Albright meets Kim Jong-Il on historic N Korea trip

Kim Jong-II in landmark talks marking the first time an American official has ever met the Stalinist nation's chief, reports AFP.

Albright and Kim Jong-Il greeted each other with smiles and handshakes in an ornate. high-ceilinged building located at the guest house compound where the secretary is staying.

"It is really for the first time for the secretary of state for the Albright was to focus on his pur-United States to come to our country like this," said Kim Jong-Il who was dressed in his trademark green zip-up jacket and

"And this is a new one from a said. historical point of view and I am very happy," he said through an interpreter, before sitting down across a large table with Albright, who attended the meeting with several of her top aides.

A possible unprecedented trip to North Korea by US President

PYONGYANG, Oct 23: US raised, particularly by Kim Jong- significant breakthroughs during scretary of State Madeleine II who sent an invitation for the Albright's two-day visit, they say right met here today with visit to Washington earlier this they believe "serious progress" reclusive North Korean leader month when his right hand, Jo can be made in addressing Wash-Myong Rok, travelled to the ington's concerns, including on United States.

> But the small talk in front of reporters and cameramen. masked the seriousness of the discussions, with Albright expected to press Pyongyang over its missile and suspect nuclear programmes that are a subject of major international concern.

In her meeting with Kim Jong-Il. ported offer to abandon North Korea's missile program in exchange for commercial satellite launches, an offer Washington is keen to flesh out, US officials

the leader on US concerns about its suspect nuclear programs and terrorism, given the North's desire to be removed from the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism.

Although US officials have Bill Clinton was likely to be cautioned they do not expect any

the missile issue.

The two sides met for almost two hours, and then took a 10minute break before reconvening the talks at 5:00 p.m (1400 BST).

Even as Albright arrived, under gray skies, the North Koreans had moved quickly to imprint their agenda on her visit, scheduling a courtesy call on Jo at the enormous palace honouring Kim Jong-Il's father, the late "Great Leader" Kim Il-Sung whose embalmed body lies in state

Albright's presence at the Kim She was also expected to press Il-Sung memorial had the potential to raise the ire of not only Seoul, but US veterans of the Korean conflict who lost tens of thousands of their fellow soldiers during the war.

The meeting was closed to the



North Korean Leader Kim Jong-II (L) shakes hands with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at the Pae Kha Hawon Guest House in Pyongyang Monday. Albright, the highest level US official to visit North Korea in 50 years, met with the North Korean leader in an effort to ease tensions between ---AFP photo the two nations.

Helicopter shot down

10 die in rebel attack on Lankan port

COLOMBO, Oct 23: Two Sri and exploded in the water. Lankan Navy seamen and eight rebels were killed and a personnel carrier was damaged in a Tamil rebel suicide attack at a strategic port at dawn Monday, a government spokesman said. At least eight rebels were also killed.

reports AP. Almost simultaneously, an air force MI-24 helicopter was shot down 10 kilometers from Trincomalee, the port where the suicide attack took place, said an air force officer who couldn't be named under briefing regula-

tions. It wasn't immediately clear if the helicopter was flying in to aid the navy in Trincomalee, he said.

Trincomalee, 230 kilometers northeast of the national capital, Colombo, falls within the proposed Tamil homeland that the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam wants to curve out of Sri Lanka. The 17-year-old war has left more top banks, commercial offices

Than 63,500 people dead. Military spokesman Brig Sanath Karunaratne said four and naval guns fired at them. One sonnel carrier and damaged it.

took direct hits from naval fire ters.

Moscow.

Association.

(Bd.) Ltd., Gazipur.

GD-982

Rebels kill 2 Russian troops: Two

Russian soldiers were killed and ten others injured

during overnight clashes with separatist rebels in

Chechnya, the North Caucasus military command told

the Interfax news agency yesterday, AFP reports from

The soldiers were serving in the defence and interior ministries.

