

NEWSIN brief

Lanka creates special courts for graft cases

REUTERS, Colombo

Sri Lankan parliament on Wednesday approved a new law to establish courts to handle cases related to bribery and corruption to speed up cases that have dragged on for years.

Currently, Sri Lanka's courts, which act as investigative magistrates weighing evidence before a trial can be started, can take up to five years before a defendant even reaches the dock.

"Parliament has responsibility over public money and all members have a right to take legal action against the people who wasted it," Justice Minister Thalatha Atukorale told parliament.

Apple steps back from Ireland data centre

AFP, Dublin

US tech giant Apple yesterday announced it had shelved plans to build an 850-million-euro (\$1.0-billion) data centre in Ireland over a court battle with conservationists seeking to preserve a forest. The company made the announcement in a statement.

Death toll in Kabul attacks rises to 10

AFP, Kabul

The death toll from apparent coordinated attacks on two Kabul police stations has risen to 10, the health ministry said yesterday, as the Afghan capital remains on edge in expectation of more violence. At least 23 people were also wounded in Wednesday's hours-long assaults in the city. The Taliban and IS group each claimed responsibility for one of the attacks. But Afghanistan's intelligence agency blamed the Taliban's Haqqani Network.

2014 TERROR ATTACK

Pak top judge orders first official probe

AFP, Peshawar

Pakistan's top judge has ordered the first official investigation into the country's deadliest terror attack, a massacre at a school that killed more than 150 people in 2014, authorities said yesterday.

Relatives of the victims -- mainly children -- have long called for an accounting of the security and intelligence failures that allowed Pakistani Taliban gunmen to storm the school, run by the powerful military, in the northwestern city of Peshawar on December 16 that year.

No government or military official has ever been held to account for the security failings. Criticism of Pakistan's powerful armed forces, especially their counter-insurgency operations, is largely seen as a red line in the country.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Mian Saqib Nisar ordered the formation of a judicial commission to examine the attack during a court hearing in Peshawar Wednesday, Abdul Latif Yousafzai, advocate general of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, told AFP.

The inquiry was set to be completed in two months, he added.



Palestinian escape from tear gas fired by Israeli security forces during a protest organised near the separation fence between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, ahead of commemorations marking the 70th anniversary of the Nakba yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

'My mother more Indian than many'

Says Rahul Gandhi on PM's digs at Sonia Gandhi's Italian origin

NDTV ONLINE

Winding down an intense campaign for the Karnataka election, Rahul Gandhi yesterday served a searing comeback to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's digs at his mother Sonia Gandhi's Italian origin, saying that she "is more Indian than many Indians I have seen".

The Congress president was addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on the last day of campaigning for the election on Saturday in Karnataka, one of the last major states ruled by the Congress.

NDTV asked the 47-year-old about the perceived "personal attacks" by PM Modi through the campaign, including a barb during an election rally challenging him to "speak for 15 minutes on the achievements of the Congress government - in Hindi, English or your mother's mother-tongue".

"My mother is Italian. She also lived a larger part of her life in India. She is more Indian than many, many Indians I see. She has sacrificed for this country, she has suffered for this country," said Rahul.

"It shows the quality of the prime minister when he makes these types of comments. It shows the quality of this man. And I'm happy to let him do so. If he enjoys himself, if he likes it, welcome. Have a nice day."



PEACE EFFORTS IN KOREAN PENINSULA

Summit set for Singapore

Trump says he will meet Kim on June 12 to discuss denuclearisation, welcomes three American prisoners freed by North Korea

AFP, Seoul

US President Donald Trump yesterday announced his historic summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will take place in Singapore on June 12.

"We will both try to make it a very special moment for World Peace!" Trump said in a tweeted announcement.

The location and date of the summit -- the first ever between a sitting US president and a North Korean leader -- were revealed hours after three American prisoners were released by North Korea and arrived back in the United States.

Officials said that step removed the last major obstacle to the nuclear-focused summit, providing Trump with tangible evidence that his policy of engagement was reaping rewards.

The small Southeast Asian city state

of Singapore has long acted as a bridge between the United States and China.

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un hailed the planned meeting with US President Donald Trump as a "historic



toric" opportunity during talks with America's top diplomat Mike Pompeo in Pyongyang, according to state media yesterday.

Kim, who is at the centre of a whirlwind of diplomacy as the international

community looks to curtail the North's nuclear programme, said his summit with Trump "would be a historic meeting" and an "excellent first step".

He said it would help towards improving the situation on the Korean peninsula and the "building of a good future", in comments published on North Korea's official KCNA news agency.

Kim said he had granted "amnesty" to the three men "who have been detained in the DPRK for their anti-DPRK hostilities", according to KCNA.

Meanwhile, Trump greeted three Americans released by North Korea at an air base near Washington early yesterday.

Trump and first lady Melania made the short helicopter ride from the White House to Joint Base Andrews to personally welcome Kim Hak-song, Tony Kim and Kim Dong-chul back to the United States, after their release.

Caught in crossfire, India to work around curbs

TNN, New Delhi

As the Iran nuclear deal lies in tatters after US President Donald Trump walked out on it, India finds itself back on familiar territory of having to stay engaged with Tehran despite a coming rash of US sanctions.

Playing safe, the India's Ministry of External Affairs said on Wednesday, "India has always maintained that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved peacefully through dialogue and diplomacy by respecting Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy as also the international community's strong interest in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme. All parties should engage constructively to address and resolve issues that have arisen with respect to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)."

India was one of the countries most relieved when the JCPOA was signed in

2015, with PM Narendra Modi describing it as a "triumph of diplomacy and sagacity". During Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's visit here earlier this year, a joint statement recorded India's support, describing the deal as a "crucial contribution to the non-proliferation framework and international peace, stability and security".

