Sharif's announcement has not surprised me: Rao

NEW DELHI, Feb 4: The Prime Minister, PV Narasimha Rao, today said, India would have to draw its own conclusions from the "discordant notes" struck by his Pakistani counterpart within hours of their meeting in Switzerland by giving a strike call in his country to express solidarity with the people of Kashmir, reports PTI.

Saying that Nawaz Sharif's announcement did not surprise him, Rao said, even the discordant notes have their relevance and one has to draw conclusions."

Replying to wide ranging questions at Delhi Airport on his return after a week long visit to the United Nations and Davos, the Prime Minister said a set-back in the Indo-Pakistan relations was not something

Refraining from making any direct comment on the Pakistan High Commissioner, Abdul Satiar's controversial interview. In which he accused India of unleashing terror on the Kashmiri people. Rao said there were people who advocated good bilateral relations and there were also some who acted in a different way.

The Prime Minister suggested that differences persisted among Security Council members mainly on the question of delineating the UN's fu-

reported, says AP from Brazil.

when a tree fell on him.

AFP reports from Germany

German authorities said

driving, Reuter reports from Kuwait.

ratories or on hospital ward rounds.

Premadasa said in a televised address.

shedding a drop of blood.

Abu Nidal had

secret deal

with France?

communities.

off, police said

Monday.

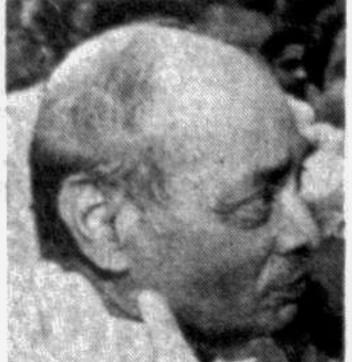
Colombo.

ported.

miles (1,500 kilometers) northeast of Rio.

ture role, the enlargement of the council membership and the nuclear issue.

Rao, who attended the historic Security Council summit in New York on January 31, said these differences were put across loudly and clearly. Asked whether India saw



any merit in a proposal for a five nation summit to resolve the nuclear question in South Asia, the Prime Minister said it is inadequate.

In an apparent reference to the US and Pakistan, the Prime Minister said those who were advocating the proposal saw merit in it.

I have made Indian position on the nuclear issue abundantly clear more than at any time in the past, he said.

12 die in Brazil plane crash: A plane

carrying 12 people crashed into a mountain and exploded in

northeastern Brazil on Monday, and rescue workers were

rushing to reach the plane, the country's largest TV network

TV Globo said the twin-engine Bandeirantes plane, oper-

Crews were trying to reach the plane, which fell in a re-

mote area, the network said. Globo said there were reports of

Sandstorm kills 4 in Cairo: A

Sandstorm whipped up by violent winds killed at least four

people in northern Egypt on Monday, Reuter reports from

Three people were killed when the side of a building col-

lapsed on them in the Cairo suburb of Giza, security sources

said. A man out walking with his finance died in Cairo Zoo

Akhbar put the death total eight. Dozens of injuries were re-

and then moved inland. Churningup desert areas and throw-

ing clouds of sand over cities and towns.

Al-Ahram newspaper said five people were killed while Al-

Fierce winds from Russia hit Egypt's Mediterranean coast

31 Filipinos held in Germany:

group of 31 Filipinos crossed the border from Czechoslovakia

to Germany hidden in a semi-trailer, police said on Monday,

Frankfurt Airport, near where the driver had dropped them

The 28 men and three women were arrested around

All had passports with valid visas for Czechoslovakia.

Police said they were being examined at the Frankfurt

Veiled women banned from driving:

Kuwait's Traffic Department has banned veiled women from

veils to cover their faces from driving vehicles - those ap-

prehended breaking this law will be subject to penalties.

Lieutenant Colonel Ismael Al-Khalidi was quoted as saying on

Fundamentalist women from wearing face veils in class, labo-

Last November Kuwait's faculty of medicine banned Muslim

Lanka celebrates independence

Sri Lanka celebrated its 44th independence day Tuesday with

President Ranasinghe Premadasa warning that the country's

disunity may invite foreign interference, reports AP from

ments will be able to interfere in our internal affairs.