11 die in Argentine plane crash:

Two small planes collided in flight Sunday in western

Argentina, killing all 11 people on board, authorities

The accident happened over the city of Chacabuco, 200 kilome-

ters (125 miles) west of Buenos Aires, local fire brigade chief Mario

Bergaglio told The Associated Press by phone. The cause of the

crash wasn't immediately known. The two Piper aircraft fell about

Blast kills 2 children in SA: Two ten-

year-old boys were killed and a four-year-old girl was seriously injured

Sunday when a hand grenade they had found exploded, police said, AP

in a tree while visiting their grandparents near this small town,

about 600 kilometres south of Johannesburg on Saturday, police

spokesman Captain Mzoli Kopolo told the South African Press

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The children, who are all cousins, first saw the grenade hanging

500 meters (1,600 feet) before crashing into the ground.

The report gave no further details of the clashes.

said, AP reports from Buenos Aires.

reports from Whittiesea, South Africa.

Karunaratne said there were at least two rebels in each of the boats and all were killed. Before being hit by naval fire, rebels fired mortars at naval troops, killing two seamen.

Karunaratne wouldn't say how many vessels were anchored at Trincomalee the time of the attack, citing security reasons, but he said the port was safe.

Trincomalee is one of the finest natural harbours in South Asia. The military uses it for transport ing men and material but it is rarely used for commercial trading because of the separatist war. It was used as a base by the Allied forces during World War II.

Hours after the port attack, police found a bomb in an abandoned bag in Colombo's business district and imploded it. The sound created panic in the Fort business district which houses and city's five-star hotels.

The Sri Lankan capital is often targeted by Tamil suicide bombrebel boats were spotted ers who aim to kill political oppoapproaching the port at daybreak nents or two cause economic hardship to the government. On of the rebel boats, packed with Thursday, a suicide bomber explosives, rammed into a per- killed himself and two others, apparently after failing to reach The three other rebel boats his targets government minis-

Road accidents in Vietnam claim 5,865 in 9 months

HANOI, Oct 23: Traffic accidents in Vietnam killed 5,865 people in the first nine months of this year, a 11.6 per cent jump from the same period last year, an official of the National Transport Safety Committee said Monday,

A total of 17,191 traffic accidents were reported nationwide in the nine months through September, an increase of 4.6 per cent against the same period of last year, the official said on customary condition of anonym-

Another 18,999 people were injured in the traffic accidents, he

Road accidents account for 97.3 per cent of all traffic accidents which also include railway and waterway mishaps-and 94.8 per cent of traffic deaths, he said. The official blamed the increase in accidents on the boom in transportation and people's ignorance of traffic laws. Traffic accidents killed 7,051 people during all of last year.

Estrada may call snap elections

MANILA, Oct 23: Philippine President Joseph Estrada may call snap elections to resolve a political crisis over allegations he took bribes from illegal gambling syndicates, his chief aide said today, reports AFP.

But the plan was quickly dismissed by the opposition as a ploy to delay impeachment proceedings already underway in the House of Representatives, with a broad coalition of anti-Estrada activists warning of a civil disobe-

dience campaign. Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora said Estrada was "fed up' with the bribery allegations and had asked him to look into the possibility of snap elections as a way of determining the true pulse

of the public. The president was saying, why don't we let the people decide, Zamora said over radio station DZRH. The truth is I don't know we can do a snap election, but the president said if you can find a way, I will put my fate in the people's hands'."

Asia's richest TV game show goes on air

BOMBAY, Oct 23: Asia's richest television game show, which offers 2.2-million dollars, goes on air today, organisers here said, reports AFP.

Zee TV said the one-hour show. named Sawal Dus Crore Ka (The 100-Million Rupee Question) will be broadcast on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Advani says

