

Nepali Climber Missing On Everest For 6 Days Found Alive

Kathmandu, 4 June : A Nepali climbing guide who went missing on Mount Everest for six days and was feared dead has been found alive after crawling back to Base Camp, officials told AFP on Thursday. The experienced Hillary Dawa Sherpa vanished on the upper reaches of the world's highest mountain early on May 30.

He was found on Thursday morning close to Base Camp by the Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC), a Nepali team that helps set routes on Everest and clean up waste left behind. "He was crawling down," Pemba Sherpa of 8K Expeditions, which was overseeing search and rescue efforts, told AFP.

"A helicopter has been sent to bring him to a hospital in Kathmandu." Climber Chris Thrall, a former British Royal Marine, said he successfully summited the 8,849-metre (29,032-foot) peak with Sherpa around 5:00 pm on May 29.

He posted a video message on Instagram on Wednesday mourning what he thought was the death of Sherpa. He called Sherpa an "absolute gentle giant of a man and a true 'tiger of the mountains'", in a post that assumed the worst.

Thrall described how on May 30 he had begun to descend from Camp Four -- at around 7,950m -- and just below the low-oxygen "death zone". He said that as he descended, Sherpa stopped.

"He sat down for a rest with his backpack, these guys carry huge loads," he said. "And I turned and I said, 'Hillary, are you okay, brother?' He said, 'Yes, yes, fine Chris, please go, go!' This is nothing new, you know, I'd go ahead, he'd go ahead." As Thrall went down he found a Polish climber who was struggling after running out of supplementary oxygen and had suffered frostbite. "It had been a long summit push. What should have been five days to the summit and back took us 11 days, that's how challenging the conditions were," said Thrall.

"So, do I go back for Sherpa, who's probably going to rock up and be fine, as he has done hundreds of times before?" he added. "Or do I help my fellow climber, who's got no oxygen, frostbite in his fingers, and obviously you're never far off hypothermia up there?"

Thrall described tough conditions, sharing his oxygen cylinder with the Pole as they descended, taking 11 hours to get to Camp Three. It would usually take two hours. He said: "I realised we had a really serious situation. Search teams set out to find Sherpa but he was not seen again until Thursday morning, having made his way down on his own."

The climb was one of the last of the season, meaning that there were few other mountaineers on the peak.

At least five people have died this season -- two Indians and three Nepali climbers involved in Everest preparations. More than one thousand climbers reached the summit of Everest this season, according to initial tallies by Nepali officials, making it the busiest season on record.

The El Nino weather pattern is forming, and is expected to cause extreme weather around the world this year, the WMO said on Tuesday. Scientists say climate change will make its impact especially severe.

The World Meteorological Organisation said there is an 80 per cent chance that an El Nino event develops between June and August, and a 90% chance it will last until at least November. The statement is the clearest signal yet of the likelihood.

Donald Trump Defines Iran 'Ceasefire' As "Shooting In Moderate Manner"

Washington, 4 June : US President Donald Trump has suggested that Iran, which, according to him, is in different parts of the world, has a different understanding of the term "ceasefire". Talking to reporters at the White House, the US leader claimed that for Tehran, a temporary truce meant "when you're shooting in a more moderate manner".

Trump was asked how he would define a ceasefire just hours after the US and Iranian military exchanged fire, marking one of the most significant escalations in recent weeks.

"That's a different part of the world. You know, I'd say in that part of the world, a ceasefire is when you're shooting in a more moderate manner." "But it's true, I mean, a ceasefire there is much different than a ceasefire in other parts of the world," Trump said.

The American commander-in-chief also implied that it was possible that the US and Iran could come together for a peace deal "over the weekend". Trump is facing warnings from foes and allies alike that he's getting boxed in on the Iran war, a conflict he sold as a brief military incursion but that has since settled into a holding pattern.

It's been nearly a week since US and Iranian negotiators reached a tentative agreement to extend the ceasefire in the conflict by 60 days and start a new round of talks on Iran's nuclear program that required Trump's sign-off.

But Trump has called for unspecified changes to the agreement, and Iranian officials -- perhaps calculating that the Republican president is reluctant to restart the bombardment after burning through key weapons systems -- are showing no signs they'll give in to new demands.

A series of strikes by the US and Iran this week has raised fresh concern that the ceasefire could col-



lapse. The shaky moment followed repeated claims by Trump since a 14-day ceasefire was agreed to on April 7 -- following 38 days of US and Israel's bombing of Iran -- that a deal is just days away and the Iranian side is begging to come to a settlement.

The United States is planning to impose new tariffs on at least 60 trading partners for alleged failures to act against forced labour, as the

Donald Trump administration seeks to rebuild its tariff agenda following legal setbacks. The tariffs, proposed by the US Trade Representative (USTR), range from 10 per cent to 12.5 per cent, according to a government filing.

