



Papandreu passes away

ATHENS, Greece, June 23: Andreas Papandreu, a prominent opponent of Greece's military regime who came back from exile to lead the opposition...

(FILES) Photo dated October 16, 1989 shows former Greek Prime Minister and socialist leader Andreas Papandreu during a press conference in Paris...

Anthony Lake thanks people of Bangladesh

WASHINGTON D.C., June 23: Anthony Lake, national security adviser to President Bill Clinton congratulated the people of Bangladesh for successfully exercising their democratic right and responsibility...

Nepali govt for ratification of treaty with India

KATHMANDU, June 23: Nepal's centre-right coalition government will seek Parliament's ratification of a treaty with India aimed at resolving a decade-old irritant in ties with its neighbour...



South Korean President Kim Young-Sam (R) toasts with Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto (L) during dinner hosted by Kim in Shilla Hotel at Cheju on Saturday.

Suu Kyi again defies govt threats, speak before supporters

YANGON, June 23: Myanmar pro-democracy activist Aung San Suu Kyi defied government threats yet again Saturday to speak before some 5,000 supporters...

Japan deports 55,470 immigrants

Japan deported 55,470 illegal immigrants in 1995, 15.5 per cent fewer than in the previous year, the Justice Ministry said yesterday...

Death from rains rises to 293 in India

At least 14 rain-related deaths were reported from the northern desert state of Rajasthan yesterday, taking the toll in the torrential downpours across India to 293...

6 Maoist rebels killed in India

Six Maoist rebels were shot dead in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh after they opened fire on a police team...

Iranian dies at age of 130

An Iranian man who had voluntarily fought against Iraq for eight months during the two countries' 1980-1988 war has died at the age of 130...

Armenia records 1st AIDS death

Armenia recorded its first AIDS victims when two people died in a Yerevan hospital, health officials said Saturday...

Jiang's six-nation tour begins

Chinese President Jiang Zemin left for a six-nation month-long tour yesterday that will take him to Spain, Norway, Romania, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan...

Clashes leave 8 dead in Turkey

Eight people were killed and 19 were wounded in two armed attacks Saturday night in Istanbul and the south-eastern town of Diyarbakir...

Floods claim 11 in Mexico

A flood on the Altezaca river killed at least 11 people in Mexico's central Puebla state early Saturday when the water brought a new bridge crashing down with six cars on it...

Okinawa governor demands ouster of US troops

TOKYO, June 23: Okinawa Governor Mashide Ota vowed Sunday to work toward making the island "a peaceful place without US bases"...

Deep divisions over terrorism exposed in Arab Summit

CAIRO, June 23: This weekend's Arab summit — called as a response to the election of a hard-line Israeli Prime Minister — has exposed deep divisions among Arabs over terrorism, Iraq and links to the Jewish state...

Hardline Belarus president backs Yeltsin

MINSK, June 23: Hardline Belarussian President Alexander Lukashenko offered lukewarm backing at the weekend to Boris Yeltsin in the final round of Russia's presidential election...

Islamic Jihad to continue attacks against Israel

DAMASCUS, June 23: The militant, Palestinian movement Islamic Jihad said on Saturday it would continue armed resistance against Israel and urged Arab leaders meeting in Cairo on Saturday to halt all forms of normalisation with the Jewish state...

BJP won't allow Cong to use govt for covering up scams

BHOPAL, June 23: BJP leader, Atal Behari Vajpayee yesterday asserted that his party would not allow the Congress effort to succeed in using the United Front government for covering up the scams that had occurred during the previous Rao regime...

Rocket attack on Kabul: 22 civilians killed

KABUL, June 23: Twenty-two Afghan civilians were killed and 26 injured in a rocket attack on Kabul today, officials said, reports AFP. At least 15 people died instantly when two rockets struck a crowded bus stop and a secondary school in the southern suburbs of the Afghanistan capital...



Soldiers inspect an open World War II mass grave near the Belarus capital of Minsk, where up to 10,000 people are estimated to have been dumped by German Nazis after executions in July-August 1941...

China to welcome Lee as Taiwan's Nationalist Party chief

BEIJING, June 23: China gave its first official response today to a proposal by President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan to visit the mainland, carrying with an offer for its leaders to go to the island Beijing has claimed for 47 years...

Off the Record

Mother at 11!

NAIROBI: A Kenyan girl aged 11 has given birth to a baby boy at Nandi district in Kenya, 'The Sunday Nation' says on Sunday, reports Xinhua. The paper quoted a group of doctors as saying that the pupil, who attends primary school in Aldai division, developed complications during labour and had undergone a caesarean section at the Kapsabet hospital...

What's in a name?

BEIJING: A nightclub called "Pirate Ship" is among 2,000 Chinese businesses ordered to change their names in a campaign against "harmful cultural content," a newspaper reported Sunday, reports AP. Names containing vulgar, feudalistic, bizarre and absurd content and Western-sounding colour must be banned...

Protest against taxes in budget Strike paralyses Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar

KARACHI, June 23: An opposition-called strike in protest against taxes proposed in Pakistan's 1996-97 (July-June) budget paralysed the port city of Karachi today, witnesses said. There is a complete strike in Karachi, Sahibzada Munir, a leader of the opposition Pakistan Muslim League (PML), told Reuters. Paramilitary rangers and police patrolled deserted business centres. A police official said there were no reports of violence in the city of more than 12 million people...

Manila govt, rebels agree to set up admn body to supervise peace

DAVAO, Philippines, June 23: The government and Muslim rebels ended three days of talks today with an agreement to set up a guerrilla-led administrative body to supervise peace and development in the southern Mindanao region, a joint statement said, reports Reuters. The body, to be called southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development, will serve as the forerunner of an autonomous government to be established in three years. The negotiations failed to resolve differences over demands by the insurgent Moro National Liberation Front...