

NEWS IN brief

Liberia's Taylor to serve sentence in UK

AFP, London
Liberia's ex-president and warlord Charles Taylor is to serve his 50-year prison sentence for war crimes in Britain, the British government confirmed yesterday. Following a request from the president of the SCSL (Special Court for Sierra Leone) to the United Kingdom, former president Taylor will now be transferred to a prison in the UK to serve that sentence, junior justice minister Jeremy Wright said in a statement to parliament.

2 die of MERS in Saudi ahead of hajj

AFP, Riyadh
Two Saudis have died in Riyadh after they contracted the MERS virus, health authorities announced yesterday, as the kingdom prepares to host some two million Muslim pilgrims for the annual hajj.

Govt-Kachin rebels sign new peace deal

AFP, Yangon
Myanmar and Kachin rebels signed a fresh peace deal yesterday, government mediators said, the latest step in efforts to end the country's last major active civil war. The deal, which follows three days of negotiations, was aimed at laying the "foundation for political dialogue" and working towards ending the conflict in Kachin.

US nuke command's deputy chief sacked

AFP, Washington
Vice Admiral Tim Giardina, the deputy commander of US nuclear forces, has been fired from his post after being investigated for allegedly using counterfeit chips at a casino, officers said yesterday. The move was approved by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and President Barack Obama, officials said.



PHOTO: AFP
Myanmar President Thein Sein (L) shakes hands with Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah during the closing ceremony and handover of the ASEAN Chairmanship to Myanmar as part of the 23rd Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) in Bandar Seri Begawan, yesterday.

Rape victims suffer in silence after India riots

AFP, Malakpur
Fatima's face turned ashen as she recalled how neighbours armed with sickles and swords stormed her house and dragged her daughter out by the hair during Hindu-Muslim riots in northern India. "There were six of them. They tied me to a chair and raped my young girl one by one. I could do nothing to save her," Fatima said with tears welling up at a relief camp a few hours drive from New Delhi. The family of seven was left shattered by the attack on the 17-year-old, which came during riots between Hindus and Muslims in and around Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar district last month that killed at least 50. Yet they have chosen not to report the matter to the police. "If the word spreads that my daughter was gang-raped, tell me who will marry her? She will be branded as dirty and we will be thrown out of our own community," Fatima told AFP at the camp in Malakpur where nearly 10,000 Muslims are sheltering. Her story is just one among many, indicating that as well as arson and beatings, sexual violence was rampant during the three-day riots, which started on September 7. But police say they have registered only five sexual violence cases from the riots from 282 criminal cases overall. The carnage was triggered by the killing of a Muslim man, allegedly by members of the dominant Jat Hindu family who accused him of sexually harassing their sister. The Muslims then allegedly killed two Jat boys, leading to violence that fast spiralled out of control. Local political leaders were accused of encouraging the violence to polarise the state along religious lines ahead of general elections next year. The decision to suffer in silence reflects the stigma attached to rape, especially in deeply patriarchal societies in rural India. It also casts doubt on a growing narrative that the fatal gang-rape of a 23-year-old student on a bus in New Delhi in December represented a turning point for attitudes towards women. Fatima and others in the camp have vowed never to return to their villages despite the prospect of living in slum-like conditions without clean drinking water or proper toilets. "I was trying to escape on a scooter with my grandfather when a mob of six men stopped us," said one 19-year-old woman, who looked frail and sickly, her face covered with a traditional scarf. "They dragged me to nearby sugarcane fields. For six hours I was violated. I was finally rescued when an army patrol heard my cries." Aneesa Begum, 40, recounted how rioters "hacked" the legs of her husband as she huddled under a blanket. "They are not outsiders, they are village people. How can we face them again?" she said between sobs as she prepared to visit her husband in hospital. New York-based Human Rights Watch has called on the government to provide counseling as well as legal and medical aid to victims.

US, allies push China to resolve sea disputes

Former pariah Myanmar takes Asean chair

AFP, Bandar Seri Begawan
The United States and its allies yesterday pushed for accelerated efforts to lower tension in the disputed South China Sea, where Beijing's assertive sovereignty claims have raised fears of potential conflict. A day after China showed a commitment to an eventual code of conduct to prevent conflict in the strategic body of water, Japan and the Philippines joined Washington's calls to speed-up diplomacy. US Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters on the sidelines of an East Asia Summit in Brunei that such a code was needed. "A code of conduct is a necessity for the long term, but nations can also reduce the risk of miscommunication and miscalculation by taking steps today," Kerry said, according to a copy of his remarks to the summit. Kerry did not single out any countries by name, but China has come under growing pressure over its claims to virtually all of the body of water, and acts interpreted by some of its neighbours as aggressive. Kerry added "all claimants have a responsibility to clarify and align their claims with international law". Agreement on a code of conduct has long been a stumbling block between China and some Southeast Asian nations, particularly rival claimants the Philippines and Vietnam. Meanwhile, Myanmar won a new diplomatic prize yesterday for its dramatic political reforms, taking the helm of Southeast Asia's regional bloc despite its disputed rights record. The one-time international pariah was formally awarded the rotating chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) for 2014 at the end of the group's summit in the oil-rich sultanate of Brunei. Addressing Asean leaders in Brunei, UN leader Ban Ki-moon hailed Myanmar's "unprecedented reform process". "However, I remain concerned about ongoing communal violence," he added. Around 250 people have been killed and more than 140,000 left homeless in several outbreaks of Buddhist-Muslim violence around the country since June 2012. In April, Human Rights Watch accused Myanmar of "a campaign of ethnic cleansing" against members of the Rohingya Muslim minority -- an accusation rejected by Thein Sein as a "smear campaign". In 2006, Myanmar was forced to renounce the Asean rotating presidency in the face of criticism over its human rights record and the then-ruling junta's failure to shift to democracy. Along with the Asean chairmanship, Myanmar will host the East Asia Summit in 2014, which brings Asean members together with the US, China and Russia, among others. US Secretary of State John Kerry on Wednesday said Myanmar's reforms were not yet complete, a day after the country released dozens more political prisoners.

