INTERNATIONAL

India asks Nepal to hold peace talks with Maoists

India yesterday urged Nepal to invite insurgent Maoists for peace talks ahead of a visit by head of state King Gyandendra expected later this month and suggested "aggressive" border patrols to cut rebel supply

They have a programme which, I have to admit, has some very progressive elements and I do not think there should be any difficulty in the establishment accepting them," Indian Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran said of the Maoists in New

"And they have to be convinced struggle and that their bargaining power would diminish if they continued with their agitation for long," Saran told a seminar on Nepal, which adjoins India.

Saran said Kathmandu will have to offer assurances in a bid to win the confidence of the rebels. More than 10,000 people have died since the Maoists took up arms in 1996 intent on toppling the king of the

"Certain assurances such as a

The European Union expects to

send a "positive signal" to China at a

summit this week on lifting a 15-

year-old arms embargo, but does

not expect it to be scrapped yet, an

won't be able to go any further," the

official said, forecasting that China

can expect to receive a positive

appraisal at Wednesday's summit in The Hague.

China after the 1989 Tiananmen

Square massacre, but some EU

states -- notably France and

Germany -- argue that it is outdated. Dutch Foreign Minister Ben Bot,

whose country holds the EU's rotat-ing presidency, said last month that

the 25-nation bloc was ready to give

a "positive signal" about lifting the

ban on weapons sales.

But Bot said that conditions for

The EU embargo was slapped on

"At this point unfortunately we

EU source said yesterday.

EU upbeat on lifting

China's arms ban

level-playing field have to be given to them and some parts of their programme accepted to convince the Maoists to come to the political mainstream and participate in

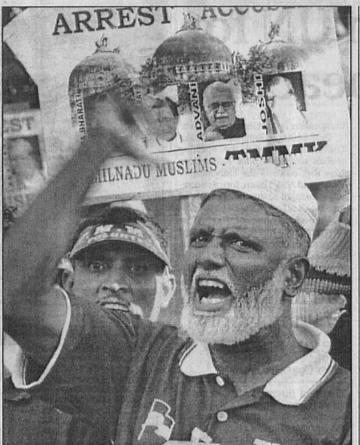
Nepalese political parties and the monarchy, between whom there was a "lack of trust and confidence" seemed to be thinking that by striking deals with the Maoists, they could marginalise the other side, he

"The Maoists have been playing off one institution against the other

"The Maoists are seeing a fractured polity in Nepal. The political parties, in their rivalry, do not seem to understand that the need now is to rise above their differences to ensure that the multi-party system survives," he said.

The foreign secretary called for "aggressive and proactive" border patrolling by Nepalese security forces and said India will have to match the exercise on its side of the frontier "so that pressure is mounted on Maoists to return to peace talks.

lifting the ban include progress by



Indian Muslims from the southern state of Tamil Nadu hold placards bearing pictures of the leaders who are accused in the Babri Mosque Demolition Case during a protest rally to mark the anniversary of the demolition in New

Muslims mark mosque demolition anniversary

China on human rights, while the Police were on alert in the north EU is still working to tighten up a Indian temple town of Ayodhya ahead of a meeting of Hindu groups Monday to mark the 12th annivercode of conduct to govern an eventual resumption of arms sary of the demolition of the 16th A positive signal "doesn't mean a decision to lift it (this week), it century Babri Mosque. "We have called a Hindu meeting

by historical evidence.

The Hindu community keeps a

watch, has expectations about the

issue. That is why we organise

programmes every year on the

anniversary to keep the memory

means that we are working in that in the afternoon to create awaredirection", the EU official said on ness. We are expecting around a condition of anonymity.
The official noted that China had 1,000 people to attend," said Sharad Sharma, spokesman of Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu made some "small signals" that it was committed to improving Council) in Ayodhya. human rights, including a pledge to Hindu activists say the mosque

sign an international covenant on was built by Muslim rulers after they civil and political rights.
"But that is not going to do the tore down a temple marking the birthplace of the Hindu god Ram, trick. We want progress across the but the claim has not been backed

European Commission chief Jose Manuel Barroso meanwhile said that Wednesday's summit will be a chance to "further strengthen (the) maturing strategic partnership between the EU and Beijing.

alive," said Lallu Singh, a former state assembly member for the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Uttar Pradesh state, home to

Security was stepped up around the site of the 1992 mosque demolition which sparked one of India's worst sectarian riots in which more than 2,000 people died. "Since 1992 both the communi-

ties have been organising different programmes. The Hindus celebrate the day as 'Valour Day' while the Muslims mourn it as 'Black Day',' said Ayodhya's police superintendent S.S. Baghel.

