

# NEWSIN brief

## Pak calls back envoy in India to discuss tensions

NDTV ONLINE

Pakistan has called back its High Commissioner in Delhi for a meeting after alleging that its diplomats and their families were "harassed and intimidated" in the capital. Islamabad said in a statement that it had called envoy Sohail Mahmood for "consultations" after "no positive action had been taken by India". The Indian government downplayed the move, calling it "routine".

## Malaysia to dissolve House at end of March

REUTERS, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia's parliament will be dissolved on March 28, 29 or 30, making way for general elections that must be held by August, The Star newspaper said yesterday without giving any sources for the report. It said a new government would be in place before mid-May, suggesting that the election date could be set for the end of April or early May.

## Afghan hostage shoots Taliban captors; 7 killed

AFP, Kabul

An Afghan man taken hostage by the Taliban made a dramatic escape by stealing a gun while his captors were praying and shooting dead seven of them and wounding 18 others, officials said yesterday. Awal Khan and a local police officer were kidnapped Wednesday as they were driving in the eastern province of Paktika, provincial deputy security chief Abdul Rauf Masood told AFP.

## Israel hits Hamas posts in Gaza Strip

AFP, Gaza City

Israel's military hit Hamas posts in the Gaza Strip yesterday after Palestinians set off two bombs near the border fence, the military said, with no casualties reported. Israel's military also said it suspected based on surveillance video there was "an attempt" to fire rocket-propelled grenades toward its forces, but nothing was hit.

## Japan Nobel winner's wife found dead in US

AFP, Chicago

A Japanese Nobel Prize-winner was hospitalized Wednesday and his wife was dead, reportedly after driving off a road in rural Illinois. Ei-ichi Negishi, 82, a chemist teaching at Purdue University in the neighboring state of Indiana, and his wife Sumire Negishi, 80, were reported missing Monday. Police found them early Tuesday morning about 200 miles northeast of their home.



People attend the Hungarian protest against the government at a rally organised by spoof Two-tailed Dog Party during Hungary's National Day celebrations, which also commemorates the 1848 Hungarian Revolution against the Habsburg monarchy, in Budapest, Hungary yesterday.

# 'Once hard ice melts'

## China's Xi offers encouragement for S Korea's initiative as North's foreign minister heads to Sweden

REUTERS, Seoul

China's President Xi Jinping offered encouragement for South Korea's initiative to nurture peaceful engagement with North Korea, and Russia also expressed support, the South Korean official leading diplomatic efforts said yesterday.

During the past week, National Security Office head Chung Eui-yong briefed officials in Beijing and Moscow following his dramatic success in arranging summits between the North Korean, South Korean and US leaders.

"Xi Jinping offered a Chinese phrase that says 'once hard ice melts, spring comes and flowers bloom' to describe the situation on the Korean peninsula and expressed his willingness to support the current situation," Chung told reporters on his return to Incheon International Airport.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un told the South Korean delegation led by Chung that he was open to addressing denuclearising with the United States, an offer that led to US President Trump agreeing to meet Kim for a summit expected to happen sometime in May.

There was growing speculation yesterday that Trump and

Kim will meet Sweden, after its foreign ministry announced North Korea's Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho was arriving imminently for two days of talks with his Swedish counterpart, Margot Wallstrom.

South Korean President Moon Jae-in is set to hold a summit with the North's Kim by the end of April.

### KOREAN PEACE TALKS

Speculation Sweden could host US-N Korea summit

Russia agrees to continue cooperation to uphold peace: South's official

The South's preparation committee for the inter-Korean summit, led by Moon's chief of staff Im Jong-seok, will hold its first official meeting today, presidential spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom told a briefing.

The flurry of diplomatic activity comes after a year-long verbal spat between Kim Jong Un and Trump, with tensions exacerbated by multiple missile and nuclear tests by the North which has said it will forge on with its nuclear programme to protect its regime.

"China and Russia agreed to continue cooperation to uphold the peace that has been created, as well as the momentum for stability through close communication," Chung said.

North Korea has friendly ties with both Beijing and Moscow, and China is by far its biggest trading partner.

## Taliban blast kills 7 people in Pakistan

REUTERS, Lahore

A suicide bomb blast claimed by the Taliban ripped through a police checkpoint on the outskirts of the Pakistani city of Lahore late Wednesday, killing seven people and wounding 18, officials said.

Jam Sajjad Hussain, spokesman of a state-run rescue service, told Reuters that his officials had taken seven dead bodies to hospitals.

"Our rescuers are at work," he said. "They have shifted so far seven bodies."

Deputy Inspector General of police Haider Ashraf said the bomb exploded when the police were changing guards at the checkpoint just outside an annual religious congregation in Raiwind, where nearly 80,000 people were in attendance.

