

# Easter bomb blasts kill hundreds in Sri Lanka

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Sri Lankan officials failed to heed warnings from intelligence agencies about the threat of an attack by a domestic radical Muslim group that officials blame for Easter Sunday bombings which killed at least 290 people and wounded about 500 more.

The coordinated bombings that ripped through churches and luxury hotels were carried out by seven suicide bombers from a militant group named National Thowfeek Jamaath, Health Minister Rajitha Senaratne said.

International intelligence agencies warned of the attacks several times starting April 4, Senaratne said. On April 9, the defense ministry wrote to the police chief with intelligence that included the group's name, he said. On April 11, police wrote to the heads of security of the judiciary and diplomatic security division, Senaratne said.

It was not immediately clear what action, if any, was



A Sri Lankan police officer inspects a blast spot at the Shangri-la hotel in Colombo.

AP Photo/Chamila Karunaratne

taken in response. Authorities said little was known about the group except that its name had appeared in intelligence reports.

Shortly after Senaratne spoke to reporters, a van parked near one of the bombed churches, St. Anthony's Shrine in Colombo,

exploded, sending pedestrians fleeing in panic. While inspecting it, police found three bombs they attempted to defuse but that instead detonated. No injuries were reported.

Also on today, police found 87 detonators near Colombo's main bus depot,

officials said. They declined to comment on whether they were linked to Sunday's attacks.

Because of political dysfunction within the government, Senaratne said, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and his Cabinet were kept in the dark about the

intelligence until after the attacks.

President Maithreya Sirisena, who was out of the country at the time of the attacks, ousted Wickremesinghe in late October and dissolved the Cabinet. The Supreme Court eventually reversed his actions, but the prime minister has not been allowed into meetings of the Security Council since October.

All of the bombers were Sri Lankan citizens, but authorities suspect foreign links, Senaratne said.

Earlier, Ariyananda Weligama, a government forensic crime investigator, said an analysis of the attackers' body parts made clear that they were suicide bombers. He said most of the attacks were carried out by individual bombers, with two at Colombo's Shangri-La Hotel.

The bombings are Sri Lanka's deadliest violence since a devastating civil war that ended a decade ago.

Two other government ministers also alluded to intelligence failures. Telecommunications Minister

Harin Fernando tweeted: "Some intelligence officers were aware of this incidence. Therefore there was a delay in action. Serious action needs to be taken as to why this warning was ignored." He said his father had heard of a possible attack as well and had warned him not to enter popular churches.

Mano Ganesan, the minister for national integration, said his ministry's security officers had been warned by their division about the possibility that two suicide bombers would target politicians.

Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, the archbishop of Colombo, said the attacks could have been thwarted.

"We placed our hands on our heads when we came to know that these deaths could have been avoided. Why this was not prevented?" he said.

Earlier, Defense Minister Ruwan Wijewardena described the blasts as a terrorist attack by religious extremists, and police said 13 suspects had been arrested, though there was no immediate claim of responsibility.



The SpaceX Crew Dragon is pictured about 66 feet away from the International Space Station's Harmony module on March 3.

## SpaceX suffers serious setback with crew capsule accident

By MARCIA DUNN  
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — SpaceX has suffered a serious setback in its effort to launch NASA astronauts into orbit this year, with the fiery loss of its first crew capsule.

Over the weekend, the Dragon crew capsule that flew to the International Space Station last month was engulfed in smoke and flames on an engine test stand. SpaceX was testing the Dragon's abort thrusters at Cape Canaveral, Florida, when Saturday's accident occurred.

The company said the test area was clear and no one was injured.

This Dragon was supposed to be reused in a

launch abort test in June, with another capsule making the first flight with a crew of two as early as July.

The SuperDraco abort thrusters are crucial to protect astronauts in flight; they're designed to fire in an emergency and pull the capsule safely away from the rocket.

NASA said today it's too early to revise the target launch dates, given that the accident is still so fresh.

