#### New York Times says

### Starr's report will prove 'Clinton lied under oath'

WASHINGTON, Aug 30: Special prosecutor Kenneth Starr's prosecutors are preparing to send a lengthy report to the US Congress setting out "substantial and credible information" of impeachable offense by President Bill Clinton, the New York Times said today, reports

The daily, quoting "lawyers who say they are familiar with Starr's plans," said Starr's report will almost certainly say Clinton lied under oath when he denied in January he had a sexual relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

The report may also contain accusations that Clinton lied to Starr's grand jury when he testified on August 17 about the nature of his relationship with Lewinsky.

Clinton admitted in a nationally televised broadcast later that day he had conducted a relationship with Lewinsky

that was not appropriate.

The confession came seven months after Starr began investigating whether Clinton lied in his deposition in the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit about having a sexual relationship with Lewinsky, and whether he obstructed justice by asking her to lie about it, too.

The Times said Starr's prosecutors have discussed the possibility of accusing Clinton of lying to the grand jury when he testified that his physical contacts with Lewinsky did not meet the definition of "sexual relations" as set out by Jones' lawvers.

The prosecutors are also drafting sections that would accuse Clinton of obstruction of justice and subornation of perjury - encouraging others to lie under oath, the daily said.

The report is expected to be completed in September and sent to the House later that month, the daily said.



A love letter on Diana's photo adorn the makeshift monument for Diana, Princess of Wales, near the Alma bridge in Paris Saturday. Princess Diana, along with her boyfriend Dodi Fayed and driver Henri Paul, died a year ago today in a car crash inside the Alma -AP/UNB photo bridge tunnel.

#### First death anniversary today

# Flowers pile up once again in Diana's memory

LONDON, Aug 30: One year on the flowers are once again being laid at the gates of Kensington Palace, the former home of Princess Diana, ready for the anriversary of her death on Monday, reports AP.

Despite a poll indicating that only 6 per cent of Britons plan to observe the anniversary, TV stations are planning a rash of programme about her. while the weekend's newspapers from tabloid to highbrow carried tributes to the princess, essays on why her death was - or wasn't - important, and pullout supplements carrying her most well-known images.

Dozens of those who left flowers this weekend at Diana's west London palace home said they'd come early to avoid the rush on Monday, which is also a national holiday - held on the last Monday in August every

MOSCOW, Aug 30: The

Kremlin reached provisional

agreement with parliament

Saturday to cede some of Boris

Yeltsin's huge presidential pow-

ers and allow stronger parlia-

mentary checks on govern-

If the scheme is approved it

will mean Russia's government

will in future have to answer to

parliament while enjoying

more freedom from Yeltsin's

A meeting of the heads of the

parliamentary parties, the

speaker of the lower house.

prime minister designate Vik-

tor Chernomyrdin and Yeltsin's

own representative ended late

Saturday without finally giving

the go-ahead, though partici-

pants said only details needed

Duma Gennady Seleznev said

Communist speaker of the

personal presidential power.

ment, reports AFP.

clearing up.

year and unrelated to Diana's

But it was a trickle compared with the hundreds of thousands who turned the area into a sea of flowers in the week after the 36-year-old princess was killed in a car crash in Paris.

Rita Young, 51, who brought flowers from her home in Reading, 50 kms west of London, said she still felt just as sad. "The pain hasn't left my heart." For weeks, there has been a buildup of pictures of Diana and

and Prince Harry, 13, in glossy magazines and newspapers. Britain's royal family hasn't been quite the same since Diana's death in the Paris car crash on Aug. 31 that also killed her companion Dodi

of her sons, Prince William, 16,

Paul. The Sunday Times, on the

presidential powers

"the text is well on the way to

being finalised" and "we only

have to agree on some wording."

adding that the meeting would

"The text of the political accord

will be presented to Boris

Zyuganov said however that the

talks were "very difficult" and

he did not expect them to end

diately confirm the agreement

but earlier, sensing both the

Duma's resolve and the catas-

trophe that would descend if

Russia were to battle against its

economic maelstrom without a

confirmed government. It had

The Kremlin did not imme-

Chernomyrdin declared:

Communist leader Gennady

resume this morning.

Yeltsin on Sunday.

quickly.

Fayed and chauffeur Henri

front page of its review section. questioned whether Queen Elizabeth II, who is still well regarded by most Britons according to polls, has been able to adapt to a more informal role that Britons now seem to expect from their monarchy.