"A suicide bomber riding a motorcycle attacked the police," Ashraf said. He said four of the dead were police.

A Pakistani Taliban spokesman Mohammad Khurasani claimed responsibility for the suicide attack in a WhatsApp message sent to a Reuters reporter.

Lahore is considered a cultural hub of the nuclear-armed nation of over 208 million people where Islamist militants have been fighting for over a decade.

## 2019 INDIA ELECTIONS

# Foes band together to challenge Modi

REUTERS, New Delhi

Small Indian parties are banding together against Prime Minister Narendra Modi for next year's general election, energised by an unlikely win in an election for a handful of parliamentary seats in the Hindi heartland on Wednesday.

Opposition strategists say the only way Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) juggernaut can be stopped is to join forces and turn 2019 into a "Modi versus the rest" election.

That strategy seemed to have paid off when two bickering caste-based factions worked together in the country's most politically important state, Uttar Pradesh in the north, to defeat Modi's party in two seats this week.

Mamata Banerjee, the chief of an opposition party in eastern India, called the Uttar Pradesh results, and victory for a regional party in another seat in neighbouring Bihar state, the "beginning of the end" for Modi's party.

The Nehru-Gandhi dynasty's Congress party, which ruled India for most of the seven decades after independence before being thumped by Modi in the last general election 2014, also seized on the latest setbacks for the BJP.

"The results from the by-polls make it clear that voters are

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee calls by-poll results in UP, Bihar states, the 'beginning of the end' for the BJP party



very angry at the BJP and that they will vote for that non-BJP candidate who has the best chance of winning," said Congress chief Rahul Gandhi.

Congress has started stitching together alliances and hosted a dinner for opposition parties this week.

Congress spokesman Randeep Singh Surjewala said it was ready to lead any alliance of regional groups and could discuss such plans in a party conference this weekend.

BJP leaders said they were caught off-guard by the alliance of the two regional parties, known as the BSP and SP in Uttar Pradesh.

### SELLING DREAMS

There is nobody close to Modi in personal approval ratings.

Nearly nine out of 10 Indians hold a favourable opinion of him, according to a research report published in November, and opposition victories in a handful of seats cannot be seen as an indication the mood is swinging away from Modi and the BJP nationally, analysts warn. nL3N1NM1UXJ

When Modi won office in 2014 with the most resounding victory in three decades, his party or its partners ruled only seven of India's 29 states.

Today, it is in power in 21 of them and has replaced Congress as the party with strongest nationwide presence.

But in by-elections in 10 parliamentary seats since last year, the BJP has lost all of them. That may be an indication an anti-incumbency factor will play a part in 2019.

Ghanshyam Tiwari, spokesman for the Samajwadi Party (SP) whose two candidates won this week's Uttar Pradesh by-elections, said the BJP had been winning new states by "selling dreams" to voters through glitzy advertisements.

Although Modi has been able to maintain his popularity, the BJP's ties with allies have been strained in recent months, and any more setbacks would likely raise new doubts.

"Modi's appeal is formidable but his enemies and allies would now think he's beatable," veteran journalist and political commentator Shekhar Gupta said on Twitter.



Indian children with physical disabilities take part in an event to remember the late British physicist at a school in Chennai yesterday. Renowned British physicist Stephen Hawking, whose mental genius and physical disability made him a household name and inspiration across the globe, died on Wednesday aged 76.

PHOTO: AFP

## Sri Lanka lifts Facebook ban

### President orders authorities to remove block after anti-Muslim riot ends

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka has lifted a week-long ban on Facebook after the tech giant agreed to step up efforts to remove hate speech posted on its platform, President Maithripala Sirisena said yesterday.

Sirisena said he ordered authorities to remove the block, imposed across the country during anti-Muslim riots last week that left three people dead after police said the social network was being used to fuel violence.

"My secretary has discussed with officials of Facebook, who have agreed that its platform will not be used for spreading hate speech and inciting violence," the president, who is currently touring Japan, said on Twitter.

Sirisena did not elaborate on what, if any, concrete commitments Facebook had made and there was no immediate comment from the social media giant. But on Wednesday the company said it was responding to Sri Lanka's concerns over incendiary material.

A state of emergency was declared and internet services suspended entirely in Kandy, the worst-hit central district, for several days last week as authorities sought to disrupt the riots, in which more than 200 Muslim-owned businesses and homes were destroyed.

Island-wide restrictions on image and video sharing on messaging apps WhatsApp and Viber were lifted on Wednesday.

Ministers had said Facebook would remain banned unless it assured Sri Lanka it would take quicker action over hate speech in future.



