

Japan's Internet Is So Fast, It Can Download All Of Netflix In 1 Second

It's not just the high-speed rail network, the best airports and earthquake-resistant buildings. Japan has added another feather to its infrastructural cap - it now boasts the world's fastest Internet.

Researchers achieved a blazing speed of 1.02 petabits per second, fast enough to download the entire Netflix library in the blink of an eye.

To put things in context, the country's web browsing and downloading speed is 16 million times faster than India's average internet speed of 63.55 Mbps and 3.5 million times faster than the average internet connection in the US, according to a report by the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT).

The Photonic Network Laboratory team at Japan's NICT, in collaboration with Sumitomo Electric and European Partners, took the gargantuan leap in technology. It is the world's fastest network and sends data over a long distance of 1,808 km per second using a special fibre optic cable with 19 cores.

It is also estimated that with Japan's new internet speed, one could download the entire English Wikipedia 10,000 times in just one second. Wikipedia in English is said to take up about 100 GB of space, as per Gadadget. You can also download 8K videos within a second.

The optic fibre cable is the same size as the ones we already use in our current internet infrastructure. It is 0.125 mm thick. The total data sent over distance was 1.86 exabits per second times kilometres, the highest ever achieved. So, it has proved that this ultra-fast network can run on today's installed cables, according to NICT.

Sumitomo Electric has designed the optical fibre cable, while NICT has built the transmission system in collaboration with an international team.

Researchers at NICT used transmitters, receivers and 19 looping circuits, each 86.1 km long. The signals passed through these loops 21 times, covering a total of 1,808 km and carrying 180 data streams at record-breaking speed and distance.

Israel PM's "Might Of Our Heroic Army" Warning Amid Gaza Ceasefire Talks

WASHINGTON: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu signalled that Israel's war against Hamas is far from over, asserting that even a temporary ceasefire will not deter his government from pursuing its ultimate goal: the complete dismantling of Hamas's military and governing capabilities in Gaza.

As he concluded what he called a "historic visit" to Washington following a "historic victory" over Iran, Netanyahu made it clear that the 60-day ceasefire under negotiation is not a path to peace unless Hamas agrees to Israel's core conditions — full disarmament, Gaza's demilitarization, and the end of Hamas's rule.

"If this can be achieved in negotiations — so much the better. If not, we will achieve it in other ways; by applying the might of our heroic army," Netanyahu warned, making it unequivocal that military force remains firmly on the table.

He said Israel has defied warnings in the past not to resume war after earlier ceasefires — and has done so each time. "Now they're saying, 'you will not continue fighting' after the third ceasefire. Do I need to say more?" he asked rhetorically, reinforcing his government's resolve.

Netanyahu's remarks follow a meeting with families of both living and deceased hostages, where he assured them of continued efforts to secure releases — but not at the cost of Israel's broader military objectives.

Despite American pressure, including calls to avoid entering Rafah or seizing the Philadelphia Corridor, Netanyahu emphasized that Israel has "overcome" such resistance and intends to complete its mission.

Satanic Rituals, Sex Abuse: US Top Cop's Daughter Accuses Him Of Torture



The daughter of a long-time New Jersey police chief has claimed that she was tortured and sexually abused "ritualistically" for over ten years by her father, neighbour, and others.

In a lawsuit, Courtney Tamagny shared how she survived sexual abuse by her father, Leonia Police Chief Scott Tamagny, his neighbour Kevin Slevin, and a few others.

Speaking on the podcast 'We're All Insane' in April, Ms Tamagny said that generations of her father's "bloodline" had been part of a satanic cult with many of their neighbours in their town in North Jersey.

They allegedly ritually raped her and her siblings, trafficked children, and burned them alive in their local woods.

On the podcast, she

claimed that the local cultists had "tunnels" that they would use to secretly carry out their rituals, which supposedly included "burnings" that would go on all night, "drum circles," and "taking kids' blood."

"Animal burnings, animal skins, and human burnings," she said on the show, claiming that a large portion of the alleged violence was meant to scare victims into silence.

Ms Tamagny added that she was also subjected to "satanic ritual abuse," bringing light to a world that is often hidden and dark.

According to the lawsuit, Ms Tamagny was allegedly abused from 2009, when she was only 4 years old, to 2020, when she was 15.

The 20-year-old alleged she was mistreated by her

father and Slevin in their house, as well as by "ritualistic" worshippers in the woods close to their home. The father also allegedly threatened to kill her mother if she ever spoke up.