India won't divide Kashmir into three

Ancient human habitat

unearthed in Japan

TOKYO, Oct 23: One of the oldest human dwellings yet discovered

The remains are presumed to be 600,000 years old as the layer of

dating back 600,000 years, was unearthed in northern Japan today

earth is that old. It is the oldest human dwelling structure in Japan

and one of the oldest in the world," Hiroshi Kajiwara, professor of

oldest known sign of human habitation in Chichibu, Saitama Prefec-

If the dating is confirmed, the discovery predates Japan's previously

Kajiwara said that a stone fence, believed to be 1.8 million years old

Similar remains to the Japanese have been found in Germany, but

The dig led by archaeologists from Tohoku Palaeolithic Institute as

well as Tohoku Fukushi University, found two sets of pits believed to be

They were digging deeper at a location that has long been undergoing

One set of remains comprises five pits while eight were found at the

'We found a site with five pits, measuring 15-20 centimetres in diam-

"We also found another site with eight pits, five metres east of the first

eter. It was possibly a cone-shaped, tent-like structure measuring two

one. Each pit measured 20-30 centimetres and they surrounded a hole

The structures could have been used as somewhere to rest, as hunt

The structures were built by Homo Erectus and presumably used

ing hides, or as a store for hunting tools, but Kajiwara said the seven

as places for ceremonial or religious activities. In the ruins of

Kamitakamori, seven places have been previously excavated where

stone tools were placed in circles, indicating that they were places of

million years ago, and is thought to have reached Japan 600,000 years

Homo Erectus, an ancestor of Neanderthal Man, evolved about 1.6

tools suggested their purpose was as the location for religious rites.

excavation in Kamitakamori, Miyagi Prefecture in northeastern Japan

had been found in Tanzania, "but it may not be regarded as a human

archaeology at Tohoku Fukushi University in Sendai, told AFP.

ture, just northwest of Tokyo, by roughly 100,000 years.

they are believed to be no more than 400,000 years old.

in the centre. The hole contained seven stone tools.

ago at the latest, according to the archaeologist.

for housing the posts supporting hut or tent-like structures.

dwelling structure in a strict sense.'

some 300 kilometres north of Tokyo.

metres in diameter," Kajiwara said.

SRINAGAR, Oct 23: India will security forces. They included stocktaking visit, reports AP.

in favour of trifurcation," Lal independence for Kashmir or a Krishna Advani told reporters merger with Pakistan, India's after his first meeting with top western neighbour and rival of five military, police, intelligence and government officials who form the Unified Command to fight the 11year-old insurgency in the state.

by Defence Minister George Fernandes made the remark rejecting the suggestion made by the National Volunteers Association, the ideological fountainhead of Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's ruling coalition. The imperative for the purpose of association is commonly known by its Hindu acronym of RSS.

province be divided into a Kash- approach. mir Valley for Muslims, Jammu for Hindus and the northernmost Ladakh for Buddhists.

thought of," Advani said. between the rebels and Indian of Kashmir.

archaeologists said.

not divide the insurgency- Abu Ubeda, a top functionary of wracked Jammu-Kashmir state the Lashkar-e-Tayyaba group, into three Muslim, Hindu and who was killed late Saturday in Buddhist regions as part of Bafliaz, 250 kilometers north of attempts to bring peace, the inte- Jammu, the state's winter capital, rior minister said Sunday after a said Deputy Inspector General of Police Ram Lubhiya..

decades. More than 26,000 people have been killed in the rebellion that started in 1989.

There is a sense of satisfaction Advani, who was accompanied that the state and security forces have secured the upper hand in their battle against militancy," Advani said. Responding to allegations of human rights abuses by security forces, he cautioned: "It is winning this battle against militancy that the security forces The RSS had suggested that the must be humane in their

In July, the federal government opened pathbreaking peace discussions with the Hezb-ul "We have made it amply clear so Mujahedeen, Kashmir's main many times that we think the guerilla group, after it implestate as a whole should be mented a cease-fire. But the outfit withdrew its peace move within Meanwhile six Islamic militants days, saying Pakistan must be were killed in separate gunbattles involved in any talks on the future

work

NEW DELHI, Oct 23: Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee resumed official duties here on Monday after knee surgery which kept him away for almost two weeks, officials said,

Indian President KR Narayanan broke protocol late Sunday night and received Vajpayee at the airport here as the prime minister flew in from Bombay.

Officials said work has piled up in the absence of the 73-year-old prime minister who underwent a knee-joint replacement surgery on his left leg on October 9.

ing the prime minister is a crucial meeting with his firebrand Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee, who has been demanding a rollback in a 28 per cent increase in petroleum products ordered last month.

net earlier this month to protest the oil price hike but withdrew her resignation after the premier said he would "consider" her demand once he had been discharged from Bombay's Breach Candy Hospital.

