



A young boy prays next to candles on the boundary wall after participating in a memorial ceremony for the victims of the twin bombings near one of the blast sites at Lumbini Park in Hyderabad Sunday.

Govt goes 'soft on terror'

Say Indian Hindu nationalists

AFP, Hyderabad

Hindu nationalists staged a strike yesterday in protest at twin bombings linked to Islamic militants that killed 42 people here, accusing the Indian government of a "soft approach on terrorism".

The strike led by the main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the southern city of Hyderabad kept many people from work and school in the mixed Hindu-Muslim city, still reeling from Saturday's carnage.

India's home secretary Madhukar Gupta on Monday pointed the finger at foreign-based Islamic militant groups, echoing accusations made earlier by the government of Andhra Pradesh state, of which Hyderabad is the capital.

"We are probing all angles. It may be that Lashkar-e-Taiba,

Jaish-e-Muhammad could be involved," Gupta said on news channel NDTV, naming two Pakistan-based militant groups fighting an Islamic separatist insurgency in Indian Kashmir.

Indian officials and analysts have blamed Islamic extremist groups for stoking Hindu-Muslim tensions to derail an India-Pakistan peace process and damage the country's booming economy.

"The important thing is to find out who was involved both in the planning and the preparation as well as in the execution" of the blasts at a packed outdoor auditorium and a nearby food stall, Gupta added.

But the BJP, pointing to the failure to find those behind a string of deadly blasts around the country in the past year, said the government in New Delhi had not done

enough to ensure security within India's borders.

"We have been constantly warning the centre (federal government) that it should take adequate measures to strengthen internal security, but the Congress-led government has never bothered to rein in terror," said senior BJP leader Vijay Kumar Malhotra.

The strike kept Hyderabad, a normally teeming city of 6.5 million people, quiet Monday, with about 2,500 state-run buses off the roads after 10 of them came under attack in the wake of the blasts.

State-run and private schools declared a holiday after the BJP called the state-wide strike. Police received several telephone bomb threats, all of them apparently hoaxes.

Forensic experts were Monday studying the material used in the bombs which were set off by timers

and left more than 50 wounded.

"Yes, it is a timer-based explosive and one bomb that we defused, it also had a quartz clock timer," investigating officer Ram Mohan told NDTV.

Police recovered and defused one bomb found in a cinema a few hours after the twin blasts.

Initial reports said police had recovered several more unexploded bombs across the city, but the claims were later denied.

The state's chief minister, YS Rajasekhara Reddy, said that "available information" pointed to the involvement of terrorist organisations based in neighbouring Pakistan and Bangladesh.

He rejected any intelligence failure on the part of his government amid calls for his resignation in the wake of the second major terror attack in the city in less than six months.

Thai election set for Dec 23

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand has set December 23 as the date for its first general election since the coup that toppled premier Thaksin Shinawatra last year, the nation's top electoral official said Monday.

The election commission's head, Apichart Sukhaggonond, announced the date after meeting with Prime Minister Surayud Chulanont, saying it was chosen because "this will give political parties enough time to run their campaigns."

Intense political jockeying was already underway before the announcement, as Thaksin's allies regroup under a new political party and junta leader Sonthi Boonyaratglin considers whether he will run for the premiership.

The date meets army-installed Surayud's oft-repeated promise to hold elections to restore democracy before the end of the year. It will become official only once Thailand's king signs off on it.

Militants launch fresh attacks in Pakistan

3 Nato soldiers, 2 Afghan troops killed in fighting

AP, AFP, Miranshah

Militants and soldiers exchanged fire in northwest Pakistan yesterday, an official said, killing one militant and injuring three civilians and a soldier in a lawless region where US authorities worry al-Qaeda is regrouping.

The clash in North Waziristan came a day after four militants and a suicide bomber killed four policemen in neighbouring North West Frontier Province.

The militants fired rockets at a security post on the outskirts of North Waziristan's main town of Miranshah before dawn Monday, sparking a gunbattle with troops, an intelligence official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

A mortar shell apparently fired by security forces hit a civilian home, wounding two women and a child, the official said. One militant was killed and one soldier wounded in the firing.

