

Telecom executive tied to junta killed

Bangkok: A top executive of Myanmar's military-linked telecommunications company was fatally shot on Thursday near his home in Yangon, the country's commercial capital, in an apparent assassination linked to the country's violent political unrest.

Thein Aung, chief finance officer of Mysel Telecommunications Co, was shot by three men on bicycles at 7.30am (local time) while walking with his wife near their home in Mayangone township, ward administrator Ye Win Aung said. His wife, Theint Aung

Thu, was wounded and taken to a hospital. The military's information office confirmed the attack on the 56-year-old executive, who was a former naval officer. It said no one had claimed responsibility.

Mysel, Myanmar's fourth-largest telecoms operator, is a joint venture between the Myanmar military and Vietnam's defence ministry and was launched in 2018. The shooting was apparently carried out by militant opponents of Myanmar's military-installed government, which took power in February. Reuters

Lawyer: Crew member sabotaged Alec film

Los Angeles: A lawyer for the armourer who oversaw weapons used on the *Rust* movie set suggested on Wednesday that someone deliberately put a live round into the gun used by Alec Baldwin when he accidentally shot dead a cinematographer.

Jason Bowles said his client, Hannah Gutierrez, had pulled ammunition from a box that she believed contained only dummy rounds that were incapable of firing. He said he thought it was possible that someone deliberately placed real bullets, which look similar to dummies, in the box.



Cinematographer Halyna Hutchins is seen in an undated handout photo received by Reuters on October 23. (Sven Studios via Reuters)

"We're afraid that could have been what happened here, that somebody intended to sabotage this set with a live round intentionally placed in a box of dummies," Bowles said on ABC television's *Good Morning America*.

"We're not saying anybody had any intent there was going to be a tragedy of homicide," he added, "but they wanted to do something to cause a safety incident on set. That's what we believe happened."

A spokeswoman for producers Rust Movie Productions had no comment on Bowles' remarks. The company has said it is investigating the incident and had received no official complaints about safety on the set in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Authorities are investigating the matter and no charges have been filed against anyone involved.

"Never in a million years did Hannah think that live

rounds could have been in the 'dummy' round box," Bowles said in a statement later on Wednesday.

Cinematographer Halyna Hutchins was killed on October 21 when a gun Baldwin was holding released a live bullet, police said. Baldwin had been told by assistant director Dave Halls that the gun was "cold", an industry term meaning it is safe to use.

Bowles said Gutierrez had checked the gun before giving it to Halls. She spun the cylinder and showed Halls each of the rounds, which she believed were six dummy rounds, he said. Halls then took the gun into the church where Baldwin was rehearsing a scene.

He said that Gutierrez took her job seriously, had given Baldwin and other actors on the film firearms training, and "did everything in her power to ensure a safe set."

Before the shooting, camera operators had quit the film to protest against what they said were long hours and other objectionable working conditions. Reuters



Xi Jinping speaks at an expo in Shanghai on Thursday. (Reuters)

Xi for smooth global trade in vaccines

Shanghai: Chinese President Xi Jinping called on Thursday for smooth global trade in vaccines and other medical supplies, saying that unilateralism and protectionism are rising across the world and globalisation is facing headwinds.

Speaking in a televised address at the opening of the China International Import Expo, Xi touted China's contributions to the global fight against Covid-19 and its efforts to open up its economy, even as it maintains a zero-tolerance approach to virus control that has put limits on travel into and out of the country.

China is on high alert at its international ports of entry to reduce the risk of Covid-19 cases entering from abroad. Reuters

Green light ahead of US regulatory clearance

UK first to approve Covid pill

London: Britain on Thursday became the first country in the world to approve a potentially game-changing Covid-19 antiviral pill jointly developed by US-based Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, in a boost to the fight against the pandemic.

Britain's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) recommended the drug, molnupiravir, for use in people with mild to moderate Covid-19 and at least one risk factor for developing severe illness, such as obesity, older age, diabetes, and heart disease.

It will be administered as soon as possible following a positive Covid-19 test and within five days of the onset of symptoms, the regulator said, citing clinical data.



The Covid-19 antiviral pill jointly developed by US-based Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics. (Merck and Co Inc via Reuters)

Prof. Stephen Powis, national medical director for the National Health Service (NHS) in England, said the drug would be administered to patients at higher risk of complications as Britain heads into one of the most challenging winters ever. A wider rollout will follow if it is shown to be clinically and cost effective in reducing hospitalisations and death, he added.

