



Troops began to pull out of the southern protest hub of Daraa on Thursday after a military lockdown of more than a week.

Cambodia rejects Thai demands

AFP, Jakarta

Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong yesterday rejected a Thai demand to withdraw troops from an 11th-century Khmer temple at the disputed border, saying Bangkok was not sincere about peace.

"We never can withdraw our troops from our own territory. That should be very clear," Hor Namhong said.

The Indonesians are trying to broker a ceasefire and the deployment of neutral military observers to the flashpoint area on the Thai-Cambodian border where some 18 people have died in fighting in recent months.

The issue is likely to be discussed at a summit of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders in Jakarta starting on Saturday, where plans for a more closely integrated regional community will top the agenda.

Both countries have accused each other of sparking the violence centring on the 11th-century Preah Vihear temple.

Concern over sending

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For years, she says, workers from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Nepal and the Philippines faced many problems including non-payments for even years. Also very common are physical and sexual abuse.

"Sometimes, they're locked inside the house, and they cannot go out and contact their families."

She suggested that the Bangladesh mission in Saudi Arabia set up 24-hour hotlines where the workers can contact for necessary information before they leave.

Also, the capacity of the mission needs to be increased and staffed with trained officials, including female officials, who can deal with the labourer's complaints.

YEMEN UNREST

Saleh vows to resist 'outlaw' protesters

AFP, Sanaa

Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh told a mass rally of supporters yesterday that he would resist calls to quit, describing as "outlaws" tens of thousands of protesters gathered a short distance away.

"I can assure you that I will resist," Saleh told the crowd in Sanaa's Sabine Square after the main weekly Muslim prayers.

His defiant remarks came a day after the opposition urged Gulf Arab neighbours to pressure him to accept a transition that seeks to end three months of violence in the poorest Arab state.

He hit out at the protesters who have been demanding that he step down immediately and said he would "strongly defend the constitution." His current term of office ends in 2013.

Protests demanding his departure has led to the deaths of 150 people since late January and efforts of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to broker a peaceful transition in Yemen remain stalled.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon deplored the failure to agree to the plan.

Saleh's rivals gathered for what they called the "Friday for the loyalty of the people in the south," while regime loyalists marked "Friday for security and stability" in a competing show of strength.

At the Place of Change, the epicentre of the protests against Saleh, large crowds demanded his immediate exit and that he be brought to trial. There were no immediate reports of clashes between the two demonstrations.

"The people want to try the executioner," the crowds chanted.

A similar rally calling for Saleh's departure was held in Taiz, the second largest city of Yemen, located 200 kilometres south of Sanaa, witnesses said.

6.1-magnitude quake hits Indonesia

AFP, Jakarta

A 6.1-magnitude earthquake hit off the Indonesian island of Sulawesi yesterday, government seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage and no tsunami warning was issued.

The quake hit at a depth of 35 kilometres at 0646 GMT, around 75 kilometres southeast of Gorontalo city, said Indonesia's Meteorology and Geophysics Agency.

"The quake's epicentre is on the sea but there's no tsunami potential," an agency official told AFP. No damage had been reported so far.

ASEAN mulls giving Burma chair

AFP, Jakarta

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is considering giving military-led Myanmar the chair of the grouping in 2014, despite grave concerns about human rights abuses and sham democracy.

Senior ASEAN officials gathering in Jakarta ahead of a leadership summit at the weekend said Myanmar -- also known as Burma -- had sought the chair of the 10-nation bloc in 2014, when communist Laos was due to take the job.

She said solutions to some outstanding problems between the two countries should be found to increase confidence between the people of two nations.

This will ultimately help strengthen relations between the two neighbouring countries, she added.

26 killed in new Syria protests

EU issues new sanctions

APP, Damascus

Syrian security forces shot dead at least 26 protesters yesterday, a rights group said, as thousands rallied on a "Day of Defiance" against the autocratic regime of President Bashar al-Assad.

At the same time, armed gangs killed one officer and four policemen, state news agency SANA said.

In Brussels, the European Union agreed to impose sanctions on 13 Syrian officials involved in the regime's brutal crackdown on protests and will meet Monday to discuss whether to target Assad as well, diplomats said.

The Syrian rights group, Insan, put the day's toll at 26 killed but said it expected this to rise.

"Death toll for today is 26," Insan said in a statement received by AFP in

Nicosia. The toll included 16 protesters killed in the central city of Homs, six in Hama north of Damascus and two in the Mediterranean town of Jableh.

"We have a list of 27 more names. We are verifying at the moment," the brief statement said.

Rights activist Najati Tayara, speaking to AFP from Homs, said security forces opened fire to disperse protests after weekly Muslim prayers in the central city, killing eight people and wounding several, some seriously.

