

'US action in Venezuela is terrorist act'

Cuban envoy says, India vital for global balance

NEW DELHI, Jan 6 (PTI)

CUBAN Ambassador to India Juan Carlos Marsan Aguilera on Monday strongly condemned the US military operation in Venezuela that led to the capture of President Nicolas Maduro and his wife, terming it a "criminal act" and a "terrorist act" that violates the United Nations Charter and international law.

In an exclusive interview with PTI Videos here, Aguilera emphasised that no single nation can stop the United States from such unilateral actions and called for the world to unite forces to counter what he described as Washington's "madness" in international policy.

"This US military aggression towards Venezuela, in my opinion, is a criminal act. It's a terrorist act because it violates all the principles contained in the United Nations Charter and international law. It is a unilateral action against a sovereign

We set the terms: US Homeland Security Advisor

WASHINGTON, Jan 6 (ANI)

US HOMELAND Security Advisor Stephen Miller on Monday outlined the administration's position on Venezuela.

Miller said, "President United States has asked Secretary Rubio, who also helped his lead National Security Advisor, to direct enforcement of the President's post guidance and direction to be the lead on this process. But obviously there's many other elements involved. You have energy policy, Treasury policy, financial policy, military policy. It's a big team, a group of people."

"We have an oil embargo on Venezuela for them to do any

kind of commerce they need our permission. We have our massive fleet, our Armada still present there. This is an active and ongoing US government, military operation. So of course, we set the terms and conditions," he added.

According to Miller, US leverage over Venezuela is extensive. He asserted that Washington maintains an oil embargo requiring US approval for Venezuelan commerce and claimed that American naval forces remain deployed in the region.

"We are very much getting full, complete and total cooperation from the Government of Venezuela. And as a result of

that cooperation, the people of Venezuela are going to become richer than they ever have before. And of course, the United States is going to benefit from this massively in terms of economic, security and military cooperation, Counter Narcotics, counter terrorism, and every other division of our security. This is a President Trump achieved with this brilliant, decisive military operation in Venezuela these last several months, culminating, of course, in the assault force to capture Maduro. It's one of the greatest strategic shifts, rebalancing of power and military victories that have happened in the history of our country," he said.

country," the ambassador said. Highlighting broader US

actions, including tariff wars, threats to Iran and military

strikes, the ambassador stressed the need for global unity.

"I think that no one isolated could stop or will stop the US. Should be all together. It is a time to unite forces... We have the United Nations. We cannot renounce that the United Nations plays its role... We have now the BRICS. We cannot accept that they all (multilateral organisations) should be submitted to the role imposed by the US government. It's time to unite all voices. It is the only way we can stop this madness that is guiding the US international policy," Aguilera said.

He warned that the action sends a dangerous signal to the world, allowing one country to impose its will by breaking international law.

The Cuban Ambassador underscored India's pivotal role in the evolving global geopolitical landscape, saying the world needs India as a major power to create the necessary balance and to ensure a sustainable future for the benefit of all nations.

V-P Delcy Rodriguez sworn in as interim President of Venezuela

Shots fired near Venezuelan presidential palace, Govt buildings evacuated

CARACAS, Jan 6 (AP)

DELCY Rodriguez, who served as Vice President to Nicolas Maduro and has vowed to work with the Trump administration, was sworn in as interim President of Venezuela in the country's Parliament building.



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TRUE COLOURS
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Rodriguez was sworn in by her brother, National Assembly leader Jorge Rodriguez.

"I come with sorrow for the suffering inflicted upon the Venezuelan people following an illegitimate military aggression against our homeland," she said with her right hand up. Meanwhile, gunfire was heard near Venezuela's presidential palace, media reports said.

Venezuelan Government buildings were evacuated on Monday (local time) amid the incident. The situation was under control, according to a source close to the Government.

The source added that unidentified drones flew over the presidential palace in central Caracas, prompting security forces to open fire in response. Earlier on Monday,



Marco Rubio arrives at the US Capitol to brief lawmakers. (AP/PTI)

US President Donald Trump said that Venezuela will not hold elections in the next 30 days.

"We have to fix the country first. You can't have an election. There's no way the people could even vote," Trump said in an interview with NBC News. Trump identified a number of his team members, including Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller and Vice President JD Vance, who will help oversee US intervention in Venezuela.

Israel strikes multiple sites in Lebanon ahead of key disarmament meeting

SIDON, Jan 6 (AP)

ISRAEL'S air force struck areas in southern and eastern Lebanon on Monday and early Tuesday, including in the country's third-largest city.

A strike around 1 am on Tuesday leveled a three-story commercial building in the southern coastal city of Sidon, a few days before Lebanon's army commander is scheduled to brief the government on its mission

of disarming militant group Hezbollah in areas along the border with Israel.

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun in a statement on Tuesday condemned the attacks as counter to both international efforts to deescalate hostilities and Lebanon's efforts to extend the government's authority into areas long dominated by Hezbollah and to disarm militants. An Associated Press photographer at the scene in Sidon

said the area was in a commercial district containing workshops and mechanic shops and the building was uninhabited.

