

NEWS WRAP

AGD

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA, ARE manufacturing everything from mattresses to malaria drugs, and selling diverse products from smart phones, flat-screen televisions, cars to toothpaste. The African continent has an impressive growth, which is rescinding, after the global decline. Oil economies, like Angola and Nigeria are growing at more than 6.9% in 2011. The growth rates of non-oil economies such as Ethiopia and Tanzania, are exceeding 6.4%. China's bilateral trade, with Africa, which includes oil and mining rights and land, and multi-billion dollar infrastructure deals with countries like Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo, will rise from \$3 billion in 2001-01, to \$70 billion by 2015. Recently, India has offered African countries a second \$5 billion loans package, following a \$5.4 billion five-year loan deal of 2008. India has invested \$1 billion in Ethiopia's commercial agriculture. Agreements negotiated by India have switched from trade to investment in Africa, supporting tea and telecoms industry, to hydropower plants in Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo. India has oil off take agreements with produces across Africa. In 2010, India's Bharti Airtel purchased Zain's Africa telephone network.

POWER DEFICIT IN CHINA

China is the world's largest energy consumer. As soaring coal prices squeeze power generation companies, Chinese provinces are rationing electricity. Alongside Shanghai and Chonqing, Hunan, Zhejiang, Jiangsu and Anhui provinces have implemented power cuts. There has been a national shortage of 30 million kilowatt hours this summer. As Beijing is reluctant to increase state controlled electricity prices because of worries over inflation, Chinese electricity companies are facing financial pressure from the increase in global energy costs. Thermal coal fuels 70% of China's power plants. The price of thermal coal has risen about one third since August 2010, while the Chinese government has raised electricity tariffs by just 2%, during the same period. Some power stations, promoted by the price gap, has closed or reduced generation. Hydropower generation has also fallen, after a dry winter in southern China, covering Hunan and Guangdong provinces. More manufactures and businesses are relying on diesel generators for electricity, due to power shortages.

JUSTICE IN RWANDA

Between April to July 1994, some 800,000 Tutsis and Hutu sympathisers were killed in Rwanda. An erstwhile guerilla commander of the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), a rebel army that fought an end to the mass murder, Mr Paul Kagame is president of Rwanda. Kagame has ensured the return of millions of Rwandans displaced by conflict. Hundreds of thousands of genocide crimes have been tried by village committees. The government still depends on international aid, for nearly 50% of its budget. Now Rwanda has experienced some of the highest growth rates in Africa. But Kagame is also accused of war crimes and human rights abuses. Extra ordinary license has been given to repress dissent. The blunder of minerals from the Democratic Republic of Congo during Rwanda's numerous invasions of its neighbours he generated the prosperity of elites in Kigali. Kagame's actions may have been necessary to restore security and lay the foundations for development. Tens of thousands of Rwandans and Congolese died at the hands of Kagame's army, while authority was established and the country's borders secured in the face of continuing threat to surviving Tutsis. Political opponents and journalists are faced with exile, jail, or death. The political system remains rigidly controlled. The Pope is yet to apologize for the complicity of members of the Catholic Church in the Rwandan genocide. □□□