To the extent we are divided and disunited external ele-

More than 20,000 people have died since 1983 in fighting

Premadasa said it was tragic to see bloodshed in a country

He called on the people to end violence and terror and to

between the country's two main ethnic groups, the Sinhalese

that had gained independence from colonial Britain without

forge bonds of brotherhood among the country's different

and the Tamils, and from rivalries within each group.

"A decision has been taken which bans women who use

Airport Clinic and would soon be questioned by officials.

It closed major roads and cut off electricity in some areas.

survivors, although it provided no source for the claim.

ated by Northeastern Airlines, was carrying ten passengers

and two crew members when it crashed near Caetite, 930

About 1.6 lakh foreigners live in Japan illegally

ISLAMABAD, Feb

President of Pak-occupied

Kashmir Sardar Stkandar Hayat

Khan said that an attempt by

JKLF activists to cross the line

of control into India on

February 11 could lead to the

outbreak of a conflict between

India and Pakistan, reports

Talking to newsmen here.

Khan said that this was not the

"appropriate time" to take any

such step and that India could

He charge the United

States with backing New Delhi

to create what he called an

"Indian hegemony" in the

South Asian region to achieve

Washington's "ulterior mo-

polices towards Islamic coun-

tries after its emergence as

the only superpower in the

wake of the fragmentation of

the Soviet Union.

He also condemned the US

resort to any action.

February 11.

interview on the situation in

disputed Kashmir by Pakistan's

In the interview Sattar was

High Commissioner (amba-

ssador) to Delhi, Abdul Sattar.

quoted as saying India was

"bludgeoning Kashmiris into

submission" in the northern

state, which is also claimed by

Pakistan and where warmed

Muslim militants are fighting

TOKYO, Feb 4: The number of foreigners living illegally in Japan rose sharply to 159,828 in the year ending last May 1, a Justice Ministry study showed Today, reports Reuter.

This was a 50 per cent increase over the first survey taken in 1990, when 106,497 illegal residents were rec-

Most are thought to have jobs in Japan, which suffers from a chronic labour shortage.

A breakdown by country shows that Iranians were responsible for the biggest increase, their numbers rising from 764 to 10,915.

The largest number of thegal residents, 27,228, came from the Philippines, followed by South Korea with 25,848 and Thatland, 19,093.

Of the illegal residents 106, 518 were men and 53,310

Russia will monitor arms

export

LONDON, Feb 4: Russia is to set up a body to monitor the export of its arms abroad, Russian Finance Minister Yegor Gaydar said on Monday, reports

Radio Russia, monitored by the BBC, quoted Gaydar as saying there would be political control over arms exports, with a special body to include government officials from the foreign policy, industry, economics, finance and security departments.

Gaydar acknowledged that the export of arms was "not the best solution" to Russia's, economic problems, but nevertheless necessary.

"We cannot close our eyes to the fact that selling arms is a normal part of world trade, and we intend to make our materials competitive in this market," the minister was quoted as say ing by the independent news-

Peace talks on Nagorno-Karabakh

soon ISTANBUL, Feb

Azerbaijan and Armenia have accepted an invitation to hold peace talks in Moscow soon on the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev said on Monday, reports Reuter.

'I invited the two ministers to come. As I understand, both of them accepted', he told reporters.

Kozyrev brought Azeri Foreign Minister Hussein Sadikhov and Armenia's acting Foreign Minister Armand Navassardyan together informally during a meeting to set up a black sea Economic Cooperation Pact between Turkey and eight ex-communist states.

lead to Indo-Pak conflict for self-determination.

Border crossing by JKLF can

claimed that it was giving, A Foreign Office spokesman "final touches" to preparations said that "excerpts" of the into cross the line of control on terview, given to the pioneer newspaper and published Sunday, were "totally unac-In a statement released to the press, the JKLF "chief ceptable" and had "caused us

commander' Javed Ahmad Mir deep concern." said Kashmiri youths regis-"We find the kind of statetered themselves to join the ments made by the Pakistan march in response to a call by High Commissioner on the sitthe front Chairman Amanullah uation in Jammu and Kashmir totally unacceptable. We are inclined to wonder at the possible motivation... choosing this AFP from New Delhi says: India expressed 'deep conparticular point of time on the cern' yesterday over comeve of the meeting of the prime ministers of the two ments made in a newspaper

Intelligence.

views," the spokesman said. "We are also somewhat curious as to which body of opinion within Pakistan the Pakistan High Commission has sought to represent," he added in an apparent reference to Islamabad's intelligence agency, the Inter-Services

countries for the airing of such

The interview was frontpaged in the pioneer as Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Shartf and and Indian counterpart PV Narasimha Rao met in Davos, Switzerland, where they have been attend-

ing an economic conference. Both leaders said they would exchange visits in an effort to settle bilateral problems including Kashmir, India's only Muslim majority

Official sources here told journalists that 'since India wants to improve ties with Pakistan," New Delhi was not contemplating any official action against Sattar, a veteran diplomat and former Pakistan Foreign Secretary.