According to the USTR report released early Wednesday, Canada, Mexico, Taiwan and the United Kingdom would face 10 per cent tariffs for allegedly failing to enforce a

the Supreme Court.

The move comes months after Washington launched investigations into trading partners under Section 301 (b)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, seeking to see whether they took action against the import of goods made with forced labour and if this impacted US commerce.

On Tuesday, the USTR said that 54 of the economies "failed to impose and effectively enforce a forced labour import prohibition".

This group includes China, India, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Taiwan, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United Kingdom (UK), among others. Six other economies -- Canada, Ecuador, the EU, Indonesia, Mexico and Pakistan -- were deemed not to have effectively enforced such prohibitions.

"The failure of our most important trading partners to address the importation of goods made with forced labour is unacceptable," USTR Jamieson Greer said in a statement. "This creates a dynamic where American workers are forced to compete globally on an unlevel playing field," he added.

The Indian Embassy in Kuwait expressed its condolences in a post on X. It stated that the mission is "closely coordinating" with Kuwaiti authorities to render all possible support and assistance to the bereaved family and those who were injured in the attack.

Behind Kim Jong Un's 'Exponential' Nuclear Ramp-Up Plan Is A US Problem

Pyongyang, 4 June : North Korean leader Kim Jong Un went on an inspection of a new plant that makes weapons-grade nuclear material this week. There, the state-run media reported that Kim said that Pyongyang was planning to "beef up our state's nuclear forces at an exponential rate". The developments came even as the United States and Iran remain in active negotiations over the fate of Tehran's highly enriched uranium stockpile following intense military conflict earlier in the year.

According to the North Korean leader, his country has more than doubled its capacity to produce weapons-grade nuclear material in the past five years, and the new plant will help strengthen its nuclear war deterrent, according to a report by the state media agency Korean Central News Agency (KCNA). He also instructed officials to further increase output to meet long-term strategic goals.

Photographs published by state

media showed Kim walking between rows of cylinder-shaped equipment inside the facility, which some analysts said could indicate the location is at the country's main nuclear complex in Yongbyon. KCNA reported that during the visit, he was briefed on new production



processes incorporating more advanced technology and reviewed current output targets and future plans.

KCNA reported that a key consultative meeting on bolstering nuclear forces was also held the same day, at

which Kim outlined guidelines for accelerating both the qualitative and quantitative expansion of North Korea's nuclear arsenal. The military adviser to Iran's supreme leader Mojtaba Khamenei on Wednesday warned of more missile and drone strikes should the United States renew its attacks on Iran. "Every shot fired and every attack will be met with a deluge of missiles and drones," Mohsen Rezaei posted on X, adding that "the aggressor will swiftly be punished".

The warning followed US strikes on an Iranian tanker and on Iran's Qeshm island, sparking retaliatory attacks on Kuwait and Bahrain. Though Nepal has consistently complained about Indian encroachment on Nepali land, Prime Minister Shah's remarks appeared to suggest that encroachment has taken place from both sides. India has, meanwhile, maintained that the territories are part of Uttarakhand and has said the issue should be addressed through bilateral dialogue.



Malaysian Foreign Minister Mohamad Hasan, left, speaks to the media as his Indonesian counterpart Sugiono listens during a joint press conference in Jakarta, Indonesia.

At Least 12 Killed In Fire At Elderly Care Home In Sri Lanka

Colombo, 4 June : The manager of a Sri Lankan care home was arrested Thursday, a day after a fire killed 12 residents and injured six others, officials said. The manager of the Maupiya Sewana Elders Home was arrested as forensic experts combed through the wreckage and discovered seven more charred bodies, raising the deaths to 12.

An AFP photographer saw the manager in handcuffs being escorted to the scene on Thursday, as police interviewed survivors and neighbours. In addition to elderly residents, the facility also housed young people with mental issues. The youngest victim was a 17-year-old boy, police said.

Police spokesman Fredrick Wootler said 51 residents and staff rescued on Wednesday had been moved to a nearby government facility. Authorities continue to investigate the cause of the fire.

In a major relief meas-

ure, Abu Dhabi has frozen rent increases across residential, commercial and industrial properties until further notice. The decision means landlords will not be allowed to raise rents for existing tenants or charge higher rates to new tenants moving into previously rented properties.

The move was announced by the Abu Dhabi Real Estate Centre (ADREC), the emirate's real estate regulator, and takes effect immediately, according to a report by Khaleej Times.

Under the new rules, all tenancy contract renewals will be processed with a 0 per cent rent increase. Even when a property changes hands, the new tenant must be offered the same rental value that was agreed upon in the previous contract. The decision temporarily sets aside Abu Dhabi's existing rental framework, which allows landlords to increase rents by up to 5 per cent a year after providing ad-

vance notice to tenants. What It Means For Tenants

The change offers immediate financial certainty at a time when many households and businesses are grappling with rising costs.