And for those who needed reminding that Diana's death remains contentious for some, The Sunday Telegraph reported that Mohamed Al Fayed — who has publicly said that he believes Diana and Dodi death were no accident - is offering up to 14 million pounds (dlrs 20 million) to anyone who could provide evidence to prove his theory.

The conservative, broadsheet newspaper quoted unnamed sources for the story. A spokesman for Al Fayed was not available for comment.

## Military plane crashes in India:

A military aircraft crashed at a village in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported, AFP says from New Delhi.

No information on any casualties were provided by the PTI and a state government spokesman said "It was a small aircraft police and senior officials are still at the site.'

#### Australia goes to polls Oct 3: Australia will go to the polls on October 3 after a five week election campaign conservative Prime Minister John Howard

announced here yesterday. AFP reports from Canberra. In one of the biggest gambles of his political career Howard called the election seven months early and two and a half years after his liberal national coalition won a landslide victory at the last poll in March 1996.

#### 15 die in Nepalese bus accident: At least 15 people were killed and 24 injured when a bus plunged

45 metres into a river in western Nepal late on Saturday night, state-run radio said yesterday. AFP reports from Kathmandu. "The ill-fated passenger bus, carrying about 45 passengers, plunged 45 meters down the road surface into a river at Dovan village near Siddhababa temple in Palpa district, 235-km west of here last night," it said.

Ecuadoran truck accident claims 20: truck carrying 40 people plunged into a ravine Saturday northeast of the Ecuadoran capital, with an estimated 20 people dead fire officials said, AFP reports from Quito.

Fire brigade colonel Jaime Benalcazar said it appeared half of the people in the vehicle died when it plunged some 80 metres off a cliff near Papallacta, high in the Andes.

#### Rains in China flood Russia: river on the border between Russia and China has overflowed. flooding 20,000 hectares of farmland in Russia's Far East, a

news agency reported yesterday, AP says from Moscow. Waters rose in the Amur River after one of its Chinese tributaries, the Sungari River, flooded following torrential rains, ITAR-Tass said. The farmland now under water in the Khabarovsk and Jewish Autonomous regions of Russia includes

540 hectares planted with crops, ITAR-Tass said. Chinese rapist gets death sentence: A teacher at a primary school in southwestern China was sentenced to death for raping 10 girls ages 8 to 14, a Beijing newspaper reported yesterday. AP says from Beijing.

The Suining Intermediate People's Court on Friday sentenced Tang Jin to death for the rapes and indecent behavior to two other Children, the Beijing Evening News reported. It said he had raped the children in the classroom of a locally funded school where he taught in a village outside Suining in Sichuan

# Pak opposition accuses PM Kremlin prepares to curb of exploiting Islam

ISLAMABAD, Aug 30: Pakistan opposition leaders on Saturday accused Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of exploiting the "sacred" name of Islam to bolster flagging support for his government after he declared shariah (Islamic) law, reports

Sharif's rivals claimed he was using Islam as a shield to stave off attacks on his administration after US raids on alleged terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan last

Critics have alleged the government had prior knowledge of the US strikes a charge Sharif strongly denies.

In New Delhi Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee Saturday said Pakistan's decision was a retrograde step.

"It is an internal affair of Pakistan but the decision nevertheless will have an impact in Afghanistan and Central Asian republics," Vajpayee was quoted as saying by the United News of

"We are moving into the 21st century an any step which takes us backwards is not welcome.

Vajpayee said. The prime minister's Hindu Nationalis Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) earlier dismissed the move as a "gimmick" and said it would only make Islamabad an entrenched theocracy.

It is another step towards making Pakistan a theocratic state BJP spokesman Krishan Lal Sharma told AFP.

But these gimmicks will not help Sharif or his government. indeed the decision only proves all is not well with Pakistan. Human rights activists meanwhile have warned the

with a liberal agenda. move could spread intolerance

in Pakistan. Sharif blundered by "misleading" the nation over the US cruise missile attack on Afghanistan, Ghafoor Ahmed, vice chairman of the main fundamentalist party Jamaat-i-

Islami (JI) said. "He has tried to divert every body's attention from the US cruise missile attacks by launching his own Islamic

missile", the JI leader told AFP. Former premier Benazir Bhutto said Sharif was "misusing the sacred name of Islam" to divert people's attention from their problems and the government attempt will not suc-

She said her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) believed in a moderate democratic system .

