News story: Foreign Office statement on demonstrations in Belarus

We have closely followed events in Belarus leading up to, and during, the Freedom Day demonstrations. We are concerned over the actions of the law enforcement agencies in Minsk. A large number of citizens, activists and journalists appear to have been arbitrarily and indiscriminately detained.

There is no justification for the use of force or intimidation against those exercising their right to peaceful protest. We urge the Government of Belarus to respect and uphold the right to freedom of association, assembly and expression. We further call on the government of Belarus to release all those peaceful protesters still detained.

<u>Taiwan reports new outbreak of bird</u> flu

Taiwan has confirmed a new outbreak of bird flu at two poultry farms and culled more than 14,000 birds to prevent further infection, according to the local animal inspection authority.

Ducks at a farm in Pingdong county were confirmed with the H5N2 virus and more than 6,000 were culled.

A chicken farm in Tainan city also reported outbreak of an H5-type virus on Saturday, and more than 8,000 chicken were slaughtered.

Taiwan is a common destination for migrating birds. Its farms have reported more than 15 avian flu cases this year, including cases related to the highly pathogenic H5N6 virus.

The general bird flu situation is "under steady control" despite sporadic infections, the animal inspection authority said.

It warned farms to strengthen quarantine and sanitation work and report any unusual death of poultry. Those who report infections will get compensation for culled poultry, while cover-ups will lead to hefty fines.

<u>Weekly Road Report - West End Ward</u>



DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL - ROAD REPORT FOR THE WEST END

REPORT FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 27 MARCH 2017

SSE Glenagnes Cable Renewal — Lochee Road lane restrictions and closures on Blinshall Street, Fleuchar Street and Scott Street for 5 months.

Brown Street (Douglas Street to Miln Street) — closed from Monday 27 March for 5 working days for SSE cabling works.

Blackness Road / Glamis Road — temporary traffic lights for 2 weeks for gas main renewal.

Forest Park Road — temporary traffic lights for one week for Scottish Water main repair.

Milnbank Road — temporary traffic lights for one week for Scottish Water main repair.

Wright Avenue — off peak temporary traffic lights on Thursday 30 March for telecoms maintenance.

Forthcoming Roadworks

Brown Street (Guthrie Street for 35m south) — closed southbound from Monday 3 April for 5 working days for Scottish Water mains repair works.

UN appalled at killing of aid workers in South Sudan

26 March 2017 — Six aid workers from a national non-governmental organization were killed when their convoy was ambushed yesterday while travelling along the Government-controlled area on the Juba-Pibor road, the United Nations mission in the country (UNMISS) has said.

Their bodies were found on the road by others members of the convoy who were some way behind.

“The United Nations condemns this appalling and pointless loss of life,” said the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan and the head of UNMISS, David Shearer in a news release issued by the mission.

“This cold-blooded killing is utterly reprehensible, not least, because these aid workers were dedicated to alleviating the ongoing suffering of the people of South Sudan, ” he added, urging the Government to investigate and apprehend the killers.

The attack – the single worst incident targeting aid workers in the African country since the outbreak of hostilities in December 2013 – comes at a time when humanitarian needs have reached unprecedented levels.

“[Such attacks] not only put the lives of aid workers at risk, they also threaten the lives of thousands of South Sudanese who rely on our assistance for their survival,” said Eugene Owusu, the Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan, stressing that security of relief workers has to be ensured so that they are able to provide relief to the those with immense needs across the nation.

The conflict has taken a devastating tool on the people of South Sudan: around 7.5 million people are in need of relief and protection, and the humanitarian crisis has deepened further with localized famine declared in parts of the country.

No safety when attacks met with silence

At least 79 aid workers have been killed in South Sudan since December 2013, including at least 12 this year. The last two months alone have seen a sharp increase of attacks on humanitarians and looting of supplies intended for people suffering from the famine.

On 14 March, one health worker and a patient were killed in an attack on a humanitarian convoy that was responding to a cholera outbreak in Yirol East (in the central part of South Sudan). Earlier, on 10 March, staff of an international non-governmental organization were detained by non-state armed individuals during fighting in Mayendit town (also in central South Sudan). They were released four days later.

“Every time an attack of this nature happens, we say that it must never happen again. And yet it does [...] there is no safety when attacks are met with silence and inaction, ” said the Humanitarian Coordinator, underscoring that the impunity that has prevailed for such crimes must end, and that perpetrators must be brought to justice.

“I implore all those in positions of power to step up to their responsibilities and stop this, as they are ultimately accountable for what happens under their watch.”

Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor wins election of HK's fifth-term chief executive



Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor (2nd R) arrives at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center before the voting for the fifth-term chief executive of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), March 26, 2017. Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor wins the election of Hong Kong's fifth-term chief executive by obtaining more than 600 votes. (Xinhua/Wang Xi)

Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor on Sunday won the election of the fifth-term chief executive of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR).

The Electoral Affairs Commission of the Hong Kong SAR declared that Lam garnered 777 of 1,163 valid votes.