India came under intense US pressure from 2011 regarding its exposure to Iran and the Persian nation slipped from being India's top source for oil, replaced by Iraq and Saudi Arabia. In 2018, India promised to up its offtake of oil from Iran. This may be impacted.

During the first round of sanctions, India built an alternative system of engaging with Iran while keeping its nose clean with the US -- like using UCO Bank for payments. Those same processes will kick in this time too, officials said.

SCRAPPING OF IRAN NUKE DEAL
US sanctions could well lead to oil prices skyrocketing, which will hit India

41 killed in Kenya after dam collapse

2,000 people left homeless after weeks of heavy rains

AFP, Nairobi

At least 41 people died after a dam burst in central Kenya, police said yesterday, as residents described muddy waters ripping through their homes in what one survivor called "hell on earth".

After a severe drought, weeks of torrential rains in Kenya have led to flooding and mudslides that have left 172 dead.

The private Patel dam, used for irrigation and fish farming, burst its earthen banks on Wednesday evening in Solai, near the Rift Valley city of Nakuru, regional police chief Gideon Kibunjah told AFP.

The raging waters wiped out two villages, a local resident



said, while power lines were swept away, leaving many without electricity. The search for victims hampered by heavy rains yesterday afternoon.

More than 2,000 people are said to have been left homeless. "We have 41 people dead from this tragedy," Kibunjah said, adding 20 of them were children. He said the search for victims was still going on.

"It is a disaster because most people were asleep when the tragedy occurred and their houses were swept away."

He said 36 people had been hospitalised.

Survivor Ngugi Njoroge said he and his family had been having dinner when there was a "loud explosion of water that washed away our home."

REUTERS JOURNO CASE

Whistleblower details ops to Myanmar court

REUTERS, Yangon

A Myanmar policeman now serving a prison sentence gave more details to a court on Wednesday about how he says two Reuters reporters were framed by police, in what has become a landmark press freedom case for the Southeast Asian nation.

Police captain Moe Yan Naing, 47, who since his original testimony on April 20 has been sentenced to a year in jail for violating police discipline, gave a blow-by-blow account of how he says a police chief ordered subordinates to give "secret" documents to Reuters reporter Wa Lone in a sting operation.

"I gave the testimony as I know and as I saw," Moe Yan Naing told reporters after the hearing. He said he did not regret giving his testimony.

Lead prosecutor Kyaw Min Aung did not respond to a request for comment after the hearing.

Myanmar government spokesman Zaw Htay said: "It will be carried out according to the law. The court is free, impartial, independent and reliable. We guarantee that the defendants will have their own rights, which means choosing their own lawyers etc."



This handout photo released by Indonesia's National Police yesterday shows prisoners (C) surrendering to police after a riot at the Mobile Police Brigade headquarters in Depok, West Java. The hostage crisis involving Islamist prisoners at the high-security jail outside Jakarta has been resolved nearly two days after a deadly riot broke out at the prison.

Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation

Office of the Project Director
Noakhali, Feni and Laxmipur District Minor Irrigation Development Project
New Jail Road, Majidee Court, Noakhali-3800

Memo No. 12.06.7500.000.14.002.2018-125

Date: 08-05-2018

e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited in e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by the Project Director, Noakhali, Feni and Laxmipur District Minor Irrigation Development Project, BADC, New Jail Road, Majidee Court, Noakhali-3800 for the procurement of following works:

Sl. No.	Tender ID	Procurement nature, title	Type, method	Tender publishing date & time	Tender closing date & time
1	2	3	4	5	6
01.	194261	Supply of 200mm nominal diameter uPVC pipe and fittings with minimum wall thickness of 4.9mm for 1 cusec LLP underground water distribution system.	NCT, OTM	08-May-2018 12:45:00	28-May-2018 10:30:00
02	194259	Supply of 250mm nominal diameter uPVC pipe and fittings with minimum wall thickness of 4.9mm for 2 cusec LLP underground water distribution system.	NCT, OTM	08-May-2018 12:45:00	28-May-2018 11:30:00
03	194243	Supply of 315mm nominal diameter uPVC pipe and fittings with minimum wall thickness of 4.9mm for 5 cusec LLP underground water distribution system.	NCT, OTM	08-May-2018 12:45:00	28-May-2018 12:30:00
04	194262	Renovation of Khal/Canal by using excavator according to approved drawing-design maintaining proper slope with leveling, dressing and compaction of excavated soil to embankment, providing cross dam (if necessary) and pumping & bailing out water from khal at any Upazila of Project Area.	NCT, OTM	07-May-2018 23:30:00	23-May-2018 11:00:00

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>).

Mohammad Noornabi
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Noakhali, Feni and Laxmipur District Minor Irrigation Development Project
New Jail Road, Majidee Court, Noakhali-3800

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ঢাকা পানি সরবরাহ ও পয়ঃ নিষ্কাশন কর্তৃপক্ষ

উন্নয়নের গণতন্ত্র
শেখ হাসিনার মূলমন্ত্র

খন্ডকালীন শিক্ষানবিস পাম্প চালক পদে নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ঢাকা ওয়াসায় খন্ডকালীন শিক্ষানবিস পাম্প চালক পদে ০২(দুই) বৎসরের জন্য নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশী নাগরিকদের নিকট হতে Online-এ দরখাস্ত আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। আগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণকে বিস্তারিত নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি ও অন্যান্য তথ্যের জন্য ঢাকা ওয়াসার ওয়েব সাইট www.dwsa.org.bd/Career এ ভিজিট করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো।

আবেদন জমাদানের শেষ তারিখ : ২১/০৬/২০১৮।

স্বাক্ষরিত/-
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
ঢাকা ওয়াসা।

ওয়াসা-জঃ তঃ - ২১১/১৮