

# Musharraf girded for Supreme Court battle

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistani military ruler Pervez Musharraf girded yesterday for a Supreme Court battle over whether he can claim victory in a presidential vote, a confrontation which could further destabilise the country.

The key US ally, at the centre of international efforts to combat Islamic extremism, swept to an overwhelming majority in Saturday's controversial election after it was boycotted by almost the entire opposition.

The country's top court is however weighing up the legality of the poll and whether Musharraf was allowed to stand while keeping his role as army chief, ruling on Friday that the result cannot be confirmed until it decides.

A judgement against the general, who grabbed power in a bloodless coup in 1999, could push Musharraf over the brink after

months of political turmoil and make him declare martial law.

Musharraf late Saturday insisted that his "great victory" was democratic, rejecting claims that abstentions by former premier Benazir Bhutto's party and resignations by other opposition MPs made it illegitimate.

"Democracy means majority, whether there is opposition or no opposition," he told reporters.

But he refused to rule out emergency action if the court overturns the result, saying: "Let them come to their decision, then we will decide."

The court says it will start hearing the challenges against the election on October 17, the end of the Muslim festival of Eid-ul-Fitr and the day that Benazir is due to board a plane back to Pakistan after years in exile.

Musharraf signed an amnesty deal for two-time prime minister

Benazir on Friday, as a prelude to a power-sharing deal ahead of a general election that is due by January 15 at the latest.

A source close to the presidency was more blunt, saying Musharraf could impose "surgical martial law" to maintain stability in the event of an unfavourable court ruling.

The United States, which has closely watched the election process amid a recent rash of Islamic extremist violence, gave cautious congratulations to the Pakistan nation, but withheld comment on Musharraf's win.

With Musharraf's fate in the court's hands, his vow to step down as head of the army by the end of his current five-year term on November 15 now appears to be in limbo.

He is due to swear in his designated successor as army chief, former intelligence chief Ashfaq

Kiyani, on Monday, but the court row has quashed speculation that Musharraf might hang up his uniform immediately afterwards.

Musharraf's supporters freely celebrated his win in the vote by the two national houses of parliament and four provincial assemblies by setting off fireworks, despite the delay in the announcement of official results.

Rallies were also planned Sunday in central Multan city, where supporters danced in the streets overnight and handed out sweets, officials said.

About 400 people also gathered in Lahore, where party workers chanted "Long Live Musharraf." But there was little sign of the protests against his rule that have rocked Pakistan in recent months.

Opposition parties would meet in coming days to plan their next moves after describing the win as hollow.



Pakistani activists of former premier Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) rally in Islamabad in anticipation of Benazir's October 18 scheduled return to the country. Pakistani military ruler Pervez Musharraf girded for a Supreme Court battle over whether he can claim victory in a presidential vote, a confrontation which could further destabilise the country.

## 16 'foreign' rebels killed in fierce Afghan battle

AFP, Kabul

International military planes called in by Afghan security forces killed 16 rebels, apparently all foreigners, suspected of preparing an attack in the country's east, police said yesterday.

Six rebels were injured and one was captured following the raid late Saturday in the province of Paktika on Afghanistan's border with Pakistan, provincial deputy police chief Farouq Sangari told AFP.

The captured militant, an Uzbek national, told the authorities the dead were all foreign nationals, from Pakistan, Uzbekistan and Chechnya, the official said. This could not be independently verified.

The security forces had acted after intelligence reports that the

rebels were preparing to attack the headquarters of the Sarobi district, he said.

Insurgents linked to the Taliban movement and its allies in al-Qaeda are said to have bases in Pakistan from where they launch attacks inside Afghanistan as part of an insurgency against the US-backed government.

The Taliban was removed from government in a US-led invasion that started exactly six years ago.

As part of their campaign, they capture remote districts secured only by poorly armed and undermanned police forces, and are usually easily forced out again.

They are also stepping up their use of suicide attacks, which the Afghan government says shows the influence of foreign militants.

## UN censure looms for Myanmar

THE STRAITS TIMES/ANN, Singapore

The United Nations Security Council today will begin considering a non-binding statement condemning the "violent repression" of pro-democracy protests in Myanmar, after Singapore cautioned against rushing to "punish unacceptable behaviour".

The draft statement circulated late on Friday to the council also contains an appeal to the ruling junta in Burma to ensure "full and unlimited" access for Ibrahim Gambia, the UN special envoy to Myanmar, who is mediating in the crisis in the country.