"We are now working across government and the NHS to urgently get this treatment to patients initially through a national study so we can collect more data on how antivirals work in a mostly vaccinated population," UK vaccines minister Maggie Throup told parliament.

In a separate statement, Merck said it expected to produce 10 million courses of the treatment by the end of this year, with at least 20 million set to be manufactured in 2022.

Pfizer and Roche are also racing to develop easy-to-administer antiviral pills. Reuters

Britain, is designed to introduce errors into the genetic code of the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 and is taken twice a day for five days.

Israel passes first budget in 3 years

Jerusalem: Israel's parliament narrowly approved a state budget on Thursday, the country's first in more than three years, removing an imminent threat to the survival of the government and potentially paving the way to some political stability after a chaotic stretch of four elections

within two years. "A holiday for the state of Israel!" Prime Minister Naftali Bennett exulted on Twitter shortly after the pre-dawn vote. "We are moving ahead with full force."

But the razor-thin majority ekeed out by Bennett's coalition raised questions about its long-term prospects and whether Israel has truly emerged from years of political morass. The previous parliament dispersed late last year after it failed to meet the deadline for approving a budget for 2020.

New York Times News Service

Booker keeps SA Promise

ALEXANDRAALTER

New York: When the South African writer Damon Galgut learned that his novel, *The Promise*, was shortlisted for the Booker Prize, he was filled with anxiety. Galgut had been shortlisted twice before, in 2003 and 2010, and both times, the stress of the nominations "probably shaved a few years off my life."

"For a few weeks, you're one of six winners, then all that attention gets sucked away and very, very suddenly, there's only one winner, the rest of you are losers," he told the *Guardian* in an interview in September.

This year was different. On Wednesday, the Booker judges pronounced Galgut the winner, praising his novel for its "unusual narrative style that balances Faulknerian exuberance with Nabokovian precision, pushes boundaries, and is a testament to the flourishing of the novel in the 21st century."

At the awards ceremony in London, when he was asked how it felt to be named the winner, Galgut, 57, appeared more stunned than happy. "You'd better ask me that tomorrow, because my nerves have kind of gone numb," he said. "I truly didn't expect to be standing here."

The Promise, Galgut's



Damon Galgut. (Reuters file picture)

ninth book, had already won acclaim among critics for its menacing and bleakly funny portrait of the Swart family, descendants of Dutch settlers who are desperately holding onto their farm and status in post-apartheid South Africa.

Literary critics likened his experimental prose to modernist masters like Virginia Woolf, James Joyce and William Faulkner, while others noted his debt to fellow South African writer J.M. Coetzee.

A review of *The Promise* in *The New York Times* Book Review called Galgut "a gleeful satirist, mordantly skewering his characters' fecklessness and hypocrisy".

Galgut got the idea for the novel from a conversation with a friend, who described going to a series of funerals for family members. It sounded like the perfect narrative vehicle for a family saga.

New York Times News Service

The green light is the first for an oral antiviral treatment for Covid-19 and comes ahead of potential US regulatory clearance. US advisers will meet this month to vote on whether molnupiravir should be authorised.

Treatments to tackle the pandemic, which has killed more than 5.2 million people worldwide, have so far focused mainly on vaccines. Other options, including Gilead's infused antiviral remdesivir and generic steroid dexamethasone, are generally only given after a patient has been hospitalised.

Merck's molnupiravir has been closely watched since data last month showed it could halve the chances of dying or being hospitalised for those most at risk of developing severe Covid-19 when given early in the illness.

Molnupiravir, which will be branded as Lagevrio in

Britain, is designed to introduce errors into the genetic code of the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 and is taken twice a day for five days.

Prof. Stephen Powis, national medical director for the National Health Service (NHS) in England, said the drug would be administered to patients at higher risk of complications as Britain heads into one of the most challenging winters ever. A wider rollout will follow if it is shown to be clinically and cost effective in reducing hospitalisations and death, he added.

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Pfizer and Roche are also racing to develop easy-to-administer antiviral pills. Reuters

Europe worry as virus cases soar

Budapest: Coronavirus infections are hitting record levels in many countries across Europe as winter takes hold, prompting a call for action from the WHO which described the new wave as a "grave concern".

Soaring numbers of cases, especially in eastern Europe, have prompted debate on whether to reintroduce curbs

on movement before the Christmas holiday season and on how to persuade more people to get vaccinated.

That conversation comes as some countries in Asia, with the notable exception of China, reopen their tourism sectors to the rest of the world.

"The current pace of transmission across the 53 countries of the European Region is of grave concern," regional WHO head Hans Kluge said, adding that the spread was exacerbated by the more transmissible Delta variant.

