

**ELSEWHERE**

**Lebanese banks, schools shut as protests push on**

BEIRUT  
Lebanon's banks and schools were shut on Tuesday as politicians struggled to agree on a new government. President Michel Aoun said consultations with MPs to nominate a new Prime Minister and form the cabinet would be held soon. **REUTERS**

**Britain's Labour Party comes under cyberattack**

LONDON  
Britain's opposition Labour Party said on Tuesday it was subject to a large-scale cyberattack on its digital platforms just weeks before a national election but it was confident no data breach occurred. **REUTERS**

**3 dead in Thai courtroom as dispute turns violent**

BANGKOK  
Three people were killed in a shootout at a Thai courtroom on Tuesday during a hearing into an inheritance dispute, according to police, who said two of the victims were lawyers. The gunman was also killed. **AFP**

# Bolivia seeks new leader as crisis deepens

Evo Morales arrives in Mexico as security forces seek to quell violence over his resignation back home

**REUTERS**  
LA PAZ  
Bolivia's former leader Evo Morales landed in Mexico seeking asylum on Tuesday as security forces back home quelled violence over the long-serving leftist's resignation and opponents sought an interim replacement to fill the power vacuum.

Mr. Morales, who quit after weeks of protests over a disputed October election, flew in a Mexican Air Force aeroplane from the town of Chimore, a stronghold where Bolivia's first indigenous President had retreated to as his 14-year rule imploded.

Mr. Morales' flight out was far from simple.

**In defiance of term limits**  
Takeoff was delayed, with supporters surrounding the airport, then the plane was denied permission to fuel in Peru, Mexico's Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard told a news conference. So it stopped instead in Paraguay before arriving in Mexico City.

In Bolivia's highland capi-



**On the boil:** Security forces firing tear gas shells at supporters of former President Evo Morales in Cochabamba; and Mr. Morales, right, upon landing in Mexico City on Tuesday. **REUTERS**

tal La Paz, roadblocks were still in place after soldiers and police patrolled late into the night to deter fighting between rival political groups and looting that erupted after Mr. Morales' resignation.

Residents said they hoped politicians would succeed in finally restoring order.

"Democracy has been at risk and hopefully it will be resolved today," said resi-

dent Isabel Nadia.

The charismatic 60-year-old former coca-leaf farmer was beloved by the poor when he won power in 2006, but alienated Bolivians by insisting on seeking a fourth term, in defiance of term limits and a 2016 referendum in which Bolivians voted against him being allowed to do so.

Paraguay President Mario Abdo said on Tuesday his



country had been willing to grant asylum to Mr. Morales, though he rejected suggestions of a coup. He added several leaders in the region had discussed how to help bring peace back to Bolivia.

**'Not a coup'**  
"If he resigned, it is not a coup. He resigned," he said.

Lawmakers were expected to meet on Tuesday to formally accept Mr. Morales' re-

signation and begin deciding on an interim leader prior to a new election.

The government collapsed on Sunday after the Organization of American States (OAS) delivered a damning report on irregularities during the October vote, prompting ruling party allies to quit and the Army to urge Mr. Morales' departure.

With Mr. Morales' deputy and many allies in government and Parliament also gone, opposition politician and Senate second Vice-President, Jeanine Anez, was theoretically in line to take the top job temporarily and said she would accept.

However, in a sign of stark divisions and the complex path ahead, Ms. Anez tweeted a memo from Mr. Morales' Movement for Socialism (MAS) party, which said she was also part of a coup and that Adriana Salvatierra, the Senate leader who resigned on television on Sunday should, instead, lead the transition. "Don't they know that the ex-President of the Senate publicly resigned?" she wrote.

# In bid to free 2 teachers, Kabul releases 3 Taliban

The foreigners were abducted in 2016

**ASSOCIATED PRESS**  
KABUL  
Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Tuesday announced that his government has released three prominent Taliban figures in an effort to get the insurgents to free an American and an Australian professor they abducted in 2016 and have held captive for over three years.

At a press briefing, Mr. Ghani told the nation that the "conditional release" was a very hard decision he felt he had to make in the interest of the Afghan people.

The announcement comes at a sensitive time for Mr. Ghani as President Donald Trump halted talks between the U.S. and the Taliban in September. Also, the future of Mr. Ghani's government is in doubt as the results from the September 28 presidential elections have not been released yet. Preliminary results are expected on November 14.

