

UN chief to name Myanmar envoy

AFP, United Nations

UN leader Ban Ki-moon will soon name a full time special envoy to Myanmar to encourage the government on the reform path, a UN spokesman said yesterday.

The envoy will be named "in due time," UN deputy spokesman Farhan Haq told AFP. The decision has been taken "now that the new government has committed to working more closely with the United Nations."

Ban announced he would name the envoy to diplomats at a meeting on Myanmar last week.

"The country's human rights, political, social, economic and humanitarian problems are serious and long-standing," said UN spokesman Martin Nesiryk.

UN urges end to Asian preference for male heirs

AFP, Geneva

UN agencies yesterday urged an end to Asia's preference for sons, saying it perpetuates discrimination and violation of women's rights.

"Gender-biased sex selection reflects and fuels a culture of discrimination and violence, and must be addressed urgently by all segments of government and society as a matter of women's human rights," said five UN agencies in a joint statement.

The agencies noted that there is a "huge pressure on women to produce sons... which not only directly affects women's reproductive decisions... but also puts women in a position where they must perpetuate the lower status of girls through son preference."

Women can be divorced if they fail to produce boys and the discovery of female

foetus can lead to its abortion, they noted.

"States have an obligation to ensure that these injustices are addressed without exposing women to the risk of death or serious injury by denying them access to needed services such as safe abortion to the full extent of the law, and other healthcare services," said the UN agencies.

The five agencies, including Unicef, the World Health Organisation, UN Women, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Population Fund, had released the statement after studying the evidence behind this preference for sons in many parts of Asia.

The latest census in China found 118.06 males were born to every 100 baby girls over the last decade, an imbalance often attributed to the Chinese preference for male heirs.

19 killed in Venezuela prison clashes

AFP, Caracas

At least 19 inmates have been killed since Sunday in armed clashes among prisoners in Venezuela's El Rodeo prison, an official said yesterday.

There was "a regrettable situation that occurred Sunday in El Rodeo where 19 inmates lost their lives," Interior Minister Tareck El Aissami told reporters.

It would be the deadliest prison uprising in Venezuela since 1999.

Gunfire and explosions could be heard into the night on Monday at the prison in the northern state of Miranda, but El Aissami did not say whether the situation had been brought under control.

City

INTERNATIONAL



Gujarat based journalists from the print and electronic media fraternity stage a silent protest in memory of slain Mumbai based reporter, Jyotirmoy Dey outside the Gandhi Ashram in Ahmedabad yesterday. Jyotirmoy, who wrote extensively about gangland activities in the country's financial and entertainment capital for the daily tabloid Mid-day, was gunned down in broad daylight in a northern suburb on June 11.

City

FIRST BIG DEBATE OF 2012 RACE

Republicans pound Barack Obama

AFP, Manchester

Republican presidential candidates led by frontrunner Mitt Romney used their first big televised debate to lash out at President Barack Obama -- but not each other.

The debate in Manchester, New Hampshire, late Monday did little to define differences between the seven candidates in the unwieldy Republican line-up as White House hopefuls reserved their venom for Obama on the economy and foreign policy.

The civil exchanges left Romney, who has a slight, but consistent lead in the polls, still looking like the man to beat for the nomination.

Standing behind the centre podium in CNN's ultra modern studio, the carefully combed Romney looked suitably presidential as he led the charge against Obama.

"Any one of the people on this stage would be a better president than President Obama," Romney said.

"Why isn't the president leading? He isn't balancing our budget and he isn't leading on

jobs. He's failed the American people... And that's why he's not going to be reelected."

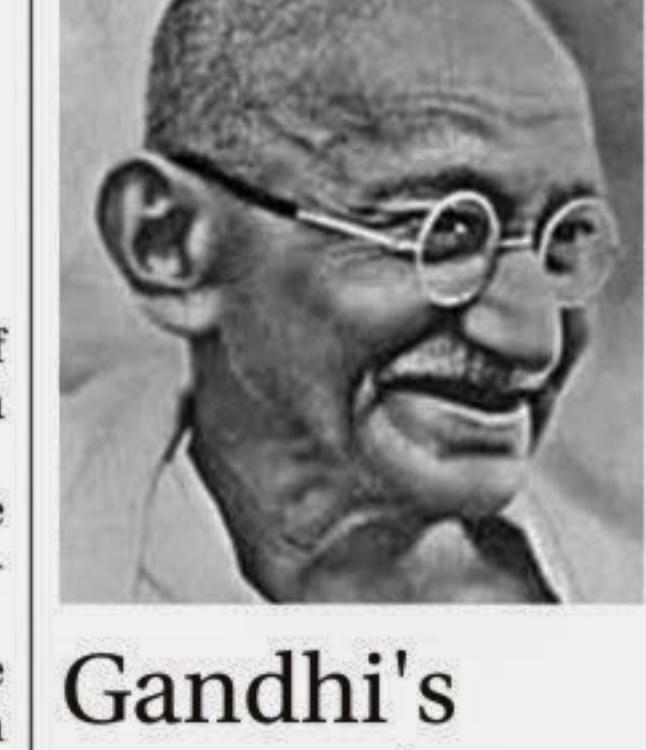
Michelle Bachmann, a congresswoman and leading light of the staunchly conservative Tea Party movement, momentarily upstaged the other six when she used her opening comments to announce that she had just formally registered her candidacy.