She was drugged, raped, threatened, trafficked, and tortured in nearby forested regions during "satanic rituals" performed by masked cult members, she added.

According to the lawsuit, Ms Tamagny's sisters were also allegedly abused by their father, who used drugs to make them drowsy before assaulting them while their mother was either away or wearing earplugs.

According to the lawsuit, the woman ignored the horrific events of the past until 2022, when genital pain treatment brought back memories. Later, an official abuse complaint was submitted by her therapist.

Since then, Ms Tamagny and her mother, Jeanne Tamagny, have gone public through podcasts, social media, and a Change.org petition demanding the New Jersey police chief's dismissal.

Her father, and the neighbour, Slevin, refuted allegations, saying they were thoroughly examined up to the federal level. Slevin has even filed a slander countersuit against Ms Tamagny, The New York Post reported.

Hundreds Of Earthquakes Detected At Mount Rainier In US, Officials Assess Potential Risks

An earthquake swarm began at Mount Rainier on Tuesday (July 8), with the region hit by more than 300 small quakes, the most significant seismicity at the volcano since 2009, the US Geological Survey (USGS) reported.

The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN), Cascades Volcano Observatory Public Information Officer Holly Weiss-Racine told USA Today that a total of 334 earthquakes had been identified at Mount Rainier as of Thursday, July 10. This swarm consists of hundreds of very small earthquakes, with the largest so far being a magnitude 2.3 on July 8.

Is It A Matter Of Concern?

According to the USGS's Cascades Volcano Observatory, there is no indication that the level of earthquake activity is cause for concern, and the alert level and colour code for Mount Rainier remain at Green/Normal.

Scientists believe the quakes are likely caused by water movement around the crust above the magma chamber, rather than volcanic activity.

Earthquake swarms occur about 1-2 times per year at Mount Rainier; however, the recent seismic activity is unusual in terms of the number of quakes.

The swarm started on July 8 and may continue for several days.

Marco Rubio Holds "Frank" Talks With Russia's Lavrov In Malaysia



KUALA LUMPUR: Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and US top diplomat Marco Rubio held "frank" talks on the Ukraine war during a meeting Thursday, both sides said, as Washington hit out at Moscow's lack of "flexibility".

The US secretary of state said Lavrov shared new ideas on resolving the conflict which he promised to present to US President Donald Trump, but played down the prospect of a breakthrough.

The pair met hours after Moscow pummelled Kyiv for a second straight night and as the United Nations said the number of victims from Russian attacks was at its highest level in three years.

Trump, who forced the warring countries to open negotiations for the first time in three years, this week accused Russian President Vladimir Putin of talking "bullshit" on Ukraine.

The US leader's efforts to secure a ceasefire have failed to extract any concessions from the Kremlin, despite multiple calls with Putin. Rubio told reporters Lavrov had floated something "new" on the conflict, but did not give details.

"It's not a new approach. It's a new idea or a new concept that I'll take back

to the president to discuss," he said.

He added that it was not something that "automatically leads to peace, but it could potentially open the door to a path."

The US diplomat said he had also conveyed Trump's anger that the more than three-year war, triggered by Russia's 2022 invasion, was still ongoing.

"I echoed what the president said, both a disappointment and frustration at the lack of progress," Rubio said, criticising Moscow's lack of "flexibility".

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that the United States would deliver more weapons to Kyiv and that he had "specific dates" on when they would arrive, in response to an AFP question.

The leaders of Britain and France meanwhile announced they had prepared plans for a peacekeeping force to be deployed to Ukraine in the event of a ceasefire.

For his part NATO secretary general Mark Rutte said he had spoken with Trump and was "working closely with allies to get Ukraine the help they need".

- 'Shards flying at me' -

Ukraine said that two people -- a 22-year-old policeman on duty at a metro station and a 68-year-old woman -- were killed in the latest assault on the capital.

Police described Maria Dziumaga as a "kind, cheerful, sincere, responsible, and dedicated police officer" who had joined in 2023. AFP journalists heard loud detonations reverberating over Kyiv throughout the night and saw flashes from air defence systems illuminating the sky.

Resident Karyna Wolf told AFP she could hear the growing buzz of a drone grow until a large explosion rocked the flats just two floors above in her building.

"Do Not Travel To Iran": US Warns Americans of Travel Risks

WASHINGTON: The US State Department has announced a new awareness campaign warning Americans, particularly Iranian Americans, about the severe risks of travelling to Iran. US State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce asked Americans, particularly those with Iranian heritage, not to travel to Iran.