He said the government was taking all precautions to maintain peace and added there was no sign

In national capital New Delhi, 200-300 Muslims demonstrated near the parliament building to demand rebuilding of the

Kashmir Dispute

Musharraf welcomes London's mediation

World failing to tackle root causes of terrorism

Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf would welcome British involvement in negotiations with India over Kashmir, and would raise the matter with British Prime Minister Tony Blair during talks in London yesterday, he told The Times in an interview.

Musharraf, who arrived in London Sunday after meetings in Washington, said: "I would love

Britain to play a role" as an intermediary in the decades-old dispute,
But he accepted that for 30 years
India and Pakistan had agreed to strict bilateral negotiations. Until last year this had yielded little but he was "very hopeful" that both sides were now able to move forward, especially with British help behind the scenes.

The Pakistan leader said he also intended to ask Blair to take tougher action against Islamist extremists

Iraq's interim President Ghazi al-

Yawar insisted that crucial elections

would go ahead as planned next

month despite a sharp upsurge in

deadly insurgent attacks that claimed more than 90 lives in three days. At least 21 people were killed in a string of attacks on Sunday alone,

shattering a period of relative calm

that followed US-led assaults on

vote could be held on January 30 as

planned if the international commu-

nity provided sufficient support.
"We are asking the United

Nations, the whole international

community, to help us," Yawar told NBC television. "We do not think

In Washington, Yawar insisted the

Sunni Muslim rebel-held cities.

INTERIM PRESIDENT INSISTS

despite violence

using Britain as a haven.

Pakistan had sometimes "had to inform" British officials about them, he said. "I know some areas where there are extremists ... sometimes educated in London," he said, in an apparent reference to the killer of ne American journalist Daniel Pearl, who studied at the London School of Economics.

General Musharraf said he had told President George W. Bush that a key to wiping out terrorism worldwide was to resolve the Palestinian question

"We must address the root causes, and get to the source of what produces terrorism," he said. That would "kill 50 percent of the problem" in Iraq, he added.

Musharraf said of Bush "I know him by now," adding: "I think he wants to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli question. I sense urgency in

Musharraf was to hold talks with

that postponing elections or delay-

President George W. Bush on

Monday to discuss Iraq's future,

especially security issues and rela-

tions with the United States, which

is planning to boost troop numbers

meanwhile, was due in Moscow for

the first time since taking office six

months ago in the hope of soothing

tensions over Russia's opposition to

A senior UN official had warned

at the weekend that elctions could

not be held in the current climate of

violence, backing calls by Sunni

Lakhdar Brahimi, a special advi-

Muslim politicians in Iraq.

Prime Minister Iyad Allawi,

Yawar was to meet with US

ing it will solve the problem."

to 150,000 for the elections.

the US-ledwar.

Iraqi polls to go ahead

Blair at Downing Street before going on to Paris.

Meanwhile, Musharraf says the world is failing to tackle the root causes of global terrorism.

Efforts to crush Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda network were expected to be high on the agenda when Musharaff, who arrived Sunday from the United States, sees

Blair at Downing Street. In an interview due to be broadcast later on Monday, Musharraf said he thinks the world is "absolutely" less safe because the US-led war on terror is failing to address social grievances which fuel extrem-

"We are not addressing the core problems," he told BBC television's Newsnight" programme.

"Therefore we can never address it (terrorism) in its totality. We are fighting it in its immediate context, but we are not fighting it in its strategic, long-term context.

sor to UN Secretary General Kofi

in Iraq, said the January 30 vote could only take place "if first and

By early January, the United States is to increase the number of

troops to about 150,000 from

138,000, the highest number since it

declared an end to major combat in

The weekend attacks mainly

On Sunday, 17 Iraqis working for

the US military in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit were

killed when men in two pick-up

trucks raked their minibuses with a

Iraq. The aim is to ensure the elec-

members of the Iraqi security forces,

the US-led forces and their allies.

foremost security improves."

tion process runs smoothly.

Annan and until recently UN envoy

Serbian president apologises to Bosnia over Balkan war

AFP, Sarajevo

Serbian President Boris Tadic apologised here vesterday to the victims of Serb atrocities during Bosnia's 1992-95, but stressed that ethnic Serbs suffered as well.

"I apologise to all those who suffered from crimes committed in the name of Serb people. The Serb nation did not do that, it was done by individual criminals," Tadic said after meeting Bosnia's joint presidency at the start of a three-day visit.

Tadic was quick to add that Serbs

deserved an apology as well. "I think that all of us owe an apology to each other. The same crimes have been committed against our people," he said.

