



ELSEWHERE
Macri defeated in key Argentina primaries
BUENOS AIRES
President Mauricio Macri suffered a crushing defeat from Center-left nominee Alberto Fernandez as Argentines voted in party primaries on Sunday ahead of October's general election. Given that all of major parties have already chosen their presidential candidates, the primaries effectively served as a nationwide pre-election opinion poll. AFP

Paris terror suspect booked for Brussels blast
BRUSSELS
Salah Abdeslam, the sole surviving suspect in the November 2015 Paris attacks, has been formally charged in connection with the Brussels suicide bombings months later. He was charged for his alleged role in the suicide bombings at Brussels airport and a metro station on March 22, 2016. AFP

South Korea tightens export controls on Japan
SEOUL
South Korea on Monday put Japan into its own new export category, intensifying a trade war between the two neighbours and U.S. allies. The move came after Seoul announced earlier this month it would remove Tokyo from its list of trusted trading partners, reciprocating an identical move by Japan. AFP

Italy recalls Senate as no-confidence vote looms
ROME
Italy is to recall the Senate on Tuesday to vote on a timetable to manage the crisis sparked by far-right leader Matteo Salvini pulling the plug on the ruling coalition. Mr. Salvini, who withdrew his party's support to the coalition government last week, is pressing for a no-confidence vote. AFP

'Hong Kong showing sprouts of terrorism'

Protesters are using dangerous tools to attack the police and to commit serious crimes, warns China

REUTERS
HONG KONG

China on Monday said the anti-government protests in Hong Kong, which shut down the city airport, had begun to show "sprouts of terrorism".
The airport authority said it was working with airlines to resume flights from 6 a.m. on Tuesday, but the developments raise the stakes after a weekend of skirmishes during which both activists and police toughened their stances.

Some Hong Kong legal experts say official descriptions of some protesters' actions as terrorism could lead to the use of extensive anti-terror laws and powers against them.
China's People's Armed Police also assembled in the neighbouring city of Shenzhen for exercises, the State-backed *Global Times* newspaper said.

More protests
People in the Asian financial hub responded by taking to the streets again, picketing a police station and returning in their hundreds to a metro station where police had hit activists with batons, to protest against the heavy-handed tactics.
The increasingly violent demonstrations have



Sea of black: Demonstrators gather inside the Hong Kong international airport to protest against the police action on Monday. ■AFP

plunged the Chinese-ruled territory into its most serious crisis in decades, presenting Chinese leader Xi Jinping with one of his biggest popular challenges since he came to power in 2012.
"Hong Kong has come to a critical juncture," said Hong Kong and Macau Affairs office spokesman Yang Guang in Beijing.
"Protesters have been frequently using extremely dangerous tools to attack the police in recent days, consti-

tuting serious crimes with sprouts of terrorism emerging."
The protests began in opposition to a Bill allowing extradition to the mainland but have widened to highlight other grievances, winning broad support. The precise trigger for the airport's closure was not clear, since protesters occupying the arrivals hall for four days have been peaceful.
"This is about our freedom," said a 24-year-old

wearing a mask, who gave his name only as Yu. "Why should we leave?"
Two systems
Hong Kong is the world's busiest air cargo port and the 8th busiest by passenger traffic, says the Airports Council International (ACI), a global association. It has been filled with anti-government protesters for four days.
The mostly young black-clad protesters have chanted slogans such as "No rioters,

Cathay Pacific warns staff

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
HONG KONG

Hong Kong carrier Cathay Pacific warned its staff on Monday that they could be fired for supporting "illegal protests", as the firm comes under pressure from Beijing over pro-democracy demonstrations.
The carrier's stock plunged nearly 5% in Hong Kong trade on Monday after Beijing imposed new rules banning airline staff involved in the protests from flights to or over the mainland. The airline was also forced to cancel dozens of flights on Monday.

only tyranny!" and "Liberate Hong Kong!" while approaching travellers with flyers describing their demands and explaining the unrest.
Demonstrators say they are fighting the erosion of the "one country, two systems" arrangement enshrining some autonomy for Hong Kong when China took it back from Britain in 1997.
Police declined to say if they would move to clear the demonstrators.

Yemen militants are ready for talks after Aden 'coup'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ADEN

The head of Yemen's separatist movement said he was ready to take part in Saudi-brokered peace talks after clashes with pro-government forces killed dozens in temporary capital Aden.
The fighting in Yemen's southern port city pitted

Saudi-backed government forces against the UAE-trained Security Belt Force, both of which have been fighting Houthis rebels who seized the capital Sanaa in 2014.
While the two sides are technically supported by a Saudi and Emirati-dominated military coalition, the Se-

curity Belt is largely made up of fighters who oppose President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi and seek an independent south Yemen.
Last week, the separatists seized army bases and a presidential palace in temporary capital Aden, prompting the government to accuse the UAE of backing a "coup".

The chief of the separatist Southern Transitional Council (STC), which is backed by the bulk of Security Belt fighters, said late on Sunday he was committed to a ceasefire in Aden.
Aidarus al-Zubaidi said last week's violence had been provoked by Hadi's forces, who planned to as-

sassinate the movement's leaders then "provoke our people and liquidate our presence".
That left separatist fighters with "only two options: either self-defence, or surrender and accepting the liquidation of our just cause," Mr. Zubaidi said, according to his televised speech.

Talks on U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan have ended: Taliban

'Both sides will consult their leadership on the next steps'

ASSOCIATED PRESS
KABUL

The latest round of talks between the Taliban and the U.S. on a deal to withdraw thousands of U.S. troops from Afghanistan has ended and now both sides will consult with their leadership on the next steps, a Taliban spokesman said on Monday.
The eighth round of talks in the Gulf Arab nation of Qatar concluded after midnight and was "long and useful," Zabiullah Mujahid said in a statement.
Last week, another Taliban spokesman had said that a deal was expected to follow this round as both sides seek an end to the

nearly 18-year war, America's longest conflict.
'No base for militants'
An agreement if reached is expected to include Taliban guarantees that Afghanistan would not be a base for other extremist groups in the future. However, both the Islamic State group's affiliate and al-Qaida remain active in the country. The Taliban stages near-daily attacks across Afghanistan, mainly targeting Afghan forces and government officials but also killing many civilians.
The deal also could include a ceasefire and stipulate that the Taliban would negotiate with Afghan repre-

sentatives, though the insurgent group has so far refused to negotiate with Kabul representatives.
There was no immediate comment on Monday from U.S. envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who on Sunday tweeted that "I hope this is the last Id where... Afghanistan is at war."
Mr. Khalilzad later added that "Many scholars believe that the deeper meaning of Eid al-Hadha is to sacrifice one's ego. Leaders on all sides of the war in Afghanistan must take this to heart as we strive for peace."
The Taliban control roughly half of Afghanistan since the U.S.-led invasion.

'Irregularities' at jail where Epstein died

REUTERS
NEW YORK

U.S. Attorney General William Barr said on Monday there were "serious irregularities" at the federal prison in New York City where Jeffrey Epstein died in an apparent suicide, adding that the investigation into the disgraced money manager's sex crimes would continue.
"Any co-conspirators should not rest easy," Mr. Barr said.
Epstein was found dead on Saturday, having apparently hanged himself in his cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Center in lower Manhattan, where he was being held on new sex-trafficking charges.

