#### Destruction of shrine

## Protests on in Kashmir

BOIFFE

Policeman kills boy in UP: An

trritated policeman in the north Indian state of Uttar

Pradesh killed an 11-year-old boy who disturbed his siesta.

the Press Trust of India (PTI) said yesterday. Reuter reports

Yaday for throwing Santosh and his friend Rakesh off a

building in the city of Kanpur on Tuesday after the boys

Road mishap kills 18 in Nepal: A

least eighteen people were killed and three injured yesterday when a passenger bus and a truck collided near the

industrial township of Hetaunda, 120 kilometres (75 miles)

south of Kathmandu, the state run Radio said; AFP reports

belonging to the Chinese International Water Electric

Company (CWEC) working on an irrigation project, the radio

said. It did not say how the accident occurred but said an

Kazakhstan, ROK to boost ties:

Visiting Kazakhstan President Nursuitan Nazarbayev agreed

with South Korean President Kim Young-Sam yesterday to

boost economic and other ties between the two nations,

"closer cooperation in, among other things, the areas of

industry, investment, trade and the exploitation of natural

9 missing in Jakarta quake: East

Timor authorities were searching for nine people, including a

number of children, still missing after an earthquake shook

the tiny territory's capital Dili, an official said on Tuesday,

... Officials, on Monday had said all people missing after the

quake struck on Sunday night had been accounted for but an

official in the Dili Mayor's office said by telephone that nine

Tamil rebels launched a nighttime attack on an isolated

northern unitiary base, killing two soldiers, defence officials

Helicopters evacuated eight wounded troops from the

Elephant Pass camp, braving the threat of antiaircraft

missiles for only the second time since the rebels shot down

Clinton's popularity jumps: Presi-

dent Clinton's popularity has jumped to its highest level in

more than year, the latest Washington Post-ABC News poll

of the job Clinton is doing, up from 46 per cent in early April,

the way Clinton was handling the Oklahoma City federal

building bombing, with more than 80 per cent expressing

The Pakistan parliament's Upper House on Monday called for

international relief for victims of an Indian crackdown in the

disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir. Reuter reports from

pass an unanimous resolution blaming Indian forces for last

week's burning of a Muslim shrine in Kashmir that has

20 rebels killed in Peru: At least 20

Majorst Shiring Path rebels were killed in a clash with

government troops in Peru's southeast Monday, and a key

rebel leader was wounded but escaped, an army spokesman

controptation in in isolated area of Avaoucho, in the Andes

monutains added army spokesman Commander Jorge Loaiza

Flash flood claims 20 in India:

Flash floods have killed more than 20 people and devastated

crops and property worth two billion rupees in the eastern

Indian state of Orissa, official said. Reuter reports from India

Four people were also reported missing, police officials

the drings swamped roads and rail tracks, cutting off

parts of southern Orissa from the rest of the country and

having three million people and hundreds of vehicles

New WHO chief named: Professor Li

Shirhuo has been named head of the World Health

Organisation's (WHO) 32-member executive council for the

coming year, to replace Dr. Jesus Kumate of Mexico, a WHO

health ministry. Health experts are named to the executive

council as individuals irrespective of their roles in any of the

Aum leader arrested in Japan:

Police on Tuesday arrested the Aum Supreme Truth leader

Shoko Ashahara for alleged murder and attempted murder in

connection with the March 20 sarin gas attack on the Tokyo

subway. Japan Broadcasting Corp (NHK) said. AFP reports

Christian Anfinsen dies: Christian

Boehmer Antinsen, winner of the 1972 Novel Prize in

chemistry, has died of a heart attack, colleagues say, AP

National Institute of Diabetes. Digestive and Kidney Diseases

at the National Institutes of Health, where he worked from

1963 to 1981. He shared the prize with Rockefeller

University scientists Stanford Moore and William H. Stein.

Anfinsen won the Nobel Prize while laboratory chief of the

Anfinsen died Sunday at his home. He was 79.