Tadic is the first Serbian president to visit neighbouring Bosnia since the end of the 1992-95 war that claimed 200,000 lives and saw the worst atrocities committed in Europe since World War II.

But it was not the first apology from a Serbian leader. Serbia-Montenegro President Svetozar Marovic apologized last year for the 'evil" committed against Bosnians during the conflict.

18 US soldiers punished for refusing duty in Iraq

REUTERS, Baghdad

The US military in Iraq has disciplined 18 soldiers who refused to go out on a transport convoy they thought was too dangerous, but the reservists will not face court-martial, a military spokesman said vesterday. Lieutenant Colonel Steve Boylan

said a further five would also face 'non-judicial" punishment under Article 15 of the US military justice code, making 23 troops disciplined in

this way.

He declined to detail the sanctions.

Article 15 gives commanders discretion to order brief detention of up to a month, loss of up to a month's pay, extra duties and loss of rank.

Asked whether the command had taken into account complaints by the reservists that the fuel trucks they were asked to drive through hostile central Iraq were not sufficiently armored, Boylan declined to comment beyond saying: "The soldiers' performances are all taken into account."

Former Malaysian prime minister Mahathir Mohamad (C), Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi (L) and former Japanese prime minister Tsutomu Hata attend the East Asia Forum in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Mahathir poured scorn on US President George W. Bush's economic understanding and Australia's Asian desires in a typically abrasive return to a public platform.

Mahathir scorns Bush. Australia

AFP, Kuala Lumpur

Former Malaysian prime minister Mahathir Mohamad poured scorn on US-President George W. Bush's economic understanding and Australia's Asian desires in a typically abrasive return to a public platform yesterday.

Addressing foreign ministers and businessmen at a conference on plans for an East Asia Community (EAC), Mahathir appeared to relish the freedom from diplomatic restraints, which he won with his retirement last year.

While he never pulled his punches during his 22 years in power, Mahathir this time oroke with convention to attack Bush personally by name.

When the planes crashed into the World Trade Centre on September 11, 2001, Bush immediately identified what he thought was

'Reviving moderate religious ties key to tackling terrors

AFP, Jakarta

Reviving violence-weakened bonds between moderate clerics and followers of different faiths holds the key to crushing Asia's formidable network of extremist militants, regional leaders said yesterday.

The urgent need for better cross-denominational relations in countries troubled by sectarian tension was highlighted as Asian religious leaders met in Indonesia for a conference aimed at fostering moderation and curbing extrem-

"The real challenge is to build the understanding between moderate leaders. That is the great challenge," Australian Foreign Minister Alexander Downer said in the Indonesian academic capital Yogyakarta, where the event was

"Most followers of the great religions of the region and the world are moderate people. To get moderate leaders together and for them to promote their messages I think is enormously important," he said, according to a statement.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, who opened the two-day International Dialogue on Interfaith Cooperation on Monday, warned militant violence was threatening to undermine longstanding spiritual beliefs.

Terrorism must be regarded as an enemy of all religions. Terrorists are well-organised, well-funded and highly skilled in spreading mayhem and fear through the slaughter of the innocent.

"People of faith like you are committed to bringing enlightenment and... human values like tolerance and compassion."



Children cross water near a house that collapsed to the river in Real town, Quezon province yesterday following the flash flood and landslides. Thousands were left homeless and about 1,400 dead and missing from the two storms that rampaged in the northeastern Philippines in one week.



চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন পরিচালিত মেনন মাতৃসদন হাসপাতালে DGO কোর্স চালু করার নিমিত্তে স্ত্রী-রোগ বিষয়ের জন্য নিম্নে বর্ণিত পদ মর্যাদাসম্পন্ন অস্থায়ী/খন্ডকালীন শিক্ষক নিয়োগের নিমিত্তে প্রকৃত বাংলাদেশের স্থায়ী নাগরিকদের নিকট হইতে দরখাস্ত

ক্রমিক নং	পদের নাম	বেতনক্রম	শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা
21	অধ্যাপক/সহযোগী অধ্যাপক	আলোচনা সাপেশ্বে	 ক) FCPS/MRCOG (খ) মেডিকেল কলেজের প্রাক্তন অধ্যাপকদের অভিজ্ঞতার কারকে DGO ভিমি গ্রহণযোগ্য হইবে। (গ) মেডিকেল কলেজের প্রাক্তন অধ্যাপকদেরকে (স্ত্রী-রোগ বিভাগ) অগ্রাধিকার দেওয়া হইবে।

