# BRIFFIY

#### Israel denies radioactive leak: 1s. rael denied Friday that there has been any radioactive leakage from its nuclear reactor in the Negev desert and assured Jordan of its vigilance in preventing environmental risks. AP re-

ports from Amman. Israeli Environment Minister Yossi Sarid made the comments to crown Prince Hassan following Jordanian inquiries on media reports in both countries of a possible radioactive leak at the Dimona reactor in southern Israel following a series of earthquakes in the area.

Russia to buy bombers from Ukraine: Moscow will get 25 strategic bombers from Ukraine in exchange for Russian military transport and combat aircraft, top Russian military officials said Friday, AP reports Tysovets, Ukraine.

The announcement, reported by the Interfax news agency came at a meeting between Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev and his Ukrainian counterpart, Valery Shamarov, at this western Ukrainian resort.

Uprising in Brazilian jail: Rebelling inmates at a central Brazilian prison put liquid gas canisters around 20 hostages and threatened to explode them unless officials provided guns and getaway cars, police said Friday. AP reports from Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

Negotiators met with leaders of the rebellion, which entered its second day at the maximum security Agro-Industrial Penitentiary Centre near Goania, about 580 miles northwest

Israeli troops clash with Hezbollah:
Shiite Muslim guerillas battled Israeli troops and their militia allies with mortars and machine guns in south Lebanon on Friday, shattering a week-long lull, security sources reported. AP reports from Marjayoun, Lebanon.

The Iranian-backed Hezbollah, or Party of God, claimed its guerillas ambushed a patrol of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army with a roadside bomb in the border enclave Israel occupies, saying there were an undetermined number of militia casualties.

2 drug lords held in Colombia: Two prominent drug traffickers one of them linked to a string of chainsaw murders, were arrested in Colombia on Friday in what authorities described as a major strike against the powerful Cali drug mob. Reuter reports from Bogota.

Police said the two Luis Alfonso Maquilon Amaya and Juan Charlos Ortiz Escobar, were among a handful of lieutenants in the Cali Cartel who had risen to assume operational control over the drug trafficking organisation after last summer's arrests of six of its top leaders.

5 killed in Belgium gunfight: Five people were killed when heavily armed gangstars rampaged along the Belgium-France border — a kind of no-man's land that has become a haven for cross frontier crime. Reuter reports from Brussels

Smugglers and other criminals effortlessly cross from Belgium into France and vice versa, other committing crimes on the one side and hiding in the other, frustrating police whose pursuit rights are mostly limited to their national territories.

Lankan newswoman dies: The Sri Lanka correspondent for the Indian Express newspaper. Rita Sebastian, died in Colombo after a brief illness, a friend said yesterday. AFP reports from Colombo.

Sebastian, 60, a Sri Lankan who worked for the Indian Express and several other foreign media organisations was admitted to hospital last week and died on Friday night.

# Tigers order exodus from north Jaffna

COLOMBO, Mar 30: Tamil Tiger guerillas have ordered an exodus from areas under their control in Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna Peninsula ahead of a possible military onslaught. Tamil residents said today, reports AFP.

The separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were asking civilians to leave Vadamarachchi and Thenamarachchi-sectors of the Jaffna Peninsula, travellers said after reaching the government controlled town of Vavuniya.

The LTTE said the government was preparing for another major military campaign to wrest control over the entire Jaffna Peninsula, parts of which are still held by the

"The Tigers radio said there will be a huge attack in the peninsula," a traveller told reporters at Vavuniya. 254 kilometres (160 miles) north of here. "Tigers are providing free transport for people to

In December, the security forces captured the town of Jaffna, capital of a de facto state run by the LTTE since

More than 500 soldiers died and an estimated 2.500 rebels were killed in nearly 50 days of fighting for the control

have died in bitter fighting

Avalanche kills 56 in Tibet highway

BEIJING, Mar 30: A huge avalanche has killed 56 people on a treacherous highway in Tibet. Chinese-backed Hong Kong newspapers said today, reports Reuter.

