NEWS IN brief

Uproar as Texas executes Mexican man

AFP, *Washington*

The state of Texas executed a Mexican man convicted of murder Wednesday despite a diplomatic outcry and pressure from the US federal government to further review his case. Edgar Tamayo Arias's case had sparked widespread protests as he was not advised of his right to receive consular assistance at the time of his arrest -- in violation of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

Gunmen kill five Egypt cops

AFP, *Cairo*

Masked gunmen on motorbikes killed five Egyptian policemen when they opened fire on a checkpoint south of Cairo yesterday, the interior ministry said. The ministry said two policemen were also wounded in the attack in the province of Beni Suef, which came two days ahead of the commemoration of the third anniversary of the 2011 uprising.

Sunanda's case shifted to crime branch

IANS, *New Delhi*

The mysterious death of Sunanda Pushkar, wife of Indian Union minister Shashi Tharoor, will be investigated by the Delhi Police crime branch, a top police official said yesterday. She was found dead under mysterious circumstances in her room in a south Delhi hotel on January 17.

Khodorkovsky partner to be freed in Russia

AFP, *Moscow*

The Russian Supreme Court yesterday ordered the immediate release of the jailed business partner of oil tycoon Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Platon Lebedev, whose term ends in May. However the court upheld the state's multibillion ruble tax claim against Khodorkovsky, who himself was released last month after receiving a pardon from President Vladimir Putin, the court's spokesman told AFP.

Iraq executes 11 more 'terrorism' convicts

AFP, *Baghdad*

Iraq executed 11 men convicted of charges related to "terrorism" yesterday, the justice ministry said, just days after another mass execution of 26 convicts. Executions in Iraq are typically carried out by hanging. On Sunday, 26 people were executed.

Morocco scraps abhorrent rape law

AFP, *Rabat*

Morocco on Wednesday scrapped a highly controversial law allowing rapists to escape punishment if they marry their victims, as rights activists pressed the government to legislate to protect women from violence. As in numerous other Arab countries, sexual harassment of women is commonplace in Morocco, despite the adoption of a new constitution in 2011 that enshrines gender equality and urges the state to promote it.

PHOTO: AFP

***Left and bottom right*, Thai anti-government protesters donate money to Thai protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban as he marches in the streets during ongoing rallies in Bangkok, yesterday. *Top right*, Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.**

PM CANDIDACY

Rahul to consider if party wins polls

PTI, *Amethi*

Amidst clamour among Congress workers that he should be named the prime ministerial candidate, Rahul Gandhi yesterday said he would definitely consider it if the party comes to power and the elected representatives select him for the post.

"In Congress, elected MPs select the PM. After elections if our party comes to power and the MPs select me then I will definitely consider it," Rahul told reporters on the second and last day of his two-day tour to his parliamentary constituency Amethi.

He was asked whether he would be ready to bear the responsibility of the top post.

Rahul said even Manmohan Singh was selected by the elected representatives as in Congress there is no system of selecting the PM candidate before polls.

"To select a PM is the right of the MPs and it should stay with them. Selecting a PM nominee before polls is not a democratic system, but part of personality cult," he said.

At the CWC meeting held recently, party chief Sonia Gandhi rejected demands by leaders from various states to anoint Rahul the PM candidate before elections, saying there has been no such tradition in the party.

Thai court defers polls decision

Protests continue defying emergency

THE GUARDIAN ONLINE

Thailand's constitutional court has deferred a ruling on whether a general election scheduled for 2 February can be postponed as protesters keep up pressure on the government to step down.

The prime minister, Yingluck Shinawatra, declared a 60-day state of emergency in Bangkok and surrounding areas from Wednesday, hoping to prevent an escalation in the protests now in their third month.

The election commission says the country is too volatile to hold a general election now and that technicalities mean it is bound to result in a parliament with too few MPs to form a quorum.

The government says the decree to hold the election on that date has been signed by the king and cannot be changed.

The protests are the latest eruption in a political conflict that has gripped the country for eight years. The emergency decree failed to clear the demonstrators, though the capital has been relatively calm this week.

