

The World

Pakistan wants peace with India, N-free region: Musharraf

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 7: Pakistan's military ruler said his country wants to work with India for peace and a nuclear-free South Asia, reports AP.

The two neighbouring countries, which have fought three border wars since independence from Britain in 1947, conducted nuclear tests two years ago, raising the specter of a possible atomic conflict in the subcontinent.

"Pakistan stands for peace and is prepared to take the bold initiative to change the status quo through a dialogue with India at any level, at any time, and anywhere," Gen. Pervez Musharraf said Wednesday at the UN Millennium Summit attended by more than 150 world leaders.

"Let me commit at this world forum, that we desire a no-war pact. We are ready for mutual

reduction of forces, and we also seek a South Asia free from all nuclear weapons," he said.

In his speech, Musharraf urged the UN Security Council to show the "political will" to intervene in the Kashmir dispute.

"Whereas the international community and this world body are seriously engaged in finding a solution to the Palestine issue, Kashmir cries for justice after 52 years," Musharraf said. "If the people of East Timor could be given their freedom, why not the people of Kashmir?"

While the rest of the world is moving in the direction of economic progress and regional cooperation, Musharraf said his region was embroiled in conflict because of Kashmir.

"Why this tragedy? Because the people of Kashmir remain deprived of justice," he said.

US, Britain call for release of Suu Kyi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 7: US President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister Tony Blair used their speeches before the UN Millennium Summit on Wednesday to demand that Myanmar's military government release Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, reports AP.

"The treatment of Aung San Suu Kyi by the Burmese regime is a disgrace," Blair declared at the conclusion of his remarks, calling on the largest ever gathering of world leaders to back his call for her freedom.

Foreign diplomats and journalists say Suu Kyi and senior members of her National League for Democracy have been under virtual house arrest for five days. The government had blocked Suu Kyi from traveling to the country-

side to carry out political activities two weeks ago, then forcibly brought her back to the capital Yangon on Friday.

Diplomats have since been blocked in their attempts to meet party leaders and telephone lines to their homes have been disconnected.

Clinton told the summit in his opening remarks that the world could not remain silent about the situation.

"We face a clear moral test today in Burma, where a popular leader who has struggled peacefully for dialogue has once again been confined, with her supporters imprisoned and her country in distress, all in defiance of repeated UN resolutions," Clinton said.



World leaders are pictured during the United Nations Millennium Summit in New York on Wednesday. UN Secretary General Kofi Annan opened the summit of 150 world leaders, which he has called "a defining moment" for the United Nations. --AFP photo

Putin seeks global support to ban militarisation of space

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 7: Plunging into global diplomacy at the United Nations for the first time, Russian President Vladimir Putin assailed the US missile defence plan and hobbled with world leaders to negotiate new alliances, reports AP.

Criticism of US plans to deploy a limited missile defence featured high in Putin's speech at Wednesday's opening session of the Millennium Summit.

Avoiding a direct reference to the United States, Putin called upon world leaders to come to Moscow for a conference to ban the militarisation of space, a challenge to any American plan to build and anti-missile defence system.

Addressing the Millennium Summit at the United Nations,

Putin described the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty as a "Foundation" of the entire nuclear arms control system.

"Particularly alarming are the plans for the militarisation of space," Putin said.

Noting that next year will see the 40th anniversary of Russia sending the first man into space, Putin said that Moscow would be the "most proper place for such a conference."

Although Putin has welcomed US President Bill Clinton's move to leave the final decision on whether to deploy the missile system to the next administration, his speech Wednesday indicated that Russia intends to push the United States to abandon the plan altogether.

At their meeting on the side-

lines of the summit on Wednesday, Putin and Clinton registered their disagreement on missile defenses but outlined several prospective fields of cooperation in strategic stability issues.

Putin also tried to win the limelight Wednesday by proposing to bar the use of enriched uranium and pure plutonium in nuclear power plants. He argued that the move would help stop proliferation of nuclear weapons and lower risks to the environment.

The Russian leader followed up on his speech with a marathon series of meetings with world leaders including Chinese President Jiang Zemin, German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, Iranian President Mohammad Khatami and Indonesian President

Abdurrahman Wahid.

He keeps up his busy diplomatic rounds on Thursday, when he is scheduled to meet Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Barak and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, among other leaders.

The meeting with Jiang gave Russia and China another chance to speak against the "unipolar world" their favorite term to describe the alleged US domination of global affairs.

"We stand for the United Nations playing a stronger role in global affairs," Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov told reporters after Putin's meeting with Jiang. "We favour a multipolar world based on respect for international law."

