

NEWS IN brief

**Nepal cops fire teargas at charter protesters**  
AFP, Kathmandu

Nepalese police yesterday fired teargas and water cannon at thousands of opposition supporters who converged on the capital to protest controversial plans to vote on a disputed new national constitution. As anger mounts over the planned vote, protesters threw bricks and stones in brief clashes with security forces who responded with about 20 rounds of teargas, police and an AFP reporter on the scene said.

**US boy, 3, shoots himself dead**  
AFP, Washington

A three-year-old Texas boy died after accidentally shooting himself in the head at home on Friday, US media said. The little boy, who was home in Houston with his mother and brother at the time, was rushed by helicopter to a hospital in critical condition but later died, said the NBC news station KPRC.

**Drone raid kills three Qaeda men in Yemen**  
AFP, Aden

A drone strike yesterday killed three Al-Qaeda militants in Yemen, a tribal source said, in a region where the United States is the only country operating the unmanned aircraft. The raid "targeted a vehicle in which three members of Al-Qaeda were riding in the village of Bijan, in Shabwa province," the source said.

**Mexico nabs Knights Templar cartel leader**  
AFP, Mexico City

Mexico's most wanted drug lord Servando Gomez, whose Knights Templar cartel smuggled drugs to the US and iron ore to China, was finally captured Friday, without a shot fired. The former teacher nicknamed "La Tuta" was detained by federal police as he left a house in Morelia, officials said.

**1b at risk of hearing loss from loud music**  
AFP, Geneva

More than one billion young people risk damaging their hearing through listening to loud music, the World Health Organization said on Friday. The WHO estimates that around half of those between the ages of 12 and 35 in middle- and high-income countries are at risk due to unsafe levels of sound on personal audio devices.



**Maldives police arrest an opposition supporter during a protest rally to protest the detention of former President Mohamed Nasheed in Male on Friday. Maldives police said yesterday they arrested 31 supporters of former president Mohamed Nasheed during a mass rally in the honeymoon islands' capital to protest his detention on terror charges.**

PHOTO: AFP

**IRAN NUKE DEAL**  
**US sets 'bottom lines'**

AFP, Washington

The United States on Friday set out what it called its "bottom lines" to reach a deal with Iran to rein in its nuclear program, ahead of new talks next week.

Washington had stuck to its guns that it wanted a "good deal" and had agreed to several extensions of the negotiations "because we have held firm to certain bottom lines," a senior US administration official said.

US Secretary of State John Kerry will leave at the weekend for Switzerland, where he will meet once again with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif.

The pace and intensity of the talks have sped up as global powers gathered under the P5+1 group have been seeking a deal with Iran to stop it acquiring a nuclear weapon -- something Tehran denies trying to do.

A March 31 deadline for a political framework for the deal is looming with negotiators saying they will aim to pin down the final technical details by June 30.

While US officials cautioned that there were no guarantees a deal would be reached, they said "the negotiations have advanced substantially, gaps have narrowed."

**BOTTOM LINES FOR IRAN**

- Should not be allowed to develop weapons-grade plutonium.
- Should not use its Fordo nuclear plant to enrich uranium.
- Any deal must ensure that it would take a year to gather enough fissile material to make a bomb.
- Would "reduce significantly" its current number of operating centrifuges.
- Must agree to unprecedented inspections.

The officials were talking only days ahead of a controversial visit to Washington by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has vehemently opposed a nuclear deal with Iran.

Netanyahu is due to address the US Congress on Tuesday on why he believes the Iran deal is a bad move, despite opposition from the White House which sees it as interference ahead of Israel's elections later in March.

**MISSING PERSONS**  
**Hearing starts in Sri Lanka**

TIME OF INDIA ONLINE

Sri Lanka yesterday began a three-day hearing on missing persons cases amid protests by Tamil groups who are demanding a credible investigation into such issues.

The presidential commission investigating cases of missing persons has started its hearing in the country's eastern Trincomalee province.

