Two models present proposals by Italian stylist Grace Pear during a fashion show late Saturday as part of the "Divine Rome" fashion week. - AFP/UNB photo

### Castro receives remains Aga Khan rules of Che Guevara out woman as

HAVANA, July 13: Cuban President Fidel Castro and top government officials received the remains of revolutionary hero Ernesto "Che" Guevara with full military honours in a closed ceremony late Saturday, government officials reported says AFP.

The Cuban government flew in Guevara's remains from Bolivia, where they were recently uncovered, to the San Antonio de Los Banos Military Airport just west of Havana.

Guevara, a doctor by training, fought with Fidel Castro in the Cuban revolution that toppled dictator Fulgencio Batista in 1959. He held several cabinet posts in Castro's revolutionary government before turning his sights on Bolivia.

Castro was at the airport for the simple military ceremony along with relatives of the Argentine-born guerilla, top officials in the Communist Party and some of Guevara's former

Cuban radio and television networks ended their regular evening transmissions to air reports on the event. The remains of Cuban

guerillas Alberto Fernandez Montes de Oca, Rene Martinez Tamayo and Orlando Pantoja Tamayo, also uncovered along with Guevara's bones in Bolivia. were received in the same ceremony

A Bolivian colonel executed the Argentine-born revolutionary on October 9, 1967, after he was captured in an ambush.

# BRIFFIY

Thai PM falls sick at rally: Thailand's Prime Minister Chavalit Yongchaiyudh fainted briefly while giving a speech to 30,000 farmers to celebrate Fragrant Rice Day, local papers reported Sunday, AP reports from Bangkok.

"For a moment I felt I was floating like the baht," The Nation newspaper quoted Chavalit as saying after he recovered. Thailand let its currency, the baht, float for the first time in history earlier this month, causing it to lose about 15 per cent of its value. Several of his aides and policemen carried the prime minister out of the searing midday heat in Roi-Et. 210 kilometres (130 miles) northeast of Bangkok.

Mandela arrives in Indonesia: south African President Nelson Mandela touched down on the tourist island of Bali on Sunday for the start of a five-day visit to strengthen relations with Indonesia, AP reports from Jakarta. Mandela arrived on a private jet after a visit to Britain, a government official said. He will travel to the capital Jakarta on Monday for talks with President Suharto, Vice President Try

Floods in China kill 10: Torrential summer rains have killed ten people in southeastern China over the past week and forced 130,000 others to flee their homes, according to official newspapers, AP reports from Beijing.

Sutrisno and other senior officials.

At least 250,000 hectares (600,000 acres) are flooded in Zhejiang province, south of Shanghai, the Liberation Daily reported Sunday. It said rivers around the city of Hangzhou, southwest of Shanghai, were at record-high levels. The Saturday edition of the Yangcheng Evening News reported 10 deaths but did not give any details. It said many areas of Zhejiang have received more than 10 centimetres (4 inches) of rain since July 6.

Floods leave 28 dead in Prague: Floods which have ravaged the Czech republic for almost a week have left 28 dead and a further three people are missing, according to the latest toll released Saturday by rescue workers, AFP reports from Prague.

Since the devastation began last Sunday, nearly one third of all districts have been affected. Some 290 villages and 50 towns or cities have been submerged, as well as 100,000 hectares (247,000 acres) of farm land. Since Friday, five bodies have been pulled from the rubble of 140 houses which collapsed in the village of Troubky-Nad-Becvou, in northern Moravia, after a tide of water and mud rushed swept the main street.

Clinton arrives in Washington: US President Bill Clinton arrived in Washington late Saturday from Copenhagen, where he wound up a historic eight-day tour of four European countries that included a NATO summit in Madrid, AFP says from Washington.

The presidential plane touched down at Andrews Air Force Base around 7:00 pm (2300 GMT), according to the CNN Television Network. Clinton's trip began with a summit of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation which agreed to admit in 1999 three new members: Poland, Hungry and the Czech Republic.