Asahara was fount at building in the Kamitkushiki village at

A----- 1--- ------------ 1:-- T--

Li'is in charge of international cooperation at the Chinese

manager on aid estate lighways, they said.

statement said Monday, AFP reports from Geneva

Seven army troops were seriously wounded in the

The ruling and opposition parties in the senate joined to

Relief for Kashmiris sought:

sparked widespread protests there and in Pakistan.

Fifty-six per cent of those interviewed said they approved

Respondents appeared to be particularly impressed with

Two more killed in Lanka:

said Tuesday. AP reports from Colombo.

two transport planes two weeks ago.

shows. AP reports from Washington.

the Post said in Tuesday's editions.

approval, the paper said.

said AFP reports from Linia.

190-member countries.

the foot of mount Futt

reports from Pikesville, Maryland.

from Tokyo.

Islamabad

resources. a statement released after their talks said.

The two leaders signed a broad agreement calling for

The bus, carrying 50 passengers, collided with a truck

ereated a racket and woke Yadav from his afternoon nap.

PTI's aid police officials arrested constable Satendra Singh

Santosh died instantly while Rakesh was admitted to

SRINAGAR, May 16: Police used tear gas and batons to disperse hundreds of Kashmiri Muslims who poured into the streets of downtown Srinagar Tuesday to protest against last week's destruction of a historic mosque, reports AP.

More than a dozen people were injured by flying tear gas shells and police batons. Protestors threw stones at the security forces, the police said.

The incident occurred in the state capital as a curiew was relaxed for the first time in six days, and prompted authorities to quickly reimpose the restrictions and force the people back into their homes.

Most of Muslim-dominated Kashmir valley was placed under curfew after a 15th century shrine of Kashmir's patron saint was burnt down Thursday during a fierce battle between Indian troops and Islamic sep-

from New Delhi.

from Kathmandu.

hospital with injuries. PTI said.

investigation was underway.

Reuter reports from Seoul.

Reuter reports from Jakarta.

were still bring sought.

aratist guerillas in the town of Char-e-Sharif.

Indian troops to get militants

out of the shrine they had used

as a base for more than two

have been killed in Jammu-

Kashmir, the only Muslim-ma-

jority state in predominantly

Hindu India, since the war to

separate from India began in

More than 11.500 people

SEOUL, May 16: The government said Tuesday it will More than 30 militants ban South Koreans from atwere killed in the fighting. tending a North Korea-spon-In the days since the consored unification rally at the frontation, militants have border, reports AP

avenged the shrine's destruc-As in recent years, North tion by burning government Korea's communist governbuildings and Hindu temples. ment has announced plans to The government has hold a unification rally at the blamed rebels for starting a border village of Panmunjom blaze that destroyed most of on August 15 and once again is Char-e-Sharif and the shrine. appealing to South Koreans to But militant groups and many come. ordinary Kashmiri Muslims believe the fire was started by

The Seoul government has banned all past border rallies. touching off angry protests from radical students and dissidents.

S Koreans won't

be allowed to join

border rally

"The government has decided not to permit participation of South Koreans in the Panmunjom rally." Unification Minister Rha Woong-bae said after a mini-Cabinet meeting.

He accused North Korea of trying to use the rally to stir dissident movements in South Korea.

minister said Panmunjom, a tightly guarded border village, is irrelevant as a major rally site. He said his government instead will encourage non-political visits to North Korea by religious and other civic leaders.

The government decision clashes with plans by some major religious groups to attend the North-proposed rally, which will mark the 50th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japan's colonial rule in 1910-45.

#### Chinese vessels block Filipino navy ship

SPRATLY ISLANDS, May 16: Two Chinese vessels blocked a Philippine navy ship carrying 38 journalists and a Filipino general during a tense 70-minute confrontation near the Philippine claimed area of the disputed Spratly Islands, reports AP.

