

NEWSIN

brief

Hollande 'mistress' to sue magazine

BBC ONLINE

The actress linked to French President Francois Hollande, Julie Gayet, is suing the magazine that published photos of their alleged affair.

Gayet initiated proceedings against Closer for breach of privacy, the magazine told AFP news agency. Hollande decided not to sue the magazine after first threatening to. The photos plunged the presidency into a crisis which saw Hollande's current partner, Valerie Trierweiler, taken to hospital.

China tested hypersonic missile vehicle

AFP, Washington

China for the first time has tested a hypersonic missile vehicle designed to travel several times the speed of sound, the Pentagon said Wednesday. The flight was conducted on January 9 and the Chinese vehicle, dubbed the WU-14, is supposed to travel at Mach 10, or 10 times the speed of sound. The test makes China the second country after the United States to conduct experimental flights with hypersonic vehicles, a technology that could allow armies to rapidly strike distant targets anywhere around the globe.

Cheating rocks US nuke command

AFP, Washington

The US military has suspended 34 officers in charge of launching nuclear missiles for cheating on a proficiency test, Air Force leaders said Wednesday. The scandal at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana marked the latest in a series of damaging revelations dogging the country's nuclear force, including a separate probe into illegal drugs that came to light last week.

Canada to woo more int'l students

AFP, Ottawa

Canada wants to double the number of foreign students enrolled at its universities as well as researchers to 450,000 by 2020, Trade Minister Ed Fast announced Wednesday. The hope is that the world's brightest minds choose to study and work in Canada, and possibly stay after graduating, fueling innovation and boosting the economy. Canadians' tuition is subsidized by the government while foreign students typically pay full price.

Floods kill 16 in Indonesia

AFP, Manado

At least 16 people have been killed and 40,000 have fled their homes across North Sulawesi province after torrential rain triggered flash floods and landslides on Indonesia's northern Sulawesi island, National disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho said yesterday.

AAP infighting grows

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Infighting yesterday gripped the nascent political party Aam Aadmi Party, which came to power in Delhi three weeks ago after a stunning electoral performance, when one of its lawmakers accused the party of backtracking on its poll promises and called its chief Arvind Kejriwal a "liar".

Vinod Kumar Binny, a former local leader of Congress party, rebelled a second time on Wednesday, accusing the AAP of not fulfilling the promises it had made to the people before elections to Delhi state legislature and calling Kejriwal a liar.

Another AAP activist Captain Gopinath, known for launching India's first low-cost airlines, criticized the party's decision to stop Foreign Direct Investment in multi-brand retail, in the first ideologically discordant note in the party which assumed power in Delhi three weeks ago.

Binny's attack on Kejriwal and the AAP government came after the party refused to consider him as its candidate for coming parliamentary elections in Delhi or accommodate him in Kejriwal cabinet. Binny denied he had sought a ministerial berth or parliamentary poll nomination.

Several opinion polls have shown that

AAP could win as many as six of the seven parliamentary seats in Delhi.

Binny said though the party during the election campaign had promised to provide 700 litres of free water to each household, the government "very cleverly" announced that those exceeding the limit will have to pay for the full amount.

He said forming the government by taking support of Congress was a "compromise of the party's principles".

Rubbishing the MLA's criticism, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had yesterday said Binny had come to him for ministership and later he wanted to contest the Lok Sabha polls.

The MLA termed as "complete lie" Kejriwal's statement that he was seeking a Lok Sabha election nomination. He threatened to go on a hunger strike if AAP fails to fulfil its promises by January 27.

Regarding AAP's opposition to FDI in retail, Capt Gopinath, founder of now-defunct Air Deccan, said this would send a "wrong message" to investors about India's economic prospects.

Asked if he would quit AAP, Gopinath said "of course not. I admired them and I still do. But I don't have to agree on everything".



