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Foreign briefs

Market for babies

BUENOS AIRES: The black market baby business is booming in Latin America, growing on an ever-greater demand from abroad, officials around the continent say. The buyers are mainly married couples from Europe and America. The commodity is newborn babies from all parts of Latin America and from all social classes. - Reuter.

Trial opens

JERUSALEM: Former nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu pleaded innocence to charges of treason and espionage on Sunday for allegedly exposing Israel's atomic secrets to a British newspaper, defence and prosecution attorneys said. The trial of Vanunu (32) opened with a closed-door hearing at the Jerusalem district court. - A.P.

Israeli PM cleared

TEL AVIV: Israeli Justice Ministry officials have cleared Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of the alleged involvement in the 1984 killing of two captured Arab guerrillas and a cover-up by Shin Bet security agency, the State Television said on Sunday. - Reuter.

Diplomat dead

CHICAGO: Albert W. Shriver Jr., a career U.S. diplomat who helped draft the human rights provisions of the Helsinki accords of 1975, died of cancer on Sunday night at North-West Memorial Hospital, according to a hospital spokesman. He was 67. - Reuter.

Crash toll

BAGHDAD: Iraq said that 87 persons were killed in an Iraqi Airways Boeing 737 which crashed in Saudi Arabia on Sunday day after an aborted hijack attempt. - Reuter.

Castro re-elected

HAVANA: The Cuban National Assembly has unanimously re-elected Fidel Castro, president of the Council of State (Head of State), the national news agency Tass said. Raul Castro, the brother of the 60-year-old President, was confirmed as First Vice-President. - DPA.

Suit dismissed

WASHINGTON: The U.S. District Court of Columbia dismissed the civil suit brought against Maharishi Mahesh Yogi by plaintiffs "John Doe" (VI) their actual names were not given) and "Jane Doe". The plaintiffs had charged they took medication lessons under being assured that they could fly but their lessons gave them sore backs. PTI.

Pak leader killed

PESHAWAR: A local political leader was gunned down today of his sons and a brother near here in the latest outbreak of a 10-year-old family feud, the police said on Sunday. Haji Mir Afzal Khan (76) was President of the ruling Pakistani Muslim League (PML) of Peshawar district and an associate of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junjho. - Reuter.

Kim Il-Sung

SEOUL: The North Korean Workers Party at its 12th Central Committee session has re-elected Kim Il-Sung as Secretary-General of the party, according to a report by Radio Pyongyang monitored here on Monday. Mr Kim, his son Jong Il, and Defence Minister Oh Jin-Woo were retained members of both the Standing Committee and the Politburo. - DPA.

Retired

MOSCOW: Mr Filipp Yermash, the longtime head of the State Committee on cinematography, was sent into retirement. Tass said Mr Yermash was replaced as head of the State Film Agency by Mr Alexander Kamalov, an official of the Communist Youth League. - A.P.

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5 more held for Khudda killings

Five intruders shot dead

From Tribune Reporters

CHANDIGARH, Dec 29

Five intruders from Pakistan were killed in two encounters with the BSF in the Amritsar sector while the police arrested a granthi and four more terrorists involved in the Khudda killings during the past 24 hours.

Four intruders from Pakistan were killed in the Khem Karan area yesterday. BSF sources said that eight intruders sneaked into Indian territory. On being challenged by the BSF, they opened fire. The fire was returned by the BSF, killing four intruders while the others escaped to Pakistan.

A Pakistani intruder was killed in an encounter with BSF men near Nurwala post last night. Two of his

accomplices managed to slip back to Pakistan.

AMRITSAR: The police on Monday arrested five more terrorists involved in the Khudda killings, including Major Singh, a son of Mr Hazara Singh, P.A. to Punjab Revenue Minister Major Singh Uboke.

The S.S.P. Mr Mohammed Ishaq Akmal and newsmen that the arrested persons were identified as Amrik Singh, an uncle of Satwant Singh, an assassin of Indira Gandhi, Joginder Singh, a granthi of a local guruwara, Jawant Singh, a local milk vendor, and Pinda of Gurdaspur.

Amrik Singh was one of the three kings behind the killings. Manjit Singh Khaila and Aror Singh, involved in the killings, stayed with Joginder Singh and 12 police uniforms of this gang were kept with Jawant Singh, which were yet to be recovered. One .355

bore rifle was recovered from this gang.

It is learnt that the rifle was recovered from the house of a Cabinet Minister belonging to this district in the interrogation of one of the accused persons.

Mr Alam said the police had arrested seven more terrorists involved in killings and robberies in this district. They included Kulwant Singh, a granthi of a guruwara at Ramdas, and Daljit Singh of Gurdaspur district, involved in the killing of some persons at Balwara on December 15. One 12 bore gun was recovered from their possession.