The three members of the Taliban-linked Haqqani network being released in-



Kevin King and Timothy Weekes. **AP/FILE**

clude Anas Haqqani, Haji Mali Khan and Hafiz Rashid. Mr. Ghani added that they are being released "conditionally in exchange" for the two professors.

An American identified as Kevin King and an Australian identified as Timothy Weekes were abducted in 2016 outside the American University in Kabul, where they both worked as teachers. The following year, the Taliban released two videos showing the captives.

Mr. Ghani said the release of the teachers was "part of our main demands during the indirect talks with the Taliban." He did not specify the fate of the hostages and it was not clear when they would be released.

# Israel kills Islamic Jihad commander in Gaza

Palestinian rocket salvos reach Tel Aviv



A Palestinian militant walks past the home of Baha Abu Al-Atta after it was hit by an Israeli strike in Gaza. **REUTERS**

**REUTERS**  
GAZA/JERUSALEM  
Israel killed a top commander from the Iranian-backed Palestinian militant group Islamic Jihad in a rare targeted strike in the Gaza Strip on Tuesday, drawing retaliatory rocket salvos that reached as far as Tel Aviv.

In the most serious escalation in months, an Israeli missile attack also hit the home of an Islamic Jihad official in Damascus, Syrian state media said. The strike killed two people including one of the official's sons, the group and Syrian state media said. Israel refused to comment.

As the sound of Palestinian rockets and Israeli air strikes echoed throughout Gaza and Israeli border areas, Islamic Jihad leader Khaled Al-Batsh spoke at the midday Gaza funeral of his slain fellow militant, Baha Abu Al-Atta.

"Israel executed two

coordinated attacks, in Syria and in Gaza, in a declaration of war," he said. Mourners fired guns into the air, chanting "revenge!"

Both sides expected further escalation after the funeral, but the extent of it appeared to hinge on whether the much larger Islamist group Hamas would join Islamic Jihad in the exchange of fire that sent civilians on both sides huddling for shelter and forced businesses and schools to close.

**'Ticking bomb'**  
Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu described Al-Atta as a "ticking bomb", who was responsible for a string of recent cross-border rocket, drone and sniper attacks and was suspected of planning more very soon.

"Israel is not interested in escalation, but we will do everything required to protect ourselves," said Mr. Netanyahu.

# Trump says new IS chief in the crosshairs of U.S.

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
NEW YORK  
U.S. President Donald Trump placed the Islamic State group's new chief in the crosshairs on Monday as he marked Veterans' Day by celebrating the killing of the jihadists' former leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

While U.S. Presidents traditionally mark the day by laying a wreath at a military cemetery in Arlington, Mr. Trump travelled to New York, where he made an ad-

dress ahead of veterans parade.

Mr. Trump used his speech to claim that the IS leadership was running scared in the wake of Baghdadi's death. "Just a few weeks ago, our forces raided the ISIS compound and brought the world's number one terrorist leader to justice... Thanks to American warriors, al-Baghdadi is dead, his second in charge is dead, we have our eyes on number three," he said.

# Hong Kong protests hit universities

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
HONG KONG  
Hong Kong pro-democracy protesters fought intense battles with riot police on university campuses and paralysed the city's upmarket business district on Tuesday.

The city's universities emerged as a new flashpoint throughout Tuesday with sustained clashes at major campuses for the first time.

# Riyadh labels feminism, atheism, homosexuality as extremist ideas

**REUTERS**  
DUBAI  
A promotional video published by Saudi Arabia's state security agency categorises feminism, homosexuality and atheism as extremist ideas, even as the conservative Muslim kingdom seeks to promote tolerance and attract foreigners.

The clip posted on Twitter at the weekend said "all forms of extremism and perversion are unacceptable".

It listed those concepts alongside *tafzir*: the Islamist militant practice of labelling followers of other schools of Islam unbelievers. "Don't forget that excess of anything at the expense of the homeland is considered extremism," said the voiceover.

As part of plans to open up society and attract foreign investment, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has pushed for many reforms. He has loosened so-

cial restrictions and launched a tourist visa.

