

163 illegal immigrants feared drowned off Australian coast

SYDNEY, Dec 14: Up to 163 illegal immigrants feared drowned while trying to reach Australia from Indonesia likely sailed into a massive cyclone, an Australian minister said today, reports Reuters.

But the whereabouts of four survivors, first believed to have been picked up by a Japanese tanker, was not known, officials said.

The immigrants, probably from the Middle East, were thought to have died after leaving Indonesia late last week in two boats for Ashmore Islands, an outcrop of reefs about 600 km (370 miles) off Australia's remote northwest.

The two boats one carrying 87 people and another with 80 aboard left while tropical cyclone Sam was building in intensity off Australia's northwest near the Timor Sea.

Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock said on Wednesday four survivors had been picked up by a Japanese tanker.

But an Immigration Department spokesman said

on Thursday Australian officials were now not sure where the survivors were. It was not known if the ship that picked them up was a Japanese tanker headed for Malaysia or a Malaysian tanker headed elsewhere.

"The level of confidence on that is not high," the spokesman told Reuters.

Sam was upgraded to a category five storm, the most dangerous on a five-point scale with winds of up to 280 km an hour before it slammed ashore last Friday.

"The reports we have is that the two boats... that left Indonesia last week headed for Ashmore reef, the area where Cyclone Sam had been very active," Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock told Sky Television on Thursday.

Ruddock said as many as 350 illegal boatpeople from the Middle East probably drowned while trying to make the same trip in April and May, 100 more than authorities first thought.

Defeat will be hard to bear for Gore

WASHINGTON, Dec 14: Al Gore demonstrated in eight minutes late Wednesday a grace and humour that few Americans believed he possessed after watching him for months wage a bitter and acrimonious presidential election campaign, reports AFP.

Lampooning himself at perhaps the most painful moment of his life, Gore opened his presidential concession speech with a reference to a concession he made and withdrew more than five weeks ago when the media called victory for rival George W. Bush.

"Just moments ago, I spoke with George W. Bush and congratulated him on becoming the 43rd president of the United States, and I promised him that I wouldn't call him back this time," said the Democratic vice president.

Gore has coveted the White House since his first failed run in 1988, and fought tooth and nail to win it in 2000.

His ambition, coupled with what aides said was his firm belief that he won the disputed November 7 election, fired his five-week court battle challenge-



Al Gore

his side as he faced a man dismissed as a lightweight with no political experience outside Texas. However, Gore's record and passion for the issues at times backfired, and he struggled to shed his image as boring, or too earnest, a wooden figure somewhat remote and patronising and fascinated by the tedious minutiae of government.

He was also forced to distance himself from Clinton's scandal-tainted presidency -- which lost him some credit for the current climate of US prosperity.

US voters, according to the polls, struggled with the question of who the real Al Gore was as he appeared repeatedly to reinvent himself on the campaign trail.

Many acknowledged that they preferred him to Bush on key issues such as education, health care, and stewardship of the economy, but found the Texas governor amply more likeable and had a difficult time connecting with Gore.

One of the best respected US vice presidents ever, Gore cast aside his own White House ambitions in the 1990s to become one of the outgoing Clinton's most trusted advisors.



President-elect Texas Governor George W. Bush and his wife Laura arrive at the Austin State Capitol, Texas, on Wednesday for his acceptance speech to become the 43rd President of the United States.

Bush faces daunting task of uniting country

WASHINGTON, Dec 14: With the coveted prize of the presidency now in his hands, Republican George W. Bush faced today the daunting task of bringing together a nation riven by mistrust, suspicion and bitter partisanship, reports AFP.

"This has been a very narrow election and people are very narrowly divided," said former senator and Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole, surveying the national scene at the end of a five-week election dispute that had Republicans and Democrats at each other's throats.

The fault lines have surfaced in every corner of society and affected institutions like the US Supreme Court not previously known for partisan fights.

