

Turkey keeps all options open on Kurd militants

AFP, Tehran

Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Babacan on Sunday insisted Turkey was keeping open the option of military action against Kurdish militants in northern Iraq and called for greater international support.

"We have different instruments. We can use diplomacy or we can resort to military means," Babacan said following talks with Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki in Tehran.

"All of these are on the table," he said, according to an English translation broadcast by Iran's state-run English language channel Press-TV.

"The Turkish people have lost their patience... We are asking all our friends to support us in this

endeavour, our fight against terror," he added.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday that Turkey would launch a military strike when necessary against rebels from the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), who have taken sanctuary in northern Iraq.

Iran has in recent weeks been echoing Turkey's frustration over the failure of the authorities in northern Iraq to crack down on Kurdish rebels.

The militant Kurdish group PJAK (Party of Free Life of Kurdistan), linked to the PKK, has been behind a string of deadly attacks on security forces in north-western Iraq in recent months.

Iran's Kordestan, Kermanshah and West Azarbaijan provinces, which border northern Iraq, have

substantial Kurdish populations.

Mottaki, however, gave an equivocal answer to a question over whether Iran would support a Turkish military strike on northern Iraq against the militants.

"I think that we will be able to overcome these small grouplets," he said. "There are various ways of going about this. We hope our cooperation will allow us to solve this as soon as possible."

Mottaki added he saw the "hand of the Zionist regime and the United States" behind the militants. Babacan disagreed, however, saying the United States had itself been a victim of terror.

Meanwhile, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad lashed out at "terrorists" operating in northern Iraq, in telephone talks with his Iraqi and Turkish counter-

parts, state media reported.

"The terrorists are harming the Iranian, Iraqi and Turkish people," Ahmadinejad was quoted as telling Iraqi President Jalal Talabani.

"The terrorists are the friend of no country," he told Turkish President Abdullah Gul, calling for "coordination" with the Iraqi authorities to solve the issue.

According to the Iraqi authorities however, Ahmadinejad also agreed with Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki in another call that the crisis could still be solved peacefully.

"Both leaders agreed the activities of the PKK were damaging the interests of Iraq, Turkey and Iran but stressed that military action is not the only option to deal with it," Maliki's office quoted the leaders as saying.



Demonstrators march against the Iraq war Saturday in Los Angeles, California. Anti-war protesters gathered in 11 cities across the US and staged anti-war rallies. PHOTO: AFP

3 killed in bomb blast in Nandigram

PTI, Nandigram

Three persons were killed in a bomb blast in Nandigram on Sunday, when a bandh was being observed in the area at the call of the organisation opposing land acquisition for industries.

Three persons, stated to be CPI(M) activists, were killed in bomb explosion near the Left party's camp at Sherkan Chowk in Khejuri area, police said.

The CPI(M) alleged that the Bhumi Uchhed Pratirodh Committee (BUPC), spearheading the anti-land acquisition movement in Nandigram block of East Midnapore district, was behind the killing.

Party sources said the BUPC members allegedly hurled bombs in the camp killing three party activists.

Darfur peace talks go ahead without crucial leaders

AFP, Sirte

Negotiators working to end four years of violence in the western Sudanese region of Darfur ploughed on Sunday despite predictions of failure by host Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi.

Although the Sudanese government declared a unilateral ceasefire at the start of the meeting on Saturday, key rebel groups have boycotted the talks in the Mediterranean city of Sirte sponsored by the African Union and United Nations.

"We can't talk about success or failure at this stage. The most important thing is that the process has begun," said AU spokesman Nouredine Mezni.

Somalis protest against Ethiopian troops amid violence

AFP, Mogadishu

Heavy clashes broke out in Mogadishu yesterday, prompting some residents to stage an angry protest against Ethiopian troops and others to flee as the Somali capital sank further into violence.

Somali government forces in armoured vehicles clashed with insurgents in broad daylight for the second day running, witnesses told AFP.