"This is why we test," NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine said in a statement over the weekend. "We will learn, make the necessary adjustments and safely move forward with our commercial crew program."

## WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

### US: No more sanctions waivers for importing Iranian oil

The Trump administration said today that it will no longer exempt any countries from U.S. sanctions if they continue to buy Iranian oil, stepping up pressure on Iran in a move that primarily affects the five remaining major importers: China and India and U.S. treaty allies Japan, South Korea, Turkey.

President Donald Trump made the decision as part of the administration's "maximum pressure" campaign on Iran that aims to eliminate all of its revenue from oil exports that the U.S. says funds destabilizing activity throughout the Middle East and beyond.

"This decision is intended to bring Iran's oil exports to zero, denying the regime its principal source of revenue," the White House said in a statement.

Announcing the step, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said no more sanctions waivers would be granted when the current batch expire on May 2, choking off Iranian income that had been more than \$50 billion a year.

The administration had granted eight waivers when it re-imposed sanctions on Iran in November after Trump pulled the U.S. out of the landmark 2015 nuclear deal. The waivers were issued in part to give those countries more time to find alternate energy sources but also to prevent a shock to global oil markets from the sudden removal of Iranian crude. Three of those waivers, for Greece, Italy and Taiwan, are no longer needed because

they have all halted their imports of Iranian oil.

### Giuliani: Nothing wrong with Trump camp taking Russian help

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's lawyer Rudy Giuliani insisted Sunday there was "nothing wrong" with the president's 2016 campaign taking information from the Russians, as House Democrats pledged stepped-up investigations into campaign misconduct and possible crimes of obstruction detailed in special counsel Robert Mueller's report.

Giuliani called the Trump campaign's effort to get political help from representatives of the Russian government possibly ill-advised but not illegal.

"There's nothing wrong with taking information from Russians," Giuliani said, referring to a June 2016 Trump Tower meeting involving Trump's son Donald Jr., son-in-law Jared Kushner and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and a lawyer linked to Russia. The Trump campaign was seeking harmful information on Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

Giuliani rebutted Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, who said in a statement on Twitter Friday he was "sickened" by the findings in Mueller's report that cited details on how the Trump campaign welcomed political dirt from Russia.

Pressed about whether there is a something wrong about using information stolen by foreign adversaries, Giuliani said, "It depends on the stolen material."

### Supreme Court to take up LGBT job discrimination cases this fall

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is taking on a major test of LGBT rights in cases that look at whether federal civil rights law bans job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The justices said today they will hear cases involving people who claim they were fired because of their sexual orientation and another that involves a funeral home employee who was fired after disclosing that she was transitioning from male to female and dressed as a woman.

The cases will be argued in the fall, with decisions likely by June 2020 in the middle of the presidential election campaign.

The issue is whether Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits sex discrimination, protects LGBT people from job discrimination. Title VII does not specifically mention sexual orientation or transgender status, but federal appeals courts in Chicago and New York have ruled recently that gay and lesbian employees are entitled to protection from discrimination. The federal appeals court in Cincinnati has extended similar protections for transgender people.

The big question is whether the Supreme Court, with a strengthened conservative majority, will do the same. The cases are the court's first on LGBT rights since the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy, who authored the court's major gay rights opinions. President Donald Trump has appointed two justices, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN



# TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings  
MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING		A - Charter Astoria/Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach										APRIL 22	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU (2)	KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel of Fortune	American Idol Hopefuls compete to become the next singing sensation.				The Fix "The Fugitive" (N)		News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KOMO (4)	KOMO 4 News at 6pm (N)		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	American Idol Hopefuls compete to become the next singing sensation.				The Fix "The Fugitive" (N)		KOMO4News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
5	KING (5)	NBC News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	Evening	The Voice "Live Cross Battles Part Two" (N)				The Enemy Within "Homecoming" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
6	KOIN (6)	News (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight (N)	Nbhood (SF) (N)	Man Plan (N)	The Code "Molly Marine" (N)		Bull "Justice for Cable"		KOIN News/11 (N)	(3:5) Colbert
7	KIRO (7)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Nbhood (SF) (N)	Man Plan (N)	The Code "Molly Marine" (N)		Bull "Justice for Cable"		KIRO 7 News (N)	(3:5) Colbert
8	KGW (8)	KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	The Voice "Live Cross Battles Part Two" (N)				The Enemy Within "Homecoming" (N)		News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
9	KRCW (9)	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	DC's Legends of Tomorrow (N)		Arrow "Spartan" (N)		News (N)	Friends	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
10	KOPB (10)	This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antiques Roadshow (N)		Oregon's Japanese Americans (N)		(05) Antique "Des Moines (Hour Three)"		(05) Independent Lens "Charm City"	
12	KPTV (12)	6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud (N)	Family Feud (N)	The Resident "Stuck as Foretold" (N)		9-1-1 "Ocean's 9-1-1" (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
13	KPDX (13)	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	8pm Prime News (N)		9pm Prime News (N)		Big Bang Theory	Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game
13	KCPQ (13)	Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Resident "Stuck as Foretold" (N)		9-1-1 "Ocean's 9-1-1" (N)		Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS (20)	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy "The Simpsons Guy"		Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad!	American Dad!	Conan (N)	Seinfeld
29	KZJO (29)	Black-ish	Black-ish	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
29	ESPN2 (29)	(4:00) MLB Baseball Phi./N.Y. M. (L)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
30	ESPN2 (30)	(5:30) SportsCenter Special		Boxing Classics		Boxing Classics		30 for 30 "Seau"				Now or Never (N)	UFC Flashback
31	NICK (31)	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare (N)	Dude Perfect (N)	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	(3:5) Friends
32	DISN (32)	Coop & Cami	Coop & Cami	Raven's Home	Raven's Home	Sydney to the Max	Coop & Cami	Jessie	Jessie	Sydney to the Max	Coop & Cami	Andi Mack	Sydney Max
34	FAM (34)	(5:00) *** Hook (1991, Fantasy) Dustin Hoffman, Julia Roberts, Robin Williams.		Shadowhunters "Aku Cinta Kamu" (N)		*** The Lion King (94) Voices of Matthew Broderick, Jonathan Taylor Thomas.						The 700 Club	
35	FMC (35)	(4:45) *** X-Men: Days of Future Past (14) Hugh Jackman. (5:00) *** X-Men: Days of Future Past (2014, Adventure) Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman.										(5:5) Firestorm '98, Action) Howie Long.	
38	LIFE (38)	Escaping Polygamy "Yolanda"		Esc. Polygamy "A Daughter's Revolt"		Esc. Polygamy "My Cousin, My Lover"		Lost Moments (N)		Esc. Polygamy "Top Ten Escapes" (N)		Esc. Polygamy "Mommy Dearest"	