Landslide claims 4 in Japan: A landslide triggered by torrential rains killed a family of four Sunday after smashing into their home in a western Japanese city, police said, AP reports from Tokyo.

Company worker Shohei Hashimoto, his wife and two children were buried under an avalanche of mud after rain washed away the side of a hill behind their home in Takarazuka, Hyogo Prefecture (state), 400 kilometers (248 miles) west of Tokyo. No other damage or injuries were reported, police said. Torrential rains have been lashing western and southwestern Japan since early Saturday morning, and the Meteorological Agency has issued heavy rain and flood warnings in many parts of the coun-

Militants kill 21 in Algeria: Twenty-one people have been killed by suspected Islamic extremists in two separate massacres on the Algerian coast, the

press reported yesterday, AFP reports from Algiers. Fourteen members of the same family were killed on Friday night by an armed group, which included a member of the

family, at Bou Ismail on the coast west of Algiers. On Saturday morning seven travellers were killed and an-

other 11 injured in an attack on a bus near Dellys on the coast east of Algiers.

Number of drug users rising in Lanka: Sri Lanka has more than 100,000 heroin and 40,000 cannabis users, and the number is rising, the state-owned Sunday Observer said, quoting a recent survey by the Sri Lanka Anti-Narcotics Association, Reuter reports from Colombo.

The newspaper quoted the survey as saying that Sri Lankan drug users spend a staggering 8.3 billion rupees (143 million dollars) each year to keep themselves "high".

It said the Police Narcotics Bureau seized 27 kg of heroin and 51.538 kg of cannabis in 1994. In 1996 the seizures rose to 40 kg of heroin and 85,342 kg of cannabis.

2 Israeli soldiers hurt in Lebanon: At least two Israeli soldiers were wounded in attacks by Iranian-backed Hezbollah guerillas on Israeli positions in southern Lebanon

on Sunday, security sources said, AFP reports from Beirut. Hezbollah fighters opened fire with automatic weapons and anti-tank rockets on Israeli positions at Dabshe and Ali Taher in Israel's self-declared "security zone" in southern Lebanon, the sources said.

### Violence flares up again in West Bank city

# Israel threatens tough action against Palestinians in Hebron

HEBRON, West Bank, July 13: Israel threatened to get tough with the Palestinian population of Hebron today in a bid to quell five weeks of unrest, as violence flared up again in the West Bank city overnight, reports AFP.

"If incidents as serious as attacks with automatic weapons and home-made bombs continue, life in Hebron will be very different," General Uzi Dayan, commander of Israel's central region, told military radio.

"A lot of business is already banned from going on and we have also deployed heavy reinforcements," he added.

His warning came as unknown attackers hurled an explosive at an Israeli army post in Hebron for the second night

running, military sources said. Palestinian shopkeepers in Israeli-controlled streets close