More than 3,600 people, including civilians, have died in fighting between Kashmiri militants and Indian security forces since the campaign for succession intensified in 1990.

Off the Record

Only to protect them from male lawyers

DALLAS: The American Bar Association voted on Monday to protect its employees from sexual harassment by the group's predominantly male membership, reports Reuter.

In a unanimous vote, the World's Largest Lawyers' Association also agreed to play a major role in educating the legal profession about the scope and harm of such harassment.

Most of the ABA's 370,000 members are male.

This must be a continuing and widespread effort, said Cory Amron, a Washington lawyer who heads the ABA's commission on women in the profession.

She said that the ABA must educate lawyers as sexual harassment is most likely to occur within a profession that is predominantly male, only about 20 per cent of attorneys in large law firms are women.

She cited a comprehensive 1990 study conducted by the ABA young lawyer division that showed about 85 per cent of female lawyers had experienced or observed at least one form of sexual harassment during the previous two years.

Dangerous tour

NEW YORK: Michael Jackson announced Monday that he is hitting the road this summer and aims to gross 100 million dollar by Chirstmas of 1993 - an 18-month world tour to raise money for his new foundation. Heal the World, reports AP from New York.

The tour will be called the "Dangerous" tour.

More than 200 reporters and camera operators at a news conference in Radio City Music Hall watched Jackson use his black-gloved right hand to sign a sponsorship agreement with Pepsi-Cola, whose soft drinks he promotes.

Asked how much money Jackson would get in the deal, Pepsi's marketing vice president, Peter Kendall, said only, "A

Jackson said his only reason for undertaking the lengthy tour was to "spread the message of global love in the hopes that others too will be moved to do their share to help heal the world."

Murderer vicar gets 20 years in cooler

COLOMBO: The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed an appeal by a vicar who was sentenced to death for murdering his wife and his lover's husband, reports AP.

Rev. Matthew Peiris, 74, was convicted in 1984 for poisoning the two victims. His wife Eunice died in March 1979, stx months after the death of Russel Ingram.

Petris' mistress. Dalrine Ingram, was initially charged for the murders and sentenced to death. But an appeal court overruled her conviction, saying that although the evidence established an amatory relationship between the two defendants, she was "an innocent tool in the hands of Rev. Petris."

Israeli-Palestinian talks to resume by February

JERUSALEM, Feb 4: Palestinian peace negotiators said on Monday the next round of bilateral talks with Israel was likely to resume in Washington on February 17 or 24, reports Reuter.

-AFP photo

spokeswoman Margaret Tut-

wiler of the Libyan leader's

Libya's position which he has

taken since indictments were

unanimously adopted resolu-

tion 731 on January 21 and

Libya must comply fully with

the requirements of that reso-

That resolution calls on

Libya to fulfill requests from

the United States, Britain and

France who want to bring to

trial Libyan intelligence agents

linked to the Lockerbie bomb-

ing and the bombing of an air-

liner of French Airline UTA

day in a tent 300 kilometers

(180 miles) from the Libyan

capital of Tripoli, the Post said.

"respect" for President George

Bush and Secretary of State

James Baker because they had

not personally attacked him

and seem to be serious" over a

Questions focused on UN

Lockerbie bombing and four in

Gaddafi also said he had

He was interviewed Satur-

over Niger in 1989.

Middle East peace.

the UTA case.

handed down," she said.

lution," Tutwiler added.

"Gaddafi simply repeats

The UN Security Council

"We have been informed that they (the talks) will be delayed a bit because Secretary of State James Baker will not be in the country on the 10th. Two dates have been suggested. We still don't know the final date ... either the 17th or the 24th," said Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi.

An Israeli official said the dates were "not off mark."

Arab and Israeli negotiators had been considering resuming the talks on February 10. A US official said Baker would be abroad until the last week of February and it was up to Isrealis and Arabs to set the

The Palestinians said their absence from multilateral Middle East talks in Moscow last week would not affect their position in bilateral peace negotiations.