"The Security Council condemns the violent repression by the government of Myanmar of peaceful demonstrations, including the use of force against religious figures and institutions," said the text, drafted by the United States, Britain and France.

The statement requires consensus by all 15 Security Council mem-

bers to be adopted. Gambia briefed members on his four-day Myanmar visit Friday.

He later told reporters that he saw a "window of opportunity" for possible talks between the junta and opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who met the Nigerian diplomat twice in Yangon, where she is under house arrest.

"From my own conversation, she appears to be very anxious to have a proper dialogue," provided there were no preconditions, Gambia said.

In a surprise move on Thursday, Myanmar's top leader, Senior General Than Shwe, offered direct talks if Suu Kyi abandoned "confrontation" and stopped backing sanctions and calling for "utter devastation".

Singapore, invited as Asean Chair to address the council on Friday, said the United Nations' efforts - as embodied by Gambia - were unique and irreplaceable in resolving the problems in Myanmar.

"The international community should buttress his position and invest him with the requisite support, authority and prestige," said Vanu Gopala Menon, Singapore's permanent representative to the UN. He urged Gambia to return to Myanmar as soon as possible to sustain the momentum of his mission.

Menon also cautioned against any rush to impose additional sanctions on Burma, an issue that has divided the Security Council along familiar lines.

Ambassadors for the United States and Britain indicated that they were drawing up lists of economic or travel sanctions aimed at the Myanmar military. China has warned that such measures could make the situation worse.

Myanmar's ambassador, Kyaw Tint Swe, in a rare council appearance, claimed "normalcy" had returned to his country, adding that many of those detained had now been released.

## Pakistan fails to help residents in tribal belt: Rights group

AFP, Islamabad

The Pakistan government has ignored pleas for help from civilians living in the tribal area along the Afghan border, who are being targeted by Islamic militants, a rights group claimed yesterday.

The government was turning a blind eye as militants in the troubled region bombed girls' schools, threatened teachers and attacked shops selling videos and music deemed un-Islamic, the independent Human Rights Commission said.

The commission based its analysis on a two-day review of the situation in the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) and nearby semi-autonomous tribal districts.

"The NWFP presents a disturbing picture of religious militancy that is increasingly manifesting itself in vigilante actions against the population and creating wide-

spread fear," commission chair Asma Jahangir told reporters here.

"The government has continuously refused to heed complaints and warnings from both the public and civil society organisations and has adopted a policy of appeasement of militants," she said.

"The government has chosen to look the other way when the militants have blown up girls' schools and video shops, threatened teachers, students, doctors, nurses, NGO workers and barbers."

Pakistan, a key US ally, has been fighting extremists along the border where the US alleges al-Qaeda and Taliban extremists have regrouped after 9/11.

But militants in the deeply conservative region, emulating the ultra-orthodox Taliban who ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, are striving to impose a strict brand of Islam, the commission said.



Demonstrators gather around a statue of late Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi Saturday during a rally and protest march in Washington, DC. The protesters were demonstrating against the recent crackdown on pro-democracy activists by authorities in Myanmar.

## 12 die in Tamil rebel arms ship sinking

AP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's navy sank a ship carrying arms and war equipment for separatist Tamil Tiger rebels yesterday, killing at least 12 people on board. Meanwhile, eight rebels and a government soldier were reported killed in other recent clashes.

After receiving intelligence about the 230-foot-long ship, three navy vessels surveilled the sea over the past six days and engaged the ship early Sunday about 850 nautical miles off the southern coast, navy spokesman Cmdr DKP Dassanayake said.

The spokesman said the ship, weighing 3,000 tons with the cargo, was the seventh rebel vessel sunk while transporting

arms this year. "The ship caught fire and sank. There were about 12 to 15 (people on board) and no one survived," Dassanayake said.

The navy said the cargo included artillery ammunition, water scooters, divers' boats, and radar and listening and jamming equipment.

Rebel spokesman Rasiyah Ilanthirayan could not immediately be reached for comment Sunday.

The sinking came a day after fighting in Sri Lanka's troubled north claimed nine more lives.

Soldiers and the separatist rebels fought in Adampan village of northern Vavuniya district Saturday, leaving six guerrillas dead, an official at the Defence

Ministry's information centre said. Two other rebels were killed in a separate clash in Vilathikulam village.