his successor

LONDON, July 13: The Aga

Khan appeared to rule out Sat-

urday any chance of his succes-

sor being a woman, after his of-

fice said remarks he made in a

BBC interview had been misin-

leader and imam of the 50 mil-

lion-strong Islamic Islamili

sect, was asked in the interview

Friday if he intended to choose

He replied: "You know tradi-

tionally and historically it's

been a man. But the Imam keeps

The remarks were inter-

preted as not ruling out the pos-

sibility of the princess taking

Aga Khan's remarks reflected

only that according to tradition it was up to the imam alone to

choose his successor, and that

ASEAN urged

to reconsider

Myanmar's

KUALA LUMPUR, July 13: A

membership

chorus of activist and opposi-

tion groups at the weekend

called on ASEAN to reconsider

Myanmar's membership after

loreign ministers from the

grouping delayed Cambodia's

admission because of political

recognise the elected represen-

tatives of Cambodia, it should

do the same for Myanmar," said

the Bangkok-based "Alterna-

tive ASEAN Network on

Foreign ministers from the

Association of South East

Asian Nations on Thursday de-

cided to delay Cambodia's ad-

mission after Cambodian Second Prime Minister Hun Sen's

bloody power grab a week ago,

citing the use of force there as

Strike cripples

life in Srinagar

tant sponsored general strike

crippled life in Srinagar and

other major towns of Kashmir

valley yesterday where seven

militants were killed and nine

others were captured while a

militant surrendered since

deserted look Saturday as gov-

ernment offices banks courts,

educational institutions, semi-

government institutions and business markets remained

closed in view of general strike

called by Shoura-e-Jehad a

conglomeration of seven pro-

Pakistan militant outfits,

against the alleged custodial

death of their Chairman

Asadullah Mir alias Maulvi

Muneer Hussain on July 8 at

Ganderbal on the outskirts of

the roads throughout the valley

but three-wheelers were seen

moving in the civil lines areas of

Transport also remained off

the city.

the city.

The summer capital wore a

evening, reports PTI.

SRINAGAR, July 13: A mili-

the reason.

Myanmar" in a statement.

"If ASEAN is willing to

violence, reports Reuter.

Imams had always been male.

But in a later statement the religious ruler's office said the

his eldest child, Princess

Zahra, 26, to take his place.

that choice to himself."

over from her father.

The Aga Khan, religious

terpreted, reports AFP.

to the incident were forced by the army to close on Sunday, witnesses said.

Members of the 400-strong militant Jewish settler community also tried overnight to set fire to the house of a Palestinian neighbour, Nabil el Khalabi, the sources said.

Israeli radio said a special army unit has been tasked to film protesters with video cameras so that undercover units disguised as Palestinians can swoop on them and make ar-

It added that Israel is considering clamping further sanctions on the 120,000strong Arab population of the city if the violence does not cool

Around 100 Palestinian youths hurled petrol bombs, rocks and bottles at Israeli soldiers during pitched battles in

the Hebron's old market on Saturday.

The soldiers responded with volleys of plastic-coated rubber bullets, injuring nine demon-

Jewish settlers also hurled rocks at Palestinians from the roofs of buildings inside heavily-guarded enclaves, before Israeli soldiers intervened and forced them inside.

The protests against the

four-month stalemate in the

peace process have escalated in recent days after a brief lull caused by a massive Israeli security clampdown. Unidentified attackers raked Jewish houses in the city with automatic weapons fire

last week, causing no injuries, and a Palestinian factory was burnt to the ground in an attack

claimed by militant settlers. The Israeli army has set up roadlocks on all main arteries leading into Hebron, in a move which Palestinians say is strangling the economy of the entire southern West Bank.

Around 260 Palestinians and 20 Israeli soldiers have been wounded, most lightly, in the five weeks of clashes in He-

Under a January accord, 80 per cent of Hebron is controlled by the Palestinian municipal authorities while the remaining 20 per cent, where the 400 settlers and 10,000 Arabs live. remains under Israeli military control.

The Palestinians walked out of peace talks in mid-March after Israel started construction of a new 6,500-home Jewish settlement on the edge of historically Arab east Jerusalem, which the Palestinians want as the capital of a future state.

### Mars Pathfinder mission gets back on track

PASADENA, California. July 13: The Mars Pathfinder mission got back on track on Saturday after scientists successfully dislodged the So-journer rover from a rock where it had become stuck, a mission scientist said, reports

Sojourner was wedged up against a rock dubbed "Yogi" following a fender-bender on Thursday, and had remained there because of a communications glitch.

The rover failed to receive its new instructions because mission controller sat NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory here turned on Pathfinder's receiver 11 minutes after commands were sent via the Deep Space Network. During the fender-bender

incident, the Sojourner backed into the rock too fast and one of its rear wheels rode up onto the rock's surface.

On Saturday, scientists managed to drive the Sojorner away from "Yogi" and then back up to it without incident to resume it's historic mission on the red planet.