Nine people have been killed in outbursts of violence.

A ruling in favour of the election commission would deepen Thailand's political quagmire.

The main opposition Democrat party says it will boycott the vote. Protest leader Suthep Thaugsuban, a former Democrat minister, wants democracy suspended so that a "people's council" can push through electoral and political changes.

So far the military, which has been involved in 18 actual or attempted coups in the past 81 years, has kept out of the fray. Police are charged with enforcing the state of emergency and are under orders from Yingluck to show restraint.

Army chief Prayuth Chan-ocha said this week his troops might have to play a bigger role if serious violence breaks out.

10,000 troops in Afghanistan, or none: US

AFP, *Washington*

US military leaders have proposed keeping 10,000 troops in Afghanistan after Nato's combat mission ends in December -- or else pull out all American forces, a US official said Wednesday.

The official said that the commander of the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan, General Joseph Dunford, presented the option last week to the White House, which is weighing the proposal.

"It's fair to say that the intelligence community, the State Department, the Pentagon, all believe that if we're going to have a footprint in Afghanistan after 2014, it should be about that number," said the official, referring to the 10,000 troop level.

"If that can't be, we also believe it would be most prudent to have nothing," the official told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The option being debated by the White House -- first reported by The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times -- also calls for a short stay for the proposed post-2014 force, which would be scaled back and withdrawn within two years, the official

'INDECENT' MID-NIGHT RAID

Kejriwal defiant as calls for minister's resignation grow

PTI, *New Delhi*

Aam Aadmi Party ruled any action against Somnath Bharti yesterday even as pressure mounted on chief minister Arvind Kejriwal for removal of the controversial law minister for allegedly leading a group of assaulters in a midnight raid in south Delhi last week.

Notwithstanding growing chorus for Bharti's sacking from Congress, BJP and other quarters, Kejriwal "has not changed" his position on the issue and is unlikely to take any action against the minister before completion of a judicial probe into the case, sources said.

Hardening stand against Bharti, a Congress delegation met lieutenant governor Najeeb Jung on Thursday and asked him to direct the police to take immediate action against the minister as he was "not above law of the land".

"Delhi Police is not probing the case thoroughly. We have demanded the lieutenant governor to direct Delhi Police to proceed as per law in this case. The law minister is not above the law. Whatever legal action is to be taken, should be taken. The LG has assured us of a fair probe," DPCC chief Arvinder Singh Lovely, whose party is giving outside support to AAP government, told reporters after the meeting.

The chief minister also had a meeting with Jung in the morning, but when asked about it he said the Bharti issue was not discussed. "It was a routine meeting," he said.

The law minister was involved in a row with the police last week when they refused to raid a suspected drug and prostitution racket following which he allegedly led his supporters in forcing the women to give urine samples.

Three foreign women have till date recorded their statements before a magistrate, in which they have stated that Bharti, the MLA from Malviya Nagar, had barged into their house along with his supporters on the intervening night of January 15-16, according to court sources.

The woman, who has filed the latest application through advocate Rakesh Sherawat, has said the group had forcibly held her hands and took her out of the house along with her sisters who live with her.

Delhi Police has already registered a case on January 19 against unknown persons on a plea.

Justice sought after 70 yrs!

Family wants retrial to clear name of 14-yr-old black boy whom America sent to electric chair in 1944

THE INDEPENDENT ONLINE

George Stinney was only 14 when a court in South Carolina sentenced him to death in 1944. The youngest person to be executed in the US since the 19th century, the black teenager was a little over five feet tall, weighed 95lbs, and had to put a bible on the seat beneath him so that he could fit into the electric chair. His feet dangled some way above the floor.

Now, 70 years on, Stinney's family still insists he was innocent of the double murder of which he was convicted, and has asked a local judge to order a retrial and clear his name.

They and their supporters claim new evidence about the crime – and about the inadequate legal process that followed – suggest Stinney was the victim of a historic miscarriage of justice.