The encounter occurred Saturday while the Philippine ship was nearing Mischief Reef to inspect structures built by the Chinese there. Manila says the structures could be developed into a naval support facility. Beijing claims they serve as shelter for fishermen.

It was the first physical confrontation in the Spratlys between China Philippines, two of six nations claiming the potentially oil rich chain in the South China Sea. The other claimants are Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia and

Two Chinese ships, with markings identifying them as fishing vessels, cut across the bow and then hemmed in the 4.000-ton Philippine tank landing ship Benguet as though taunting it.

As the two Chinese vessels moved closer, Maj. Gen. Carlos Tanega, chief of the Philippine military's Western Command. called on the Benguet's patrol escort to ward off the Chinese

## Israel stages mock air raid to warn Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon, May 16: Israeli warplanes staged mock air raids Monday on Shiite Muslim guerilla headquarters in south Beirut in an apparent warning to halt attacks on the ·Israeli-held zone in south Lebanon, reports AP.

Guerillas of the Iranian backed Hezbollah had am bushed an Israeli army patrol hours earlier in the so-called border 'security zone.

No casualties were reported in the roadside bomb ambush in the security zone's western sector. But the attack under lined the swelling Hezbollati campaign in the south, the last active warfront in the Arab-Israeli conflict

The air activity over the Lebanese capital, the third israeli mock raid this year, appeared to be a warning to the Hezbollah leadership that Israel would retaliate if the southern hostilities escalate.

Tracer bullets lit up the Beirut sky as Lebanese army anti-arieraft batteries opened up on the low-flying jets over the city's southern slums.

Hezbollah's headquarters is located the low-income Bir el-Abed district, where the movement's leaders live in shantytowns

## Rao's bid to woo back Muslim voters

# TADA won't be renewed

NEW DELHI, May 16: Indian Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao appears set to axe a harsh detention law in a bid to woo back the votes of Muslims. Whom luman rights groups say, suffered most from it, government sources said today. reports Renter.

The sources said Rao and leaders of his Congress party decided at a meeting on Sunday not to renew the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Prevention Act (TADA). They were expected to take the issue to parliament in the next few days.

TADA, which expires if not renewed on may 23, permits detention without trial for up to a year. It was introduced in 1986 to check separatist movements, first in Punjab and later in Kashmir, where an estimated 20,000 people have been killed in a five-year rebel-

As the renewal deadline has neared, lawvers and liberals across India have become vocal in opposing it.

"Contrary to what the goverument says, the act has failed to control terrorism. said PA Sebastian of the committee for the protection of

democratic rights. "There have been 78,000 people arrested under TADA all over the country during the last ten years, but the rate of conviction has been less than one per cent," he added.

in March. Ranganath Mishra, a former chief justice who heads of the state-sponsored national human rights commission, appealed to legislators to refuse to renew the

"The law and order machinery should no longer be permitted to operate under the cover of such a black law." he said.

Congress deputies also have stepped up pressure on Rao to repeal a law they blame for recent turning reverses in state assembly elections.

Sharad Pawar, former chief minister of Maharashtra.

where Congress lost for the first time since 1952, attributed the defeat to Muslim alienation because of TADA.

The arrest in Bombay of film star Sanjay Dutt was the first to draw public attention to alleged abuses of TADA.

Dutt, son of a Congress deputy, was imprisoned for over a year after being charged with illegally possessing an assault rifle in a trial linked to bomb blasts in Bombay in March 1993 that killed 260.

India blamed Pakistanibacked Muslims for the bombs it said were planted revenge for the destruction by Hindu zealots in December 1992 of a 16th century mosque which had become a major issue for Hindu nationalists. Islamabad denies any connection to the carnage.

