

Tamils in Malaysia carry posters of slain Tamil Tiger rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran during a demonstration outside the Batu Caves Temple near Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Nearly 5,000 ethnic Tamils gathered at one of the country's iconic Hindu temples to protest acts of 'genocide' against Tamils in Sri Lanka.

Lanka rejects full access is safe to Tamil refugee camps

AP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's president yesterday rejected a call by the UN secretary-general to lift restrictions on aid delivery to overcrowded displacement camps, saying the army must first finish screening the hundreds of thousands of Tamil refugees.

President Mahinda Rajapaksa's statement came in response to an appeal by Ban Ki-moon during a 24-hour visit to Sri Lanka for unfettered access for aid agencies to the camps, where nearly 300,000 Tamils were herded during the final stages of the war against Tamil Tiger

The government proclaimed victory last week in the 25-year insurgency by the rebels, formally called the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who sought to

Lanka's north and east.

Ban's hurried visit was intended to press the government to ease what aid agencies described as a humanitarian crisis in the camps, with inadequate food supplies and reports of epidemics because of improper sanitation.

But Rajapaksa said security had to be assured "in view of the likely presence of LTTE infiltrators" among the refugees. "As conditions improved, especially with regard to security, there would be no objections to such assistance, from organizations that were genuinely interested in the well being" of the displaced Tamils,

The wording appeared to reflect widespread mistrust among many Sri Lankans who believe some humanitarian agencies very moving," he said.

create an independent Tamil nation in Sri have a pro-Tamil political agenda.

The bluntness of the president's statement contrasted with the milder tone of a joint communique with Ban, released : Velupillai Prabhakaran is very almost simultaneously.

In that statement, Ban said the UN would continue providing humanitarian : Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) assistance to the displaced people, and Rajapaksa promised to "continue to provide access to humanitarian agen-

After visiting the barbed wireenclosed Manik Farm camp Saturday, Ban described conditions as "very, very difficult. It's a real challenge." He said the government lacked the resources to deal with the problem, but that the UN could : tionaries in the West are dubfill the gaps.

"It was a very sobering visit, very sad,

and alive Insist loyal fans

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE,

· A week after he became history, his diehard followers still : believe that Tamil Tigers chief

: much alive. Although the Liberation that Prabhakaran founded has ; been virtually destroyed, its : overseas adherents refuse to : believe that the legendary rebel : leader was killed in Sri Lanka

While reams of obituaries have been written the world over about the man who almost broke up Sri Lanka, LTTE func-· bing Colombo's claims of killing the elusive Prabhakaran as : fantasy.

The truth about Lanka's Malaysian secret refugee camps revealed

ANI, Colombo

They squat in a circle, grinding their tiny hands nervously into the mud behind the six foot high barbed wire fence that imprisons them. And their little eyes stare wide open in fear at what lies on the other side. This is the Pulmoddai refugee camp in war-torn northern Sri Lanka, where soldiers sit, each one ten yards apart, their AK47 assault rifles trained at the 6,000 terrified refugees hud-

of The World, is the terrifying aftermath of Asia's longest civil

Tamils protest Lankan 'genocide' Speaking to the tabloid in the : AFP, Kuala Lumpur belief that their representatives are aid workers, the official in : Nearly 5,000 ethnic Tamil : A Sunday Times report has charge of the Pulmoddai com- : Malaysians gathered at one of : claimed that two senior leadpound claimed the Tamil: the country's iconic Hindu: ers of the rebel Liberation women and children were

safety. "We are protecting these people. This is why there are so : hostilities there. many soldiers here," the official is quoted, as saying. Charity of the world's largest Tamil : white flags of truce. worker, however, gives a very communities outside India: According to the paper, stand. different view: "The children, and Sri Lanka, followed: both Balasingham Nadesan, their mothers, their grandmothers, they can't get out. They are trapped behind: barbed wire with guns trained: This, according to the News on them, innocent children. : last Monday, amid widespread : head of the Tigers' peace security from the Obama This is a prison camp, a Nazi- : concern that large numbers of : secretariat, made desperate administration and the British like detention camp that evokes: Tamil civilians were killed in: telephone calls to The Times government. Is there a guar-: the fighting.

Were LTTE leaders killed as they sought to surrender?