Bachmann, the only woman on the stage, pulled her punches when opportunities came to attack Romney, but she almost shouted during assaults on Obama.

"President Obama has failed his leadership," she charged.

Newt Gingrich, a veteran Republican who was speaker of the House of Representatives in the 1990s, piled in to attack "the Obama depression."

The presidential election is not until November 2012. But candidates were using this event -- the first of many over the coming months -- to solidify their sometimes poor name recognition across the country and position themselves for a grueling campaign.



Gandhi's spectacles missing

AFP, Mumbai

A pair of round-framed spectacles belonging to India's independence icon Mahatma Gandhi have gone missing from a museum in western India, officials said.

Staff at the Sevagram Ashram, a religious retreat some 75 kilometres (47 miles) from the city of Nagpur, noticed that the glasses had disappeared as they made preparations to mark the anniversary of its founding.

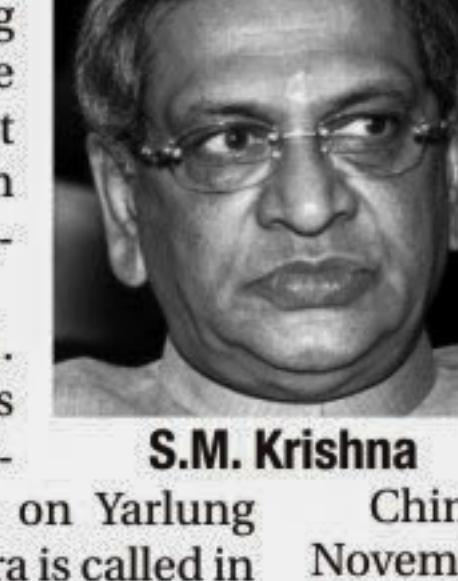
Gandhi first arrived at the ashram near the town of Wardha, in northeast Maharashtra state, in the mid-1930s. The Quit India resolution calling for independence from the British was passed there in July 1942.

The spectacles were among a number of personal items, including a pen stand and a bathroom brush, on display in a locked show cabinet.

About 300,000 people visit the ashram every year, PTI said.

India not alarmed by China dam

AFP, New Delhi



S.M. Krishna

India yesterday said an ongoing Chinese project to dam the Brahmaputra river in Tibet would not affect downstream supplies in the country's north-eastern regions.

Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna confirmed China was going ahead with the controversial construction of the dam on Yarlung Tsango river, as the Brahmaputra is called in Tibet.

"We have ascertained from our own sources that this is a run of the river hydroelectric project which does not store water and will not adversely impact downstream areas in India," Krishna told reporters in New Delhi.

"I believe there is no cause for immediate alarm," he added. "It is important that states of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam harness

and utilise the waters of Brahmaputra. This is a really a very important issue."

The Brahmaputra is a lifeline to some of India's remote, farm-dependent northeastern states.

Some Indian experts have warned the cross-border dam could drain water from the river, which sustains the livelihood of millions of in Assam.

China after launching its construction in November 2010 assured that it took "full consideration of the potential impact on the downstream area".

Media reports have previously suggested the dam would feature six 85-megawatt power-generating units aimed at curbing power shortages in Tibet.

The project -- one of a number to meet soaring demand for water and electricity -- is expected to cost nearly 7.9 billion yuan (\$1.2 billion), the reports said.

Iran backing Syria crackdown Says Hillary Clinton

AFP, Washington

brutal repression. Two years later, that repression continues."

Syria's uprising was triggered in mid-March by the arrest and torture of 15 children and adolescents accused of spraying anti-regime graffiti in the southern town of Daraa, which then became the epicenter of the revolt.