Going to the polls on November 7, Americans split down the middle, with one half casting their ballots for Bush and the other opting for Vice President Al Gore.

Despite the fact that six million people voted in Florida, the Republican candidate managed to eke out a mere 537-vote majority.

When the 107th Congress convenes here on January 3, the Senate -- for the first time in more than a century -- will be split 50-50.

In the 435-member House of Representatives, Republicans will have only a nine-seat majority.

Even the judiciary has not been able to escape gaping political chasms.

The Florida Supreme Court split 5-4 as it upheld last Friday Gore's election contest and ordered manual recounts of undervotes throughout the state.

And the US Supreme Court displayed a similar 5-4 split when it reversed the Florida justices' decision.

effectively shutting the door on Gore's quest for the presidency.

Many said the ruling has left the federal high court, one of the most respected institutions in the country, with a self-inflicted black eye.

"Although we may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's presidential election, the identity of the loser is perfectly clear," wrote Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, pondering the consequences of the ruling.

"It is the nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the law," he added.

Riled by what he described as attempt to rob minorities of their right to vote, prominent civil rights leader Jesse Jackson darkly hinted the country might face a "civil rights explosion," if a satisfactory resolution to their problems was not found.

"People will not surrender to this tyranny," he warned Monday. "People will be fighting for their right to vote."

Realising the severity of the problem, Gore and Bush sought to address it in their respective speeches Wednesday, trying to use the resolution of the electoral dispute to launch a much-needed healing process.

"What remains of partisan rancour must now be put aside," warned the vice president in his concession speech.

"I hope the long wait of the last five weeks will heighten a desire to move beyond the bitterness and partisanship of the recent past," echoed his former rival President-elect Bush.

There were indications Thursday that his hope might not be unfounded.

Contenders for key positions in Bush administration

WASHINGTON, Dec 14: President-elect George W. Bush is widely expected to pack his governing team with foreign-policy heavyweights from his father's administration and with Texas loyalists, reports AFP.

Herewith a list of the main contenders for key positions in a Bush administration alongside Bush's running mate, Richard Cheney and Andrew Card, who was nominated White House chief of staff.

Vice president: Richard Cheney, 59. This former congressman from Wyoming brings vast foreign-policy experience and political skills honed during decades in Washington.

He served as defence secretary under Bush's father, former president George Bush, and oversaw US military operations in Panama in 1989 and during the 1991 Gulf War.

FOREIGN POLICY: Secretary of State: Top contender Colin Powell, 63, who would be the first black to serve in the post. The retired general was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993 under the elder Bush and Clinton administrations. A charismatic and highly popular figure, he directed military operations during the Gulf War.

National security adviser: Condoleezza Rice, 46. A fluent Russian speaker and expert on arms control and Eastern Europe, Rice already served in the administration of Bush senior, as a member of the National Security Council.

Secretary of Defence: Paul Wolfowitz, 56. Currently dean of the Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns

Hopkins University, Wolfowitz was Under Secretary of Defence for Policy from 1989 to 1993.

Another possible but long-shot contender is Arizona Senator and Vietnam War hero John McCain, who lost to Bush in the Republican presidential primaries.

ECONOMIC TEAM: Secretary of Commerce: Don Evans, 54. An oil executive and long-time Bush friend, he directed the Texas governor's election campaign.

Secretary of the Treasury: Larry Lindsey, 46. Bush's main economic adviser, Lindsey began his career in the 1980s when he served as principal economic adviser under Ronald Reagan's administration. He later advised Bush senior and served as governor of the Federal Reserve.

DOMESTIC: Andrew Card, who helped organise the Republican National Convention in July, will be Bush's White House chief of staff. A design engineer by training, Card, 53, served in the administrations of Ronald Reagan and George Bush senior, earning a reputation as a behind-the-scenes player.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: Top contenders are Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating, Montana Governor Marc Racicot, who was Bush's point man in the Florida vote recount, and California's former attorney general, Dan Lungren.