ANI, London

temples Sunday to protest acts: Tigers of Tamil Ealam had being "held" for their own : of 'genocide' against Tamils in : begged their correspondent to Sri Lanka following the end of : initiate moves for their surren-: der to the authorities, but were

: correspondent, saying that anteeofsecurity?"

they had nowhere to turn, and would be killed in a matter of hours. We are putting down our arms," Nadesan is said to have told The Times correspondent late last Sunday night by satellite phone from the tiny slip of jungle and beach on the northeast coast The demonstration by one: killed as they were waving of Sri Lanka where the Tigers had been making their last

"I could hear machinegun Colombo's declaration of : the political leader of the fire in the background as he victory over the Liberation: Tamil Tigers, and continued coolly: "We are Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE): Seevaratnam Puleedevan, the looking for a guarantee of



Maritime police inspect the ill-fated MV Commandos 6 near the shores of Puerto Galera on Mindoro Island yesterday. Twelve people including a Japanese national were killed and 57 rescued after a ferry sank in waters south of the Philippine capital on Saturday, the coast guard said.



the worst fears of humanity.'

Kurds flash the victory sign while others wave Democratic Society Party (DTP) and Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) flags during a meeting yesterday in Istanbul. Thousands of Kurds gathered to attend the pro-Kurdish DTP party meeting.

New Nepal PM to take oath of office tomorrow

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kathmandu

Nepal's new Prime Ministerelect veteran Communist leader Madhav Kumar Nepal will be administered oath of office Tuesday, heralding an end to a three-week-long political vacuum that had engulfed the Himalayan republic after its Maoist government fell due to a row with the army.

The new premier's party, the Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist (UML), told IANS that Nepal would be sworn in Tuesday by President Ram Baran Yadav.

The UML standing committee began consultations Sunday to discuss the formation of a new

government and the allocation

It would be a tough balancing

act for the new prime minister who would have to keep his own party as well as 21 others, who helped him win the prime ministerial election Saturday unopposed, happy.

After consultations with his own party leaders, the 56-yearold former deputy prime minister will also hold talks with his allies to shape the new cabinet.

party, the Nepali Congress (NC), which left its role as the major opposition party during the Maoist government to back Madhav Nepal, said it was mulling whether to support the new government from outside or join the Communist-led cabinet

Musharraf finally vacates Army House

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Islamabad

Eighteen months after retiring as the Pakistani Army chief, former president Pervez Musharraf has finally vacated Army House in the adjacent garrison town of Rawalpindi that he had continued to occupy on grounds of

Citing sources, Dawn said Nepal's second-largest | Sunday that Musharraf's belongings had been moved to his sprawling country villa in the Chak Shahzad suburb o Islamabad.

Musharraf is currently on an extended lecture tour abroad and it is not clear when he would return, given the precarious security scenario in the country.

11 die in Morocco stampede at concert

AP, Rabat

Thousands of spectators stampeded out of a concert in the Moroccan capital, Rabat, causing a fence to collapse, the country's official MAP news agency said Sunday. Eleven people were killed and about 30 injured.

The report quoted regional officials as saying those killed were two children, five women and four

Most of the injured by international stars like were treated and released, while seven people remain Keys.

hospitalised, the report The stampede took

place shortly after midnight Saturday at Rabat's Hay Nahda stadium, where as many as 70,000 people had been attending a concert by Moroccan star Abdelaziz Stati, the report said.

The concert was part of Rabat's eight-day-long Mawazine music festival, which also included shows Kylie Minogue and Alicia

Obama seen breaking new ME ground before Cairo speech

AFP, Washington

US President Barack Obama continues to break new ground in his quest for Arab-Israeli peace as he finishes up his meetings with key players before a landmark speech in Cairo, analysts say. After talks here earlier this month with

Israel's premier Benjamin Netanyahu and Jordan's King Abdullah II, Obama is to meet withdraw from Arab lands occupied in 1967 in this week with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Abul Gheit and Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas.

to revive peace talks from all sides in the runup to the June 4 speech in Cairo, which will focus on reviving ties with Arabs and Muslims but likely also to touch on peace with Israel. Shibley Telhami said Obama is treating the

Israeli-Palestinian conflict with both a sense of urgency and even-handedness rarely adopted their territory. by his predecessors.

blunt and straightforward" about the need to ment outpost. halt Israeli settlements in the West Bank.

settlements in ways we haven't seen in a long wrong. time," the University of Maryland professor told AFP.

"And he did say that he expected the Arab states to do more," Telhami added.

The administration seeks to "integrate" into its own approach the 2002 Arab initiative that calls for Israel to agree to a Palestinian state and exchange for a normalization of ties.