38	ROOT (38)	(5:30) Crashed Ice	Mariners Access	Mariners Access	Mariners Access	Mariners Access	DFL Soccer RB Leipzig at Borussia Mönchengladbach			DFL Soccer Borussia Dortmund at SC Freiburg			
39	F51 (39)	PBA Bowling Playoffs				MLB Whiparound (L)		TMZ Sports (N)	Fair Game			Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.	
43	SPIKE (43)	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops (N)	Cops	Cops	Cops
44	COM (44)	Parks and Rec	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Daily Show (N)	Jim Jefferies Show
45	HIST (45)	American Pickers "My Sweet Ford"		American Pickers "Million-Dollar Cars"		American Pickers "Hard Bargain Picks"		A. Pickers "Big Money Mansions" (N)		Knightfall "Road to Chartres" (N)		American Pickers "Picker's Code"	
46	A&E (46)	(5:00) Live PD				Live PD		Live Rescue Rescue workers putting their		lives on the line. (P) (N)		Live PD: Rewind	
47	TLC (47)	Say Yes to the Dress		Say Yes to the Dress "Bionic Bride"		90 Day Fiancé: Happily Ever After?: Extended "From the Beginning" (N)				90 Day Fiancé "Elizabeth and Andrei: Our Continuing Journey" (N)			
48	DISC (48)	Street Outlaws "Money"		Say Yes to the Dress "Bring the Boys Back Home"		Street Outlaws: Full "Run Like Hell" (N)	Street Outlaws "Beginning" (N)			Savage Kingdom "Warrior Rule" (N)		Street Outlaws "Down and Derby" (N)	
49	NGEO (49)	Philippines "Enchanted Islands"		Untamed Philippines "Wild Paradise"		Hostile "Grasslands: Flood and Fire" (N)	Hostile Planet "Jungles" (N)			Savage Kingdom "Warrior Rule" (N)		Hostile Planet "Jungles"	
50	TNT (50)	(5:00) NBA Basketball Playoffs (L)				NBA Basketball Playoffs (L)				Inside the NBA (L)		NBA Basketball Playoffs	
51	AMC (51)	(5:00) *** The Fugitive '93, (Thriller) Sela Ward, Tommy Lee Jones, Harrison Ford.		*** Taken (2008, Thriller) Famke Janssen, Leland Orser, Liam Neeson.						Badlands "Curse of the Red Rain" (N)		Badlands "Curse of the Red Rain" (N)	
52	USA (52)	NCIS "Hiatus" Pt. 1 of 2		NCIS "Hiatus" Pt. 2 of 2		WWE Monday Night Raw		Baking "Marvelous Mother Nature" (N)		Duff Cake (N)	Ace of Cakes (N)	Modern Family	Modern Family
53	FOOD (53)	Worst Bakers America "Best In Show"		Worst Bakers America "Bakery Battle"		Baking Champ "Easter Delights" (N)		Baking "Marvelous Mother Nature" (N)		Duff Cake (N)	Ace of Cakes (N)	To Be Announced	
54	HGTV (54)	Love It or List It "Family and Future"		Love It or List It "Design Indecision"		Love It/List It "A Hole-in-one Location"		Barg. Mansion (N)	Barg. Mansion (N)	Nest (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
55	FX (55)	(5:30) *** Taken 3 (2014, Action) Famke Janssen, Maggie Grace, Liam Neeson.		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
57	CNN (57)	Anderson Cooper 360		Hannity		Anderson Cooper 360		Hannity		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
61	CNC (61)	Amer. Greed "Baby-faced Drug Lord"		The Ingraham Angle		American Greed "The Surfer Slayer?"		Amer. Greed "Baby-faced Drug Lord"		American Greed: Scam		Paid News @ Night	
63	BRAV (63)	Vanderpump Rules "Fomo in Mexico"		Vanderpump Rules "End of an Era"		Vanderpump Rules		Vanderpump Rules		SumHouse "Ring Around the Rumor" (N)		Watch What (N)	To Be Announced
64	TCM (64)	(5:00) *** The Yearling (46) Jane Wyman, Gregory Peck. *** The Adventurers of Robin Hood (38) Olivia De Havilland, Errol Flynn. *** Niagara (53) Suspense) Joseph Cotten, Marilyn Monroe.										(15) The Big Circus (59) Victor Mature.	
65	SYFY (65)	*** Hellboy II: The Golden Army (2008, Adventure) Selma Blair, Doug Jones, Ron Perlman.				*** Hellboy (2004, Sci-Fi) John Hurt, Selma Blair, Ron Perlman.						(05) Futurama	(3:5) Futurama
162	RFD (162)	Rancher (N)	Red Steagall	Steve Lantvit	Horse of the West	Craig Cameron	Rural Eve. News	Rural America "Live" (N)		American Rancher	Red Steagall	Product Showcase	