While addressing a press briefing on Thursday (local time), Bruce emphasised that the Iranian regime does not recognise dual nationality and denies consular access to detained US citizens. She announced that the US Department of State is launching a new website dedicated to warning Americans against travelling to Iran. She said, "The department is announcing a new awareness campaign warning Americans, especially Iranian Americans, about the continuing severe risks of travel to Iran. The Iranian regime does not recognize dual nationality and routinely denies consular services to detained US citizens. And while the bombing has stopped, that does not mean that it is safe to travel



to Iran, it is not. We are also launching a new website dedicated to warning Americans against travel to Iran. And there you have it (Pointing to the website displayed on the screen). You can get that website starting at state.gov...I think if you go to state.gov, you do a search, you will find that quite easily."

"The message is clear as you can tell in multiple languages. Our travel advisories are there as well. They remain in place and we cannot stress enough as we continue to do as I have multiple times from this podium. Do not travel to Iran especially those of you who are the dual citizens who have Iranian heritage. It is not safe for

anyone to travel to Iran. And again, this supplements also the existing travel advisories. It does not supplant them at travel.state.gov. Our message is clear, I think so," she added. The US State Department's statement comes against the backdrop of recent tensions following the conflict between Israel and Iran and US strikes on Iranian nuclear sites and military installations.

Earlier this week, US President Donald Trump expressed cautious optimism about avoiding further military action against Iran, noting that Tehran also doesn't want such action against it. He further stated that Iran wants to meet and work "something out" between the

Pro-Palestinian Protest Leader Mahmoud Khalil Sues Trump For \$20 Million

WASHINGTON: Mahmoud Khalil, one of the most prominent leaders of US pro-Palestinian campus protests, sued the Trump administration Thursday for \$20 million over his arrest and detention by immigration agents.

Khalil, a legal permanent resident in the United States who is married to a US citizen and has a US-born son, had been in custody following his arrest in March.



The 30-year-old was freed from a federal immigration detention center in Louisiana last month, hours after a judge ordered his release on bail.

"The administration carried out its illegal plan to arrest, detain, and deport Mr. Khalil 'in a manner calculated to terrorize him and his family,' the claim says," according to the Center for Constitutional Rights which is backing Khalil.

Khalil suffered "severe emotional distress, economic hardship (and) damage to his reputation," the claim adds.

The Columbia University graduate was a figurehead of student protests against US ally Israel's war in Gaza, and the Trump administration labeled him a national security threat.

Khalil called the lawsuit a "first step towards accountability."

"Nothing can restore the 104 days stolen from me. The trauma, the separation from my wife, the birth of my first child that I was forced to miss," he said in the statement. "There must be accountability for

political retaliation and abuse of power."

Khalil has previously shared his "horrendous" experience in detention, where he "shared a dorm with over 70 men, absolutely no privacy, lights on all the time." Assistant Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tricia McLaughlin said "the Trump Administration acted well within its statutory and constitutional authority to detain Khalil, as it does with any alien who advocates for violence, glorifies and supports terrorists, harasses Jews, and damages property."

President Donald Trump's government has justified pushing for Khalil's deportation by saying his continued presence in the United States could carry "potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences." Khalil's detention came amid Trump's campaign against top US universities in recent months, with the president facing off against Columbia, Harvard and other schools over foreign student enrollment while cutting federal grants and threatening to strip accreditation.

Jane Birkin's Hermes Bag Sold For Rs 85 Crore at Paris Auction

FRANCE: The first-ever Birkin bag designed by French luxury brand Hermes for celebrity Jane Birkin sold for 8.58 million euros (\$10 million) at a Sotheby's auction in Paris on Thursday, smashing previous price records for a handbag.

The modern design classic, owned by a Paris-based handbag collector, sparked a telephone bidding war up to seven million euros, with the final sale price set at 8.58 million with commission and fees, the Sotheby's website showed.

"After weeks of anticipation, the bidding opened at 1 million euros — prompting a gasp from the room," Sotheby's said in a statement.

The final buyer, who eclipsed eight other rivals, was a "private collector from Japan", the auction house added, without giving further details.

Birkin bag

The Birkin has become a modern design icon that is so exclusive that Hermes only offers it to loyal clients.