ENERGY SECRETARY: Given the growing importance of the Latino vote, Bush may give the job to a Hispanic. Among those under consideration: Texas Railroad Commissioner Tony Garza or Representative Henry Bonilla.



Cuban President Fidel Castro welcomes Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday in Jose Marti Airport in Havana. Putin is in Cuba for a four-day visit that will be partly official and partly vacation. It is the first visit by a Russian leader to Cuba since Mikhail Gorbachev visited in 1989 before the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Asian nations pledge support for Bush

SINGAPORE, Dec 14: Led by China and Japan, Asian nations congratulated George Bush today after he finally emerged as winner of the US presidential election, reports Reuters.

Beijing and Tokyo swiftly pledged to work with Bush to boost their sometimes rocky relations with the world's only superpower.

With just five-and-half weeks to go before his inauguration, Bush reached across the political divide in search of reconciliation after Democrat Al Gore conceded the election in a televised address, 36 days after America went to the polls.

Chinese President Jiang Zemin offered "warm congratulations" to Bush, although the prospect of a Bush presidency has caused concern in Beijing because of his support for arch-rival Taiwan.

"I'm willing to make joint efforts with you during your presidency, on the basis of the Three Joint Communiques, to push the Sino-US relationship to develop steadily and smoothly," Jiang said in message to Bush, Chinese television reported.

While the Clinton administration has called China a strategic partner, Bush has said he considers China a competitor.

He also supports strong enforcement of the 1979 Taiwan Relations Act, which commits Washington to providing the island with "a sufficient self-

defence capability." Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori said in a statement that his country wanted to cooperate with Bush to strengthen the alliance between the world's two largest economic powers.

Mori said he wanted to visit the United States as soon as Bush is inaugurated into office in late January.

"It's important that I meet him as soon as possible after he takes office," he told reporters.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard said Bush could count on Australia's commitment to working together.

"No country could be more genuine than Australia in its desire that the United States continue to flourish under your presidency," Howard said in a letter to Bush.

Howard's conservative coalition government had made no secret of its preference for Bush over Vice-President Gore.

Pakistan also congratulated Bush and said it looked forward to working with the new administration for peace in South Asia.

Pakistan has worried about growing US interest in India since the Cold War ended a decade ago. During Washington's confrontation with Moscow, Pakistan was a close US ally and India had warm ties with the Soviet Union.

BCIC Tender Notice

বিসআইসি'র পক্ষা শিল্পায়নে জাতীয় অগ্রগতির প্রতীক

The Managing Director, TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong invites sealed quotation in 2 (two) envelope system from the bonafide suppliers/importers/agents for supply of CANVAS CLOTH against tender enquiry No TSP/PUR/HARD/19/2000-2001/1637 dated 26-11-2000. Tender documents will be available from (i) The Controller of Accounts, BCIC, BCIC Bhaban, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong and (iii) TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong on payment of Tk. 25/- (twenty-five) only (non-refundable) per set during office hours. Tender will be received upto 11-30 AM on 07-01-2001 at TSP Complex Ltd, Patenga, Chittagong and will be opened immediately thereafter. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders either in part or in full without assigning any reason whatsoever.

BCIC-1111-7/12/2000
DFP-30048-11/12

BPDB's Local Re-Tender Notice

সময়মতো সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

1. Sealed local tenders are invited by the Bangladesh Power Development Board from renowned local manufacturers for the procurement of AAC & ACSR conductor as stated below:

Sl No	Tender enquiry No & date	Description of equipment/materials	Qty	Cost of tender document (Taka)	Tender receiving date
01.	Pur-214/99-2000/Re-Tender (Rev.) dt. 4.12.2000	ACSR "DOG" conductor	500 KM	5,000/=	15.1.2001
		ACSR "RABBIT" conductor	500 KM		
02.	Pur-215/99-2000/Re-Tender (Rev.) dt. 4.12.2000	AAC "WASP" conductor	500 KM	5,000/=	15.1.2001
		AAC "ANT" conductor	500 KM		

2. A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of written application and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Column No 5 in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Director, Purchase, Power Development Board, Dhaka.