A slide of snow 100 metres ( 330 ft) long and 20 metres (66 ft) wide triggered the avalanche early last Sunday. sending tens of thousands of tonnes of snow crashing on to a highway in the Bomi region of eastern Tibet, the Ta Kung Pao newspaper said.

It said the avalanche, which followed heavy snowstorms in the area, trapped about 500 people and killed 56 immedi-

#### Attempt on Mubarak

#### Trial of 3 suspects begins in Ethiopia discreetly

ADDIS ABABA, Mar 30: The trial of three suspects in the attempted killing of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has begun in secret in the Ethiopian capital, an informed source said Friday, reports

The trial began discreetly on Thursday, the source said, and nothing about the proceedings has so far filtered out of Ethiopia's Federal High Court.

Mubarak was the target of a bold assassination attempt on June 26 in Addis Ababa, where he was attending a meeting of the organisation for african unity.

### 4 CIS members sign integration accord in Kremlin

MOSCOW, Mar 30: The presidents of Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan signed a treaty in the Kremlin Friday to boost economic and social integration between the four former Soviet republics. reports AFP.

At the signing ceremony, broadcast live on ORT public television, Russian President Boris Yeltsin said the treaty envisaged a new form of voluntary integration based on equality, different from the "crude centralisation and political monopoly" which existed in the Soviet Union.

The four signatories are members of the 12-nation Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) - the loose. voluntary grouping of all the former Soviet republics except the three Baltic states.

#### Cong (I) leader arrested from brothel

NEW DELHI, Mar 30: A local leader of India's ruling Congress (I) Party was arrested here in a police raid on a brothel functioning under the cover of a disco, officials said today, reports AFP.

Rakesh Dewan, general secretary of the New Delhi chapter of the Congress' youth wing, was taken into custody along with 44 others from the disco Thursday night, a police spokesman said.

Thirteen women who reportedly offered sex for money were among those held but were bailed out on Friday. Police said they were looking for More than 50,000 people Dewan's father who owned the disco.

# International \_\_\_\_ US urges India to probe slaying of HR activist in Kashmir

WASHINGTON, Mar 30: The US government has urged India to investigate the abduction and slaying of an eminent human rights activist in strifetorn Kashmir and swiftly punish his killers, reports AP.

It also denied reports of a diplomatic dispute with India over China's possible transfer of nuclear technology to Pak-

Jalil Andrabi, chairman of the Kashmir Commission of Jurists, disappeared on March 8 shortly before he was to leave for a UN human rights meeting in Geneva. His body was found on Wednesday in a river in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir. "The United States calls

upon the government of India to conduct a full and transparent investigation into the circumstances around Mr. Andrabi's abduction and murder, and to protect others engaged in human rights work in Kashmir," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said Friday.

"We hope that Mr. Andrabi's

murderers will be quickly apprehended and punished." he

Burns said US officials did not have any direct knowledge about Andrabi's death or the Indian military's suspected involvement

US diplomats have criticised violence by both sides in the six-year Kashmir conflict. Muslim separatists, backed politically by neighbouring Pakistan, have been battling India.

Burns said there was no information pointing to Indian government involvement. But "We are very disturbed by his murder, because he was a prominent individual who deserved the respect of all of us... when a prominent citizen like this is murdered - someone who has been involved in the human rights struggle in Kashmir — then it really is incumbent upon the governing authority to take this very seri-

In a separate matter, Burns disputed an Indian newspaper report that the United States

A press photographer takes pictures on Friday of the Pujili cemetery partially destroyed by a

late Thursday earthquake which reportedly destroyed some 200 homes in the town south of

Quito, Ecuador. Ecuadoran television reporters said that they estimate some 30 dead from