The bilaterals are the arena in which we are going to engage seriously with Israel on beginning effectively the transitional phase preparatory to ending the occupation and withdrawal," Ashrawi said at an East Jerusalem news confer-

The Palestinians, fearing normalisation of relations between Israel and Arab states before Israel agrees to withdraw from the occupied lands, demanded on Monday that any progress in multilateral talks be linked to the bilateral negotiations.

The core of the whole conflict is Israeli occupation of Arab land and before we move to cooperation, occupation and state of war must end."

'Non-alignment no longer relevant'

LARNACA, Cyprus, Feb 4: Non-Aligned foreign ministers here yesterday debated a new identity for their movement in the aftermath of the Cold War, with Egypt arguing that Non-Alignment itself was no longer relevant, reports AFP.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, whose country is the current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), appealed for a more equitable relationship among the large and small nations.

We seek to contribute to a new world order that is seeking democratization within nations and equally implements it among nations, he told a gathering of NAM ministers and officials discussing a new role for the movement. More than 150 delegates

from some 50 nations are at-

tending a two-day meeting of

the NAM methodology committee in the Southern Cypriot coastal resort of Larnaca. The movement was estab-

lished in 1955 to serve as a counterweight to the US-Soviet ideological conflict and today groups 102 members.

We cannot envisage a new world order that does not allow for the contributions of all nations, large and small, powerful and weak in its architecture as well as its mechanism, said Alatas.

Cypriot Foreign Minister George lacovou argued that our old style declarations about the confrontation of the Cold War and disarmament have ceased to be relevant and called for cooperation amongst ourselves for peace, security and pros-

perity. Syrian counterpart Farug Al-Shara stressed that democratization should not be considered within each country

but has to be a process in international relations as well. He pleaded for the Non-Aligned Movement to be

maintained, asserting: there is no other umbrella for dialogue

with the North.

Mussa of Egypt said the Non-Aligned notion in itself is no longer valid. Now it is not East-West but rather North

Algeria won't ban FIS

ALGIERS, Feb 4 : Algeria's new authorities have no intention of banning the Islamic Fundamentalist Movement and will maintain the present Prime Minister in his post, the president of the High State Council Boudiaf, said Monday, reports Reuter.

The HSC "has absolutely no intention of questioning the recognition of the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS)," Boudiaf said in his first televised interview since he returned from exile in Morocco last month to head the council.

formally forbidden to use the mosques and religion for political ends."

Boudiaf said the FIS would be "perfectly free, if it really seeks Algeria's interests, and if country... if it obeys the law, we Boudiaf urged the FIS "to

Nelson Mandela (L) is presented the Felix Houphouet-Boigny award Monday at the UNESCO

headquarters in Paris by Kissinger, president of the jury, as South African President

Frederik W De Klerk (C) looks on. Mandela and De Klerk were rewarded in recognition of

US rejects Gaddafi's

offer for compromise

crashed in Lockerbie, Scot-

land, and insisted that Libya

had agreed to a UN demand

for cooperation in investigating

thought a "compromise" could

be worked out to avoid any UN

sanctions against Libya and

that he wanted Washington to

anything new or significant in

it," said State Department

reopen its embassy in Tripoli.

He told the Post that he

"We don't see any change or

both men's 'decisive contribution' to reconciliation in their country.

respect the rules of democracy and avoid using democracy to

Algeria's head of government

possible," but the new authorities were working with Ghozali to draw up a plan of

said, was "to grasp the situathe appropriate means."

Prime Minister Sid Ahmed

despite the upheavals of the past few weeks, Boudiaf announced.

signed "simply to reduce state expenditure." The need, he tion in order to remedy it with

it respects the laws of the are ready to listen to it."

A government reshuffle was

destroy it.

the attack.

Ghozali will continue as

salvation, he said.

(HSC), Mohamed

WASHINGTON, Feb 4: The

United States Monday rejected

Libyan leader Colonel Moam-

mer Gaddafi's call for com-

promise aimed at avoiding

United Nations sanctions for

refusing to cooperate with

probes of two airplane bomb-

Washington Post Gaddafi said

his country was a "scapegoat"

in the 1988 bombing of a Pan

Am Airliner which blew up and

In an interview with the

ings, reports AFP.

