

US nuclear report a great victory: Ahmadinejad

Bush says Iran still a threat to global security

AFP, Tehran

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad yesterday boasted a report by US intelligence on the Iranian nuclear programme was a "great victory" for Iran, as US President George W Bush warned that Tehran remained a threat.

The report by the US intelligence community said Iran halted a drive for atomic weapons in 2003 while Bush had repeatedly accused Tehran in recent years of seeking to make a nuclear bomb.

"You saw the report of the US intelligence. They said clearly that the Iranian people were on the just path," Ahmadinejad said at a rally in Tehran.

"This report tries to extract America from its impasse but it also is a declaration of victory for the Iranian people against the great

powers," he added.

"It is the final blow for the enemies of Iran," said Ahmadinejad.

The National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) said that US allegations about Iran's atomic goals had been overblown for at least two years, although it could have the capability to make a nuclear weapon by 2015.

But Bush was adamant that the Islamic republic remained a threat to global security. He refused to rule out military action and called on US allies to step up pressure against Tehran.

"Iran was dangerous, Iran will be dangerous if they have the knowledge necessary to make a nuclear weapon," he told a White House press conference, after the intelligence assessment was published on Monday.

"The best diplomacy, effective

diplomacy, is one in which all options are on the table," Bush said.

"The best way to ensure that the

world is peaceful in the future is for

the international community to

continue to work together to say to

the Iranians we are going to isolate

you," he said.

In October, Bush had raised the spectre of "World War III" or a "nuclear holocaust" if Iran obtained an atomic arsenal.

Ahmudinejad said that Iran was prepared to discuss its nuclear programme with the West but only if its foes did so in the spirit of "friendship and cooperation".

"If you want to start up a new game, the Iranian people will resist and will not step back one inch," he warned in the speech, broadcast live on state television.

"If you want to negotiate with us

as an enemy, the Iranian people

will resist and will conquer you. It is

on the basis of friendship and

cooperation, the Iranian people

will be a great friend of yours."

International Atomic Energy

Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei, whose inspectors have been investigating Iran's nuclear

drive for four years, called for immediate negotiations between Iran and its Western critics.

But Western powers urged the UN Security Council to agree a third UN sanctions resolution to punish Iran's refusal to suspend uranium enrichment, a potential bomb-making process.

"There is time for diplomacy to work, but there isn't time to stop and say 'we don't need the diplomacy,'" said US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

"The hospital has received five bodies and 12 other people were admitted after the attack," he said.

Car bombs kill 8 in Iraq

AFP, Baghdad

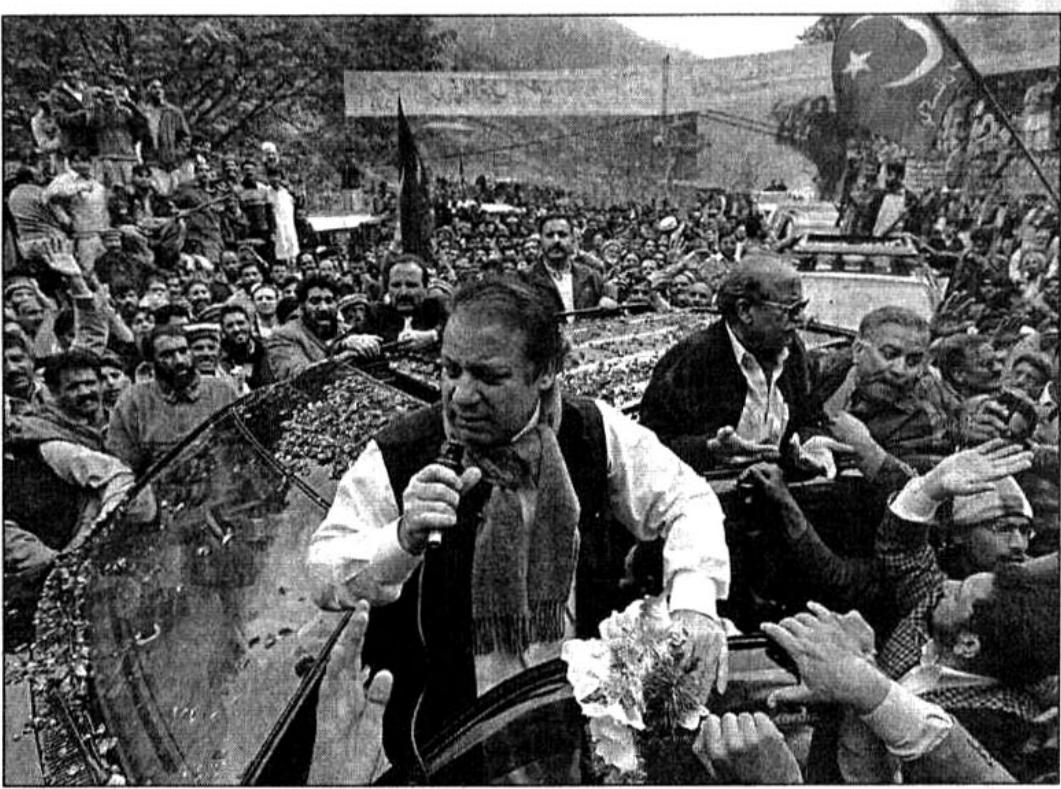
Three car bombs, including one in the city of Mosul soon after US Defence Secretary Robert Gates landed on an unannounced visit, killed at least eight people in Iraq yesterday, officials said.