Clinton fails to break Mideast impasse

NEW YORK, Sept. 7: The White House on Wednesday reported no breakthrough but no breakdown either in the Middle East peace process following separate meetings here between President Bill Clinton, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, reports AFP.

"I have no breakthrough to report," spokesman Joe Lockhart told reporters. "On the other hand, the process has not broken down, it is ongoing."

Clinton met earlier on the sidelines of the UN Millennium Summit here with Barak for about an hour, and then with Arafat for about one hour and 40 minutes, Lockhart said, declining to reveal details of the talks.

Though he said there was no indication of progress, Lockhart stressed that Clinton still believed there was a chance to

pick up where the Camp David summit left off.

The summit collapsed in July with Israel and the Palestinians at bitter odds over many of the key issues separating them, particularly Jerusalem.

"The parties continue to be focused on getting an agreement and getting an agreement in a relatively short time frame," Lockhart said, referring to the September 13 deadline Arafat has set for declaring a state with or without an agreement with Israel.

He said Clinton had discussed with both Arafat and Barak different ideas on how to close the gaps, but declined to elaborate on them or predict their chances of success.

"The president and the two leaders went through a number of ideas for trying to bridge differences," he said.

52 pc Palestinians support declaring state on Sept 13

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7: The majority of Palestinians want their leadership to unilaterally declare independence on September 13 despite strong US and Israeli opposition and the risk of sparking violence, according to an opinion poll released today, reports AFP.

Fifty-two per cent of the 1,256 people polled by Bir Zeit University, one of the major Palestinian universities, want Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to proclaim a state on September 13, the deadline for a final peace accord with Israel.

Forty-one per cent of respondents said they opposed declaring a state on that date.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation's 129-member

Central Council vowed in July to implement a 1988 declaration of independence on September 13.

A full 55 per cent of Palestinians said they supported the idea of a unilateral statehood declaration at an unspecified date even if it led to violent clashes with Israel. Thirty-nine per cent of those polled said they opposed such a scenario.

Forty-nine per cent of respondents further said they would back the statehood announcement even if it led Israel to close its borders to Palestinian workers, a move Israel has done before in times of crisis.

Forty-five per cent of Palestinians opposed the statehood announcement if it caused border closures.

Biman BANGLADESH AIRLINES

HEAD OFFICE, BALAKA, KURMITOLA, DHAKA-1229, BANGLADESH

Re-Tender Notice

Ref: CMIS/070/2000

Date: 05-09-2000

Computerisation of Ground Support Equipment (GSE) and Motor Transport Equipment (MT) Inventory System

1. Biman Bangladesh Airlines intends to computerise the inventory system of Ground Support Equipment (GSE) spares and Motor Transport Equipment (MT) spares for its proper maintenance. The inventory system will have to be developed by using ORACLE and Developer-2000. Tender to be submitted based on terms and conditions as detailed in the tender schedule.

2. The offer to be submitted in two sealed envelopes (one for Technical offer and another for Financial offer) in the tender box kept at the office of DGM, CMIS, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Head Office, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka-1229, Bangladesh latest by 1200 hours BST on October 16, 2000 and the same will be opened on the same day on 1215 hours BST in presence of the bidders (if any).

3. Tender schedule will be available from Cash & Banking Section, Biman Head Office, Balaka, Kurmitola, Dhaka from September 17, 2000 to October 15, 2000 on all working days during office hours on payment of Tk 200.00 (Two hundred) only in cash.

4. Biman Bangladesh Airlines reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of tenders partly or fully at any time or at any stage without assigning any reason whatsoever and no claim shall be entertained in this regard.

Md Abdul Maleque
Deputy General Manager
CMIS

GD-832

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Office of the Director General
Youth Development Directorate
Ministry of Youth and Sports

108, Matijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000

Memo No-YDD/Twenty-four YTC/Jhenidah/Fr:23/99-1132

Dated: 03-09-2000 Eng/19-05-1407 Bang

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders in Bangladesh Form No-2911 are invited for completion of the construction of internal RCC Road of Jhenidah Youth Training Centre under the Youth Development Directorate from the pre-qualified contractors of this project renewed during 1999-2000 fiscal year. Tenders will be received on 17-9-2000 i.e. 2-6-1407 Bangla till 12:00 Noon in the office chamber of the undersigned, Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka Division, 1st 12 Storied Government Building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka and Consultant Establishment Engineers Consortium Ltd. 64/B, Green Road, Dhaka and tender received will be opened on the same day at 12:15 PM before tenders present (if anyone is present). Earnest money at the rate of 2% of the estimated cost in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order from any scheduled bank in favour of the Project Director, Youth Training Centre Setting Up Project, Youth Development Directorate, Dhaka will have to be given. Otherwise, tenders will be treated as rejected outright. The time limit for work is 150 (one hundred fifty) days. Terms and conditions of tender and schedule can be purchased by depositing Taka 1000/- (one thousand) through Bangladesh Bank Treasury Challan in "1/3640/5610/2681 No Code" and by depositing the original copy of challan in the office of the undersigned, Divisional Commissioner, Dhaka 1st 12-Storied Government Building, Segunbagicha, Dhaka and Consultant Establishment, 64/B, Green Road, Dhaka by the contractor himself or by his authorised representative (with the signature of representative attested by contractor) and by producing registration of pre-qualification during office hours tender forms can be purchased. No tender form will be sold on the day of opening tender. Attested copy of trade licence, of pre-qualification renewed during 1999-2000 fiscal year will have to be submitted with tender. Otherwise tenders will be treated as rejected outright. The authority reserves the power to accept or reject any tender or accept or reject tender fully or partially without assigning any reason and the authority is not obliged to accept the lowest rate. The volume of work and amount of money may vary.

On behalf of the Director General
Md Mosharraf Hossain
Project Director
Project for Setting Up Twenty-four
Youth Training Centres.

DFP-21446-49
G-1569

দি সিকিউরিটি প্রিন্টিং কর্পোরেশন
(বাংলাদেশ) লিঃ
গাজীপুর-১৭০৩

বেনজিন (C₆H₆) সরবরাহের দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

করাগোষ্ঠেন কর্তৃক উপরোক্ত মাল্যমান ক্রয়ের জন্য সীলমোহরিত দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে। মাল্যমানের স্পেসিফিকেশন/নিম্নলিখিত/শর্তাবলী সম্বলিত সিডিউল করাগোষ্ঠেনের গাজীপুর কার্যালয়ের অর্থ ও হিসাব উপ-বিভাগ এবং মানমার্ম টাওয়ার (৪র্থ তলা), ৮-৩, সিঙ্গেলারী সার্কুলার রোড, ঢাকা-১২০০ হতে বিক্রেতা ২ খণ্ডের ২০ টিকা হতে ৫ খণ্ডের ২০ টিকা পর্যন্ত সর্বোচ্চ কমানিস কালীন সময়ে ১০/৯/২০০০ইং হতে ১৮/৯/২০০০ইং পর্যন্ত প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাকেজ দরপত্রের মাধ্যমে প্রতিটি সিডিউল টা ১০০/- (টাকা একশত) মাত্রের বিনিময়ে (অফিসে/ক্যাশে) ক্রয় করা যাবে।

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের কার্যে গাজীপুর কার্যালয়ে অথবা মানমার্ম টাওয়ার (৪র্থ তলা), ৮-৩, সিঙ্গেলারী সার্কুলার রোড, ঢাকা-১২০০ হতে সীলমোহরিত দরপত্র ১৯/৯/২০০০ইং বিক্রেতা ২ খণ্ডের ২০ টিকা পর্যন্ত সরাসরি নির্ধারিত ব্যঞ্জে drop করা যাবে এবং পাশাপাশি ভাড়াযোগ্য কিংবা কুরিয়ার মাধ্যমেও নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে গাজীপুর কার্যালয়ে পৌঁছানো যাবে এবং পরবর্তী কার্যনির্বাহের বিক্রেতা ২-০২ খণ্ডের সময় দরপত্রদাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেউ প্রতিনিধিত্ব করেন) প্রাপ্ত সর্বোচ্চ দরপত্র গাজীপুর কার্যালয়ে প্রদান করা হবে।

খন্দকার নূর আলম

উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক (ক্রয়-বিক্রয়)

চিডি-৮০৩



Currency Management & Accounts Deptt

Bangladesh Bank
Head Office
Dhaka

International Tender Notice

Tender for Minting and Supply of 50 Poisha Coin

1. Sealed tenders are invited from the reputed Mints for minting and supply of 50 million pieces of 50 poisha coins, to be made of stainless steel (AISI 430, C=0.04, Cr=17.0). Tender schedule containing terms and conditions and the specifications of the coins will be available at the office of the General Manager, Currency Management & Accounts Deptt, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka (11th Floor, 2nd Annexe Building) against payment of Tk 1000/- (one thousand) per set (non-refundable) up to October 15, 2000.
2. Tenders addressed to the General Manager, Currency Management & Accounts Department, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka shall be submitted by the tenderers in sealed envelope marked "Quotation for supply of 50 poisha coins" in the tender box kept in the said Deptt up to 1.00 PM on October 15, 2000. Tenders will be opened at 2:30 PM on the same day at the same place in the presence of tenderers, if any. Incomplete and conditional tender will not be considered. Bangladesh Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