Militants rocketed military

posts and bases in Miranshah and in Mir Ali, another North Waziristan town, but no one was hurt, he said.

Meanwhile, three foreign soldiers and two Afghan troops were killed Monday in intense fighting with rebels in eastern Afghanistan, the US military told AFP.

The latest deaths took to six the number of foreign soldiers killed in Afghanistan in the past two days and brought to 150 the death toll for the international military forces in the country this year.

Left, govt meet to talk nuke deal impasse

PTI, New Delhi

Leaders of Congress and Left parties would meet in New Delhi on Monday in a bid to resolve the current stand-off over the nuclear deal following the Left threat of serious consequences if the agreement with the US is operationalised.

External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee and Ahmed Patel, Political Secretary to Congress President Sonia Gandhi, will meet Left leaders this afternoon to sort out the differences over the deal.

The Core Group of the Congress had earlier this week met here soon after party chief Sonia Gandhi's return from a tour of South Africa and decided to hold talks with Left leaders to find a way out.

Leaders vow to bridge Iraqi sectarian divide

AFP, Baghdad

Iraq's fractious political leaders squeezed out a broadbrush deal early yesterday aimed at bridging the sectarian divide under mounting pressure from Washington.

The accord was cautiously welcomed by the White House, which faces growing calls to withdraw American troops and complaints from US lawmakers who are losing trust in Shiite Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

However, initial reaction from Sunni parties suggested the deal would not be enough to lure them back to Maliki's government.

And in Paris, French President Nicolas Sarkozy called for a clear

timetable to be set for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Iraq, in his first major foreign policy address since taking office.

Sarkozy's appeal came as pressure grew within the US Senate for President George W. Bush to start withdrawing the forces he ordered to Iraq in March 2003 to overthrow Saddam Hussein as the US troop death toll nears 4,000.

In the reconciliation deal, the leaders agreed to ease restrictions on former members of Saddam's Baath party taking up government jobs, to hold provincial elections -- a key demand of Washington -- and help security forces in stopping the bloodshed, President Jalal Talabani's office said.

US AG Gonzales quits

AFP, Washington

US Attorney General Alberto Gonzales is resigning, officials said yesterday, as President George W. Bush's confidant fell victim to a political storm deepened by Democratic demands for a perjury probe.

Gonzales, at the center of fierce rows over legal tactics in the 'war on terror' and a showdown over the firing of federal prosecutors, was the latest top Bush ally to leave, 17 months before the president exits the White House.

A senior White House official confirmed the resignation of the top US law enforcement officer, who had even lost confidence of senior Republicans.

Gonzales was due to hold a press conference at 10:30 am, (1430 GMT), Justice Department officials said. Bush was to make his own state-



ment from Texas, where he is on working vacation around 11:50 am (1550 GMT), the White House said.

After months defying demands by Democrats and even some of Bush's Republican allies in Congress for his resignation, Gonzales told Bush he would quit in a telephone call on Friday, another senior White House official said.

6 civilians killed as US clashes with Iraqi militia

Four US soldiers slain

AFP, Kut, Baghdad

Six civilians were killed yesterday, caught in the crossfire during clashes between US forces and the Mahdi Army militia near the city of Kut, southeast of Baghdad, security and medical officials said.

Police Captain Ali Muhsin said the clashes broke out at dawn between a joint Iraqi and US force and elements of the Mahdi Army in the village of Anwar al-Sadr, just south of Kut.

He said US helicopters took part in the operation against the Shia

militiamen, which continued until late morning, closing off main roads in the area.

Earlier insurgents have killed four more American troops north and west of Baghdad, the military said yesterday.

"Two Task Force Lightning Soldiers were killed by enemy gunfire in Salaheddin province Sunday," a statement said. Salaheddin's capital is Tikrit, hometown of executed dictator Saddam Hussein.

Sarkozy calls for troop exit from Iraq

AFP, Paris

President Nicolas Sarkozy yesterday called for a clear timetable for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Iraq as he outlined an assertive role for France in other world hotspots.