· US to provide \$ 198m for Bosnia

Bosnian cops clash with Serbs

near Sarajevo

the release of their kindfolk

gathered to confront United

Nations police units and Italian

A Bosnian journalist work-

ing for an international news

agency became caught in the

crowd and was set upon. Wit-

nesses said he was badly

beaten by enraged Serbs who

tried to drag him away before

coffeagues alerted NATO sol-

the journalist from federation

territory and handed him over

to Serb police, witnesses and

colleagues said. NATO officials

But the Italians later took

try to calm the situation

diers to save him.

the earthquake, but civil defence officials put the preliminary figure at seven dead.

had harshly rebuffed a request by India to impose sanctions against China for reportedly transferring nuclear technol ogy to Pakistan.

The report said the United States told India to "mind its business."

Burns said he was unaware of any such exchange.

"To our friend, India, we would never say, "Mind your own business." We would listen, with great respect and great attention. We'd certainly be frank in our response...we have a good... open relationship with India. We talk about a lot of things."

Burns said a final decision has not yet been made on sanctions, which are required if the purported transfer of uranium-enriching material took place.

US officials have said they need very firm evidence to justify sanctions. Critics in the US Congress accuse the Clinton administration of bending the law to protect American business interests in China.

- AFP/UNB photo

were at a loss to explain the

spokesman Alex Ivanko said

events might not give the

whole picture and questioned

why some federation, police-

men were armed with auto-

really happened," said Ivanko.

Congress voted Friday to pro-

vide 198 million dollars for

Bosnia reconstruction efforts.

President Bill Clinton an-

United Nations police

federation explanation for

We're not yet clear what

AFP adds from Washington:

action of the Italians.

matic weapons.

## ROK PM orders investigation

# Students confront police over death of protester

SEOUL, Mar 30: Inflamed by the death of a fellow protester, hundreds of militant students confronted riot police overnight, protesting what they called a brutal crackdown on anti-government demonstrators, reports AP.

Roh Su-sok, 20, a student activist, collapsed during a violent street clash with riot police Friday evening. He was pronounce dead upon arrival at a hospital. The cause of death was not immediately known.

The death, the first by a student protester since President Kim Young-sam took office in early 1993, was likely to heighten anti-government sentiment on campuses before April's parliamentary elections. "Down with Kim Young-

sam!" "We denounce police violence!" chanted about 800 students, cordoning off the National Medical Centre overnight. Some wiped off tears, shivering in chilly rains that continued until early Saturday.

The students later formed a barricade locking their arms

around the hospital's intensive care unit, where Roh's body was kept. They were blocking doctors from conducting an autopsy and demanding the government guarantee a fair investigation into the death.

Police deployed thousands of riot police to guard against violence. Reuter adds, South Korean

Prime Minister Lee Soo-Sung today ordered an investigation into the death of a university student during an anti-government demonstration while students vowed to hold more protest rallies. .

Lee's spokesman said the Interior Ministry reported to the premier that Roh Soo-Sok. a law student at Yonsei University, collapsed and died on Friday during a street demonstration to denounce President Kim Young-Sam.

"Prime Minister Lee today instructed Justice Minister Ahn Woo-Man and prosecutors to closely examine the cause of the death." the spokesman

# Off the Record

## New treatments for male infertility?

BOSTON: Researchers at a US hospital said on Thursday they have discovered an enzyme that helps control sperm development and may lead to a contraceptive for men or new treatments for male infertility, reports Reuter.

"If we can artificially block the function of this enzyme then we might be able to have male contraceptive." Dennis Brown, co-author of the report appearing in the April issue of Nature Medicine, told Reuters. "And if this enzyme is defective, it might be the cause of

some male infertility." he said. Brown and his colleagues at the Masachusetts General Hospital discovered how an enzyme called a "proton pump" keeps the proper level of acid needed to produce healthy

After sperm are produced in the testis, they undergo further development in a long duct before leaving the body through a tube. Both the duct and tube must be slightly acidic to prevent

sperm from propelling themselves out of the body too soon. Upon leaving the body, fluid from the prostate gland neutralises the acid, allowing sperm to propel themselves. If sperm move prematurely, they become weak and are less likely to be able to fertilise the female egg.

