

## More than 100 killed in passenger plane crash in Cuba

Agency  
Havana, May 19

A Cuban state airways plane with 110 passengers and crew on board crashed shortly after taking off from Havana, killing all but three people on board in a mass of twisted and smoldering fuselage. Cuban state media reported that three women had been pulled alive from the mangled wreckage and were in critical condition in hospital. They were the only known survivors from the nearly 40-year-old Boeing 737, operated by Cubana de Aviación. It crashed into a field close to a wooded area near Jose Martí airport, sending a thick column of acrid smoke into the air. The 110 people aboard included six Mexican crew, said the Mexico-based company that leased the plane, Global Air, also known as Aerolíneas Damojh. Two victims were Argentine, the country's foreign ministry said. Most of the others were Cuban, according to state media. The plane — carrying 104 passengers — was almost completely destroyed in the crash and subsequent fire. Firefighters raced to the scene along with a fleet of

ambulances to put out the blaze, as emergency personnel combed through the wreckage. What appeared to be one of the wings of the plane was wedged among scorched tree trunks, but the main fuselage was almost entirely destroyed. Cuba's President Miguel Díaz-Canel, who visited the scene, said an investigation has been opened into the disaster, and that its findings would be made public as soon as possible. A press conference was scheduled for 1900 GMT on Saturday. The 58-year-old president, who succeeded Raul Castro as the communist island's leader only last month, appeared aghast as he surveyed the recovery efforts, wearing a short-sleeved green shirt and surrounded by officials. He said an investigation into the cause of the accident was underway. Cuba declared two days of national mourning. Raul Castro sent condolences to families of the victims of the "catastrophic accident," a statement read, as Russian President Vladimir Putin and a string of Latin American

leaders also expressed sympathy. Airport sources said the plane took off at 12.08pm (1608 GMT) heading for the eastern city of Holguín, 670 kilometres away. From the supermarket where he works near the airport, Jose Luis, 49, said he could see the plane taking off before it banked and plunged to the ground. "I saw it taking off. All of a sudden, it made a turn, and went down. We were all amazed," he said. Yasníel Díaz, a 21-year-old musician, said the pilot appeared to attempt an emergency landing, but crashed instead. "The explosion shook everything," he said. "I started running, I was so afraid." Images from Cuban television showed rescue workers at the scene removing what appeared to be a survivor on a stretcher as rain began to fall. Global Air said the plane was flying with a crew of six Mexicans — the pilot, co-pilot, three flight attendants and a maintenance technician. In Mexico City, anguished relatives and colleagues of the crew gathered outside the company's offices demanding

information — some of them hugging and crying.

"I was friends with the captain, with the co-pilot, with the head flight attendant," said a former Global Air employee, 44-year-old Ana Marlene Covarrubias. "When I heard the news on the phone, I thought it was one of those jokes people play," she told AFP. Mexico said it had sent two civil aviation specialists to help in the investigation. The Mexican communications and transportation ministry said the plane was built in 1979. Global Air had the necessary permits to lease it, and had passed inspections in November last year, it said. The company, formed in 1990, had a fleet of three planes, all Boeing 737s. Prior to Friday's crash, Cuba's most recent air accident occurred in April 2017, when eight military personnel died when a Russian-made AN-26 transport aircraft went down in western Cuba. The country's last major airline disaster was in November 2010 when a Cuban Aerocaribbean jet crashed on a flight from Santiago de Cuba to Havana, killing all 68 people on board, including 28 foreigners.

## PM kick starts work for strategic Zojila tunnel in Leh

Agency  
Leh, May 19

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today kickstarted work for Zojila tunnel, Asia's longest and strategic bi-directional tunnel, to provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh. The prime minister who is on a day's visit to all the three regions — Leh, Kashmir and Jammu — of Jammu and Kashmir also attended the closing ceremony of the 100th birth anniversary celebrations of the 19th Kushok Bakula Rinpoche (Buddhist spiritual guru) here.

The tunnel will cut down the time taken to cross the Zojila pass from three and a half hours to just fifteen minutes. Zojila pass is situated at an altitude of 11,578 feet on Srinagar-Kargil-Leh National Highway and remains closed during winters due to heavy snowfall, cutting off Ladakh region from Kashmir. The project aims at construction of 14.15 kilometre-long two lane bi-directional single tube tunnel. At the ceremony here, Modi said projects worth Rs 25,000 crore would either be initiated or inaugurated today in all three regions and it showed

the commitment of the central and the state governments towards the speedy development of the state. On developmental work carried in the country after forming his government, he said 18,000 villages which did not receive power since Independence have been given electrical connectivity within 1,000 days. There are four crore households in the country which do not have electricity even after 70 years of Independence and they will be given power connections within a year and a half, he said.