Also Saturday, Tamil Tigers killed a soldier when they attacked troops in northeastern Welioya village, the official said on condition of anonymity in line with policy.

A search operation in Vavuniya uncovered a haul of arms and explosives, including 250 anti-personnel mines, 41 mortar rounds, eight anti-tank mines, rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, the centre said.

Fighting across the de facto border separating the government-controlled region and the rebels' northern mini-state has heightened in recent weeks.

## 28 killed in bus, train crash in Cuba

AP, Havana

A bus collided with a train in eastern Cuba, killing at least 28 people and injuring another 73, including 15 reported to be in critical condition, state television said late Saturday.

The collision occurred in a small town in the province of Granma at a railroad crossing, and the train dragged the bus before the bus fell below a bridge.

Authorities were still investigating the cause of the accident, which occurred shortly before noon Saturday about 500 miles east of Havana, according to a statement read on the nightly newscast.



An Indian policeman stands guard as a crowd gathers after a bus accident, which killed seven people in New Delhi yesterday. Hundreds of angry protesters blocked roads in New Delhi after seven people were mowed down by a speeding bus early Sunday, prompting fears of a major riot.

## Violence in Delhi as Blue Line bus kills 7

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, New Delhi

A speeding Blue Line bus mowed down seven people in New Delhi on Sunday in the worst such disaster blamed on the "killer" fleet, sparking mob fury that halted all traffic on the highway to Agra and forced the police to fire tear gas. The dead included five women, a child and a man.

Eight others, including some who were crossing the road, were injured when the bus ran into a crowd while trying to overtake a stationary Delhi Transport Corp (DTC) bus from the wrong side at Aali Goan, near Badarpur.

The gory scenes of mangled bodies on the road sparked mob fury as hundreds of passers-by stoned the killer bus and tried to set it ablaze and then blocked the Mathura Road that links Delhi with Agra and beyond.

## 8 die in fighting along Kashmir border

AFP, Srinagar

Two Indian soldiers and six militants were killed in a clash along the border dividing Kashmir between India and Pakistan as India's new army chief wrapped up a visit, the army said yesterday.

The army chief's two-day visit to Indian-held Kashmir over the weekend came as the insurgency-hit region witnessed an increase in violence.

"Indian troops shot dead six militants who had infiltrated into our side from across the Line of

Control (LoC)," army spokesman Anil Mathur told AFP.

Mathur confirmed that two Indian soldiers also died in the fighting Saturday evening, which he said followed a "major infiltration bid."

The clash was the second along the heavily guarded border since army chief General Deepak Kapoor arrived in the state Friday, with three militants and a soldier dying in earlier fighting.

In separate clashes Saturday, two rebels and a soldier died in other parts of Kashmir, army spokesman Mathur said.

## N Korea's nuke disarmament to begin in mid Oct

AFP, Seoul

North Korea will likely begin disabling its nuclear facilities in mid-October under a disarmament-for-aid deal that should see the process completed by year's end, a news report said Sunday.

The deal would take 45 days from the start until late November or early December, Seoul's Yonhap news agency said quoting unnamed officials.

The report came after top US nuclear envoy Christopher Hill said Washington was preparing to send a team of experts to North Korea

this week ahead to discuss initiating the process.

Seoul's former unification minister Jong Se-Hyun, who met the North's chief nuclear envoy Kim Kye-Gwan in Pyongyang during the inter-Korean summit last week, has said Kim wants to quickly get disarmament started.

Under a six-nation deal announced Wednesday, North Korea will disable its five-megawatt plutonium producing reactor and two other facilities at Yongbyon and also declare all its nuclear programmes by December 31.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Office of the Executive Engineer  
Medical College PWD Division  
Segunbagicha, Dhaka

Memo No: MCD/T-30/289

Dated: 4-10-2007

Corrigendum Notice to Tender  
MCD/T-30/281(40) dated:  
23/09/2007

This is to inform for all concerned that the following corrections have been made in the tender No. MCD/T-30/281(40) dated 23/09/2007 for the work remaining work for Establishment of Teaching Morgue & Mortuary at all medical colleges. (Sub Head: Construction of Teaching Morgue and Mortuary Building Ground Floor and 1st Floor (part) with 6-storied foundation at Dhaka Medical College, Dhaka).

