

South Korea won't pay for North's reactors

SEOUL, Aug 29: South Korea will not take part in an international deal to finance upgrading North Korea's nuclear reactors unless Pyongyang accepts a safer model of reactor used in the South, a presidential spokesman said today, reports Reuter.

South Korean President Kim Young-Sam earlier this month offered money and modern nuclear technology to the Stalinist state if it showed it was not trying to develop nuclear weapons.

But North Korea, which is still technically at war with the South, said at the weekend Pyongyang had never considered accepting nuclear reactors from South Korea.

Under an agreement with North Korea, the United States must put together a consortium of nations to meet the estimated 4 billion dollars cost of replacing the north's graphite nuclear reactors with the safer light-water system.

"It is a firm government position that any participation in the consortium is on the premise that North Korea accepts South Korea — model light-water reactors," the spokesman said.

The West suspects North Korea's graphite nuclear pro-

gramme is being used to make bombs, a charge Pyongyang denies.

The light-water system is less capable of producing weapons-grade plutonium.

Western diplomats said a pullout by South Korea in the consortium would make the US-North Korean deal very difficult as no other nation was willing to pay the bulk of the cost.

The United States and North Korea announced earlier this month after week-long talks in Geneva that Pyongyang would freeze its graphite-modified nuclear power programme in return for a light-water system.

The Geneva accord did not specify which country would supply the new reactors but North Korea's chief delegate to Geneva talks, Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok Ju, did not rule out the possibility of the South becoming a main supplier.

The North's official Korea Central News Agency (KCNA) said on Saturday the provision of the light-water system was "a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue."

"But no heed was paid to the South Korean LWR (light-water reactor) at all," the agency said.

Rifts in Japan's govt over UNSC seat, tax reform

NICOSIA, Aug 29: Iran's state-run radio said today that about 600 people had been killed in recent fighting between rival Iraqi Kurdish factions in northern Iraq, reports Reuter.

Teheran radio said that in the past 10 days about 600 people had died in clashes between groups opposed to President Saddam Hussein's government and damage amounting to millions of dollars had been inflicted on Iraq's impoverished Kurdish region.

The radio did not give a source for its figures.

The area is facing chaos and social disorder.... This human tragedy may become even more painful and affect the surrounding region," it said.

Turkey's Anatolian news agency said five Kurdish guerrillas and three civilians were killed in "recent" clashes in the town of Qala Dizeh between rival Kurdish groups.

AsiaSat-2

From Page 1 Col 4

Besides, private companies and entrepreneurs can use this channel for commercial purpose by buying slots from the BTV.

Authorities believe BTV's revenue earnings can be increased through the satellite channel.

"The cost for satellite transmission can be met by such additional earnings from international ads," one source said.

The Information Ministry's proposed to telecast BTV programmes via satellite was approved by the Cabinet on August 1.

Where spirit triumphs

From Page 1 Col 4
usual movement," Bacchus recalls. "I could not even move my hand. Death was better than this."

Amazingly, after two and a half year's of constant medication at the CRP, Bacchus can now walk, at least can take a few unsteady steps. "These few steps are all that I still live for," he says sitting in a wheelchair on the long stretched veranda of the CRP. "With the help of the centre's therapists, I might one day be able to walk like a normal man."

Selim's dream of becoming a famous sports reporter ended on his way home from a newspaper office in Chittagong. The three wheeled auto tempo he boarded hit a car and Selim broke his neck. "I thought it was the end of my existence," says Selim. "I had no control over my bowls, I could not eat on my own. Without someone's help I could not live a minute. The frustration was sometimes so overwhelming that at one point I thought of suicide."

He said, "I was then admitted to this centre." Selim tells his story, "the doctors and nurses treated me and gave me all the encouragement". Selim now looks quite normal except that he moves in a wheelchair. He has found a new lease of life as he has taken over the charge of the CRP's press and publication department.

"In the first few months, the paraplegics have to get control over their body," says

Veteran Indian journalist Tushar Kanti Ghosh dead

CALCUTTA, Aug 29: Tushar Kanti Ghosh, India's senior most editor and journalist of international repute passed away today at the age of 96 at the Kothari Medical Centre here, reports PTI.

The end came at 09:10 hours after earlier attempts to stimulate his heart with a pace maker failed. He had been in coma for the last ten days.

A legend in his lifetime, Ghosh was the editor of Calcutta's leading English daily "Amrita Bazar Patrika" and Bengali daily "Jugantar" for decades. He had been ailing for quite sometime and was admitted to the hospital on August 5 with respiratory, heart and kidney problems.

He is survived by his son Tarun Kanti Ghosh, a former West Bengal Minister and Congress-I MP and daughter Srilekha Bose. His wife predeceased him.

With the passing away of the doyen of Indian journalism, Tushar Kanti Ghosh, a golden era of editing and editors from the pre-independence era came to an end.

Son of Mahatma Sisir Kumar Ghosh, the chief architect of Indian journalism during the British Raj, Tushar Kanti Ghosh was heir to a glorious tradition in newspaper editing and newspaper organisation.

Born on September 21, 1898, Tushar Kanti Ghosh took over as editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika at the youthful age of thirty. By his sheer talent, the fledgling newspaper gradually grew into a great institution, one of the oldest and finest newspaper publishing groups of the country. Besides the time-tested legends of the Amrita Bazar Patrika and Jugantar, Tushar Kanti Ghosh also edited two other dailies, the Northern Indian Patrika and a Hindi daily, both published from Allahabad and Lucknow.

Benazir

From Page 1 Col 8

Islamabad said Israel was demanding she clear her trip with Jerusalem first.

Pakistan does not recognize Israel.

The Israelis have put up obstructions which are contrary to agreement with the Palestinians," Pakistan's Foreign Ministry spokesman Munir Akram said.

"On their (Palestinian) diplomats advise we have called off the visit," he said.

On Sunday Israel barred Pakistan's ambassador to Tunis, T K Khan, from entering Gaza to prepare Ms Bhutto's trip. Israel said the Pakistani diplomat was turned back because Israel was not notified in advance of his arrival.

Under the autonomy accord, Israel remains in charge of foreign relations and external security of the autonomy areas.

Ms Bhutto has been a long-time supporter of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and twice met with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in Pakistan.

He was elected president of the Indian Press Association.

India and Eastern Indian

Newspaper Society, Indian

Newspaper Editors Guild,

Audit Bureau of Circulation and

for varying lengths of time, was the chairman of the Press

Trust of India and the United

News of India.

He reportedly wants to

talk about the possibility of

lifting the embargo and declar-

ing a ceasefire. For nearly 11

years, a nationwide state of

emergency has allowed police

and soldiers to arrest and

detain people without charges.

And Kumaratunga also wants to

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except rebel-held areas in the

North and East.

To prepare for the meeting,

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