Disaster brings back power in Andhra Pradesh

PTI, Hyderabad
In a relief for Seemandhra people hit by power shortage, power sector employees in coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema regions of Andhra Pradesh called off their indefinite strike "temporarily" yesterday in view of cyclonic storm Phailan that is expected to hit the Bay of Bengal coast today. The power employees have been on indefinite strike for the last five days against the Union Cabinet's decision to create a separate Telangana state out of AP. "We have not called off our strike completely. It's only temporary in view of the cyclone threat," a protest leader told reporters. The decision was taken to avoid inconvenience to the people, he said, adding that power supply would be restored immediately. The strike pushed 13 coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema districts into darkness, affecting movement of trains and emergency services in hospitals.

Taj Mahal photoshoot puts Miss Universe in trouble

AFP, Agra
Indian police yesterday said they had filed a case against Miss Universe for conducting an unauthorised footwear fashion shoot at the Taj Mahal which was slammed as an "insult" by the monument's caretaker. Twenty-one-year-old American Olivia Culpo, wearing a long peach-coloured dress, visited the world-famous "monument to love" in Agra on Sunday during a 10-day tour of India. Culpo posed for photographers with branded shoes, which violates law in India, while sitting on the Diana Seat, a marble ledge in front of the white mausoleum named after the late British princess who visited in 1992. A case has also been registered against Indian-born fashion designer Sanjana Jon who accompanied Miss Universe to the site. Registering a case is a preliminary step and the issue may not necessarily go to court.



Blast in Lahore kills one, wounds 13

AFP, Lahore
A bomb exploded in a bustling food market in Pakistan's eastern city of Lahore yesterday, killing one person and wounding 13 others, officials said. The blast hit Anarkali bazaar in the old city area of Lahore, Pakistan's second-largest city and capital of relatively peaceful Punjab province. Doctor Tahir Bilal told AFP that one dead body and 13 injured had been brought to Lahore's Mayo Hospital. That attack was the worst bombing in Lahore since a teenage suicide attacker targeted a Shia Muslim religious procession on January 25, 2011, killing at least nine people. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the blast.

UTTARA BANK LIMITED
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (4TH FLOOR)
HEAD OFFICE, 47, BIR UTTAM SHAHID ASFAKUSSAMAD SARAK (FORMER-90, MOTIJHEEL C/A), DHAKA-1000

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Quotations are hereby invited from bonafide, well experienced & Technically sound Architectural /Engineering Firms for External/Internal Decoration & Renovation Works of Uttara Bank Limited, proposed Branch at Banasree, Dhaka and proposed Branch at Halishahar, Chittagong.

Intending any individual Firm having prerequisite qualification & at least 10(ten) years' practical experience may apply on or before 23.10.2013 during office hours on their letter head pad alongwith the attested copies of requisite work completion certificates, upto date IT clearance certificate, VAT Registration Certificate, valid Trade Licence and academic certificates of the Architects under their regular service for purchasing Tender Documents. Tender Documents will be available from the office of the undersigned on cash payment of Tk.1,500/- (Non refundable) per set on or before 27.10.2013 during office hours. Firms having no working experience for the same nature of External/Internal Decoration & Renovation Works valued not less than Tk.30.00 lac in a single work order for a single Branch/Office in any Govt. Bank or Private Bank within the last 2 years and not having at least 1 (one) Graduate Architect with minimum 5 years' practical experience or at least one Diploma Architect with minimum 7 years' practical experience in their regular service need not submit any application.

The Bank will supply necessary Plan and Drawings for the work. The successful Tenderer will have to prepare detailed working drawings and will have to make necessary changes/alternations in the Plan and Drawings as per practical requirement free of cost in consultation with the Bank's Management.

Tenders will be received upto 2-30 P.M. on 28.10.2013 for proposed Branch at Banasree, Dhaka and proposed Branch at Halishahar, Chittagong in the Tender Box placed at the office of the undersigned & the Tenders will be opened on the same day at 03-00 P.M. for Banasree Branch & at 4-00 P.M. for Halishahar Branch in presence of the tenderers or their representatives, if any. Other details will be available in the Tender Document. For any further details anybody may contact the undersigned during office hours.

The Uttara Bank Limited reserves the right not to accept the lowest Tender and to reject any Tender or part thereof or all Tenders without assigning any reason what so ever.

Engr. M. A. Awal
GENERAL MANAGER

Diagnostics Professionals

We are looking for individuals to lead an aggressive sales team in the areas of diagnostics equipment and reagents. He should be equipped with appropriate skills, optimum knowledge and more than five years of experience in leading sales teams of more than twenty people.

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Academic : Masters degree in Biotechnology, Biochemistry, Applied Physics & Electronics or Electrical & Electronic Engineering from a recognized University at home or abroad.

Experience : Over 15 years of working experience in selling diagnostics products in Bangladesh preferably of any leading multinational brands. At least five years of experience as a team leader would be an essential criterion.

Other Qualifications :

- Broad market knowledge of the diagnostics industry with global perspective to formulate and implement business strategies
- Thorough in various applications including application knowledge in PCR
- Strong analytical skills and demonstrated experience for in-depth market analysis, growth projections and financial modeling
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We offer competitive remuneration packages along with attractive bonuses, various incentives, leave fare assistance, family medical support, contributory provident fund, gratuity and other performance related incentives.

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