## Trump nominates Pacific commander as America's new envoy to S Korea

Agency  
Washington, May 19

President Donald Trump has nominated US Pacific Command Commander Admiral Harry Harris as America's new Ambassador to South Korea ahead of his historic summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un next month. North Korea has warned that it might not attend the much-talked about summit between Trump and Kim, due to take place in Singapore on June 12, over being pushed "into a corner" on nuclear disarmament. Leaders of North and South

Korea held a meeting on April 27 and agreed to work to rid the Korean peninsula of nuclear weapons. The nomination of the 61-year-old commander is subject to confirmation by the US Senate. Admiral Harris earlier was nominated by Trump as his next envoy to Australia, but the president changed his mind and decided to send him to South Korea. Currently serving as the 24th commander of US Pacific Command, Admiral Harris is a highly decorated, combat-proven Naval officer with extensive knowledge, leadership and geopolitical expertise in the

Indo-Pacific region, the White House said. A frequent visitor to India, Admiral Harris has been a strong advocate of India-US relationship. He graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1978 and was designated a naval flight officer in 1979. He earned an MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, MA from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service, and attended Oxford University. During his 40-year career, he served in every geographic combatant command region and has held seven command assignments, including the US Pacific Fleet, the US Sixth Fleet and VP-46.

## 19 killed after cement-laden truck overturns on highway in Gujarat

Agency  
Ahmedabad, May 19

Sixteen labourers and three children were killed and six others were injured after a truck they were travelling in overturned on a highway in Gujarat's Bhavnagar, 170 kilometres from Ahmedabad. The accident happened when the cement-laden truck while taking a turn in high-speed lost control and overturned on the highway. The truck was coming from Pipavav Port in Bhavnagar, the police said. "There were 25 labourers travelling in the truck. The vehicle turned turtle early morning and 19 labourers were crushed to death," Ahmedabad Superintendent of Police RV Asari said.

Of the 18 people who died on the spot, 12 were women and three were children; another person died in a hospital, police said. The six other injured people have been admitted to a nearby hospital, the officer said.

"The accident seems to have taken place as the driver of the truck lost control over the vehicle. The driver fled from the accident site. Police have formed teams to look for him," Mr Asari said. "My thoughts are with the families of those who lost their lives due to an accident near the Bhavnagar - Ahmedabad Highway in Gujarat. I pray that those who have been injured in the accident recover at the earliest," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted.

## Chidambaram slams BJP for putting 'hurdles' in Karnataka trust vote

Agency  
New Delhi, May 19

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram today slammed the BJP for putting "hurdles" in conducting the trust vote in Karnataka Assembly and asked how many "tricks" the saffron party will "invent" to win it. In a series of tweets, Chidambaram said it was due to the Supreme Court the trust vote is being carried out today and it was a commentary that on a purely State matter, the parties do not repose confidence in the state High Court. The Congress and JD(S) directly approached the apex court instead of the state high court. "First, give us 15 days. Second,

Anglo Indian member. Third, secret ballot. Fourth, colluding pro-tem Speaker. Fifth, under invention! "How many tricks will the BJP invent before the Karnataka Assembly votes on the motion of confidence? How many hurdles will they place?" he tweeted.

The former finance and home minister said if 221 elected men and women (in Karnataka as MLA) cannot decide who among them enjoys the confidence of the majority "Why call ourselves a democracy?". The Congress and JD(S) formed an alliance after the results and staked claim to form the government.

## Name changed

I, the undersigned, **Hijam Deveeka**, w/o Rajkumar Dinesh Singh of Kwakeithel thounaojam Leikai, Imphal West 1, Manipur do hereby declare that, I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of old name **Hijam Deveeka Devi**, as I have assumed my new name **Hijam Deveeka**.

Sd/-  
Hijam Deveeka

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### South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management

Affiliated to Manipur University (A Central University)

The South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management (SAIRAM) was established by the South Asian Rural and Agricultural Management Foundation (SARAF), registered as a Non-Profit making Company under the Indian Companies Act 2013 and affiliated with Manipur University (A Central University). The institute desires to achieve academic, profession and research excellence using innovative, creative, collaborative and sustainable practices.

#### ADMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMES:

Course	Duration
1. Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)* in i) Agriculture ii) Horticulture iii) Biotechnology	4 years 4 years 3 years
2. Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA)**	3 years
3. Short-term Skill Development (STS)*** in Plant Micro propagation Techniques, Medicinal Plant	6 months
4. Certificate Courses in Foreign Language (CCFL)**** in i) Japanese ii) Chinese iii) Korean iv) Thai	6 months

\*Eligibility for admission to B.Sc. Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate (45% marks for SC & ST Candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates) in Science with Biology as a subject  
\*\*Eligibility for admission to BBA Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate in any discipline (45% marks for SC and ST Candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates)

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HOW TO APPLY: Candidates can get the Application Form from the Office of the Institute on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) during office hours. Application forms can also be downloaded from the institute's website: [www.sairam.org.in](http://www.sairam.org.in) and submit the duly filled in application form with relevant documents. The candidates who downloaded the application form from the website should pay the application fee of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) at the time of submission of the form in cash or Demand Draft drawn in favour of SOUTH ASIAN RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT (SARAF) FOUNDATION, payable at Imphal

#### IMPORTANT DATES:

Date of issue of Application form : 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 onwards  
Last date for submission of duly filled in Application Form : 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018  
Last date for admission of forms for respective programmes : 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018

SELECTION PROCEDURE: Application forms will be shortlisted and merit list will be prepared based on the marks they secured in their 10+2 certificate examination.

#### SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM

The duly filled in and signed application forms with self attested copies of relevant documents should be submitted to the undersigned on or before 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018

#### Director

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