However, it is asking Arab states to start now to end Israel's isolation. Egypt and Jordan, Analysts see the prospect of concrete steps which have made peace with Israel, have diplomatic and other ties with Israel, but the 20 other Arab states have limited or no ties at all. Tamara Wittes, a Brookings Institution

analyst, said Arab states with no ties could decide individually to open direct telepone links or allow Israeli commercial flights over

Netanyahu, even though he has balked at Telhami remarked that during the presi- Obama's call for a Palestinian state and an end dent's White House talks with the hardline to settlements, announced upon his return to Netanyahu last Monday, Obama was "rather Jerusalem the dismantling of one illegal settle-

That amounts to a "baby step in the right "I thought that he highlighted the issue of direction," Wittes told AFP.

Animals too have sense of morality!

ANI, London

It's not just humans who have a moral compass, animals too possess a sense of morality which allows them to tell the difference between right and

That's the conclusion of a newbook.

Boffins who study animal behaviour reckon they have evidence to prove that species ranging from mice to primates are governed by moral codes of conduct in the same way as humans, The Telegraph reported.

However, Prof Marc Bekoff, an ecologist at University of Colorado, Boulder, believes that morals are "hard-wired" into the brains of all mammals and provide the "social glue" that allow often aggressive and competitive animals to live together in groups.

Bekoff reached the conclusion after compiling evidence from around the world that shows how different species of animals appear to have an innate sense of fairness, display empathy and help other animals that are in distress.

HYUNDAI Dedicated Built-in CNG Bus Chassis

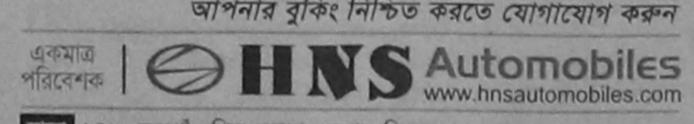
চালানো পদ্ধতি ভায়মেনশন RHD, 4x2 ওজন মডেল SPACE LD-2009 ম্পেসিফিকেশন সাসপেনশন LEAF भाविंक मिर्घा 11,490 mm সার্বিক প্রস্ত 2,490 mm সার্বিক উচ্চতা ভায়মেনশন 2,100 mm চাকার বেজ 6,050 mm সর্বনিম্ন রাজা হতে উচ্চতা 205 mm ইঞ্জিন D6CB ওজন (কেজি) খালি গাডির ওজন 7,060 kg লোড গাড়ির ওজন 16,800 kg সর্বমোট সিলিভার 6 in-line পিউন ডিসপ্লেসমেউ (CC) 11,149 oc বোর x ট্রোক (mm) 130 x 140 mm ম্পেসিফিকেশন কমপ্রেশন রেশিও 11,5:1 পাৰ্যাৰ (ps/rpm) Euro II 290/2,000 সবেছি টরক (kg.m/rpm) Euro II 110/1,400 মতেল M10S5 (D.D) 5 forward and 1 reverse speed 2nd to 5th synchromesh, 1st & reverse constant-mesh gear টালমিশন টি,জি,এস. (ট্রান্সমিশন গিয়ার শিক্ট Floor shift Mechanical remote control টায়ার ও চাকা টায়ার 11R22.5-16PR खानानी 764L, 6 cylinder

পিস্টন ডিসপ্লেসমেন্ট 11149 CC 2,240 mm 6,050 mm 3,200 mm

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তাতা ২৪২, তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা, গুলশান লিংক রোড, ঢাকা। ফোন: ০২- ৯৮৮৮৪০৩, ৯৮৮৩৮৬২, ৯৮৯১০৭২, মোবাইল: ০১৭১১ ৩২১৭৯১, ০১৭১৬ ১২৫৬৩০ চট্টাম ৩৭০, আগ্রাবাদ এক্সেস রোড, বেপারী পাড়া, চট্টগ্রাম।

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Pakistan hunts French tourist's kidnappers

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistani police hunted Sunday for a French tourist kidnapped in the country's restive southwest, but an officer said they still did not know who was behind the abduction.

Gunmen on Saturday snatched the 41-year-old man from a group of French nationals who were travelling in Baluchistan province -- on the border with both Afghanistan and Iran.



A supporter of former South Korean president Roh Moo-Hyun mourns at a memorial altar at Roh's hometown village of Bongha near Gimhae, about 450km southeast of Seoul yesterday. Shocked South Koreans mourned for former president Roh, who plunged to death off a mountainside in an apparent suicide after a multimillion-dollar graft scandal engulfed him and his family.

S Koreans mourn death, pay respect to ex-president

AP, Bongha

Thousands streamed to a village in rural South Korea on Sunday to pay their respects to ex-President Roh Moo-hyun a day after he killed himself by jumping off a rocky cliff overlooking his home.

In central Seoul, mourners laid white chrysanthemums a traditional Korean symbol of grief and bowed before a portrait of the 62-year-old ex-leader at a makeshift memorial outside the 16th-century Deoksu Palace.