· Many Muslims were arrested under TADA following the blasts and Rao was widely accused within Congress of neglecting Muslims who form 11 per cent of India's 900 million population:

## Encyclopaedia for sale

Off the Record

Teenage bomb maker!

the Internet were found concocting a bomb powerful enough

to destroy a multi-story building, police said Tuesday, reports

17-year-old students, who were experimenting with a formula

reality if things had gone together and if they had followed

the recipe precisely, there would be fatal consequences."

which, when mixed correctly with other ingredients, could

make an explosive 150 per cent more powerful than TNT and

capable of blowing up a multi-story building, he said.

"could well and truly blow a house apart," he said.

they obtained through a computer bulletin board.

Ormond said. .

the bomb.

instructions.

cleaning and treating metals.

prosecute the teen-agers.

AUCKLAND: Two high school students using a recipe from

Police Sgt. Paul Ormond said a tip-off led police to the two

"They said they were only going to make fireworks, but in

The teen-agers had 20 liters (5 gallons) of a chemical

A small fraction of that amount - less than a litre -

Ormond declined to name the chemical, but said it is

The youths, who were not identified because of their age,

Police confiscated the chemicals and decided not to

Officers did not find the recipe and Orman said there was

little police could do to prevent the circulation of such

had already bought chemistry equipment necessary to make

readily available and used in a variety of industries for

NEW YORK: Encyclopaedia Britannica, the oldest continually published English-language encyclopaedia, is being put up for sale and could possibly fetch up to dirs 500 million, according to a published report, says AP.

The owner of the 226-year-old Britannica has hired New York investment firm Lazard Freres and Co to find a buyer. The New York Times reports in Tuesday's editions, citing executives familiar with the plans.

A Britannica spokeswoman, who asked that her name be withheld, denied late Monday that its owners were leaning toward a sale. She said the investment firm was hired last month to help raise capital, not necessarily find a buyer.

The Chicago-based company has limped through three years of losses and dwindling sales. The Times reports. The privately-held company does not publicly report its profits or

Executives at Encyclopaedia Britannica had announced last month that the company needed cash and was considering outside investors or a sale. One executive with knowledge of the plan said the preference is for a sale. The Times reports.

Among potential buyers, the Times says, are traditional publishers such as Viacom's Simon and Schuster and K-III Communications, and technology companies like Microsoft, which could use the collection as a gigantic data base for electronic publishing ventures.

### Pet counselling scheme

LONDON, Apr 8: British pet owners are being offered a counselling service to help them get over the death or loss of their animals, reports Reuter.

The society for Companion Animal Studies, a group of pet lovers and owners, said on Thursday the scheme would provide a listening ear to people whose pets had died, been put down or disappeared.

"It certainly don't think we're going over the top in setting this service up," said Society Director Anne Docherty. "Losing a pet can be like losing a member of the family and

people often have no one around who understands their feelrunt Dur , viborrough and

Malaysia for new plan

# UN troops in Sarajevo asked to avoid clashes Serb restrictions on UN op-

Three young boys peek through the bars of a basement window in Sarajevo Monday. The

schools of the Bosnia capital have been closed for nearly three weeks due to increase of

shelling. More than 1,500 children have been killed in Sarajevo since the beginning of the

SARAJEVO, May 16: United Nations units in Sarajevo have been ordered to avoid clashes with Bosnia's combatants while U.N chiefs review the future of the peacekeeping mission, reports Reuter.

siege in April 1992.

I don't want to accept any more casualties, under no circumstances. We will engage either warring party in activities which might put the life of one of our soldiers in jeopardy. peacekeeping sources quoted the French commander of the U.N force in the city, General Herve Gobilliard, as telling his officers on Monday. His order went out as a comprehensive review of the peacekeeping options in Bosnia was given a final polish by U.N officials in Zagreb and the Bosnian capital before being sent to United Nations headquarters in New

U.N military commanders called for the review after the deaths of three peacekeepers in the last month, growing

16. Coast guard and police

sourcing Tayabas Bay in the

ivors of a ferry that caught fire

early Tuesday said the death

toll had risen to 37, reports

women and one was a voung

The terry, the MV Viva

Antipolo, was on its way to

Lucena City, 96 kilometres (60

miles) southeast of Manila.

when a fire broke out at 1 a.m.