As Saudi Arabia prepares to take over the presidency of the Group of 20 countries next year, Riyadh has chipped away at a guardianship system that assigns each woman a male relative to approve important decisions throughout their lives.

Under Saudi law, supporting groups classified as extremist organisations can lead to imprisonment.

# Catalan MPs rebuked over new resolution

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE**  
BARCELONA  
Catalonia's separatist-dominated Parliament drew a fresh rebuke from Spain on Tuesday after approving a text in favour of self-determination, despite it being suspended just minutes earlier by the Constitutional Court.

Although such resolutions are purely symbolic – the Parliament not having the authority to make such decisions – they have been routinely overruled by the Spanish courts. But the move could have legal consequences for regional Parliament speaker Roger Torrent, who has received legal warnings not to allow such initiatives.

**TRUMP SLAMS INDIA AND CHINA, SAYS PARIS PACT IS UNFAIR TO THE U.S.**

President says the agreement shields 'foreign polluters'

**SRIRAM LAKSHMAN**  
WASHINGTON DC  
In a speech that railed against his friends and foes, U.S. President Donald Trump on Tuesday said the Paris Agreement would require the U.S. to 'pay countries' such as India [for technology and support to fight climate change], justifying his withdrawal from the climate treaty.

Speaking at the Economic Club of New York, a think-tank in the city, Mr Trump said the Agreement was "economically unfair", killing American jobs and shielding "foreign polluters".

"It is so unfair. It doesn't

# Trump slams India and China, says Paris pact is unfair to the U.S.

kick in for China until 2030. Russia goes back into the 1990s, where the base-year was the dirtiest year ever in the world," Mr. Trump claimed.

"India...we are supposed to pay them money because they're a developing na-



tion," Mr. Trump said, his arms outstretched. "I said, 'We're a developing nation too,'" he added, to laughter from the audience.

India featured again during the question-and-answer session that followed the President's speech.

"We have a relatively small piece of land, the United States," Mr. Trump said. "And you compare that to some of the other countries like China, like India, like Russia... that are doing absolutely nothing to clean up their smoke stacks and ...all of their plants and all of their garbage that they're dropping in the sea and that floats into Los Angeles..."

# Train crash kills 16 people in Bangladesh



**Fatal impact:** People gathered at the spot in Brahmanbaria district where two trains collided head-on on Tuesday. **AFP**

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
DHAKA  
At least 16 people were killed and 60 others injured in a head-on collision between two trains in Brahmanbaria district in central Bangladesh on Tuesday.

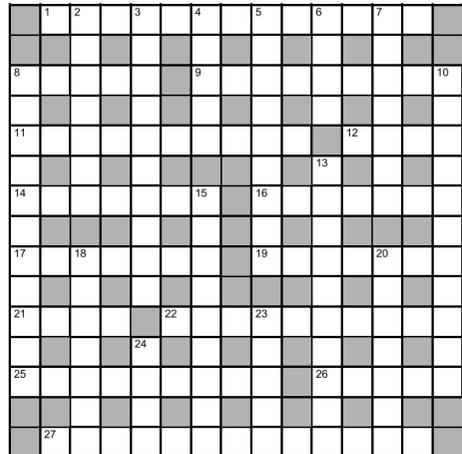
A railway spokesman said the the accident appeared to have occurred when Chit-

tagong-bound Udayan Express was changing tracks at Mondobhag railway station in the district and the Dhaka-bound Turna Nishita coming from the opposite direction collided with it.

According to police, 12 passengers died on the spot, while the rest succumbed to injuries later.

## THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12779

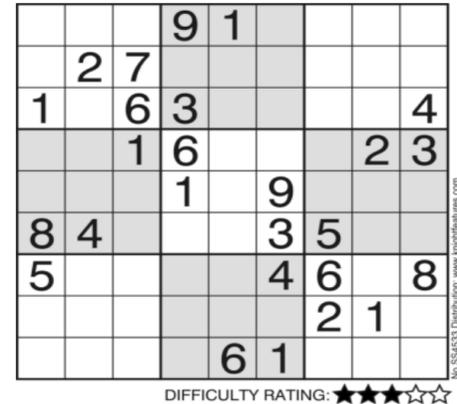
Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



