Generated on: 2025-01-02 10:04

News Summary

Elon Musk and Starlink's Inactivity in India

Elon Musk confirmed that Starlink's satellite internet service is currently inactive in India, following the seizure of two of the company's devices by Indian authorities. The devices were confiscated in separate incidents: one in an armed conflict zone and another during a drug smuggling operation. Musk clarified on social media platform X that "Starlink satellite beams are turned off over India" and that they "were never on in the first place." This statement was made in response to a post from the Indian Army, which detailed a search operation in Manipur state where a Starlink satellite dish and receiver were found alongside seized weapons.

Military sources indicated that the seized device was allegedly used by a militant group, likely smuggled from Myanmar, where Starlink has reportedly been utilized by rebel factions despite the company not operating there. Additionally, Indian police have requested purchase details from Starlink regarding a device linked to a significant drug bust involving \$4.2 billion worth of methamphetamine, suggesting that smugglers may have used the internet service for navigation. Starlink is currently seeking regulatory approval to provide satellite broadband services in India while addressing potential security concerns.

Allegations Against Former President Duterte in Drug War

A preliminary report from a Philippine House inquiry has implicated former President Rodrigo Duterte as the central figure in a "grand criminal enterprise" related to his controversial war on drugs. Antipolo Representative Romeo Acop revealed findings from the House quad committee, which examined connections between Philippine offshore gaming operators (Pogos), illegal drugs, and extrajudicial killings (EJKs) during Duterte's administration. Acop stated that Duterte was portrayed as the "face of illegal drugs and criminality" in the country, despite his campaign promises to eradicate these issues. Testimony from former narcotics officer Eduardo Acierto referred to Duterte as the "lord of all druglords."

The report also highlighted a reward system allegedly managed by Duterte's former special assistant, which purportedly funded EJKs and led to numerous collateral damages. Acop noted that Duterte had made several incriminating admissions during the hearings, including claims of personally killing "six or seven" criminals while serving as mayor of Davao City. The inquiry continues to unfold, raising serious questions about the integrity of

Generated Report

Generated on: 2025-01-02 10:04

Duterte's anti-drug campaign and its implications for justice in the Philippines.

Senator Ronald Dela Rosa, who served as Duterte's first Philippine National Police chief, expressed no surprise at the committee's conclusions, defending the campaign as necessary to protect the nation from becoming an "anarchist state." He emphasized the integrity of the operation, which resulted in 312 fatalities and 974 injuries among law enforcement personnel from July 2016 to June 2022. The committee's initial findings will be presented to the plenary on December 17, with further hearings scheduled for January 2025.

Mary Jane Veloso's Planned Repatriation from Indonesia

Mary Jane Veloso, a Filipina on death row in Indonesia, described her planned transfer back to the Philippines as a "miracle." Veloso, sentenced to death in 2010 after being found with 2.6 kilograms of heroin, claims she was a victim of an international drug syndicate. Following a recent agreement between Manila and Jakarta, her transfer could occur around December 20, potentially reducing her death penalty to life imprisonment. Veloso expressed her disbelief and gratitude, stating, "Every morning when I wake up, I think about my aspirations."

Her case has garnered significant attention in the Philippines, with public rallies and appeals from notable figures, including boxing champion Manny Pacquiao. Veloso's family is set to arrive in Central Java next week, and her mother has appealed to Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. for clemency so that Mary Jane can spend Christmas with her family. In prison, she has taken up volleyball and created traditional Indonesian batik clothing, symbolizing her personal transformation.

The Indonesian government is also engaged in discussions regarding the transfer of other high-profile detainees, including members of Australia's "Bali Nine." Indonesia has indicated its intention to resume executions of drug convicts on death row, which have been on hold since 2016, raising concerns among human rights advocates.

Drug-Related Arrests in Malaysia and Colombia

In Malaysia, a couple aged 19 and 23 was arrested for allegedly selling drugs in the Klang Valley following a police operation on September 26. Authorities seized a total of 10.36 kg of suspected cannabis, valued at approximately RM38,000. The first arrest occurred in a Petaling Jaya car park, where police confiscated 2.12 kg of the substance.

Generated Report

Generated on: 2025-01-02 10:04

The couple had been operating for about a year, using social media to connect with clients before making in-person deliveries. A luxury sports car valued at RM200,000 was also seized during the operation.

In Colombia, authorities apprehended Christopher Neil, a suspected British drug trafficker linked to the Clandel Golfo cartel, during a police operation in Medellín. Neil, described as an "invisible" trafficker due to his low-profile lifestyle, had been operating discreetly since moving to Colombia in December 2018. He is wanted in the UK on charges of trafficking and money laundering. The arrest is part of ongoing efforts by Colombian law enforcement to combat drug trafficking and dismantle organized crime syndicates operating in the region.