(1700 GMT), said Lt. Comm-

ander Benjamin Niebres, chief

of the 5th Coast Guard

Niebres said the ferry was

girl, rescuers said.

Many of the fatalities were

central Philippines for surv-

erations and an unwillingness on the part of the U.N mission chief Yasushi Akashi to enlist NATO help. Until a new mandate is an-

nounced, the mainly French U.N force in the Bosnian capital appears set to do nothing that might provoke confrontation with either of the warring The French who with 34

dead in former Yugoslavia have lost more troops than any other country manning the mission have stopped trying to prevent the Serbs from removing weapons now impounded in U.N arms dumps.

Because of violence against UN personnel. France and Britain have threatened to withdrawal their large peacekeeping contingents from

U.N sources say the review meludes options which would scale back a U.N presence in areas where it is most vulner-

64 kilometres (40

Rescue officials said the deaths

were caused either by the

heat of the blaze or by

jackets but there were none.

The crew did not even tell us

where to find one in case of

emergency." said Emerlita

Rosas, who suffered slight

We tried to look for life

able - the three enclaves in eastern Bosnia and weapons collection points around Sarajevo.

- AFP/UNB photo

The foreign ministers of France and Britain said after meeting in Paris that they saw a "glimmer of hope" in efforts to unblock international peace efforts but gave no details.

According to French officials their optimism was based on hints that Serbian led Yugoslavia might be persuaded to overcome its reluctance to recognise Bosnia as a first step towards a political settlement.

The peace process has been deadlocked by the refusal of Serbs to consider a peace plan dividing Bosnia roughly in half between themselves and a federation of Muslims and Croats. However, the government

army has spoken increasingly of trying to break out of the three-year old siege imposed by the Bosnian Serbs around

#### to end war in Bosnia KUALA LUMPUR, May 16: Malaysia is dismissing UN peace efforts in Bosnia as inef-Abdullah said.

fective, today said it would call for a new plan to end the civil war in the former Yugoslavia at an upcoming Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting, reports AFP.

The United Nations has not managed to convince us that they can bring peace to Bosnia. It's time for a new initiative to be taken to solve the problem. foreign minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi told a news conference. Abdullah, who will attend

one-day OIC meeting in Rabat. Morocco, on Wednesday, said many members of the United Nations were reluctant to take severe military action to curb Serbian aggression.

We have no choice but to find a diplomatic solution.

He suggested a Cambodiastyle resolution to end the three year old conflict between the mainly Muslim Bosnians and the Christian Serbs.

Cambodia ended a bloody civil war with UN run elections in May 1993, allowing the wartattered country to form a more stable government jointly led by Prince Norodom Ranariddh as first prime minister and former anti-royalist Hun Sen as second prime min-

Predominantly Muslim Malaysia has been a vocal sup porter Bosnian Muslims and has sent more than 1.500° troops to Bosnia as part of UN peacekeepers.

#### Ferry blaze leaves 37 Russia, China pledge 39 separatists rebels killed to boost military ties dead in Philippines in India in BEIJING. May 16: Russia Cruz on Marinduque, an island MANILA. Philippines. May

southeast of Lucena, and was cruising on Tayabas Bay when its engine caught fire. Col. Primo Rivera, police maritime district chief in Lucena, said most of the ferry's 200 or so passengers and crew panicked and jumped overboard without life jackets.

The spokesman said late on Monday it was the biggest success of the armed forces over insurgents in the region in recent times.