The S.S.P. said that Subeg Singh, a resident of Ugar Aulakh under Anjala police station was arrested and a .303 bore pistol was recovered from him.

The other arrested persons were identified as Avtar Singh and Parmjit Singh, both of Sultanwadi, Gurdip Singh of Guru-Ki-Wadali and Santokh Singh, alias Kola, a local resident.

The police chief admitted that Anur Singh and another terrorist accused in the Khudda killings who carried rewards of Rs 1 lakh each managed to slip out of the police dragnet in the city last week.

Mr Alam said they were present at a gathering near the railway and managed to give the slip when the police raided the guruwara.

He alleged that this guruwara was used by the group as their hideout for planning their actions. The Khudda men killings plot was also hatched at this place.

District Magistrate Ramesh Jod Singh issued orders prohibiting movement within 500 metres of the Indo-Pakistan border from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. Pillion riding on motor cycles, by male adults, the painting of motor cycles in bright yellow. The holding of processions, meetings, demonstrations or assembly of five or more than five persons have been banned.

The carrying of weapons in public places, and the use of loudspeakers for raising objectionable slogans and playing objectionable records and tapes has also been banned.

LUDHIANA: The District Magistrate on Monday banned the playing of all types of motor cycles in the district for two months. He also banned pillion riding on scooters and mopeds by women and children below 12.

The Magistrate ordered the closure of all restaurants, dhabas and hotels.

Continued on page 3 col 5

J&K poll may be delayed

From Our Staff Correspondent

SRINAGAR, Dec 29 - The Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are likely to be delayed by one month. These are expected to be held in April because of the cold conditions in the Kashmir valley.

Although the elections were due in 1988, the dissolution of the Assembly in the first week of November has made it mandatory for holding the poll within six months from the date of dissolution. The elections can be held by the first week of February if the State Government may shortly recommend suitable poll dates.

Since 45 days are needed for issuing a poll notification, the Election Commission has to issue this by the first week of February if the elections are to be held in the last week of March. Even this is too early for political parties to undertake electioneering in the valley. If the elections are held in April, these may not adversely affect the tourist traffic, which usually picks up in the first week of May.

Another reason for the State Government's reported unwillingness to have the elections in March is that officials are busy with problems created by the severe winter and may not be available for poll work.

oddly speaking

BY JASPAL BHATTI



For 20 paise per head I will let you have a look at the newspaper.

4 Govt Ministers boycott duties

PANAJI, Dec 29 (PTI) - The Goa Chief Minister, Mr Pratapsinh Rane, today decided to take over the work of the four Ministers, who submitted their resignations to the Congress (I) high command last week, demanding a change in the Goa leadership.

However, the necessary approval for this will be obtained from the Lieutenant-Governor, Dr. Gopal Singh, Goa Secretariat sources said today.

The Tourism Minister, Dr. Luis Bhatia, the Health Minister, Sheikh Hassan, the Agriculture Minister, Mr. Francisco Sarinha, and the Energy Minister, Mr. Harijit Zantye, stayed away from their office this morning, carrying out their earlier threat of boycotting official work.

The sources said the Chief Minister took this decision in the interest of the smooth functioning of the Union Territory Administration.

UNI adds: Mr R. L. Bhatia, Congress (I) General Secretary, who is in charge of Goa, and the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr C. Panigrahi, will shortly visit Goa to study the political and law and order situation in the Union Territory, according to party sources.

They will meet Chief Minister Pratapsinh Rane, party MLAs and the four Ministers who have tendered their resignations to the high command.

The German airlines Cander, which operates chartered flights between Frankfurt and Goa for foreign tourists, resumed its services on Monday. The services were suspended during the strike week.

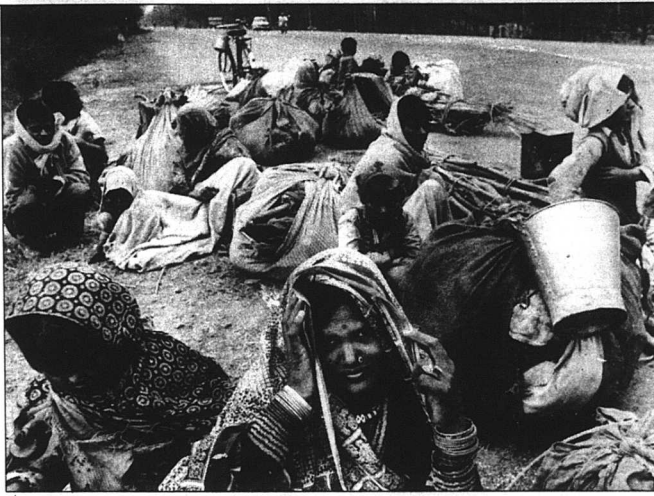
Foreign tourists will be lodged in bungalows in the city. A precautionary measure, Hotel and Tourist Association sources said.