Richard Cook, the mission manager, said the rover would spend Saturday analysing "Yogi" with its alpha proton Xray spectrometre to determine the rock's chemical composi-

In a similar analysis earlier in the week, the Sojourner found that another rock, named "Barnacle Bill," was identical to rocks on Earth, leading scientists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to the conclusion that Earth and Mars were solar twins in terms of their development

The rover had been due to survey "Yogi" on Wednesday but that was put off because photographs taken by the Pathfinder lander showed the rock - about four times larger than the microwave-oven-sized Sojourner - had a dangerous overhang that could have damaged the six-wheeled-vehicle's vital solar panels, which soak up energy from the sun to keep its batteries charged.

### Gujral admits being in 'dilemma' Tigers attack police over fodder scam

NEW DELHI, July 13: Indian Prime Minister Inder Kumar Guiral admitted for the first time he was caught in a "dilemma" over an embezzlement scandal which is rocking his coalition, reports said today. says AFP

Gujral's Janata Dal (People's Party), the dominant party in the fragile coalition, split last week when its former president, Laloo Prasad Yadav, formed a breakaway faction after being implicated in a corruption scandal.

"It is very important that those who face this type of major corruption charges should step down. But all the same, we find people defying this." Gujral

Laloo Prasad Yadav, the Chief Minister of the eastern state of Bihar, first threatened to form a breakaway party when Gujral asked him to quit following allegations he had siphoned off millions of dollars from a state-run cattle fodder

He carried out the threat two weeks ago after realising his party was unlikely to shield him from possible arrest.

"Sometimes I am asked why I don't take action," Guiral said. "That is where a dilemma comes. Some elements of politics and media which want me to take action also do not want to impose federal rule in Bihar. Therefore, apart from only

trying to persuade through what I am saying in public and what I have said in private - what is the instrument I am left with?" Gujral was quoted as saying by the Pioneer Daily.

If Gujral sacks Yadav then he would have to impose federal rule in the state of Bihar, a move opposed by some of the coalition allies.

But the premier has also come under flak from the main opposition and his Communist allies for not sacking Yadav.

The split in Janata Dal has sparked fears that other groups in the minority coalition could walk out in search of new alliances and has also undermined Gujral's authority.

# post: 3 killed

COLOMBO, July 13: Tamil Tiger guerillas attacked a police post in eastern Sri Lanka today killing two people and losing one of their own men, officials here said, reports AFP. Gunmen of the separatist

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) staged the pre-dawn raid on the Sinnawatte police station in the district of Ampara and torched three huts before escaping, officials said.

"A police constable and a civilian in the area were killed. an official said, adding that police were able to successfully repulse the assault because they were expecting an attack and were ready to retaliate.

By this morning, the body of a Tamil Tiger guerilla had been recovered together with an automatic rifle, officials said. Two days ago the LTTE

opened fire at a police check point in north-eastern Trincomalee district, killing eight people, including a pregnant woman and her two children, local officials said. The guerillas are leading a

drawn out campaign for independence in the island's northern and eastern regions where the two million Tamil minority is concentrated

More than 50,000 people have been killed in the separatist campaign since 1972.

### First Hindu 'untouchable' to vie for Indian presidency

NEW DELHI, July 13: When Kocheril Raman Narayanan is elected Indian president on Monday, he will become the first Hindu "untouchable" to hold the post, reports AFP.

But while the symbol of a member of the country's lowest social group attaining its highest office, to coincide with 50 years of independence, is just what India's leaders would have ordered, the reality is somewhat different.

Firstly, because discrimination against India's lowest classes still persists despite being outlawed. Secondly, because Narayanan is not your average member of the oppressed poor. The 75-year-old, who is cer-

tain to see off a challenge by former election commissioner TN Seshan for the presidency, worked his way from humble beginnings to become a university lecturer, a journalist, ambassador to Thailand, Turkey, China and the United States. and a member of parliament.