Brown and his colleagues had earlier found a similar "proton pump" enzyme in kidneys which removes toxic acid from the bloodstream and pushes it into urine.

Similar enzymes occur throughout the body, but the researchers found they were concentrated in the kidneys and certain areas of the male reproductive system.

## US appalled at Russian repression on Chechens

WASHINGTON, Mar 30: The State Department Friday said it was "appalled" at the Russian Army's increased repression of civilians in Chechnya, reports

"We continue to be appalled" at the "indiscriminate and excessive use of military force by the Russian military" State Department spokesman

"We strongly urge the Russian government to put an end to these attacks immediately."

he said.

He said the Clinton administration hoped that Russian President Boris Yeltsin will focus on peaceful means to end the conflict in Chechnya as quickly as possible" when he reveals a peace plan Sunday.

Nicholas Burns said.

villages, Burns added.

The United States is also "greatly concerned" about recent reports that Russian soldiers had blocked humanitar ian organisations and journal ists from entering bombed-out

The conflict was not discussed during Secretary of

State Warren Christopher's recent visit with his Russian counterpart, Yevgeny Primakov and Yeltsin. It was however, addressed

at a lower level "according to a senior US official.

The official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said Russian repression of Chechens has been stepped up "especially over the last couple

# = E0CUS =

near Sarajevo on Friday after NATO soldiers who arrived to

# Law and Our Rights

#### The Case of Bangladesh: Bringing to Trial the Perpetrators of the 1971 Genocide HERE are men who sesuffered so much pain within difficult to find the precise em to have a way of by Dr Ziauddin Ahmed However, government soon reinternational crimes already

escaping from history once they have committed crimes like genocide, war crimes etc. All over the pages of world history, there are numerous examples where the perpetrators of such heinous crimes have gone unpunished. In Bangladesh too, when the people found themselves as the object of berserk Pakistan Army's genocidal policies, and three million of Bangalis' were annihilated, after liberation, the perpetrators of the

The aim of the Pakistani Army was to destroy in whole the Bengali nation as a national, ethnic and racial group. reached to high political po-

The genocide : The genocide began on 25 March, 1971 when according to Pakistani Government's white paper the military started the action to restore law and order. What happened indeed in Bangladesh between that day to 16 December, 1971 was the example of man's unlimited capacity to be brutal towards fellow men Rarely in the his tory of mankford have a people

the space of so short a time as the people of Bangladesh did.

genocide committed by the its 1981 report on the occaaccepted that a total of 3 mil-Pakistani soldiers and their local allies. Even if a lower range

The government also omy of Bangladesh. 10 million country to India and another damaged. Another feature of the genocide was the whole-

were raped by the Pakistani pleasure. To keep off the foreign correspondents were bundled out of the country by the Pakistan government which was why the genocide was not reported extensively in the international news media. The first news reporting of the genocide took five days.

The systematic pattern of targets of the genocide were members of Awami League; 2. because Pakistani regime considered them to be 'Indian agents' 3. The Bengali militarymen and police were hunted because they reprethe Army: 4. The students: 5. purpose being to deprive existence of the minds that

could guide it. According to ICJ findings. with regard to three groups. namely members of Awami League, students and Hindus, only Hindus would seem to fall within the definition of a national, ethnical, racial or religious group and there were overwhelming e idences that

Hindus were slaughtered and

their houses and villages were destroyed simply because they were Hindus. ICJ concluded that "there is a strong prima facie case that the crime of genocide was committed" against Hindus. The report also eoncluded massive violations of human rights occurred in East Pakistan and that criminal offenses were committed in international law, namely war crimes and crimes against hunauity under the law relating to armed conflict, breaches of Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions 1949, and acts of genocide under the Genocide Convention 1949. It opined that the "persons who have committed or were responsible for such crimes are liable to be tried under international law by an international court... (and urged).. Bangladesh government... (to) set up an international court for the purpose with a majority of judges from