3. A bid bond equivalent to 2.5% (two & half per cent) of the offered price shall be submitted with tender.

4. Tender will be received up to 11.00 AM and will be opened at 11.30 AM in presence of the intending bidders or their representatives, if any. Tender shall neither be sent by post nor it will be sold on the opening day. Offer send by Post/Telex/DHL/Fax will neither be received nor it will be accepted.

5. The expenditure will be booked against (O&M) Revenue Budget 2000-2001.

Biddut/Jana-1101(5)/2000-2001
DFP-30017-11/12
G-2192

Director, Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka.

Notice for Appointment of Lecturers to Bangladesh Cadet Colleges

1. Applications are invited from bonafide Bangladeshi male/female nationals for filling in the following vacant posts at Bangladesh Cadet Colleges:

Name of post	Number of post	Educational qualification	Pay scale
Lecturer (English)	01 (one)	Minimum 2nd class post-graduate with 2 nd class honours in respective subject from approved university.	Tk 4,300-7X185-5,95/- EB-11x195-7,740/- (Other allowances applicable as per national pay scale).
Lecturer (Physics)	01 (one)		
Lecturer (Chemistry)	01 (one)		

(The number of post may increase within the coming one year due to promotion, retirement & other reasons).

2. Qualified candidates should reach self-hand written application in plain paper stating name, father's/husband's name, permanent & present address, marital status, age (date of birth), educational qualification, co-curricular activities & teaching experience to the office of the undersigned by 18 January 2001. At the time of sending application, the name of post & subject should be superscribed on the envelope and the following papers enclosed therewith:

- Recent two copies passport size attested photos.
- One self-addressed envelope affixed with Tk 6.00 (six) postage stamp.
- Attested photocopies of all educational qualifications & experience certificates.
- Nationality certificate from chairman/ward commissioner.
- Character certificate from first class gazetted officer.
- A Demand Draft for Tk 150/= (one hundred fifty) from any branch of Sonali Bank on Sonali Bank, Dhaka Cantonment Corporate Branch in favour of "Chairman, Cadet College Management Board & Adjutant General, Bangladesh Army."
- Selected candidate shall have to serve at cadet college for minimum two years.
- Candidates in service must apply through proper channel.
- Age should be maximum 30 years (32 years in case of freedom fighters' sons/daughters) as of 01 March 2001.
- If & when any post falls vacant in English & Physics within the coming one year due to promotion, retirement & other reasons, appointment may be made as per merit list from among the qualified waiting candidates subject to age remaining maximum 30 years (32 years in case of freedom fighters' sons/daughters) as on the date of joining/appointment.
- Benefits in service of Cadet College.
 - Pension benefit.
 - Outfit allowance Tk 1,250/= (yearly).
 - Govt approved applicable pay & allowances.
 - Secured free furnished quarters in campus.
 - Subsidised ration for self & family members.
 - Free medical facility for self & family members at combined military hospital.
 - House master & house tutor allowance (when appointed).
 - Common Provident Fund.
 - If died in service, Govt Group Insurance & Welfare Fund financial benefit.
 - If died in service, one time Tk 2,00,000/- from Family Security Project.
 - After joining the post of lecturer, provision of step by step promotion up to the post of principal.
 - In matters of admission to Cadet College, facility of admitting son/daughter through campus quota besides merit list.
 - Facility of free study in Cadet College for one son/daughter.
 - Club & recreation facilities.
 - Facility of getting plot in residential project for Cadet College faculty member/officer.
 - Various subsidized rate personal service facilities (laundry, barber, tailoring, bakery, dairy farm, poultry farm, agriculture project, pisciculture project products etc.)

Chairman
Cadet College Management Board
&
Adjutant General, Bangladesh Army
Army Headquarters, Dhaka Cantonment.