On 23 March 1944, two white girls – Betty Binnicker, 11, and Mary Thames, 7 – went out on their bicycles to look for wild flowers near Alcolu, a small mill town in segregated South Carolina.

Stinney's sister, Amie Ruffner, says she and George were grazing their family's cow close to the railway tracks that divided the town when the girls passed by.

Ruffner, who is now 77, recently told WLTX, a local news station: "They said, 'Could you tell us where we could find some maypops?' We said, 'No,' and they went on about their business."

They were the last people to see Binnicker and Thames alive. The

girls' bodies were found the following day in a nearby drainage ditch; both had suffered crushing blows to their skulls.

Police soon took George and his brother Johnnie in for questioning, though they later released Johnnie. "They took my brothers away and I never saw my mother laugh again," said Ruffner, who believes the authorities simply wanted a scapegoat for the murders.

Stinney was interrogated without his parents or a lawyer present. Police claimed he quickly confessed to the crime and that he had been motivated by a desire to have sex with Binnicker.

The 14-year-old's trial lasted less than three hours, during which time his defence lawyer presented not a shred of evidence, nor any witness testimony to help his case. The all-white jury arrived at its guilty verdict after only 10 minutes. He was swiftly sentenced to death.

Afterwards, a mob of white men arrived at the local jail to lynch Stinney, but he had already been transferred to the Columbia penitentiary some 50 miles away, where, a mere 84 days after the murders, he was escorted to the electric chair.

Now, Stinney's surviving family say their brother's confession was coerced, and that George was with the family at the time of the murders.

"South Carolina still recognises George Stinney as a murderer. We felt that something needed to be done about that," Matt Burgess, a lawyer acting for the Stinney family, told CNN.

"We think we have the opportunity here to make a difference and correct a wrong that's been there for 70 years."

A hearing to determine the future of the case began on Tuesday at the Sumter County Judicial Centre in South Carolina.

অর্থঋণ আদালত খুলনা

অর্থজারী মোকদ্দমা-১৯০/২০০৪
(অর্থ মামলা নং-৪৩/২০০৩ হইতে উদ্ভুত)

১। বাংলাদেশ ডেভেলপমেন্ট ব্যাংক লিঃ, (সাবেক শিল্প ব্যাংক), একটি ব্যাংকিং কোম্পানী যাহা রাষ্ট্রপতির আদেশ নং-১২৯/৭২ এর অধীনে প্রতিষ্ঠিত। যাহার প্রধান কার্য্যালয়-৮, রাজউক এভিনিউ, থানা-মতিঝিল, ঢাকা ও শাখা অফিস-২৫-২৬ কে,ডি,এ বানিজ্যিক এলাকা, আপার যশোর রোড, খুলনা।

.....ডিক্রীদার।

বনাম

১। মেসার্স সোহানা ইন্ডাঃ লিঃ বি ৫৯-৬০ বিসিক শিল্প এলাকা, শিরোমনি, খুলনা, ২। জনাব আব্দুর রাজ্জাক চৌধুরী, ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, মেসার্স সোহানা ইন্ডাষ্ট্রিজ লিঃ, চৌধুরী হাউজ মহেশ্বরপাশা দৌলতপুর খুলনা, ৩। মিসেস নূরজাহান চৌধুরী, স্বামী-আঃ মালেক চৌধুরী, পরিচালক, মেসার্স সোহানা ইন্ডাষ্ট্রিজ লিঃ, ১২, কালিচরণ সাহা রোড, ঢাকা, ৪। মিসেস সাহারা হক, স্বামী-কাজী মোজাম্মেল হক, পরিচালক, মেসার্স সোহানা ইন্ডাষ্ট্রিজ লিঃ, ১৬ বাহাদুরপুর, ফরিদাবাদ, ঢাকা।