Making his first foreign policy speech since taking office, Sarkozy recalled that France had opposed the US invasion of Iraq in 2003 but that it was now ready to help the international community bring about a political solution.

"A clear horizon must be defined concerning the withdrawal of foreign troops," Sarkozy said in the address to French ambassadors from 180 countries.



A man drives a tractor past burning vegetation in Platanos Sunday near the site of Ancient Olympia. The death toll from Greece's raging wildfires rose to 60 following the discovery of another body in the Peloponnese peninsula.

Nepal nationalises royal properties

AP, Kathmandu

Nepal's government has decided to nationalise five more palaces and eight private parks and forest reserves owned by the country's king and his family, an official said yesterday - the most recent in a series of steps that have undercut the power of the world's last Hindu monarchy.

"We have decided to nationalize five more palaces outside Kathmandu and eight parks and jungles," said Prithvi Subba Gurung, minister for culture, tourism and civil aviation.

Last week, the government nationalized the Katmandu palace and six other royal homes and said they would be handed over to the state's archaeology department.

Among the recently confiscated properties are Gokarna Forest, a

reserve in northeast Katmandu, the Nagarjun Palace, a beautiful hilltop bungalow in northwest Katmandu and Ratna Mandir in the resort town of Pokhara, Gurung said.

Despite its nationalization, the royal family will be allowed to live in Narayanhity Royal Palace - the site of the 2001 massacre that left nine royals dead and brought current King Gyanendra to power - until a special assembly is elected and decides whether to keep the monarchy.

The election, now scheduled for November, has been repeatedly delayed.

Gyanendra assumed the throne in 2001 and four years later seized absolute power, saying he would bring order to a chaotic political scene and quell a Maoist insurgency that has killed nearly 13,000 people in the past decade.



IFIC BANK LIMITED

ইন্টারন্যাশনাল ফাইন্যান্স ইনভেস্টমেন্ট এন্ড কমার্স ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

Head Office : Shilpa Bank Bhaban (8th-10th, 16th-19th Floors)
8, Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka-1000.

PUBLIC NOTICE

IFIC Bank Limited has received an offer from ABC Real Estates Limited and ABC (Mechanical-Electrical) Limited represented by their constituted Attorney ABC Joint Venture for purchasing (approx) 9044 sft. floor space (1st floor) with underground Car Parking Space for 6(six) Cars along with proportionate undivided and undemarcated share of land of the ABC HERITAGE situated at Uttara Commercial Area, Sector No. 03, Plot No. 02 & 04 of the Layout Plan of Rajdhani Unnayan Katiripakkha (RAJUK) in the District of Dhaka as mentioned in the following schedule.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of proportionate undivided and undemarcated share of land measuring more or less 1.64 Katha, out of total 23 Kathas of land situated at Uttara Commercial Area, Jashimuddin Avenue, Sector No.03, Plot No.02 & 04 of the layout Plan of Uttara Commercial Area prepared by Rajdhani Unnayan Katiripakkha (RAJUK) now confined in 1st floor measuring more or less 9044 sft. of a 14 (Fourteen) storied Commercial Project namely ABC HERITAGE with 06 (six) Car Parking Space in the south section of underground Parking area at Level -2 constructed on the said 23 Kathas of land as per plan approved by RAJUK butted and bounded by:

The North : Plot No.06 owned by Mr. Alauddin Ahmed
The South : Jashimuddin Avenue
The East : Public Road
The West : Public Road

If any body has any objection/interest in the aforesaid property should contact the following address with valid documents/papers within 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of 7 (seven) days, IFIC Bank Limited will not be held responsible to any body for this deal.

Md. Badrul Alam
Chief Law Officer
IFIC Bank Limited
Head Office, 8, Rajuk Avenue,
BSB Building (10th floor), Dhaka.
Phone # 9563020 Ext.-233

Good Wishes



Tahil Hossain Shawon, a student of Sir Shreshtha Nur Mohammad Rifles Public School & College has got GPA-5 in HSC exam this year. He also got GPA-5 in SSC exam. His father Mr.

