

Uzbek man held for senior Russian general's murder US eases H1-B rules for special skills

Suspect promised reward of \$100,000, plus residency in EU; FSB

MOSCOW

RUSSIA's security service said on Wednesday that it has detained a suspect in the killing of a senior general in Moscow.



Investigators work near the remains of a scooter at the place where Lt General Igor Kirillov was killed by an explosive device, in Moscow on Tuesday | AP

The suspect was described as an Uzbek citizen recruited by Ukrainian intelligence services.

The FSB said the suspect had been promised a reward of \$100,000 and permission to move to a EU country in exchange for killing Kirillov.

The agency stated that acting on instructions from Ukraine, the suspect travelled to Moscow, where he picked up a homemade explosive device.

The suspect then rented a car to monitor the location and set up a camera that livestreamed the scene to his handlers in the central Ukrainian city of Dnipro.

The suspect faces a sentence of up to life imprisonment, the FSB said.

The suspect was detained in a village in the Moscow region, according to Ministry of Internal Affairs official Irina Volk, who was quoted by Russian state news agency TASS.

A few 100 Korean troops killed, wounded in battle

Washington: A few hundred North Korean troops fighting alongside Russian forces against Ukraine have been killed or wounded during battle in the Kursk border region, a senior official said.

Kirillov, 54, was the chief of the military's nuclear, biological and chemical protection forces and was under sanctions from several countries, including the UK and Canada, for his actions in Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

banned chemical weapons.

Russia has denied using any chemical weapons in Ukraine and has accused Kyiv of using toxic agents in combat.

Kirillov, who took his current job in 2017, was one of the most high-profile figures to level those accusations. He held numerous briefings to accuse the Ukrainian military of using toxic agents and planning to launch attacks with radioactive substances.

An official with the SBU said on Tuesday that the agency was behind the attack. The official, described Kirillov as a 'war criminal and an entirely legitimate target.'

WASHINGTON

THE outgoing Biden administration has relaxed rules for H-1B visas that will make it easier for American companies to hire foreign workers with special skills.

The most sought-after H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in speciality occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise.

from India and China.

The rule, announced by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) on Tuesday, aims to provide greater flexibility to employers and workers by modernising the definition and criteria for special positions.

The changes will help US employers hire as per their business needs and remain competitive in the global marketplace, an official release said.

According to the DHS, the rule also extends certain flexibilities for students on F-1 visas seeking to change their status to H-1B to avoid disruptions in

MTCR export policies for India up for update

The Biden administration is in the process of finalising a national security memorandum that will update America's export control policies under the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).

lawful status and employment authorisation for students holding F-1 visas.

It also will allow US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to process applications more quickly for most individ-

uals who had previously been approved for an H-1B visa.

It will also allow H-1B visa holders with a controlling interest in the petitioning organisation to be eligible for H-1B status subject to reasonable conditions.

"American businesses rely on the H-1B visa programme for the recruitment of highly-skilled talent, benefiting communities across the country," said Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N Mayorkas.

"These improvements provide employers with flexibility to hire global talent, boost our competitiveness, and allow highly skilled workers to continue to advance American innovation," he said.

Bangladesh HC commutes ULFA leader's sentence

DHAKA

A Bangladeshi High Court on Wednesday commuted the death sentence of ULFA leader Paresh Baruah to life imprisonment and acquitted a former junior minister and five others in a 2004 case of attempted smuggling of weapons to the separatist outfit in northeast India.

Baruah, who is believed to be living in China, was sentenced to death after a trial in absentia in 2014. His name also figures in the 'most wanted' list of National Investigation Agency (NIA). Ten truckloads of weapons were seized in April 2004 despite alleged efforts of certain 'influential quarters' for its safe passage to United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) hideouts in northeastern India through Chattogram, which was then spelled as 'Chittagong'.

The seized weapons included over 27,000 grenades, 150 rocket launchers, over 11 lakh ammunition, 1,100 sub machine guns and 11.41 million bullets.

The two-member High Court bench reduced Baruah's death sentence to life imprisonment, said a government attorney at the bench. The High Court bench comprising Justice Mostafa Zaman Islam and Justice Nasrin Akhtar acquitted former state minister for home Lutfuzzaman Babar and six others, who were handed down capital punishment following the death reference hearing, he added.

IMF flexible on rigid state revenue tax, says SL prez Dissanayake

COLOMBO

PRESIDENT Anura Kumara Disanayake on Wednesday announced that Sri Lanka has achieved flexibility with the IMF on its rigid state revenue tax regime, something that was part of his election promise.

Also, import of private cars - banned from 2020 - would be allowed from February 2025, Disanayake, who is also the Minister of Finance, told the parliament.

Speaking about the agreements reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) during its third review of the \$2.9 billion Extended Fund Facility (EFF), the president said his government has been able to raise the tax threshold.

"We have been able to raise the tax threshold of pay as you earn so that those who have bigger incomes pay more while those who earn less pay less," he said, adding there would be other VAT exemptions and withholding tax on interest incomes for the retired.

"An income of Rs 1,50,000 per month will be tax free," Disanayake said referring to the current free amount upto only Rs 1,00,000.

Fresh from his return from an official visit to India, he said the ban on vehicle imports would be gradually lifted.

"From December 14, we have allowed the importation of the first category vehicles for passenger transport and cars for special purposes.

From February 2025 all imports of private cars would be allowed, he said.