Mosul police Brigadier General Abdul Karim al-Juburi said a civilian was killed and seven people, including a policeman, wounded when the bombs went off near a police patrol in Mosul's Al-Dawasa neighbourhood.

Gates arrived in the city from Afghanistan yesterday on his second visit to Iraq within three months, leaving Kabul soon after a suicide attacker slammed a bomb-filled car into an Afghan army bus and killed at least 16 people.

In other violence in Iraq, a car bomb in the centre of the restive city of Baquba, north of Baghdad, killed five people and wounded 12, Doctor Omar al-Dulaimi of Baquba hospital said.

"The hospital has received five bodies and 12 other people were admitted after the attack," he said.



Former Pakistani prime minister Nawaz Sharif (C) addresses supporters at Kohala, the main entry point into Pakistan-controlled Kashmir during a visit to Muzaffarabad yesterday. Pakistan's opposition parties may finalise later a list of demands for President Pervez Musharraf to meet if he wants to stop them boycotting next month's elections, a party official said.

PHOTO: AFP

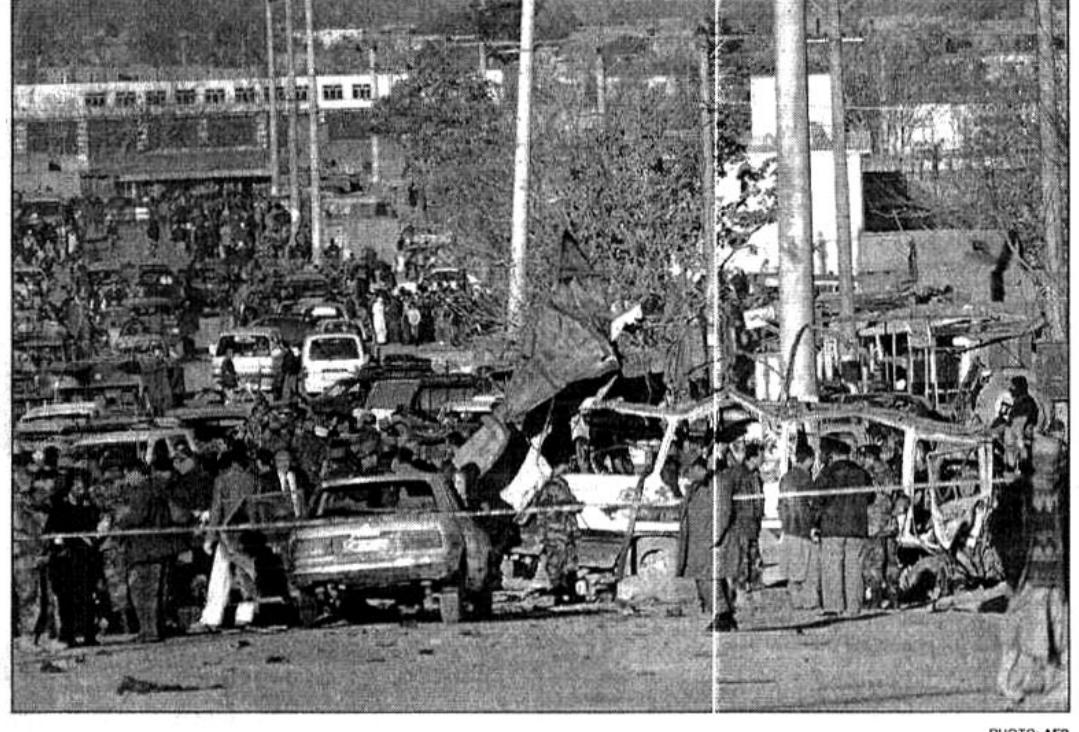


PHOTO: AFP

Afghan army personnel gather at the site of a suicide attack in Kabul yesterday. A suicide attacker slammed a bomb-filled car into an Afghan army bus in the capital, killing at least 16 people. The extremist Taliban group claimed responsibility for the attack.

