

NEWS IN brief

Rogue Afghan cop kills five colleagues

AFP, Kandahar
A rogue Afghan policeman drugged his colleagues before shooting five of them dead, officials said yesterday, the latest in a series of "insider attacks" which have blighted pro-government forces battling the Taliban. The incident took place Wednesday night at a checkpoint where 13 policemen were posted in southern Kandahar province, scene of some of the heaviest fighting between the Western-backed government and the Taliban in recent years.

Thai 'Red Shirts' to reject army charter

AFP, Bangkok
Thailand's pro-democracy "Red Shirt" movement will vote against a new junta-scripted charter in a looming referendum, their leader said yesterday. The political play comes a day after the military, which seized power two years ago from a civilian government, said it will hold a plebiscite on their proposed charter in July. The Red Shirts support toppled premiers Yingluck Shinawatra and her brother Thaksin.

'PKK attacks' Turkey pro-govt dailies

AFP, Istanbul
Suspected militants from the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) attacked the offices of two strongly pro-government Turkish newspapers, throwing Molotov cocktails and opening fire on their editorial headquarters, reports said yesterday. A group of five masked assailants hurled Molotov cocktails at the entrance of the offices of Yeni Safak daily in Istanbul before opening fire on the building with rifles late Wednesday.

70 injured as Egypt train derailed

AFP, Cairo
At least 70 people were injured in Egypt yesterday when a passenger train derailed and two of its cars overturned, the health ministry said. The accident occurred in Bani Sueif province south of Cairo as the train was headed to the Egyptian capital from the temple city of Luxor. "Fifty-eight people were treated for their injuries and discharged, while the rest are under observation in hospital," the ministry said.

Qatar, Pakistan sign \$16b gas deal

AFP, Doha
Qatar signed a long-term deal with Pakistan on Wednesday to export liquefied natural gas, according to state media in the Gulf. The deal will see Qatar export up to 3.75 million tonnes of liquefied natural gas a year, according to Pakistan's petroleum minister, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. This represents around 20 percent of the south Asian country's gas requirements.

Pak girls feel domestic violence justified: UN

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK
A report carried out by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has revealed that troublingly, more than half of all teenage girls in Pakistan believe that domestic violence is justified for at least one reason.



Refusing sex was just one of the reasons girls aged between 15 and 19 believed a husband would be justified in beating his wife, while more than 30 percent of girls of the same age had already experienced physical or sexual violence in Pakistan.

The report, entitled "Sexual and Reproductive Health of Young People in Asia and the Pacific", also included data from Cambodia, India, Bangladesh and

Nepal which revealed similar attitudes about violence against women among teenage boys, the Express Tribune reported. Between 25 and 51 percent said that wife beating was justified. It was discovered that factors such as low education, unemployment and family history of violence were linked to acceptance of violence in the home.

Pakistan was also revealed as one of the countries where the greatest number of adolescents aged between 10 and 19 live with HIV. India (120,000) has the largest population of HIV-positive adolescents followed by Indonesia (46,000), Thailand (11,000), Myanmar (7,700), Pakistan (7,000), Cambodia (3,500), Iran (3,200), Viet Nam (2,600) and Nepal (1,200).



Iranians hold an anti-US demonstration during celebrations in Tehran's Azadi Square (Freedom Square) to mark the 37th anniversary of the Islamic revolution, yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

REFUGEE CAMP SUICIDE ATTACKS

58 killed in Nigeria

AFP, Maiduguri

Two female suicide bombers killed at least 58 at a camp for people made homeless by Boko Haram's Islamist insurgency in northeast Nigeria, emergency services said on Wednesday, in the latest violence to hit the remote region.

The attack happened in Dikwa, some 90 kilometres from the Borno state capital, Maiduguri, on Tuesday morning and is believed to be a reprisal for a military strike on Boko Haram strongholds in the area last week.