ISPR/Army/2000/1000
DFP-29648-6/12
G-2183

BPDB's Local Tender Notice

আপনার কারখানায় বিদ্যুতের পাওয়ার ফ্যাক্টর কি কম?
সঠিক কাপারিসিটার ব্যাক ব্যবহার করুন এবং খরচ বাঁচান

Sealed local tenders are invited by the Bangladesh Power Development Board from renowned local manufacturers for the procurement conductor & transformer as stated below:

Sl No	Tender enquiry No & date	Description of equipment/materials	Qty	Cost of tender document (Taka)	Tender receiving date
1.	Pur-226/2000/ADP/ (E-W)/dt 29-11-2000	AAC "ANT" (Ins) Conductor	500 K.M.	5,000/=	08-01-2001
		AAC "WASP" (Ins) Conductor	500 K.M.		
2.	Pur-227/2000/ADP (E-W)/dt 29-11-2000	ACSR "DOG" Conductor	500 K.M.	5000/=	09-01-2001
		ACSR "Rabbit" Conductor	700 K.M.		
3.	Pur-228/2000/ADP (E-W)/dt 29-11-2000	11/0.4 KV, 100KVA Dist Transformer	150 Nos	2000/=	10-1-2001
		11/0.4KV, 200KVA Dist Transformer	50 Nos		

2. A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of written application and upon payment of non-refundable fee of taka as mentioned in column-5 each as above against this tender in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Director, Purchase, Power Development Board, Dhaka.

3. A bid bond/Pay Order equivalent to 2.5% (two & half per cent) of the offered price shall be submitted with tender.

4. Tender will be received up to 11.00 AM and will be opened at 11.30 AM in presence of the intending bidders or their representatives, if any. Tender shall neither be sent by post nor it will be sold on the opening day. Offer send by Post/Telex/DHL/Fax will neither be received nor it will be accepted.

5. The expenditure will be booked against (O&M) Revenue Budget 2000-2001.

Biddut/Jana-1079(4)/2000-2001
DFP-29899-10/12
G-2180

Director, Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka.

BPDB's Local Tender Notice

সময়মতো সঠিক বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন
সরকারকে ফাঁকি দেয়ার প্রবণতা বন্ধ করুন

1. Sealed local tenders are invited by the Bangladesh Power Development Board from renowned local manufacturers for the procurement of distribution transformer as stated below:

Sl No	Tender enquiry no & date	Description of equipment/materials	Qty	Cost of tender document (Taka)	Tender receiving date
01.	Pur-221/99-2000/(Rev) dt 29.11.2000	a) 33/0.4 KV, 200 KVA Dist Transformer	10 Nos	1,000/-	02.01.2001
		b) -do- 100 KVA "	05 Nos		
02.	Pur-222/99-2000/(Rev) dt 29.11.2000	a) 11/0.4 KV, 250 KVA Dist Transformer	50 Nos	5,000/-	02.01.2001
		b) -do- 200 KVA "	150 Nos		
		c) -do- 100 KVA "	300 Nos		

2. A complete set of tender document may be purchased by interested bidders on submission of written application and upon payment of non-refundable fee of Taka 1,000/- against Sl. No 01 & Tk 5,000/- against Sl. No 2 in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of Director, Purchase, Power Development Board, Dhaka.

3. Bid Bond/Bank Draft equivalent to 2.5% (two & half per cent) of the offered price shall be submitted with tender.

4. Tender will be received up to 11.00 AM on 2.1.2001 in presence of the intending bidders or their representatives, if any. Tender shall neither be sent by post nor it will be sold on the opening day. Offer send by Post/Telex/DHL/Fax will neither be received nor it will be accepted.

5. The expenditure will be booked against (O&M) Revenue Budget 2000-2001.

Biddut/Jana-1077(5)/2000-2001
DFP-29894-10/12
G-2181

Director, Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka.