ELSEWHERE



16 dead in anti-Abiy protests: Amnesty

At least 16 people have been killed in violence in Ethiopia this week that began with protests against Prime Minister and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Abiy Ahmed, an Amnesty International researcher said on Friday. Fisseha Tekle said the violence had included instances of security forces opening fire on protesters but was increasingly taking the form of ethnic and religious clashes. AFP

N. Korea tells South to raze buildings at resort

North Korea on Friday told Seoul to come and demolish buildings at a tourist resort that were constructed by South Korean companies, days after leader Kim Jong-un called them "unpleasantlooking" and ordered their replacement. The flagship Mount Kumgang complex was once a symbol of economic cooperation between the two Koreas and drew hundreds of thousands of Southern

Yemen govt. strikes deal with rebels

Yemen's southern separatists have struck a power-sharing deal with the internationallyrecognised government aimed at ending a conflict simmering within the country's long-running civil war, sources on both sides said on Friday. The deal would see the secessionist Southern Transitional Council handed a number of Ministries, and the government return to the southern city of Aden. according to officials and reports in the media. Security Belt Forces —dominated by the STC — in August took control of Aden. AFP

Criminal investigation opened into Mueller's Russia inquiry

Move likely to raise alarms that the U.S. President is going after his perceived enemies

ADAM GOLDMAN

For more than two years, President Donald Trump has repeatedly attacked the Russia investigation, portraying it as a hoax and illegal even months after the special counsel Robert Mueller closed it. Now, Mr. Trump's own Justice Department has opened a criminal investigation into how it all began.

Justice Department officials have shifted an administrative review of the Russia investigation closely overseen by Attorney General William Barr to a criminal inquiry, according to two people familiar with the mat-

The move gives the prosecutor running it, John Durham, the power to subpoena for witness testimony and documents, to impanel a



A file photo of former special counsel Robert Mueller testifying at a House Judiciary Committee hearing on the Russia probe.

grand jury and to file criminal charges.

The opening of a criminal investigation is likely to raise alarms that Mr. Trump is using the Justice Department to go after his perceived enemies. Mr. Trump fired James Comey, the FBI director under whose watch agents opened the Russia inquiry, and has long assailed other top former law enforcement and intelligence officials as partisans who sought to block his election.

Mr. Trump has made clear that he sees the typically independent Justice Department as a tool to be wielded against his political enemies. That view factors into the impeachment investigation against him, as does his long obsession with the origins of the Russia inquiry. House Democrats are examining in part whether his pressure on Ukraine to open investigations into theories about the 2016 election constituted an abuse of power.

The move also creates an unusual situation in which the Justice Department is conducting a criminal investigation into itself.

Mr. Barr's reliance on Mr. Durham, a widely respected and veteran prosecutor who has investigated CIA torture and broken up Mafia rings, could help insulate the Attorney General from accusations that he is doing the President's bidding and putting politics above justice.

It was not clear what potential crime Mr. Durham is investigating, nor when the criminal investigation was prompted. A Justice Department spokeswoman declined to comment. NY TIMES

3 held for human trafficking over London truck deaths

Some Vietnamese could be among the victims

REUTERS

The police investigating the deaths of 39 people in a truck near London said they had arrested three more suspects on Friday on suspicion of human trafficking amid signs that some of the dead may be Vietnamese.

As forensic experts began the process of identifying the victims, the Vietnamese embassy in London said families from the southeast Asian country had got in touch about missing relatives. There were growing concerns at least 10 of the victims could have been from Vietnam.

Hoa Nghiem from Human Rights Space, a civic network based in Vietnam, said that Pham Thi Tra My, 26, had sent a text message to her mother saying she could



People holding banners and candles during a vigil for the

not breathe at about the time the truck container was en route from Belgium to Britain.

"Im sorry, mum and dad. My path abroad was not a success. I love you both so much. I cant breathe. I'm from Nghen Town, Can Loc District, Ha Tinh, Vietnam ... I am sorry, Mom," the message said, according to Ms. Hoa who said it had come from Tra My's family.

She said Tra My had gone to China and was planning to reach England via France and that the organisation was getting more alerts about possible Vietnamese victims in the refrigerated trunk, which was found on Wednesday.

The police have said they believe the dead were Chinese but Beijing said the nationalities had not yet been confirmed. Chinese and Vietnamese officials are now both working closely with the British police, their respective embassies said.

"We owe it to those who have died to get this investigation right and speculation is not helpful," Essex Police's Deputy Chief Constable Pippa Mills told reporters. "It may in fact hinder our investigation and its progress."