"I can see Islamic insurgents chanting 'Allahu Akbar' (God is great), they are hunkering down right in front of my door, and Somali forces with armoured vehicles are opening fire," said Anab Ali, from the southern Hodan district.



Some of India's poorest people, at the end of a 600 kilometre march demanding that the government 'give back their land', carry a portrait of 'Father of the Nation' Mahatma Gandhi as they arrive in New Delhi yesterday. About 25,000 of India's poorest of the poor landless farmers and indigenous people reached the Indian capital after a month-long protest march from Gwalior to Delhi covering 600km journey to highlight the plight of those marginalised by economic growth. PHOTO: AFP

Researchers aim to use mosquitoes to bite back at malaria

AFP, Rockville

A US scientist is leading an international team of researchers using an army of blood-sucking mosquitoes to produce a potentially potent vaccine against malaria.

Stephen Hoffman, 58, founded Sanaria Inc., a biotech firm solely dedicated to the production of a vaccine against malaria, a mosquito-borne disease that kills one million people a year, many of them African children.

Hoffman officially opened a manufacturing facility on Friday in the Washington suburb of Rockville, Maryland, where he said he aims to produce 75 to 100 million doses a year to vaccinate the 25 million infants born every year in sub-Saharan Africa.

"The opening of this facility is an important step in the process to develop a whole-parasite malaria vaccine," he said.

Thousands call for swift end to Iraq war

AP, San Francisco

Thousands of people called for a swift end to the war in Iraq as they marched through downtown on Saturday, chanting and carrying signs that read: "Wall Street Gets Rich, Iraqis and GIs Die" or "Drop Tuition Not Bombs."

The streets were filled with thousands as labour union members, anti-war activists, clergy and others rallied near City Hall before marching to Dolores Park.

As part of the demonstration, protesters fell on Market Street as part of a "die in" to commemorate the thousands of American soldiers and Iraqi citizens who have died since the conflict began in March 2003.

The protest was the largest in a

series of war protests taking place in New York, Los Angeles and other US cities, organisers said.

No official head count was available. Organisers of the event estimated about 30,000 people participated in San Francisco. It appeared that more than 10,000 people attended the march.

"I got the sense that many people were at a demonstration for the first time," said Sarah Sloan, one of the event's organisers. "That's something that's really changed. People have realized the right thing to do is to take to the streets."

In the shadow of the National Constitution Centre and Independence Hall in Philadelphia, a few hundred protesters ranging from grade school-aged children to

senior citizens called on President Bush to end funding for the war and bring troops home.

Marchers who braved severe wet weather during the walk of more than 30 blocks were met by people lining the sidewalks and clutching a long yellow ribbon over the final blocks before Independence Mall. There, the rally opened with songs and prayers by descendants of Lenape Indians.

"Our signs are limp from the rain and the ground is soggy, but our spirits are high," said Bal Pinguel, of the American Friends Service Committee, one of the national sponsors of the event. "The high price we are paying is the more than 3,800 troops who have been killed in the war in Iraq."

Israel delays cutting Gaza fuel supplies

AFP, Jerusalem

Israel will not begin cutting fuel supplies to the Gaza Strip until later this week at the earliest, officials said, delaying an earlier threat to start from Sunday.

A senior government official said any cuts would still need to be approved by the government and would not begin for another few days.

"The cuts will probably start later this week and still require the green light from the government," the official told AFP on condition of anonymity ahead of Sunday's weekly cabinet meeting.

The defence ministry had ear-

lier threatened to begin cutting supplies from Sunday in retaliation for rocket fire from Gaza, but an official responsible for the Palestinian territories said he had not yet received orders to proceed.

"When we receive orders from the political leadership we will apply them but so far that's not the case," Shlomo Dror, top Israeli coordinator for the Palestinian territories, told AFP.

Last week, a defence spokesman said that "juridical problems

are still to be resolved" concerning the cuts, referring to possible legal action by Israeli human rights organisations which, like the Palestinians, consider the sanctions collective punishment of civilians in breach of international law.