## ADMISSION NOTICE

Summer Semester 2018  
Master of Business Administration

Faculty of Business Studies  
Jahangirnagar University

★ Master of Business Administration (MBA) under EMBA Program

★ Major: ● Finance & Banking ● Marketing ● Accounting & Information Systems ● Human Resource Management

★ Written Examination Date: 06 April 2018 (Friday)  
Time: 10:00 A.M. Centre/Venue: Jahangirnagar University.

★ Successful candidates will be asked to appear for the viva-voce

★ Application fee is Tk. 1200/- (including service charge).

★ The application must be submitted through online from 12 March 2018 (12:01am) to 02 April 2018 (11:59pm)

★ For detailed application procedure, visit the website at [www.fbsju.edu.bd/admission](http://www.fbsju.edu.bd/admission)

**For further information, please contact:**  
EMBA Office  
Jahangirnagar University  
Phone: 7791045 - 51 (Ext 1671)  
Mobile: 01925063070 (Program Query)  
01841514151 (Technical/Application Query)

**Coordinator EMBA Program**  
Faculty of Business Studies  
Jahangirnagar University

**Eligibility for Application:**

- ★ Minimum Bachelor's (Hons.) Degree (any discipline) or Degree (pass) with Master Degree.
- ★ For all private university degrees/certificates, equivalence will be determined by Jahangirnagar University.
- ★ No 3rd Division/Class or CGPA below 2.5 (or equivalent) at Secondary/Higher secondary/Bachelor's level(s) of education.

**Consideration for Selection**

- ★ Score of written test & viva Performance
- ★ Full time managerial or executive level work experience
- ★ Academic achievements

**Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**  
National Malaria Elimination and ATD Control Program  
Disease Control Unit  
DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

Memo No. DGHS/DC/GFATM-MAL/Expert-2/2018/1982 Date: 14/03/2018

## Job Vacancy

Title, Reporting Structure and Location:	
Job Title:	Finance Manager.
Number of Vacancy:	01
Duration:	33 Month initial Contract as regular basis and renewable based on performance and availability of fund.
Location:	National Malaria Elimination and ATD Control Program Office, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.
Salary	As per project salary structure.
Age:	Above 35 years.
Supervisor:	Deputy Program Manager, Malaria, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.
<b>Job Profile:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparation of Program Budget and Work plan compliance with Global Fund guideline;</li><li>• Coordination with Procurement Coordinator in preparation of PSM plan of GFATM Grant;</li><li>• Execute, coordinate, review and monitor all financial activities of the GFATM Grant;</li><li>• Preparation of Progress Update, Disbursement Request and AFR using GF template;</li><li>• Coordinate with auditors in finalizing annual/periodic or any other audits of the project;</li><li>• Communicate and coordinate with Global Fund and Local Fund Agent regarding financial issues regularly;</li><li>• Preparation of all financial statements and reports using accounting software (Tally) ensuring the GFATM requirements are followed;</li><li>• Preparation of bank reconciliation statement and cash flow statement monthly, quarterly and yearly;</li><li>• Supervise activities carried out by Accountant;</li><li>• Undertake any other activities as assigned by the Director, DC and Line Director, CDC, and DPM, Malaria and ATD, DGHS and the Supervisor;</li><li>• Preparation of bank reconciliation statement and cash flow statement monthly, quarterly and yearly;</li><li>• Supervise activities carried out by Accounts Officer and Accounts Assistant;</li><li>• Undertake any other activities as assigned by the Director DC and Line Director, CDC, DGHS and the Supervisor.</li></ul>	
<b>Required Qualifications and Experience:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Masters/MBA in Accounting/Finance, Major (Finance/Accounting); ACA/ACMA will be given preference;</li><li>• At least 8 years of experience in relevant field; however experience may be relaxed for candidates who have financial management experience with GFATM grants;</li><li>• Experience in working with government will be an added advantage;</li><li>• E-communication skill for this position is essential;</li><li>• Ability to interpret rules laid down in the grant agreement;</li><li>• Competency in integrated software based accounting system with excellent knowledge in MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, MS Word.</li><li>• Good written, spoken communication skill in English is essential.</li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ There is no provision of TA and DA for interview</li><li>➤ Candidates serving under government and autonomous organization should apply through proper channel</li><li>➤ The interested candidates are requested to send an application via postal/courier with cover letter, 02 (two) PP size color photographs, copies of all academic and experience certificates (with attestation) to the following address: <b>Director, Disease Control, and Line Director, Communicable Disease Control (CDC), National Malaria Elimination and ATD Control Program, House No. 240, Road No. 17, Lake Road, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206 by 31 March, 2018.</b></li><li>➤ Incomplete application will be rejected</li><li>➤ The name of the post should be mentioned clearly on the top of the envelop</li><li>➤ Only short listed candidates will be called for interview.</li></ul>	

**Professor (Dr.) Sanya Tahmina**  
Director, Disease Control & Line Director, CDC  
DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

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