

# RSS vows to construct Ram Temple in Ayodhya

NEW DELHI, Jun 9: India's most influential Hindu group has vowed to construct a temple on the rubble of a 16th century mosque razed in 1992, newspapers reported today, says AFP.

Rajendra Singh's comments came a day after Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee promised that his government would not permit the temple to be built if the courts decided against it.

Thousands of Hindu zealots destroyed the mosque in Ayodhya in December 1992, triggering Hindu-Muslim violence across the country which left around 2,000 people dead.

## Talks with India Pak FM favours involvement of third party

ISLAMABAD, Jun 9: Any talks between Pakistan and India would be "futile" without the involvement of a third party, Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan said in remarks published here today, reports AFP.

# Canada accused of aiding Indo-Pak N-programmes

OTTAWA, Jun 9: Opposition lawmakers have accused the Canadian government of helping Pakistan and India advance their nuclear arms programmes before the Asian countries conducted their recent nuclear tests.

The accusations immediately touched off a heated debate in the House. Deputy Prime Minister Herb Gray did not deny that Canadian technicians were sent to India and Pakistan.

These Candu clones produce plutonium and tritium, two key ingredients in making hydrogen bombs, the daily said.

## Kohl in trouble as coalition partner threatens to abandon govt

BERLIN, Jun 9: Still trailing in the polls less than four months before parliamentary elections, Chancellor Helmut Kohl faced a new rebellion in the ranks Monday when a leader of his junior coalition partner said his party might consider jumping ship, reports AP.

## Drug producers point finger at US Consumers blamed for narcotics problem

UNITED NATIONS, Jun 9: Despite President Clinton's appeal to avoid "finger-pointing," leaders of the world's drug-producing nations showed no hesitation Monday in blaming consumers for the global narcotics problem, reports AP.

The fight against drugs. "Pointing fingers is distracting," Clinton said. "It does not dismantle a single cartel, help a single addict, prevent a single child from trying — and perhaps dying — from heroin."



An unidentified Nigerian delegate holds the hand of South Africa President Nelson Mandela's hand while Mandela speaks to the Organisation of African Unity Secretary General Salim Salim after the preliminary meetings at the 34th annual OAU summit in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso Monday.

## World must step away from N-abys: IAEA

VIENNA, June 9: The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Mohammed ElBaradei said Monday the world must step away from the "nuclear abyss" after India and Pakistan's recent nuclear tests, reports AFP.

"The board is meeting against a backdrop of events that could trigger the erosion of the basic norm of the non-proliferation regime," he told the governors at the IAEA's Vienna headquarters.

## US Navy secretary resigns

Secretary John Dalton has resigned, the White House announced Monday, AP reports from New York.

In a statement issued by the White House, President Bill Clinton said he accepted Dalton's resignation "with a deep sense of gratitude."

## Landslides kill 6 in Assam

A family of five was swept away and a Muslim priest was killed in a mosque flattened by landslides triggered by pre-monsoon torrential rains in India's northeastern Assam state, officials said Monday, AP says from Gauhati.

The deaths occurred on Sunday night in Cachar, a district 380 km south of Gauhati, the capital of Assam state.

## Floods kill 16 in Iran

Floods caused by heavy rains have killed at least 16 people in northwestern Iran over the past month, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported, AP says from Tehran.

The floods, which hit some 10 towns in the East Azerbaijan province, also damaged homes and farmlands, the agency said late Monday.

## Mishap claims 7 in Kentucky

A semi truck crossed a median and struck two vehicles, killing seven people — including six from one family, AP reports from Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Two people were injured in Monday's accident. The south-bound tractor-trailer struck a large metal object that was lying on Interstate 65 near Bowling Green, and the driver lost control, crossing the median into the northbound lanes.

## Rainstorms disrupt life in HK

Severe thundershowers disrupted most activities in Hong Kong and flooded the city's main streets Tuesday morning, AP reports from Hong Kong.

Officials issued a "black thunderstorm warning," the highest of the Chinese territory's three-level storm warning system, which requires suspension of non-essential activity.

## Quake shakes South Australia

An earthquake measuring 4.3 on the Richter scale shook the sparsely populated northern part of South Australia state on Tuesday. There were no reports of injuries or damage, AP says from Canberra.