Russian majority MPs argue with pro-EU opposition MPs during a parliament session to debate the 2014 state budget in Kiev, yesterday. The Ukrainian government approved a programme of cooperation with former Soviet states that have joined the Customs Union, although rapprochement with the Russia-led bloc has fuelled continuing pro-Europe protests in Kiev.

PHOTO: AFP

Crisis-hit Cambodia at a 'crossroads': UN

AFP, Phnom Penh

Cambodia stands at "a crucial crossroads" following a bloody crackdown by security forces on street protests, a UN envoy said yesterday, urging political leaders to restart negotiations.

Surya Subedi, the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Cambodia, said politicians on both sides of the kingdom's deep political divide should "embrace change".

"It is imperative for the leaders to overcome the mistrust and immediately return to the negotiating table without further delay," he told reporters during a fact-finding visit to the country.

Prime Minister Hun Sen has faced accusations of excessive force against striking garment factory workers seeking higher wages as well as opposition demonstrators who allege vote-rigging in elections last July.

Earlier this month police opened fire on striking garment factory employees demanding a minimum wage of \$160 per month for their work in an industry which supplies brands including Gap, Nike and H&M, killing at least four civilians.

Security personnel armed with shields and batons also chased opposition protesters—including monks, women and children—from their rally base in a park in Phnom Penh.

"The challenge for the current political leadership within both of the main political parties is to embrace change and to find a way to manage it in the best interests of the country," Subedi said.



Musharraf seeks treatment in US

AFP, Islamabad

Lawyers for former Pakistani military ruler Pervez Musharraf yesterday told a local court hearing treason charges against him that the retired general needed medical treatment in the United States.

Musharraf is currently in a military hospital with a heart condition, after falling ill while travelling to the special treason tribunal on January 2.

The 70-year-old has yet to appear in person before the three-judge panel and speculation is rife that he will escape trial by leaving the country for treatment.

"We have attached a letter with the documents from the doctors of a heart clinic in Texas and they have recommended that he should be shifted to that clinic for further treatment," lawyer Mansoor Ali Khan told the tribunal.

Doctors at the Armed Forces Institute of Cardiology, where Musharraf is being treated, have diagnosed him with coronary artery disease and his lawyers have suggested he should be treated abroad.

In a written ruling, the court ordered a special medical board to be set up to examine Musharraf's condition and submit a report on January 24. The case was adjourned to today.

Devyani seeks dismissal of charges, return to US

CNN ONLINE

The Indian diplomat whose arrest and strip search in New York City ignited a diplomatic spat between nations has filed a motion seeking the dismissal of the charges, her attorney said Wednesday.

The diplomat, Devyani Khobragade, left the US last week amid federal charges that she lied on a visa application for her housekeeper. A dismissal of the charges against her would allow her to reenter the United States, where her husband and two daughters reside, said her attorney, Daniel Arshack. A hearing is set for January 31.

A motion filed in federal court Tuesday asked that the case be thrown out, saying

the court "does not have jurisdiction over the Defendant due to the Defendant's diplomatic status which provides her absolute immunity from criminal prosecution in the United States.

Khobragade told CNN, through an intermediary, that the charges against her "are false and baseless."

"I look forward to demonstrating that to all of you," she said through the intermediary.

Khobragade "affirmed her determination to ensure that the episode would not leave a lasting impact on her family, in particular, her children, who are still in the United States," the Indian Ministry of External Affairs said.

New Delhi is demanding that Washington apologize and have the



DANISH GANG-RAPE

Delhi police hunt for more suspects

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police carried out raids across New Delhi yesterday as they hunted for a further five men wanted over the gang-rape of a Danish tourist -- travelling alone -- which has put the country's record on sexual violence back in the spotlight.

Police announced the arrest of two homeless men late on Wednesday who are suspected of taking part in the assault and robbery of the 51-year-old victim on Tuesday.