প্রার্থীদের বয়স ৩০ হইতে ৫০ বৎসরের মধ্যে হইতে হইবে। অভিজ্ঞ প্রার্থীদের ক্ষেত্রে বয়স শিথিলযোগ্য। অগ্রহী প্রার্থীগণকে আদেনপত্রের সাথে মেয়র, চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন এর অনুকূলে ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা মূল্যের পে-অর্জার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফ্ট (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে।

আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সদ্য তোলা ২ (দুই) কপি পাসপোর্ট আকারের সত্যায়িত ছবি, জাতীয়তা ও চারিত্রিক সন্দপত্র এবং শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতার সকল সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়ালিপি সংযুক্ত করিতে হইবে।

সকল সনদপত্র ১ম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড অফিসার কর্তৃক সত্যায়িত করিতে হইবে। সিটি কপোরেশনের ক্যাশ শাখা হইতে নগদ ৩০ (ত্রিশ) টাকা মূল্যে সংগৃহীত নির্ধারিত ফরমে আবেদন করিতে হইবে।

বয়স প্রমাণের ক্ষেত্রে এফিডেভিড গ্রহণযোগ্য নহে।

চসিক/জস-৪৯৯/২০০৪

চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদের অবশাই যথায়থ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করিতে হইবে।

জটিপূর্ণ বা অসম্পূর্ণ আবেদন কোন প্রকার কারণ ব্যতিরেকে বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হইবে প্রাপ্ত দরখান্তের সহিত জমাকৃত কোন প্রকার কাগজপত্র ফেরৎ দেওয়া হইবে না।

লিখিত/মৌখিক পরীক্ষায় অংশ গ্রহণের জন্য কোন প্রকার টি,এ/ডি,এ দেওয়া হইবে না।

আবেদনপত্রসমূহ আগামী ১৫-১২-২০০৪ইং তারিখ বিকাল ৪.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে সাধারণ শাখায় জমা দিতে হইবে।

নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর কোন আদেনপত্র গ্রহনযোগ্য হইবে না।

প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা চট্টগ্রাম সিটি কর্পোরেশন

US ATOMIC BOMBINGS

Hiroshima group plans 'people's tribunal'

Japanese anti-war campaigners said vesterday they planned a "people's tribunal" over the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that could symbolically hold the United States responsible for war crimes.

Some 30 academics, lawyers and peace activists are preparing for the trial to start next year on the 60th anniversary of the bombings, with the verdict likely to be read out in Washington in early 2006.

Defendants could be key US decision-makers including late president Harry Truman and secretary of war Henry Stimson, along with Robert Oppenheimer and other scientists and the military personnel who carried out the order.

"As the statute of limitations is not applicable to war crimes, the responsibility should lie with the present US government, too," the Hiroshima-based group said in a

The group has invited international law experts to act as prosecu-

The activists said the failure to pursue criminal charges over the bombings in the final days of World War II led to the expansion of nuclear weapons and further wars, such as those seen in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"The bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki typifies two kinds of crimes against humanity, indiscriminate bombing and mass killing, both common phenomena in contemporary warfare," the group said.

Citizens of Hiroshima and agasaki "bear a moral responsibility to represent the voices" of all victims of indiscriminate bombing throughout the world, the trial's preparatory committee said.

"No national government has ever tried to fulfil its responsibility pursuing justice on this matter,"

Paul Tibbets, pilot of the Enola Gay B-29 which dropped the bomb on Hiroshima in the world's first atomic attack, would be the only person alive among those who could be accused in the tribunal.



Dhaka International Trade Fair-2005 Export Promotion Bureau

Dhaka

Time extension for sale and submission of applications form for participation in the Dhaka International Trade Fair-2005.

This is for the information of all concerned that the time for selling of applications form for allotment of space of all categories in DITF-2005 has been extended from earlier declared 4th December 2004 to 11th December 2004.

Application forms from Local and Foreign Participants will be received up to 12th December 2004 during Office Hours in the Finance and Accounts Section of Export Promotion Bureau, Dhaka instead of 5th December, 2004.

ii) Offer for Premier Pavilion, Premier Mini- Pavilion, Premier Stall, Restaurant and Drinks Kiosk shall have to be dropped in the tender box kept in the Export Promotion Bureau, Dhaka/Fair Cell DITF-2005, Ministry Commerce (Bld. No. 3, Room No. 127) Bangladesh secretariat, Dhaka/ Office of the Additional Divisional Commissioner (General) (First 12-Storied Building, 2nd Floor, Room No. 303), Segunbagicha, Dhaka on 13th December, 2004 up to 2.00 pm instead of 6th December, 2004.

iii) All the terms and conditions will remain the same.

Director

Dhaka International Trade Fair-2005 Secretariat Export Promotion Bureau

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