India and Burma, he said.

says AFP. Chinese Defence Minister Chi Haotian gave a warm welcome" Monday evening to his visiting Russian counterpart. Pavel Grachev, calling him "an

and China have pledged here

to boost military cooperation

with a senior Chinese official

playing up the historical links

between the armies of the two

countries. Xinhua reported.

old friend of the Chinese army," the agency said. The five day visit to China by Grachev, who arrived here

Monday, is an important event in the history of Sino-Russian military exchanges, writing a "new chapter" in developing relations. Chi told his guest in talks before a welcoming ban-Grachev's latest trip is part

of a military cooperation agreement signed during his last visit here in November 1993, a diplomatic source said Referring to this year's 50th

anniversary of World War II, Chi said "the victory of China's war of resistance against Japan cannot be separated from the Red Army's advance into northeast China

"The historical merits of the Red Army can in no way be ignored," he said, highlighting Sino-Soviet military cooperation while avoiding mention of the years of tension after the two communist giants fell out

from Russia.

in the early 1960s China is seeking to increase supplies of military equipment

The possibility of Moscow allowing Beijing to manufacture Russian Sukhoi-27 combat aircraft in China under licence is to be discussed during the

in March. Russian authorities stated clearly that they were not opposed to the project, but would prefer that Beijing first buy another 100-150 Sukhoi-27s. China bought 26 of the type in 1992.

Under a deal sealed last November. Moscow is also to deliver four Kilo-class dieselpowered attack submarines to Beijing, worth about a billion dollars.

But some concern has been expressed in Russia over arms sales to China, focusing on the possibility of Beijing adopting a nationalist attitude and becoming a serious threat to its neighbour in the future.

Grachev, in his meeting with Chi, pointed to his "unprecedentedly high-level" delegation as a sign of his country's commitment to reinforcing military friendship and

cooperation, Xinhua said. Chi and Grachev are to hold further talks today, after which the Russian official is also to meet with Vice Chairman of the powerful Central Military

Commission Lie Huaging. He is to leave later today for the eastern city of Nanjing. from where he is to travel to Shanghai and southern Shenzhen, before returning to Beiting Thursday, on Friday he will fly to Seoul.

## coming from the town of Santa Struggle for press freedom on in Asia

SEOUL May 16 Journalists on the select paritied a grim picture of press freedom in much of Asia where editors and reporters are harassed.

International Press Institute's annual conference, they noted advances as well, as democracies flourish and Asian nations become more technologically advanced

In Cambodia, government refusal to allow reports that it devins damaging, regardless of their truth, has led to the death of three journalists, and six newspapers have been shut down in the past 14 months.

threats, the editor of a seventh paper chose to close its doors.

selves "lucky" he said.

out of prison on bail, noted that even champions of the free press and democracy often switch sides once they are in power. Soliven is the publisher of

"The Philippine Star," which

published a column critical of

democracy. "If you want to write something, you have to think twice

before you do," noted another journalist, whose magazine was banned by the Indonesian government last year. But others also noted the

advances in media rights as technological advances make more information available to the people. Electronic media, such as

radio and television, are flour ishing in Thailand, and they are becoming aggressive in their investigation of government injustice.

brought the outside world into homes in Singapore. China and other Asian nations. More Asians also are logging

on to computer networks. which mainly exist outside government control, said Cheong Yip Seng, editor of the "Straits Times." "Governments know political causes are being fought in

he added.

# fortnight

**GUWAHATI**, India, May 16: Security forces have killed at least 39 separatist rebels from different guerilla groups and arrested 40 in troubled northeastern India over the past fortnight, a defence ministry spokesman said, reports

Indian army solders,

paramilitary forces and units of the Burmese army cooperated to ambush the guerillas near Tiau river, which separates

#### Meter receiving repeated death Satellite television has former President Corizon Aquino, a longtime advocate of

drowning.

jailed and killed reports AP. Speaking at the

iri Malaysia, media profes-

sionals are harassed, physically beaten and detained, said V K Chin editorial adviser to 'The Star." But because reporters are not killed and do not disappear, they consider them-Maximo Soliven, currently

cyberspace," he said, but Singapore has not closed down access in fear of damaging economic competitiveness. The more a country is en-

couraged to go free market. more free its media will be."