At least one person was transported by ambulance and rescue teams were searching the site for others, but no deaths have been reported.

Israel's military said Tuesday they targeted weapons storage sites and infrastructure belonging to the militant groups Hezbollah and Hamas.

Most UNSC members criticise capture of Maduro

At the Council's emergency meeting, France and Britain, US allies with permanent membership on the Council, lobbed mild criticism at Washington from an international law perspective

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 6 (IANS)

FACING criticism at the Security Council from allies and adversaries for capture of Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro, the US has defended it as a "a law enforcement operation" and not a war. At the Council's emergency meeting on Monday, France and Britain, US allies with permanent membership on the Council, lobbed mild criticism at Washington from an international law perspective. The other two permanent members, China and Russia, lashed out at the US, demanding Maduro's immediate release.

Attempting to undercut arguments that the US was violating the UN Charter and international law by invading Venezuela, he asserted, "This was a law enforcement operation". The Council meeting overlapped with Maduro's first appearance to face narco-terrorism charges in a US court south of the UN in Manhattan after he was seized

on Saturday from a fortified military base in Venezuela.

Venezuela's Permanent Representative Samuel Reinaldo Moncada responded, accusing the US of the "kidnapping of a head of state".

He said the US "illegitimate armed attack" in contravention of the UN Charter was motivated by its aim of getting his country's natural resources.

The country is now headed by Delcy Rodriguez, who was Maduro's Vice President, and US President Donald Trump has so far left her in place, expecting her cooperation.

France and Britain, and several other countries, denounced Maduro for what they said was his fraudulent election victory and human rights violations, while also criticising the US intervention. But France's Deputy Permanent Representative Jay Dharmadhikari also said, "The military operation that led to the capture of Nicolas Maduro contravenes the principles of peace-

European leaders deny Trump's remarks about US takeover of Greenland

BERLIN, Jan 6 (AP)

SEVERAL European leaders pushed back US President Donald Trump's comments seeking an American takeover of Greenland. The leaders issued a statement reaffirming the strategic, mineral-rich Arctic island "belongs to its people." The leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom joined Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen in defending Greenland's sovereignty in the wake of Trump's comments about Greenland, which is a self-governing territory of the kingdom of Denmark.

Stephen Miller, the White House deputy chief of staff, said Monday that Greenland should

be part of the United States in spite of a warning by Frederiksen that a US takeover of Greenland would amount to the end of the NATO military alliance.

"The President has been clear for months now that the United States should be the nation that has Greenland as part of our overall security apparatus," Miller said during an interview with CNN Monday afternoon.

His comments came after the Danish leader, together with Greenland's prime minister and other European leaders, firmly rejected Trump's renewed call for the strategic, mineral-rich Arctic island to come under US control in the aftermath of the weekend US military operation in Venezuela.

ful settlement of disputes and non-use of force".

Britain's Deputy Permanent Representative James Kariuki said, without naming the US, that violations of the Charter by permanent members "under-

mine the very foundations of the international order", he added.

China's Deputy Permanent Representative Sun Lei said Beijing "is deeply shocked by and strongly condemns" what he said were "bullying acts" by the US.

'Not received any Russian oil in 3 weeks, none expected in Jan'

NEW DELHI, Jan 6 (PTI)

RELIANCE Industries Ltd (RIL), the operator of the world's largest single site oil refining complex and till recently India's biggest buyer of Russian oil, on Tuesday said it has not received any Russian barrels in almost three weeks and none are expected in January.

On November 20, 2025, Reliance had said it has halted the use of Russian crude at its export-only refinery in Jamnagar, Gujarat, as the company moves to comply with European Union sanctions.

Prior to that, Reliance was India's largest buyer of Russian oil, which it processes and turns into fuel, such as petrol and diesel, at its giant oil refining complex at Jamnagar.

The complex is made up of two refineries one SEZ unit from which fuels are exported to the European Union, the US, and other markets, and an older unit that primarily caters to the domestic market.

The European Union a big



market for Reliance has imposed wide-ranging sanctions targeting Russia's energy revenues, including measures that restrict the import and sale of fuels produced from Russian crude oil.

To comply with these, Reliance had stopped processing Russian crude oil at its only-for-exports (SEZ) refinery.

On Tuesday, it called a Bloomberg report claiming "three vessels laden with Russian oil are headed for Reliance's Jamnagar refinery as "blatantly untrue".

"Reliance Industries' Jamnagar refinery has not received any cargo of Russian oil at its refinery in the past three weeks approx. And is not expecting any Russian crude oil deliveries in January,"

the company said in a statement.

The Bloomberg report had cited data analytics firm Kpler to say at least three tankers, laden with nearly 2.2 million barrels of urals (a grade of Russian crude), were headed towards the Sikka port through which Jamnagar refining complex sources a bulk of its crude imports.

However, Sikka is also the port that is used by non-Reliance companies. Industry sources said the three cargoes cited in the report were probably for Bina refinery of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and not Reliance.

"We have stopped importing Russian crude oil into our SEZ refinery with effect from November 20," a Reliance spokesperson had said in a statement on November 20, 2025.