It will again raise security fears about the safety of internally displaced people (IDPs) and put pressure on the government, which maintains it has the upper hand against the insurgents and is pushing for the return of civilians caught up in the violence.

Nigeria's Vice-President Yemi Osinbajo, deputising for President Muhammadu Buhari who has been on holiday, described it as "regrettable that the heartless terrorists chose to unleash their wickedness on people who were taking refuge from previous acts of destruction in their homes".

He promised those behind the attack would be hunted down and ordered that "formidable security in and around the IDP camps in the country be beefed up and renewed measures put in place to guard against future occurrences".

The head of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency, Satomi Ahmed, earlier told AFP 35 bodies were recovered from the camp, which houses some 53,600 people, with 78 injured. He later said the other dead had been buried locally, leading to the revised toll.

He said three suicide bombers came to the camps but two detonated their explosive belts. The third one refused to set off hers when she realised her parents and siblings were in the camp. She surrendered herself to the authorities, he added.

The camp in Dikwa is currently home to people from six local government areas in Borno: Dikwa itself, Gamboru Ngala, on the border with Cameroon, and the towns of Marte, Kalabalge, Bama and Mafa.

Last week, the Nigerian military attacked three villages considered Boko Haram strongholds near Kalabalge, killing dozens of militant fighters and rescuing hundreds of women.

The women were largely from the Shuwa Arab tribe, who had been kidnapped, prompting the authorities to suspect the latest attack to be revenge for the military operation.

Boko Haram, which has increasingly used suicide and bomb attacks as the military pushes them out of territories it once controlled, has hit IDP camps before.

Odd-even rule back in Delhi

Scheme will be in force from April 15: Kejriwal

THE HINDU ONLINE

The Delhi Government's road rationing scheme will return in April, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced yesterday.

The 'odd-even' policy, which was first implemented for 15 days starting January 1, will be in force from April 15 to 30, Kejriwal said at a press conference here. Private vehicles with registration numbers ending in odd or even digits will be allowed to ply on odd and even numbered dates respectively.

Once again, women will be exempted from the restrictions, Kejriwal said. But, he added that the government was yet to deliberate on the other categories of commuters who were exempted last time. However, two-wheelers will continue to be exempted as the public transport in Delhi would not be able to take the load,

JOINT PATROLS IN S CHINA SEA

China warns US, India

REUTERS, Beijing

China yesterday responded to a Reuters report that the US and India are discussing joint naval patrols in the disputed South China Sea, warning that interference from countries outside the region threatens peace and stability.

"No cooperation between any countries should be directed at a third party," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said in an emailed statement to Reuters, in response to a request for comment on the report published on Wednesday.

"Countries from outside the area must stop pushing forward the militarisation of the South China Sea, cease endangering the sovereignty and national security of littoral countries in the name of 'freedom of navigation' and harming the peace and stability of the region."

The United States wants its regional allies and other Asian nations to adopt a more united stance against China over the South China Sea, where tension has spiked since China's construction of seven islands in the Spratly archipelago.

China lays claim to most of the South China Sea, while Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam have rival claims.

A US defence official told Reuters this week the United States and India had held talks about joint naval patrols that could include the South China Sea.

Hong urged caution. "We hope that the relevant parties speak and act with caution, refrain from intervening in the South China Sea issue, and especially avoid being manipulated by certain countries and ultimately harming their own interests."

China illustrates its claim to almost the entire South China Sea with a "nine-dashed line" on maps that loops far to the south, with sections far closer to the coasts of countries like the Philippines and Vietnam than to its shores.



India's 'miracle soldier' dies in Delhi hospital

NDTV ONLINE

Lance Naik Hanamanthappa Koppad, 33, died at Delhi's RR Hospital yesterday morning, four days after he was discovered alive in what has been described as a miraculous rescue from Siachen.

Hanamanthappa spent six days buried alive under 25 feet of ice at the Siachen glacier after an avalanche came crashing down on the military post at Sonam.