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E-Auction Sale Notice (For Sale of Immovable Properties) Rule 8 (6) & 9 (1)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Borrowers/Guarantors (1) Mr. Pravaraj P, (2) Mr. Narayanan M, (3) Mrs. Preetha P and (4) Mr. Murali P, all are residing at Preetha Nivas, Panangad, Anandhashram V, Ambalathara, Kanthirapoyil (PO), Kasargod, Kerala-671531.

Name of Property Owner: Mrs. Preetha P and Mr. Pravaraj P. Description of property: All that part and parcel of land measuring 30 cents along with all other construction, improvements, easementary rights existing and appurtenant there on situated in Sy No. 100/pt.11, 12 with in Ambalathara Village, Hosdurg Taluk, Kasargod District, and owned by Preetha P and Pravaraj P more fully described in Jenmam Deed No. 4122/2012 and 4123/2012 both dated 01.10.2012 of Sub Registrar Office Nileshwar. BOUNDARIES: North: Property of Radha, South: Road, East: Property of Chandran, West: Property of Raman.

Reserve Price: Rs. 9,00,000.00 (Rupees Nine Lakh Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): Rs. 90,000.00 (Rupees Ninety Thousand Only)
Bid Increment amount: Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Date and time of E-auction: 17.01.2025 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

EXPRESS READ

Japanese space startup aborts launch second time

Tokyo: A Japanese space startup said its second attempt to launch a rocket carrying satellites into orbit had been aborted minutes after liftoff on Wednesday and destroyed itself again.

Canara Bank REGIONAL OFFICE KASARGOD
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SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) & 9 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/Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Canara Bank will be sold on 'AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS, AND WHATEVER THERE IS' on 22/01/2025 for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Canara Bank.

I) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, PARIYARAM BRANCH (DP CD: 14237)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrowers: Mr. Satheesan K, S/o Damodaran Nambiar, Guarantor/Surety: Mrs. Vijji KP, W/o Satheesan K, both are residing at Kalprath House, Kadannappally (PO), Kannur 670 502.

II) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, TALIPARAMBA-1 BRANCH (DP CD: 2506)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrowers: Sri Babu T, S/o Narayanan T, and Guarantor: Smt. Smitha P, W/o Babu T, both are residing at Trichambarakkaran Palakulanga, Kannur, Kerala 670 141.

III) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, NADUVIL TOWN BRANCH (DP CD: 14244)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrower: Smt. Bindu Madhu, and Guarantor: Sri Mohanan S, S/o. Sri Kesavan Nair, both are residing at Sreevilasam House, Naduvil P.O. Naduvil, Kannur 670 582.

IV) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, NADUVIL TOWN BRANCH (DP CD: 14244)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrower: Sri. Jins Devasya, S/o. Devasya, and Guarantor/Surety: Sri. Jibin Devasya, S/o. Devasya, both are residing at Kollamkunnel, Peruvattam, Chittadi PO, Thirumeni, Cherupuzha, Kannur 670 511.

V) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, NADUVIL TOWN BRANCH (DP CD: 14244)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrower: Sri. Jins Devasya, S/o. Devasya, and Guarantor/Surety: Sri. Jibin Devasya, S/o. Devasya, both are residing at Kollamkunnel, Peruvattam, Chittadi PO, Thirumeni, Cherupuzha, Kannur 670 511.

VI) Name and Address of the Secured Creditor: Canara Bank, NADUVIL TOWN BRANCH (DP CD: 14244)
Name and address of borrowers & guarantors: Borrower: Sri. Jins Devasya, S/o. Devasya, and Guarantor/Surety: Sri. Jibin Devasya, S/o. Devasya, both are residing at Kollamkunnel, Peruvattam, Chittadi PO, Thirumeni, Cherupuzha, Kannur 670 511.

Description of the Immovable/Movable Properties with name of the owner/Mortgage: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of 6.88 Acres (3.48 cents) of Land and Residential Building situated in R.S.No.18/645,18/646,18/647 of Nedyiyanga Village, Taliparamba Taluk with SRO Sreekanthapuram in the name of Smt. Jins Devasya. Boundaries as: East by: Nedyiyanga Chappani Panchayat Road, West by: Property of Xavier, North by: Property of Xavier, South by: Property of Gangadharan.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link 'E-Auction' provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or service provider M/s PSB Alliance Ltd (BAANKNET). E-mail id: support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com and IBA website (https://www.iba.in) or may contact SI No:1: Branch Manager, Canara Bank, Pariyaram Branch (Ph.No.9495004237), SI.No:2: Branch Manager, Canara Bank Taliparamba-1 Branch (Ph.No.7403382313), SI.No: 3,4,5: Branch Manager, Canara Bank, Naduvil Town Branch (Ph.No.9495004244) or Regional Office, Kasargod, Canara Bank, (Ph.No.9188528088, 9188522846) during office hours on any working day.

GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION IT CELL
I.T.C.C.No.C1/2435/2024 ERRATA
Following errata is made to the tender notice of IT Cell, Greater Chennai Corporation published in New Indian Express dated : 27.11.2024

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
# 49, East Wing, 4th & 5th Floor, Khanija Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in
No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-35/587/2024-25 Date: 18.12.2024
SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Notice for invitation of Tenders (e-Bidding) - OPEN TENDER ROUND 14
MSEB SOLAR AGRO POWER LIMITED (MSAPL) has been incorporated as a wholly owned subsidiary of MSEB Holding Company Ltd. and is acting as the Nodal Agency for implementation of Mukhyamantri Saur Krishi Yojana 2.0 (MSKVY 2.0)- Scheme launched for implementation of Feeder level solarisation under Component C of PM - KUSUM Scheme in the State of Maharashtra.