.....দাইকগণ।

অর্থঋণ আদালত আইন, ২০০৩ এর ৩৩(৪) ধারা মতে

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাইতেছে যে, ডিক্রীদার পক্ষ কর্তৃক দায়েরকৃত উপরে বর্ণিত অর্থজারী মামলায় মূল অর্থ ঋণ মামলার ডিক্রীর টাকা, মামলার খরচ ও নির্ধারিত মুনাফা বাবদ ২,০৬,৭৮,২০৮.০০ (দুই কোটি ছয় লক্ষ আটাত্তর হাজার দুইশত আট) টাকা এবং উক্ত টাকা আদায়কাল পর্যন্ত ৮% হারে মুনাফা ও জারী মামলার খরচের টাকা আদায়ের নিমিত্তে দায়িকপক্ষের নিম্ন তফশীল বর্ণিত সম্পত্তি অর্থঋণ আদালত আইন, ২০০৩ এর ৩৩(৪) ধারা মতে নিলামে বিক্রয়ের আদেশ হইয়াছে। তদানুসারে, আগ্রহী নিলাম ক্রেতাদের নিকট হইতে তাহাদের নিজস্ব প্যাডে বা সাদা কাগজে স্পষ্ট অক্ষরে নিলাম ক্রেতার নাম, পিতা, মাতা, ক্ষেত্রমত স্বামীর নাম, ঠিকানা, এবং অংকে ও কথায় উদ্ধৃত দর উল্লেখপূর্বক স্বাক্ষরিত সীল ও মোহরকৃত টেন্ডার আহবান করা যাইতেছে। টেন্ডারের সহিত জামানত স্বরূপ অর্থঋণ আদালত, খুলনার অনুকূলে, উদ্ধৃত দর অনুর্দ্ধ ১০,০০,০০০/- (দশ লক্ষ) টাকা হইলে উহার ২০%, ১০,০০,০০০/- (দশ লক্ষ) টাকা হইতে অনুর্ধ্ব ৫০,০০,০০০/- (পঞ্চাশ লক্ষ) টাকা হইলে উহার ১৫% এবং ৫০,০০,০০০/- (পঞ্চাশ লক্ষ) টাকার অধিক হইলে উহার ১০% এর সমপরিমাণ টাকার ব্যাংক ড্রাফট বা পে-অর্ডারযুক্ত করিতে হইবে। টেন্ডার আগামী ইং ১৬/২/১৪ তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে রেজিস্ট্রীকৃত ডাকযোগে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর ঠিকানায় পৌঁছাইতে হইবে অথবা সরাসরি এই আদালতের এজলাস কক্ষে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাক্সে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। উক্ত দিবসে অপরাহ্ন ১২.০০ ঘটিকায় উপস্থিত দরদাতাগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) টেন্ডার খোলা হইবে। দাখিলকৃত টেন্ডারে উদ্ধৃত দর অস্বাভাবিকভাবে অপর্যাপ্ত বা কম প্রতীয়মান হইলে আদালত উহা বাতিল করিতে পারিবেন। আগ্রহী দরদাতাগণ ডিক্রীদার ব্যাংক শাখার সহিত যোগাযোগ করিয়া তফশীল সম্পত্তি পরিদর্শন করিতে পারিবেন। টেন্ডার গৃহীত হইলে উক্ত আইনের ৩৩ ধারার ২(খ) উপ-ধারায় বর্ণিত ৬০(ষাট) দিবসের মধ্যে নিলাম ক্রয়ের সমুদয় টাকা পরিশোধ করিতে হইবে। অন্যথায় জামানত বাজেয়াপ্ত হইবে। নিলাম ক্রয়কারীকে আদালতের মাধ্যমে দখল বুঝাইয়া দেওয়া হইবে।

"তপশীল"

১। জেলা-খুলনা, থানা-খানজাহান আলীর অন্তর্গত (সাবেক ফুলতলা) মৌজা-শ্যামগঞ্জ, প্লট নং-বি ৫৯/৬০ ব্লক নং-বি-টাইপ জমির পরিমাণ ১৮.০০০ বর্গফুট উক্ত সম্পত্তির উপর প্রতিষ্ঠিত ইমারতাদি সমুদয় যন্ত্রপাতি, বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জামাদি আসবাবপত্র ইত্যাদি বিদ্যমান এবং পরবর্তীতে নির্মিতব্য ইমারতাদি এবং যন্ত্রপাতি ইত্যাদি।