A third suspect aged 23 was arrested yesterday, police spokesman Rajan Bhagat told AFP, after raids at various locations in the Indian capital. The duo arrested on Wednesday appeared in a city court yesterday afternoon where they were remanded in custody for three days, the PTI

India key 'strategic partner', says Putin

THE HINDU ONLINE

President Vladimir Putin hailed India as Russia's "unqualified strategic partner" and a top foreign policy priority for Moscow.

"Cooperation with India, our unqualified strategic partner, is a foreign policy priority for Russia," Putin said after accepting credentials from India's new Ambassador to Russia P. S. Raghavan and 17 other envoys in the Kremlin yesterday.

Putin said Russia and India are engaged in "dynamic and constructive dialogue" based on "shared long-term interests, mutual sympathies and sincere trust." He pointed out that following his talks with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in Moscow in October 2013, the two countries approved "joint programmes in science, biotechnology and innovation" and "concrete plans to expand our military-technical cooperation." PS Raghavan, with his university degree in science and engineering and a four-year stint as joint secretary in the PMO overlooking atomic energy, space and defence, is well-positioned to follow through on Putin's emphasis on science and defence in Indo-Russian cooperation.

There are a number of other challenges Raghavan will face during his stint in Moscow.

His immediate tasks will include sorting out the nuclear liability issue that stalled the construction of Units 3 and 4 at the Kudankulam power plant; setting the ball rolling on talks for a Free Trade Agreement between India and the Russia-led Customs Union and expanding India's foothold in the Russian oil and gas sector beyond Sakhalin-1.



Military Engineer Services

Directorate of Works & Chief Engineer (Army)

Invitation for Tenders

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Ministry/Division | : Ministry of Defence. |
| 2. Agency | : Military Engineer Services. |
| 3. Procuring entity name | : DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt. |
| 4. Tender name | : Construction of 1 X 104 Followers Qtr (14 storey with 14 storied foundation, 8 flat in each floor, other facilities in ground floor) including ancillary works for Sta HQ at Shaheed Mostafa Kamal Line Area, Dhaka Cantt (Last Phase) |
| 5. Invitation for Tender No. | : 52 of 2013-2014/E-6 Dated 09 January 2014. |
| 6. Procurement method | : Open Tendering Method. |
| 7. Source of funds | : GoB. |
| 8. Tender publication date | : 18 January 2014. |
| 9. Tender last selling date | : 16 February 2014 up to 1430 hours. |
| 10. Tender submission date & time | : 17 February 2014, 1200 hours. |
| 11. Tender opening date & time | : 17 February 2014, 1230 hours. |
| 12. Name & address of the office(s) | : a. Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE(A) Project, Dhaka Cantt.
b. DW & CE (Army), Dhaka Cantt. |
| -Selling tender documents | : Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE(A) Project, Dhaka Cantt. |
| -Receiving tender documents | : Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE(A) Project, Dhaka Cantt. |
| -Opening tender documents | : Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE(A) Project, Dhaka Cantt. |
| 13. Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting | : Tender Selling & Information Centre of DW&CE(A) at GE(A) Project, Dhaka Cantt, 16 February 2014, 1000-1100 hours. |
| 14. Eligibility of tenderer | : a. Contractors enlisted in MES class 'A' & 'B'.
b. Contractors enlisted in other govt/semi-govt/autonomous organisations in similar capacity having necessary security clearance. |
| 15. Price of tender document | : Tk 14,000/- (non-refundable). |
| 16. Amount of tender security | : Tk 33,78,000/- |
| 17. Time of completion of wks | : 12 (twelve) months. |
| 18. Contact details | : Phone: 9832678, Mili: 2678
Fax: (02) 8752684
Website: www.army.mil.bd |
| 19. Special instructions | : a. Tenderer shall submit copy of letter of valid enlistment & security clearance with application on company letterhead when purchasing tender.
b. Detailed requirements are mentioned in Tender Data Sheet of tender documents.
c. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. |

ISPR/Army/2313

15/1/14

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DW & CE (Army)
Dhaka Cantt