#### Unexploded US missile destroyed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Aug 30: Pakistani army experts on Satur day destroyed a second unex ploded US tomahawk cruise missile that fell in southwestern Pakistan after being fired at Afghanistan last week, the official APP news agency said, reports Reuter.

It quoted official sources as saying the missile, one of several fired on suspected terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Sudan, on August 20 was found in remote Hoshab sub-district of Mekran coastal area off the Arabian Sea. The missile was spotted by

said the bill would concentrate local people who had reported all executive and legislative the matter to the authorities. powers in the central govern-

The private human rights commission of Pakistan urged the prime minister to "seriously reconsider" the long term consequences of his actions.

"What is in prospect is not the glory of Islam but fearful discord within the nation" the commission said fearing the measures would unleash greater religious intolerance and fascist elements in society.

In an address to the National Assembly Friday Sharif said he would make the Quran and Sunnah (the traditions of Hazrat Muhammad SM) the "supreme law" of the land.

Vowing to end corruption. gratification and mal-administration Sharif said a similar system was implemented in Saudi Arabia where murder had been all but stamped out in the past 10 years.

The ruling party table a constitutional amendment in the lower house to allow the government to take the necessary

The Pakistan parliament's committee on law and human rights Saturday "thoroughly" discussed the bill and recommend its passage by the national assembly (lower house) Jl chief, Qazi Hussain Ahmed, said Sharif who had

based economy was not capable of enforcing Islamic Shariah. Whenever the rulers feel the people of Pakistan are being united against their policies. they take refuge in announcing

been "defending" the interest-

imposition of Islamic newspaper said Shariah," he said. "As a preliminary step for PPP senator Iftikhar Gilani

said Yeltsin was prepared to lis-If finally approved, the accord was expected to ensure that

Chernomyrdin gets a smooth

parliamentary confirmation hearing for the post of prime minister on Monday.

The agreement appeared to go along with conditions imposed by Chernomyrdin to return to the post of prime minister which he ceded to Sergei

Kiriyenko in March. Chernomyrdin is reported to have stipulated that Yeltsin should not interfere in the composition of a future government, nor in its conduct or policy. Yeltsin has hitherto had the power to appoint and fire

A special commission had settled "the main points of a political agreement between the branches of power," its chairman Oleg Morozov said.

The commission includes representatives of the presidency, the government and the two houses of parliament.

# Sri Lanka may hold snap polls

COLOMBO, Aug 30: Sri Lanka is gearing for an early presidential poll as a partner in the ruling coalition threatens to quit in protest at the postponement of local elections, analysts and press reports said today, reports AFP.

President Chandrika Kumaratunga whose six-year terms ends in November 2000. has appointed several groups of top party men to organise a possible snap election, the English-language Sunday Island

the election campaign, the president has appointed 10 action committees," the Sunday Island said, adding that a presidential

election was likely in April or Justice and Constitutional

Affairs Minister G L Peiris said Friday that the government had no intention of "unduly" delaying the holding of elections and he denied it put off local elections out of fear of losing them. The elections to provincial

councils, the highest level of local government, were scheduled for Friday but the government used tough emergency laws to postpone holding the ballot indefinitely. However, the postponement

of the provincial council election has deepened a rift within Kumaratunga's People's Alliance (PA) coalition, and a minor leftist party is threatening to leave the government. The Equal Society Party, or

the LSSP, said it was bitterly

opposed to Kumaratunga resort-

ing to draconian legislation to delay the provincial council vote due Friday. LSSP legislator Vasudeva Nanayakkara said Sri Lanka

was drifting towards a "dictatorial administration." "We are frustrated. We want to leave the government but we

will stay in the coalition," said Nanayakkara, whose LSSP has one cabinet minister and two other deputies in the 225-member national assembly.

#### Kosovo conflict

## KLA urges international community to intervene

PRISTINA, Aug 30: The Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) warned Saturday of "unforeseen consequences" if the international community did not prevent the conflict in the Serbian province from escalating, reports AFP.

"Any delay on the part of the international community will bring further victims, bloodshed, fresh destruction and an escalation of the conflict with unforeseen consequences for peace and democratic values, said a KLA statement, published in the province's Koha Ditore daily newspaper. Since February Belgrade has

coordinated operations to crush the ethnic Albanian KLA using heavily armed police and army units, resulting in a conflict in which around 700 people have been killed and more than 230,000 made homeless.

