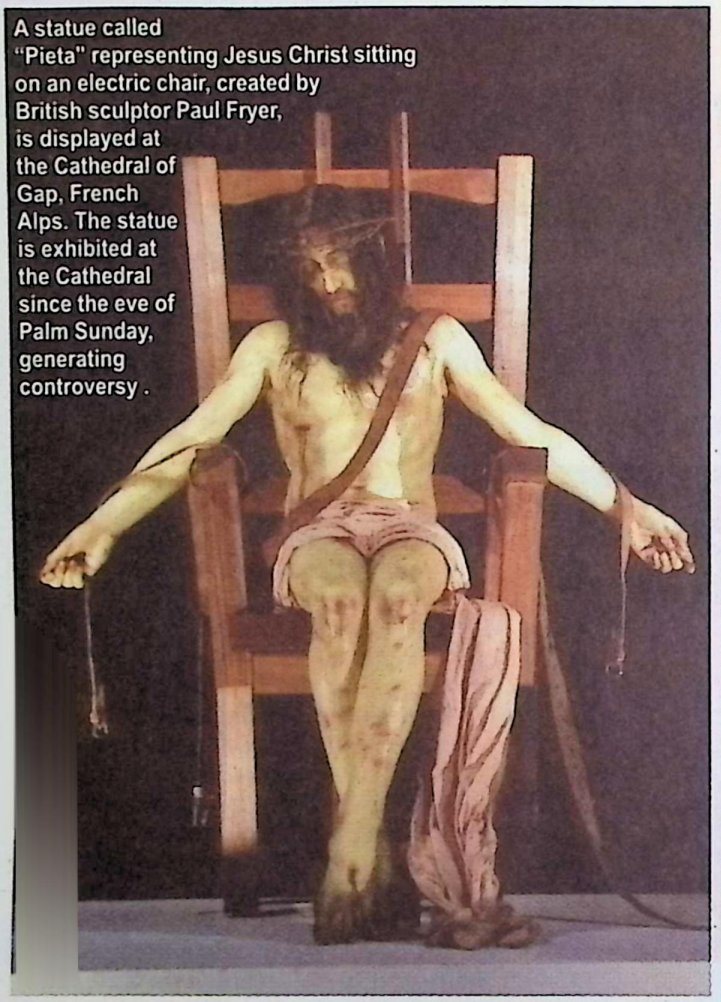
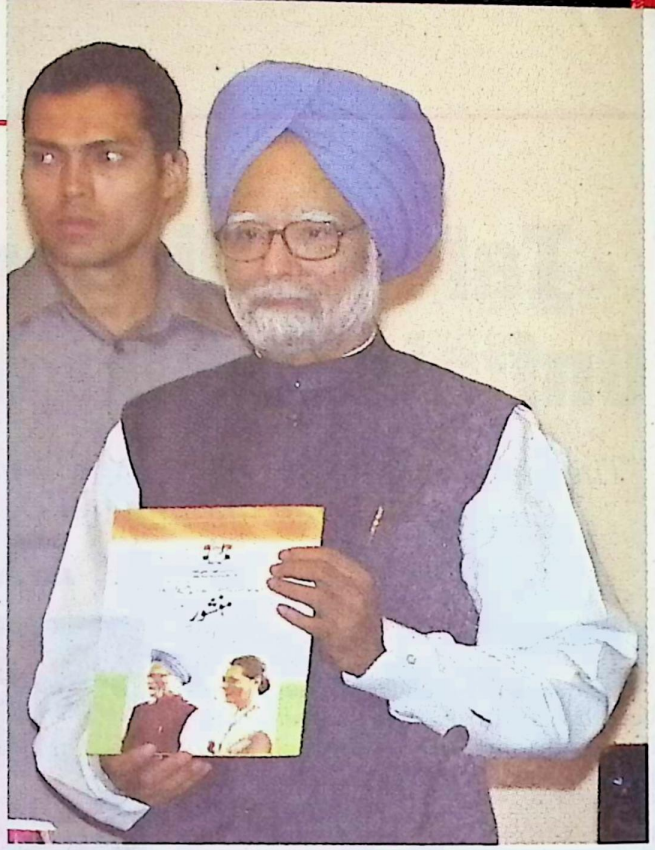


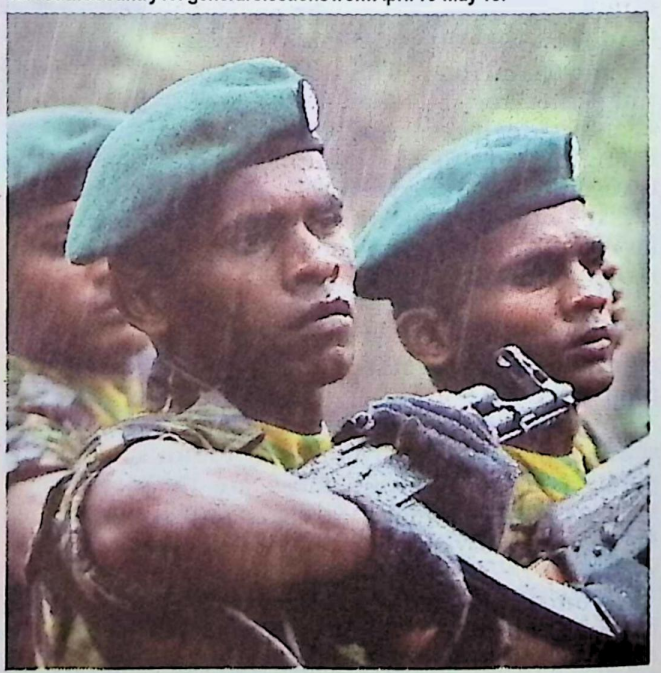
A statue called "Pieta" representing Jesus Christ sitting on an electric chair, created by British sculptor Paul Fryer, is displayed at the Cathedral of Gap, French Alps. The statue is exhibited at the Cathedral since the eve of Palm Sunday, generating controversy .



Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh holds up a copy of the ruling Congress party manifesto in Urdu, a language used by minority Muslims in India, in New Delhi. The chief Muslim cleric at India's largest mosque delivered a stinging attack on April 10 against the country's major parties, less than a week before the country's general elections. Indian voters are set to go the polls five phases across the country for general elections from April 16-May 13.



A member of the Association of Parents of Dissapeared people (APDP) participates in a demonstration in Srinagar. Kashmir's leading human rights organisation, the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), is demanding the setting up of a commission to probe disappearances of people in Kashmir since 1989. An armed insurgency against Indian rule in Kashmir has claimed 47,000 lives since 1989,Seperatists put the toll twice as high.Indications of fresh militant violence came last month when eight soldiers and 17 militants were killed in one of the fiercest clashes in recent years. The Indian army has warned that more militants are poised to cross into Indian Kashmir from the Pakistani-side of the disputed state.



Sri Lankan Police Special Task Force (STF) commandos march in the rain during a passing out parade in Katukurunda, some 43 kms south of Colombo. The STF is an elite unit deployed for counter-terrorist operations in a country where security forces are locked in combat with separatist Tamil Tiger rebels. The Sri Lankan army on April 10 launched an operation to "rescue" thousands of civilians trapped by fighting with Tamil Tiger rebels in the northeast of the island, the defence ministry said.