SARAJEVO. Mar

Bosnian Federation police

clashed with Bosnian Serbs

units of the mainly Muslim po-

lice force encountered a gang

of Serbs they said were on a

Bezdrob said his men were

shot at with automatic

weapons and had grenades

lobbed at them after they ar-

rested two Serb civilians who

were stealing windows from

houses just within Bosnian

crowds of Serbs demanding

An angry standoff ensued as

government territory.

Sarajevo police chief Enes

looting spree, reports Reuter.

The Collaborators : For efficient execution of genocidal policies Pakistani regime established widespread network of local collaborators all over the country. It set up paramilitary forces such as the Razakars by law. As local men, Razakars, who were fanatical Muslims, had the task to maintain control of the inner areas On the other hand, Al-Badars, a Bengali organisation of the Jamaat-e-Islam, the extremist Muslim Party, had the goal to wipe out all Bengalis who advocated independence and the creation of a secular state. A gestapo like organisation, the Al-Badars prepared the list of their victims, and raids were carried out at night. The victims would be led away blind

folded at gun point never to

As the Pakistan Army was defeated on 16 December. 1971, the priority of the new government was to contain vengeance of the people against the collaborators and to dissociate them from taking law into their own hands. Accordingly, the President on 24 January. 1972 promulgated Bangladesh Collaborators (Special Tribunals) Order, 1972 (P.O. No 8 of 1972) to investigate and put on trial the collaborators. But the situation was quite

different in the beginning when people applauded the Government's decision to de-

tribute in national reconciliations and he invited them to come forward and engage in nation-building. This decision of the government subse-

quently proved to be disastrous for the country. Approximately 35 000 benefited from this amnesty including high officials of the former Pakistani administration in Bangladesh. it was however praised as "generous" act of statesmanship by the International

favouritism and misuse of powers, all the prominent collaborators became free. The clemency was not only a wrong

Pakistan Army was decisively defeated on 16 December. 1971. Over 95.000 thousand members of the Pakistan Army surrendered. Bangladesh de cided to put on trial all of them for committing genocide and war crimes. The First Amendment to the constitution made provisions for special laws for trial of persons charge with genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes against International Law. By April 1973. investigations into the crimes committed by the Pakistan oc cupation forces and their auxiltaries were almost complete.

alised the impossibility to put on trial all the prisoners of war. Growing international pressure and political necessity of international recognition' complicated the issue of war crimes trial. Government announced

that 195 'major war criminals' against whom overwhelming evidence of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, breaches of Article 3 of the Geneva Convention, murder rape and arson had been col lected, should be put on trial. The trials were to be held in Dhaka before a Special Tribunal, consisting of judges having the status of judges of the Supreme Court. The trials would be held in accordance with universally recognised judicial norms. Eminent international jurists would be invited to observe the trials. The accused would be afforded facilities to arrange for their defence and to engage counsel of their choice, including foreign counsel.

A comprehensive law providing for the constitution of the Tribuna! the procedure to be adopted and other necessary materials were enacted The International Crimes (Tribunals) Act. 1973 was passed by the Parliament on 20 July, 1973. The law was a model of international due process. It took into account the legal ramifications of the detention, prosecution and punishment of persons for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other crimes under international law" and afforded appropriate legal protection to those accused. The law did not create new offenses, it merely established a forum for the prose cution within Bangladesh of

"in force at the time". The Act categorised the types of international offenses within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal provided for under the Act in order to have domestic prosecution of international crimes.

lems too. Because of tremen

dous internal pressure. Pak-

istan government hurriedly

Finally, Bangladesh succumbed to the pressure of the Islamic countries and the Organisation of Islamic Conference which had its summit meeting in Pakistan. The participants impressed upon Bangladesh to take its rightful place with dignity and arranged mutual recognition. On 24 February, 1973 Pakistan announced recognition of Bangladesh as a sovereign and independent state which severed finally the umbilical cord. Bangladesh also extended for-

talks began in Delhi.

mal recognition to Pakistan.