The UN children's agency UNICEF has said that at least 30 children have been shot dead in the revolt against the Assad family's 40-year rule.

The revolt gained new strength last month with the release of gruesome pictures of the body of 13-year-old Hamza al-Khatib, whom activists say was severely tortured, a charge denied by authorities.

APPOINTMENT OF EVENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY

For REHAB Housing Fair, New York & Toronto 2011.

Sealed quotations are invited from the reputed Event Management companies/firms for conducting REHAB Housing Fair to be held at New York and Toronto during 24-26 September, 2011 and 01-03 October, 2011 respectively. Event Management Company, having adequate experience to conduct large events of similar nature, will be preferred.

The tender/ quotations will be two-type envelope system. Firstly, interested companies are requested to submit their documents in one sealed envelope with their company profile, copy of certificates of work experiences, copy of previous work order(s), bank solvency certificate, trade license, memorandum and articles of association, TIN & VAT certificate. Secondly, the bidders will submit quotation(s) duly filled with seal and signature in all pages along with 5% earnest money on the quoted price in favor of REHAB by pay order. It may be mentioned that the company should be an International / National registered company/partner/associates having experience in conducting events internationally and have a registered office/partner/associates in Bangladesh, New York and Toronto.

Terms of reference (TOR) and other information & documents in relation to the Fair will be available from 15 June to 22 June, 2011 during office hour (10:00 am to 5:00 pm) in the office of REHAB, National Plaza, 5th Floor, 1/G, Free School Street, Sonargaon Road, Dhaka-1205, on payment of non refundable amount of Tk. 15,000/- (Taka Fifteen Thousand) only for each fair. The interested companies/ firms must provide their own branding plan beside Terms of Reference (TOR) in a separate sheet. The interested companies/firms are requested to visit REHAB Secretariat to see some samples of items and for any other queries before submission of quotation. The quotation(s) to be submitted latest by 2:30 pm, 23 June, 2011 at the REHAB Secretariat and will be opened on the same day at 3:00 pm. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason.

Sd/-

Murad Iqbal Chowdhury
General Secretary, REHAB.



Real Estate & Housing Association of Bangladesh (REHAB)

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DISTRIBUTION OF REFUND WARRANTS (ONLY ALLOTTED SHAREHOLDERS)

DISTRIBUTION TIME 9.00 A.M TO 4.00 P.M.

This is to inform that the Refund Warrants of the only Primary Allotted Shareholders of **Mjl Bangladesh Limited** are ready for distribution as per SEC letter No. SEC/C/1/IPO(Lottery)-129/2010/416, Date: June 13, 2011. The valued Primary Allotted Shareholders may collect the same by showing **original Allotment letter (Refundable)** from **9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.** as per following schedule:-

Date	Paltan Community Centre 42, Naya Paltan, Dhaka-1000.	White House Hotel 155, Shantinagar Dhaka-1217.
18.06.11 Saturday	Allotment Serial No. 000001-060000	Allotment Serial No. 060001-120000
19.06.11 Sunday	Allotment Serial No. 120001-180000	Allotment Serial No. 240001-260000 NRB & Mutual Funds
20.06.11 Monday	Allotment Serial No. 180001-240000	Allotment Serial No. 260001-280016 NRB & Mutual Funds

N.B. No Refund warrants will be issued in favour of the applicants (except NRB) maintaining account with AB Bank Ltd., Al-Arafah Islami Bank Ltd., Bank Al-Falah Ltd., Bank Asia Ltd., BRAC Bank Ltd., Citibank N.A., Commercial Bank of Ceylon PLC, Dhaka Bank Ltd., Dutch-Bangla Bank Ltd., Eastern Bank Ltd., Exim Bank Ltd., First Security Islami Bank Ltd., Habib Bank Ltd., HSBC Bank, ICB Islamic Bank Ltd., IFIC Bank Ltd., Jamuna Bank Ltd., Mercantile Bank Ltd., Mutual Trust Bank Ltd., National Bank Ltd., National Bank of Pakistan, NCC Bank Ltd., One Bank Ltd., Premier Bank Ltd., Prime Bank Ltd., Shahjalal Islami Bank Ltd., Social Islami Bank Ltd., Southeast Bank Ltd., Standard Chartered Bank, State Bank of India, The City Bank Ltd., Trust Bank Ltd. and Woori Bank. The refund money shall be credited to the applicant's account by their respective bank.

If the Refund Warrants are not collected by hand from the distribution centre within scheduled time, the Refund Warrants will be sent by courier services at the respective mailing addresses at applicant's own risk and responsibility.

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