Rent is often the biggest monthly expense for expatriate families in the UAE. For Indians, who form one of the largest overseas communities in the country, the freeze could translate into significant savings. Families renewing leases will avoid annual rent hikes, while small business owners operating offices, shops and warehouses can plan expenses with greater confidence. ADREC has clarified that the rental amount stated in the previous tenancy contract will remain valid for both renewed and newly signed agreements until further notice. The decision comes at a time when Abu Dhabi's property market has been witnessing strong demand from both residents and investors.

Over 700 Whales, Dolphins Massacred In Barbaric Viking-Era Grind On Faroe Islands

New Delhi, 4 June : More than 700 whales and dolphins were killed near the Faroe Islands during the annual tradition called the grindadrap or grind, turning the sea crimson red. The locals used hooks and knives to herd and beach the Atlantic white-sided dolphins and long-finned pilot whales into shallow bays. Spectators, including children, watched from the shoreline as the animals were horrifically slaughtered and their bodies slashed open. Afterwards, the carcasses were piled together, hauled off, and carved up for distribution.

According to Sea Shepherd, a global environmental activist NGO, the killings



took place across three hunts on Wednesday (May 27), just 200 miles north of Scotland. 402 pilot whales and four bottlenose dolphins were killed in Torshavn, 168 white-sided dolphins were killed in Skalabotnur, and 132 white-sided dolphins were killed in Hvalvik, taking the total to 706.

vious year," the NGO stated.

"The hunts descended into chaos as whalers admitted there was a shortage of spinal lances, which are mandatory for killing dolphins. Multiple marine mammals were instead killed using knives, only leaving the animals stressed for an extended period before bleeding to death."

She urged governments across Europe to ban the annual massacre. Framed by supporters as a 1,000-year-old Viking-era tradition, the mass slaughter of whales has sparked fierce backlash from animal rights activists, who consider it a barbaric and outdated practice unnecessary for modern survival.

"US, Israel Trying To Sow Division After Decisive Blow": Mojtaba Khamenei

In a written message, Mojtaba Khamenei said "the malicious enemy" was seeking to "plant the seeds of doubt, despair, fear, mistrust

Tehran, 4 June : Iran's supreme leader on Thursday accused the US and Israel of trying to sow "division" among Iranians after suffering a "decisive blow" during the Middle East war. In a written message, Mojtaba Khamenei said "the malicious enemy" was seeking to "plant the seeds of doubt, despair, fear, mistrust and division" among the public.

"In confronting these ill intentions, everyone must, through steadfastness, insight, preserving unity and cohesion... neutralise their sinister plot," his message said.

The remarks by Iran's third supreme leader were recited by a prayer leader at the mausoleum of the founder of Iran's Islamic revo-

lution, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, on the 37th anniversary of his death. The 1979 revolution toppled the US-backed shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, ending a dynasty.

After Khomeini's death in 1989, Ali Khamenei succeeded him as supreme leader until he was killed on February 28 this year during US and Israeli attacks that triggered a regional war. The conflict was halted with a ceasefire deal on April 8, followed by direct and mediated talks for a permanent end that have failed to reach an agreement.

Every June 4 since 1989, Ali Khamenei had delivered a speech at the commemoration. This year an empty chair bearing his portrait stood at the mausoleum, according



to footage broadcast from the site. Mojtaba Khamenei, who succeeded his father, has remained out of public view since his selection in March and has addressed Irani-

ans only through written statements. Portraits of him and the two previous supreme leaders were displayed at the mausoleum in southern Tehran, according to the live

broadcast.

Attendees waved the flag of the Islamic republic and banners of the Lebanese group Hezbollah, which is backed by Iran. Iran has linked any agreement with the United States to end the war with a broader end to hostilities across the region, including in Lebanon, where Hezbollah has launched attacks against Israel in support of Iran. Last month, according to a Bloomberg report, New Delhi sought an extension of waivers from the United States amid surging crude prices.

How The Move Will Affect India India is dependent on imports for almost nine-tenths of its oil consumption. New Delhi found a cost-effective partner in Moscow

following the conflict in Ukraine, when Russia offered steep discounts on crude following Western sanctions.

Data from energy intelligence firm Kpler shows India imported a record-shattering 2.3 million barrels per day of Russian crude last month, supported by the continued import of cargoes under the sanctions waiver.

Analysts have pointed out that India's continued imports of Russian oil have helped prevent a sharper energy crisis during the war in Iran and the closing of the Strait of Hormuz. Should the waiver expire, domestic refiners could face the prospect of sourcing more expensive crude from the spot market elsewhere.