Sajith Premadasa could be a good match to Gotabaya in polls: Minister

T.K. ROHIT
CHENNAI

A Sri Lankan Minister on Monday said the United National Party's deputy leader, Sajith Premadasa, is likely to be a good match to Gotabaya Rajapaksa, the former Defence Secretary who will be fielded in the presidential election on behalf of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP) headed by former President Mahinda Rajapaksa.
Mr. Premadasa has the support of the people on the ground and would be a good match against Mr. Gotabaya, said V. Radhakrishnan, Sri Lanka's Minister for Special Areas Development.
"Ground level support is

there for Sajith Premadasa. But ultimately, [UNP leader and Prime Minister] Ranil (Wickremasinghe) has to decide. If he comes to a decision and makes a good choice both (Mr. Gotabaya and Mr. Premadasa) will be equal candidates. It will be a tough fight," Mr. Radhakrishnan told *The Hindu*.
Mr. Radhakrishnan, who was in the city, said Tamils and upcountry people would like the candidature of Mr. Premadasa, should he be chosen. "His father [late president] Ranasinghe Premadasa, in 1989, gave citizenship to us. So, people still have an affinity to him," he said.
Mr. Radhakrishnan is part

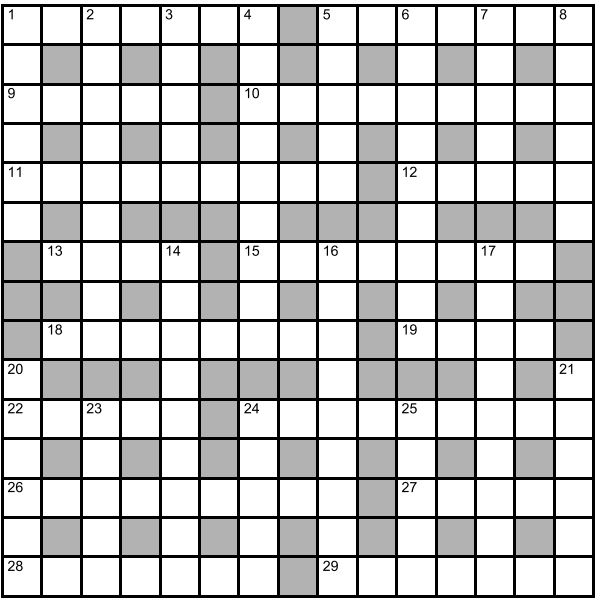


Sajith Premadasa

of the Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA). It was only after the UNP announces its candidate that the TPA would be able to decide on who to support. "Whoever has the capability to work for our community, uplift of our community, we will support him. Till then we can't decide whom to support, be-

cause this is a Presidential election," he said.
The Minister said Tamils were going to look at what Mr. Gotabaya is going to offer. "All the governments are cheating the Tamils from 1948. Everyone expected President Sirisena and PM Ranil to bring about a change. That too has not happened," he said.
"Their (Tamils') demand is for self-ruling opportunities. They want autonomy. They don't have a problem with the Sinhalese, Muslims," he said, adding the 13th Amendment of the Constitution, which provided for devolution of power to the provinces, was not being implemented properly.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12703



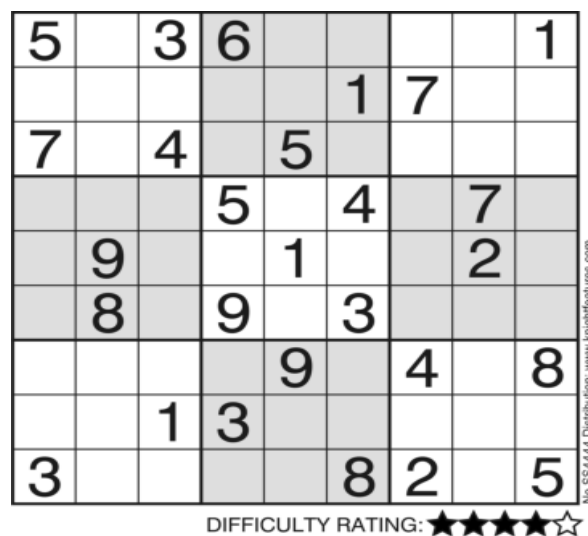
■ ACROSS

- 1 Pal, say breaks apart, he accompanies bride (7)
- 5 Children — half are against outside baseball team (7)
- 9 Initially after gaining lustre, one will be shining (5)
- 10 Telerecording cows on range (9)
- 11 Players scolded and emasculated (9)