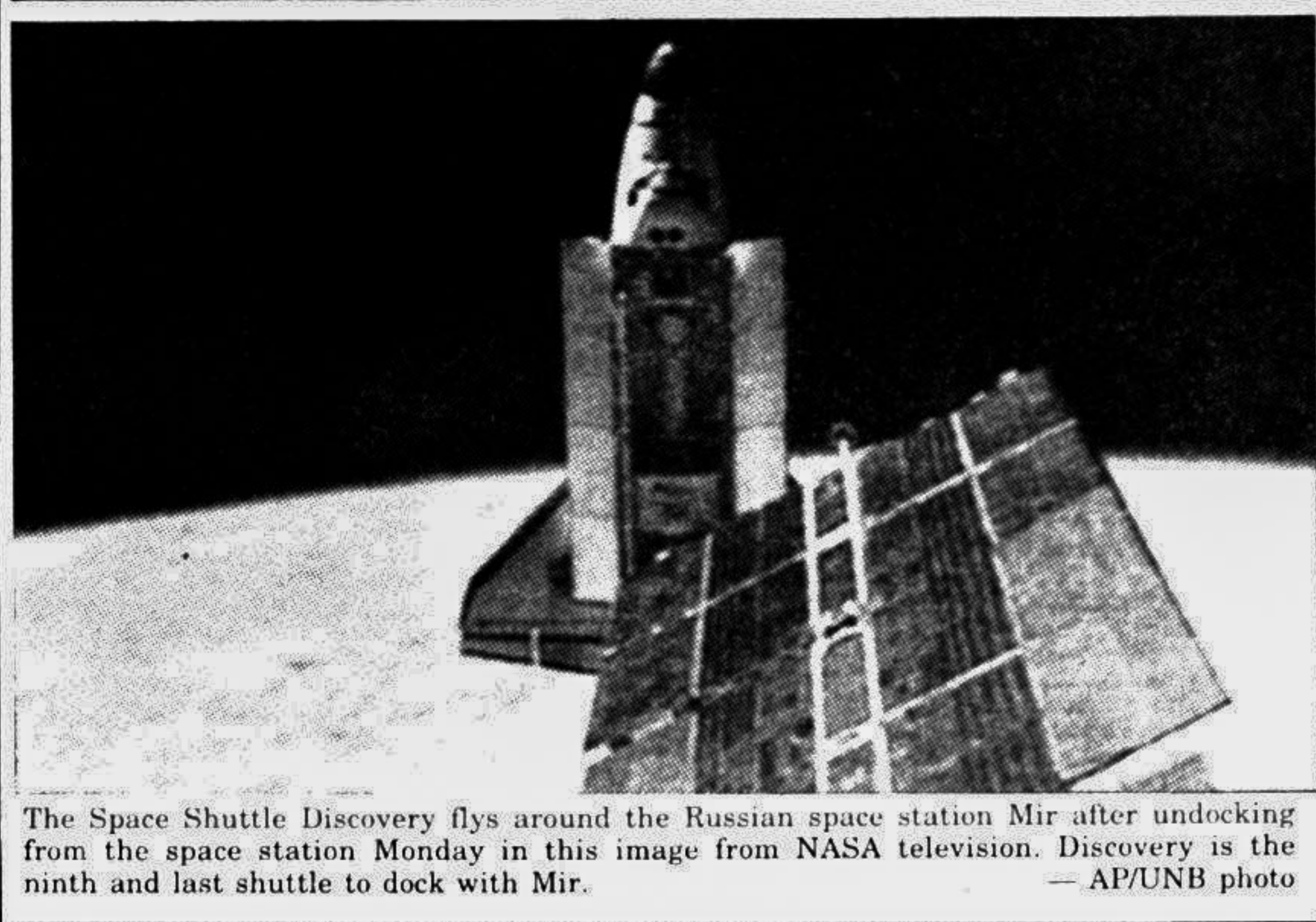
The quake was at a remote location 60 km southwest of Oodnadatta in the state's north, Australian Geological Survey Organisation scientist Kevin McCue said. That would be about 850 km northwest of Adelaide.

## Fighting in Lanka LTTE claims to have repulsed attack: 56 killed

NEW DELHI, June 9: Guerrillas fighting for an ethnic homeland in Sri Lanka said they fought off a government attack in the north Tuesday, and at least 56 fighters from both sides were killed in the seven-hour battle, reports AP.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, in a statement faxed to news agencies in the Indian capital from their London headquarters, said government forces retreated, leaving behind the bodies of 30 of their soldiers, after encountering heavy rebel resistance at Killinochehi, 275 kilometers (170 miles) north of the Sri Lankan capital of Colombo.