Tanks entered the industrial city earlier and also rolled into other protest centres across Syria.

"Dozens of people were arrested in several districts of the city during the night between Thursday and yesterday," Tayara said by phone from Homs.

Using loudspeakers, security forces

ordered residents who took part in protests to voluntarily go to police stations "to avoid being arrested and punished" and ordered businesses to close and residents to stay indoors, activists said.

The interior ministry issued a statement yesterday urging citizens to refrain from taking part in any protests in a bid "to contribute significantly to stability and security."

SANA said an "armed criminal group" opened fire on a security checkpoint in Baba Amr in Homs, killing an officer and four policemen, adding that assailants also mutilated the bodies.

An activist reported six protesters killed in Hama and the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said a demonstrator died in Syria's main port of Latakia.

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Stop killings on border

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seriously, she said.

Ansari told Khaleda that the Indian government and its people want to build good relations with Bangladesh.

In response, Khaleda, also the leader of the opposition in parliament, said BNP as well as the people of Bangladesh also want good relations with India.

She said solutions to some outstanding problems between the two countries should be found to increase confidence between the people of two nations.

This will ultimately help strengthen relations between the two neighbouring countries, she added.

The former premier said the dialogue between Bangladesh and India should continue, and Indian government and political parties should also talk with all political parties of Bangladesh.

Ansari assured that the Indian government will talk with all political parties in Bangladesh, terming BNP a big political force in Bangladesh, BNP Vice-chairman Shamser Mobin Chowdhury, who was present at the meeting, told reporters.

The meeting that lasted more than 30 minutes was held in a very friendly atmosphere, and it also discussed on reducing huge trade gap

between the two countries, Shamsersaid.

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It's all in the gene

Gene determines how happy we are

THE DAILYMAIL ONLINE

How happy we are may depend as much on our genes as how well our lives are going, researchers have found.

They say that they have found a gene that releases 'happy' chemicals into the brain.

The 5-HTT gene also helps nerve cells recycle serotonin, another chemical in the brain which is linked to mood and depression.

Scientists from the London School of Economics analysed the genes of 2,500 people and found the happiest were the ones who inherited two 'long' versions of the 5-HTT gene.

The least happy were those who inherited the two 'short' versions of the gene.

Behavioural economist Jan-Emmanuel De Neve, who conducted the research, told the Express: 'It has long been suggested that this gene plays a role in mental health, but this study is the first to show it is instrumental in shaping individual happiness levels.'

The results suggest a strong link between happiness and this functional variant of the 5-HTT gene.

This finding helps to explain why some people tend to be naturally happier than others, and that's in no small part due to our individual genetic make-up.'

To conduct the research, published in the Journal of Human Genetics, the researchers compared the genetic make-up of each volunteer and asked them a series of questions including: 'How satisfied as a whole are you with your life?'

Those who had two long 5-HTT genes reported the most positive results - with the chances of them replying 'very positive' boosted by 17 per cent.

Some 26 per cent of those with two short 5-HTT genes were dissatisfied with their life.

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation

Works Division
83-88, Mohakhali C/A
Dhaka-1212.

Website : www.parjatan.gov.bd



Invitation For Tender

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation from the 1st. class (Unlimited/ Special class) Contractors/Construction firms of any Govt/Semi-Govt/Autonomous bodies as per The Public Procurement Regulations-2008.

01.	Ministry / Division	Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism
02.	Agency	Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
03.	Procuring Entity Name	Chairman , Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation 83-88, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212.
04.	Tender Package No.	01 (One)
05.	Tender Package Name	Construction of Parjatan Complex at Srimongal Moulabibazar.
06.	Invitation Ref. No. and Date	BPC Works- 18/2011, Date: 05-05-2011.

KEY INFORMATION

07. Procuring Method Open Tendering Method (OTM).

FUNDING INFORMATION

08. Budget and Source of Fund Government of Bangladesh (GOB) under development budget

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

09.	Name & Address of the Offices Selling Tender Document	(a) Finance & Accounts Division, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation , 83-88, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212. (b) Joy Restaurant, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, Savar, Dhaka. (c) Sylhet Parjatan Hotel, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, Sylhet.
10.	Name & Address of the Offices Receiving Tender Document	(a) General Manager (works) 83-88, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 (b) Divisional Commissioner Office, Dhaka Division, Segunbagicha, Dhaka. (c) Joy Restaurant, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, Savar, Dhaka
11.	Name & Address of the Offices Opening Tender Document	(a) Conference Hall, Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, 83-88, Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212 .
12.	Tender Last Selling Date	07-06-2011 (During Office Hour).
13.	Tender Closing Date & Time	08-06-2011 at 12.00 Noon
14.	Tender Opening Date & Time	08-06-2011 at 3.00 PM.
15.	Description of Works.	

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Location	Tender