

BRIEFLY

Israel holds 7 Hamas men: Israeli soldiers have arrested seven militants from the Islamic resistance movement Hamas at a refugee camp on the occupied West Bank...

1 killed in Sarajevo shelling: One person was killed and 14 were wounded in Sarajevo on Sunday as the Bosnian capital was shelled for the second evening...

6 S Korean gangsters to die: A South Korean court on Monday sentenced to death six members of a gang convicted of a gruesome spree of killing and cannibalism...

Colombians go to polls: Colombians voted for more than 12,500 mayors, councillor and governors in relative peace on Sunday despite a guerrilla attack on a police patrol...

ROK soldier kills 2 officers: A South Korean army private went on a rampage on Monday, shooting two officers to death and wounding seven other soldiers before killing himself...

Blast claims 7 in Cambodia: Seven passengers were killed and at least 10 seriously wounded when a time bomb exploded on a passenger train in Banteay Meanchey province...

Solomon Islands PM resigns: Solomon Islands Prime Minister Francis Billy Hilary resigned in parliament in Honiara yesterday...

3 die in Filipino mishap: Three people were killed and several injured yesterday when a bridge collapsed under the weight of a truck carrying a bulldozer...

Prince Philip in Israel: Prince Philip visited his mother's grave for the first time on Monday before attending a ceremony honouring her for saving Greek Jews during World War II...

HK holds 9 cops for vice: Nine police officers were held in Hong Kong's anti-graft body for alleged involvement in a vice den protection racket...

Quake shakes E Indonesia: An earthquake measuring 5.4 on the Richter scale hit eastern Indonesia early yesterday but there were no immediate reports of damage or casualties...

Kurds on hunger strike in UK: About 100 Kurds including several children were on their third day of a hunger strike in London on Sunday in a show of support for Kani Yilmaz...

Russian ship crew rescued: All 155 crew were rescued from a Russian fish processing ship after it grounded on rocks on the north Scottish Shetland Islands in a gale early on Monday...

Heavy fighting continues in Kabul, 35 hurt: Presidential troops battled rival Islamic factions with rockets, air strikes and machine-gun fire in heavy fighting that touched all parts of the beleaguered capital Monday...

Caste quotas help India's poor, but still cause violent debate: one of the most widespread, rigid and exclusive systems of social discrimination ever devised by man and sanctioned by religion...

Kodavas allowed guns during Karnataka polls: BANGALORE, India, Oct 31: India's election authorities have allowed hundreds of thousands of a warrior caste in the southern state of Karnataka to carry guns in the run-up to state assembly polls...

India's oldest surrogate mother: NEW DELHI: A 49-year-old housewife has earned the distinction of being India's oldest woman to become a surrogate mother with the help of a donor egg...

Off the Record: Viewers take disaster movie for real: LOS ANGELES: A US television movie about an asteroid striking earth triggered hundreds of phone calls nationwide Sunday night from confused viewers...

Egg-throwing game turns tragic: UNDATED: Halloween celebrations got off to an ominous start when man hit by an egg stabbed a 12-year-old boy to death in New York City and about 2,000 people stampeded in an Illinois college town...

US, China resume arms control talks after 6 yrs: BEIJING, Oct 31: China and American negotiators "moved closer to common ground" on arms control, the director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency said on Monday...

Russian PM rejects call to sack five ministers: MOSCOW, Oct 31: Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on Sunday rejected calls to sack five key ministers, three days after a no confidence vote against his government failed by a narrow margin...

Israel rejects precondition for peace with Lebanon: JERUSALEM, Oct 31: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said today Lebanese President Elias Hrawi's proposal for a joint Israeli-Lebanese committee to work out a timetable for withdrawal from Lebanese territory within six months...

South Korea, China agree to strengthen relations: SEOUL, Oct 31: Chinese Premier Li Peng met with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam on Monday and agreed to further strengthen the two nations' economic and other relations...

Widow wants Indians to investigate: COLOMBO, Sri Lanka, Oct 31: Srma Dissanayake has asked for help in her husband's murder investigation from the Indian detectives who probed the similar assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi...

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Chinese Premier Li Peng (background, 3rd from L) and South Korean President Kim Young-Sam (background, 2nd from R) stand behind their foreign ministers...

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Kashmir issue may cloud Benazir's France visit

ISLAMABAD, Oct 31: The Kashmir dispute could cloud Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's upcoming visit to France after Paris urged her government to seek a solution through direct talks with rival India...

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Dissanayake's assassination Widow wants Indians to investigate

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka, Oct 31: Srma Dissanayake has asked for help in her husband's murder investigation from the Indian detectives who probed the similar assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi...

Indira Gandhi's 10th death anniversary observed

NEW DELHI, Oct 31: Indian leaders paid homage today to the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on the 10th anniversary of her assassination...

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