

1905

In Russia, the "Potemkin" arrives at Odessa, where sailors take the bodies of dead crewman ashore; sailors join civilians in revolutionary actions of the '1905 Revolution'

A giant fireball, most likely caused by the air burst of a large meteoroid or comet flattens 80 million trees near the Stony Tunguska River in Yeniseysk Governorate, Russia, in the largest impact event in recorded history

1908 1934

"Night of Long Knives" - Adolf Hitler stages a bloody purge of the Nazi party



1938

Superman 1st appears in DC Comics' Action Comics Series issue #1

Mondrian paintings stolen in 2012



and "Mill" by Piet Mondrian, both stolen from Greece's presentation to members of the media at the Ministry of

eral times before breaking into the building early in the morning.

The guard turned off the alarm only to spot one of the thieves through the motion detector.

On Monday, authorities arrested a 49-year-old Greek man who confessed that he had stolen the paintings and led police to a forest outside Athens where he had hidden them, the Citizens' Protection Ministry said yesterday.

Footage handed out by police from the site showed one of the paintings sealed in a package sitting under the bushes.

The arrested man said

a sketch by Italian painter Guglielmo Caccia, donated to the gallery in 1907 and also stolen in 2012, had been destroyed, the ministry said.

At a joint news conference with Citizens' Protection Minister Michalis Chrisochoidis, Culture Minister Lina Mendoni said the Picasso painting bore an inscription of the painter to the Greek people for their fight against fascism.

"That is the reason why it was impossible for the painting not only to be sold but also to be exhibited anywhere," Mendoni said.

Probe into Iran's Raishi's role



during a news conference in Tehran, Iran

he teaches Islamic law and international law.

A probe was in the interest of Iran and could bring closure to families, he said, adding: "Otherwise we will have very serious concerns about this president and the role, the reported role, he has played historically in those executions."

Raisi, a hardline judge, is under US sanctions over a past that includes what the United States and activists say was his involvement as one of four judges who oversaw the 1988 killings. Amnesty International has put the number executed at some 5,000, saying in a 2018 report that "the real num-

ARRESTS, INTIMIDATION

Raisi succeeds Hassan Rouhani on Aug. 3, having secured victory this month in an election marked by voter apathy over economic hardships and political restrictions. Rehman denounced what he called "deliberate and manipulative strategies adopted to exclude moderate candidates and to ensure the success of a particular candidate".

"There were arrests, journalists were stopped from asking specific questions about the background of the presidential candidate Mr Raisi and there was intimidation towards any issues that were raised about his previous role and background."

"The scale of executions that we hear imply that it was a part of a policy that was being pursued... It was not just one person," Rehman said.

He said there had also been "no proper investigation" into the killing of protesters in Nov. 2019, the bloodiest political unrest since the 1979 Islamic revolution.

"Even by conservative estimates we can say that more than 300 people were killed arbitrarily, extrajudicially, and nobody has been held accountable and no compensation," he said.

"There is a widespread and systemic impunity in the country for gross violations of human rights, both historically in the past as well as in the present."



n. On August 27, 1979, 11 men who had been convicted of being "counterrevolutionary" by the regime of Iranian ruler Ayatollah Khomeini were lined up at Sanandaj Airport and gunned down side by side. No international journalists witnessed the killings. They had been arrested in 1978. The photograph was taken up by the domestic press to chronicle the bloody conflict between the theocracy and the local Kurds, who had been demanding autonomy. The Iranian photographer Jahangir Razmi had been tipped off to the trial, and he shot two rolls of film at the executions. One of the men, a man moments from joining them, was published anonymously on the front page of the Iranian daily Ettela'at. The photograph appeared at the paper's office and demanded the photographer's name. The editor refused. Days later, the photograph was trumpeted in papers around the world as evidence of the murderous nature of Khomeini's brand of religious government. Razmi was awarded the Pulitzer Prize—the only anonymous winner in history. It was not until 2006 that Razmi was revealed as the photographer.