The previous record price for a handbag at auction was set by a diamond-encrusted crocodile skin Hermes Kelly 28, which fetched \$513,000 in 2021 at Christie's in Hong Kong.

Sotheby's had advised that the Birkin prototype was expected to beat that level during its sale.

But the staggering price tag for a well-worn item is in keeping with the fashion world's recent flashy aesthetics.

After years of so-called "quiet luxury" dominating catwalks, designers have embraced more ostentatious looks in recent seasons that have been dubbed "boom boom" by some trend forecasters.

Modern-day Birkin bags are offered by Hermes to loyal clients, with prices starting at around \$10,000.

'Nostalgic'

The original Birkin has changed hands twice since being put up for sale by Birkin at an auction in 1994 where the proceeds went to an AIDS charity, according to Sotheby's.

Thursday's sale represents an extraordinary pay day for owner Catherine Benier, who has a boutique in the upmarket 6th district in Left Bank Paris.

She said she was "astonished at the result" in a statement sent by Sotheby's.

"I'm already very nostalgic at the thought of knowing the bag is no longer mine but extremely happy it has found a new loving home," she added.

What Is Operation Baam, Massive Baloch Separatist Attack In Pakistan



At least five people, including women and children, were injured in a grenade attack in Turbat, Balochistan, on Wednesday. Violence escalated across the province following the launch of Operation Baam by the banned separatist group Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF).

According to police and local media reports, unidentified assailants on motorcycles hurled a hand grenade at the residence of Muhammad Younis in the Absar area of Turbat, part of the Kech district in southern Balochistan.

The explosion occurred in the backyard of the house, injuring residents Hajra, Mahlab, Fatima, Naz Gul, and Muhammad Ibrahim, all of whom were rushed to the District Hospital Turbat for treatment, as per Pakistani outlet Dawn.

spokesperson Major Gwahram Baloch claimed responsibility for the campaign and said, "The resistance has entered a new phase. Operation Baam is designed to demonstrate that Baloch fighters are capable of launching large-scale, synchronised operations across vast geography," as per news agency ANI.

He added that the campaign was intended to inflict both "human and material losses" on Pakistani security forces, though exact details of casualties and damage remain unclear.

Local sources and media reports indicate that the attacks severely disrupted telecommunication networks, particularly in Kech and Panjgur, where partial blackouts were reported. Security forces have launched search and clearance operations in the affected regions, but as of Thursday morning, there was no statement from the federal government on the scale of the damage or number of casualties. While the Pakistani military has yet to issue an official response, security personnel were observed increasing patrols and checkpoints in key areas of Balochistan.

Firm Friends To BRICS Brawl: What's Behind Trump's 50% Tariff On Brazil

US President Donald Trump has announced a 50 percent tariff on Brazilian imports as he accused the country's leftist leadership of orchestrating a "witch hunt" against his right-wing ally, former leader Jair Bolsonaro.

In a letter Wednesday to counterpart Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Trump insisted that Bolsonaro's trial - for allegedly plotting a coup to hold on to power after the 2022 elections he lost - "should not be taking place." Trump has historically reserved his tariff ire for countries with which the United States runs a negative trade balance. Brazil is not one. Analysts say ideological considerations, not economics, are behind the US president's actions in defense of Bolsonaro, dubbed the "Trump of the Tropics."

Firm friends

"Brazil came up on Trump's radar now because Bolsonaro's trial is advancing and there are Republican lawmakers who brought the issue to the White House," Leonardo Paz, a political scientist at Brazil's Getulio Vargas Foundation, told AFP.

Eduardo Bolsonaro, the former president's son and a Brazilian congressman, recently moved to the

United States where he lobbies for pressure on Brasilia and the judges presiding over his father's coup trial.

Lula blames Bolsonaro's son for troubling the bilateral waters, and Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes has ordered an investigation into whether the US-based campaign constitutes obstruction of justice.

Moraes is an arch foe of Bolsonaro, who has labeled the justice a "dictator."

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio spoke in May of a "great possibility" of sanctions against Moraes, who has clashed repeatedly with rightwingers and former Trump ally Elon Musk in a quest to stamp out online disinformation.

Bolsonaro calls Trump a "friend" and says they are both victims of "persecution."

'Non-economic reasons'

In his missive to Lula, Trump complained of "a very unfair trade relationship" with Brazil.

But official Brazilian figures show a near two-decade sustained surplus in favor of the United States. Last year, it was almost \$284 million.

The United States is Brazil's third-largest trading partner after China and the European Union.