ULFA militants

GUWAHATI, India, Oct 23:

'The United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) militants carrying automatic weapons opened fire at a market killing 10 people on the spot and injuring six others," the state police spokesman said

In another incident, rebels killed a businessman and four others, including a three-year-old boy, at Naokholia Bazar near Naharkatia in Dibrugarh district, about 576 km (360 miles) east of

"A group of three militants demanded money from a businessman. When he refused to pay, they opened fire and killed him inside his shop," the spokesman said.

The militants then fired at a crowd that had gathered outside

state's mineral resources and neglecting local economy.

Vajpayee resumes

reports AFP.

The immediate task confront Banerjee quit Vajpayee's cabi-

kill 15 in Assam

Separatist guerillas killed 15 people, including a three-yearold boy, in India's northeastern state of Assam in two separate incidents on Sunday night, police said, reports Reuters.

the shop killing four people including the boy. The rebels accuse the federal government of exploiting the

Gore's uphill battle baffles political experts

Washington Post endorses democratic candidate

WASHINGTON, Oct 23: The outcome of the US presidential election remains in the balance with just two weeks to go before polling day, and the experts are baffled, reports AFP.

For Republican candidate George W. Bush the challenge has always been to beat a sitting vice president, Al Gore, in times of unprecedented

For the experts engaged in predicting the outcome of the vote, the answer has always been clear: no way could Gore, the Democratic candidate, be defeated.

There simply is no precedent in American history for deposing a party from power when times are good and citizens view them as such," said Thomas Mann, senior fellow of governmental studies at the Brookings Institution, a Washington think tank.

Times have never been so good, according to the Clinton administration -- and experts tend to agree. The economy has grown for the past decade at an annual rate of some

five per cent. Output is up and inflation is benign in times of near full employment. Financial markets have prospered. A recent Washington gathering of academics of the Political Science

Association of America produced a batch of statistical models, all of which gave Gore victory within a range of 52.8 percent to 55.4 percent in the November 7 election. Bush has the difficult task of persuading the electorate to change

horses when they appear to be riding a winner.

The puzzle for analysts, however, is that he seems to be achieving what history and precedent suggest should be impossible -- as the latest opinion polls give him, once again, the edge over Gore. Ray Fair, an economist at Yale University, believes that a couple of

factors may be in play here. Two factors are running against Gore: the duration in power is working against the Democrats and there is no 'person advantage,' since

the incumbent president is not running again," he said. Fair believes that Gore will win, but only by a narrow margin, and does not entirely rule out an upset. New York State University professor James Campbell says Gore has

failed to capitalize on the good times. "And I think that Al Gore has not done a very good job of converting that potential to his benefit."

Meanwhile the influential Washington Post on Sunday endorsed Democrat Al Gore as the next US president, calling him the "better qualified candidate" for the position. "Mr. Gore is surely among the best prepared and most intelligent

nominees of recent years, with a distinguished record of sensible internationalism and moderate domestic liberalism," the paper wrote in a Sunday editorial. The editorial compared the relative merits and priorities of the incum-

bent vice president with his rival, Texas Governor George W. Bush, while also criticising both candidates for their inability to "communicate a (similar) sense of inner conviction."



Democratic presidential candidate and US Vice President Al Gore, boards an Air Force II plane on Sunday in Albuquerque, New Mexico for a flight to Portland, Oregon. -AFP photo



व्राज्याही विश्वविम्याण्य রাজশাহী দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

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Monthly Receipts & Payment Statement, Trial Balance, Bank Reconciliation Statement, Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet অভতি প্ৰতিবেদন অন্তত কৰা হবে ৷ এতদসংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথা অবশাই হিমাব পরিচালক, রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নিকট হতে দরপত্র দাখিলের পূর্বেই কাজী গোলাম মাহবব হিসাব পরিচালক জিডি-৯৮১

রাজশাহী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

Jaglul Karim

Deputy General Manager



Sonali Bank

Information Technology (Operation) Division Head Office, Dhaka

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No. SB/PRD/16/823/2000 GD-980

US actresses (L to R) Lucy Liu, Drew Barrymore, and Cameron Diaz pose at the premiere of their new film "Charlie's Angel's", in Hollywoodm on Sunday

-AFP photo