The Israeli military says that since the Islamist Hamas movement seized control of the Gaza Strip in mid-June, around 1,000 rockets and mortar rounds have been fired at Israel, wounding dozens of people.

US to hand Iraqis Karbala control

AP, Baghdad

US forces will turn over security to Iraqi authorities in the southern Shia province of Karbala on Monday, the American commander for the area said, despite fighting between rival militia factions that has killed dozens.

Karbala will become only the eighth of Iraq's 18 provinces to revert to Iraqi control, despite President Bush's prediction in January that the Iraqi government

would have responsibility for security in all of the provinces by November.

But the target date has slipped repeatedly, highlighting the difficulties in developing Iraqi police forces and the slow pace of economic and political progress in areas still troubled by daily violence.

A bomb struck a mainly Shia town southeast of Baghdad on Saturday for the second time in less than a week, the deadliest attack on a day in which at least 23 people were killed or found dead.

In northern Iraq, clashes broke out between al-Qaeda in Iraq fighters and a rival Sunni group near the volatile city of Samarra, and police said some 16 militants were killed.

The fighting broke out after calls from imams at local mosques to expel al-Qaeda from the area, labelling them as "false Mujahedeens" or false holy warriors, according to a provincial police officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

Argentine first lady seeks presidency

AP, Buenos Aires

Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, the other half of the power couple credited with Argentina's rebound from an economic collapse, overshadowed 13 rivals as voting opened Sunday in Argentina's presidential elections.

Fernandez, a powerful senator who has been husband Nestor Kirchner's achievements in bringing Argentina back from a \$100 billion debt default, won the support of many Argentines despite offering few original proposals and is hoping to become her country's first elected woman president.



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (R) meets with Turkish Foreign Minister Ali Babacan (L) in Tehran yesterday. Babacan Sunday insisted Turkey was keeping open the option of military action against Kurdish militants in northern Iraq and called for greater international support. PHOTO: AFP

Godhra left too deep a wound in Gujarat Says Minorities Commission

PTI, New Delhi

The Minorities Commission feels that Godhra aftermath has left "too deep a wound" in Gujarat and healing it has to be "visible" in view of the scars left by the communal violence.

"It is too deep a wound in Gujarat and will take some more time to heal. Healing the situation has to be visible," the newly-appointed Commission Chairman Mohammed Shafi Qureshi told PTI.

Qureshi, a former Union Minister, said the Commission planned to visit the state, but "does not want to mix it up with elections". The process of assembly elections is on in Gujarat where polls are scheduled on December 11 and 16.

Noting that the Commission would talk to the state government

to decide suitable dates, he said the modus operandi of the panel has always been to first interact with the affected people and then talk to the administration.

"It does not take a second to destroy the confidence, but building it takes years," said Qureshi, whose refrain is that there is need to change the mindset about the minorities, may it be the issue of Sachar Committee recommendations or other matters concerning them.

Qureshi, a senior leader from Jammu and Kashmir, said a common complaint among minorities is that the progress in implementation of recommendations of the Sachar Committee or report of the Sri Krishna Commission is very slow and it needs to be expedited.

"What the minorities want is equal treatment as any other Indian citizen," he said.