On Friday, the police also arrested a man and woman, both aged 38, in Warrington, England, and a 48-year-old man from Northern Ireland at London's Stansted Airport. They are suspected of conspiracy to traffic people and manslaughter.

EU keeps Britain guessing on the length of its Brexit lifeline

REUTERS

The European Union agreed on Friday to London's request for a Brexit deadline extension but set no new departure date, giving Britain's divided Parliament time to decide on Prime Minister Boris Johnson's call for a snap election.

There was full agreement on the need for an extension," an EU official said after Ambassadors from the 27 countries staying in the bloc met to discuss postponing Britain's exit, less than a week before the current dea-

dline of October 31. "Work will continue over the weekend" and envoys will meet again in Brussels on Monday or Tuesday, the person said.

A day after admitting that he will not meet his "do or die" deadline of October 31, Mr. Johnson said it was up to the EU to decide on an extension.

"Of course October 31 is still possible – we could leave on October 31 - unfortunately it depends on what the EU says," he said, adding that if opponents frustrate his bid for an election on December 12 his minority government would not engage in pointless "Brexitology" in Parliament.

France's stance

The EU envoys had been due to discuss the length of a third delay to Brexit but diplomats decided to hold off to let events play out in London.

One EU diplomat said France pressed the other 26 to wait and favoured a delay until November 15 or November 30 to keep pressure on the British Parliament to approve Mr. Johnson's deal or face a disorderly Brexit.

U.S. to deploy 'mechanised forces' in Syria

They will be used to guard Syrian oil fields, says Esper

REUTERS BRUSSELS

The U.S. will strengthen its military presence in Syria with "mechanised forces" to prevent Islamic State fighters seizing oil fields and revenue, the U.S. Defense Secretary said on Friday, the latest twist in President Donald Trump's confusing policy on Syria.

Mr. Trump has been softening his pullout plans for Syria after a backlash from Congress, including among key Republicans, who say he



northeastern city of Qamishli on Friday. • AFP

enabled a long-threatened Turkish incursion against Kurdish forces in Syria who had been America's top allies in the battle against Islamic State.

actions... to strengthen our

position at Deir al zor, to ensure that we can deny ISIS access to the oil fields," Defense Secretary Mark Esper told reporters during a press conference.

"We are reinforcing that position, it will include some

mechanised forces," Mr. Esper said. Mechanised forces usually include tanks and other military assets.

He did not say how many forces were currently in the region or how many additional forces would be sent.

The vacuum left by Mr. Trump's partial withdrawal has created an opening that Russia exploited by moving forces into the area. Around 300 more Russian

military police have arrived in Syria, the Russian Defence Ministry said on Friday, under an accord between Ankara and Moscow which halt-Turkey's military incursion into northeast

+ Pakistan court grants bail to ailing Sharif

He has autoimmune disorder

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A top Pakistani court on Friday granted ball to jailed former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif who is undergoing treatment after being diagnosed with an autoimmune blood disorder which reduced his platelet count to dangerous levels.

A two-member Bench of the Lahore High Court, headed by Justice Baqar Najafi, heard the petition of PML-N President Shahbaz Sharif seeking the release of his elder brother from the custody of the National Accountability Bureau on medical grounds in the money laundering case and accepted it. According to the

The crossword is also

available online at

crossword.thehindu.com

CM YK



Nawaz Sharif

order, Mr. Sharif will have to submit two surety bonds worth 10 million Pakistani rupees each for his release in the case.

However, Mr. Sharif will not be released immediately as the Islamabad High Court adjourned the hearing of his bail plea in a separate Al-Azizia steel mills case until

Gotabaya's party will boost ties with India, says manifesto

Sri Lanka will not 'cringe' before any foreign power, it says

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Better relations with India and other nations in the region would be a vital part of Sri Lanka's foreign policy if SLPP's Presidential candidate Gotabaya Rajapaksa's comes to power, according to the party's manifesto that was released here on Friday.

Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP)'s manifesto also highlights improving relations with the member of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) na-



Gotabaya Rajapaksa

tions on national security. "We aim to foster better understanding with India, SAARC and BIMSTEC countries on regional security," an extract from Mr. Rajapaksa's manifesto released in the local Sinhala language

said. Sri Lanka goes to poll on November 16. A total of 35 candidates would be contesting the election - the highest ever in Sri Lanka's history. Mr. Gotabaya, 70, who is

the younger brother of the former President Mahinda Rajapaksa, is the main Opposition challenger. The manifesto emphasis-

es that Sri Lanka wound not "cringe" before any foreign power in maintaining foreign relations and international trade.

"We will negotiate on equal terms as a sovereign nation to preserve the national pride," it says.

