

INSIDE



NEWS | PAGE 12

HUNGER STRIKE FOR OROP
NEW DELHI: Disappointed by the PM's assurance that he had accepted their demand for one rank one pension, ex-servicemen said they would go on fast from August 24.



WORLD | PAGE 14

PAKISTANI MINISTER KILLED
LAHORE: A bomb killed a Pakistani provincial minister and 16 others on Sunday in the political heartland of Nawaz Sharif, Punjab province officials said.



WORLD | PAGE 14

SRI LANKA TO VOTE TODAY
Colombo: Sri Lanka is set to vote in a crucial general election on Monday after a tense campaign with Mahinda Rajapaksa eyeing a political comeback



SPORT | PAGE 17

SAINA SETTLES FOR SILVER
JAKARTA: Saina Nehwal's quest to become the first Indian world champion in badminton ended in heartbreak as she lost in straight games to holder Carolina Marin.

Indonesian plane with 54 aboard crashes

JAYAPURA (INDONESIA): The wreckage of a passenger plane which went missing with 54 people aboard in rugged eastern Indonesia on Sunday has been found by villagers, in the latest fatal accident to hit the country's aviation sector.

Lost control

The Trigana Air plane lost contact with air traffic control after taking off from Jayapura.

It was carrying 44 adult passengers, five children and five crew members.

But the plane disappeared about 10 minutes before reaching its destination Oksibil, a remote settlement in the mountains south of Jayapura, shortly after it asked permission to start descending to land.

The Transport Ministry later said local residents had found the wreckage.

— AFP

LOCALS FIND WRECKAGE | PAGE 14

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Prisoner grabs gun, terrorises NIMHANS

Attempts to persuade him to surrender fail, commandoes shoot him dead

Bengaluru Bureau

BENGALURU: A silent Sunday afternoon at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) campus was shattered by the sound of intermittent gunfire and a tense commando operation after a 22-year-old prisoner, brought for treatment, took control of weapons and fired indiscriminately for nearly three hours.

Fortunately, no one was injured though 23 rounds were fired by the gunman before commandoes of the Quick Response Team (QRT) of the anti-terror Garuda force shot at the gunman and brought the situation under control. The prisoner later succumbed to his injuries with Additional Commissioner of Police (West division) Pratap Reddy declaring him dead late on Sunday night. Vishwanath was brought to the criminal ward in pavilion one of the psychiatric ward for treatment.

Around 4.30 p.m. he demanded to go to the restroom and asked for his handcuffs to be removed.

As he came out of the restroom, which is located in the guard room at the entrance of the ward, he grabbed a loaded .303 rifle. Five baffled guards



SUNDAY SHOCKER: Police commandoes were deployed at NIMHANS, Bengaluru, after Vishwanath, a prisoner, snatched a gun from a policeman and opened fire. Vishwanath was shot at during the three-hour operation and later he died of injuries in the hospital. — PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

and three patients in the room tried to pin him down, but rushed out once he opened fire and locked Vishwanath inside, leaving him with unrestricted access to five .303 rifles and 100 rounds of ammunition.

Many in the building, including patients, doctors and

other hospital staff, were forced to either flee from the spot or stayed holed up inside their rooms for nearly three hours as a tense drama unfolded. First, the police hoped to convince Vishwanath to surrender and began negotiating with him; they even made his mother talk to

him. But Vishwanath did not relent and fired 23 rounds at regular intervals.

Finally, at 5 p.m., a 30-member platoon of commandoes took over the operation. Around 7 p.m., they unlocked the room and stormed it. They fired at and injured Vishwanath before taking

control of the weapons in his possession. Soon after, the prisoner, the only one to be injured in the incident, was taken to the ICU of NIMHANS, where he succumbed to his injuries.