India discusses Covishield, EU travel issues with top official



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with High Representative of EU Josep Borrell Fontelles

● India's EU envoy assures there is no ban on Covishield

● The European Medicines Agency had approved only four vaccines -- Comirnaty of Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, Vaxzervria by AstraZeneca-Oxford and, Johnson & Johnson's Janssen

TDT | agencies

India has taken up the issue of inclusion of Covishield in the European Union COVID-19 Vaccination Passport, which External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar promised to follow up.

As of now, The European Medicines Agency had approved only four vaccines -- Comirnaty of Pfizer/BioNTech, Moderna, Vaxzervria by AstraZeneca-Oxford and, Johnson & Johnson's Janssen. Meaning, only those inoculated with these vaccines will be given vaccination passports and allowed to travel within the EU during the pandemic.

Those who took the Covishield jabs, manufactured by the Serum Institute of India, are unlikely to be eligible to travel to the European Union member states under the "Green Pass" scheme as the vaccine is yet to be cleared by the EMA.

Jaishankar, who met Josep Borrell Fontelles, the High Representative of the European Union, on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Italy, said he held a comprehensive review of India's relationship with the EU.

"Discussed vaccine production and access. Took up 'Covishield' authorisation for travel to Europe. Will be following up," Jaishankar tweeted.

No ban on Covishield!

Meanwhile, European Union Ambassador to India, Ugo Astuto, yesterday clarified there was no ban on India's Covishield vaccine.

He said the new system set up by the European Union is to facilitate travel within the Union.

"This certificate is proof that a person is vaccinated against COVID or received a negative test or recovered from COVID-19. So this is meant as a facilitator, but it is not a precondition for travel," he added.

For example, Astuto said, people who are not vaccinated should still be allowed to travel, subject to the usual restrictions like testing, quarantine, self-isolation measures related to covid health policy.

The certificate aims to facilitate free movement inside the Union. It is not a pre-condition to travel, it has been clarified.

Vaccine options According to the report, member states of the EU will have the option to accept vaccinations that have been authorised by the World Health Organization, including Covishield manufactured by India's Serum Institute.

On Monday, Serum CEO and owner Adar Poonawalla assured Indians who have taken Covishield doses and are now facing issues while travelling to European Union countries that the matter had been escalated to the 'highest level'.

"I realise that a lot of Indians who have taken COVISHIELD are facing issues with travel to the EU. I assure everyone, I have taken this up at the highest levels and hope to resolve this matter soon, both with regulators and at a diplomatic level with countries," he tweeted.

Approves Moderna's vaccine for emergency use

India yesterday authorised the emergency use of Moderna's Covid-19 vaccine as it seeks to ramp up its vaccination drive in the wake of a record-breaking surge in infections and deaths.

Moderna's shot is the fourth to be approved by New Delhi after Oxford-AstraZeneca's Covishield and Covaxin, which was developed by Indian firm Bharat Biotech, and Russia's Sputnik V.

"I am pleased to inform that an application received from Moderna through an Indian partner of theirs, Cipla, has been granted EUA (Emergency Use Authorisation)," a member of government advisory body NITI Aayog, Vinod K. Paul, said at a health ministry briefing.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



A shadow pandemic of violent misogyny has thrived alongside #COVID19. This week at the #GenerationEquality Forum I will urge leaders to join in a global initiative to end the violence & fear that threaten so many women & girls.

@antonio_guterres

02



The last few days have witnessed stupendous performances by our archers at the World Cup. Congratulations to @Im-DeepikaK, Ankita Bhakat, Komalika Bari, Atanu Das and @archer_abhishek for their success, which will inspire upcoming talent in this field.

@narendramodi

03



PM Bennett: "This is the bottom line: Vaccines instead of lockdown, masks instead of restrictions. We can win without limitations, without narrowing our steps. Masks and vaccines, and with G-d's help, we will win together."

@IsraeliPM

04



Vaccines save lives. New data shows our vaccination programme has prevented an estimated 7.2 million infections and 27,000 deaths in England alone. Thank you to everyone involved in this national effort and keep coming forward for both your doses.

@BorisJohnson

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