But he warned, "the FIS is

A reshuffle would be de-

demands that Libya cooperate with investigations about the Lockerbie and UTA bombings, which left more than 400 people dead. Two Libyans have been accused by investigators in the

Mujahideen vow to continue war against Najibullah ISLAMABAD, Feb 4: More than 550 Ghali has directed his personal envoy Benon ex-monarch Zahir Shah to their country and internal affairs of Afghanistan by opposing the

NEW YORK, Feb 4: A book published on Monday alleges that France may have struck a secret deal with the shadowy Abu Nidal guerilla group to prevent terrorist attacks on its soil.

reports Reuter. Abu Nidal, A gun for Hire by British journalist Patrick Seale also points to numerous circumstantial links between Nidal and Israel's secret service, the Mossad, and wonders whether Israel had benefitted from his

The book was published by Random House at a time when the French government is under fire for having allowed hard-line Palestinian leader George Habash to receive medical treatment in Paris.

activities.

Mujahideen commanders have vowed at a meeting in Afghanistan to continue their Holy War to oust President Najibullah and establish an Islamic government, a statement said Monday, reports AFP.

A statement released in the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar said the commanders met in the Afghan province of Paktia from January 27 to February 1 to discuss the political and military situation in Afghanistan. It said the meeting of commanders decided

to agree to a UN peace plan for Afghanistan provided it met expectations for the establishment of an Islamic government. The plan requires clarifications, the

statement said. "If the Five-point plan is not against the expectations of our Jihad (Holy War) and national interest and results in the establishment of Islamic government, it will not be opposed," the statement said.

The UN blue print calls for a ceasefire and installation of an interim administration ahead of elections.

UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-

Seven to intensify consultations with all parties for the convening of an inter-Afghan Pakistan has backed the initiative saying it

would bot allow hardline Mujahideen leaders to block the implementation of the UN plan. Some radical factions have rejected any negotiations with the Kabul government, describing the UN plan as a scheme to impose a

settlement on the Afghan nation. The commanders called on leaders of all Mujahideen parties to foil "foreign plot to interfere in our country" warning that otherwise the "integrity of Afghanistan will be imperilled," the statement said.

The Paktia meeting set up a commission to chart out a "comprehensive" strategy for organizing an " Islamic Army" and achieving the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan, it added.

Zahir Shah's return Meanwhile: Thousands of Afghan refugees

have paraded in this border township in southwest Pakistan, demanding there turn of

slamming opponents of proposed UNsponsored peace talks. The rally on Sunday, organized by an influential Afghan Tribal leader and Ex-

Commander of the Hezb- i- Islami Gulbuddin Hekmatyar Group, Khair Mohammed Ishaqzai, was attended by over 10,000 refugees. "Welcome, welcome Zahir shah, welcome," the participants chanted as they marched through the town, which is home to nearly

30,000 refugees. Zahir Shah, who resides in Italy, was ousted in July 1973, and is seen by some as a possible

bridge to lasting peace in Afghanistan. Several resolutions were adopted at Sunday's rally, one of them welcoming Pakistan's decision last week to accept a UN sponsored "Loya Jirga" or grand assembly of Afghans to seek an end to the Afghan civil war. Urging the Pakistani government to

also lauded the role of the world body in finding a political solution to the conflict. Another resolution accused Pakistani Fundamentalist lea-ders of interfering in the

continue pressing for a UN solution, the rally

Soviet invasion varied from 700,000 to one

proposed Intra-Afghan assembly. The gathering described opposition to the UN plan Bygazi Hussain Ahmed, Chief of the

Pakistani Jamaat Islami, and Maulana Sami-Ul-Haq. Secretary General of Jamaat Ulema-I-Islam, a " Direct interference" in Afghan affairs. A former Afghan Diplomat, Aziz Khan,

accused hardline resistance leaders of "playing a dirty game" at the cost of his compatriots. "Russians are no longer in Afghanistan and we must come across the negotiation table,"

resolved through political dialogue." Three radical faction are opposed to participating in an intra-Afghan Assembly if the Najibullah government in Kabul is present. Saranan, in Baluchistan pr-ovince, 45

kilometers (30 miles) from the border with

Afghanistan, was virtually a "no mans land" before refugees erected their camps. The exact figure for ref-ugee who fled Afghanistan into Baluchistan after the 1979

said Aziz, adding: " The problem can be

But Foreign Minister Amir

versus South.