White House cancels *Times, Post* subscriptions

They are fake newspapers, says Trump

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

U.S. President Donald Trump has cancelled the subscription of leading American dailies The Washington Post and The New York Times, calling them "fake" and asked other federal agencies to do the same, according to a media report.

Mr. Trump's unusual move came days after he hinted of the same in an interview with the Fox News. Officials in the West Wing

on Thursday announced that copies of the two newspapers would no longer be delivered to the White House and the administration is moving to force other



Donald Trump

federal agencies to end their subscriptions to the papers, as well.

Not renewing subscriptions across all federal agencies will be a significant cost saving - hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars will be saved, White House Press Secretary, Stephanie Grisham, said in a

protests AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Two dozen

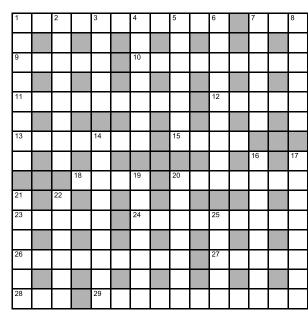
dead in Iraq

Two dozen demonstrators were killed in renewed rallies across Baghdad and Iraq's south on Friday by live rounds and tear gas, according to the Iraqi Human Rights Commission.

The demonstrations represent a second phase of a week-long movement in early October demanding an end to corruption, unemployment and an overhaul of the political system. More than 150 people had died then.

By Friday evening, demonstrations across the country had descended into violence that left 24 protesters dead and more than 2.000 wounded.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12765



ACROSS

1 Moving out — taking off or in two minds? (11)

7 Pan for denying right to do one's job (3)

9 The French money was used in exchange once (5)

10 List another prayer in Irish county (9)

11 Russians refuse to save Communist leader, a handsome lad once (9)

12 Six footer on the cave (5) 13 Fashionable scene in a way

could provoke (7) 15 Team in the movie will leave...

18 ...so reject the monster (4)

20 Bird poster? (7) 23 Loves to be in the back,

24 Drops in to replace engine part 26 "Go away man" - head off in a

state of total bliss (9) 27 Airlines in pair (5)

28 Not odd really in Cathedral town (3)

29 Used all remedies in Ireland (7,4)

DOWN

1 Surprisingly clean, cutting through Spanish city (8)

2 Falling water clouding vision

3 Miss Turner's island? (5)

(set by Arden)

4 Performer gets it raised raised a bit (7)

5 I am outdated, that's the dilemma (7)

6 Endearing way to make a fruit

7 Ghost of a gunner accompanied outside (6)

juice (9)

8 Crucial info without a well known economist (6)

14 It's different thing, being an amusement (9) **16** Shortly will begin shooting

first shot of movie (4,4) 17 Pressure underground, church

19 Adopt and essentially checkmate (7) 20 Mosaic tile set up second time

shows discretion (8)

21 Hook say, a dumb blonde (6)

25 Chose one person to

22 Subject of the lad getting

brown (6)

eventually develop on all fronts (5)



DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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FAITH

Rama's lovely eyes

The pureness of one's heart reflects in one's face. Rama had a heart full of love, compassion, and forgiveness. Naturally, His face reflected His goodness. Among all features, the eyes are what hold one's attention. Krishna is called Kannan in Tamil, because of the beauty of His eyes, said Kidambi Narayanan, in a discourse. Hanuman was among those impressed by the beauty of Rama's eyes. Hanuman was a Brahmachari, one who had never experienced love. He was a monkey, and monkeys are known to jump from tree to tree

And yet, Hanuman, a monkey and a bachelor, was attracted by Rama's eyes, says Nampillai in his commentary. Hanuman's description of Rama's eyes comes in Asoka vana, where he meets Sita. Sita asks Hanuman to describe Rama to her. Hanuman describes Rama's eyes as kamala patraakshah

– the One with eyes resembling the petals of a lotus. In Ayodhya Kanda, Rama's coronation has been announced, and preparations are on for the great day. Rama goes to worship the family deity of the Ikshvakus, Lord Ranganatha, whom we now see in the Srirangam temple. Sita goes along with Rama. As Rama performs Aradhana Sita watches. Valmiki refers to Sita here as Visalakshi - the one with wide eyes. But what made Sita look wide-eyed? Looking at Ranganatha, Sita wondered if there were any eyes which equalled His in beauty. She then looked at Rama's eyes, and changed her mind. Here were eyes that were the most beautiful in the world. Thus, she looked from Rama to Ranganatha and as she kept looking, Her eyes widened in wonder. Of course, Rama was Lord's vibhava avatara and Ranganatha, the archa avatara. So, naturally, the eyes of both were lovely.