The son of a doctor in the southern state of Kerala, he studied at the London School of Economics and has also held the prestigious post of vicechancellor of New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University.

His background as an intellectual has won him the backing of all of India's major political parties for Monday's parliamentary and state assembly vote, guaranteeing him the presidency. The result will be officially announced on Thurs-

Vithal Gadgil, the spokesman of the Congress (I) Party, the second largest group in the National parliament, says: "The greatest significance of our decision is that Mahatma Gandhi's dream that a dalit (untouchable)) should occupy the highest post in India will be

fulfilled. "This is another major step towards achieving social jus-

Certainly, India's caste divi-

sions have relaxed in recent years, while almost 50 per cent of government jobs are now reserved for low caste Hindus. Yet the untouchables, who

now call themselves dalits or "oppressed," were until recently so reviled that a high-caste Brahmin would go through a series of cleansing rituals if he so much he so much as walked through the shadow of a datit, let alone touched one.

Still today, marriages between upper caste Hindus and dalits remain a rarity.

Narayanan, whose wife is Burmese and who has two children, is no even considered a genuine dalit by some of his own family.

One of his nephews, Anirudhan, was quoted in India's out look magazine this month as saying: "He cannot call himself a leader of Harijans (or children of god, Gandhi's works for the "untouchables" which they rejected as patronising).

### 3 new NATO entrants agree to coordinate defence purchases BUDAPEST, July 13: New garian Prime Minister Gyula

NATO entrants Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic are to coordinate their largescale defence purchases in the future, their defence ministers agreed here Saturday, reports The applicants would coor-

dinate fighter plane purchases and consult prior to every large scale defence technological modernisation move, the ministers told the press. But we did not agree on any

type of aircraft and did not pick up any time schedule, because it is a very complicated decision, it differs on an independent basis and it is not purely a competence of the defence ministers. "Czech Defence Minister Miloslav Vyborny said.

Hungarian host Gyorgy Keleti said the issue required government-level initiatives, expected to be put forth by Hun-

Horn at a scheduled meeting of the three states premiers in Krakow on August 22. He added that coordination

did not equal obligatory purchases, as the three countries! had differing needs, while each also had its own military industry of deferent size and product range.

Currently Hungary spends 1.22 per cent of its gross domestic product on defence, compared with 1.7 per cent for the Czech Republic and 2.8 per cent for Poland.

The three ministers agreed to draw their defence ties closer and extend them to every possible level from chief-of-staff to individual units, the defence committee of their respective parliament as well as defence experts, and to exchange as much information as possible with regard to their accession

## Off the Record

### Phone to catch out wily businessmen

LONDON: A new telephone has gone on sale in Britain that can tell whether the person on the other end of the line is telling the truth according to the Sunday Times, reports AFP. The telephone equivalent of the human lie detector has been

developed to catch out wily businessmen who may be trying to stretch the truth with their trading partners, the newspaper The 2,700 pound (4,300 dollar) phone relies on a system of hi-tech electronics to measure a person's stress-linked voice vi-

brations, the higher the reading the more likely the subject is telling a lie. The Sunday Times tested the telephone out by asking flamboyant London nightclub owner Peter Stringfellow about his

#### claims that he had gone to bed with more than 2,000 women. Lonely Di

LONDON: Diana, Princess of Wales, told US supermodel Cindy Crawford she was "lonely" and might never find another man, the news of the world reported Sunday, reports AFP.

"Cindy, I'm never going to meet anyone because who would want to go out with me?" She reportedly told Crawford when the princess invited the supermodel to Kensington Palace to meet her teenage son Prince William. "I have my picture in the paper every single day. Who would

want to take me on?" Diana added, according to an account of their meeting Crawford gave to the US high society magazine Redbook.

The revelation is to be published in next week's edition of the magazine, according to the News of the World. Diana arrived in Saint Tropez on Saturday to spend the

Bastille Day weekend at the villa of Harrods Department Store tycoon Mohamed Al Fayed, an informed source in the French Riviera town said.