Suicide attack on army bus in Kabul kills 16

AFP, Kabul

A suicide attacker slammed a bomb-filled car into an Afghan army bus in Kabul Wednesday, killing at least 16 people in the second such blast in two days during a visit by US Defence Secretary Robert Gates.

The extremist Taliban group claimed responsibility for the morning rush-hour bombing, which struck in the south of the Afghan capital as Gates wrapped up a short visit to assess efforts against an intensifying insurgency.

The bus was reduced to a blackened skeleton of mangled metal, its roof and sides blown out.

"It was a big explosion and sent fire into the sky," said Akbari Sarwar, a journalist who was on the road when the blast hit. "When I moved in I saw scores of bodies, legs, arms, heads, flesh everywhere," he told AFP.

Eight Afghan National Army soldiers and eight civilians were

killed according to information given to the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force, spokesman Brigadier General Carlos Branco told reporters.

Another defence ministry official said on condition of anonymity that up to 20 civilians may have been killed, many of them children, but information was still being verified.

Four of the dead were children in their early teens, health ministry spokesman Abdullah Fahim said. Seventeen people were treated in hospital, he said.

The attack occurred as Gates ended a short trip to Afghanistan in which he held talks with President Hamid Karzai about the violence being led by the Taliban, who were in government between 1996 and 2001.

A suicide attack that targeted the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) on the first full day of his visit on Tuesday missed the foreign soldiers but wounded 22 Afghan civilians.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for both attacks. The hardliners, in government between 1996 and 2001, have been behind a wave of around 140 suicide bombings in Afghanistan this year, the bloodiest of the insurgency.

In the past 12 days, there have been five suicide attacks in and around the city, with Wednesday's the deadliest.

Three soldiers were killed yesterday in an ambush by the rebels after the military stepped up patrols along the de facto front line separating the ministry from the guerrillas, the ministry said.

It said another four soldiers were caught up in a mine attack in which two more soldiers escaped with injuries.

The ministry said 29 guerrillas were killed in four separate confrontations in the Jaffna peninsula and the Mannar districts since late Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Amnesty International yesterday joined a

growing chorus of protests over the mass arrests of thousands of ethnic Tamils in Colombo by Sri Lankan authorities.

The arrests came after two bomb attacks blamed on Tamil Tigers, but has left the island's ethnic Sinhalese-dominated government once again exposed to allegation that it is dealing out collective punishment to the Tamil minority.

Amnesty said it was "deeply concerned that the arrests have been made on arbitrary and discriminatory grounds."

"Those arrested may be detained in inhumane conditions; denied access to lawyers, courts and family members; and face the risk of torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment," a statement from the London-based group said.

Local rights groups have already reacted angrily to the arrests.

Fresh fighting leaves 36 dead in Lanka

AI protests mass arrests of Tamils

AFP, Colombo

At least 36 people including seven soldiers were killed in fresh fighting between security forces and Tamil rebels in Sri Lanka's embattled north, the defence ministry said yesterday.

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সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ

প্রধান কার্যালয়, ৯/১, দিলকুশা বা/এ, মতিঝিল, ঢাকা।

তারিখ: ০৪-১২-২০০৭ইং

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নথর সামোর্স/যানবাহন/৭৮৭/০৭

তারিখ: ০৪-১২-২০০৭ইং

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০২. দরপত্রের সূত্র নথর এবং তারিখ

০৪. দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য

০৫ টেক্স সিকিউরিটি মানি

০৬. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিজ্ঞপ্তি এবং অহিস টিকানা

০৭. দরপত্র খোলাৰ অফিসের টিকানা

০৮. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিজ্ঞপ্তি এবং

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১১. দরপত্র সিডিউল বিজ্ঞপ্তি এবং সময়

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