BPDB's International Tender Notice

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resource/Power Division.			
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board.			
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.			
5	Procuring entity district	Khulna.			
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Air Pre Heater Tubes for 60 MW. Boiler of Khulna Power Station, BPDB, Khulna.			
7	Invitation for tenders Ref. No.	Pur-426/2007			
8	Date	23.10.07			
KEY INFORMATION					
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.			
FUNDING INFORMATION					
10	Budget and source of funds	BPDB's revenue budget.			
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
PARTICULAR INFORMATION					
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.			
14	Tender Package No.	200 (FY 2007-2008)			
15	Tender package name	Procurement of Air Pre Heater Tubes for 60MW Boiler of Khulna Power Station, BPDB, Khulna.			
16	Tender publication date	02.10.2007.			
17	Tender selling date	24.10.2007 to 09-12-2007			
18	Tender closing date and time	10.12.2007 at 11.00am.			
19	Tender opening date and time	10.12.2007 at 11.30am.			
	Name & address of the office	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (principal)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Selling tender document (other)	Not applicable.			
	Receiving tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.			
	Opening tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.			
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	N/A			
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER					
22	Eligibility of tenderer	The manufacturer/tenderer shall have a minimum of three years of specific experience in the production & supply of similar goods.			
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of Air Pre Heater Tubes for 60MW Boiler of Khulna Power Station, BPDB, Khulna.			
24	Brief description of related services	N/A			
25	Price of tender document (BDT)	BDT. 5,000.00 (five thousand) as a Pay-Order (non-refundable) of any schedule bank of Bangladesh in favour of Director of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
26	Lot	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount in USD or BDT	Completion time
	Lot-A	Procurement of Air Pre Heater Tubes for 60MW Boiler of Khulna Power Station, BPDB, Khulna	Khulna Power Station, BPDB, Khulna	USD. 8,000.00 (US dollar eight thousand) or BDT. 5,50,000.00 (five lac fifty thousand) only	As per tender documents
27	Validity of tender and tender security	150 (one hundred fifty) days and 178 (one hundred seventy eight) days respectively from the date of opening of tender.			
28	Name of official inviting tender	Md Abdurhu Ruhullah.			
29	Designation of official inviting tender	Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.			
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS					
30	Address of official inviting tender	WAPDA Building (9 th Floor), Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.			
31	Contact details of official inviting	Tel: +88 02 5550532, Fax: +88 02 7126151			
32	Special instruction	Any tender received by the purchaser after the deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected, and returned unopened to the tenderer.			
		The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender, to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders, at any time prior to contract award.			
33	This tender will be performed according to "The Public Procurement Regulations-2003".				

Md Abdurhu Ruhullah

Director, Purchase

BPDB, Dhaka

Biddytul/Jan-382(4)/25-10-07
GD-3729



UCEP-Bangladesh

(Transforms Underprivileged Children into Productive Human Resource)
Plot # 2 and 3 Mirpur-2 Dhaka-1216

Executive Search

Underprivileged Children's Educational Programs (UCEP) is a large and expanding national NGO having 51 institutions in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet and Barisal metropolitan cities. The institutions are imparting integrated general & vocational education up to Grade VIII and technical education and training in nearly 21 trade courses to the urban working children to ensure their educational rights and reduce school dropouts. It provides skills training to the poor underprivileged children to develop their employable skills and places them in gainful employment. Present enrolment is about 28,000 children.

Applications are hereby invited for the following post:

Manager (Human Resource Management)

Minimum Educational Qualification, Experience & Other Requirements:

- Master degree in any discipline or equivalent degree from any recognized University/Institute
- 10 years relevant experience in GO/NGO.
- Must have experience in Human Resources Planning and Development.
- Must be well conversant with the relevant aspects of personnel management.
- Must have sufficient proficiency on Employee Information System (EIS).
- Should have experience in conducting Training Need Analysis (TNA), designing training module and manual.
- Should have excellent computer skills.
- Age: Maximum 50 years.

Salary: Starting Salary Tk. 31,000 per month. Higher initial salary may be offered to the candidate found exceptionally suitable. Service benefits like contributory provident fund, gratuity and life insurance are admissible as per UCEP service rules.

Application addressed to the Executive Director should include the following:

- C.V. with contact telephone/ cell number.
- Attested copies of all educational and experience certificates.
- Names and addresses of two traceable referees who are not relations of the candidate.
- Two recent passport size photographs.
- Demand Draft/Pay Order (non-refundable) of Tk. 200/- in favor of UCEP-Bangladesh.

Application must reach the Director Corporate Affairs, UCEP Bangladesh at the following address on or before 15 November 2007. The post applied for should be mentioned on the top left side of the envelope. Internal candidates having requisite qualification and experience will get preference. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any application without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Female candidates are especially encouraged to apply.
Unsolicited approaches will be taken as disqualification.