২। জেলা-খুলনা, থানা-দৌলতপুর, মৌজা-মহেশ্বরপাশা, জে,এল নং-৪ খতিয়ান নং-১৭৩৭ (সাবেক), ১৪০২ (হাল), দাগ নং-১৯৯৮, ২০০০, ১৯৯৯, জমির পরিমান-.৩৭ শতাংশ। উক্ত জমির উপর প্রতিষ্ঠিত ইমারাতাদি সমুদয় বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জামাদী আসবাবপত্র ইত্যাদি বিদ্যমান এবং পরবর্তীতে নির্মিতব্য ইমারাতাদি।

৩। জেলা-খুলনা, থানা-দৌলতপুর, মৌজা-মহেশ্বরপাশা, খতিয়ান নং-৩১৫৬ (সাবেক), ২৪৬৭ (হাল) এবং ৫২৭ (সাবেক) ৫২৩/১ হাল দাগ নং-২০৪৭, ১৯৯৭ এবং ১৯৯৮ জমির পরিমান .৭৮ শতাংশ উক্ত জমির উপর প্রতিষ্ঠিত ইমারাতাদি সমুদয় বৈদ্যুতিক সরঞ্জামাদী আসবাবপত্র ইত্যাদি বিদ্যমান এবং পরবর্তীতে নির্মিতব্য ইমারাতাদি।

(শাহানাজ সুলতানা)
জজ
অর্থ ঋণ আদালত, খুলনা।

স্মারক নং-৬ তারিখ ঃ ৭/১/১৪
আদেশ নং ৭১. তারিখ- ৬/১/১৪

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

হিসাব মহানিয়ন্ত্রকের কার্যালয়
সচিবালয় ভবন (৩য় ফেজ)
সেগুনবাগিচা, ঢাকা-১০০০

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ভ্রম সংশোধন

গত ২৩/১/২০১৪ তারিখে অত্র পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিটির সর্টার ও দপ্তরী পদের প্রার্থীদের মৌখিক পরীক্ষার সময়সূচি নিম্নরূপ পড়িতে হইবে। অন্যান্য সকল বিষয় অপরিবর্তিত থাকিবে।

তারিখ	পদের নাম	যে সকল বিভাগের প্রার্থীদের পরীক্ষা নেয়া হবে
১০/০২/২০১৪	সর্টার	ঢাকা বিভাগের সকল প্রার্থী
১১/০২/২০১৪	সর্টার	চট্টগ্রাম, বরিশাল ও সিলেট বিভাগের সকল প্রার্থী
১২/০২/২০১৪	সর্টার	রাজশাহী, রংপুর ও খুলনা বিভাগের সকল প্রার্থী
১৩/০২/২০১৪	দপ্তরী	সকল বিভাগের প্রার্থী

জিডি-৩৫৪

Counter-terror funds used for gifts!

AFP, *Islamabad*

Pakistani officials used a secret counter-terrorism fund to buy wedding gifts, luxury carpets and gold jewellery for relatives of ministers and visiting dignitaries, according to documents seen by AFP.

The revelations cast a spotlight on high-level corruption in Pakistan as the impoverished but nuclear-armed country battles a surge in Taliban violence.

They concern the National Crisis Management Cell (NCMC) of Pakistan's interior ministry, formed in 2000 to coordinate between the country's intelligence agencies and federal and provincial governments on national security matters.

The US and other Western countries have poured billions of dollars into Pakistan since the 9/11 attacks of 2001 to help in its fight against Taliban and Al-Qaeda linked militants.

Many of the documents deal with payments to intelligence sources, routine maintenance of vehicles and overtime for employees. But the files also include receipts for gifts for US and British embassy officials, as well as flowers and sweets for journalists.

One receipt for 70,000 rupees ($700) is itemised as a "Pair of wrist watches for marriage of nephew of minister for interior".

The documents show that on a trip to Rome for an Interpol conference in November 2012, the interior minister Rehman Malik took a necklace, wooden tables and a TouchMate