Musharraf Hossain is a senior manager of ICCDRB and the current president of Bangladesh Society for Human Resource Management. His mother Fouzia Atroq Salina is an excellent housewife. He wants to serve the people being a doctor.



Corrigendum Invitation for Tender

Ref No. BB-3/KARI/3-24/1131
Date: 14/08/07

Ref No. BB-3/KARI/3-24/1207 Dated 12/7/07 was published. At SI No 19 price of tender document in Taka for each tender document in the form of Pay-Order/Bank Draft from schedule bank of Bangladesh in favour of, should be Deputy Director (RAO), BPDP, Sylhet, instead of Executive Engineer, Sales & Distribution Division-3, BPDB, Sylhet.

Executive Engineer
Sales & Distribution Division-3
BPDB, Sylhet

Biddyt/Jan-134(4)/20-8-07
GD-2815

আর্থ-ফাউন্ডেশন তার মৎস্য ও চিংড়ি চাষ, বন এবং পশুপালনের সম্প্রসারণ লক্ষ্যে বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন জেলায় মাছ ও চিংড়ি চাষের সহিত কৃষি ভিত্তিক কর্মকাণ্ডের উদ্দেশ্যে প্রকৃত জমির মালিকদেরকে ২৫ বিঘা থেকে ১০০ বিঘা পর্যন্ত খননকৃত বা আধা খননকৃত পুকুর বা ঘের অথবা সমতল জমি যা ন্যূনতম ১০ বৎসরের জন্য আর্থ-ফাউন্ডেশনের নিকট লাভজনক চুক্তিতে লিজ দেওয়া যাবে।

আগ্রহী জমি ও পুকুর মালিকগণকে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের ৭ দিনের মধ্যে আগ্রহ পত্র জমা দেবার জন্য আহ্বান জানানো হচ্ছে।

আবেদনকারীকে অবশ্যই পুকুর বা জমির মালিক হতে হবে। আগ্রহ পত্রে অবশ্যই লিজের শর্তাবলী উল্লেখ থাকবে।

নিম্নে জেলাগুলোর নাম দেওয়া হলো।

১. ঢাকা ২. গাজীপুর ৩. ময়মনসিংহ ৪. টাঙ্গাইল ৫. বগুড়া ৬. পাবনা ৭. রংপুর ৮. খুলনা ৯. বাগেরহাট ১০. পটুয়াখালী ১১. বরগুনা ১২. যশোর ১৩. নড়াইল ১৪. বিনাইদহ ১৫. মাগুরা ১৬. কুমিল্লা ১৭. চাঁদপুর ১৮. ব্রাহ্মণবাড়িয়া ১৯. কক্সবাজার ২০. সন্দ্বীপ ২১. ভোলা ২২. ঝালকাঠী ২৩. পিরোজপুর ২৪. বরিশাল ২৫. ফরিদপুর ২৬. কুষ্টিয়া ২৭. গোপালগঞ্জ ২৮. মাদারীপুর ২৯. শরিয়তপুর ৩০. দিনাজপুর



আর্থ-ফাউন্ডেশন
ইন্সটিটিউট ফর এগ্রিকালচার ও রিসোর্সেস-এন্ড-ইনভেস্টমেন্ট ফাউন্ডেশন
৬৯/জি, গার্শপথ, বীন রোড, ঢাকা, বাংলাদেশ ফোন: ৮৬১০৪৮৭, ৮৬১১৪৪১
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জেলা পর্যায়ে মৎস্য ও চিংড়ি চাষ
বন এবং পশুপালনের সম্প্রসারণ লক্ষ্যে
প্রকৃত জমির মালিকদের নিকট
আগ্রহপত্র আহ্বান

আগ্রহ পত্র পাঠানোর ঠিকানা
পরিচালক (মৎস্য)
আর্থ-ফাউন্ডেশন

৬৯/১, ১৪ সি, চন্দ্রশীলা সুবাস্ত টাওয়ার
গার্শপথ, বীনরোড ঢাকা-১২০৫