■ 'NEGLECTANCE LED TO PRISONER GETTING HOLD OF THE GUN' | PAGE 3

Domestic airfares can't be capped: CCI chief

Yuthika Bhargava

NEW DELHI: Though domestic fliers have been demanding a mechanism to check airfares, Ashok Chawla, Chairman of the Competition Commission of India (CCI), says that capping of fares will be in violation of competition norms.

"Capping [of airfares] is antithetical to the policy of deregulation as well as to the whole philosophy of competition and what market determines," Mr. Chawla said in an interview to the news agency PTI.

Cartel

The fair-trade regulator is investigating if carriers have formed a cartel to fix

the fares. The CCI had looked into it thrice previously, but did not find any evidence of violation of fair-trade norms. Parliamentarians and other stakeholders have been demanding curbs on the highly fluctuating domestic airfares, especially for travel at short notice.

Mr. Chawla, however, said capping of pricing was not in sync with the philosophy of deregulation.

"Deregulation is where you allow market forces to operate, and if you allow market forces to operate and you seek stifling of the market forces saying you will not allow this beyond a level, then actually you are not allowing the full play of market forces," he said.

FOR A LEVEL-PLAYING FIELD

Competition Commission chairman Ashok Chawla says capping of fares will violate competition norms

CCI ON ITS TOES

➔ The fair trade regulator is investigating if carriers have formed a cartel to fix airfares

➔ It had looked into the complaint thrice previously, but did not find any evidence of violation of fair trade



Stakeholders, including Parliamentarians, have been demanding curbs on fluctuating domestic fares, especially for travel at short notice

PM makes a statement with mosque visit

In rare gesture, Crown Prince, five brothers welcome him at airport

Nistula Hebbur

ABU DHABI: The UAE leadership broke protocol to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi here on Sunday, with Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nayhan of Abu Dhabi turning out with five of his brothers to greet him at the airport in a rare gesture. The pragmatic leadership of the Emirate opened up for the Prime Minister, but a lot depends on discussions on Monday.

The high point of the first day's engagement was Mr. Modi's visit to Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, the world's third largest mosque, leaving some powerful images for

consumption by a domestic audience. His balance of the domestic and the foreign during the visit was exemplified by a short interaction with blue-collar workers in ICAD Residential Labour Camp, which was more photo-op than substantive.

During talks with the UAE leadership on Monday, Mr. Modi is expected to discuss energy security (negotiation of long-term oil supply contracts), security cooperation and investment ties. In interviews to *Khaleej Times* and *The National*, prominent UAE newspapers, the Prime Minister said that he felt the UAE was a "mini-India". He wanted to see the nation as "our foremost trade and in-



STEEPED IN SYMBOLISM: Prime Minister Narendra Modi visits the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque with UAE Minister Sheikh Hamdan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi on Sunday. — PHOTO: AP

vestment partner". During the visit to the mosque, Mr. Modi seemed at ease and posed for selfies,

50,000 register for Dubai event

ABU DHABI: As Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on his visit to the United Arab Emirates, organisers of a community reception for him in Dubai said more than 50,000 people had registered for the event. But since the Dubai cricket stadium can seat only 40,000, outdoor screens have been arranged for those who cannot enter the premises. Nearly 16,000 are expected to remain outside the stadium.

■ UAE INDIANS PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS | PAGE 12

ious moments were when he broke the security cordon to greet Indians who had gathered in scores.

■ OF A MOSQUE AND MODI | PAGE 12

Despite Vyapam cloud, BJP scores big in M.P. civic polls

BHOPAL: The Vyapam scam has failed to dent the prospects of the Bharatiya Janata Party in Madhya Pradesh with the ruling party winning power in eight of the 10 civic bodies to which elections were held on August 12.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi thanked the voters, tweeting: "M.P. civic poll results are gladdening. I thank

people of M.P. for reposing their trust in BJP. I salute efforts of *karyakartas* [workers] and party leaders."

"Thank you very much for your continued support and faith. MP will continue to work under your dynamic leadership," tweeted Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who has been facing demands for his resignation over the scandal.