He was found in the fibre-reinforced hut that served as a base at 19,600 feet on the glacier. Lying next to him were the bodies of nine soldiers from his regiment.

He was flown to the military hospital in Delhi, where PM Modi had visited him on Tuesday, saying he brought "prayers from the entire nation."

Rescue workers endured gruelling conditions for a courageous and tireless effort to find the 10 soldiers who went missing after the massive avalanche ripped over the post on February 3 in Siachen, known for its unforgiving environment.

The soldiers had been declared dead by the army and the government, partly why the discovery of Lance Naik Hanamanthappa, who survived in an air pocket created under the ice, was dubbed "the Siachen miracle".

Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar and the three service chiefs paid tribute to Lance Naik Hanamanthappa at the ceremony. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal is headed to Brar Square too to pay homage.

Hanamanthappa is survived by his wife, Mahadevi Ashok Bilebal,



India schools shut over leopard fears

BBC ONLINE

More than 100 schools have been closed in Bangalore after reports that another leopard was sighted on the outskirts of the Indian city.

Residents were asked to stay indoors and police and forest officials were trying to track the elusive cat. A male leopard entered a city school on Sunday and injured six people who tried to capture it.

A scientist and a forestry employee were among those mauled during the 10-hour-long effort to corner the animal. The latest sighting was reported by a construction worker on Wednesday at Nallurhalli, near Whitefield area.

"We have formed teams of forest and police officials who are moving around the area but there is no sign of any leopard or its marks," Karnataka's chief wildlife warden Ravi Ralph said.

US Senator to block F-16 sale deal to Pakistan

PTI, Washington

Describing Pakistan's activities as "immensely problematic", a powerful Republican Senator has vowed to block the sale of eight F-16 fighter jets to the country that is acting as a "duplicious partner" and providing safe havens to terror groups.

In a letter to Secretary of State John Kerry, Senator Bob Corker said he couldn't allow the Obama administration to use taxpayer funds to support the sale of the jets, given that the terrorist organisations like Haqqani network that attack US troops in Afghanistan enjoy safe havens inside Pakistan, The Wall Street Journal said.

In the letter dated February 9, Corker said Pakistan's activities are "immensely problematic" and contribute to the notion that Pakistan is a "duplicious partner, moving sideways rather than forward in resolving regional challenges."

Corker shot off the angry letter to Kerry after his fifth trip to Afghanistan wherein he had a first-hand experience of the ground realities and attack on US troops from the terrorist organisations based in Pakistan.

The Senator wrote the letter to Kerry, the day on which the Secretary of State in his annual budget sent to the Congress proposed a financial assistance of \$859.8 million for Pakistan, including \$265 million for military hardware.

Another Republican lawmaker on Wednesday opposed the sale of F-16.



Indian bystanders watch as a wild elephant with a tranquiliser dart in its back side walks along a street in Siliguri on Wednesday. The adult male elephant was tranquilised and captured by wildlife officials and transported to a nearby forest. PHOTO: AFP

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD.
 (An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited through the national e-GP portal for the following procurement of works.

Tender ID	Name of the Tender	Closing date & time
29408	Procurement of Works related to Distribution Support Services (DSS) for NOCS Motijheel.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00
44175	Procurement of Works related to CSS for NOCS Bangshal.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00
46732	Procurement of Works related to CSS for NOCS Kazla.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00
46752	Procurement of Works related to CSS for NOCS Mugdapara.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00
46765	Procurement of Works related to CSS for NOCS Kamrangichar.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00
46767	Procurement of Works related to CSS for NOCS Maniknagar.	02/03/2016; 13:00:00

The interested persons/firms/organizations may visit website (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) to get the details.

These are online Tenders, where only e-Tender will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP portal is required.

Please note that an offline meeting will be held on 18/02/2016, 11:00 a.m. in the office of the undersigned.

Engr. Md. Sanaul Haque
 Superintending Engineer, Contract & Procurement Circle