The following correction should be added in the tender clause no. 14 and 15.

Clause no. 14 last date and time for selling tender document: 30-10-2007.

Clause no. 15 last date and time for submission of tender document: 31-10-2007.

All other terms & conditions will remain unchanged, this corrigendum is a part and parcel of this tender.

Md Mostafa Kamal  
Executive Engineer  
Medical College PWD Division  
Segunbagicha, Dhaka

GD-3468

উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ)  
এর কার্যালয়  
ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ  
রাজস্বাণ পুলিশ লাইন  
ঢাকা

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

২০০৭-২০০৮ খ্রিঃ অর্থবর্ষে ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশের ব্যবহারের জন্য নিম্নোক্ত মালামাল ক্রয়কল্পে প্রকৃত ব্যবসায়ী/ভিকাদার/ সরবরাহকারীদের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাইতেছে। দরপত্র আগামী ৩১/১০/২০০৭ খ্রিঃ তারিখ বেলা-১২.০০ ঘটিকার পূর্বে পুলিশ কমিশনার, ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ, ঢাকা এর বরাবরে তফসিল (সিডিউল) উল্লিখিত আবেদনসহ সর্বোচ্চ অত্র অফিসে রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাগে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। এদিন বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকার সময় উপস্থিত দরপত্রদাতাদের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র বোঝা হইবে। কোন কারণ দর্শাতে বাতিলকৃত হইলে দরপত্র আংশিক বা সম্পূর্ণ গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা অত্র অফিস কর্তৃক সংরক্ষিত থাকিবে।

অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে উপস্থিত প্রমাণাদি যেমন-নবায়নকৃত সিটি কর্পোরেশন/পৌরসভার ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, হালদহ পর্বত আয়কর পরিচালকের সার্টিফিকেট, সমকালীন আর্থিক স্বচ্ছতা সম্পর্কিত ব্যাংক সার্টিফিকেট, ভাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন সার্টিফিকেট এর মূলকপি দেখান যাপেক্ষে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হইতে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে নগদ ৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা (অফিসভাষা) প্রদানপূর্বক নিম্ন-কালীন সন্মত দরপত্র তফসিল (সিডিউল) সংগ্রহ করা যাইবে। দরপত্র খোলার তারিখে কোন দরপত্র তফসিল (সিডিউল) বিক্রয় করা হইবে না। সকল কাগজপত্রের সত্যায়িত অনুলিপি দরপত্রের সংগে অবশ্যই দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

(ক) কম্পিউটার সার্ভার ও কম্পিউটারের আনুষংগিক মালামাল (সিডিউল মোতাবেক)।

আহসান হাবীব পলাশ  
উপ-পুলিশ কমিশনার (সরবরাহ)  
ঢাকা মেট্রোপলিটন পুলিশ  
রাজস্বাণ পুলিশ লাইন, ঢাকা

জিডি-৩৪৮৩



Essential Drugs Company Limited  
395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area  
Dhaka-1208

### International Tender Notice

EDCL invites sealed tender for supply of Pharmaceutical Raw and Packing Materials on C&F/Dhaka by Air, Chittagong by Sea & Benapole by Road Basis.

Sl. No.	Tender No. & date	Name of the item	Cost of tender schedule	Last date & time of closing	Date & time of opening
01.	IMP/IR/PM/SEM/14/2007-2008 Dated: 03/10/2007	1. Povidone K-30 2. Paraffin Wax 3. White Bees Wax 4. FD&C Yellow #10 5. Mannitol 6. PVC Film (222mm)	Tk. 1,250.00 equivalent to US\$ 18.00	24/10/2007 at 11.00am	24/10/2007 at 11.15am
02.	IMP/IR/PM/SEM/15/2007-2008 Dated: 03/10/2007	1. Amoxycillin Tri-hydrate Comp. 2. Cloxacillin Compacted 3. Cloxacillin Micronized 4. Fludoxacin Compacted 5. Fludoxacin Micronized 6. Cephalixin Compacted 7. Cephalixin Micronized	Tk. 5,000.00 equivalent to US\$ 72.00	25/10/2007 at 11.00am	25/10/2007 at 11.15am

Tender schedule with terms and conditions will be available for sale at the above address on all working days during office hours. No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

GD-3482

Md. Froze-ul-Alam  
Production Director &  
Incharge/Purchase Deptt  
Pir Masud Director