"The State is moving rapidly on the path of development. It has no place for negative politics. The sooner Opposition realises it, the better," he said in another tweet.

The BJP won in Morena, Ujjain, Harda and Chakghat in Rewa district; Bhainsdehi in Betul district; Kotar in Satna; Suwasara in Mand-

saur; and Vidisha.

A Congress candidate was elected president of the Sarangpur municipality in Rajgarh district and an Independent in Guhvara in Chhattarpur.

The BJP had swept the civic polls held in the State earlier this year. The elections were not held to these 10 municipal bodies then for various reasons. — PTI

MP Civic poll results are gladdening. I thank people of MP for reposing their trust in BJP. I salute efforts of karyakartas and party leaders

— NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

India summons Pakistan envoy

Suhasini Haidar

NEW DELHI: The government summoned High Commissioner Abdul Basit on Sunday to register India's protest against "unprovoked firing" by Pakistani troops on the Line of Control since August 8 that has left at least six persons, including a woman and a young boy, dead and more than 10 injured. The External Affairs Ministry said the High Commissioner met Secretary (East) Anil Wadhwa who "lodged a protest and conveyed our anger" over the firing.

In particular, India is concerned about what it called "systematic targeting of civilian populations and the use of high-calibre weapons, includ-



Pakistan High Commissioner Abdul Basit leaves the External Affairs Ministry in New Delhi on Sunday after the meeting with Indian officials.

— PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

ing artillery." The move to call the High Commissioner marks an escalation in the level of protest.

On Tuesday, Pakistan's MOFA had summoned the Indian Deputy High Commis-

sioner in Islamabad to protest what it claimed to be unprovoked firing.

(With additional reporting by Devesh K. Pandey)

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

BJP seeks Andrabi's arrest for hoisting Pakistan flag

Mehboob Jeelani

NEW DELHI: The Peoples Democratic Party and the Bharatiya Janata Party, forming the ruling alliance in Jammu and Kashmir, are again in conflict over the demand for the arrest of radical separatist leader Asiya Andrabi.

On Pakistan's Independence Day on August 14, Ms. Andrabi not only unfurled the Pakistani flag at her residence in Srinagar but also addressed, over the phone, a Lahore rally organised by the 26/11 mastermind Hafiz Saeed.

She spoke about the "revival of Pakistan" on the lines of pan-Islamism. "I also said Kashmir is nothing without the

idea of Pakistan," Ms. Andrabi, who is fleeing the police, told *The Hindu* on the phone.

While the PDP seems unmoved by Ms. Andrabi's act, BJP State unit president Jugal Kishore has dubbed it "treason".

PDP spokesperson Mehboob Beg brushed aside the BJP demand for detaining Ms. Andrabi, saying "she publicises her acts by provoking the State".

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METROPLUS
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EDUCATIONPLUS
 - 4 Pages

Hebbal, not just a suburb

Staff Reporter

BENGALURU: Hebbal is no more just a traffic chokepoint for those flying in or out of the city. The area, once a gateway to Bengaluru, now finds itself in the list of Zoological Society of India (ZSI) on animal discoveries of 2014 after having inspired the name *Rhopus hebbalensis*, a parasitic wasp.

The list, released recently, features 14 new animal dis-

coveries — predominantly insects — over the past year from the city and its surroundings of Nandi Hills and Bidadi. No other urban agglomeration can claim to have so many discoveries. Mumbai, for instance, has only two. This even exceeds the cumulative discoveries of nine insect species seen over the three previous years.

Apart from possessing more green spaces than other

cities, Prashant Mohanraj, Head of Insect Systematics at National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (NBARI) says the discoveries were also due to the high density of entomological research institutes in the city.

The discoveries are not just for taxonomical purposes, for many of the insects can eventually be used for biological control of pests and parasitic plants, says Mr. Mohanraj.

■ WILD SIDE COMES TO THE FORE | PAGE 8

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