue of the dead hostages still in Gaza has become a sticking point in the implementation of the first phase of the ceasefire. Israel has linked the reopening of the key Rafah crossing to the territory to the recovery of the hostages' remains.

Netanyahu cautioned that completing the ceasefire's second phase was essential

to ending the war and involved the dismantling of Hamas and the demilitarisation of the Gaza Strip.

"When that is successfully completed -- hopefully in an easy way, but if not, in a hard way -- then the war will end," he added in an appearance on right-wing Israeli Channel 14.

Hamas has so far resisted the idea and since the pause in fighting has moved to reassert its control over Gaza. The US State Department on Saturday said it had "credible reports" that Hamas was planning an imminent attack against civilians in Gaza, warning that would be a "ceasefire violation".

"Should Hamas proceed with this attack, measures

will be taken to protect the people of Gaza and preserve the integrity of the ceasefire," it said in a statement, without elaborating on the nature or target of such an attack.

Rafah Crossing Closed Under the ceasefire deal brokered by US President Donald Trump, Hamas has so far released all 20 living hostages, along with the remains of nine Israelis and one Nepalese.

In exchange, Israel has released nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners and 135 other bodies of Palestinians since the truce came into effect on October 10.

Hamas has said it needs time and technical assistance to recover the remain-

ing bodies, which it says are buried under Gaza's rubble.

Netanyahu's office said he had "directed that the Rafah crossing remain closed until further notice".

"Its reopening will be considered based on how Hamas fulfils its part in returning the hostages and the bodies of the deceased, and in implementing the agreed-upon framework," it said, referring to the week-old ceasefire deal.

Hamas warned late Saturday that the closure of the Rafah crossing would cause "significant delays in the retrieval and transfer of remains".

Digging Latrines Further delays to the reopening could also complicate the task facing Tom Fletcher, the UN head of humanitarian relief, who was in northern Gaza on Saturday.

"To see the devastation -- this is a vast part of the city, just a wasteland -- and it's absolutely devastating to see," he told AFP.

Fletcher said the task ahead for the UN and aid agencies was a "massive, massive job".

Jeffrey Epstein Made Millions From Billionaire Leon Black, New Emails Reveal

Convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein reportedly bombarded billionaire Leon Black with aggressive emails demanding millions annually to fund his lavish lifestyle.

The 2015-2016 emails reveal the close personal and professional ties between Epstein and Black, 74, who had hired the disgraced financier as his wealth adviser for tax, investment, and art matters, reported The New York Times.

Epstein lashed out at Black's financial advisers and called his "retarded" children responsible for creating a "really dangerous mess" by trying to cut off his payments. "I never want to have any more uncomfortable money moments with you. I find it very distasteful," Epstein wrote to the Apollo Global Management founder on November 2, 2015.

Epstein made more than \$150 million from Black, even after his 2004 conviction for molesting a teenage girl and being listed as a sex offender.

By 2016, Black was hesitant to continue paying Epstein, according to The NY Times. In response, Epstein sent dozens of angry emails over several months through his personal assistant.

"So to be clear, my terms are as follows. I will only work for the usual 40 million per year. It needs to be paid, 25 million upon signing an agreement. 5 million every 2 months thereafter for 6 months ie March May June. This can begin if I am able in January. I will immediately stop work, if the payment is not received [sic],"



he wrote. In one message, Epstein referred to Black's financial advisers as a "waste of money and space." In another, he claimed they had created "a really dangerous mess." He even insulted Black's children, referring to them as "retarded" for allegedly mismanaging his estate.

After months of pressure, Epstein softened his tone. "Any non-financial issues, I am always there for you and will continue to be the best friend I can be," he wrote. Black reportedly continued to pay millions in fees and loans to Epstein for several years, until Epstein's 2019 arrest for sex trafficking.

In 2021, Black stepped down as CEO of Apollo Global Management following scrutiny over his ties to Epstein, which dated back to the 1990s.

Black has denied knowledge of Epstein's crimes. Multiple allegations have since surfaced. One woman accused him of rape at Epstein's Manhattan townhouse, but later dropped the case. Another ex-girlfriend alleged sexual assault; court records show Black paid her \$9.5 million under a nondisclosure agreement following their six-year relationship.

Riders Left Dangling 100 Feet In The Air After Ride Malfunctions In North Carolina

A technical issue caused a ride at the North Carolina State Fair to abruptly stop, leaving dozens of passengers suspended nearly 100 feet in the air. The Vertigo ride malfunctioned due to a low-voltage problem, stranding fairgoers in mid-air, People reported.

According to Wesley Waugh, Director of Communications for the North Carolina Department of Labor, the ride's safety system worked as designed, automatically stopping due to a low-voltage fault to ensure passenger safety. All passengers were safely evacuated after fair staff and emergency crews intervened.

"The ride came to a controlled stop, allowing for the safe and timely manual evacuation of all patrons. At no point was anyone at risk," he continued.

The precaution was performed "exactly as intended," added Waugh.

Videos of the incident showed anxious passengers stranded at the ride's peak, overlooking the fairgrounds. Rider Hannah Norris shared her frightening experience, admitting she thought they would drop and recounted praying with her son for safety.

She said, "All I could think was, 'We're going to

drop. I just started praying. Me and my son, we just started saying a prayer."

The incident happened despite a pre-opening inspection by the North Carolina Department of Labor, which checked nearly 100 rides on October 16. North Carolina state law requires portable rides, like those used at the fair, to undergo inspection at each new location.

The Vertigo's operating company apologised for the inconvenience and offered affected riders a complimentary ride once the attraction receives safety clearance and reopens.

Earlier in July, at least 23 people were injured after a ride in an amusement park in Saudi Arabia's Taif malfunctioned and broke into two. The ride, a high-speed attraction, malfunctioned due to a structural failure, causing the passenger platform to crash to the ground. Witnesses described scenes of panic and disbelief as the ride gave way, sending riders crashing down.

The incident prompted widespread concern and calls for stricter safety regulations in amusement parks. The park was immediately closed, and an investigation was launched to determine the cause of the malfunction and ensure accountability.

"Always Felt At Home In India": Iranian Envoy Pens Heartfelt Farewell Note



Iraj Elahi, former Ambassador of Iran in Delhi, concluded his diplomatic mission in India, after which, in a heartfelt farewell note, he said that India and Iran were natural partners.

Elahi said that he was happy to note that during his tenure, Chabahar became operational, which was a key milestone.

"I firmly believe that the natural potentials, cultural affinities, and shared strategic independence of Iran and India make them natural partners. I am pleased that during this tenure, cooperation between our two nations in the strategic port of Chabahar became operational -- a gateway that will soon be connected to Iran's railway network, serving regional growth and the global economy," he said.

Message from Dr. Iraj Elahi, former Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New Delhi, on the occasion of the conclusion of his mission in India

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

As my diplomatic mission in India comes to an end, I leave this...

"As my diplomatic mission in India comes to an end, I leave this beautiful land with cherished and unforgettable memories. During my stay, I always felt at home among the warm and gracious people of India. I have witnessed firsthand the tireless efforts of the great Indian nation and its government to achieve its rightful global standing -- a goal I am confident India will soon attain," he added.

Elahi appreciated India's

rich cultural heritage and lauded India for standing by Iran in times of need.

"Over these years, I have had the privilege of visiting many regions and cities across India, exploring its rich cultural and historical heritage. I deeply felt the enduring bonds of friendship between the great peoples of Iran and India, who have stood by each other through the tides of history," he said.

He then invited Indians to visit Iran and experience their civilizational ties.

"Equally important, significant steps were taken to enhance people-to-people exchanges. I warmly invite all Indian friends to visit Iran, discover its beauty firsthand, and experience the deep historical and cultural ties between our two ancient civilisations," he said. India and Iran share a millennia-long history of interactions.

The contemporary relationship draws upon the strength of these historical and civilisational ties, and continues to grow further, marked by high-level exchanges, commercial and connectivity cooperation, cultural and robust people-to-people ties.

Pakistan, Afghanistan Agree To Ceasefire After Days Of Deadly Clashes

Islamabad: Afghanistan and Pakistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire, Qatar's Foreign Ministry said Sunday. It follows more than a week of fighting that has killed dozens of people and injured hundreds.

The two sides agreed to establish mechanisms to consolidate lasting peace and stability, as well as holding follow-up talks in the coming days to ensure the ceasefire's sustainability, the Qatari statement said.

Delegations from Afghanistan and Pakistan were in Doha for talks to resolve the deadliest crisis between them in several years. The talks were mediated by Qatar and Turkey.

Both governments had sent their defence ministers to lead the talks, which Pakistan said would focus on "immediate measures to end cross-border terrorism emanating from Afghanistan and restore peace and stability along the border." Each country has said it was responding to aggression from the other. Afghanistan denies harbouring terrorists who carry out attacks in border areas.

Regional powers, including Saudi Arabia and Qatar, have called for calm, as the

violence threatened to further destabilize a region where groups including the Islamic State group and al-Qaida are trying to resurface.

A 48-hour ceasefire intended to pause hostilities expired Friday evening. Hours later, Pakistan struck across the border.

Pakistani security officials confirmed to The Associated Press Saturday that there were strikes on two districts in Afghanistan's eastern Paktika province.

The targets were hideouts of the Hafiz Gul Bahadur group, according to the officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media. One said the operation was a direct response to the suicide bombing of a security forces compound in Mir Ali, in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province a day earlier.

The Pakistani Air Force raids killed dozens of armed fighters and there were no civilian deaths, they said.

But Afghan officials said the aerial assaults killed at least 10 civilians, including women, children and local cricketers.