Thursday, with government forces attacking it and nearby Manikulam in a two-pronged effort to capture the region's main highway from guerrilla control.



The Space Shuttle Discovery flies around the Russian space station Mir after undocking from the space station Monday in this image from NASA television. Discovery is the ninth and last shuttle to dock with Mir.

## Move toward democracy, US urges Nigerian leadership

WASHINGTON, Jun 9: After the death of Nigerian President Sani Abacha, the US state department urged the new leadership in that country to build on the existing political transition programme to achieve civilian, democratic rule, reports AP.

The military early Tuesday named Gen. Abdulsalam Abubakar, a major general in the army and defense chief of staff, as Nigeria's new head of state.

## 30 injured as police clashes with protesters in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Jun 9: About 30 people were injured when police and strikers clashed during a street march in the second city of Surabaya, police said Tuesday, reports AP.

Violence erupted when a line of riot police halted a 10-kilometer (six-mile) long march by striking factory workers Monday, setting off a spate of stone-throwing in Indonesia's biggest protest since the new president eased restrictions on labour.

## Pentagon to probe nerve gas allegation in Vietnam War

WASHINGTON, June 9: US Defense secretary William Cohen ordered an investigation Monday into a report that American Special Forces used nerve gas in the Vietnam War — including against US defectors though he said he knew of no evidence to support the allegations, reports AP.

The charges brought mostly skepticism Monday at the Pentagon and among veterans and former military leaders.

## Lanka keen to play honest broker between India, Pakistan?

NEW DELHI, June 9: Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Lakshman Kadirgamar, on a lightning tour of the subcontinent, has expressed his country's keenness to advance the dates of the South Asian regional summit which was scheduled for late next month, reports India Abroad News Service.

Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, whom Kadirgamar met yesterday, as well as Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, under growing pressure to resume bilateral talks, will have their first meeting at Colombo and their talks are expected to overshadow the summit itself which was earlier scheduled for July 20-22.

elections to seven of its eight provincial councils. The supreme ruling body in its various provinces, most probably in August. Some Indian officials think President Kumaratunga, who is expected to campaign extensively for the elections, might be looking for an early SAARC summit so that she can concentrate on the elections.

say it can be announced only after Kadirgamar had handed out invitations from Kumaratunga to leaders of all six other SAARC members — India, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and the Maldives, which is the outgoing chairman.

election Ministry officials at the meeting where India's Minister of State for External Affairs Vasundhara Raju was also present. Kadirgamar earlier met Raju separately.

### Mongla Port Authority Office of Chief Engineer (M) Mongla, Bagerhat

#### Re-Tender Notice

- Name of work : Repair of WB assessing vessel docking.
- Tender Notice : MPA/W/04/98.
- Estimated cost : Tk 1,58,147.00 (One lakh fifty-eight thousand one hundred and forty-seven only).
- Cost of tender : Tk 200.00/- (two hundred) only (non-refundable).
- Earnest money : At the rate of 2% (two per cent) of the quoted price in the form of Bank Draft/ Pay Order in favour of Mongla Port Authority will have to be deposited along with tender documents.
- Classes of : Enlisted dockyard and engineering works enlisted contractors contractor of Marine Department of Mongla Port Authority.
- Place of : a) Chief Engineer (M) Office, selling tender : MPA, Mongla (b) Executive Engineer (B-4) Office, MPA, Khalishpur, Khulna.
- Last date of : Till 22/06/98 (08/03/1405 selling tender : Bangla) during office hours.
- Date of : 23/06/98 (09/03/1405 submission of : till office hours.
- Date and time : 23/06/98 (09/03/1405 Bangla) of opening : at 1-PM will be opened in the tender : presence of participants in the tender (if any).
- Time for : 60 (sixty) working days. completion of work
- Other terms : Will be available along with tender document in and conditions : Bangladesh Form No-2911. of tender
- Documents to : Trade licence for purchasing be produced/ : tender, VAT certificate, TIN submitted at the : (tax-payers identification number) original copies. time of : Attested copies of these purchasing : certificates will have to be tender : attached.

Mongla Port Authority reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason. Number of tender and subject will have to be written on the envelope clearly.

NPA/PR/1433  
DFP:12585-3/6/98  
G-1329

Chief Engineer (M)