This opened up the possibility

# genocide were not punished.

On a broader level, they intended to do away with the whole concept of Bengali nationhood. The job entailed the torching of villages, organised and systematic murder, and the unending molestation of women. The local collaborators of the army, on the other hand, had to task of keeping tabs on the very body. They joined hand in hand in carrying out the genocide. After completion of their mission of murder and mayhem, some of the collaborators left the country, and others, availed the changed circumstances and

The magnitude of the

Pakistan Army and its local collaborators, particularly paramilitary forces set up by the Islamic fundamentalist political parties were variously described as "the ugliest genocide in history", and "incomparable in modern day history". Without raising the controversy regarding the comparability of genocide or its uniqueness, many people in Bangladesh believe that not since the extermination of six million Jews by Nazi Germany between 1933 and 1945 the world witnessed a genocide as horrifying in its intent and as wide in its scope. The UN Human Rights Commission, in sion of the 33rd anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, stated that the genocide committed in Bangladesh in 1971 was the worst in history. It is widely lion Bangalis were killed by of 1.5 million deaths are taken. killings took place at a rate of

meticulously carried out the policy of total destruction of the infrastructure and econpeople were driven out of the 20 million people were displaced 15 million houses were set on fire 567 bridges were sale rape of women and young girls by Pakistani Soldiers It is

between 6.000 to 12.000 per

day, through the 267 days of

carnage

numbers of victims, but it is believed that 300,000 women soldiers and by their collaborators. The ICJ report claims "the officers turned a blind eye to this savagery, and when challenged denied that it occurred. In many cases the officers themselves kept young girls locked up to serve their world's probing eye, all the

the murders through-out the province matched exactly the definition of genocide. The 1. All Bengalis specially the pro-autonomy people and the Hindus, who were marked out sented the only trained groups which could offer resistance to Bengali intellectuals such as professors, doctors and other professionals, the overriding Bangladesh, once it came into

the neutral countries."

return. According to ICJ the Al-Badar raids were directed by a group of Pakistani officers who approved the list of those to be assassinated.

clare Golam Azam and others as "absconders". Most of them were right wing prominent politicians belonging to various factions of Muslim League and Pakistan Demicratic Party. Some were held in custody for their alleged collaboration with the Pakistan Army. The government also banned the activities of the religious-communal parties which always used to exploit "Islam" for political purposes with a view to helping the Pakistani rulers. However, the government soon would retreat from its resolute policies and on 30 November 1973 decided to release under an amnesty order all those held or convicted under the Collaborators (Special Tri bunals) Order, except for those charged with murder, rape or arson and some other specific offences. The Prime Minister expressed hope that the release of collaborator will con-

Commission of Jurists. The amnesty declaration was also abused. According to this decision, those accused of waging war against the state. murder, kidnapping, arson etc would not be released. In reality, because of corruption,

decision, it was legally flawed. According to Bangladesh constitution the President is only authorised to grant pardon to "convicted" persons, but he has no right to grant clemency to persons accused and undergoing trial. The War Criminals : The genocide stopped when the

Bangladesh had other prob-

India.

agreed with India and signed a treaty, the Simla Agreement to settle all their differences through bilateral negotiations The two countries restored communications, trade and economic transactions. India. after establishing superiority in the region, was also keen to normalise the relationship with Pakistan. International pressure to release the Pakistani troops mounted as they did not commit any crime in

to engage in direct contact with Pakistan and tri-partite (Taken partly from a re-

search work by Dr. Ziauddin Ahmed)