"The relatives of those who have forcibly disappeared are tired of going before various mechanisms set up by the government of Sri Lanka from time to time," Tamil Civil Society Forum said in a letter to the commission.

The CSF said that the commission's line of questioning of the relatives is wrong, and designed to probe people's socio economic conditions than helping to find the missing relatives.

**India raises defence budget modestly**

*Moves to narrow military gap with China*

REUTERS, New Delhi

India yesterday announced a modest 7.9 percent increase in defence spending for the fiscal year starting 01 April, suggesting that it will move only gradually with the military's long wish list for fighter jets, ships and artillery.

After years of neglect, India is trying to narrow the military gap with China, which has been building up its fleet of ships and submarines making forays in the Indian Ocean.

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, unveiling the federal budget for 2015/16, said defence spending will rise to 2.47 trillion Indian rupees (\$40.07 billion). For the current fiscal year, the allocation was 2.29 trillion rupees, a jump of 12 percent over the previous year.

"Defence of every inch of our land is above everything else," Jaitley said.

But the limited rise in the military budget - three-quarters of which is spent on maintaining the world's third largest standing force - means only some new weapons will be ordered this year.

Gurmeet Kanwal, a retired brigadier and

fellows at the Vivekananda International Foundation, a New Delhi think tank with ties to the government, said the state has to make initial downpayments for a range of pending orders.

He listed them as 126 fighter aircraft from Dassault, 197 light helicopters, 145 Ultra-light Howitzers, 15 Apache attack helicopters and 22 CH-47F Chinook medium lift helicopters.

The navy needs new submarines and stealth ships to counter the Chinese presence in the Indian Ocean, which New Delhi has long seen as its sphere of influence.

China is expected to authorise robust 2015 defence spending this coming week despite its slowing economy, largely to beef up the navy with anti-submarine ships and develop more aircraft carriers beyond the sole vessel in operation.

Last year, the two giant neighbours were locked in a stand-off on their disputed Himalayan border that cast a shadow on President Xi Jinping's first summit meeting with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

But economic ties have rapidly expanded between the two countries and Modi is expected to visit China later in 2015.



*Afghanistan's first female taxi driver braves all odds*

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

At first glance, the Toyota Corolla looked like any other taxi bumping along the craggy street. In the back seat, three women wore blue burkas that covered their faces and bodies. In the front passenger seat, a bearded man sat stone-faced. The radio piped out a soulful Afghan song.

But the person behind the steering wheel - with coal-black hair, round face and purple scarf - has made taxi No. 12925 a revolution of sorts. Sara Bahayi is Afghanistan's first female taxi driver in recent memory, and she is believed to be the only one actively working in the coun-

try. She's 38, unmarried and outspoken. And in a highly patriarchal society, where women are considered second-class citizens and often abused, Bahayi is brazenly upending gender roles.

Every day, she plies her trade in a business ruled by conservative men. She endures contending looks, outright jeers, even threats to her life. Most men will not enter her taxi, believing that a woman should never drive for a man.

Yet she earns \$10 to \$20 a day, enough to provide for her 15 relatives, including her ailing mother. She relies on ferrying women shackled by traditions and fear, who vicariously live their dreams of freedom through her.



**PUBALI BANK LIMITED**  
Registered Office: 26, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000

**PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION**

This is for information to all concerned that the Board of Directors of Pubali Bank Limited in its 1015<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at 5.00 p.m. considered and approved the Audited Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended December 31, 2014 and took the following decisions in connection with holding of **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM)**:

- i) Date and Time of 32<sup>nd</sup> AGM : Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 9.00 a.m.
- ii) Venue : PSC Convention Hall, Police Staff College, Mirpur-14, Dhaka.
- iii) Record Date : March 10, 2015.
- iv) Dividend Recommended : 10% Cash Dividend (Subject to approval of the Shareholders in the 32<sup>nd</sup> AGM)
- v) **Net Asset Value (NAV)**
  - (i) Consolidated : Tk. 2213,06,95,678.00
  - (ii) Solo : Tk. 2285,93,77,335.00
- vi) **Net Asset Value Per Share**
  - (i) Consolidated : Tk. 25.14
  - (ii) Solo : Tk. 25.97
- vii) **Earning Per Share (EPS)**
  - (i) Consolidated : Tk. 3.54
  - (ii) Solo : Tk. 3.49
- viii) **Net Operating Cash Flow Per Share**
  - (i) Consolidated : Tk. 3.28
  - (ii) Solo : Tk. 3.06

