

BRIEFLY



A woman wipes a tear during a demonstration of some 5000-6000 refugees living in the Tuzla area which was organised by the Muslim women of Podrinja, in the Tuzla neighbourhood on Saturday. —AFP/UNB photo

Afghan refugee killed on Pak border: Iranian security forces killed an Afghan refugee as he was crossing the border into Pakistan at Taftan, 750 km southwest of Quetta on Friday evening, Pakistani military sources said. Reuter reports from Quetta.

Indian actor Anil Chatterjee dies: Noted actor Anil Chatterjee died of heart attack at the SSKM hospital at 1115 hours yesterday, family sources said. PTI reports from Calcutta.

Canadian tourist killed in Florida: A Canadian teenager visiting Florida with his schoolmates was shot dead in the popular resort of Daytona Beach during a robbery while he was talking on a public telephone with his mother, police said on Saturday. Reuter reports from Daytona Beach.

Powell won't contest polls: Top Republican presidential contender Bob Dole is optimistic that retired Gen Colin Powell could be induced to join his ticket as a vice presidential nominee, but Powell again insisted he's not interested, according to a published report. AP reports from Chicago.

Taki elected Comoros President: Mohamed Taki Abdoukarim has been elected Comoros President with 64 per cent of the vote, beating his adversary Abbas Djoussouf. The national electoral commission announced yesterday. AFP reports from Moroni, Comoros.

Thai PM arrives in Yangon: Thai Prime Minister Banharn Silpa-Archa arrived in Yangon Sunday morning to begin his two-day official visit to Myanmar, Xinhua reports from Yangon.

BJP slams govt plan to fix job quotas for Christians

NEW DELHI, Mar 17: India's main opposition party on Saturday denounced a government plan to fix job quotas for Christians, saying it would cut into the benefits enjoyed by the mass of Hindu poor, reports AFP.

Junta bans UK politician from visiting Yangon

EDINBURGH, Mar 17: A senior British politician said on Saturday that Myanmar had banned him from visiting Yangon to present a freedom prize to opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, reports Reuter.

GCC meet aimed at easing tension opens

RIYADH, Mar 17: Gulf Arab foreign ministers on Saturday opened a meeting aimed at easing tension that first surfaced when Qatar walked out of a Gulf summit in December, reports AFP.

Israel eases closure of Gaza Strip as Palestinians protest

ISRAELI radio no further measures to ease the closure were planned "so long as we're not certain the Palestinian Authority has arrested the top leaders of Hamas."

China asks US not to send navy into Taiwan Straits

BEIJING, Mar 17: Chinese Premier Li Peng put the United States on notice today not to send its navy into the Taiwan Straits, saying the use of force against China could spell trouble, reports Reuter.

Curfew imposed in southwestern Pakistan

Tigers kill 5 more cops

India's Election Commission in turmoil ahead of polls

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Taiwan accuses China of trying to derail polls

its views on another," Li said when asked about the impact on Sino-US ties of the US ship movements.



Recent photo released by China News Service (CNS) shows Chinese-made military aircraft airborne during military drills. China reiterated that it would attack Taiwan if the island declares independence. Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "We certainly will use every means necessary to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the motherland." —AFP/UNB photo

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Off the Record

Ali, still humourist

Love knows no barrier

Painted buffalo horns for highway safety measure

EP adopts unanimous resolution Bhutan urged to take back refugees from Nepal

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