(set by Arden)

- 12 Harvest from land, lose a yard and gain a foot (5)
- 13 Urge state department take lead (4)
- 15 Lad carrying weapon in English town (8)
- 18 It could be as silken as fur (8)
- 19 Wrong to leave a pancake half-eaten (4)
- 22 Some reviews are possible for entertainment (5)
- 24 Doctors insure, not that they are detected rarely (9)
- 26 Short movie on Royal denouncement (9)
- 27 Subdue two females in the family (5)
- 28 One learns to play in a team (7)
- 29 Horses bearing packing material (7)
- DOWN
- 1 He is known for constant forays into wood (6)
- 2 Complaint, by the way everyone's gone out (9)
- 3 Fan left out of framework (5)
- 4 Talk about entry — not even for oxen on either side (6-3)
- 5 Crazy to take on a single unit (5)
- 6 US spy goes walking, to beat around the bush (9)
- 7 Girl assumes it's alright to arouse (5)
- 8 Changing dates — unknown or well known date? (6)
- 14 Boy gets up at one, man's outside with dog (9)
- 16 Abandoned cat in Harrow (9)
- 17 Natural, at random find an eight footer (9)
- 20 Pope at the centre in Madrid, greeting in excitement (6)
- 21 To be in Paris, climb twice and fly (6)
- 23 Breaking records, essentially nice stories (5)
- 24 Discontented native on China as a nation (5)
- 25 Writing by a learned man, it's noble in a way (5)

SUDOKU



Solution to puzzle 12702

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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| G | U | A | R | A | N | I | A | P | P | O | I | N | T | | | | | |
| R | I | D | R | S | H | L | I | | | | | | | | | | | |
| I | N | D | U | S | T | E | S | T | A | M | E | N | T | | | | | |
| S | S | T | O | T | I | T | U | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B | O | D | E | D | I | N | G | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C | O | M | M | A | N | D | E | E | R | E | D | | | | | | | |
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| I | N | V | A | L | I | D | A | T | I | O | N | | | | | | | |
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| 9 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 7 |
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 8 |
| 5 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 7 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 9 |
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FAITH

References to Ramanuja

While Andal's Thiruppavai is an offering to Lord Krishna, the verses in this work were taken to be references to Ramanuja, by Vaishnavite scholar Prativadhibhayankaram An-nangarachar swami. Basing her lecture on his interpretations, G. Satyabhama said that the malai (hill) referred to by Andal signifies the Vedas. The tip of this hill is dharma tattva. Interpreting the word malai (hill) as a reference to the Vedas is justified, because of the story of Sage Bharadvaja. He studied the Vedas, and could not understand their depth, and kept asking for an extension in his life so that he could study them thoroughly.
But despite living for hundreds of years, he still could not grasp the entire meaning of the Vedas. Indra then pointed to three hills, and said that Bharadvaja's knowledge was like some sand from those hills, meaning to say, that the Vedas could never be fully understood. Seeriyas singam (ferocious lion) again is a reference to Ramanuja. This lion subsists by reading the works of Thirumangai Azhvar, says Ramanuja Nootrandadi, a work in praise of Ramanuja. Ramanuja realised the purpose of his birth. He realised that he was on this earth to save people from samsaric bonds and to guide them to moksha. This pasuram of Andal is about Narasimha, and so she talks about the hairs on Narasimha's mane standing up. Is there a Ramanuja connection here? Yes, for Ramanuja had a lovely tuft of hair, and when he went forth to argue with his opponents, his lustre frightened them off. Andal speaks of a simhasana in her pasuram.
This can be taken to mean the three Vedas, which served as the basis for Ramanuja's arguments. It also refers to Ramanuja using all srutis — bheda, abheda and ghataka srutis in his works and in establishing validity of Visishtadvaita.