



87,055

Indians returned from Singapore as part of Vande Bharat flights since 2020



GLOBAL WEATHER

Table with weather forecasts for various cities including Beijing, Colombo, Dhaka, Dubai, Houston, Istanbul, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Moscow, New York, Singapore, Toronto, and Washington.

Blinken off to Middle East to push peace talks

The goal of US Secretary of State will be to shore up ceasefire and discuss infusion of humanitarian aid into Gaza

WASHINGTON

US SECRETARY of State Antony Blinken is heading to the Middle East to press the Israelis, Palestinians and regional players to build on last week's Gaza cease-fire by laying the groundwork for an eventual resumption in long-stalled peace talks.

President Joe Biden announced Blinken would depart on Monday for a short visit to Israel, the West Bank, Jordan and Egypt for what will be the Biden administration's highest-level in-person meetings on the crisis that erupted earlier this month.

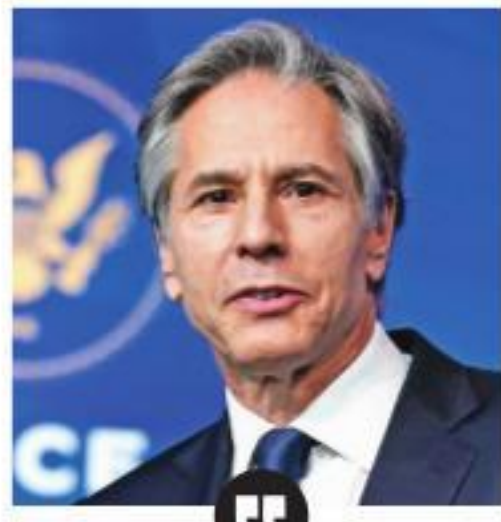
Blinken's primary goal will be to shore up the ceasefire in the hope that it will hold, dis-

cuss an urgent infusion of humanitarian assistance into Gaza, stress the need for an end to intra-communal violence within Israeli cities and lay the preliminary groundwork for a return to peace talks, according to a senior State Department official.

Biden said Blinken will work with regional partners to ensure 'the coordinated international effort to ensure immediate assistance reaches Gaza.'

While Blinken will meet with the leaders of Israel, the Palestinian Authority, Egypt and Jordan, he will not see anyone from the Hamas movement that runs Gaza.

Hamas is a US-designated 'foreign terrorist organization,' and contacts between US offi-



The time is not right for an immediate resumption of talks between two sides, but steps can be taken to repair damage from Israeli air strikes in Gaza that caused damage to civilian infrastructure and deaths

Antony Blinken, US Secy of State

cials and the group are banned. That means the US must rely on nations like Egypt and Qatar to pass messages to Hamas.

The Biden administration had been roundly criticized for its perceived hands-off initial response to the deadly violence, including from Democratic allies in Congress who were demanding it take a tougher line on Israel and its response to rocket attacks from Palestinian militant groups in Gaza. The administration has defended its response by saying it engaged in intense, but quiet, high-level diplomacy to support a cease-fire, which was ultimately arranged last week after Egyptian mediation.

Blinken on Sunday said the

behind-the-scenes effort led by Biden paid off, securing a truce after 11 days.

'President Biden leading this effort made the judgment that we could be most effective in doing that. Ultimately, after this intensive effort across the government, we got to where everyone wanted to be, which was to end the violence,' he told CNN.

'But now, as the president said, I think it's incumbent upon all of us to try to make the turn to start to build something more positive, and what that means at heart is that Palestinians and Israelis alike have to know in their day in and day out lives equal measures of opportunity, of security, of dignity,' Blinken said. AP

Italy investigators probe why cable car brake 'didn't work'

STRESA (ITALY)

THE investigation into Italy's cable car disaster that killed 14 people will focus on why the lead cable snapped and why the emergency brake didn't engage and prevent the cabin from careening back down the mountain until it pulled off the support line and crashed to the ground, the lead prosecutor said Monday.

Prosecutor Olimpia Bossi outlined the contours of her investigation based on what she said was objective, empirical fact of what occurred: 'The brakes of the security system didn't work. Otherwise the cabin would have stopped,' she said.

survivor of Sunday's horrific tragedy, a 5-year-old Israeli boy living in Italy, remained hospitalised in Turin in intensive care with multiple broken bones. The Israeli foreign ministry identified him as Eitan Biran. His parents, younger brother and two great-grandparents were among the dead.

The disaster, in the Mottarone mountaintop overlooking Lake Maggiore and other lakes near Switzerland, once again raised questions about the safety of Italy's transport infrastructure. Minister Enrico Giovannini visited the site and announced a commission of inquiry to investigate the 'technical and organizational causes' of the disaster, while prosecutors will focus on any criminal blame. AP

MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

GOLD AUCTION NOTICE

The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/06/2021 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

- List of pledges including account numbers and branch names such as JANAGAON, MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD., and various branches across different regions.

Persons wishing to participate in the above auction shall comply with the following:- Interested Bidders should submit Rs. 10,000/- as EMD (refundable to unsuccessful bidders) by way of Cash on the same day of auction. Bidders should carry valid ID card/PAN card. For more details please contact: 9388404174

Authorised Officer For Manappuram Finance Ltd.