The KLA statement urged the European Union and the United States to act politically and

of the ethnic Albanians in the Serb-ruled province, who account for 90 per cent of the pop-

miles south of the provincial capital Pristina. A Yugoslav foreign ministry

statement said it was a

Nazistyle execution and called on the international community to add the separatist group to a "list of terrorist organisa-Serbian police took re-

pit, in which two skulls, jawbones, vertebrae and ribs could be identified among the charred human remains.

 A Serbian interior ministry statement said that captured ethnic Albanian separatists had confessed that 22 Serbs were shot and their bodies

militarily to defend the rights burned last month.

Meanwhile, Serbian authorities accused the KLA of the execution last month of 22 Serb civilians at Klecka, some 20

porters Saturday to view a lime



The burnt out hull of Cubana de Aviation aircraft that crashed moments after takeoff from Quito international airport Saturday. Authorities said 69 people were killed. The plane -AP/UNB photo was en route to Cuba.

NAM summit latest victim of Asia's

#### NLD to convene parliament defying government YANGON, Aug 30: Recovering pealed to NLD members to support and help realize the con-

from a 13-day roadside standoll against the military regime. opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi told 500 well-wishers at her home that her party will defy the government and convene parliament, reports AP.

Suu Kyi's party, the National League for Democracy, has been warned by the government that attempting to convene the parliament - elected in 1990 but never allowed take power - will be illegal and result in long prison terms and a banning of the NLD. Tin Oo, an NLD vice chair-

man, said Sunday that Suu Kyi had received about 500 people Saturday evening at her lakeside compound, where she has been recovering from low blood pressure, weakness and other ailments since ending her standoff a week ago. "Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has

told her party members that the NLD will convene a parliament by itself." Tin Oo said. "She apvening of the parliament." Daw is an honorific. Suu Kyi, 53, the winner of

the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize. spent 13 days parked in a van on a bridge outside Yangon in protest after the authorities prevented her for the fourth time from traveling to the provinces to meet supporters. The confrontations are one

of the few political tools available to Suu Kyi. The military has ruled Myanmar, also known as Burma, since 1962 and brooks little dissent. The recent protest coincides with the 10th anniversary of a

nationwide uprising against military rule. It was crushed by troops, leaving an estimated 3.000 people dead. The recent agitation has not prompted Myanmar's frightened people to return to the streets. The ruling State Peace and

Development Council rejected an Aug 21 deadline set by the NLD to call the parliament. The party has said it will do so unilaterally, though Suu Kyi has given no clear date.

Suu Kyi, Tin Oo and NLD Chairman Aung Shwe nict leaders of Myanmar's ethnic ininorities Saturday and discussed the moves to convene parliament, which amount to a direct challenge to the legitimacy of the military government.

An ethnic minority leader, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that Suu Kyi explained that the move is not illegal, as the government has

The NLD won 392 of the 485 seats at stake in the 1990 elections, while ethnic-based parties won more than 60. Faced with a crushing defeat for promilitary parties, the ruling generals refused to relinquish

They instead said that a new parliament would have to await a new constitution.

looking for ex-FAC troops or other rebels who might be hid-

Kinshasa municipal author-

ities and the Congolese Red

Cross were collecting some of

the bodies scattered around the

Fustin Munene appealed to

Congolese soldiers who had

joined the rebel army to "lay

down their weapons and return

he called on soldiers not to dis-

pense "summary justice" to ar-

rested rebels the burning alive

. of rebels by civilian lynch mobs

in Kinshasa appeared to have

In the same radio broadcast

to the regular army."

stopped Saturday.

Government commander

# NW Japan flooded as

typhoon sent waters gushing from streams in northeastern Japan Sunday, engulfing a farmer working in a rice paddy. flooding more homes and halting trains, reports AP. The 58-year-old woman was still missing after a bulging

river swallowed her in Iwate

brought on by an approaching

Prefecture (state), 460 kilometres north of Tokyo, police said. At least 13 people have died and 33 people injured by the downpour caused by Typhoon Rex that began Thursday. Among the dead were five people who were buried in a mudslide in Fukushima Prefecture. 240 kilometres northeast of Tokyo, they said. That death toll does not include a 12-yearold boy who drowned while playing in a flooded river on the

Hokkaido on Saturday. In rural areas north of Tokyo, about 300 milk cows were whisked across the prefectural (state) border by a swelling

northernmost island of

river, the Mainichi newspaper

reported Sunday. The Central Meteorological Agency said Rex, packing winds of up to 126 kph still lay about 1,000 kilometres south of Tokyo, as of Sunday morning. It could near the Japanese eastern coast by Monday night the

agency said. Heavy rain and flood warnings were issued Sunday throughout regions in northeastern Japan, including Tokyo and Gunma, Ibaraki, Tochigi and Saitama prefectures.