# Hun Sen resumes routine work amid int'l condemnation

PHNOM PENH, July 13: The man who sent tanks rumbling through the streets of Phnom Penh a week ago has switched to the role of smiling and gregarious politician, insisting on a normal routine in the face of international condemnation,

reports AP. Moving smoothly through a crowd of thousands, Hun Sen mingled, chatted and shook hands during a groundbreaking ceremony Saturday for a new school and temple. As with most schools in Cambodia, the new building will bear Hun Sen's name.

The image was in contrast to Hun Sen the coup leader, who muscled his opposition from power last week and has been rounding up dissidents. He denies he seized power by force.

"There is no war in Cambodia," Hun Sen said. "There was just the suppression of anarchic forces in the capital.

In northwestern Cambodia's Siem Reap province, however, the boom of artillery fire could be heard Saturday, evidence that Hun Sen still faces stiff resistance outside the capital.

He repeatedly has justified his power grab as a pre-emptive move against his ousted rival co-premier, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, whom Hun Sen accused of forming a private militia force with defecting Khmer Rouge guerillas. "Why can the international

would like to know," Hun Sen said. To the northwest, mortar rounds could be heard in the

community not accept it. I

distance about 25 miles (40 kms) west of Siem Reap, the provincial capital near the famed Angkor temples.

Indian Vice-President KR Narayanan (L) has a word with Prime Minister Inder Kumar

Gujral in New Delhi June 20 before filing nomination for the country's presidential elec-

tions. Narayanan, 75, is the first Hindu "Untouchable" to contest the post.

"After the fighting in Phnom Penh, all of the people living here are afraid of the battle, temple tour guide Lap Tech said. Nobody goes far from home. They're storing extra food in case of trouble.

combat outside the nearby town of Prey Chup said Ranariddh's forces had teamed up with Khmer Rouge rebels to fight Hun Sen's troops. "They were 100 per cent from

A man who saw some of the

the Khmer Rouge," Plean Seun said, adding that the rebels wore Mao-Style caps. Before the takeover, Ranariddh had been close to secur-

ing a peace agreement with the last remnants of the Khmer Rouge, which ruled Cambodia in a reign of terror from 1975-Last month, the rebels re-

- AFP/UNB photo

portedly turned on their leader, Pol Pot, and took him into custody. Ranariddh had hoped a peace deal would have cleared the way for Pol Pot's handover.

The United States, Japan and Germany this week condemned Hun Sen's use of force and froze aid to Cambodia. Member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations delayed Cambodia's scheduled entry into the trading

bloc. Today, about 2,000 people greeted Hun Sen at the groundbreaking ceremony at Ang Snuol district about 10 miles

(15 kms) south of Phnom Penh. Wearing a short-sleeved shirt and a broad smile, he said it was time for the country to return to normal and end the bickering that had paralyzed the defunct coalition govern-

"I call on civil servants and other officials to close the old case," he said. "It is time to open a new book."

Since ousting his co-premier, Hun Sen has been consolidating his grip on the capital Hundreds of Hun Sen's op-

has many top opponents of Hun Sen joining foreigners in flee-On Friday, Australia's mili-

safety of soldiers and officials

believed to be in the custody of

your forces," Amnesty Interna-

tional said in a letter to Hun

Sen. "We are also deeply con-

cerned for the safety of other

politicians, journalists and ac-

Ranariddh'a royalist party

have died in the custody of Hun

Sen's men. Dozens more are

missing in a crackdown that

At least two top members of

by eliminating his competition. ponents reportedly have been rounded up; London-based Amnesty International expressed growing concern for their well-being.

"We hold grave fears for the

ing the warring country. tary caught nine Cambodian stowaways trying to escape Cambodia on a military plane evacuating Australians, Australia's military said. The

stowaways were put on a plane back to Cambodia.