

International

Albright meets Kim Jong-Il on historic N Korea trip

PYONGYANG, Oct 23: US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met here today with reclusive North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il in landmark talks marking the first time an American official has ever met the Stalinist nation's chief, reports AFP.

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.

significant breakthroughs during Albright's two-day visit, they say they believe "serious progress" can be made in addressing Washington's concerns, including on the missile issue.



North Korean Leader Kim Jong-Il (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 the two nations. --AFP photo

Gore's uphill battle baffles political experts

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.

Helicopter shot down 10 die in rebel attack on Lankan port

COLOMBO, Oct 23: Two Sri 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.

and exploded in the water. 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.

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, reports AP.

Advani says India won't divide Kashmir into three

SRINAGAR, Oct 23: India will not divide the insurgency-wracked Jammu-Kashmir state into three Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist regions as part of attempts to bring peace, the interior minister said Sunday after a stocktaking visit, reports AP.

The government of India is not in favour of trifurcation," Lal Krishna Advani told reporters after his first meeting with top military, police, intelligence and government officials who form the Unified Command to fight the 11-year-old insurgency in the state.

Vajpayee resumes 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, reports AFP.

ULFA militants kill 15 in Assam

GUWAHATI, India, Oct 23: Separatist guerrillas killed 15 people, including a three-year-old boy, in India's northeastern state of Assam on Sunday night, police said, reports Reuters.



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

BRIEFLY

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 Moscow.

11 die in Argentine plane crash: Two small planes collided in flight Sunday in western Argentina, killing all 11 people on board, authorities said, AP reports from Buenos Aires.

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 reports from Whittiesa, South Africa.

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.

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.

Ancient human habitat unearthed in Japan

TOKYO, Oct 23: One of the oldest human dwellings yet discovered, dating back 600,000 years, was unearthed in northern Japan today, archaeologists said.

ULFA militants kill 15 in Assam

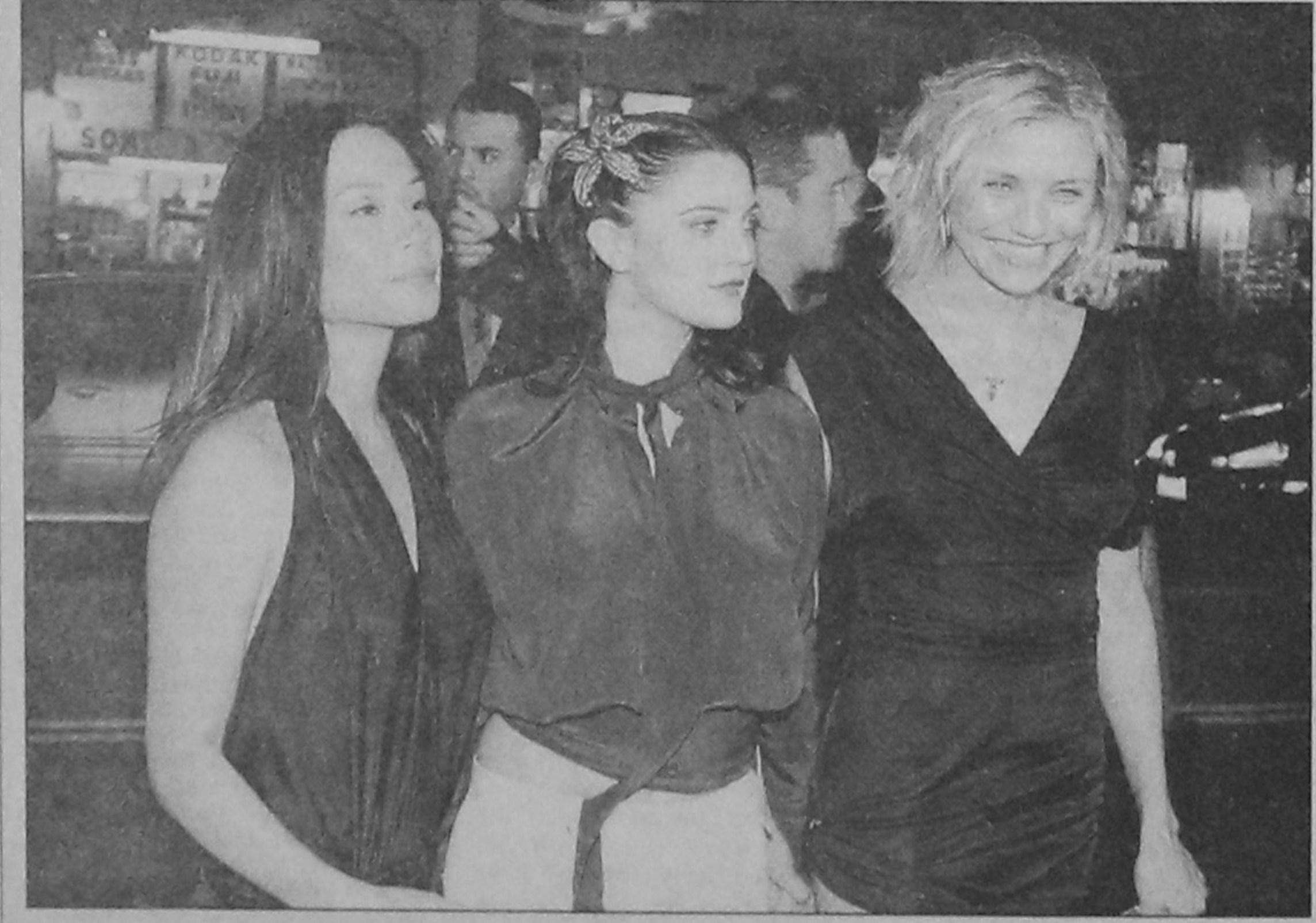
GUWAHATI, India, Oct 23: Separatist guerrillas killed 15 people, including a three-year-old boy, in India's northeastern state of Assam on Sunday night, police said, reports Reuters.

THE SECURITY PRINTING CORPORATION (BANGLADESH) LTD GAZIPUR

TENDER FOR SUPPLY 6370 IBS INK FOR PRINTING CHEQUE BOOK, CERTIFICATE, STAMP & BIRI BAND ROLL

Sealed tenders are hereby invited for supply above printing ink from international/local sources for this Corporation. Tender paper showing terms and conditions with specification will be available from the office of The Security Printing Corporation (Bd.) Ltd., Gazipur and its Liaison Office at Manhattan Tower (3rd floor), 83, Siddeswari Circular Road, Dhaka during all office days between 2.00 to 4.00 pm from 26.10.2000 to 6.11.2000 on payment of Tk 500.00 (Taka five hundred) only (non-refundable) per set of tender schedule.

Kh. Nur Alam Deputy General Manager (P&S) GD-982



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

Sonali Bank Information Technology (Operation) Division Head Office, Dhaka Re-Tender Notice Sealed tenders are invited from manufacturers of internationally reputed Computer Hardware (Brand:DELL/IBM/COMPAQ/HP/FUJITSUSIEMENS/GATEWAY) or their country agents/ authorized dealers in Bangladesh for supply, installation and commissioning of Micro-computer.