The virus spreads faster in the winter months when people gather indoors. Kluge warned earlier that if Europe followed its current trajectory, there could be 500,000 Covid-related deaths in the region by February.

"We must change our tactics, from reacting to surges of Covid-19, to preventing them from happening in the first place," he said.

The region saw a 6 per cent increase in new cases last week, with nearly 1.8 million new cases, compared to the week before. The number of deaths rose 12 per cent in the same period.

Germany, Europe's biggest economy, reported 33,949 new infections, the highest daily increase since the start of the pandemic last year. Cases in Russia and Ukraine are soaring.

Austria's daily new coronavirus infections surged towards a record set a year ago, making a lockdown for the unvaccinated ever more likely.

Covid-19 prevalence in England rose to its highest level on record in October, Imperial College London said, led by a high number of cases in children and a surge in the southwest.

Slovakia reported 6,713 new cases, also a record, while daily new cases in Hungary more than doubled from last week to 6,268. Reuters

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Mr. NARESH CHHETRI
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E-Auction: 25.11.2021
From: 11 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]

"APPENDIX- IV-A"
[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]

EMD SUBMISSION
LAST DATE: 24.11.2021
up to 4.00 pm

Sale Notice for sale of immovable properties
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 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 (Encumbrance number: NIL) to the Central Bank of India, the constructive/process of physical possession is going on/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Central Bank of India, will be sold on/As is where is/As is what is. And "Whatever there is basis".

Sl. No.	NAME OF ACCOUNT /BORROWER & GUARANTOR	DETAILS OF PROPERTIES (FLATS/SHOPS/LAND/BUILDING etc.)	13(2) Notice Date	Reserve Price
1.	M/s Briquer Infoserve Saltlake Branch	Property in the name of Smt. Anupama chatterjee W/O Shri Ayanjit chatterjee. Premises No.151, 2nd Floor, Measuring about 1450 Sq. feet, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee road, P.S - Tollygunge, Kolkata -700026 within the municipal town of Kolkata comprised in holding No.37, Ward No.87 in Dist 24 paragan (south). Property Bounded & Butted by- On the North: 10/4 S.R Das Road and 141, S.P. Mukherjee Road Kolkata -700026. On the South: 20 feet wide Road of KMC (being part of S.P. Mukherjee Road Kolkata -700026). On the East: 149 S.P. Mukherjee Road Kolkata -700026. On the West:153, S.P. Mukherjee Road Kolkata -700026.	21.02.2017	RP: Rs.62.00 Lakh EMD Amount: Rs.144.65 Lakh BIA: Rs.60,000/-
2.	M/s Singh Traders Manicktala Branch	All the flats and parcel of self-contained Flat measuring 851 Sq.ft. Super built area at, Premises no 215 , Flat no. C02, On The 3rd Floor, Jheel Road, (Bank Plot) together with undivided proportionate share in the land RS dag No-1725,RS Khaitan No-827, Mouza - Dhakuria, JL No-18 , Touzi No-B-1, Sub Registry office Sealdah, PS-Kasba, ward no 104 under Kolkata Municipal Corporation in the name of Mrs. Rajashree V Telang W/O Rakesh Kumar Singh. Butted and bounded by North-20 ft wide Road South-Premises no 141 & 144 East-Old premises no 15/2/5 West- Old scheduled Plot No-15/2/2	13.12.2018	RP: Rs.28.24 Lakh EMD: Rs.2.83 Lakh BIA: Rs.30,000/-

Inspection Date-22.11.2021 between 10 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. for physical possession of property.
EMD Submission details: A/C No- 3022511714/A/C NAME: NORTH REGIONAL OFFICE-EXPS/A/C/FC: CBIN0280107.

Terms & Conditions:
1. The e-auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS AND WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS".
2. To the best knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there is no encumbrance of the property. However, the intending bidder should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of the property and to inspect and certify them-selves.
For DETAILED TERMS & CONDITIONS of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Central Bank of India website i.e., www.centralbankofindia.co.in/English/e_auction.aspx and www.bankauctions.com. (MOBILE: 9813887931). The intended bidders who have deposited the EMD and require assistance in creating login id and password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc, may contact C1 India Pvt. Ltd, E-mail ID: support@bankeuctions.co.in, Helpline No: 01244302021/22/23/24.

This Notice is also to be treated as 15 days Statutory sale notice to borrower and Guarantor (L/Rs) Under Rule 8(6) Security Interest(Enforcement), Rules 2002

Place: Kolkata
Date: 05.11.2021

Authorised Officer
(M) 8336990259