- ACROSS**
- Conforming by queuing up (7,2,4)
  - Attack degenerates going round maiden (5)
  - Earned nothing? Sell out and retire (2,2,5)
  - Disaffection resulting from a deception by state (10)

- (set by Dr. X)
- Huge girl in buffet, disregarding line (4)
  - Warns former husband losing head in wrongful acts (7)
  - New decree about initiation of talaq established (7)
  - Dismiss American President involved in fleeing (7)
  - Silly old fellow chasing maiden in vehicle (7)
  - Kill time in insipid lecture (4)
  - Cultivating seeds around plot alongside first-class promenades (10)
  - China won't permit this Republican in charge to put the heat on (4,5)
  - Scoundrels are hard, slippery characters (5)
  - Card game, excellent and thrilling (5-8)
- DOWN**
- Abrogate article and Kashmir essentially boils after getting carved up (7)
  - Scandalous e-mails ruin big names (10)
  - Intoxicated model becoming a little naughty in darkness (5)
  - Shy person upset about appalling rot (9)
  - Pulls and assaults student for money (4)
  - Most intimate attention in retreat (7)
  - Utterly terrified son bothered by ultimately horrendous quarrel (6,5)
  - Outrages and harasses ladies during searches (11)
  - Fellow's stylish, pursuing intern – a skill doctors aren't known for? (10)
  - Gives a miss revolting kisses in parties (9)
  - An exercise in singing given by one to enthrall female say (7)
  - Exotic blonde cuddling a dear fellow (3,4)
  - What a cowboy needs? Damsel, essentially hot (5)
  - Contend with emergency after England exits (4)

## SUDOKU



**Solution to puzzle 12778**

A	S	F	A	R	A	S	I	T	G	O	E	S	
H	P	L	N	A	A								
G	R	O	U	P	L	A	S	T	S	T	R	A	W
O	R	R	A	O	H	L	E						
B	E	T	T	E	R	H	A	L	F	K	I	S	S
A	E	H	E	A	E	T							
L	I	N	N	E	T	S	N	O	S	T	R	O	M
T	M	P	E	D	E	S	E	M	E	R	S	O	N
S	R	S	T	S	H	I	S						
T	R	O	T	N	A	R	C	I	S	S	I	S	T
I	T	A	I	R	M	H	E						
C	R	E	S	C	E	N	D	O	E	N	T	E	R
G	M	E	U	N	Z								
S	E	R	E	N	D	I	P	I	T	O	U	S	

**Solution to yesterday's Sudoku**

9	4	3	8	7	1	2	5	6
2	5	1	6	3	9	7	8	4
8	6	7	5	4	2	3	9	1
1	9	5	2	6	7	8	4	3
3	8	6	9	1	4	5	2	7
7	2	4	3	5	8	6	1	9
5	7	9	1	2	3	4	6	8
4	1	2	7	8	6	9	3	5
6	3	8	4	9	5	1	7	2

## FAITH

### Spiritual journey

Scriptures have analysed the human mind, its remarkable functions, and its significant potential. It is shown to be the cause of bondage and capable of leading one to moksha. It is called the "antakarna", the inner organ that performs complex functions in association with the sense organs, intellect or buddhi, chitta or memory and ahankara, the sense of ego. When the mind easily gets drawn to the worldly attractions that tempt the senses, it becomes the cause of bondage; but when it understands the purpose of human birth is not getting involved in this world but that it is a chance in a million to get liberated from the repeated cycle of birth, it becomes the cause for salvation.

In a discourse, Swami Mukundananda drew attention to the purana story of two brothers to illustrate the role of the mind in the quest for salvation. Two brothers who wish to listen to an exposition of the Bhagavata Purana set out to a temple. On the way, they are caught in a heavy downpour and they take shelter in a house which happens to be the house of a prostitute. The elder brother decides to leave the place immediately, but the younger one wishes to remain there. Braving the rains the elder brother goes to the temple, but his mind keeps thinking of how his younger brother would be spending his time. In the case of the younger brother, he is ashamed of his decision to stay back and thinks of the elder brother in the temple and of the benefits of listening to the Bhagavata stories. When the two brothers meet, they are struck dead by lightning. The elder brother is taken to Yama loka and the younger one goes to swarga.

Spiritual journey is nothing but fine-tuning the mind to consciously avoid sinful thoughts and to always aim to seek oneness with God.