"From December 1, all product exports from the SEZ refinery will be obtained from non-Russian crude oil." Reliance purchased about half of the 1.7-1.8 million barrels per day of discounted Russian crude shipped to India prior to that.

Reliance Industries shares down over 4%

NEW DELHI, Jan 6 (PTI)

SHARES of Reliance Industries ended over 4 per cent down on Tuesday and were instrumental in dragging the benchmark equity indices lower. The blue-chip stock edged lower by 4.42 per cent to end at Rs 1,507.70 on the BSE. During the day, it dropped 5 per cent to Rs 1,497.05.

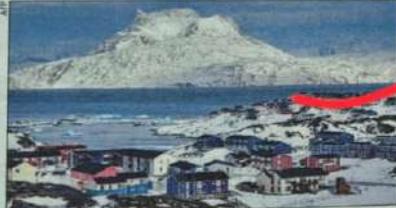
At the NSE, the stock declined by 4.46 per cent to settle at Rs 1,507.60. During the day, it tanked 5.18 per cent to Rs 1,496.30. The company's market valuation eroded by Rs 94,388.99 crore to Rs 20,40,290.90 crore in a single day. The company's stock hit its record high of Rs 1,611.20 in the previous trade. Last year, the stock jumped over 29 per cent.

Trump aide asserts Greenland belongs to US, Europe sees red

European Leaders Remind Washington Of Nato Obligations, UN Charter: Say 'People Of Greenland To Decide For Themselves'

Chidanand Rajghatta / TNM

Washington: Hours after Stephen Miller, top aide of President Trump, audaciously asserted US "right" over Greenland, leaders of eight European nations on Tuesday stood up for Denmark and its self-governing constituent, bringing the 75-year old transatlantic alliance to a crossroad.



Denmark's PM Mette Frederiksen has said that any US invasion of Greenland would spell an end to Nato, and Germany's foreign minister Johann Wadepuhl has warned that the US will be at war with Europe if it grabs Greenland

mark's right to Greenland, while asserting that it is the formal position of the Trump administration that the long-recognised Danish realm should be part of the US.

"By what right does Den-

mark assert control over Greenland? What is the basis of their territorial claim? The United States is the power of the Arctic region, to protect and defend Nato and Nato interests,



White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller (in pic) questioned Denmark's right to Greenland, while asserting that it is the formal position of the Trump administration that the long-recognised Danish realm should be part of the US

obviously Greenland should be part of the US," Miller said.

The Trump aide repeatedly rebutted the host's question if he could take the military option off the table, scoffing at Greenland's 30,000 population

and asserting "We wouldn't need military action... nobody is gonna fight the US militarily over the future of Greenland."

Indeed, the European statement, while pushing back at US claims, was not exactly muscular, preferring to remind Washington of mutual Nato obligations to defend the Arctic. It said that security in the Arctic must be achieved collectively with Nato allies, including the United States, by upholding the principles of the UN Charter, including: sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of border, adding "These are universal principles, and we won't stop defending them."

"Nato has made clear that the Arctic region is a priority and European allies are stepping up. We and many other allies have increased our presence, activities and investments,

to keep the Arctic safe and to deter adversaries. The Kingdom of Denmark—including Greenland—is part of Nato," the statement said.

Individually, European leaders have made stronger statements. Denmark's PM Mette Frederiksen has said any US invasion of Greenland would spell an end to Nato, and Germany's foreign minister Johann Wadepuhl has warned that the United States will be at war with Europe if it grabs Greenland, asserting Nato members will have an obligation to defend Denmark if it was attacked by the US. "Greenland is part of the Kingdom of Denmark. And since Denmark is a member of Nato, Greenland will, in principle, also be subject to Nato defence," he said.

Greenland, a Danish colony from 1721 until 1953, is now an

autonomous constituent country within the Kingdom of Denmark, locked in a relationship known as the Riggsfællesskab or "Unity of the Realm." While it is largely self-governing, Denmark controls Foreign Affairs, Defence & National Security, and Monetary Policy. No administration before Trump's had challenged this arrangement.

Miller faced questions on the Trump White House position on Greenland after his wife, also a former White House staffer, posted on social media maps of Greenland draped in US colours with the word "Soon" soon after the US infiltration into Venezuela and its abduction of President Maduro. The answers were a cold, chilling assertion of US "right" over Greenland that seemed to answer the question now raging across global capitals: Who's next?

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Trump tells House Republicans, 'If we don't win midterms, I will get impeached'

President Trump said on Tuesday that Republicans must win the 2026 midterm elections or else he will get impeached by Democrats. "You gotta win the midterms 'cause if we don't win the midterms, it's just gonna be—I mean, they'll find a reason to impeach me," Trump said at a retreat for House Republican lawmakers in Washington. "I'll get impeached." He urged his fellow Republicans to fight in a more unified fashion on issues ranging from gender politics to healthcare and election reform. Trump's agenda is on the line in Nov's polls, when all the seats in the House of Representatives and a third of the Senate's seats will be contested. [EQUUS 198](#)

Trump suggests

DOJ drops claim that 'Cartel de los Soles'

Interim prez must walk a tightrope between both US

B'desh existence can't be imagined