By order of the Board  
Sd/-  
**Md. Sayeed Sikder**  
General Manager &  
Company Secretary

Dated: Dhaka  
February 28, 2015

**PUBALI BANK LIMITED**  
Registered Office  
26, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

**Notice of the 32<sup>nd</sup> (Thirty Second) AGM of Pubali Bank Limited**

Notice is hereby given that the 32<sup>nd</sup> (Thirty Second) Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Pubali Bank Limited will be held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at PSC Convention Hall, Police Staff College, Mirpur-14, Dhaka for transacting the following businesses:

1. To receive, consider and adopt the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 and Reports of the Directors and Auditors thereon.
2. To declare Dividend for the year ended on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 as recommended by the Board of Directors.
3. To re-appoint Auditor(s) of the Company for the year 2015 and to fix their remuneration.
4. To elect Directors.

All the honourable Shareholders of the Bank are requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the Meeting in time.

By order of the Board of Directors  
sd/-  
**Md. Sayeed Sikder**  
General Manager &  
Company Secretary

Dated: Dhaka  
February 28, 2015

**Notes:**

- a) The "Record Date" of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) is 10.03.2015.
- b) The Shareholders whose name would appear in the CDS/Register of Members of the Company on the Record Date shall be entitled to the dividend and attend the AGM.
- c) A member eligible to attend at the Annual General Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend on his/her behalf. Power of Attorney/Proxy forms must be submitted to the Share Department (26, Dilkusha C/A, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor), Head Office, Dhaka of the Company at least 48 (forty eight) hours before the Meeting i.e. 9.00 a.m. on 29.03.2015. Revenue Stamp of Tk.20/- (Taka Twenty) only shall have to be affixed on the proxy form.
- d) Shareholders and proxies are requested to record their entry well in time.
- e) The last date of submission of nomination paper at the Registered Office for election of Directors is 16.03.2015 upto 5.00 p.m. Scrutiny of nomination papers will be completed on 18.03.2015 and the list of eligible candidates will be hung at notice board by 4:00 p.m. on 18.03.2015. Last date of withdrawal of nomination paper is 19.03.2015 upto 5.00 p.m.
- f) List of final candidates for election of Directors will be hung in the Notice Board at the Registered Office of the Company on 19.03.2015 after 5.00 p.m.
- g) Election procedures and rules thereto are available at the Registered Office of the Company.
- h) The honourable Shareholders may collect Proxy & Nomination forms from the Share Department of the Company and also download from Bank's website ([www.pubalibangla.com](http://www.pubalibangla.com)). Attendance slip may be collected from the Bank's Head Office or from the meeting venue.
- i) Annual Report and Balance sheet alongwith Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 will be available at the Bank's website ([www.pubalibangla.com](http://www.pubalibangla.com)) from 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 to till next AGM.
- j) Entry is reserved only for the honourable Shareholders and Proxies/Attorneys. Attendance slip (duly signed) must be submitted to the Registration Counter at the time of entrance. Registration Counter shall be opened at 6:30 a.m. and remain open up to 9:00 a.m.
- k) **Honorable Shareholders are requested to update Mailing Address, Bank Account no., Branch Routing no., Signature and other related information of their BO Account before record date.**

**Payment of Dividend:**

- Cash Dividend amount will be credited to the respective account of the shareholder through BEFTN.
- **No gift or benefit in cash or kind shall be paid/offered to the Shareholders in the 32<sup>nd</sup> AGM as per BSEC Directive No.SEC/CMRRCD/2009-193/154 dated 24.10.2013.**