Meanwhile another report from Beijing adds: China's flood control headquarters sent an urgent appeal to soldiers and civilians already worn down from a summer-long battle against floods, urging them Sunday to keep up the fight. Another flood crest rolled

down the Yangtze River, China's longest river. It has been hit by the heaviest flooding since 1954, when more than 30,000 people were killed.

#### JAKARTA, Aug 30: Economic crisis, political concerns and the natural disasters that have crippled Asia this year are exacting a toll on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit to be held in South

Africa next week, reports AFP. Embattled Indonesia, one of the group's founding members, has said its new president, BJ Habibie, will not attend the summit but will be represented instead by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas.

"An overseas trip would cause a power vacuum here and he also realises domestic problems are much more urgent," Alatas said Friday announcing Habibie's decision to miss the summit.

Indonesia currently faces its worst financial crisis in decades with a shattered economy mass unemployment and soaring prices that have already led to violent rioting and looting. Malaysian Prime Minister

Mahathir Mohamad on Satur-

day announced he was also can-

celling his attendance at the

summit. "I have a lot of things to do I'm tired, I'm worn out," he was quoted by Bernama news agency as saying. Mahathir, who had been ex-

ban, said he was "tired" after going on a nationwide tour to explain the country's economic crisis. Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is expected to represent the prime minister at

pected to leave Sept 1 for Dur-

The Malaysian economy has been under considerable pressure since the start of the financial crisis last year. Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has also pulled

the summit.

out of the NAM summit. "I think they have an internal difficulty which they say makes it difficult for them to come," said a South African official at the conference secretariat, Abdul Minty, without elaborating. Pakistan's nuclear rivalry

with its neighbour India, an-

other NAM founding member,

and both countries' nuclear tests earlier this year is likely to be one of the key global issues discussed at the summit. Bangladesh will also not

have high-level representation

among the more than 50 heads of state and over 100 foreign ministers because of the flood disaster in that country. Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will not at-

tend the summit because of the

flooding. "The current flood is an economic disaster for Bangladesh, Finance Minister Shah Kibria has said, urging foreign donors to respond quickly and send assistance to battle the deluge and its effect.

In Jakarta, the legitimacy and capability of Habibie's presidency has also continued to be doubted by many at home some 100 days after he took over the reins of power of this world's fourth largest nation. "It is technically difficult for him (Habibie) to leave the

country because there is no

economic crisis, natural disasters Habibie, then vice president took over from veteran leader

> power following rising public pressure and violent riots. He has since not named a vice president to replace him but has pledged fresh elections for May next year that will enable a new legislature to pick a new president and vice presi-

dent. Mahathir had been expected to highlight Malaysia's views on the Asian economic crisis.

The Malaysian foreign ministry has said that the summit would look into the financial crisis experienced by some member countries as well as globalisation and the risks it poses to developing countries. A total of 89 of the 113 NAM

member-states have so far confirmed they would be sending representatives at some level. South Africa is to assume the chairmanship of the NAM from Colombia at a plenary session involving heads of state Wednesday.

## DRC rebels vow to continue fighting despite setbacks

KINSHASA, Aug 30 : Rebel leaders in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) vowed to ing in the area. continue fighting Saturday despite reports of a crushing de-Suharto who resigned from the feat of rebels attacking the capipresidency after 32 years in tal Kinshasa and setbacks in the southwest, reports AFP.

> The DRC government army backed by troops from Angola and Zimbabwe said they were mopping up in Kinshasa and were on the verge of routing the last of the rebels in the south-

Jean Pierre Ondekane, military commander of the monthlong Tutsi led rebellion, told AFP Saturday that the war has not ended, and insisted that the rebels were still able to resupply on the western front.

"The situation is going very well for us," he declared, citing a string of victories in the east of this vast central African coun-In Kinshasa, the Congolese

armed forces (FAC) loyal to

President Laurent Kabila

moved from house to house in

the eastern sector Saturday

In the southwest, pro-Kabila forces were poised to seize the last rebel positions in the area - the key port city of Matadi and the Inga hydro-electric

city's streets.

Independent sources said

there were virtually no rebels left in Matadi Saturday although Ondekane claimed the town was still in rebel hands.

## China fights surging floodwaters

## typhoon approaches TOKYO, Aug 30: Heavy rains