The airlines bring about 200 foreign tourists to Goa every week.

Sudarshan Singh, a policeman posted at the Central Jail, Amritsar, and Mr Gulab Singh, a CRPF Nark, were also booked up.

CRPF Sub-Inspector Ajit Singh, a resident of the village serving in Manjpur, was savagely treated. His photographs in uniform shown to the CRPF men proved to be of little help.

HUMILIATION
Several families appear to keep quiet about the humiliation their daughters had suffered at the hands of the security forces. One woman showed her cheek where a CRPF man had bitten her. Her



Migrant labourers and their children bound for Ludhiana stranded on G.T. Road near Rajpura because of the bandh in Punjab on Monday.

Partial, peaceful bandh

From The Tribune Bureau

CHANDIGARH, Dec 29

The first day of the two-day Punjab bandh called by the two factions of the All-India Sikh Students Federation today passed off peacefully.

The bandh call has been supported by the rebel Akali Dal, the "untied" Akali Dal, the Damdami Taksal and certain other militant and underground organisations.

The overall response to the bandh call was partial, according to Capt Kanwaljit Singh, Minister of State for Home, who briefed newsmen here this evening.

The bandh response varied from place to place but nowhere was it total. At a few places it went almost unnoticed.

But the bandh call seriously affected the road and rail transport in the State. All passenger trains and bus services barring those

operating on trunk routes were suspended for 48 hours with effect from midnight last night as a precautionary measure. Mail and express trains, however, ran according to schedule. Similarly, the State-owned roadways buses plied on highways only and that too in groups of two or more vehicles under heavy armed escort. There were, however, few passengers. Private vehicles, by and large, remained off the road.

More than 500 persons were

taken into preventive custody on the eve of the two-day bandh.

At certain places, attempts were made to block the roads by felling trees. But these were quickly cleared by the security forces.

Small groups of people tried to block the traffic at Jagran, Ajitwala and Zirra. Volunteers at Jagran and Zirra were removed by the security forces. But the dharna by about 200 persons led by Baba Joginder Singh of the "untied" Akali Dal was continuing at Ajitwala.

wal when last reports came in.

The call for bandh has been given in support of the demands for the release of the Jodhpur detenus, reinstatement of the Army deserters, an end to the "oppression" on the Sikh youth and commuting of the death sentence of the assassin of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

Capt Kanwaljit Singh claimed that no inconvenience had been caused to the general public because all those who wanted to travel were able to do so in buses operated under armed escort.

The Government had taken elaborate measures to ensure law and order during the bandh. While vehicles were plying with armed guards extra police was posted at vantage points in all the cities. Intensive mobile patrolling was also undertaken. Attendance in Government offices was normal. Banks also functioned as usual. Educational institutions were closed because of winter holidays.

The Minister also said that even the partial response which the call for bandh had evoked at different places in Punjab did not represent the "popular response of the people". There had been no mass participation and barring a feeble

Continued on page 14 col 3

Security tightened in J & K

JAMMU, Dec 29 (PTI) - Security in Jammu and Kashmir has been further tightened following intelligence reports that some terrorists were trying to sneak into the State with a "definite plan of sabotage" according to official sources.

Sarpanch shot dead

From Our Correspondent

BALACHAUR, Dec 29 - Mr Tarsen Singh, sarpanch of Ghauri village, was shot dead by two unidentified youths on the Ghauri main road, 4 km from here, today. The killers came on a scooter (PJI 6647) and escaped after a crime.

A report was lodged with the police at Balachaur police station by Mr Avtar Singh, a nephew of the deceased. Personal enmity is believed to be the cause of the crime.

Raj Narain has heart attack

NEW DELHI, Dec 29 (PTI) - The Socialist Party President, Mr Raj Narain, who suffered a heart attack yesterday, is "in serious condition", doctors attending on him at Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital said here today.

A medical bulletin issued by the hospital authorities said Mr Raj Narain had suffered heart attack and had been admitted to the hospital with low blood pressure and pulse rate.

The doctors said they had put him on a "temporary pacemaker" and were keeping him under constant observation.

The securitymen let loose their fury on Balwant Singh, who is on his wife's death, but to no avail.

His wife, Kulwant Kaur, pleaded with the securitymen on her husband's behalf, but to no avail.

Sadha Singh, the village school Headmaster, showed to this reporter his swollen back with blue marks.

Pardeep Singh (26), who had

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