PR&PD-48/2000-1312 Khandakar Mazharul Haque
Date: 6/9/2000 General Manager
GD-831 Phone: 7120372

Lanka slaps emergency ahead of polls

COLOMBO, Sept. 7: Sri Lanka President Chandrika Kumaratunga has declared a nation-wide state of emergency giving greater powers to security forces and the police ahead of parliamentary polls, officials said today, reports AFP.

She has issued a proclamation extending the state of emergency by a further month requiring the reconvening of the national parliament which was dissolved on August 18, officials said.

They said the constitution allows Kumaratunga to reconvene a dissolved assembly for the specific purpose of having emergency laws approved for a further period.

The president can impose emergency laws only for 10 days and thereafter must get parliamentary approval to keep the

draconian laws going for one month.

However, since parliament was dissolved on August 18, she must issue a proclamation summoning the same parliament which can function until the parliamentary elections are concluded on October 10.

The emergency which was first imposed on May 18, 1983 gives wide powers to security forces and the police to arrest and detain suspects. The laws had been relaxed for brief periods and limited to certain areas of the country from time to time.

The emergency is primarily aimed at dealing with the separatist Tamil Tiger rebels in the island's northeast but political parties have accused the government of using the laws to stifle opponents.

BRIEFLY

Wahid to visit Iraq in Nov:

Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid plans to go ahead with a visit to Iraq to meet with President Saddam Hussein in mid-November this year, the state Antara news agency reported Thursday, AFP reports from Jakarta.

Wahid, who is in New York attending the UN Millennium Summit, said neither US President Bill Clinton nor Secretary of State Madeleine Albright had repeated US objections to his planned visit during the summit.

Mori meets DPRK envoy in NY: Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori met North Korea's UN ambassador in New York and agreed to pursue closer ties, the government said yesterday, AFP reports from Tokyo.

The Japanese leader spoke with North Korean Ambassador to the United Nations Li Chong-Chol at a reception he hosted Wednesday for 300 people on the sidelines of the UN Millennium Summit. "Li expressed his desire to cooperate to strengthen ties between the two nations," according to a written statement distributed here by Japan's foreign ministry.

4 die in Lankan bus mishap: Four persons were killed and 17 others injured when a Colombo bound intercity bus collided with a bus carrying navy officers in the central hilly part of Sri Lanka, police said yesterday, Xinhua reports from Colombo.

The two buses collided yesterday at Dambulla, 148 kilometers northeast of Colombo, said police. Among the dead were a Buddhist monk and the driver of the intercity bus. The bodies of the two others have not been identified and were lying at the Dambulla hospital awaiting identification. The injured persons were wards at the Kandy hospital, 116 kilometers northeast of Colombo. The condition of four persons was reported to be critical.

Japan to clamp down on gifts to politicians

TOKYO, Sept. 7: Japan's ruling alliance is drawing up legislation to make it a criminal offence for lawmakers to accept gifts in return for political favours, a politician said today, reports AFP.

The bill aims to ban gifts to politicians in return for them mediating with government officials, said Yoshio Urushibara, a lawmaker with the governing coalition's Komeito party.

The clampdown was launched after police charged former construction minister Eiichi Nakao in July with taking about 30 million yen (286,000 dollars) in bribes while in office, he said.

"It is important to draft and to pass this legislation in order to prevent lawmakers from illegally accepting gifts and taking bribes," Urushibara told AFP.

But a loophole may be allowed to get through, allowing lawmakers' private secretaries to accept bribes for them, according to a report in the Yomiuri Shimbun.

Urushibara denied the report, saying no decision had yet been made about who should be covered by the law.

The newspaper said lawmakers, their families, state-paid secretaries and people living with them would be subject to the legislation.

But the ruling parties had agreed to exclude private secretaries "because many party members have insisted it is difficult to define what is meant by the term," it said.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party and its two smaller allies, the Conservative Party and Buddhist-backed Komeito party, had launched a joint committee to draw up the legislation, said Urushibara.

Coalition officials will shortly pass the draft to ruling lawmakers before it is presented to parliament's next session, which could start as early as September 22, said Urushibara.